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TANZANIA

THURSDAY 17 MARCH, 2022

SANITATION



STATE INVESTS 42 BN/- TO SUPPLY CLEAN WATER TO SIMANJIRO **PAGE 3**

HEALTH



DODOMA TO SET UP ZONAL BLOOD CENTRE WORTH 1.5BN/- **PAGE 4**

AGRICULTURE



GOVT ARTICULATES INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN FARMING SECTOR **PAGE 6**

THE Banker
YOUR FINANCIAL GUIDE

Winners and losers of banking domestic lending in 2020/2021

Why banks are intensifying SMEs financing in Tanzania

MARKET TRENDS
NMB CEO listed as one of most influential business leaders page 14

Banks interest rates slow in subdued manner, says BOT review

SOURCE: BANK OF TANZANIA

TBL: Check trade in illicit spirits



Tanzania Distilleries Limited sales manager Emmanuel Mpule (L) shows members of the Parliamentary Committee on Industries, Trade and Environment a sample bottle of Konyagi, the oldest and easily most popular of the various brands of alcoholic drinks the firm produces for the domestic and export markets. This was when the team of legislators made an official tour to the firm's distilling plant at Chang'ombe in Dar es Salaam yesterday for discussions on policy and Budget matters. Looking on are Industry, Trade and Investment deputy minister Exaud Kigaha (2nd-L) and the committee's chairman, Mufindi South MP David Mwakiposa Kihenzile. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondents

TANZANIA Distilleries Limited (TDL), a subsidiary of Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL), has shared with the government concerns over trade in illicit hard drinks.

TDL has reported losing an average of 19.5 billion/- in revenue each year owing to rampant trade in illicit and counterfeit alcohol brands, with the government incurring a loss of 11.5 billion/- each year in unpaid tax.

The firm shared this information yesterday during a site visit by members of the Parliamentary Committee on Trade, Industry and the Environment at its plant at Temeke, Dar es Salaam.

"The illicit trade is significantly influenced by the price of hard drinks in the market and the growth of informal markets which became rampant following government measures to reduce alcohol consumption by raising the excise rate," TBL's Legal and Corporate Affairs Director, Mesiya Mwangoka, told the delegation.

According to data obtained by the distilling firm, most illicit counterfeit brands are distributed in Tanzania's southern regions, followed by the northern regions, the southern highlands and the Lake Victoria Zone - in that order.

Leading the delegation, Industry, Trade and Investment deputy minister

Exaud Kigaha said the government will ensure that the Fair Competition Commission (FCC) works on the challenges cited.

"FCC will begin by identifying factories producing illicit spirits, in part with a view to legalising them so that they can compete fairly in the market by producing quality brands," he said.

"FCC will begin by identifying factories producing illicit spirits, in part with a view to legalising them so that they can compete fairly in the market by producing quality brands," he said.

He added that the government would engage the Tanzania Bureau of Standards in checking the quality of those spirits.

Kigaha also declared that, with respect

TURN TO Page2

Govt setting up special fund for disabled

By Henry Mwangonde

A national fund now in the final stages of preparations is expected to be a source of funding for programmes involving people with disabilities (PWDs), President Samia Suluhu Hassan declared yesterday.

Addressing PWDs at the Chamwino State House in Dodoma yesterday, the president said more ought to be done to build infrastructure easing life for those people in public

services, making it easier for them to access education and health services.

"What is important is for services to reach people with disabilities. Therefore, we will do everything possible to ensure that the situation improves appreciably," she told the audience.

Ernest Kimaya, chairman of the Federation of People with Disabilities in Tanzania, hailed the president for appointing PWD to various posi-

tions in the government, saying that there is need for more to be done.

Despite the formulation of disability councils at the regional and national level, proper training for members of such councils is lacking and impairs their ability to push issues, he said.

Prof Joyce Ndalichako, the Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Labour, Youth and People with Disability), meanwhile said preparations are under way to en-



Ernest Kimaya, chairman of the Federation of People with Disabilities in Tanzania, hailed the president for appointing PWD to various positions in the government, saying that there is need for more to be done.

Census later in August.

"The ministry is working towards reviewing some laws which seem to hinder progress in efforts to improve the lives of people with disabilities," she said.

She praised the setting aside of 4bn/- from the International Monetary Fund Covid-19 recovery funds to construct classrooms in schools

TURN TO Page2



Dangote Cement makes Mtwara port export hub

By Correspondent Abdallah Bakari, Mtwara

AN accord had been struck between the Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) and Dangote Cement Co. for the company to increase its use of Mtwara port to transport cement via the sea for export markets.

Port officials said here yesterday that the agreement will enable transportation of up to 45,000 tonnes of cement monthly to Dar es Salaam, Tanga, the Comoros, Zanzibar and Madagascar, way up from the current 13,000 to 15,000 tonnes per month.

Acting TPA marketing manager Lydia Mallya said that this initiative shall drastically cut the use of trucks to transport cement by road to Dar es Salaam and Tanga, which would then carry out exports to markets across the sea channel.

"With this agreement, cement from Dangote factory will be transported from Mtwara Port to Tanga via Dar es Salaam and from Mtwara to Zanzibar, Mozambique, the Comoros and Madagascar" she said.

Avoiding trucks for transporting cement would help to enhance the durability of our roads as massive cargo will be transported via sea, also augmenting the utilization of M-

TURN TO Page2

'Each district to have district court by 2025'

By Guardian Correspondent, Tanga

INADEQUATE access to district and resident magistrates' courts will be resolved by 2025, the government had declared.

Geoffrey Pinda, the deputy minister for Legal and Constitutional Affairs said yesterday

TURN TO Page2



NMB Bank Plc CEO Ruth Zaipuna (R) and Zanzibar E-Government Agency director general Said Seif Said pictured in Zanzibar yesterday signing a bilateral electronic revenue collection agreement. Looking on are NMB's legal counsel & company secretary, Lillian Komwihangiro (R), and Safia Hija Abass, a legal officer with the Zanzibar agency. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



TBL: Check trade in illicit spirits

FROM PAGE 1

to counterfeit brands of hard drinks, the government would conduct a thorough investigation and take appropriate measures against those running the illicit business.

"Such manufacturers are literally bent on competing unfairly and, by extension, strangling well-established and trusted brands while also putting the health of consumers at risk.

Industry watchers say manufacturers of illicit and counterfeit spirits adversely affect officially licensed and therefore tax-compliant ones and the government in terms of revenues.

They also pose a significant health risk to consumers since their products are unregulated and may contain toxic additives.

"We appeal to the government to more rigorously enforce existing laws against all culprits and possibly enhance control at all border points using the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) and other law-enforcement agencies, while generally continuing to move more vigilantly for the good of our country's social and economic development," Mwangoka pleaded.

Some years ago, TRA reacted to long-running complaints that rampant production, sale, distribution and consumption of fake, adulterated and other illicit hard drinks threatened to throw genuine manufacturers and dealers out of business.

The main argument is that illicit liquor sells at a generally lower price than genuine brands, with manufacturers not caring much for quality and not being tax-compliant.

A TRA director said at that time that they would look into the possibility of some illicit hard drinks having "invaded" the local market - and in some cases even bearing fake excise duty stickers.



Vice President Dr Philip Mpango (4th-L) and Manyara regional commissioner Charles Makongoro Nyerere (in red shirt) unveil a plaque yesterday to launch Magara bridge in Babati Rural constituency. Photo: VPO

SMZ, NMB link up for revenue, port payments

By Correspondent Geoffrey Nangai

THE NMB Bank, working for the Zanzibar e-Government Agency, will collect revenue through the bank's branches and transmit the cash via a digital payment format in a three way agreement with the government of Zanzibar.

This arrangement will bring NMB to align its payment systems with Zanzibar government ePayment Gateway, to extend its reach in revenue collections and transmission on the spot.

The bank said in a statement yesterday that at the signing ceremony in Zanzibar the bank reiterated its commitment to support sustainable economic development in Zanzibar.

The new partnership cements the NMB's long term relationship with the Zanzibar government, becoming a catalyst in supporting crucial development initiatives, it said, with chief executive officer Ruth Zaipuna affirming that the one

year partnership is subjected to renewal each year.

NMB congratulated Zanzibar President Dr. Hussein Ali Mwinyi for the positive economic reforms undertaken since he came into office, underlying that the agreement is an opportunity for NMB to help implement innovative solutions for Zanzibar's development efforts.

Adaptation to digital transformation in development is unavoidable in today's world, she stated, expressing the view that the partnership will bring positive results, supporting economic development and efficient service delivery.

"This agreement is a clear indication that the Government of Zanzibar and NMB are now going to work closely together to improve revenue collection and payment for services as our payment systems will now be aligned, thus enabling Zanzibar government agencies to collect revenue through our branch networks and digital platforms," she explained.

Through the agreement, NMB and the Zanzibar e-Government Agency will be setting up a 'One Stop Center' for the Zanzibar Ports Authority to channel paying for different services on the basis of a single control number.

"These two solutions, which are in line with this agreement, are going to improve service delivery while improving efficiency in revenue collection. This will lessen the time constraints for people who used to spend long hours to make payments for services," she elaborated.

NMB and the Zanzibar government will continue to build partnerships to provide a catalyst for economic growth in a win-win and sustainable partnership with SMZ agencies, she further noted.

Said Seif, executive director for the Zanzibar e-Government Agency lauded the bank for partnering with the agency, saying the partnership was a long-term solution to payment challenges the public faces in conducting payments to revenue

bodies.

The bank agency function will help to minimise using loopholes to defraud the government in revenue collection, he stated.

"As an agency, we believe that this partnership is positive and will enhance service delivery especially the 'One Stop Center' that will ease payments at the port as we switch to digital payment thus enhancing our efficiency level," he declared.

The agency looks forward to working with NMB in the near future to come up with tailor-made solutions to address the agency's challenges, he affirmed.

"This is just the start and we are looking forward to working together with the NMB to come up with lasting solutions to some of our challenges. We have had long term challenges in terms of tax payments at the port but with this new partnership, we believe such will be history," he added.

Govt setting up fund for programmes on disabled

FROM PAGE 1

for girls with disabilities.

President Samia called for collaborative efforts in the fight against incidents of gender-based violence and discrimination against PWDs, which she said appeared to be on the increase across the country.

She decried the increase in conjugal violence, reiterating the need for religious leaders to exert their influence on the issue, while moving to empower groups to conduct viable activities and lessen dependency and violence.

The fight against GBV should start from the family level where perpetrators are found instead of just pursuing strategies at organisational and national level.

"Challenges facing the disabled can be categorised as physical and psychological, tied to public perception of people with disabilities, of-

ten hindering access to services," she said, emphasising the need to screen children at birth to determine if challenges leading to disability can be discerned at that point.

Combating discrimination needs families and the general public to work together to create awareness that disability was not inability, she declared, directing that social workers take up family issues surrounding children with disabilities.

A total of 9bn/- has been spent in during the current financial year for PWD to support various programmes, the president said, noting that thousands of disabled children have been registered in various secondary schools across the country.

A total of 3,818 children with disabilities were registered in primary schools and 1,107 registered for Form One at the start of the year, the president said.



Finance and Planning ministry deputy Permanent Secretary Amina Shabani leads Tanzania's delegation at a meeting of the South African Development Community (SADC) financial committee in Lilongwe, Malawi. Items on the agenda include discussing the draft of the budget for translating into Kiswahili books by former Organisation of African Unity (OAU) Liberation Committee executive secretary Hashim Mbita on the liberation movement in southern Africa and the erection of Mwalimu Julius Nyerere's statue to commemorate the contribution of Tanzania's founding president to the development of SADC member states. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Dangote Cement makes Mtwara port export hub

FROM PAGE 1

wara port and marine transport along the southern corridor, she elaborated.

Dangote Cement CEO Abdullah Baba said the company's group president Aliko Dangote discussed the matter with President Samia Suluhu Hassan at courtesy call in the past year, and the shift to port use was the outcome.

"We had a disadvantage in terms of access to big markets as most other cement producers are located in leading markets such as Dar es Salaam while we had to incur huge road transport costs to cover 600 kilometers to deliver the product," he explained.

Using the port enabled the company to take advantage of its actual location "and we did just that," he stated, happy that the government had fast tracked the accord reached with President Samia.

The company will now supply cement raw materials to other industries along the coast, he stated, while acting Mtwara port manager

Robert Kalemba said that the agreement would act as a dynamic factor in increasing use of the port.

"Currently, Dangote Cement transports via our port only 13,000 tonnes to the Comoros and Zanzibar but this agreement will boost the tonnage to 45,000 to Dar es Salaam and Tanga, along with Mozambique, Comoros, Zanzibar and Madagascar," he said.

Regional Commissioner Brig. Gen. Marco Gaguti said that more intensive use of the port would create employment opportunities to youth in the region and improve incomes.

"The government invested here some 157bn/- and now Mtwara is now opening up economically; we expect to see many youth employed as porters and other cadres. My call to people of Mtwara is work hard if given an opportunity," he urged.

"With this move, we hope that cement prices will go down and this will benefit Tanzanians who want to build residential or commercial units," he added.

'Each district to have district court by 2025'

FROM PAGE 1

that each district will have an appellate court above primary courts and local tribunals for speedy dispensation of cases and consolidating the administration of justice countrywide.

He was speaking to members of the parliamentary standing committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs at the High Court division here yesterday, referring to Article 107A of the Constitution as providing that it is the Judiciary that is charged with the duty of dispensing justice in the country.

He said some districts have no

courts in the vicinity, such that Mkinga District in Tanga Region was lacking such a court. The construction of district court building has reached an advanced stage and likely to start operating before June 30.

Committee members visited the building for holding court records as part of inspection tours on projects carried out by the ministry and allocated funds for this financial year. Out of the country's 3,800 wards around 960 have primary courts, so the government was upgrading courts so that by 2025 all districts will have resident magistrate's courts or district courts.

In regard to wards, the priority has been given to divisional headquarters while the government was pursuing efforts to ensure each ward has a primary court.

"In one division you can travel more than 100 kms without coming across a primary court, hence these areas will be prioritised for accessing judicial services," he explained. Prof Elisante ole Gabriel, the chief administrator of the Judiciary, praised government efforts for providing funds to improve the country's Judiciary.

"We pledge our commitment in the implementation of our responsibilities by working together with other

pillars of the state," he said, pointing at digital improvements in the court system as pivotal.

Launching six integrated judicial centres in Dodoma late last year, President Samia Suluhu Hassan directed the judiciary to expedite the hearing of cases, stressing the timely delivery of justice. She underscored the need for the judiciary to capitalise on the use of ICT to fast track the hearing of cases and cut back on the case backlog. She similarly asked the Judiciary administrator to liaise with regulatory agencies to widen the bandwidth that the Judiciary needs for efficient use of the internet.



Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development minister Dr Angelina Mabula speaks at Tuesday's presentation of customary title deeds residents of Ikungi District in Singida Region. Photo: Correspondent Munir Shemweta

Government invests 42 billion/- to supply clean water to Simanjiro

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Simanjiro

The government is investing nearly 42bn/- for an ambitious water project to serve the residents of Orkesumet, the headquarters of the vast Simanjiro District.

Vice President, Dr Philip Mpango officially unveiled the grand water supply initiative, which is essentially complete, during the inaugural ceremony to observe National Clean Water Week which was celebrated in Simanjiro District of Manyara Region.

The Water-Week climax is scheduled to be held in Dar-es-salaam City next week, with President Samia Suluhu Hassan being expected to grace the occasion.

"The sixth phase government is working to ensure adequate and constant availability of clean water to all parts of the country but especially the rural and remote areas that were previously forgotten," said Dr Mpango when addressing the residents of Orkesumet.

The newly inaugurated water project will serve more than 52,000 residents in the Orkesumet, Langai and Oldoinyongijabe wards of Simanjiro, as well as nearby villages.

It is being executed under the Babati Water and Sanitation Authority in Manyara. The BAWASA Executive Director, Engineer Iddy Msuya explained that the project is almost accomplished with works already completed at 99 percent.

The Minister of Water, Juma Aweso said it was within his ministry plans to ensure that

clean water has reached 95 percent of all urban residents and 85 percent of rural villages by the year 2025, that is three years from now.

The vice president insisted on the importance of protecting the environment in the wake of effects of global warming that catalyzes climate change which also brings about prolonged periods of drought.

Simanjiro is among the semi-arid precincts of Northern Tanzania that have been suffering from massive environmental degradation due to illegal logging done by people who reduce trees into charcoal and trade the carbon inducing fuel to cities.

With a total of 17 wards and measuring some 21,000 square kilometers, Simanjiro is the second largest district after Tunduru in Ruvuma.

Simanjiro is scantily populated though, with around 200,000 residents, mostly the nomadic Maasai pastoralists.



The sixth phase government is working to ensure adequate and constant availability of clean water to all parts of the country but especially the rural and

Turkish business delegation eyes Tanzania as best destination for various investments

By Getrude Mbago

A delegation of 25 Turkish companies active in the electrical and electronics industry is in the country to explore joint businesses and investment opportunities with Tanzania counterparts.

Speaking during the one-day Tanzania-Turkish electrical and electronics industry B2B meeting held in Dar es Salaam yesterday Angelina Ngalula, chairperson of the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) said the trip is also meant to look for partners and investments.

She said the Turkish business delegation is eyeing Tanzania as the best destination for various investments ventures and markets

for their products.

She vowed to work closely and strengthen its partnerships with Turkey to foster bilateral economic ties and prop up the country's industrialization drive. She urged the Tanzanian business community to capitalize on the opportunity, a potential for local businesses and strong possibility for joint ventures.

Ngalula added that the partnerships will also help Tanzanian business owners to export and also source their products from trusted sources in Turkey enabling wealth to be created on both sides.

Erdem Arioglu, chairperson of Turkey-Tanzania business council said the trip will help in boosting the trade volume between the two countries.

"We have seen so many business potentials for our investments and market opportunities for our products in Tanzania, this is why more top companies from Turkey are coming to Tanzania to forge trade relations," he said. Paul Koyi, President of the Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA) said Tanzania exports to Turkey were still low and thus such meetings will help boost relations and improve business between the two countries.

"We have sensitized our companies to come and attend the meeting, exchange knowledge and see how they can venture with their counterparts from Turkey and thus improve their business. Tanzania mostly exports crops to Turkey, but our focus is to


invest in value addition so as to increase exports," he said.

Turkish Ambassador to Tanzania Dr Mehmet Güllüo lu commended the sixth phase government under President Samia Suluhu Hassan for improving the business environment and thus attracting more investors to establish projects in the country.

He noted that trade volume between Turkey and Tanzania has steadily risen in the past five years reaching \$300 million in 2021.

"Our volume of trade is increasing steadily every year which is very encouraging and we would like to increase our economic relations even further on a win-win basis, Turkish investors have provided employment to thousands of Tanzanian locals.

APPLICATION FOR CITIZENSHIP



MR. JOHNSON SELVARAJ

Whose photo is affixed above is applying to the Ministry of Home Affairs for Tanzania citizenship.

His nationality at present is an Indian, country of origin is India. Employed as a Paint Technologist by Angitia Ltd of P.O. Box 2170, Mbeya. He has been living in Tanzania since 2011.

Any person who knows why citizenship should not be granted to the applicant should send a written and signed statement to the Commissioner General of Immigration Services, 4 Barabara ya Mwangosi, P.O. Box 11181, Dodoma.

Reference no. MB/DNI/1490

LOSS OF PASSPORT



ZHANG CHUNHONG announces the Loss of her Passport number G59960852 issued by Immigration Department in CHINA date of 1/12013. Whoever find it take it to a nearest Police station with Police Report No. DAR/MAG/RB/94541/2022.

Congratulations



Her Excellency **Samia Suluhu Hassan**
President of the United Republic of Tanzania

The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of **BINGWA LABORATORIES LTD** congratulate the President of the United Republic of Tanzania, Her Excellency Samia Suluhu Hassan, on her completion of **ONE** successful year in office.

We wish you long life, good health and prosperity as you continue to lead our great nation.

KAZI IENDELEE...

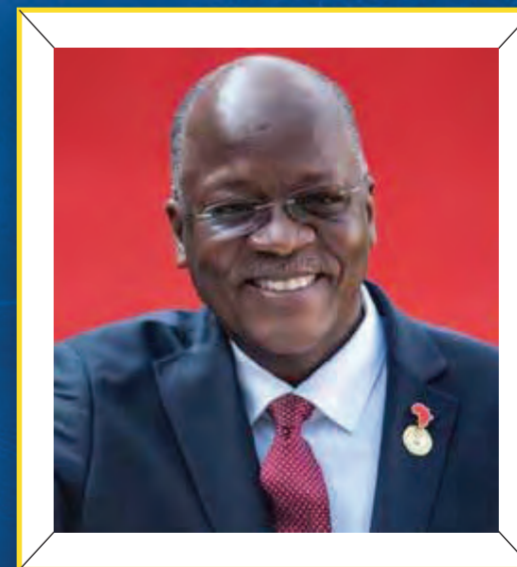
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THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY

COMMEMORATION



The Late Dr. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli.

The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) join Her Excellency Samia Suluhu Hassan, President of the United Republic of Tanzania and Tanzanians in commemorating One Year of the 5th President of the United Republic of Tanzania Late Dr. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli.

[tcra_tanzania](https://www.tz.linkedin.com/company/tcra-tanzania)

[Mamlaka ya Mawasiliano Tanzania](https://www.facebook.com/Mamlaka-ya-Mawasiliano-Tanzania)

'Dar es Salaam city council offered interest free loans worth 2.213bn/-'

By correspondent Mary Kadoke

DAR ES SALAAM City Council has for the past three years offered interest free loans amounting to 2.213bn/- to support people with disabilities (PwDs).

Council's loan coordinator for people with disabilities, Magdalena Dawson said in an interview with this paper, adding, the initiative has so far benefited 160 groups in a period of between 2018 and 2022.

"In three years, a total of 2.213,450,000bn/- was loaned to 160 groups in wards at Kijichi, Pugu and Segerea in Ilala district," she said.

Dawson clarified: "Under this group anyone aged 18 to 35 qualifies to apply for the loan. The other thing needed is filling household particulars on a special form that will demand verification from the Ward Development Committee board (WDC)."

She also affirmed that despite the government's initiative to reduce poverty, the drive encounters many challenges, residence deception being one of them.

Dawson said that despite the government goal to eradicate poverty, a great challenge has been members' deception on their residence as they discov-

ered some came from other regions hence a follow up challenge.

"The wider perspective of this challenge shows there is a loophole from the ward executives. I hereby urge WDC to closely monitor this problem towards a step to eradicate the problem."

She also highlighted double registration as a challenge in loan refunding process as the same person registered in Segerea is found in Pugu or Gereza-ni.

Dawson added: "Conflicts among group members is a challenge to deal with as WDC officers utilize much energy reuniting them for consensus."

Recently the council offered 400m/- to a metal processing industry that produces items such as sugarcane juice processing machines in Kijichi ward.

The purpose of loans initially was to empower marginalized groups of women and youth with no resources to set as collateral financial institutions.

In 2018, the amendment of the Local Government Financial Act Cap 290 sec 37A set 10 percent as a mandatory free interest loan set by their own revenue to empower women, youth and people with disabilities. The scheme distributed 4-4-2 principles respectively.



Fisheries research and training expert Dr Erastus Mocha pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday opening a workshop on the final draft of the fishery port feasibility study report. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

Dodoma to set up zonal blood centre worth 1.5bn/-

CONSTRUCTION works for the Central Zone Blood Centre (CZBC) at Itenga in Dodoma is at final stages.

Upon completion, the key health facility to serve the three regions of Iringa, Singida and Dodoma is projected to reduce challenges facing the shortage of safe blood to cater for the patients within the central zone corridor.

The project is being implemented by the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) through funds from the

United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) at a tune of 1.5bn/-.

The Dodoma regional blood transfusion centre (BTC) has been experiencing acute shortage of safe blood due to sharp increase in human population, propelled by relocation of the government's administration headquarters into the region.

"For many years now, we have been facing varied challenges that upsetted us to meet the needed blood collection targets," Head of Dodoma regional blood transfusion centre, Dr

Leah Kitundya, told The Guardian in an interview.

She observed that the region was demanding more than 1,500 bottles of safe blood per month, but the center was often used to manage collecting only between 750 and 850 bottles.

Dr Kitundya expressed gratitude that the envisaged new zonal blood centre will enable them dispensing the life-serving services more professional, ever before.

"If all goes well, we'll officially start to use the new facility from

April this year," she informed.

She detailed that the zonal centre will be equipped with modern machines, including the ELISA machine, not only to fast-track services delivery, but also monitoring for collection of safe blood.

ELISA machine, or EIA, is a high- technologic for antibody testing and is usually done on a blood sample. In the test, a person's serum is allowed to react with virus proteins that have been produced in labora-tory. If the person has been in-

fectured with HIV, the antibodies in the serum will bind to the HIV proteins, and the extent of binding can be measured. Negative EIA results usually available in a day or so. "Basically, we're likely heading towards impressive development because the public here has at least started to understand the important of donating blood. Formerly many people used to scare donate blood due to different negative notions," she expressed.

Dr Kitundya informed that the centre was currently continued

with blood collection campaign in different secondary schools as well as ministries, public and private institutions, saying the response was very positive.

However, in similar efforts to curtail a challenge of shortage of safe blood within the fast grown region, the Dodoma-based Benjamin Mkapa Hospital (BMH) has installed a 1bn/- worth blood bank and transfusion center.

Apart from assisting patients in needs, the modern facility also meant to assist the state-owned hospital to profession-

ally perform bone marrow transplant services as well as dispensing to patients with sickle cell challenges.

In an exclusive interview with The Guardian, the hospital's Executive Director, Dr Alphonse Chandika expressed that the centre plays a significant role in help reducing a spate of acute deficit of availability of safe blood within the region.

Despite being the capital city, and with increased human population, Dodoma region has been experiencing tall shortage of safe bloods to transfuse patients in relevant needs, due to several handicaps.



TERMS OF REFERENCE

INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT - TO ASSIST WITH RESPONSE TO POLIO OUTBREAK IN TANZANIA FOLLOWING MALAWI WPV1 OUTBREAK AND ENSURE STRENGTHENING OF SURVEILLANCE.

Position Description:

Position Number:	N/A
Position Title:	Individual Consultant - 7posts.
Grade and Step:	NOC-01
Unit/Team:	UHC - CND
Major Office:	WCO Tanzania
Duty Station:	Dar es Salaam
Organization:	WHO
Nature of Position:	SSA
Date Classified:	
CCOG Code:	
First Level Supervisor:	WHO IVD Focal Person
Second Level Supervisor:	WHO Representative

Background:
Tanzania was certified as Polio-Free country by ARCC in November 2015 with the last Polio cases traced back to July 1996. The country has achieved and maintained standard AFP surveillance performance indicators and ensured key performance indicators. Surveillance performance varies slightly between regions (1st administrative level) but varies significantly among councils (2nd Administrative level).

The outbreak of Wild poliovirus type 1 in Malawi genetically linked to WPV1 that was detected in Pakistan's Sindh province in October 2019 is a serious concern and underscores the importance of prioritizing polio immunization activities. Until polio is fully eradicated, all countries remain at risk of importation and must maintain high vaccination coverage to protect all children from polio.

WHO and partners are supporting health authorities in Malawi and neighbouring countries of Zambia, Mozambique and Tanzania to conduct a thorough assessment of the situation and begin urgent immunization activities in the subregion to mitigate any risk of spread. Surveillance measures are also being expanded in all countries neighboring Malawi to detect any other potential undetected transmission.

Consequently, this ToR is put together for the consultant to support the intensification of surveillance, routine immunization and supplementary immunization campaign.

1. Purpose of the Position

Consultants with experience in country support to assist countries at risk of polio outbreak from neighboring countries and to assist with intensification of surveillance, routine immunization and immunization campaign. The consultants with experience in strengthening AFP surveillance, routine immunization and conducting MR, IPV, OPV and integrated campaigns. The consultant will assist with improving quality of immunization campaigns and surveillance for poliovirus for eradication of poliomyelitis due to wild or vaccine related poliovirus in case it happens in Tanzania and to detect and interrupt any new outbreaks due to wild or vaccine-derived polioviruses more rapidly.

2. Objectives of the Programme and of the immediate Strategic Objective

- To eradicate poliomyelitis due to wild or vaccine related poliovirus. Complete the interruption of wild poliovirus transmission globally, and more rapidly detect and interrupt any new outbreaks due to wild or vaccine-derived polioviruses.

3. Organizational context

Under the direct supervision of the WHO Polio Team Leader, the incumbent will perform the required duties within the framework of WHO program and policy documents.

Summary of Assigned Duties

- Monitor progress and identify risks in regions and districts assigned.
- Promote activities to enhance Acute Flaccid Paralysis (AFP) surveillance, including rapid surveillance assessments, development of action plans to improve surveillance, evaluation of the impact of these plans, and training/orientation of national and sub-national staff.
- Develop and manage approaches in assigned regions that can achieve polio eradication while contributing to strengthening routine immunization

- Assist with preparations for Polio immunization campaign readiness.
- Provide technical guidance for coordination and planning of Supplementary Immunization Activities (SIA) planning in outbreak-affected regions as well as SIA activities to reduce vulnerability in countries at high risk of outbreaks.
- Evaluate and document outbreak response activities to ensure that all lessons learned are effectively incorporated into current best practices.
- Submit a weekly and monthly report.
- Perform other duties, as may be requested by the supervisor.

Major output from consultant:

- Produce a summary report with all surveillance indicators monthly and provide feedback to regions and districts.
- Produce mission reports after each field surveillance visit and submit to IVD Team leader.
- Provide a list of surveillance priority sites and a matrix for supportive supervision.
- Produce report of regional review meetings and comprehensive report of performance quarterly to IVD Team leader.
- Produce a report of the status of preparations for the Polio campaign and implementation.

Consultancy Requirements:

Education:
The consultant should normally have the following qualifications:

- First degree in medical/health field, a degree in Public Health, Epidemiology, Health Services Management or related field.

Exprience:

- At least 5 years working in the health sector in Tanzania.

Skills (e.g. IT)

- Good knowledge in computer and Microsoft applications (Excel, Word, Power point)
- Good understanding of the Tanzania health system;
- Good understanding of immunization services;
- Experience in working as National STOP Polio team
- Considerable experience in Vaccine-preventable diseases surveillance especially AFP and measles case-based surveillance.
- Experience in working with multiple health sector stakeholders;
- Excellent writing and presentation skills;
- Indepeth understanding of the Expanded Program on Immunisation is a distinct advantage;
- Demonstrated ability to motivate people of diverse background to resolving problems while promoting effective team work.

Duration of Support:

The duration of work for a consultant will be 3-4 months from signing of contract with monthly report submitted to IVD Team leader.

Fees and payment schedule:

The consultant will be paid as per NOC scale per month and allowances for travel will be provided including transport.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- The interested candidates should address an application comprising of a detailed Curriculum Vitae, Application letter, copies of certificates/diplomas/degrees and testimonials via the following link: <https://careers.who.int/careersection/ex/jobdetail.ft?job=2202265&tz=GMT%2B03%3A00&tzname=Africa%2FNairobi>
- Deadline for submission of applications is Friday, 30th March 2022
- Qualified Females and disabled peoples are highly encouraged to apply.

N.B. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.



TERMS OF REFERENCE

INDIVIDUAL CONSULTANT – Data Officer

Position Description:	
Position Number:	N/A
Position Title:	Data Officer - 1posts.
Grade and Step:	NOB-01
Unit/Team:	UHC - CND
Major Office:	WCO Tanzania
Duty Station:	Dar es Salaam
Organization:	WHO
Nature of Position:	SSA
Date Classified:	
CCOG Code:	
First Level Supervisor:	WHO IVD Focal Person
Second Level Supervisor:	WHO Representative

1. Rationale

Purpose of the Consultant:

The outbreak of wild poliovirus type 1 in Malawi genetically linked to WPV1 that was detected in Pakistan; Sindh province in October 2019 is a serious concern and underscores the importance of prioritizing polio immunization activities. Until polio is fully eradicated, all countries remain at risk of importation and must maintain high vaccination coverage to protect all children from polio.

WHO and partners are supporting health authorities in Malawi and neighboring countries of Zambia, Mozambique, and Tanzania to conduct a thorough assessment of the situation and begin urgent immunization activities in the subregion to mitigate any risk of spread. Surveillance measures are also being expanded in all countries neighboring Malawi to detect any other potential undetected transmission.

Data management for VPDs is very important in order to continue with routine immunization and strengthen vaccine-preventable diseases surveillance. The data manager will support with planning, coordination, and implementation of data harmonization meetings (IVD, laboratory, IDSR, DHIS), timely reporting of data to different levels of the organization, analysis, feedback to sub national level, and preparations of mitigation plans. (Detailed ToR is available).

Scope and methodology

Under the general guidance and supervision of the WHO IVD Focal Person, and overall supervision of the WHO Representative (WR), the incumbent will provide technical support to the Ministry of Health, Immunization and Vaccine Development program for data management, the incumbent will perform the following:

Summary of Assigned Duties:

- To support the MoHCDGEC IVD program in developing annual plans for data management (collection, storage, analysis and interpretation).
- Support and ensure development of a comprehensive chronogram for implementation of immunization data improvement activities.
- Support MoHCDGEC IVD data manager to ensure coordination and implementation of data harmonization meetings (IVD, laboratory, IDSR, DHIS).
- Support MoHCDGEC IVD data manager to ensure the compilation of Risk assessment data for polio and measles at national level and prepare mitigation plan.
- Support a Support MoHCDGEC IVD data manager to ensure data management guidelines and data collection tools and other materials have been developed, printed and distributed to lower level.
- Support MoHCDGEC IVD data manager to Support and ensure data management training and supervision plans at sub national level have been well conducted as per plan.
- Support MoHCDGEC IVD data manager to Support and ensure quality implementation of sentinel surveillance sites data management.
- Support MoHCDGEC IVD data manager to Support and ensure quality monitoring of data quarterly (Data cleaning and harmonization) and provide feedback to the sub-national level for correction.
- Support MoHCDGEC IVD data manager to Compilation and merging of the databases received from the sub-national level and report to WHO IST as per schedule
- Support MoHCDGEC IVD data manager to Analyse data on a weekly/monthly and share with programme officers
- Support MoHCDGEC IVD data manager to monitor the completeness and timeliness of datasets
- Support MoHCDGEC IVD data manager to collate and submit JRF before the end of March of each year
- Support MoHCDGEC IVD data manager to provide weekly/monthly feedback to sub-national levels
- Support MoHCDGEC IVD data manager to participate and provide data in all programme reviews and surveys
- Perform any other duties assigned by the WHO representative.

Technical Supervision

Objectives of the Review
The mission of WHO's Health Emergencies Programme (The Programme) in responding to Polio Outbreak is to assist the country's response and, to coordinate international action, to promptly respond to Polio to stop the transmission and recover from PolioOutbreak.

2. Specific Requirements

LANGUAGE:

Essential: Excellent knowledge of English.

Desirable: Working knowledge of Swahili, Knowledge of French or other UN languages is an asset.

EDUCATION:

Essential: Bachelor's Degree or Advanced diploma in Computer Science, statistics or related field.

Desirable: Masters university degree in, IT or related field.

Experience:

Essential: A minimum of 3+ years' experience in data management or analysis
Desirable: Prior humanitarian working experience at field level in the management of disease outbreak or ant public health emergency

SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

- Ability to decipher and organize large amounts of data.
- An analytical mindset with superb communication and problem-solving skills.
- Knowledge of Epi info and GIS will be an added advantage.
- Ability to work under pressure to make decisions, elaborate strategies, and organize priorities.
- Ability to coordinate activities and undertake multitasks.
- Strong analytical skills and good judgment.
- Sense of prioritization and attention to detail.
- Ability to liaise with people at all levels and proactively search for information.
- Self-motivated, flexible, and able to innovate.
- Professional commitment.
- Ability to write in a clear and concise manner, and to present information.
- Ability to work in a stressful context and under a tight deadline
- Ability to work in an international and multi-cultural environment

WHO COMPETENCIES REQUIRED

- Producing results
- Knowing and managing yourself
- Communication in a credible and effective way
- Fostering integration and teamwork
- Building and promoting partnership
- Respecting and promoting individual and cultural differences

Other Skills (e.g. IT):

Excellent knowledge of Microsoft Office applications.

- Good knowledge in computer and Microsoft applications (Excel, Word, Power point)
- Working knowledge of online data collection applications, statistical analysis packages (Stata, SPSS, etc).
- Working knowledge of GIS mapping software (or similar) would be an asset

PLACE OF ASSIGNMENT

- The Data officer will be stationed at Dar es Salaam Country Office, Tanzania.

3. TIMELINE AND REPORTING

Duration

- The contract will be for (six (06) months

Salary

Grade: NOB /ICS 9 payable on monthly bases.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

- The interested candidates should address an application comprising of a detailed Curriculum Vitae, Application letter, copies of certificates/diplomas/degrees and testimonials via the following link: <https://careers.who.int/careersection/ex/jobdetail.ft?job=2202265&tz=GMT%2B03%3A00&tzname=Africa%2FNairobi>
- Deadline for submission of applications is Friday, 30th March 2022
- Qualified Females and disabled peoples are highly encouraged to apply.

N.B. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.



SOS Children's Villages Tanzania
P.O. Box 80462 Dar es Salaam Tanzania
www.sos-childrensvillages.org
A loving home for every child

RE ADVERTISEMENT FOR EXPRESION OF INTREST

PREQUALIFICATION OF VENDORS FOR PROVISION OF VARIOUS CONSULTANT AND NON-CONSULTANT SERVICES, WORKS, AND GOODS FOR YEAR 2022/2025.

REF. SOS/PREQ/2022/001

Introduction

SOS Children's Villages Tanzania is a non-government organization affiliated to SOS Children's Villages International, a worldwide childcare and protection organization that provides orphaned and destitute children with a permanent home and educational opportunities. Established 70 years ago, SOS Children's Villages International - the umbrella organization, currently has Children's Villages and other projects in 135 countries around the world. Globally, it runs the SOS Children's Village Programme, which has two main arms, i.e. Family Based Care based at SOS Children's Villages and Family Strengthening Programmes supporting families in local communities. SOS Children's Villages has been working in the United Republic of Tanzania since 1991 and implements its programs in Zanzibar, Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Mwanza and Iringa.

Invitation to tender

SOS Children's Villages Tanzania invites applications from competent firms around all locations that has its operations for pre-qualification for supply of goods, works and services listed below for 2022/2024 financial years. Interested eligible suppliers are invited to apply for pre-qualification, indicating the category number and Category name of goods, works or services they wish to be considered for National office and its programs offices located in Zanzibar, Pemba, Arusha, Dar es Salaam-Children Village, Iringa, Mwanza as and National Office as indicated below.

Note: Every Interested bidder must indicate and submit the documents in the respective location/locations that he/she will be able to supply or provide service.

REQUIREMENTS:

CATEGORY No.	ITEMS DESCRIPTIONS
LOT. 1	Supply of general office supplies/ Groceries
LOT. 2	Supply of general office and school stationeries
LOT. 3	Supply of Office furniture and furnishings, School desks and library furniture
LOT. 4	Supply of general ICT equipment's and devices/computers & IT Services including printers, laptops, cameras, desktops, computer hardware, software, teleconference facilities, routers, toners and accessories)
LOT. 5	Supply of vehicle Tires for 4 x4 vehicles, accessories and spare parts
LOT. 6	Supply of spare parts and maintenance of Generators and water pumps
LOT. 7	Supply and maintenance of air-conditions and Refrigerator repairs
LOT. 8	Supply of school uniform and school shoes
LOT. 9	Supply of household appliances and cutleries
LOT. 10	Supply of fishing equipment's
LOT. 11	Supply of sports gears
LOT. 12	Supply of cleaning, sanitation equipment/ materials, Gardening and landscaping service.
LOT. 13	Supply of Medical Equipment's and medicine
LOT. 14	Supply of various building renovation and construction materials
LOT. 15	Supply and installation human resource management software
LOT. 16	Construction and/or renovation and minor repair of classrooms, school library, school toilets and playground facilities.
LOT. 17	Provision of catering services in Dar es Salaam, Mwanza, Arusha, Iringa, Zanzibar, Pemba.
LOT. 18	Provision of Conference/Venue, Hotel and Accommodation services in all regions.
LOT. 19	Provision of maintenance and service of photocopiers, laptops, printers, UPS, servers and other electronic items.
LOT. 20	Provision of Vehicle servicing, maintenance and repair.
LOT. 21	Provision of Car Rental/Hire services in Dar es Salaam, Mwanza, Arusha, Iringa, Zanzibar, Pemba and Dodoma.
LOT. 22	Provision of General Insurance services for Vehicles & Motorcycles and staff medical insurance
LOT. 23	Provision of Fleet Management/Tracking Systems and car alarm services
LOT. 24	Provision of Air travel agency services
LOT. 25	Provision of Printing of promotional Materials (T-shirts, Brochures, Booklets, Posters and related products
LOT. 26	Provision of Legal Services
LOT. 27	Provision of Staff Recruitment Agencies Services
LOT. 28	Provision of Event Management services
LOT. 29	Provision of Photography, filming and production of documentaries/ Recording Studios/Audio Production Services
LOT. 30	Provision of Services for computers, printers, local area network (LAN) and other office machines.
LOT. 31	Provision of General office maintenance and repairs.
LOT. 32	Provision of Security Services for Dar es Salaam, Mwanza, Arusha, Iringa, Zanzibar, Pemba Offices
LOT. 33	Supply of fuel - gas, petrol and diesel.
LOT. 35	Supply, Installation and maintenance of Fire appliances (fire extinguishers)/ Fire Hydrants, Training and Safety Services
LOT. 36	Provision of School bus services
LOT. 37	Provision of Website development and maintenance
LOT. 38	Provision of Clearing and forwarding service
LOT. 39	Provision of Telephone closed user group (CUG) services
LOT. 40	Hire of tents, tables, chairs and accessories (PA system & Décor)
LOT. 41	Provision of asset valuation and verifications services
LOT. 42	Provision of Capacity Building, Team building, Training and Development Services
LOT. 43	Provision of Consultancy services in areas of Communications and Advocacy, carrying out financial/project audit, Baselines, Midterm and End Term Project Evaluation, Resources Mobilization, Proposal Writing Facilitation, Strategy Development, Research services, Translation Services.

NOTE:

1. Pre-qualification is open to all eligible National Suppliers/Contractors/Service Providers with proven experience, capacity and 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 indicates Lot # and names; failure to comply will disqualify your application.
4. SOS Children's Village reserves the rights to disqualify any offer based on failure to follow solicitation instructions.
5. The bid evaluation processes will be conducted as per SOS Children's Village internal Procurement Guidelines.
6. The cost of responding to this Expression of Interest (EOI) is to be entirely born by the suppliers, whether they will be prequalified or not, and whether they will be invited or not to participate in further bidding procedures.
7. Late expressions of interest shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances

The selection Criteria will include:

- Possession of company profile, registration certificate from relevant authorities, business license, company certificate of incorporation, TIN, VAT Registration.
- The company must have not less than three years' experience in the relevant field, complexity in different organizations.
- Submit the list of key staff with their CVs demonstrating their ability to carry out the applied service if applied regard with the position you interested.
- Current physical location (which will be inspected for verification); that is a valid right of "occupancy of office premises or lease contract.
- Submission of power of attorney document
- Submission of certified declaration on Litigation information regarding your firm.
- Submission of three years audited financial statements i.e. 2019, 2020 and 2021.

SUBMISSION OF EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI):

Expression of Interest should be submitted in a **PLAIN SEALED ENVELOPES** (not indicating supplier's name) marked **"EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR..... (Indicate Lot, Number and item)"** addressed to respective location.

The deadline for submission is at 13:00 p.m. Tanzania Time on 30th March 2022.

NOTE: Bidder should submit their tender documents through listed address bellow

SOS Children's Villages, National Office P. o. Box 80462 White Star Tower, Ground Floor Wing B, Kiko Avenue, Mikochoeni, Dar es Salaam	SOS Children's Villages Iringa Town Office P. o. Box 508 Mafinga Gangilonga Street Ofisi za Elimu, (adjacent to Toyota office)
SOS Children's Villages P. o. Box 13196 Ngaramtoni ya Juu Arusha	SOS Children's Villages P. o. Box 10059 Bugarika Igelelele street Mwanza.
SOS Children's Villages- Dar es Salaam Children's Village P. o. Box 80462 Mawasiliano, Sam Nujoma Road, Dar es Salaam	SOS Children's Villages P. o. Box 253 ZSSF Building, First floor Kibirizi, Pemba.
SOS Children's Villages P. o. Box 1923 Mombasa Street, Zanzibar	

Bids Prequalification documents are available and interested and eligible candidates/bidders may obtain further information and the tender documents at national.office@sos-tanzania.org

No tender fee is charged for this invitation and only the successful suppliers will be contacted.

For any enquiries/questions please contact us through;
Email national.office@sos-tanzania.org



UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND PLANNING
GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT SERVICES AGENCY



29/10/1959 - 17/03/2021

1ST YEAR MEMORIAL ANNIVERSARY OF THE LATE DR. JOHN POMBE JOSEPH MAGUFULI

The Ministerial Advisory Board, Management and staff of Government Procurement Services Agency (GPSA) join hands with president of the United Republic of Tanzania Her excellency Samia Suluhu Hassan, and all Tanzanians in commemorating the first death year anniversary of the fifth president of the United Republic of Tanzania, the late Dr. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli.

You will always be remembered



Gpsa Tanzania



Gpsa_Tanzania



Gpsa Tanzania



Gpsa Tanzania

"GPSA; Ununuzi unaozingatia thamani halisi ya Fedha"



www.gpsa.go.tz



APPOINTMENT ANNOUNCEMENT



Mr. Gaspar Casmir Njuu.

The Board of Directors of Mkombozi Commercial Bank PLC is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Gaspar Casmir Njuu as the new Chairman of the Board of Directors, effective 27th January 2022 replacing Prof. Marcellina Mvula Chijoriga following ending of her term of eight years of serving the Board.

Mr. Njuu is a career banker (retired), currently practicing as an independent Consultant in matters of Banking, Finance and Investment. He possesses over 35 years Commercial and Investment Banking experience. He is a resource person (a part time Lecturer) in one of the higher learning Institution in Tanzania.

Mr. Njuu possess wealth experience in structuring unique Corporate Finance transactions for Private and Public sectors (Government). He has been involved in the process of establishing banks, setting up of Corporate Banking Units, developing credit policies and procedures. Also, instrumental in developing business strategies, policies and procedures for banks, recruiting, training bank officers, pricing, marketing bank products, managing client relationships, recovery of non-performing loans and recently leading a voluntary Mergers & Acquisition transaction of a commercial bank. He is strong in leadership, handling negotiations and good governance especially in matters of financial discipline and general bank management.

In his career Mr Njuu has worked for the National Bank of Commerce, Standard Chartered Bank Tanzania Ltd, Citibank Tanzania Ltd, and UBL Bank (Tanzania) Ltd. Has served various board of directors including Citibank Tanzania Ltd for 10 years (retired in Dec 2015), UBL Bank (Tanzania) Ltd (2 years) and several medium sized companies.

He holds an Advanced Diploma in Banking, Post Graduate Diploma in Financial Management both from Institute of Finance Management (IFM), Dar es Salaam and MBA International Business from Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, India in collaboration with IFM, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

The Board of Director looks forward in harnessing Mr. Njuu's wealthy leadership experience, banking knowledge and skills in order to excel the banks performance targets in line with its laid down strategies for the coming years.

Mkombozi Commercial Bank PLC started its business operations as a fully-fledged Commercial Bank on 28th August 2009. It is listed on the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange Market in the segment of the Enterprise Growth Market (EGM). The Bank operates eleven (11) branches; four of which are located in Dar es Salaam and 1 each in Moshi, Morogoro, Dodoma, Mwanza, Bukoba, Iringa and Njombe. The Bank is committed to providing high quality financial services to all sectors of economy with strategic focus on Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Corporates, Not-for-profit Institutions and Retail Consumers.

Board of Directors.

Government articulates investment opportunities in the farming sector

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE government has announced investment opportunities in the farming sector for increasing the value chain for agricultural products and enhancing the national income.

The remarks were made yesterday by Pindi Chana, minister of State in the PM Office (Policy, Parliament and Coordination) in her discussions with the UN World Food Programme (WFP) Resident Representative, Sarah Gibson and WFP Director for Southern Africa Zone, Dr Manghestab Haile, at his office here.

Pindi Chana said Tanzania is a secure place for investment in farming hence investors are welcome to grab the available opportunities.

She added that at the meeting, issues that were agreed upon include nutrition for the people because even though there is ample food production in the country's various areas, still malnourishment is rampant.

"As we work together with WFP, Tanzania is the right place for food production, we have been producing adequate food and also have been a good example in the East African Community (EAC) as well as Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) region," the deputy minister said.

She said they have also agreed to work together in issues of disasters whenever they arise, as they have been quite catastrophic to the people.

She also said they have agreed to improve farming to go in tandem with the current technology and the correct application of farm inputs as well as involving the youth in food production, marketing and in the increase of the value chain for food crops.

"We have also discussed the issue of modern farming equipment and the involvement of the youth because a great percentage of Tanzania's population is made up of the youth, hence these have to be mobilised to engage themselves in food production," she added.

She assured the UN officials that in the coming budget, the government has placed great efforts in the farming sector.

For her part, WFP Representative Sarah Gibson praised the government of Tanzania for being at the fore front in making sure the nation has ample food stocks and stressed for continued cooperation.

WFP Director for Southern Africa Zone, Dr Manghestab Haile promised the Tanzania government that WFP will continue working together with the private sector, improve markets and better nourishment for Tanzanians.



Stanley Kafu, Exim Bank's head of marketing and communications, presents 100 desks worth 20m/- to Mbeya regional commissioner Juma Homera (2nd-R) in implementation of the bank's commitment to supply a total of 1,000 desks to schools in various regions through its Exim Cares corporate social responsibility programme. The ceremony was held in Mbeya city yesterday. Right is Mbeya regional administrative secretary Angelina Lutambi. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

'Implementation of DADP big impetus to accelerating agricultural transformation'

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

TANZANIA has made a new stride in the drive to accelerate agricultural transformation by formulating, developing and implementing District Agricultural Development Plans (DADPs).

According to Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa, proper implementation of DADPs will bring a lasting solution to many challenges that have been adversely affecting the agriculture sector, which primarily comprises crop growers, livestock keepers, pastoralists and fisher folks in Tanzania. He noted that it would also catalyse greater industrialization through the forward and

backward linkages between agriculture and industry.

The prime minister pointed out that the launch of the DADPs for 30 Local Government Authorities (LGAs) was the beginning of a new vision that would see preparations of the district level strategies and implementation in all the regions of Tanzania.

The prime minister thanked Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) for facilitating the preparation of the 30 DADPs but asked the organization to consider supporting a similar effort to cover all 154 councils in Tanzania.

The premier noted that DADPs are the tools for imple-

menting ASDP II in the LGAs because they consider local contexts, opportunities, and challenges within a particular district. ASDP II guiding principle is for the agricultural development resources to be devolved to the grassroots.

With financial support from AGRA, the President Office Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) Ministry worked with 30 LGAs spread out in 12 Regions to prepare the 30 DADPs. The ministry and the local government authorities used a participatory method involving public, private, and other value chain actors in the LGAs in the preparation of these districts agricultural develop-

ment plans.

The local government authorities are implementing DADPs with support from the President Office Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) Ministry and Agricultural Sector Line Ministries (ASLMs), including the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development, among others.

AGRA initiative, "Strengthening Coordination of ASDP II in the Local Government Authorities" better known by its acronym as the SCALGA project supported the development of DADPs, and the formation of agricultural stakeholder platforms to strengthen coordination of

(ASDP II) implementation in the local government authorities.

AGRA Vice President, Policy and State Capability Dr Apollis Nwafor promised that AGRA would continue to support Tanzania to ensure profitable returns for smallholder farmers in the country as envisioned in ASDP II.

The Minister of State in the Office of the President - Regional Administration and Local Government (RALG), Innocent Bashungwa, directed local government authorities to ensure smooth DADPs implementation. "DADPs will help to increase productivity and incomes," noted the minister.

Agriculture Deputy Minis-

ter Anthony Mavunde noted that Tanzania had taken steps to strengthen agriculture including plans to raise food self-sufficiency to 136%, increase horticulture production from 7 million to 14 million tons, and top up crop exports from \$1.2 to \$5 billion by 2025, among other milestones.

The Minister of Livestock and Fisheries Mashimba Ndaki said that DADPs take agriculture's broader context, including fishing and livestock. "The implementation of DADPs will help livestock and fisheries farmers to increase their earnings dramatically," he noted.

According to Vianey Rweyendela, AGRA Tanzania Country

Manager, the implementation period for the thirty quality DADPs is 2021 to 2026 and set out agriculture priorities at the district levels to leverage the agricultural sector's growth.

Rweyendela thanked the President Office Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) Ministry and the Agricultural Sector Line Ministries (ASLMs), the Prime Minister Office, and all the 30 local government authorities for the commendable support to Kilimo tija (solution-based agriculture). "The DADPs will catalyse the implementation of ASDP II and hence the inclusive agricultural transformation in the local government authorities," he said.



JOB ADVERTISEMNT: CLIENT HANDLING MANAGER - (1 POST)

Mwiba Holdings Limited is registered Tanzanian Company under Companies Ordinance (Cap. 212) and a leading Hospitality company with its Operations in Arusha, Meatu-Simiyu and Mara Regions.

We are currently looking for Client Handling Manager to be part of our team and provide support to all our tourist facilities and enhance Photographic Safari Experience.

KEY RESULT AREAS / ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

- Overseeing everything happening in the unit (Safari Operations).
- Keep close communication to the agents and suppliers.
- Assisting the Head of Department in Operations matters such as checking up the safari files handled by the Safari Consultants to ensure all is tied up accordingly before the safari starts.
- Assist in handling complaints from the clients and the travel agents.
- Approving invoices from the suppliers to ensure they comply with the contract rates agreed before payment.
- Manage the 24hrs concierge line. Duty phone/daily trouble shooting (Anything like sick clients, car problem, lost luggage, permit problems, delayed Covid results, etc)
- Complaints Handling incl. reports, Management and evaluation.
- Manage and capture information for the complaint and praise log.
- Be aware of company procedures in case of emergencies.
- Be fully conversant with all company procedures and provide feedback and any ideas for improving quality.
- Crisis Management and Communications
- Manage and capture all the confirmed bookings and ensure the spaces availability as per confirmation.
- Leading and developing a team of customer care specialists.
- Keeping documentation and records of client interactions for training purposes.
- Any other duties as may be assigned.

PROFESSIONAL AND INTERPERSONAL DETAILS

Education:

- At least 5 years senior experience in high end travel for a reputable travel company.
- Full understanding of the East African travel market, its product and logistical aspects.
- Proven success at conversion and performance as a Senior role.
- Fluency in both written and spoken English.
- An advanced level of computer literacy with special focus on use of marketing systems, as well as, Microsoft Excel, Word, PowerPoint and Outlook.
- Proficiency in ResRequest and/or Pink Elephant an advantage

Experience and Skills:

- Informed decision-making ability imperative, with a sound ability to both strategize and implement
- Have an in depth understanding of systems and their relation to the full scale business ecosystem
- Fully literate and numerate with the ability to perform relevant calculations, statistics, and be able to interpret basic accounts and financial statements and reports
- Ability to effectively listen, communicate and perform diplomatically with internal and external stakeholders, guests and staff in all situations
- Humble, yet driven with a track record of performance
- Team player who demonstrates the ability to build and develop successful team
- Have the ability to work through periods of high demand and ready to work on weekends
- A passion for the industry, have a positive attitude and the ability to think out of the box
- Must be able to maintain physical stamina to personally lead their area of responsibility
- Assertiveness, patience and good organizational skills.
- A meticulous degree of pride in their personal presentation
- Be flexible in working hours and ensure coverage where/when needed
- A highly self-motivated self-starter and ability to work independently as well as within a group

Applicants are invited to submit their CV's/Resume's and copy of certificates to HR Office through Reception (for hard copies) or via e-mail to: Recruitment@kdtl.co.tz before 30th March 2022. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.



REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF ZANZIBAR MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE, COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSPORT - ZANZIBAR

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR

PROPOSED PROJECT FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF MODERN VEHICLE INSPECTION FACILITY IN ZANZIBAR.

The Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar through the Ministry of Infrastructure Communications and Transport (MoICT) in collaboration with the Zanzibar Road Transport and Safety Authority (ZARTSA) is considering the Construction of a Motor Vehicle Inspection Station on a 21,523 square meters plot in Chuini, Zanzibar. The project involves construction of warehouse (yard inspection), offices and installation of a Motor Vehicle Inspection System (MVIS).

The project has been developed by Zanzibar Road Transport and Safety Authority in collaboration with the Ministry of Infrastructure, Communications and Transport under guidance of the Zanzibar Public - Private Partnership department and it is proposed to be supported by private partners. The arrangement of implementation is through PPP and mechanism of operation is Design, Build, Operate, maintain, Finance and Transfer. In this model, the project company (Bidder) is responsible for designing, building, financing, operating, maintaining and transferring it at the end of the concession period.

The government will only be responsible for providing the land and staff, in addition to the necessary approvals, such as environmental permits and regulating tariff charges as per the national and sector law and regulations where deemed necessary.

The private company is expected to provide expertise, innovation and improvement during project implementation. The project is also expected to extract long-term value for money through appropriate risks transfer to the private sector over the life of the project. This do not mean that a private sector will bear all risks involved in implementation of the project, but risk identification and mitigation plan will be an integral part of the PPP agreement. The project will bring in skill sets, innovation, improved service delivery and therefore add value to different business process in inspection of motor vehicle services.

The Ministry of Infrastructure, Communications and Transport, Zanzibar invites eligible private company to indicate their interest in providing the aforesaid services. Interested company of private sector must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.). the private company may associate to enhance their qualifications. Firms are not allowed to participate in more than one association for the purpose of this assignment.

Consultants/Private Company will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Asset Act.No. 11 of 2016 and its Regulations.

Interested Private Company may obtain further information at the following address below:-

The Principal Secretary, Ministry of Infrastructure, Communications and Transport, P.O.Box 266, Kisauni, ZANZIBAR. Tel: 024-2941140, email: pnu@moic.go.tz; info@moic.go.tz; pnu@moic@gmail.com.

From 07:30 to 15:30 hours East African Time, from Mondays to Fridays inclusive, except on public holidays.

Expressions of interest must be delivered to the address mentioned above by: **Wednesday 6th 04, 2022 at 10.00 am local time.**

The Principal Secretary,
Ministry of Infrastructure, Communications and Transport.
P.O.Box 266, Kisauni,
ZANZIBAR



NOTICE OF TAWLA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Article 22(2) of the Constitution of Tanzania- Women Lawyers Association that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) shall be held on **Saturday 9th April 2022** at **DAR ES SALAAM SERENA Hotel from 8:00 a.m. to 1: 00 p.m.** and that the business to be transacted shall be as set out below: -

Agenda

1. Reading of the notice convening the Meeting
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the AGM held on 29th May 2021
4. Matters Arising from the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held on 29th May 2021
5. Election of Members of TAWLA Board of Directors
6. To receive and consider for adoption the report from the Board of Director for the year 2021
7. To receive and consider for adoption the report from the Board of Directors for the year 2021
8. Appointment of Auditor for the year 2022 financials
9. To receive and consider for adoption Membership Affairs Committee report for the year 2021
10. Any other business with the leave of the Chairperson
11. Date of the Next Annual General Meeting
12. Closing of the Meeting

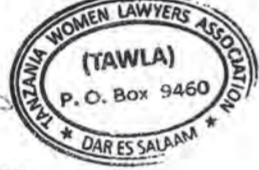
The AGM will be preceded by the Continuing Legal Education (CLE) session themed **"Responsive and Responsible Leadership: Envisioning and realizing economic justice and rights in Tanzania"**.

Kindly register your interest to attend via: info@tawla.or.tz or **0658 386 286** not later than **31st March 2022**

DATED AND SIGNED AT DAR ES SALAAM THIS 17TH DAY OF MARCH 2022.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF TANZANIA WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION.

(Signature)
TIKE MWAMBIPILE
 SECRETARY



- Head Office**
 Plot No. 31
 TAWLA House
 Amana Street
 P.O.Box 9460
 Dar Es Salaam,
 Tel: +255 22 2862865
 Toll Free: 0800751010
info@tawla.or.tz
www.tawla.or.tz
 Tanzania- East Africa
- Arusha Office Address**
 P.O.Box 994
 Plot No 74, Block 24
 Mlinanga Street, Kalamani
 Arusha
 Tel: 0762-973419
officearusha@tawla.or.tz
- Dodoma Office Address**
 P.O. Box 1920
 NSRF Building
 Askari Road
 Dodoma
 Tel: 0719-481794
officedodoma@tawla.or.tz
- Tanga Office Address**
 P.O. Box 994
 14th Street
 Usambara Road,
 Tanga
 Tel: 0715-898900
 0762-898900
officetanga@tawla.or.tz
- Mwanza Office Address**
 P.O. Box 819
 Nyasaka Maduka Tisa
 Nyasaka Ward
 Ilemela Municipality
 Tel: 0756 330 323
officemwanza@tawla.or.tz
- Mbeya Office Address**
 P.O. Box 1010
 Sae, Tunduma Road
 Mbeya
 Tel: +255 652392999 / +255 748392999
Email:Officembeya@tawla.or.tz

- CHAIRPERSON**
 Lulu Ng'wanakiala
- TREASURE**
 Stella Rweikiza
- EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**
 Tike Mwambipile

Our vision
 "To have a society that respects, upholds the right, enhance the responsibility and empowers Women"

216754301

Ministry calls for close supervision of the Simiyu VETA college project

By Guardian Correspondent

THE Ministry of Education, Science and Technology has called on Simiyu Regional officials to closely supervise the Vocational Education Training Authority (VETA) college being built in Bunamhala ward in Bariadi town to make sure the money set aside is well utilised.

The directive was given Monday this week by the ministry's Deputy Minister, Omary Kapinga during his inspection visit of the project to make sure the project is completed in the agreed time and is in line with the money value.

He said government project and the money set aside is taxpayers' money, hence it must be used wisely for the purpose intended.

"This project is yours and you must ensure it is closely supervised, form a team for its follow up to make sure

taxpayers' money is correctly being utilised in the project," he added.

He further said the government is currently building 25 VETA colleges in various districts and that in the First Phase 40bn/- was provided for their construction at a cost of 1.6bn/- each.

The Deputy Minister added that the government has provided 8bn/- for the construction of the colleges in another district and another 8bn/- purchase of furniture for all 28 VETA colleges.

He said 29 districts in the country have VETA colleges costing more than 48.8bn/-, some are yet to be completed and that Covid-19 funds were added to enable their completion.

Earlier, the chairman of the project's implementation committee, Basil Gibson said construction to incorporate 25 separate structures

started February this year and is expected to be completed in May at a cost of 5.1bn/-.

He said the college will have the capacity to enrol 500 students at a time 320 of whom will be boarding students and 180 day-students.



This project is yours and you must ensure it is closely supervised, form a team for its follow up to make sure taxpayers' money is correctly being utilised in the project



SOS Children's Villages Tanzania
 P.O. Box 80462 Dar es Salaam Tanzania
www.sos-childrensvillages.org
 A loving home for every child

TERMS OF REFERENCES (TOR) CONSULTANCY TO ESTABLISH COST/PRICE REASONABLENESS FOR SOS CHILDREN'S VILLAGES-TANZANIA PROCUREMENT SERVICES

March 2022.

Introduction

SOS Children's Villages Tanzania is a non-governmental organization affiliated to SOS Children's Villages International, a worldwide childcare and protection organization that provides orphaned and destitute children with a permanent home and education opportunities. Established 70 years ago, SOS Children's Villages International - the umbrella organization currently has Children's Village Programme, which has two main arms i.e. Family Based Care based at SOS Children's Villages and Family Strengthening Programmes supporting families in local communities. We have been operating in Tanzania for more than 25 years in the 4 regions: Dar es Salaam, Mwanza, Arusha, Iringa (including Mufindi), Zanzibar and Pemba.

To ensure the organization gets the better deals and services at the reasonable price possible, the organization plans to conduct wide cost/price analysis to improve its procurement processes. The assignment will make SOS Children's Villages realise the Value for Money (VfM).

Purpose/Objective

To streamline its procurement lifecycle that includes planning, sourcing, managing and strengthening internal control, SOS Children's Villages aim to conduct cost analysis to establish indicators for price reasonableness. The process that will enable SOS Children's Villages Tanzania get and determine a price that is, fair and reasonable to the organization considering the quality, delivery, and other factors such as timeliness. The analysis will help the organization gauging current market prices; procurement spends in the past 3-5 years and price forecasting for the next 3-5 years.

As stated in the introduction, the attainment of that will help the organization get the best overall Value for Money in all of the procurements. In addition, with the procurement process that will be both transparent and impartial, the organization will position itself to achieve reliably quality services from suppliers, services providers and consultants.

To achieve value for money rather than just focusing on the lowest bidders, other key criteria such as the cost of quality service/goods will be considered. So are others such as delivery time.

The analysis will cover the following Procurement Categories of which SOS Children's Villages commonly undertake. .

- Categories of procurement to be considered
- Goods
 - works
 - Consultancy and Non-consultancy services.

Key tasks

- Conduct a spend analysis for procurements by SOS Children's Villages. This will involve collecting, analyzing and classifying data for different procurement categories for the past 3-5 years to help determine optimal cost.
- Establish a financial cost profile that will include estimates of annual cost categories for each SOS Children's Villages procurements.
- Review and examine the suppliers and services providers costs to develop estimates/price list/catalog for each procurement category (goods, services and works) in the next 3-5 years.
- Assess suppliers and services providers to help the organization understand factors that determine price reasonableness.
- Undertake market analysis to generate knowledge of how the supply market works, its status, direction and the competitiveness of the players that include suppliers and the services providers available.

Note: The work should be completed in 10 working days.

Key Deliverables

1. A well-written analytical report that include:
 - Supply market analysis to assist in budgeting, procurement planning, sourcing and execution.
 - A price forecast for the next 3-5 years for all procurement categories.
 - Price list/catalog for each procurement category procured within SOS Children's Villages.
 - SOS Children's Villages procurement spend analysis covering the past 5 years (for all procurement Categories)
2. Develop and share appropriate tools relevant in cost/price analysis work for future internal use of SOS Children's Village future.
3. Share the skills to SOS Children's Villages staff to ensure future update of price database.

Minimum Qualifications

The firm/individual must have at least the following:

- A procurement consultant with a Bachelor's/Master's degree in procurements/supply chain, business, accounting, finance, or economics
- At least ten years of experience in establishing cost analysis, supply chain management, or corporate and Non for Profits procurements.
- Familiarity with Non for Profits procurements and the supply market
- Capacity to develop tools to valuating supply markets
- The ability to undertake cost analysis that will help the organization be in line with market trends
- Strong capacity to produce analytical report that is based on data and statistical evidence

Application Process

This must be through two envelop method, all interested bidder should submit their technical and financial bid in separate well sealed envelopes (not indicating consultant or firm name) marked SOS Children's Villages Cost/Price Analysis Consultancy.

Submission:

The deadline for submissions is **March 30th 2022, at 13:00 p.m. Tanzanian time.**
 The proposals should be submitted to email Address: national.office@sos-tanzania.org

Or
 To National Director
 Attn: Procurement committee,
 SOS Children's Village Tanzania, National Office,
 White Star Tower, Ground Floor Wing B, Kiko Avenue, Mikocheni,
 P. O. Box 80462, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

216754101



JAMHURI YA MUUNGANO WA TANZANIA
WIZARA YA AFYA
MAMLAKA YA DAWA NA VIFAA TIBA



TANGAZO KWA UMMA

16 Machi, 2022

KUANZA KUTUMIKA KWA KANUNI MPYA ZA ADA NA TOZO ZA MWAKA 2021

1. Mamlaka ya Dawa na Vifaa Tiba (TMDA) inapenda kuwajulisha wateja na wadau wote kuwa Kanuni mpya za Ada na Tozo za mwaka 2021 zimeidhinishwa na kutangazwa kupitia gazeti la Serikali, Na. 686 la tarehe 24 Septemba, 2021 kwa ajili ya utekelezaji.
2. Kufuatia hatua hiyo na kwa tangazo hili, viwango vipya vya Ada na Tozo kwa huduma zitolewazo na TMDA vitaanza kutumika rasmi kuanzia tarehe 01 Aprili, 2022 kwa mujibu wa Kanuni za Ada na Tozo za Mwaka 2021 na si vinginevyo.
3. Aidha, malipo yote ya huduma yataendelea kufanyika katika akaunti za Benki za Mamlaka kwa kutumia mfumo wa kielektroniki wa malipo ya Serikali (GePG) baada ya kupata ankara kifani (profoma invoice) kutoka TMDA inayoonyesha namba maalum ya malipo (Control Number).
4. Wateja na wadau wote mnaombwa kuzingatia matakwa ya Kanuni hizi za Ada na Tozo za mwaka 2021 zinazopatikana kupitia tovuti ya TMDA ijulikanayo kama www.tmda.go.tz na/ au ofisi za Mamlaka zilizopo Dar es salaam, Mwanza, Arusha, Mbeya, Dodoma, Mtwara, Tabora pamoja na Geita kwa ajili ya utekelezaji.

Imetolewa na:
Mkurugenzi Mkuu
Mamlaka ya Dawa na Vifaa Tiba (TMDA)
S. L. P 1253, Dodoma au S. L. P 77150, Dar Es Salaam
Simu: +255 222450512/ 2450751/ 2452108
Simu bila Malipo: 0800110084
Barua pepe: info@tmda.go.tz
Tovuti: www.tmda.go.tz

216754001

Advertising food, agro sectors tied to strong reform inclination

ALL sorts of observers are trying to fathom what is embedded in remarks by German ambassador Regine Hess who said in remarks early in the week that Germany is making an effort to contribute to advertise potential in the country's agriculture and food sectors. She even made a point of wishing to see that Arusha develops like any other city or zone in Germany in having all kinds of exhibitions in every sector. It reminded some of us of the 'Geneva of Africa' complimentary by President Clinton.

The occasion was the opening of the Tanzania International Food and Agriculture Expo 2022 involving 129 firms, a number of them from outside, with the envoy noting that Germany actually leads globally in having all kinds of exhibitions for every sector. Producers in Arusha can advertise Tanzania through the local exhibition and others abroad, as to agriculture and food markets found here, underlining that this enabled the world to recognise a country rather fast. Experience shows it.

Remarks by regional authorities focused on the advertising aspect more than the potential, noting appreciably that the northern tourism hub leads in having all kinds of exhibitions for every sector, and it is increasingly inching into big events of international standards. There are a number of reasons for the situation, as the city isn't just the capital of tourism but also of horticulture, and the key groups in this sphere were pointedly organising the show from beginning to end. If it speaks for Arusha, less can be said for the

country on the same tone, while development isn't a matter of hubs but networks.

Arusha has for instance been a hub for tourism across a number of decades but this hasn't enabled a fast rise in tourism numbers even in the northern zone, let alone in numerous parks, game reserves or heritage sites around the country. The level of visitations is eclipsed by the advertising put into place since the 1990s, for the reason that results don't arise from adverts; market demands and competition are the key issues, and we often overlook these issues. The reason for such oversight or lacking any real awareness of demand focus and competition is that advertising is legitimisation by state agencies.

These are some of the things that the sixth phase government seeks to change, namely that major state firms learn to actually work in a business manner, not by just adopting certain hierarchical formulas as in the past but entering into workable relationships with the private sector. This is what President Samia Suluhu Hassan obtained in the recent Dubai Exposition where she personally was there for 'Tanzania Day' and a symposium the following day. Projects running into trillions of shillings were signed.

So that they materialise, new methods of work will be needed, fully anchored in the market. The same can be done for tourism and agro-sector industries, so long as stakeholders take initiatives. As the first phase leadership used to say, 'it can be done if you play your part.'

Knowing certified goods needs no massive efforts

WHAT does it mean that over 23,000 people in three districts have been trained on buying TBS certified goods?

This is a question that some people will be posing in the wake of news that a total of 23,745 people including 18,645 primary and secondary students in Kasulu, Mlele and Nkasi districts have been educated on the importance of buying products that are certified by the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS).

The training was being conducted in view of efforts to encourage local retailers to register food and cosmetics stores, that is, what they sell be registered as well as the premises thereof.

While officials were encouraged by the fact that the public education campaign delivered at various primary and secondary schools as well as markets, bus stands and other open spaces had people showing up in large numbers there are lingering problems to get to their interest.

One can't dispute that they had an interest in information as to product quality and thus the certification involved, but how far can that mould purchasing behaviour?

That appears to have been the proper objective by officials of TBS, that when people know about quality and can check out registration, they will do so.

A marketing official with the agency was convinced that when given education on quality and standards, those in primary and secondary schools relay that awareness to families and people around them.

There is an element of that in life,

but it is hard to see the chance arising where the children can actually guide family members on what to buy, except perhaps in their own purchases to go back to school at the start of the year. Even then, what a parent can afford is more significant than labelling.

In addition, it can be put to question whether that is what is meant by standards and certification, as that too is a matter of need and a regulatory situation where it is deemed necessary.

In other words, by its very nature, certification on quality and registration need not be explained to primary school pupils or any other section of the population.

The issue is what the regulations say, since if they say that one can't put a product on the market without registration, it follows that it will be done, and if they don't say so there is no point lecturing to anyone to do it. The reason is that all such initiative has costs to it.

Were it that consumers are limited to registered and certified products, the competition would take place in other parameters, and when that isn't the case, awareness of registration and certification becomes just one among factors that influence purchasing.

It unlikely that TBS wishes to delve into this welter of factors to achieve a modicum of results as to whether the registered and certified products will get more buyers, as that is outside its functions.

Yet that is precisely what it appears to be doing, if the matter is looked at squarely.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

MANAGING EDITOR: WALLACE MAUGGO
CIRCULATION MANAGER : EMMANUEL LYMO

Newsdesk

General Line: 0745 700710
News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON
0757 154767
E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz

Advertising

Cel: + 0782 253676 E-mails: Advertise@guardian.co.tz
Website: lppmedia.com, epaper.ippmedia.com



Zimbabwe: Sunflower a bright glow in new farming mix

By Special Correspondent

ZIMBABWEAN small-scale farmers have tended to drift towards just growing and harvesting a small handful of crops rather than exploring the full range of what they can grow and sell to boost farm incomes.

The Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development appreciates the possibilities and unlike previous dispensations want to convert the theory to plants growing in the ground.

We have had far more attention paid to the traditional grains, the plants domesticated in Africa over the past few thousand years, and thus automatically suited for African conditions.

In fact, the sorghums and millets were the staple food of Zimbabwe until a little over a century ago, with maize, which originated in Mexico, introduced way back via coastal trade routes and certainly grown, but more as a roasted vegetable.

It was the rise of the urban settlements that tended to stress maize and the settler farmers wanted that market.

Cotton has been reintroduced as the double crop, oil seed and fibre, and the financial mess the sector had fallen into is being straightened out.

Another crop now being added to the basic lists in the small-scale schemes is sunflower. Again this is a Mexican-origin crop, which was moved to Europe where it was taken up with great enthusiasm in Russia and Ukraine, which between them still produce more than half the world crop, and then taken back to the Americas for major commercial production.

Amid all this movement it also arrived in Southern Africa. As a drought-resistant crop on sandier soils, largely due to its very deep rooting system, it became popular in the small-holder sector and at one stage, some decades ago, almost every homestead had a sunflower patch and it was a welcome cash crop for many families.

A lot of Zimbabweans can remember the bright glow of the flowers on a corner of their grandfather's small farm.

Those appropriate technology fanatics, who often come up with some very good ideas, noticed that sunflower oil was one of the few tropical oil seeds that could be extracted by crushing rather than using the ubiquitous solvent techniques, necessary for soya and usually used for cotton.

So they developed a simple hand press and there were people in rural areas who, for a modest fee, would convert sunflower seed to sunflower oil.

The straight-run oil was a trifle cloudy, but perfectly safe and tastier than the refined product. The neighborhoods processing also helped with the common vegetable oil problem of oxidation, which shortens keeping properties, since it was easy to keep the seeds and have them ground when required, or at least a month or two before they were required.

For some reason, probably a combination of reduced buying and a lack of any serious promotion of the crop, far less was grown. And yet there is a market in Zimbabwe. The country im-



ports up to 65 000 tonnes of sunflower oil a year. As with reasonably good farming techniques you get a little over 1 tonne of oil from the almost 1 600 tonnes of seed from a hectare of average yield we could usefully plant 65 000 hectares.

It sounds a lot, but when you think about it, one million families could plant little plots of 650 square metres, almost a return to those old plots of those grandfathers who educated their children off the patch. Hence the decision of the Agriculture Ministry to start adding sunflower seed and other inputs to the small-farm mix.

Of course, more might be grown, but Zimbabwe is still short of cooking oil and there is no reason to fill all demand with soya. In the past, we had a range and sunflower was even sold, and is still sold, as a premium grade, even though cottonseed oil has a much longer shelf life.

But the point is as you add more oils to the mix, consumers can

choose what they see as an ideal blend, and the exceptional high percentage of unsaturated fats in sunflower will attract its market.

In any case it is one of the more useful oils to use in a margarine blend. But for the small-scale farmer the main purpose of farming is now to earn a decent living, making as much money as possible and being able to make money even when the weather co-operates less than the farmer desires.

The present thrust of widening the range of crops, as well as improving yields and gaining more output for each kilogramme of fertiliser and hour or labour, is a major plank of the farming revolution that has already started empowering some of the poorest Zimbabweans and bringing them into the modern business world.

Small rich farms in Europe, for example, produce a wide range of crops and livestock and quite often the waste from one crop adds nutrients for another or is a source of

food for some of the livestock. Little can be categorised as "waste" on such a productive farm. This is what the present development thrust in Zimbabwe is wishing to see here.

The first critical step was to stop talking about commercial small-scale farming and start ensuring that it was possible for a farming family to practise this, both with the techniques that maximise yields and reduce planting risks, and the inputs needed to make the transformation practical.

This requires some money, but it is a lot cheaper to help someone produce reasonable harvests for farm consumption and for sale, than hand out food relief.

And unlike handouts, better and more diversified farming grows the national economy as well, so switching over the budgets has so many advantages that Treasury, while wanting decent accounting and zero waste, was willing to back the farming experts.



CONGRATULATIONS!

Outstanding Tanzanian companies awarded in the 6th Tanzania KAIZEN Award Competition



Two Tanzanian companies, Med-Foods Arusha Ltd and Polyfoam Ltd, will represent the country in the forthcoming Africa KAIZEN Award Competition 2022 which will be held in Cameroun during the Africa KAIZEN Annual Conference 2022 (AKAC 2022) scheduled in October this year. The two companies emerged outstanding winners during the 6th Tanzania KAIZEN Award Competition organized by the Ministry of Investment, Industry and Trade (MIIT) and the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) held in Dar es Salaam on February 9 and 10, 2022. The two enterprises were respectively awarded in the Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) category and the Large Company category, out of the 18 companies that had been selected from nationwide regional competitions.

KAIZEN is a Japanese word of management methodology/philosophy whose meaning is; "Change for the better" or "Continuous improvement". It has been applied in Tanzania for improving the quality and productivity of local industries and services through the MIIT-JICA joint Project on "Strengthening Manufacturing Enterprises through Quality and Productivity Improvement (KAIZEN)" since 2013. The AKAC, collaboratively organized by the African Union Development Agency (AUDA), the host country's Government, and JICA, has been held annually, and is the largest international event for KAIZEN in Africa with the objective of sharing knowledge and experience among KAIZEN implementing countries, and disseminating KAIZEN philosophy and activities on the African continent. The AKAC 2021 was hosted by Tanzania and successfully completed in August 2021, and the AKAC 2022 will be hosted by Cameroon and scheduled in October 2022.

The selected two Tanzanian companies, Med-Foods Arusha Ltd and Polyfoam Ltd, will present their KAIZEN activities and achievements to representatives from other African countries at AKAC 2022, and thereby share Tanzania's best practices to the whole of the African continent.

MED-FOODS ARUSHA CO. LTD

Location: Arusha
Year of Foundation: 2009
Number of Employees: 25
Main Business: Food processing (Mainly spices and nutritious flour)

Med-Foods emerged as the outstanding winner for SME category. They sell their products in retail shops and supermarkets, as well as to wholesale buyers who buy in bulky and trade to other retailers. They also export their products to Kenya, especially the nutritious flour.



Before starting KAIZEN, the company was facing a challenge of high waste on flour production caused by both machines and human operators. Mr. Robert Likwawa, a representative of Med-Food, said the company applied a "Waste Reduction (to reduce defect rate)", as a KAIZEN theme, to resolve the challenge of high waste in flour processing. "We organized a KAIZEN implementation team of seven staff from different sections," he noted. The target was to reduce flour waste due to spillage from milling and packing processes from 100 Kg to 20 Kg per a production batch of 2,000 Kg.



Flour waste (defect) around the milling machine

After a thorough observation, the KAIZEN team identified that the root causes of waste are two: leakage holes on the milling machines, and high speed of manual packing process. The team set countermeasures as (1) to modify the machine, (2) to seal the holes using the special sealer, and (3) to conduct specific training for employees on proper packing without spillage.



Trained employees for manual packing process

As a result, the waste on both milling and packing activities went down from 100Kg to 17Kg per production batch, which is equivalent as defect rate from 5% to 0.9%.

"To ensure there is continuous improvement on our processing the company is promising to procure an automatic line of flour milling and packing in the next two years. The machines will highly solve the challenge of waste and defects caused by human/manual operations", Mr Likwawa noted.



A technician fixed/adjusted the milling machine in order to reduce waste



Hon. Exaud Kigaha (Deputy Minister for Investment, Industry and Trade) at the opening speech of the 6th Tanzania KAIZEN Award Competition.

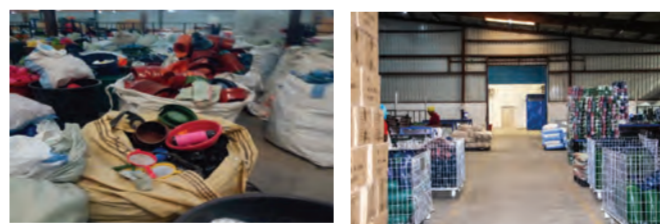
POLYFOAM LTD

Location: Arusha
Year of Foundation: 1980
Number of Employees: 566
Main Business: Manufacturing household products



Polyfoam Company emerged the outstanding winner for the large company category. Before applying KAIZEN philosophy, the company was facing a problem of low amount of production. They produced the products well below their target in 2018. Through their internal diagnosis, they found main factors of the situation, i.e., improper plant layout of production process. Especially, (1) Complicated processing path, (2) Huge number of "Work in process", (3) Lack of space, and (4) Time consuming.

To resolve these problems, the company started to provide training of KAIZEN for all employees, and they have implemented "5S" (*) in order to simplify the process and reduce finding time for necessary materials/tools. Simultaneously, they have tried to eliminate/combine the unnecessary process to shorten lead-time for mold setting from 120 minutes to 40 minutes. In addition, they installed material handling equipment to reduce number of transportations between several processes. As a result, their productivity in 2021 has increased by more than 30% compared to 2018. (*) The "5S" is a tool of KAIZEN, and means workplace organization by "Sorting, Setting in order, Shining, Standardizing, and Sustaining".



To increase space to simplify the process for production and reduce finding time through 5S. (Left: Before 5S / Right: After 5S)

The company organizes periodical monitoring system (e.g., weekly seminar, monthly/annual audit, etc.) in order to sustain their activities and to improve their productivity continuously.



To reduce time consuming through automation. (Left: Before KAIZEN / Right: After KAIZEN)

About JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency)

An incorporated administrative agency in charge of administering Japan's ODA (Official Development Assistance). It is one of the world's largest bilateral aid agency supporting socioeconomic development in developing countries in different regions of the world. In Tanzania, JICA has been a long partner for 60 years in many sectors since 1962.

For further information, please contact:

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Tanzania Office P.O. Box 9450, Dar es Salaam
 | Tel: 022-211327/30 | <https://www.jica.go.jp/tanzania/english/index.html>



Seed agency now focusing on climate change-resilient varieties

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo

AS Tanzania and the rest of the developing world feel the brunt of climate change, one of the challenges is how to feed the ever growing populations amid dwindling harvests.

To mitigate this, the Tanzania Agricultural Seed Agency (ASA) says it is turning its focus on producing hybrid seed varieties to enable farmers improve productivity while battling adverse impact of climate change.

The move is partly to comply with directives by the government on promotion of high quality seeds within the country. Studies show that if not timely contained, climatic change will have significant impact on Tanzania's rain-fed agriculture and will increase poverty and food insecurity, among others.

"Our prime focus is to produce enough hybrid and Open Pollinated Variety (OPV) seeds and make them available to farmers at lowest possible prices," ASA Chief Executive Officer Dr Sophia Kashenge told Deputy Agriculture Minister, Anthony Mavunde who visited the agency's seed production farm in Arusha recently.

She said most of the smallholder farmers within the country are still recycling landrace seeds as they are not in a financial position to afford improved varieties, the situation which weakens performance of the country's vital economic sector.

The CEO informed the minister that the state-owned agency was working round the clock to meet its set target of increasing general production of varieties of improved seeds from 3,033 metric tonnes in 2021 to at least 5,000 towards the end of this 2022 production season.

"The target is to stand at fore in production and promotion of hybrid varieties in order to push for much-needed production and productivity in Tanzania's agriculture sector while also assisting farmers to dodge effects of climate change," she said.

However, to easily achieve its goals, she said the agency was in need of more land for seed multiplication.

"The total land area owned by the government for seed production under ASA is 15,000 hectares. This is not enough given the demand; we need more land for seed multiplication," she told Mavunde.

Kashenge said that the industry is growing



Dr Sophia Kashenge (right), Chief Executive Officer of Agricultural Seed Agency (ASA), briefs Agriculture Deputy Minister Anthony Mavunde who visited one of the institution's seed production farms in Arusha recently. Photo/ Correspondent Valentine Oforo

very fast therefore ASA also needs to grow at the same pace. Despite encountering some challenges, she noted that the agency has managed to increase the number of seed production farms from eight in 2018 to 14 in 2021.

Mavunde challenged ASA to become more creative in order to help the county end seed importation. He said the country is still grappling with the challenge of seed scarcity, adding that the annual seed demand is more than

371,000 tonnes but what is being produced is around 70,000.

He said the parent ministry is focusing on ensuring that researchers and institutions produce quality seeds to satisfy local farmers as well as for export to other African countries as the government's strategy to capture regional seed market.

"The government understands and appreciates the good work being done by ASA in ensuring availability of enough seed vari-

eties among farmers across the country. However, you're supposed to work harder to reach more farmers," he said.

Mavunde praised Dr Kashenge for the work she has so far accomplished since ascended to the agency's top seat but challenged her to increase efforts.

"You have done a good job to transform ASA but still you're facing an uphill task ahead to ensure the agency supplements efforts by the government towards increasing volume of quality seed production in the country," he said.

Findings at ASA's parent ministry show

that large number farmers still use uncertified traditional seed varieties, resulting in low yields.

Agriculture Minister Hussein Bashe recently called on public and private institutions that research on, produce and control seeds to ramp up efforts to produce high quality input for farmers.

The institutions include ASA, the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI), Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute (TOSCI) and Agricultural Council of Tanzania (ACT), among others.

A special research report released in De-

ember last by the The African Seed Access Index (TA-SAI) shows that Tanzania's quest to become a leading seed producer in the East African region may remain a dream.

The report entitled 'Tanzania Country Report, 2021' which assessed the performance of the country's struggling seed industry showed that while the seed variety release remains longer than necessary, less than 32 per cent of the newly released varieties had climate-smart features.

Moreover, according to the report, a total of 64 new varieties were released in Tanzania for the four crops between 2018 and 2020. Among the released seeds, 42 were maize varieties, three varieties for rice, 11 for beans and eight varieties were for sunflower. Most of the varieties were maize, a consistent trend since 2000.

Of the 64 varieties released, the report stated, 45 varieties (35 maize varieties, one rice variety, two beans varieties, and seven sunflower varieties) came from the private sector, while the remaining 19 were produced by the public institutions. This is noteworthy since most of the breeders (29 of 36) work in the public sectors.

It further found that one of the contributing factors to the high number of varieties released by the private sector is the collaboration between seed companies and other institutions.

For the period of four consecutive years ASA managed to increase seed production levels from 557 metric tonnes during 2016/17 to 3,033 in 2020/21 season.

Chinese women enjoy fairer social environment and more colorful life in new era

By Yang Hao

WITH a fairer social environment and broader space for development, Chinese women today are able to explore and reach their full potential and lead a more colorful life.

At the ongoing annual "two sessions" in China, namely the fifth session of the 13th National People's Congress (NPC) and the fifth session of the 13th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), China's top legislature and top political advisory body, respectively, female lawmakers and political advisors earnestly performed their duties and contributed suggestions on various issues.

Wang Yaping, the first Chinese woman to walk in space and also a deputy to the NPC, has focused her execution of duties on exploration of the universe and space science popularization, while Gao Xiaodi, a member of the National Committee of the CPPCC, performed China's national anthem in sign language at the opening meeting of the fifth session of the 13th National Committee of the CPPCC.

At the recently concluded Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics, Chinese female athletes continually set new records and excelled themselves, demonstrating the strength of Chinese women to the world.

China's veteran free skier Xu Mengtao, a four-time Olympian, claimed the women's aerials freestyle skiing gold medal at the grand sports event, winning admiration for her perseverance.

Fan Kexin, Chinese short-track speed skater, kissed the ice after the women's 3,000m relay final of short track speed skating at the Games, touching the heart of numerous netizens.

Beijing 2022 witnessed the highest proportion of female athletes and the most number of events female athletes competed in throughout the history of Winter Olympics. The indomitable spirit female Chinese athletes showed during the Games has inspired more women to chase their dreams with courage.

Women are an important driving force for social development and progress. In every part of China, female dream chasers are writing splendid chapters in the history of the country and making remarkable achievements in the frontiers of various fields.

They distinguish themselves in the country's rural vitalization campaign, make significant contributions to economic development, scale new heights in sci-tech innovation, and work diligently to create a better life for their family.

Many dreams that once seemed out of reach have been realized as a result of women's efforts, and many delightful glories become even more radiant because of the role of women in achieving them.

With courage and hard work, Chinese women have played an important role in "supporting half of the sky" and demonstrated the spirit of self-respect, self-confidence, self-reliance, and self-improvement in the new era, shining in all sectors of society.

China has put in place a legal system comprising over 100 laws and regulations for fully protecting women's rights and interests. As a matter of fact, China is recognized by the World Health Organization as one of the 10 fast-track countries in



A woman technician works in a workshop of Kama Automobile Company in Ganzhou City, east China's Jiangxi Province, March 7, 2022. [People's Daily Online/Zhu Haipeng]

women's and children's health. In China, the gender gap in compulsory education has been largely closed. Women account for over 40 per cent of the country's workforce, and more than half of China's Internet start-up businesses are set up by women. Among many outstanding Chinese women, Hu Hailan, a professor with the School of Medicine, Zhejiang University, has been honored with the L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science International Awards and become the leading scientist in the systems neuroscience field in China.

In February, the Chinese national women's football team won the AFC Women's Asian Cup for the first time in 16 years, adding a glorious chapter to the achievements of the enterpris-

ing Chinese women.

Intelligent, wise, tenacious, brave and perseverant, Chinese women have devoted themselves into the country's new journey and new endeavors in the new era, embracing a wonderful life.

Not long ago, China solicited public opinion on a draft revision to the Law on the Protection of Rights and Interests of Women, which contained improvements on provisions concerning such issues as eliminating gender discrimination in enrollment and employment, safeguarding rural women's rights and interests in relation to land, respecting women's right to work and reproductive rights and interests, and strengthening protection of wom-

en's personal safety and personality rights and interests.

The draft revision has fully signaled the country's resolve to better protect women's legitimate rights and interests with law.

During this year's "two sessions", some NPC deputies and CPPCC members have brought the protection of women's rights and interests under the spotlight and called for efforts to promote the sustainable and healthy development of women's cause.

The country believes that only by cracking down on illegal and criminal acts infringing upon the rights and in-

terests of women in accordance with the law and making continuous efforts to promote social fairness and justice can it ensure women exercise their rights, take part in social and economic development, and share the fruits of development on the same footing as men in accordance with the law.

It also believes that by empowering every ordinary woman to live a wonderful life and achieve her dreams, it will be able to foster important driving forces for the development of the times and inject strong impetus into social progress.



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: PROVISION OF FUEL SERVICES FOR VEHICLES AND OTHER EQUIPMENT ALONG THE PIPELINE ROUTE TO EACOP PROJECT REFERENCE NO. 0010007537

East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) LTD. (Company) Tanzania, invites experienced and reputable organizations to express their interest in provision of fuel services for vehicles and other equipment along the pipeline route to the EACOP project.

The EACOP project involves the construction and operation of a buried, cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil from the Lake Albert area in Uganda to the eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale in Hoima District, Uganda to Chongoleani, Tanga Region, in Tanzania. The length of the pipeline is 1,443 km of which 1,147 km will be in Tanzania.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES:

- Compliant to Tanzania OSHA Act 2003, including a Certificate of compliance from OSHA.
- Minimum standard requirements of a petrol filling station as per the EVWURA Act Cap 414, and Petroleum act cap392, 2015 or as amended time to time.
- Compliant to environmental protection.
- Compliant to Firefighting protection and certified.
- Compliant to TBS standards TZS 672: 2012 – EAS 158:2012 ICS 75.160,20; TZS 674: 2012 – EAS 177:2012 ICS 75.160.20; TZS 1076:2008 TZS 1115: 2009.
- Petrol filling stations should be in the following areas, Muheza, Handeni, Kilindi DC, Kibirashi, Kitoi (Kibaya), Hanang, Chemba, Igunga, Kagongwa, Bukombe (Ushirobo), Chato, Muleba, Misenyi (Mutukula), Kyaka.
- Petrol Station or companies able to provide magnetic stripe fuel cards, or keypad access codes and a secret PIN or security number) for customers shall have an added advantage.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

Companies or organizations expressing their interest are required to submit documentation of their:

- Proof of registration as Petroleum dealer/ Filling station / Company as required under Tanzanian Law.
- Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) and Tax Clearance Certificate for the latest year available.
- Energy Regulatory Commission practicing license.
- Brief description of experience in car leasing and vehicle maintenance services.
- Statement of experience with at least three (3) similar undertakings.
- Financial capacity to deliver the services required including submission of financial accounts for the year.
- Registered with the EWURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.
- Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition.
- Evidence of organization HSE Management Systems & policy, procedure, and process in compliance with applicable Local and Industry standards for similar works.
- Appropriate licensing from relevant in-country authorities for the provision of the services.
- Application for registration with the EWURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.
- A list of the top five (5) clients including services rendered to the clients.
- Certificate of Incorporation (attach copy).
- Profile of key contact personnel to be involved in the project.

Companies which have the ability, capacity and resources to implement the activities listed above should express their interest by sending together with the documents stated in the above section through an email to eacop-tz.eoi.1000001@totalenergies.com (max. email size 20Mb) on or before **17:00** hours East African Time (EAT), on **29th March, 2022**. Email subject should be **0010007537**.

Note: The EACOP project will review and assess the documents provided by the interested companies to derive a list of prequalified companies. **Only prequalified companies will be contacted.** Only prequalified companies will receive, subject to signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), invitation to submit bids in furtherance of the call for tender process. All Expression of Interests should be submitted in English language.



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: PROVISION OF HEALTH & SAFETY SUPPORT SERVICES FOR EACOP REFERENCE NO. 0010007538

East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) LTD. (Company) Tanzania, invites experienced and reputable organizations to express their interest in provision of HEALTH & SAFETY SUPPORT SERVICES to the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) project.

The EACOP project involves the construction and operation of a buried, cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil from the Lake Albert area in Uganda to the eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale in Hoima District, Uganda to Chongoleani, Tanga Region, in Tanzania. The length of the pipeline is 1,443 km, of which 1,147 km will be in Tanzania.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES:

- Provide a dedicated HSE Manager, based in Dar es Salaam, a very experienced HSE Professional and will support the teams in the field whilst liaising with the IVMS Control Room in the Office in Dar to ensure that field teams remain safe.
- Provide competent and experienced Field H&S Officers for the same, minimum qualification OSHA TZ-NOSHCL&II, 4 years working in similar environment; duties:
 - o Assist with the production of Journey Management Plans, for the teams deployed into the field.
 - o Liaise directly with IVMS Control for Journey related issues.
 - o Conduct Toolbox talks each morning, ensure that all vehicle inspections are carried out and all defects are noted, work closely with contractor HSE Management to ensure EACOP Procedures and values are being adhered to, Report and investigate all incidents that may occur in the field.
- Provide all Safety Officers with a modern Laptop Computer to record all HSE Information and a Satellite Telephone.
- Provide each HSE Officer with a phone and adequate airtime each month.
- Provide a HSE Administrator to manage all field HSE data and database.
- Monitor safety performance, Conducting Field Accommodation Inspection, Hygiene Inspections HSE Training (Inductions and other H&S Training), Develop a field specific H&S Induction, Risk Assessments, (JHA AND HAZARD Identification), Safety Management Plan implementation, Emergency Response Planning, Organizing Drills on sites.
- Monthly Reporting, Man hours, Incidents and Accidents as well as Proactive HSE initiatives, including Hazards Identified, Safety Topics etc.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

Companies or organizations expressing their interest are required to submit documentation of their:

- Proof of registration as a HSE Consulting firm as required under Tanzanian Law.
- Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) and latest Tax Clearance Certificate
- OSHA Regulatory Commission practicing license.
- Brief description of experience of not less than three years in provision of similar assignments.
- Financial capacity to deliver the services required including submission of financial accounts for the year.
- Registered with the EWURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.
- Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition.
- Evidence of organization HSE Management Systems & policy, procedure, and process in compliance with applicable Local and Industry standards for similar works.
- Appropriate licensing from relevant in-country authorities for the provision of the services including a business license, registration with Tanzania Revenue Authority and current tax clearance certificate.
- Application for registration with the EWURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.
- Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition.

Companies which have the ability, capacity and resources to implement the activities listed above should express their interest by sending together with the documents stated in the above section through an email to eacop-tz.eoi.1000001@totalenergies.com (max. email size 20Mb) on or before **17:00** hours East African Time (EAT), on **29th March, 2022**. Email address should be **0010007538**.

Note: The EACOP project will review and assess the documents provided by the interested companies to derive a list of prequalified companies. **Only prequalified companies will be contacted.** Only prequalified companies will receive, subject to signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), invitation to submit bids in furtherance of the call for tender process. All Expression of Interests should be submitted in English language.



Invitation to Tender for a Short-Term Service Provision as Team Leader / Organisation Development Specialist Forest Industry Association Empowerment / Strengthening Service Provision

1. INTRODUCTION

Participatory Plantation Forestry Programme (PFP 2) is a bilateral development programme implemented jointly by governments of Tanzania and Finland, with the expected impact being sustainable and inclusive plantation forestry that contributes to Tanzania's economic growth and poverty alleviation. The intended outcome of PFP 2 is that a socially sensitive, environmentally sustainable, and financially profitable plantation forestry sector including tree growers, SMEs, as well as their organisations and service providers, exists in the Southern Highlands of Tanzania. The programme strives to be human rights progressive, which involves safeguarding the rights of vulnerable groups and supporting their participation in the forestry value chain.

The Participatory Plantation Forestry Programme Phase 2 is seeking Proposals from qualified Consultancy firms for provision of Organization Development Service. The selection of Service provider for this assignment will be carried out through restricted tendering.

2. INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING TENDER

2.1 Contents of the tender

The tender should include the total price for the specified service provision to be provided, Experience of the consultant, CVs of the Team Leader/Organization Development Specialist to be deployed and payment terms. The language of the tender is English.

2.2 Deadline and maximum budget

Applications in response to this invitation to tender must be received by the PFP II Office not later than 5:00 p.m. on Thursday 7th April 2022 for consideration. Bid applications that do not meet this deadline will not be evaluated. The maximum budget for this assignment is EUR132,000 (One hundred thirty-two thousand only).

For detailed tender document please visit the Programme website:
<https://www.privateforestry.or.tz/resources/view/pfp-2-invitation-to-apply-for-short-term-assignment-to-strengthen-forestry-industries-associations>.



Announcement

UpEnergy Group, Tanzania is organizing one-day stakeholder consultation meeting on the project **UpEnergy – Social and Climate Impact Programme**.

Agenda: Design of an initiative intended to create, register and trade carbon credits in order to fund the expanded dissemination of improved cooking stoves and water purification systems.

Venue: Ubungo Plaza Limited
P.O Box55612
Dar-Es-Salaam
Tanzania
Tel:(022) 2450806

Date: 11/April/2022
Time: 10:30 am

Youths trailblazing paths in sexual and reproductive health ahead of ICFP family planning conference

NAIROBI

TRAVELLING in northern Nigeria, Peace Umanah noticed teenage girls with multiple children - they would be walking with one strapped to their back, holding another by hand and with a protruding belly.

"These were worrisome sights that got me thinking about whether these young girls knew about contraceptive choices or if they were not given information to make beneficial decisions."

The same question weighed heavily on young Aurelia Naa Adjeley Sowah-Mensah from Ghana, who grew up in a community where teenage pregnancies are common - mirroring the situation in many developing countries.

These questions set the young women on a trailblazing path to change the trajectory of adolescent and teenage pregnancies in their countries.

The pair have joined forces with other young people, world leaders and actors in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) to give young people in every corner of the world much-needed tools to navigate their sexuality. They hope to remove SRHR-related challenges to enable young women to benefit from socio-economic growth and development opportunities.

"Through the International Conference on Family Planning (ICFP) Youth Trailblazer Award, young leaders in the field of family planning and SRHR aged 18-35 years old were invited to submit creative short videos that integrate this year's conference theme," says Jose G Rimon II, director of the Bill and Melinda Gates Institute for Population and Reproductive Health

at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Rimon II, who is also the chair of ICFP's International Steering Committee, tells IPS the videos "also highlighted youth perspectives, experiences, and voices in family planning and SRHR".

The videos reflected the conference's theme: 'Universal Health Coverage and Family Planning: Innovate, Collaborate, Accelerate'.

Sowah-Mensah and Umanah were among 50 youth leaders working in family planning and SRHR awarded scholarships to attend ICFP this year in Pattaya City, Thailand, on November 14-17, 2022.

Other award winners include Tanaka Chirombo from Malawi, Alison Hoover from Atlanta, USA, and Muhammad Sarim (Saro) Imram from Pakistan.

Awardees are from countries in Africa, Asia, Europe, North and South America, selected from a pool of more than 300 youth worldwide who applied for the Youth Trailblazer Award. The award recognises youth leadership and innovation in family planning and SRHR.

"Selected youth demonstrated strong ideas and commitment, creative thinking that pushed the field forward and challenged norms, and successfully conveyed a clear and powerful message," says Rimon II.

Youth Trailblazer Award winners will be integrated throughout the ICFP, the world's largest scientific conference on family planning and reproductive health, to amplify and highlight the voices of young leaders globally, he adds.

"Awardees will actively participate in planning activities for the ICFP, in-



Youth activists Peace Umanah, from Nigeria and Aurelia Naa Adjeley Sowah-Mensah from Ghana ensure that young people are made aware of their Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights.

cluding integral participation on the ICFP subcommittee(s) of their choice, engagement as speakers and moderators at sessions, as well as other conference engagement opportunities that will magnify the voices, perspectives, and experiences of the youth."

Youth participation will bring to life ICFP's stance that countries' universal health coverage packages should include

youth-friendly family planning and SRH products and services.

"As of 2021, the modern contraceptive prevalence rate shows only 17 percent of all women of reproductive age in Nigeria use contraceptives," Umanah says.

In the absence of youth-friendly services, myths and misconceptions influence young people's understanding of contraceptives. She says they sometimes use lime, soda, antibiotics, and salt to prevent unplanned pregnancies.

Adolescent and teenage pregnancies are the most pressing issues. Consequences include life-threatening health complications and the risk of missing out on lifelong learning and earning opportunities.

According to government statistics, one in every five girls in Kenya between the ages of 15 to 19 is either pregnant or already a mother. Complications during pregnancy and childbirth are a leading cause of death for 15- to 19-year-old girls in this East African nation.

As a youth champion engaging adolescents and young people, Umanah says the cohort needs safe spaces free of stigma and judgment, where they can find answers and solutions to their SRHR needs.

"For young women and girls, being able to speak up and be heard is critical. Social media tools, such as 9ja Girls Now, gives girls a platform to get connected across distances," Umanah observes.

"9ja Girls is a Facebook platform and a safe space where girls learn and ask questions about love, life and health and find answers." Sowah-Mensah is an SRHR mentor of adolescent girls and young women under the Girl Boss initiative with the Youth Action Movement (YAM) of the Planned Parenthood Association of Ghana.

Without support, Sowah-Mensah says, "some girls exchange sex for food or money, ending up in unplanned pregnancies. To avoid stigma, they turn to unsafe ways (to terminate the pregnancy), such as grinding and consuming glass bottles or drinking a mixture of sugar and alcohol. Some lose their lives."

A dedicated ICFP Youth Pre-conference will

take place November 11-13 to support youth leaders and their programmatic work, advocacy, and research.

Rimon II says youth involvement is the "best way to ensure diverse voices are heard and strategies are developed that are sustainable, inclusive, culturally competent and representative of sexual and reproductive health and rights at the global level."

SRHR youth experts such as Sowah-Mensah and Umanah agree.

Sowah-Mensah says young people are the demographic majority and a powerful instrument for development because they have many innovative ideas.

"But a large percentage of our leaders are not young and are thus unable to address young people's most pressing needs for SRHR services. You have one generation making bodily autonomy decisions on behalf of a totally different generation," she says.

The awardees assert that the status quo must change to achieve a desirable outcome. Umanah says, "In designing solutions to challenges that face adolescent girls and young women, their concerns and voices should be the loudest. They should lead conversations towards desired solutions."

ICFP is supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Institute for Population and Reproductive Health at Johns Hopkins University and more than two dozen other public, private, and non-profit sponsors, including the World Health Organization and United Nations Population Fund.



Selected youth demonstrated strong ideas and commitment, creative thinking that pushed the field forward and challenged norms, and successfully conveyed

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 245 00--

WORD-FIT

3 LETTERS: SPY, ARK, ROB
 4 LETTERS: POOL, TOES, SKIN, GAIN, SUSS, AIDE NOTE (7 WORDS)
 5 LETTERS: ADOBE, SHARP, HELLO, NOISE, SWALE (5 WORDS)
 6 LETTERS: BEACON, SPREAD, ASSETS, EMBARK BEACON (5 WORDS)
 7 LETTERS: MOROCCO
 8 LETTERS: SCRABBLE
 10 LETTERS: SUGAR CANES

CROSSWORD

Clues: Across

- Selling of black African's
- to develop
- intelligent, bright
- to put together with something else
- useless
- luck, fate
- Largest continent in the World
- ure
- Church of England
- the percentage charged on the exchange of one currency to another
- ten less than thirty

Down:

- Breath
- Confess
- Capital of Italy
- a large edible fish of warm seas
- admonish, advise
- a public paved road as in a town or city
- division into phases
- Capital of Greece
- glowing
- respond to something in a particular way
- Amateur Athletic Association
- an unpleasant person

SOLUTIONS

WORD-FIT

ENGINE ROOM
 SAVE DAILY
 BEAST
 PASTOR
 DARE EDIT
 KOLMBIA
 RANK V
 YBETTER N

CROSSWORD

SWEE TIC ORNS
 P V R O
 OVER SEDGE
 T N A M E S G
 T G V S I N
 SERENE N
 A R S
 I E R A R
 U N D E R A C I E
 A G E D E
 E O S S E T E M

By Margazi: 0755429240 telixmargazi@gmail.com

RADIO One

RATIBA YA VIPINDI

JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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



Thursday 17 March, 2022

Winners and losers of banking domestic lending in 2020/2021

By Guardian Reporter

BANKS domestic lending experienced the mixed trends among various economic activities last year, when compared with 2020- a time the impact of Covid-19 pandemic was hitting both local and global economies.

Individuals, manufacturers, traders, mortgagors, electricity producers and miners seemed to win the heart of lenders than other economic activities during the period.

Bank of Tanzania (BOT) report shows domestic lending increased by 2.1trn/- to 21.8trn/- last year when compared with 19.7trn/- in 2020, higher than an increase of 0.5trn/- between 2019 and 2020.

According to the report, many of the economic activities recorded the shrink of banks' lending last year, when compared with 2020, signaling that many banks were still cautious in lending in certain sectors of the economy.

The economic outlook by African Development Bank indicated that Tanzanian economy was positive, with real GDP projected to grow 4.1 percent in 2021, compared with 2 percent in 2020, due to improved performance of the tourism sector and the reopening of trade corridors.

The BOT report shows out of 19 featured economic activities, only nine recorded upwards trends in 2021 when compared with 2020, while lending to the remaining 10 economic activities slowed down during the reviewed period.

Domestic credit extended to the private sector and central government by the banking system grew by 14.9 percent in the year ending December 2021, compared with 10.8 percent a year earlier.

Credit extended to the private sector rebounded to pre-pandemic levels, recording an annual growth of 10 percent in December 2021 compared with 3.1 percent in December 2020.

The recovery of private sector credit was largely attributed to implementation of sustained accommodative monetary policy and improving business conditions from adverse impacted of COVID-19 pandemic, according to BOT.

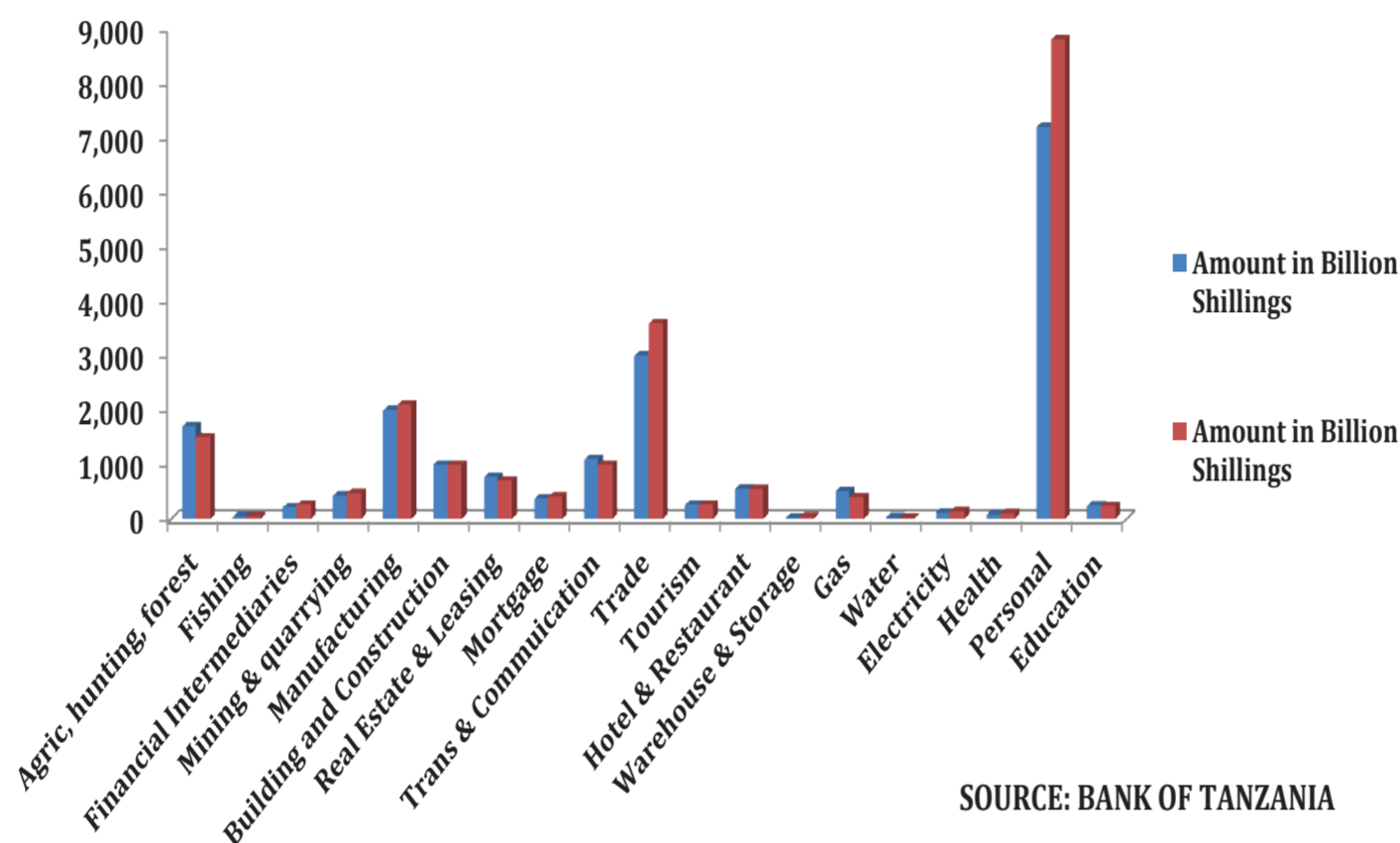
Winners

According to BOT report, personal loans were on top of the list, in terms of the amount, after lending increased by 1.6 trn/- to 8.8trn/- in 2021 from 7.2trn/- recorded in 2020.

Personal loans, which comprises for trade, manufacturing and mining activities account for nearly a third of total banks' lending to all economic activities.

The monthly personal credit growths during 2021 were ranging between 20 and 30 percent, according to BOT computations.

Domestic Lending Trends to Economic Activities 2020/ 2021 in Billions



SOURCE: BANK OF TANZANIA

The second winner was trade which its credits grew by 20 percent to 3.6trn/- last year from 3.0trn/- recorded during the end of 2020.

The report shows the trade recorded monthly lending growth of up to 19.6 percent last year, with the exception of January 2021 when it contracted by 12.4 percent.

Manufacturing sector also recorded strong growth as the report shows lending to the sector grew to 2.1trn/- last year from 2trn/- in 2020. Mortgage activity loans grew to 408bn/- in 2021 from 369bn/- in 2020.

Other sectors which recorded positive growth during the reviewed period were health from 78bn/- in 2020 to 101bn/- in 2021, electricity from 114bn/- to 143.8bn/- and warehouse/storage which grew to 33.9bn/- from 17.1bn/- respectively.

Lending to mining and quarrying also

increased during the period reviewed as the report shows 474bn/- were recorded in 2021 against 429.3bn/- in 2020 while lending to financial intermediaries also gained to 269bn/- from 219b/-.

The increase was due to implementation of accommodative monetary policy, which is aimed boosting level of liquidity, in order to support economic growth through increase in lending to the private sector by banks.

Losers

Bank of Tanzania report has shown that despite of economic recovery in 2021, banks' domestic lending to 11 economic activities slowed down during the period reviewed with agriculture, hunting and forests leading the list.

Lending to agriculture, hunting and forests slowed to 1.5trn/- last year from 1.7trn/-

in 2020 while those of fishing, which was considered as separate activity out of agriculture slowed to 37b/- from 39.1bn/- respectively. Real estate sector also recorded the slowdown of credits from banking as the report shows 706bn/- recorded in 2021 against 767.6bn/- in 2021, while those of building and construction went down to 998bn/- from 1trn/-.

According to the central bank report, loans to transport and communication decreased to 1trn/- in 2021 from 1.1trn/- in 2020.

Other sector which recorded the slowdown of lending during the period were tourism (from 266bn/- to 259.3bn/-), gas (from 510bn/- to 392bn/-), water (from 30bn/- to 18bn/-), education (from 245bn/- to 236bn/-) and hotels/ restaurant which its loans went down slightly to 542bn/- from 549bn/- respectively.

Banks interest rates slow in subdue manner, says BOT review

By Guardian Reporter

INTEREST rates charged on loans by banks have continued to respond to accommodative monetary policy and measures adopted, albeit in subdued manner, according to Bank of Tanzania.

In its monthly economic review for February, BOT says overall lending rates averaged 16.30 percent in January this year, decreasing slightly from 16.37 percent and 16.63 percent in the preceding month and January 2021, respectively.

In its monetary policy statement for February this year, BOT highlighted that will continue to engage stakeholders to ensure reduced bank lending rates, of which are considered as exorbitant high.

President Samia Suluhu Hassan has once spoken about higher banks' lending rates, suggesting they should go down as low as ten percent.

However, the BOT working paper revealed high operating costs, increased Non-Performing Loans (NPL) and high costs of funds as factors causing most of the banks to resist reducing lending rates, considering interest income is the major source of their earnings.

According to BOT, negotiated lending rate to prime customers declined to 13.68 percent from 14.06 percent in the previous month.

"It is worth noting that some banks reduced interest rates to single digit, especially for agriculture," says BOT.

Interest rates offered on deposits remained broadly unchanged, with overall deposit interest rate averaging 6.79 percent in January 2022.

Negotiated deposits rate for prime customers was around 9.92 percent, as in December 2021.

Meanwhile, domestic credit extended to the private sector and central government by the banking system grew by 19.6 percent in the year ending January 2022 compared with 6.2 percent in January 2021.

Private sector credit growth maintained strong recovery pace, recording an annual growth of 10 percent, same as in the preceding month, and significantly higher than 2.6 percent recorded in January 2021.

The strong growth was largely attributed to improving business conditions from adverse impact of COVID-19, coupled with accommodative monetary policy and supportive fiscal policy, says BOT.

Much of the credit was for personal activities, which comprises of small and medium enterprises; trade; manufacturing and mining activities.

Personal loans, trade, manufacturing and agriculture continued to account for the largest share of outstanding credit to the private sector.

Why banks are intensifying SMEs financing in Tanzania

By Correspondent Geoffrey Nangai

COMMERCIAL banks and micro-finance institutions are increasingly strategizing to tap into financing Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) market.

Almost all the financial institutions have re-established a tailor-made and dedicated department to cater for the growing interests of the growing SMEs sector.

According to the World Bank, the SME sector is the 'engine of growth' and plays a major role in job creation and economic growth.

Available data indicates that formal SMEs contribute up to 40 percent of gross Domestic Product (GDP) in emerging economies and the numbers are significantly higher when informal SMEs are included.

According to estimates, 600 million jobs will be needed by 2030 to absorb the growing global workforce, making SME development a high priority for many governments around the world.

In emerging markets, most formal jobs are generated by SMEs, which create 7 out of 10 jobs, but access to finance is a key constraint to their growth, and is the second most cited obstacle facing SMEs growth.

growth and are slowly turning their focus away from corporate clients in recent years to capitalize more on retail banking, which comprises of SMEs.

The sector has currently become the new kid on the block, as decision making cements the sector's attractiveness and banks are drawing battle lines to intensify their scramble for the sector.

Following the mischief that befell petty traders popularly known as 'machinga' operating at Karume market earlier this year, NMB Bank signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with petty traders where the later would set aside 200bn/- to finance their businesses.

The bank says it would come up with a tailor-made account to cater for the petty traders' needs and promised to offer timely, convenient and affordable services.

On February 7, 2022 NMB also issued a three-year bond named the NMB Jasiri which is expected to raise 25bn/- with a green shoe option of 15bn/- where proceeds will be used to extend affordable financing for women-owned or women-controlled enterprises and/or businesses whose products or services directly impact women.

This is the first ever bond targeting gender empowerment to be offered in the East African region and demonstrates the bank's commitment to so-



Banks have established a tailor-made and dedicated department to cater for the growing interests of the growing SME sector.

cio-economic empowerment through supporting the efforts to attain the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Speaking during the launch of the bond, the NMB Chief Executive Officer, Ruth Zaipuna, said women play an important part in the sustainable development of any country.

"Through the Jasiri Bond, we want to walk the talk in drawing attention to the challenges women entrepreneurs face in Tanzania while creating a new asset class for investors who want to help create sustainable solutions to women economic empowerment," she said.

She added that while most small- and medium-sized businesses are

owned by women, they often face hurdles in accessing credit from banks, meaning their businesses cannot grow.

"We consider this to be a good opportunity to address this need, which will not only help stimulate the development of the local capital market and diversify our funding sources, but also support women economic empowerment and sustainable development," Zaipuna stressed.

The National Bank of Commerce (NBC) in an interview last week said it has set aside 60bn/- this year to finance various SMEs country-wide as part of its efforts to support the country's economic development.

The NBC bank Head of SMES Mussa

Mwinyidaho told this paper that the bank had unanimously increased SMEs funding from 42bn/- set aside last year to 60bn/- this year.

He noted that apart from the funding that comes with simplified bank procedures for SMEs, the bank will be investing in offering SMEs development training in partnership with Tanzania Trade Development Authority (TanTrade) adding that the training has already reached 7,000 people.

"As a bank, we realized that in order for the economy to grow, the SME sector must also grow. That is why we have come up with an ambitious strategy to support the SME sector," he said.

The NBC's director of business banking Elvis Ndunguru while briefing the media during the 4th Tanzania International Minerals and Mining Investment Conference 2022 said the bank was also eyeing to tap SME opportunities in the mining sector.

He said the bank was in the process of creating a new system of providing quick loans to small and large-scale miners in the country and will be flexible allowing miners to put their minerals as bonds for securing short-term loans.

"This system will be the first of its kind in the country and will make it easy for mineral dealers to claim loans from our bank branches," he stressed.

"Hopefully by June this year, the

system will begin to be used. For now, everything is in line and soon, we will publicly declare on how miners will benefit from the incoming loans," Nduguru said.

International institutions have also made funds available for local banks to tap into this opportunity and a number of local banks have already signed MOUs.

Earlier last week, the Tanzania Agriculture Development Bank (TADB) secured \$47 million (approximately 110bn/- from the Government and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to support producers and processors of dairy products.

According to the TADB Managing Director Frank Nyabundege, the funding targets 100,000 livestock keepers with priority given to women and youths.

According to the OECD, a healthy SME sector is a vital ingredient for inclusive growth but the sector is disproportionately affected by regulatory uncertainty, complexity and inconsistency. Regulatory and tax compliance generate costs, sometimes excessive costs, which leads to informality.

At a time when the global economy is still underperforming, enabling SMEs to innovate and scale up is essential to boost aggregate productivity and foster more inclusive and sustainable growth.

SIDO scheme invites agri-business, agro-processors to apply for loans

By Beatrice Philemon

SMALL and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) engaged in Agro processing and agri-businesses in Dodoma, Singida, Manyara, Arusha, Kilimanjaro, Morogoro and Mbeya regions are invited to apply for loans offered by the Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO) through Credit Guarantee Scheme (CGS).

SIDO's director of marketing and investment Shoma Kibende said yesterday that the loans range from 10m/- to 50m/-.

The financing is targeting SMEs graduated from existing SIDO financing schemes, including through the National Entrepreneurship Development Fund.

The scheme is purposely eyeing SMEs concentrating on agricultural products value addition.

"SMEs are keen in loans access. So designated SIDO regional offices will facilitate on receiving applications and upon confirming that the applicant has borrowed from SIDO, before issuing the loan, the applications will be forwarded to the designated bank," she said.

SIDO is currently working with CRDB Bank Plc to disburse loans to SMEs and the bank say has designated at least one branch for each region to serve the clients.

Upon receiving the application, the bank will carry due diligence as per bank procedures, while site visits will be made together with SIDO staff from respective regions.

Elaborating further, she said SIDO has so far provided loans worth 1.9bn/- to finance 59 SMEs business through CRDB Bank Plc.

The loans were disbursed from July 2015 to December 2021 through Credit Guarantee Scheme.

Among those, a total of 550m /-loans



Agri-processors

were issued to eight women entrepreneurs while the remained 1,368,000,000 were disbursed to 51 male entrepreneurs.

Access to finance has been one of the major challenges to SMEs, as majority lack of registered collateral which is a must to most of the banks' loan requirements

For that reasons, SIDO initiated a credit guarantee scheme with financial support from Agriculture Food Aid Counterpart Fund program fund by the Government of Japan since 2015.

The objective of the scheme is to promote and support SMEs which have a significant role in the economy, by creating enabling environment for access financing from banks, with minimal collateral they have.

Currently, the program is implemented in seven regions across the country named, Dodoma, Singida, Manyara,

Arusha, Kilimanjaro, Morogoro and Mbeya regions.

The regions were selected based on the growing number of potential agro processing SMEs, presence of other related program implemented by SIDO such as MUVI, ODOP, KAIZEN Cluster development program.

According to her, the implementation of the program started in 1st July 2015 after the awareness seminar which involved SIDO and CRDB staffs from the selected pilot regions conducted in Dodoma region in June 2015.

The objective of the seminar was to create a common understanding to SIDO and CRDB staff before starting the implementation.

It is estimated that Tanzania's SME sector consists of more than 3 million enterprises; employing more than 5 million people and

is contributing to 27 percent of overall GDP.

Most of them are in the agricultural sector, and more than half are owned by women.

However, key constraints remain for SME development includes unfavorable legal and regulatory frameworks, undeveloped infrastructure, poor business development services, limited access to financing, and ineffective and poorly coordinated institutional support framework.

The sector is still considered to absorb 62.5 percent of yearly urban labour force, which is higher than the estimated 8.5 percent by the formal sector, according to Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRF).



NMB Bank Chief Executive Officer Ruth Zaipuna

NMB CEO listed as one of most influential business leaders

By Correspondent Geoffrey Nangai

THE Chief Executive Officer of NMB Bank Rut Zaipuna has been named amongst Africa's 74 most influential women business leaders in the second annual Africa.com Definitive List of Women Chief Executive Officers.

Zaipuna ranks 12th position out of 74 most influential women business leaders, with NMB reported to have estimated revenue of \$451 million.

She is the only Tanzanian female CEO featured on the list, whose data was sourced by Bloomberg according to the statement released by Africa.com.

The list run during commemoration of the International Women's Day, by Africa.com, celebrates women who run big businesses in Africa.

The list of 74 women leaders, includes Natascha Viljoen, CEO of Anglo American Platinum; Nompumelelo Thembekele, the CEO of the Bidvest Group and Leila Fourie, the CEO of the Johannesburg Stock Exchange.

Some prominent female CEOs from East Africa include Anne Juuko, the CEO of Uganda's Stanbic Bank and Jane Karuku, the Group CEO of East African Breweries Limited (EABL).

Other women leaders from East Africa on the list, include Rosemary Oduor, the Managing Director and CEO of the Kenya Power & Lighting Ltd, Rebecca Miano, the Managing Director & CEO of the Kenya Electricity Generating Company and Nasim Devji, the Group CEO and Managing Director of Diamond Trust Bank.

"In short, the list represents the women who run big businesses in Africa. All women are leading businesses with revenue of \$100 million or more. No other list of successful African businesswomen is grounded in quantifiable research," Africa.com said in a statement.

Other East African women leaders on the list include Mitwa Ng'ambi, the CEO of MTN Rwanda Telecommunications, Kendi Ntwiga-Nderitu, the Country Lead, Kenya for Microsoft and Brenda Mbathi, the President General Electric East Africa.

Commenting about the list, Africa.com Chair Teresa Clarke said, "The 2022 list features 74 women. This represents a meaningful expansion over the 50 women who made the 2021 list.

Why do we need behavioural banks in Tanzania?

By Kelvin Mkwawa

IN this digital era with its limitless options, decision-making has become even more difficult. As we know, human beings can be bad decision-makers when it comes to money management. Banks can help us in that aspect.

Banks can't predict our behavior with absolute certainty, but they can help us frame our financial decisions by understanding how we make our choices and design solutions around them. It has been well documented that we as Tanzanians have poor money management practices: less than 40% of the working population are saving, and more than 65 percent are borrowing to meet their daily needs - spending more than we earn is our habit.

People want to save for retirement, emergency funds and their kids' college fees, but when they are in a possession of money, there are not thinking right. That is where banks can step in. Banks can offer services that help customers make better spending decisions.

In this age of advanced technology, data is quickly becoming more and more valuable. Now we have access to infinitely more data and insight about all manner of things. As we know, business strategy is simply no longer strategic if all the available knowledge is not used to design and meet the needs of the target market.

The banking industry is no exception: Banks can use data to better understand their customers, edge out the competition and provide the right products to the right people at the right time. The need to understand the customers better will only increase as technology shifts the power to the consumers, so the insights into the way consumers think, make decisions, and interact with products and



services will make or break the banks in terms of profitability.

In this article, I will discuss what is behavioral banking and how can behavioral banks help shape our money management skills to better our lives.

Banks can provide the right product to the right person at the right time through a new advanced type of banking called behavioral banking. I believe this kind of banking, will help consumers manage their finances better. But what is behavioral banking? Behavioral banking is the practice of a bank letting its customers' behavior dictate the price of their offering to customers. How can a bank be a behavioral bank?

Before a bank begins to redesign its products and services based on its customer's behavior, it has to understand clearly that the new direction it is taking needs a paradigm shift which requires an overhaul of impressive dimensions, and emphasis on the needs and wants of the account holders/customers. To act and implement behavioral banking, a bank needs to be vigorous in the collection of customer data.

So what kind of data should a bank obtain to offer better financial services to consumers? Such data can be: how many times a customer performs a transaction, what type of transaction it is, and what channel the customer is using to perform that transaction. Through the data collected, a bank will obtain a broader perspective of customer(s) activity, transactions, mental state and emotions which will allow a bank to become more relevant and contextual.

The bank then feeds the data obtained from across its businesses into algorithms that measure behaviors actuarially thereby enabling the bank to vary the pricing of products and services based on customer behavior and the bank's risk appetite. It is well to note that collecting data and acting on them is not enough, a bank needs to go beyond data analytics and focus on how and why people make financial decisions.

I believe that by pricing the products and services based on customers' behavior, banks will not just be more efficient but will help instill financial discipline in consumers. For example, if a customer

has a tendency to withdraw the whole paycheck on payday every month, a bank can tell that this customer has a savings problem.

Therefore, the bank can offer an affordable account that does not have any fees where the customer truly uses that account to save money hence developing a saving culture.

In conclusion, instead of charging customers based on income and repayment services, banks can look at customers' behavior and habits and offer and design products and services that fit their needs and install disciplined financial habits.

This kind of banking is known as behavioral banking; a behavioral bank is the one that lets customers' behavior dictate the price of its offering to consumers. We as Tanzanians are poor in managing our finances and I firmly believe that behavioral banks are overdue in our market.

Kelvin Mkwawa, MBA is a Seasoned Banker. He can be reached through Email address: Kelvin.e.mkwawa@gmail.com

BANKING & FINANCE

StanChart wealth management unit's income rises

NAIROBI

STANDARD Chartered Bank Kenya's income from its wealth management unit grew by 21 percent last year to KSh3.16 billion, defying slower growth in assets under management in the period.

The lender launched the wealth management, targeting

customers looking for professional investment advice.

The unit ended 2021 with KSh131 billion in assets under management, representing a 2.1 percent growth from KSh129 billion in 2020.

The assets have grown at an annual compound rate of 37.95 percent from KSh19 billion in

2016. Expansion of the wealth division offers StanChart an opportunity to grow and diversify earnings, with the business offering more stable revenue.

It also serves to build synergies with the banking operations, with the institution having catered to affluent clients for decades.

The lender said that it leaned on its digital platform to expand the reach of the wealth unit, which offers portfolio management, fixed income investments, bancassurance and lending using the invested amount as collateral (wealth lending).

"We continue to diversify

our digitally distributed wealth product offerings. We recently launched the SC Shilingi Funds, a money market fund with a minimum entry of KSh1,000 to drive financial inclusion of the mass retail segment," the lender told the Business Daily.

The wealth management business contributed a signifi-

cant part of the bank's non-interest income, which rose 25 percent to KSh10.4 billion last year.

This helped make up for a five percent decline in interest income to KSh22.2 billion as the bank reduced its investment in government debt securities.

Its net profit for the year

grew by 66.2 per cent to KSh9 billion in the period.

An increasing number of wealthy Kenyans are turning to professional fund managers to look after their money, banking on professional expertise to cut risk and identify the best investment options.

Mobile lenders to reveal hidden fees from September

NAIROBI

MOBILE phone lenders will from September be required to disclose the total charges for their loans, including interest rates, late payment and rollover fees, before disbursing credit to customers.

The requirement to disclose hidden charges is part of the conditions for fresh licensing of the digital mobile lenders by the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK).

"We have been having issues with mobile lenders and I would like to announce that the law is there and it will streamline the industry. Arising issues of overpricing, misuse of customers' data will be taken care of in the new law with which they have to comply by August 2022," CBK Governor Patrick Njoroge said on Tuesday.

"In this new law, consumers will benefit and it will bring sanity. We are sure CBK will set minimum charges which will lower interests of the credit service offered."

Most Kenyans are not aware of their rights and do not read the terms of the loans when signing up for credit.

This leaves them vulnerable to being saddled with costly interest rates that rise up to 520



percent when annualised, triggering mounting defaults.

President Uhuru Kenyatta in December signed into law the Central Bank Bill, 2021,

bringing digital lenders under the watch of the banking regulator for the first time.

The CBK Act, 2021 will see the lenders seek approval of the central bank for the pricing of their loans and products, subjecting them to the same rules as commercial banks.

The new law also grants the banking regulator powers to revoke the permits of digital lenders who breach the confidentiality of personal information while pursuing defaulting borrowers.

It aims to stop a trend where some lenders resort to "debt shaming" tactics to recover loans.

There have been reports of debt collection agents pursuing borrowers by informing their friends and family using contact information scraped from their phones or by threatening to tell their employers.

The law requires the digital lenders to comply with its rules within six months of CBK publishing regulations to guide its implementation.

The CBK is yet to gazette the regulations.

Failure to reveal interest charges, late payment and rollover fees has been cited as a major problem bedevilling customers who turn to digital loans due to their ease of access given that they do not require collateral.

"An applicant shall provide the terms and

conditions applicable to the digital credit and which must be accepted by the borrower before activation of a mobile loan account," says the new law.

The CBK will also have powers to revoke or suspend the licences of digital lenders who do not disclose full information on loan facilities to borrowers in line with the consumer protection law.

The Consumer Protection Act requires sellers to disclose to consumers all relevant information tied to the purchase of a good or service.

The law also comes amid growing concerns over predatory lending by the mobile loan providers, with borrowers not getting full access to information on pricing, punishment for defaults and recovery of unpaid loans.

Digital lenders will now set interest rates for their loans within parameters approved by the CBK in an effort to protect borrowers against predatory lending that has driven many into the debt trap.

The firms have in recent years flooded the local market, attracted by demand for quick credit that does not require collateral. Borrowers get loans within minutes via their mobile phones, making digital loans a quick fix for daily bills.

JPMorgan Chase drops ban on unvaccinated new hires

NEW YORK

AS the COVID-19 caseload declines, the nation's largest bank is backpedaling on several pandemic restrictions.

JPMorgan Chase said will lift its ban on hiring unvaccinated people April 4, the bank said in a memo published this week by CNBC.

Wearing a face mask became optional, effective Monday, inside JPMorgan's corporate buildings for vaccinated and unvaccinated employees alike, the memo indicated. "We are learning to live with COVID as part of our new normal," the bank wrote Monday.

"The virus has shifted to cause less severe illness, there is now a high level of vaccine immunity and natural immunity from infection, and we are once again enjoying the benefits and energy that comes with being together in the office on a regular basis."

The bank tightened its pandemic-related policies in October, banning travel and in-person meetings for unvaccinated employees and those who refused to report their vaccination status.

JPMorgan also required unvaccinated staff to be tested for COVID-19 twice per week. And that month, the company instituted a ban on hiring unvaccinated individuals for certain positions, including client-facing roles.

Monday's move rolls much of that back. There are exceptions, however.

The bank's New York City-based employees, for example, must continue to meet the city's vaccination requirements.

JPMorgan, as of April 4, will stop asking employees to report COVID-19 infections and will no longer require them to submit to contact tracing – a move it said aligns with guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

"If you are sick with COVID or have symptoms of any other illness that may be contagious, please do not come into the office," the bank cautioned. "And if you do test positive for COVID, please exercise good judgment and common sense in deciding if colleagues with whom you've been in close contact would want to know."

The bank added it will maintain some protocols, such as improved air filtration and cleaning standards, as well as rules surrounding isolation and quarantine.

"Masking requirements may return if there is another spike in cases, or a variant begins to spread that causes severe illness in the general population," the bank wrote. "But this will only happen based on strict criteria or if mandated by state or local government authorities."

JPMorgan Chase ditched mask mandates for vaccinated workers last month, according to Bloomberg. Monday's policy update drops the bank's masking requirement for unvaccinated workers, too.

"We will continue to monitor developments closely and will be prepared to reintroduce practices and protocols when and where needed," the bank said in its memo.



Exim Tanzania Board Chairperson Irene Mlola speaking during International Women's Day 2020 organised by the bank in Dar es Salaam last weekend. Seated right is the bank's board member Dr Natu Mwamba and bank Chief Executive Officer Geoffrey Mchangila (C) (PHOTO/JUMANNE JUMA)



Tanzania Postal Corporation (TPC) acting Postmaster General Macrice Mbodo (2nd from right), exchanges documents with Air Tanzania Corporation Limited (ATCL) chief executive officer Ladislaus Matindi (left) soon after signing business agreement in Dar es Salaam this week. Witnessing middle is the minister for Information and Information Communication Technology Nape Nauye (PHOTO/COURTESY)



BANKING & FINANCE



Minister for natural resources and tourism Dr Damas Ndumbaro (2nd from left) explains something to the Emirates Airlines director of marketing for Africa Badr Abas (right) during his official visit to the airlines headquarters in Dubai. Left is an official of the Tanzanian Embassy in Dubai Idd Bakari. (PHOTO/COURTESY OF THE MINISTRY)

WORLD

Africa should seize fast-developing digital market space - AU official

ADDIS ABABA

AFRICA should seize the fast-developing digital market space so as to boost access to goods and services across the continent, Monique Nsanabaganwa, deputy chairperson of the African Union (AU) Commission, said Tuesday.

The AU Commission deputy chief made the remarks as the African continent joined the global community in commemorating the 39th World Consumer Rights Day annually marked on March 15 under the theme "Fair Digital Finance."

"Seizing the fast-developing digital market space is particularly important in our African context where access to countless goods and services remains restricted for the vast majority," Nsanabaganwa said in her statement concerning the World Consumer Rights Day.

Noting that the African continent has an internet penetration rate of 43 percent, the deputy chief said innovation is transforming how people conduct financial transactions and live their lives throughout the continent, emphasizing that digital finance and its implication on financial inclusion and financial stability is crucial for development in Africa.

Nsanabaganwa noted that the African continent is home to a growing number of digital financial services deployments.

The deputy chairperson warned that digital finance consumers are increasingly exposed to scams, frauds, phishing and data malpractices, which is further exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"It is necessary to explore solutions that will mitigate these threats while



WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange greets supporters from a balcony of the Ecuadorian embassy in London, May 19, 2017. File photo

still making digital finance attractive, as governments seek to expand access to digital banking services," said Nsanabaganwa, stressing it is vital to acknowledge the risks and enact strict consumer protections, especially for the most vulnerable people, such as those with limited educational attainment or financial experience. She said Africa's burgeoning youth population is integrating with the ever-changing digital world and it is necessary for the continent's decision-makers to harness this exposure in a way that is optimal for the continent's youth.

Nsanabaganwa, however, stressed that African women are still less likely than men to have basic formal financial services.

"Mobile money and the ability to easily and

safely receive money from social networks has been found to be a drawing factor for them and thus helping to shrink the gender differences across the continent," she said.

Last week, the AU launched the Women and Youth Financial and Economic Inclusion (WYFEI 2030) initiative, which is a collective impact approach that seeks to achieve social change in respect of the financial and economic status and participation of women and youth in Africa.

According to Nsanabaganwa, the success of the initiative relies largely on the strength of digital financial services as well as the importance of making them fair and safe.

Xinhua

Moscow, Teheran want quick revival of Iran nuclear deal

MOSCOW / TEHRAN

RUSSIAN Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said Tuesday that both Russia and Iran support a fast resumption of the full implementation of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, or the Iran nuclear deal.

Moscow is waiting for Washington to return to the legal framework of the agreement and lift its sanctions that not only hurt Iran but also other countries, Lavrov said during a briefing here following talks with visiting Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian.

During the bilateral meeting of the Iranian and Russian delegations on Tuesday, Abdollahian welcomed Russia's "constructive efforts in Vienna to help reach an agreement on the lifting of sanctions on Iran."

Abdollahian expressed his hope that the United States would abandon its "exorbitant demands" so that all parties participating in the Vienna talks would be able to reach a consensus.

He said the ball is now in the US court to



Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov (right) and Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian hold a joint press conference following their talks in Moscow on Tuesday. AFP

ensure a successful conclusion of the Vienna talks.

"If Washington responds to the few remaining important issues and does not

waste time anymore, Vienna talks can be concluded soon," Abdollahian said.

Iran has held eight rounds of talks in the Austrian capital of Vienna with major signatory parties, including Russia, China, France, Britain and Germany, in a bid to revive the 2015 Iranian nuclear pact, from which the former US government under President Donald Trump unilaterally pulled out in 2018.

Abdollahian described Russia's approach to the Vienna talks over the past 11 months as "constructive," expressing confidence that this approach would continue until a good and credible agreement is reached.

He also pointed to his country's determination to develop relations with neighboring countries, including Russia, as a main priority for Iranian foreign policy.

"The process of developing relations with neighbors and Russia will continue independent of any third factor or international developments and regardless of the outcome of the negotiations in Vienna," he said.

Agencies

Security Council renews mandate of UN Mission in South Sudan

UNITED NATIONS

THE Security Council on Tuesday adopted a resolution to renew the mandate of the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) for a year, till March 15, 2023.

Resolution 2625 decides to maintain the overall force levels of UNMISS with a troop ceiling of 17,000 personnel and a police ceiling of 2,101 personnel. It expresses the Security Council's readiness to consider adjustments to UNMISS force levels and capacity-building tasks to match security conditions on the ground.

The resolution decides that UNMISS's mandate is designed to advance a three-year strategic vision to prevent a return to civil war in South Sudan, to build durable peace at the local and national

levels, and to support inclusive and accountable governance and free, fair, and peaceful elections in accordance with the 2018 Revitalised Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan.

The four core elements of the mandate remain largely unchanged, namely protecting civilians; creating the conditions conducive to the delivery of humanitarian assistance; supporting the peace process; and monitoring, investigating and reporting on violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights.

It demands that all parties to the conflict and other armed actors immediately end the fighting throughout South Sudan and engage in political dialogue.

It reminds South Sudanese authorities

of their primary responsibility to protect civilians, and further demands South Sudan's leaders implement the permanent cease-fire declared in the Revitalised Agreement and all previous cease-fire and cessation of hostilities agreements.

The resolution expresses the Security Council's deep concern about the delays in implementing the Revitalised Agreement, calls on the parties to fully implement the agreement and establish its institutions without delay.

It stresses that free and fair elections will be critical for a transition toward a stable, inclusive, democratic, and self-reliant state, and in this regard, underscores that elections will need to be preceded by an inclusive, transparent constitution-drafting process.

It calls on the government of South Su-

dan and all relevant parties to ensure an environment conducive to a free, fair, inclusive, transparent, peaceful and timely electoral process.

It demands the government of South Sudan immediately cease obstructing UNMISS in the performance of its mandate, and calls on the government to take action to deter and to hold those responsible to account for any actions that impede UNMISS or international and national humanitarian actors, and to continue to take all appropriate measures to ensure the safety and security and freedom of movement of UNMISS personnel with unhindered and immediate access.

The resolution was adopted with 13 votes in favor and two abstentions. China and Russia abstained.

Xinhua

Somali, AU military commanders in talks over transition to new mission

MOGADISHU

SENIOR Somali and African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) military officials have kicked off a five-day meeting to discuss modalities ahead of the new AU peace support operation in the country, the AU mission said on Tuesday.



Francisco Madeira (pictured), special representative of the AU Mission in Somalia said the meeting in the Somali capital, Mogadishu, which is mainly between AMISOM and the Somali National Army (SNA) commanders, seeks to agree on various approaches to aid the transition, as well as discuss operational plans for the new mission.

AMISOM, which has operated in Somalia since 2007, will be replaced by a new mission to be called the African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS) from April 1.

"This conference, being the last under the AMISOM mandate, will mark an important milestone in the road-map towards peace and stability in Somalia as AMISOM transits to ATMIS, which will ultimately hand over full security responsibilities to Somali security forces by the end of 2024," Madeira said in a statement.

The conference brought together representatives from the government, military commanders from the SNA and AMISOM, as well as officials from the United Nations and several international partners.

Madeira reiterated the need for the key players to work collaboratively to effectively implement the new mission's Concept of Operations (CONOPS 2022-2024), which, together with the revised Somalia Transition Plan, will aid the attainment of the new mission's mandate by the end of 2024.

He said the conference is a springboard of transition to a series of security activities that will see Somalia regain its glory.

The Somali Transition Plan which was first agreed upon in December 2017 between Somalia and the international community, details guidelines aimed at enabling Somalia to assume full responsibility for its security.

It is expected that at the end of the conference, the key stakeholders would have agreed on realistic modalities for the handover and takeover of AMISOM military bases in order to create, among other priorities, mobile forces under ATMIS.

Xinhua

Study suggests geese may have been first domesticated birds

HANGZHOU

AN international team of researchers from Japan and China has found that geese may have been domesticated as early as 7,000 years ago, suggesting that they were the first poultry species to be domesticated.

Scientists have long held different opinions on the history of the domestication of birds. Some suggest chickens were the first to be domesticated.

In 2014, Chinese researchers reported ancient DNA sequences taken from the earliest archaeological chicken bone discovery in China, suggesting chickens were domesticated in northern China as early as 10,000 years ago.

The researchers behind the goose study said that the 2014 study lacks firm evidence. In the new study, the team excavated the archaeological site of Tianluoshan, a 7,000-year-old rice cultivation village in the lower Yangtze River valley in what is today known as east China's Zhejiang Province. They found a total of 232 goose bones at the site. The inhabitants of the village were hunter-gatherers.

The researchers used multiple approaches to study the bones, and found lines of evidence of domestication. Four bones were from goslings ranging from eight to 16 weeks old, suggesting they hatched near the site. Geese were domesticated from wild geese.

These migratory birds fly to northern Siberia to breed after the spring equinox and then fly south for the winter, according to researchers from the Zhejiang Provincial Institute of Cultural Relics and Archaeology.

They said the goslings were too young to have flown in from elsewhere. At the time, Tianluoshan did not have the conditions to be a natural breeding place for wild geese, so it follows that the goslings were born after domestication.

The researchers also analyzed the chemical makeup of adult goose bones, which contained evidence of the water they drank. Their analysis indicated that the adult geese also seemed to have been locally bred. The locally bred geese were roughly the same size, suggesting captive breeding. Carbon dating also showed that the bones belonged to geese that lived about 7,000 years ago.

Chinese lawmakers and political advisors have heated discussions on China's whole-process people's democracy at 'Two Sessions'

THE "two sessions" in China, namely the annual sessions of China's top legislature and political advisory body, offer a window into the dynamism and strength of the country's whole-process people's democracy.

During the just-concluded annual sessions of the 13th National People's Congress (NPC), China's top legislature, and the 13th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), the country's top political advisory body, nearly 5,000 NPC deputies and CPPCC members gathered in Beijing to perform their duties by submitting motions and proposals and making suggestions on major political and

social issues of the country under the banner of democracy.

NPC deputies and CPPCC members stressed that it's necessary to maintain and improve institutions, standards and procedures of law-based socialist democracy, continuously promote the construction of the whole-process people's democracy, and make sure that the principle of the people being masters of the country is manifested in the Party's governance policies and measures, in all aspects of the work of Party and state organs at all levels, and in the efforts to meet the people's expectations for a better life.

China's whole-process people's de-

mocracy fully represents the people's will, protects their rights and unleashes their potential to create, pointed out Go Khok, mayor of Lhasa, capital city of southwest China's Tibet autonomous region, and a NPC deputy.

The journey of Tibet is a vivid demonstration of the practice of the whole-process people's democracy, he said, referring to the region's journey from its peaceful liberation when people of all ethnic groups became the masters of the region to its historically getting rid of poverty and comprehensively building a moderately prosperous society since the 18th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) held in 2012.

In recent years, Lhasa has consulted the people on governance, learned about their needs and sought their advice to ensure that various links of decision-making, enforcement and oversight take into consideration the people's opinions and are under the people's supervision, according to him.

"All the suggestions I made were appreciated by and received responses from relevant authorities," said Tong Luwen, a NPC deputy as well as director of the academic center under the Party school of the CPC committee of Zhangjiajie city, central China's Hunan province. The system of people's congresses is an important institutional vehicle for real-

izing whole-process people's democracy in China, Tong noted.

Tong has gained a deep understanding of the institutional advantages of the system of people's congresses in the execution of her duties. By integrating the leadership of the CPC, the people's status as masters of the country and the rule of law, China has fully tapped into the characteristics and strengths of its political systems, she pointed out.

"As a Party school teacher, I will continue to help people understand better the whole-process people's democracy and make it more deeply rooted in people's heart," she said.

The essence of the people's democra-

cy is that the people get to discuss their own affairs, noted Wang Meihua, a member of the CPPCC National Committee as well as deputy chief engineer of Shanghai Construction Group (SCG).

Wang recalled that when discussing comprehensive renovation and installation of elevators in old residential areas, residential communities asked local residents to join consultations and eventually worked out plans that satisfied everyone. "It made me understand better that China's whole-process people's democracy works and has gained the people's earnest support and won wide popularity among the people," Wang said.

People's Daily

China witnesses win-win results for smart technologies and Beijing 2022 Winter Paralympics

MORE than 121 sci-tech achievements concerning barrier-free facilities and environment have gained increasing attention and popularity while greatly empowering competitions of the just-concluded Beijing 2022 Paralympic Winter Games, at which the Chinese delegation won a history-making number of medals.

These smart technologies used at the games are expected to embrace wide application in society to benefit the lives of people with disabilities, a win-win result for smart technologies and the Games.

Smart products have helped ensure high efficiency in the competitions of the Beijing 2022 Winter Paralympics.

Chinese paralympic athletes' uniforms emblazoned with China's national flag, for instance, are customized products that show warm solicitude for athletes and the ingenuity of designers.

Considering that physically challenged athletes may not be able to perform as good as they can when they compete in the uniforms designed for able-bodied athletes, a team from the Beijing Institute of Fashion Technology (BIFT) has developed down waistcoat and down pants for athletes in wheelchairs by leveraging digital modeling and 3D printing technologies. The clothes are not only easy to put on and take off, but allow athletes to move freely.

The team has also innovated the method of measurement and developed 54 types of special uniforms in six series, offering custom-made training clothes for paralympic athletes competing in different events.

Besides specially designed clothing, the Beijing 2022 Winter Paralympics has also ensured smooth competition for paralympic athletes by monitoring their health conditions and environmental conditions and providing information services for them in a real-time manner through the Internet of Things (IoT) and digital devices including a "digital plaster" and a digital name tag.

The "digital plaster", which is considered the smallest IoT device during the event, can collect and upload in real time such data as athletes' body temperature and pulse to help guarantee efficient epidemic prevention and control for the safety of participants in the Games.

The digital name tag, an electronic paper display device, enables users to get real-time information about the Games and go through identity verification. Users can charge it using the near-field communication (NFC) feature of their mobile phones.

Such smart technologies have helped foster a highly efficient and convenient environment for the Games.

Sci-tech applications have empowered paralympic athletes to better enjoy competition and life during the sports event.

During the torch relay for the Winter Paralympics, Yang Shuting, a high paraplegic athlete who has been unable to walk upright for 11 years, successfully walked with her back straight and finished her part of the torch relay with the help of China's self-developed exoskeleton robot.

After their arrival at the Beijing Capital International Airport, athletes with visual impairment are able to reach their destinations safely with the help of high-precision positioning and navigation system and receive services and information from interactive robots that can switch freely between sign language, text, and voice.

The barrier-free smart and convenient management platform of the Beijing 2022 Winter Paralympic Villages offers real-time information such as the number of people in public places and the location of shared wheelchairs. The platform based on advanced smart technologies and Building Information Modeling (BIM) technology has been committed to satisfying various basic living needs of paralympic athletes.

The 2022 Winter Paralympics has also facilitated the introduction of certain smart technologies into everyday life of people with disabilities. After the end of the Games, all the sci-tech achievements concerning accessible environment used in Paralympic scenarios are expected to be promoted in scenes of daily life to ensure people with disabilities move around freely.

The air film curling and ice hockey stadium built by Beijing for the 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, the first of its kind in the city, will open to people with disabilities in an orderly manner as a permanent building.

The direct cooling ice-making technology using the non-toxic and non-corrosive R134a refrigerant adopted for making the ice surface of the venue can also effectively reduce energy consumption. In addition, the venue has created a comprehensive barrier-free environment both inside and outside the building, freeing people with disabilities who love ice sports from the restriction of infrastructure in enjoying the sports.

The Beijing 2022 Paralympic Winter Games has drawn great attention to the life and development of people with disabilities and generated a great opportunity for improving barrier-free services, showing the world that in order to guarantee convenience for the life of people with disabilities, services and facilities should cover not only every link but also every necessary detail of their life.

People's Daily



Chinese athlete Liu Mengtao (right) and German athlete Martin Fleig greet each other with a fist bump after the Para biathlon men's middle distance sitting competition at the Beijing 2022 Paralympic Winter Games, March 8, 2022. (File Photo)

Envoy clarifies China's Ukraine stance

WASHINGTON

THE assertions that "China knew about, acquiesced to or tacitly supported" Russia's military operation in Ukraine "are purely disinformation", Qin Gang, the Chinese ambassador to the US wrote in an op-ed published Tuesday.

In the piece in The Washington Post, he dispelled talk of a comparison between the situation in Ukraine and Taiwan, calling them "totally different things".

In the article titled "Where We Stand in Ukraine," Qin said that he was writing to "explain fully and dispel any misunderstandings and rumors".

He denied claims that China had prior knowledge of Russia's military action and that it had demanded Russia delay it until the Beijing Winter Olympics had concluded. Qin also denied that Russia was seeking military assistance from China.

"Let me say this responsibly: Assertions that China knew about, acquiesced to or tacitly supported this war are purely disinformation. All these claims serve only the purpose of shifting blame to and slinging mud at China," wrote Qin.

"There were more than 6,000 Chinese citizens in Ukraine. China is the biggest trading partner of both Russia and Ukraine,



Qin Gang, the Chinese ambassador to the US

and the largest importer of crude oil and natural gas in the world. Conflict between Russia and Ukraine does no good for China. Had China known about the imminent crisis, we would have tried our best to prevent it."

The ambassador reiterated the positions emphasized by other senior Chinese officials: China is committed to an independent foreign policy of peace, and as a "staunch champion of justice", China decides its position on the merits of the issue.

He also reiterated China's "objective and impartial" position on Ukraine. "The purposes and principles of the UN Charter must be fully observed; the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries, including Ukraine, must be respected; the legitimate security concerns of all countries must be taken seriously; and all efforts that are conducive to the peaceful settle-

ment of the crisis must be supported," the ambassador wrote.

"Given this, threats against Chinese entities and businesses, as uttered by some US officials, are unacceptable. Neither war nor sanctions can deliver peace. Wielding the baton of sanctions at Chinese companies while seeking China's support and cooperation simply won't work," said Qin.

Qin mentioned specifically that some people are linking Taiwan and Ukraine to play up the risk of a conflict in the Taiwan Straits, referring to the analogy as "a mistake".

"These are totally different things. Ukraine is a sovereign state, while Taiwan is an inseparable part of China's territory. The Taiwan question is a Chinese internal affair. It does not make sense for people to emphasize the principle of sovereignty on Ukraine while hurting China's sovereignty and

territorial integrity on Taiwan," said Qin. "The future of Taiwan lies in peaceful development of cross-Straits relations and the reunification of China."

The ambassador stressed that China is committed to peaceful reunification and retains all options to curb "Taiwan independence". He expressed the hope that the United States earnestly abide by the one-China principle and not support "Taiwan independence" separatism in any form.

"To ensure long-term peace and stability across the Taiwan Straits, China and the United States must work together to contain 'Taiwan independence,'" Qin wrote.

Qin enumerated the efforts of China to push for peace talks and the prevention of a humanitarian crisis in Ukraine, including President Xi Jinping's phone call with President Vladimir Putin on the second day of the conflict expressing China's desire to see Russia and Ukraine hold peace talks as early as possible; Xi's virtual meeting with leaders of France and Germany emphasizing the need to jointly support peace talks between Russia and Ukraine; the Rome meeting between Yang Jiechi, the director of the Office of the Central Commission for Foreign Affairs of China, and Jake Sullivan, the national security adviser of US

in Rome; and the close communication State Councilor Wang Yi has maintained with Secretary of State Antony Blinken and other foreign ministers.

Qin also mentioned that China outlined a six-point initiative to address the Ukraine crisis and suggested that humanitarian operations abide by the principles of neutrality and impartiality. He also wrote that the first tranche of emergency humanitarian supplies provided by the Red Cross Society of China to its Ukrainian counterpart had been shipped from Beijing.

Qin cited a Chinese proverb, "It takes more than one cold day to freeze three feet of ice." He said the long-term peace and stability of Europe rely on the principle of indivisible security, and there must be a balanced, effective and sustainable security architecture.

"The priority now is to achieve a cease-fire to protect civilians from war," said Qin. "But as a permanent member of the UN Security Council and a responsible major country, China will continue to coordinate real efforts to achieve lasting peace. We stand ready to do whatever we can and work with other parties."

"Our ultimate purpose is the end of war and support regional and global stability," Qin concluded.

Agencies

Russia imposes sanctions on Biden, other top US officials

MOSCOW/KYIV/NEW YORK

THE Russian Foreign Ministry on Tuesday announced sanctions on top US officials, including US President Joe Biden, Secretary of State Antony Blinken, and Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin.

Peace talks resumed

Ukrainian and Russian delegations resumed peace talks earlier on Tuesday, local media outlet Ukrayinska Pravda reported, citing David Arakhamia, a member of the Ukrainian delegation.

"The talks are already underway," Arakhamia said without giving further details.

Two delegations started the fourth round of their talks via video link on Monday. Ukrainian Presidential Advisor Mykhailo Podolyak, also a member of the delegation, said the two sides took a technical pause in the negotiations until Tuesday for "additional work in the working subgroups and clarification of individual definitions."

Meanwhile, Russian presidential aide Vladimir Medinsky, also the head of the Russian delegation, said on Monday that negotiations between Russia and Ukraine are being held daily.

"The negotiations with Ukraine are being held every day, seven days a week, in a format of video conferences," Medinsky posted on his Telegram account.

Video meetings save time and are more efficient, he added.

"We are striving to do everything that is possible to fulfill the tasks set by (Russian President) Vladimir Putin for Russia's peaceful future," he wrote.

Extension of martial law proposed
Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has submitted a bill to the parlia-



This photo combo shows Russian President Vladimir Putin (left) and US President Joe Biden

ment, proposing the extension of the current martial law in Ukraine, the Ukrainian government-run Ukrinform news agency reported Tuesday. If the lawmakers pass the bill, the martial law in Ukraine will be extended for another 30 days starting from March 26.

Ukraine imposed the martial law after Russia started a special military operation on Feb 24.

Putin isolation 'Western bias'

The suggestion that Russian President Vladimir Putin is isolated may still be something of a Western bias - an assumption based on a definition of the "world" as places of privilege, largely the United States, Europe, Canada, Australia and Japan, according to an analysis published by The Washington Post last week.

"Of the 193 members of the United Nations, 141 voted to condemn Moscow's unprovoked attack on its neighbor. But that majority vote doesn't tell the more nuanced story," read the analysis titled "Outside

the West, Putin is less isolated than you might think".

The giants of the Global South, including India, Brazil and South Africa, are hedging their bets; even NATO-member Turkey is acting coy, moving to shut off the Bosphorus and Dardanelles straits to all warships, not just the Russians, said the article.

"Some citizens in emerging economies are gazing at Ukraine and seeing themselves without a dog in this fight - and with compelling national interests for not alienating Russia," and "in a broad swath of the developing world, the Kremlin's talking points are filtering into mainstream news and social media," it said.

Meanwhile, "the gulf between the West and the Global South may also be worsening during the pandemic and the era of climate change, as developing nations grow increasingly resentful of the self-interested responses in the United States and Europe," added the article.

Pandemic sends 4.7m more people into extreme poverty in SE Asia

MANILA

THE pandemic added 4.7 million more people to Southeast Asia's most extreme poor in 2021, reversing gains made in fighting poverty, the Asian Development Bank said on Wednesday, while urging governments to take steps to boost economic growth.

The number of people in extreme poverty - defined as those living on less than \$1.90 a day - was 24.3 million last year, or 3.7 percent of Southeast Asia's collective 650 million population, the ADB said in a report.

Before the pandemic, figures for those in extreme poverty in Southeast Asia had been on the decline, with 14.9 million in 2019, down from 18 million in 2018 and 21.2 million in 2017.

"The pandemic has led to widespread unemployment, worsening inequality, and rising poverty levels, especially among women, younger workers, and the elderly in Southeast Asia," said ADB President Masatsugu Asakawa.

Asakawa urged governments to improve health systems, streamline regulations to boost business competitiveness, invest in smart, green infrastructure and adopt technology to speed up growth.

The ADB said there were 9.3 million fewer employed workers

in Southeast Asia in 2021 as COVID-19 curbs reduced economic activity, leaving millions without work.

Its 2021 growth forecast for Southeast Asia was 3.0 percent.

The region was projected to grow 5.1 percent this year but the Omicron COVID-19 variant could cut its growth outlook by as much as 0.8 percentage points if it spreads further and triggers supply and demand shocks, the ADB said.

Ramesh Subramaniam, director general at the ADB, said Southeast Asia's growth outlook will be revised to reflect the impact of Russia's special military operation in Ukraine, which he expected to be "manageable".

"The challenge is going to be what does the medium term holds. Is this going to affect the region's recovery from the pandemic and the fiscal challenges it will face?" Subramaniam said at the report's launch.

"How can we make sure that any knock-on effects don't become serious in the case of Southeast Asia?"

The conflict has forced Asia's policymakers to rethink assumptions for 2022, with the risks of weak growth coupled with surging prices adding unwanted complexity to monetary setting plans.



Hundreds of residents queue to get a booster shot vaccine for the COVID-19 coronavirus in Bekasi on Feb 5, 2022. (REZAS / AFP)

Cats, foxes killing billions of Australian animals annually - report

CANBERRA

FERAL cats and foxes kill billions of animals in Australia every year, research has found.

According to a study led by Charles Darwin University, which was published on Wednesday, cats and foxes collectively kill 2.6 billion animals each year.

The toll includes an estimated 1.43 billion mammals, 697 million reptiles and 510 million birds. The authors said the findings demonstrated the need for greater control of Australia's native species in order to protect native wildlife. "We already had good information about the cats' impact on other species.

This research gave us a clearer picture on the impact of both species nationally and in different and more remote environments," lead author Alyson Stobo-Wilson said in a statement. "People think that a couple of cats and foxes aren't having an impact, but it adds up."

The report found that every year Australia's 2.8 million feral cats kill 815 million mammals, 466 million reptiles and 265 million birds, accounting for more than 1.5 billion of the total animals killed. When killed by pet cats is included, the number of mammals increases to over 1 billion.

The 1.7 million foxes, which cover 80 percent of Australia, kill fewer animals than cats but are ca-

pable of taking down larger prey such as possums and wallabies. Of the 367 million mammals killed by foxes every year, researchers estimate that 29 percent are native species.

Sarah Legge, a co-author of the report from Australian National University (ANU), said that without improved control procedures a number of threatened species would face extinction.

"The central rock rat, that's at risk from cats," she told the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC). "Without any cat control, it's got a pretty good chance of going extinct in the next 20 years."

Xinhua

AICC Club to host squash tournament

BY CORRESPONDENT JOSEPH MCHEKADONA

ARUSHA International Conference Centre (AICC) Club will, at the end of this month, host a squash open tournament.

Nelson Mtei, the AICC Club's Squash Section captain, said they expect more than 60 players from across the country to compete at the two-day event.

Mtei said the club is organizing the tournament in conjunction with the National Squash and Racquets Association (TSRA).

He said the tournament will take place from March 26-27 and currently, registration for the showdown is taking place.

Mtei said the tournament aims to see that the sport is played in all parts of the country, contrary to the way the situation is currently as squash is active in selected cities.

He said after organizing the showpiece in Arusha, they plan to host a similar tournament in Mwanza, to be followed by an event in Zanzibar.

The club official noted: "We have extended invitations to many squash clubs in the country, we aim to revive the game, the tournament is aimed at renewed growth of squash."

"The country has many squash players but they mostly play non-competition events while others are inactive so this month's tournament is one of those events which are aimed at reviving the sport in the country," he said.

The AICC captain said there will be awards that will be given to top winners and appealed to sponsors, companies, and stakeholders to support them.

Last year, the National Squash and Racquets Association disclosed it has lined up several activities that will help to relaunch the game in the country.

The association said the events aimed at welcoming players back to the game and helping to attract a new generation of players to courts.

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"The country has many squash players but they mostly play non-competition events while others are inactive so this month's tournament is one of those events which are aimed at reviving the sport in the country," he said.



Coastal Union players (seated) listen to the club's leaders and Tanga Regional Football Association (TRFA)'s officials after the squad's recent training in Tanga. PHOTO: COURTESY OF COASTAL UNION

Coastal Union's midfielder Chiga involved in accident

BY CORRESPONDENT CHEJI BAKARI, TANGA

TANGA's NBC Premier League side, Coastal Union, has once again faced misery after the squad's defensive midfielder, Jackson Chiga, was involved in an accident in the region.

The player had an accident whilst travelling on a motorcycle on his way to a fitness center.

According to reliable information availed to The Guardian, the source of the accident was a car, which was behind him, hit the motorcycle he was riding on, Chiga fell and injured some parts of his body.

Coastal Union's spokesman, Miraji Wandji, said Chiga, who also doubles as the team's right fullback, got medication and has been allowed to rest.

"It's true, Chiga got an accident while was on the way to a fitness center for physical exercises, he injured some parts of his body, thanks to doctors have treated him and gave excuse duty until he is going to recover," Wandji said.

Coastal Union is as a result missing Chiga and defensive midfielder, Mtenje Juma, following the accident.

Juma sustained a leg fracture while Coastal Union was preparing to host Simba SC in the 19th round of NBC Premier League at Mkwakwani Stadium per the Tanzania Premier League Board's schedule.

The duel is set to be held once Simba SC takes on Niger's Union Sportive Gendarmerie Nationale in the CAF Confederation Cup match at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Coastal Union has missed Juma's service in two NBC Premier League matches versus Kinondoni Municipal Council FC played at Azam Complex in Dar es Salaam and Ruvu Shooting played at Mkwakwani Stadium in Tanga.

The footballer had the leg fracture in Coastal Union's top-flight match against Azam FC.

Juma has yet to recover, the footballer's leg is wrapped up with gypsum plaster and the midfielder walks with aids and is set to miss the eagerly-awaited match versus Simba.

Why the pundits are right: RS Berkane complaining reflects their habits



Simba SC midfielder, Sadio Kanoute (2nd L), negotiates his way past Renaissance Sportive de Berkane's players when the outfits locked horns in a CAF Confederation Cup match that took place in Dar es Salaam last week. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

BY CORRESPONDENT JOHN KIMBUTE

DISCUSSION went on for several days from the pivotal encounter in a 2021/22 CAF Confederation Cup match between local champions, Simba SC, and Moroccan side, RS Berkane, as to whether the visiting side was genuinely denied a penalty.

After having complained to the referee the side proceeded to write to the Confederation of African Football (CAF) on the same issue- and local pundits were engrossed to figure out if there is a valid claim thereof.

It isn't an easy question from a technical and psychological viewpoint.

From the technical aspect, it is not unusual that even a replay can fetch different sentiments on where the fact lies, for instance, how much of exposure is offside, and how much of contact is a foul.

That is why a referee is always crucial in making a decision, and appealing against the verdict issued is not an issue of showing that the referee erred for Çÿto err is human, Çÿ but rather to demonstrate that it was not possible, in the given circumstances, to have erred so much as not to see either the offside or the foul.

Then sanctions can be deliberated upon the referee, not for error but intent to err, implying

a wish to victimize one of the teams.

The second difficulty is how far local pundits could have pointed as much as that if there was a genuine impression of a deliberate error on the part of the referee, as plainly the pundits would be mindful of the audience they are addressing.

Here though the chances of unanimity are either limited or negligible as they do not address listeners wholly sympathetic to the progress of the Msimbazi Street club but include their sworn opponents as well.

The latter would all the same be limited by the fact of being Tanzanian, not to be seen ill-wishing our compatriots, but if they glance at one another and concur on the point they would do it.

Failing to agree with RS Berkane's complaints is only marginally a reflex of discipline.

In that case, it can be said that the complaints had a thin basis if at all, as local pundits and fans, even those who aren't Çÿto admittedly fans of the local side, could not create a clear platform around a sense of doubting the referee's decision.

In that case, even if there was an error it would be marginal, as hardly any viewer could look at the person next to him and get a vivid impression that a flagrant error had been committed by

the referee.

As the game and sense of competition are spirited, such issues, reflections, cannot be suppressed.

What lifted spirits for local fans when the discussion was continuing is that whatever is the result of the filed complaint, it is not an issue of altering the results or cancelling the match altogether but sanctioning the referee in case a clear situation of misconduct is evident from the replays.

That is precisely what the local environment prima facie rules out as if that situation was stark and evident it would have created a vivid impression on local fans and pundits as well.

It would hinder their salutary respect for the referee's decision, as any clear impression on one person would be viewed in another, creating a visible platform.

On the contrary, and this is what was being pointed out by several pundits, there is an apparent rule or habit among North African clubs to fiddle with referees, or to make conditions impossible for a visiting side. Çÿ the way Simba SC faced trouble at Mehalla el Kubra in Egypt in 1973 or thereabouts.

The name became a synonym for stadium chaos, zero discipline, and lack of sportsmanship where soccer is war.

In the current era where ranking encounters in CAF club competitions are televised around the world, the fans and their soccer federations have since learned that primitive behaviour doesn't Çÿt pay. Earlier it was useful.

Even these habits of mistreating a visiting side from arrival to entering the pitch came from North Africa, reflecting a hatred climate where an encounter between Galatasaray and Fenerbahçe in Turkey usually had extensive fist fighting among the fans.

There was a time venue seats were pulled out at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium by irate fans.

This situation declined after clubs started being sanctioned for fans' Çÿ misbehaviour.

Cheating intentions die hard, and thus a country whose clubs almost habitually wish to bribe referees, when failing to do so, will naturally assume that the other side has done that if a questionable claim to a penalty is not given to the suspicious side.

It is a routine situation in life for instance a person involved in occult attacks on other persons, once things go bad against him or her, is heard saying that she is facing this or that problem since so and so is a witch, while it is herself who was witching. It is human nature.

Bluefins Swimming Club now shines in Mwanza tournament

BY GUARDIAN CORRESPONDENT

SWIMMERS from Dar es Salaam's Bluefins Swimming Club have earned plaudits for the squad's outstanding performance in last weekend's Isamilo International Gala which took place in Mwanza.

The outfit's swimmers had managed to win a total of 59 medals which included 13 gold medals, 23 silver medals, and 23 bronze medals.

Bluefins Swimming Club earned 1004 points in the women's category and 1243 points in the men's category to finish as overall first runner-up with a total of 2247 points.

The squad trailed Dar Swim Club which was the overall winner with 2403 points. The gala featured 11 swimming clubs from all over the country.

Bluefins Swimming Club's head trainer and founder, Rahim Alidina, stated: "Our swimmers did amazingly well despite facing strong competition from other swim clubs and we are very happy with their performance as the majority of the swimmers managed to beat their times and create new best times."

Alidina pointed out: "We were particularly very happy with the performances of our young swimmers in the age category of U-8, all of them completed their events without a single disqualification. This shows how much our coaches had prepared them for this event."

Alidina noted: "Some of our U-8 swimmers also managed to win medals. Saalih Mbonde won two gold, two silver, and one bronze, Anahi Shah (two gold, one silver, and one bronze), Zaeem Somji won two gold, Burhanuddin Jafferjee won two silver, and Zahra Alibhai won one silver and one bronze."



Dar es Salaam's Bluefins Swimming Club's Jay Badiyani takes part in last weekend's Isamilo International Gala held in Mwanza. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Other swimmers from the squad who won medals in the other age categories include Filbertha Demello (four gold, one silver, and one bronze), Lina Goyayi one gold and three silver, Enrico Barretto one gold, Isaac Mukani one gold, Muskan Gaikwad four silver and one bronze, Salman Yasser three silver and two bronze.

Zainab Moosajee won a silver medal and four bronze, Abbas Abdulali one silver and one bronze, Jay Badiyani one silver, Maryam Iplinga two bronze, Gervas Sayi one bronze, and Zac Okumu one bronze are other winners.

In the Master's category, two swimmers from Bluefins also managed to win medals, Vikita Vaja with two silver and one bronze and Zeinab Jivajee who won one bronze.

Bluefins' Relay teams in the age category of

12 & Under won the silver medal in the 200m Medley Relay and Bronze medal in the 200m Freestyle Relay.

Bluefins swimmers who won the overall age group trophies are Zainab Moosajee (first runner-up in the age group of girls 9-10 years), Filbertha Demello (first runner-up in the age group of 11-12 girls), and Muskan Gaikwad who was overall second runner-up in the girls' age category of 15 years and above.

In the women's master category Bluefins Swimming Club's Vikita Vaja and Zeinab Jivajee won the overall first runner-up and second runner-up respectively.

"We are now preparing our swimmers and looking forward to the National Swimming Club Championships next weekend and we expect our swimmers to do well in the nationals as well," Alidina added.

Manchester United: Where big stars go to fail

MANCHESTER, ENGLAND

YOU know the script by now: Manchester United play a big game, their star players fail to perform as they are outfought and outthought by their opponents and, as surely as night follows day, they lose. Atletico Madrid's 1-0 Champions League win at Old Trafford, which sent United out of the competition at the round of 16 stage, was simply the same old story.

You'll know the damning statistics too: United have won just two Champions League knockout ties since 2011, and there has been no home win in the knockout rounds since 2014. Since that 3-0 win against Olympiakos under David Moyes eight years ago, they have scored just one goal at Old Trafford after emerging from the group stage.

This is the modern-day Manchester United: a European heavyweight that has been knocked to the canvas more times than they care to remember since Sir Alex Ferguson retired in 2013, and Renan Lodi's 41st minute goal on Tuesday was merely the latest hammer blow.

There are no surprises with United anymore, just brutal predictability. When the heat is on, they wilt, and it will take more than a new manager and another so-called "cultural reset" this summer to slam on the brakes and point the club in the right direction. But how

has it come to this? Over the past 10 years, United's gross transfer spend has been £1.4 billion, and only Chelsea and Manchester City have spent more.

Those two clubs have won countless major trophies in return for their investment, but United's silverware drought is now five years and counting since winning the 2017 Europa League under Jose Mourinho.

Spending money is one thing, but making it pay a dividend is another matter entirely, and United's failure to do that was a central factor in their exit against Diego Simeone's Spanish champions on Tuesday.

Paul Pogba, United's £89.1 million midfielder, started the club's biggest game of the season on the bench because interim manager Ralf Rangnick can't trust the France international to be disciplined enough defensively to play in a two-man midfield.

And captain Harry Maguire, the world's most expensive defender at £85 million, was substituted to the cheers of the United fans in the closing stages because, despite the team chasing a late equaliser, Rangnick felt it was a safer bet to take him off and throw on midfielder Juan Mata.

Aaron Wan-Bissaka, a £50 million right-back, did not even get off the bench, but the former Crystal Palace defender has started just six times since Rangnick took

charge in December because he is regarded as a liability when he has the ball at his feet.

And although Marcus Rashford cost United nothing, having been developed by the club's youth system, the 24-year-old has since become one of their biggest stars. Yet after a lengthy period out of form, he also started on the bench.

So in a game that was absolutely crucial to United's hopes of winning a trophy and qualifying for next season's Champions League – a game when they needed all of their best players on the pitch – Pogba, Rashford and Wan-Bissaka were named on the bench and Maguire not given the opportunity to lead his team's desperate search for a goal in the final stages.

When a manager is unable to rely on his biggest players in the biggest games, it is an indictment of the club's wastefulness in the transfer market and proof of their inability to make them perform or improve them on the training ground.

It would be harsh to pin the blame for that on Rangnick. The German coach has only been at United for three months, and he has at least coaxed the best out of winger Jadon Sancho and central midfielder Fred. Rangnick also has been rewarded for his faith in forward Anthony Elanga and has been pragmatic enough to dispense with Wan-Bissaka in favour

of Diogo Dalot.

But in the Champions League, against a team as experienced as Atletico Madrid, you simply need your best players to turn up. Yet Pogba, Rashford, Wan-Bissaka and Maguire have been letting United down long before Rangnick arrived.

Both Mourinho and Ole Gunnar Solskjaer struggled to get the best from Pogba – Mourinho dropped him for a defeat against Sevilla at this stage four years ago because of his defensive shortcomings – while the others are now paying the price for a lack of coaching and development during Solskjaer's three-year reign in charge.

So many players are in a malaise that is deep-rooted, but this is hardly breaking news. The same could have been said four years ago or even further back, during the unsuccessful spells of Moyes and Louis van Gaal.

Ultimately, United have become a club that drains the talent and personality out of their best players, and nothing will change until that changes.

Atletico were there for the taking, with Simeone's team some way short of the sides that reached the Champions League final in 2014 and 2016; but once they went ahead, their victory was never in doubt because United, once again, stuck to their miserable script.

Meanwhile, David de Gea has admitted Manchester



Harry Maguire, the captain of Manchester United and the world's most expensive defender, was yanked when his side needed to wage a comeback. Cristiano Ronaldo, meanwhile, has been frustrated since joining United in August. (Agencies)

United are "far away" from challenging in the Premier League and Champions League after being eliminated from Europe by Atletico Madrid.

Atletico defeated United 1-0 at Old Trafford as the LaLiga side advanced 2-1 on aggregate and into the Champions League quarterfinals. The loss condemns United to another year without a trophy after last lifting silverware in 2017 and De Gea accepted it will go down as a "bad year."

"It's difficult to describe with words how I feel, how we feel," said De Gea. "It's another tough moment for us. It is too many years without any trophies."

"I think we need to be clear, we want to achieve good things, fight for trophies, we don't just want to play for the top four, and be there so we need much more from everyone because this club is

too big for where we are now.

"We are far from fighting for the Premier League and Champions League. We need much more from everyone."

United interim manager Ralf Rangnick was left to rue referee Slavko Vincic's decision not to award a foul on Anthony Elanga in the build up to Atletico's goal, scored by Renan Lodi in the 41st minute. The German was also critical of what he branded the Spanish side's "time-wasting antics" during the second half as Atletico held on to book their place in the last eight.

"I believe it was a foul on Anthony Elanga, the referee and linesman didn't see it that way," said Rangnick.

"We shouldn't have been 1-0 down at half-time, we were the better team in the first half."

"It's important to score first and even

more so against a team like Atletico. In the second half, I don't know if the game was played for more than two minutes without being interrupted with someone lying on the floor."

"There were some curious refereeing decisions, I wouldn't necessarily say decisive. The referee made it pretty easy for Atletico to do their time-wasting antics and it didn't make it any easier for us."

At the final whistle, Atletico manager Diego Simeone appeared to be pelted with objects from the crowd as he sprinted down the touchline and into the tunnel but the Argentinian insisted he wasn't aware of the incident.

"I came off the pitch happy and I like to enjoy it in the dressing room," said Simeone. "I don't know what happened."

ESPN

How Xavi has restored Barcelona's competitive edge

BY GRAHAM HUNTER, ESPN SPAIN WRITER

NO matter whether they win, draw or lose this Sunday's Clasico against Real Madrid, there is healthy evidence that Barcelona are becoming a force again.

Of course, most of their fans would rather bump their car, drop a dumbbell on their toes, accidentally tell their true feelings to their boss about his or her skills or walk full tilt into a lamppost than lose to Spain's champions-elect. Again.

Including the Supercopa, Los Blancos are on a five-match winning streak against Barca, which has not happened in the living memory of most Camp Nou fans or employees.

But sometimes, especially in the midst of a crisis, it is vital to look at whether flaws are being corrected and whether the medicine is beginning to work, rather than thinking: Can everything be completely back to normal, immediately?

There are many deep-rooted and important issues that face Xavi's squad and the club as a whole; he – and those who appointed him – can see the light at the end of the tunnel, but they are by no means out of the darkness.

However, there are things to indicate that something exciting is being built, things that go beyond an arresting recent run of results, which has seen Barca climb to third in LaLiga, just five points behind Sevilla and with a game in hand.

While Xavi is the principal architect, people like Director of Football Mateu Alemany and his "special envoy" Jordi Cruyff have ensured that good, nourishing decisions have been made, particularly in a spectacular winter transfer market.

Nevertheless, the football health of a club is always predicated on results and performances and it is in this area which Xavi has shone.

Ahead of facing Madrid at

what will be an ultra-hostile and schadenfreude-filled Bernabeu, Barcelona are undefeated domestically since December and have scored 24 times in their last eight LaLiga and Europa League matches.

When you average three goals per game against Valencia, Atletico Madrid, Athletic Club and Napoli – Serie A's stingiest team and one of the least scored-against sides in Europe – then kudos to you.

But the most fundamental thing about Barcelona's upturn in fortunes is that Xavi has made the team competitive again and started the long process of reinstating the once-sacrosanct principles of possession and position.

Should you be in any doubt about Barca losing their competitive edge – becoming floppy rather than ferocious – just think about the backdrop to the club's decline.

In addition to five straight Clasico defeats – literally unheard of in modern times – there was a series of absolute humiliations in Europe, with Bayern Munich Liverpool, Juventus, Roma and Paris Saint-Germain all having their way.

This season brought Champions League elimination before the knockout stages for the first time in two decades; Barcelona scored just twice in six group-stage games!

And while there is a litany of further examples, the punctuation point was an uncompetitive 1-0 defeat to Rayo Vallecano in October – the first such result in 20 years – after which then-coach Ronald Koeman expressed general satisfaction with what he had seen.

The upshot was that the Dutchman was summarily sacked before the Barcelona plane, in which he was travelling, returned to Catalunya, but the harsh fact is that the rust had set in for years.

Lionel Messi, Luis Suarez and Neymar brought glory and pantheon football, but they gradually imposed "their" standards and preferences for when training was

staged and whether it began on time or not, as well as its intensity.

Neither Quique Setien nor Koeman corrected that atmosphere. Which, in stark terms, was a fundamental part of their job. Xavi, the legendary midfielder who returned as manager, had the option of arriving and reading the riot act.

The 42-year-old Catalan could have torn strips off most of the squad for one thing or another; announced it was his way or the highway and threatened them with being moved on.

He could have adopted short, sharp, shock tactics. It is probably what many fans and most media wanted. Instead Xavi's methods have been creative, surprising, popular and immensely successful.

The fundamental aims, since he took over in November, have been to make the squad fitter and sharper; to improve positional play and use of the ball and to both score, and win, more often.

Xavi believed there were three keys to achieving this, beginning with training sessions that were more intense and focused on specific team characteristics, traits that had been lost or dulled and which he wanted to be automatic once more.

The second key was to engage in targeted, clear one-on-one teaching and video sessions with most (although not all) of the squad, especially those who either had not grown up in the club's academies or who, if they had, were young and inexperienced.

The third key was, somehow, to add specifically identified talents during the January transfer window. A centre-forward, pace, width, experience and an on-field lieutenant in Dani Alves; overall, to bring an influx of goals, energy and winning mentality.

For the first aim, fitness coach Ivan Torres, who hails from Xavi's native Terrassa and who the boss has known since they were kids, has been

fundamental. Simply, training sessions are now a marvel.

In years to come, when people tell the tale of their former midfielder triggering a resurgence in a club that was close to rock bottom, the analysis of how Barcelona trained will become textbook standard.

While in charge at Al Sadd in Qatar, Xavi and his staff learned how to get across methodology that, though utterly natural to them, was alien to most of their players. As such, delivery techniques, creative training routines and communication skills have been honed.

Torres' work includes lots of associative, fun, team-building exercises that look like the kind of thing you might have engaged in as a teenager at summer camp, but which have been effective.

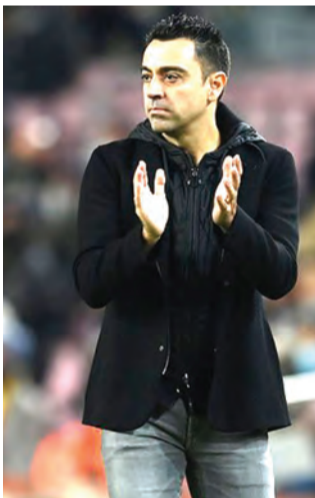
Groups of players – sometimes four, six or eight – compete against one another on a range of tasks based on physical co-ordination, teamwork, speed of thought and hand-eye coordination.

Almost always with a basis of relays, teams are desperate to win, to laugh, boast and tease. Within that environment – and without them really noticing – is fostered intensity, agility, speed, spirit.

Moreover, Torres and Xavi believe such exercises at the beginning of a session have the effect not only of getting the squad buzzing, attentive and warmed-up athletically, but ready to learn and ready to engage in tactical and technical drills with more productive mindsets.

"Building up to a match, we always do team-building games," Nico Gonzalez recently told me. "Everyone likes competing and, if we do drills, we enjoy, it's much more fun. I think that's very important in terms of feeling more united as a team and, ultimately, enjoying ourselves more."

In terms of the second aim, Xavi's fanatical devotion to watching, assimilating and assessing football matches far



In just a few months at the helm, Xavi has set Barcelona back on a steady course. (Agencies)

beyond his remit, either as a Barca player, Al Sadd coach or now, as main man at the Camp Nou, is a huge help.

While in Qatar, he enjoyed being in a bubble where his young family could grow happily and safely, while he "decompressed" after a lifetime playing at the top of the game.

Nevertheless, he watched endless matches, including all that involved Barcelona. It meant his compendium of knowledge, when he succeeded Koeman, was vastly superior to the Dutchman who had been in charge for the previous 14 months.

The result of this was to reduce timescale. Unlike most

new managers, Xavi did not have to spend time watching, learning, coming to conclusions and then, weeks in, starting to correct what he did not like. He was primed from day one.

He has set up a programme of individual video tuition sessions for most of his players. Sometimes correcting positional flaws, sometimes about pressing and often about attacking space, but always to even the equilibrium between, for example, lifelong scholars of "the Barca way" – and former Xavi teammates – like Gerard Pique, Jordi Alba, Sergio Busquets and newcomers of varying experience like Gavi, Sergino Dest, Memphis Depay and Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang.

"Xavi is very intelligent; when he arrived at the club, he already knew everyone's strengths," Ronald Araujo recently told me. "From the very first moment, he has shown us videos explaining what he wanted from each of us. Once a week, we watch specific individual videos so as to continue improving."

"Xavi knew my abilities and told me that I would continue learning more and more about passing, positioning and more. Feeling supported by the coach is very important."

From thrashing Napoli away and Atletico at home, right down to narrow wins over lowly Elche and Alaves – and even including January's Supercopa defeat to Madrid – the absolute linking factor is that Barcelona compete.

If they are playing well and are fit and sharp, most opponents are going to suffer. If they are off the boil, or fall behind, they work coherently, aggressively and press to stay in a match. An awful trait to lose, it is a wonderful plus to have back.

Xavi's training of positional discipline contains drill after drill in which, to supplement the famous rondos, teams of eight will play in a large rectangular box, with three players in the middle operating as "jokers" for whichever team has the ball.

They are works of art. Pep Guardiola would recognise and approve. Maybe top up his own learning, even.

"Xavi has changed the team mentality, improved the individual players and recuperated the very essence of the Barcelona football philosophy," said club president President Joan Laporta, who has admitted he was wrong to say Xavi was not ready for the job just last May.

Meanwhile, though Xavi has a voice in transfers, credit

there goes to Alemany and Cruyff for their nous, their contacts, their persuasive powers and their ability to negotiate. Their three in-season signings – Dani Alves, Torres and Aubameyang – have contributed 12 goals and six assists in all competitions.

However, even in these vastly improved times, when it is stimulating and interesting to watch Barcelona play, this remains an incomplete, uneven squad and the sign on the door should read: "Work in progress."

When he completed 100 days in charge last month, Xavi drily commented that they had been like "100 years" and, doubtless, the effort, the hours and the personal stake involved in curing his club will feel like that. But in actuality, he has made a couple of years' progress in a four-month spell.

When Xavi was in his pomp as a player, it was him – not Messi, Suarez, Samuel Eto'o, Ronaldinho or anyone else – who Iker Casillas, ahead of a Clasico, would want magically excluded from the Barcelona team.

It is asking a lot to suggest that the Xavi effect will immediately guarantee a return to winning ways on Sunday – the odds favour Madrid – but his team will compete. And that is a start.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

**Manchester United:
Where big stars go to fail**

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

More runners confirm to participate in 2022 Tanga Half Marathon

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

WITH 10 days remaining before this season's Tanga Half Marathon, dubbed 'Tanga City Marathon Season 6', takes place in the region, at least 600 runners have been registered to participate in the race.

The race's senior organizer, Juma Mwachasho, said with the showdown drawing closer, a big number of runners from various jogging outfits and athletics clubs across the country are confirming to participate in it.

"Within a week, the number of runners who registered to partici-

pate in the race has increased since we opened registration last week," he said.

He said the event which will be graced by Tanga Regional Commissioner, Adam Malima, is expected to take place on March 27.

It is expected to bring together at least 3000 runners, and fans from several regions in the country and across East Africa.

"The half marathon, 10 kilometers and 5 kilometers Fun Run are expected to bring together at least 3000 fans, runners and investors," he said. Tanga City Marathon was initiated in the region in 2017.

AT needs 80m/- to host East and Central Africa Youth Athletics Championships

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

ATHLETICS Tanzania (AT) says it needs more than 80m/- to successfully host the East and Central Africa Region (EAAR) Youth Championships.

The track and field championships are slated for April 7-8 at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Stephen Rogath, AT information officer, said the championships will draw more than 500 junior athletes from the East and Central Africa region.

He said so far the association has started looking for partners and sponsors for the championships.

The official appealed to athletics stakeholders, the corporate world, and other well-wishers to help AT so that it can successfully host the championships.

"We are looking for more than 80m/- so that we can host the East and Central Africa Junior Championships, so far we have entered a partnership with a local media house, Azam Media Group, to broadcast the championships," he said.

He said the AT technical panel will soon unveil coaches and athletes who will camp ahead of the championships.

Rogath said the current AT leadership has put more emphasis on youth athletics as it is the only sure way of having a new crop of athletes.

The official pointed out: "We want athletics to grow in the country, AT has put many measures which will see our young athletes scale great heights."

"After going through all developmental structures, graduating to the senior team, currently, we are working closely with schools and centers which train athletics," he said.

Tanzania last hosted the EAAR Youth Championships in 2017.

Tanzania Prisons fans' official reveals reasons for outfit's poor performance



Tanzania Prisons FC

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari

A Tanzania Prisons FC leader has revealed the reasons behind the outfit's poor performance in the 2021/22 NBC Premier League.

The official disclosed the reasons are, among others, lack of organization among the squad's players, and the club's style of playing.

Tanzania Prisons FC, one of the old Premier League sides which is based in Mbeya, is at the bottom of the 16-team NBC Premier League.

It collected 13 points after playing 18 games, notching a win in three matches, draw in four, and defeat in 11 matches.

On Tuesday, the side, currently

languishing in the relegation zone, conceded a 2-1 defeat to Biashara United at CCM Kirumba Stadium in Mwanza.

Speaking exclusively in a phone interview from Mbeya, Tanzania Prisons' Fans and Motivation Manager, Edward Mgaya, stated lack of coordination among the outfit's footballers is a strong reason behind the squad's poor performance.

He said since the club's head coach, Kenyan Patrick Odhiambo, took the team as head of the technical bench, the side had changed the playing style from a physical approach to a passing game.

Mgaya noted the system has confused the outfit's footballers because there is no coordination.

"Actually, there is no teamwork, everyone plays as well as he could, and this had resulted in the squad losing several games but I want to assure you after our previous game, leaders are making efforts to overcome this challenge," Mgaya said.

Commenting on Prisons defeat to Biashara United, he said the absence of the former's striker Samson Mbangula, who is nursing an injury, weakened the striking force.

The official stated much as the

other attacker Mudathir Yahya replaced Mbangula, the latter's absence was evident because there was no proper communication amongst teammates.

"Even though Yahya played with great effort, communication among players was still a problem in our team," the official insisted.

The Guardian attempted to call the outfit's head coach, Odhiambo, and his assistant, Shaban Kazumba, but the tacticians failed to respond.

Tanzania Prisons has nine games left, six of which will be taking place at Sokoine Stadium in Mbeya and the rest will be away fixtures.

Dar company keen on supporting national wheelchair tennis team



Female wheelchair tennis players take part in training at Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC) courts recently. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

By Correspondent Joseph

Mchekadona

Dar es Salaam-based company, BQ Contractors, says it is committed to seeing that Tanzania's wheelchair tennis players, who are in Turkey competing at the BNP Paribas World Team Cup, are getting the required necessities.

Two wheelchair players, Lucy Julius and Rehema Suleiman are representing the country in the tournament, they are coached by Riziki Salum.

They arrived in Turkey yesterday.

Salum, who is also the leader of the delegation, sent a message to the National Wheelchair Tennis Association (WTTA) Chairman John Bura, informing him that they have landed in Turkey safely but have a deficit.

He said ahead of the

team's departure, his company provided all necessities to the team which include the team's T-shirts and allowances.

"Head coach Salum, who is also the leader of the delegation, sent me a Whatsapp message that they have arrived in Turkey well and safely and they are looking forward to the tournament which gets underway today and concludes on Sunday."

"We are currently working on logistics to see how we can send them the money. Once everything is ready we will send them," he said.

Bura said he is confident that Lucy and Rehema will perform well at the event and qualify for the World Cup which is slated for May 2-8 in Portugal.

He thanked Gold Star Limited for helping the team with cash and Turkey's Embassy in Tanzania for offering visas to the team free of charge.

The two will also compete at the Kros Medical Open Wheelchair Tennis Tournament which is slated for March 24-27.

Kros Medical Open will be used as a qualification for the Paris 2024 Paralympics.

Tanzania's wheelchair tennis team competed at the BNP Paribas World Team Cup which was held in 2017 in Italy, and it has also competed in many regional events and performed well.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

