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Govt urged to review investment laws

National Pg 4
ACT queries privatisation of Z'bar port

National Pg 5
Dar Tea Auction for launch next month



Supporters of the opposition Chadema find delight in taking selfies with the party's national Chairman, Freeman Mbowe (2nd-L, foreground), shortly after he addressed a rally in Kagunga ward, Kigoma District, yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

ATCL aircraft arriving, 3.7trn/- PPP road bills set for signing

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

FOUR aircraft whose procurement process is being finalised, are expected to start arriving in the country early next week to next February, while the government is next month expected to sign up for works to start on seven major road projects pegged at 3.7trn/- on a public private partnership basis.

Prof Makame Mbarawa, Works and Transport minister, cited the two developments in the legislature yesterday when presenting estimates of the docket for fiscal 2023/24.

He said the government is next month expected to sign up for works to start on seven major road projects pegged at 3.7trn/- on a public private partnership basis.

Among the planes, a cargo hauling plane (Boeing 767-300F) is expected early next week, two Boeing 737-9 arrive in August, and a Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner is set to arrive next February, he said.

The major road works involve partnership that is being conducted via an engineering, procurement, construction plus financing (EPC+F) contractual arrangement with specified contractors

This mode of contract further opens up the country's capital markets by targeted financing, as EPC+F contracts are projects that link the project owner and the contractor,

where design and construction cost risks shift to the contractor, he stated.

The seven road projects costing 2.035trn/- include the 218km-Igawa-Songwe-Tunduma road, a dual carriageway, finalizing a process initiated during this financial year where the government commenced a process to secure contractors of the seven road projects. What now remains is signing the contracts for work to start, he stated.

With the required processes finalised, signing is expected by the end of next month for works to start, as the road projects will also stimulate economic activities where they are being conducted, he said.

Other projects under EPC+F contracts are the 435km- Kidatu-Songea road passing through Ifakara, Lupiro, Malinyi. Kilosa kwa Mpepo, Londo to Lumecha/Songea.

Another is the 339km/- Karatu-Maswa road passing through Mbulu, Haydom, Sibiti River to Lalago in Maswa District of Simiyu Region. There is also the Handeni-Singida road passing through Kibirashi, Kijungu, Kibaya, Njoro, Olboroti, Mrijochini, Dalai, Chambalo, Chemba Kwa Mtoro to Singida, a total of 460km, he said.

The contracting modality also takes up the 453.42km Arusha-Kongwa road passing through Kibaya, the 175km Masasi-Liwale road passing through Nachingwea, and the

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Dr Mwinyi represents Samia at Qatar Forum

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has welcomed Qatar and other Gulf investors into various sectors in Tanzania for mutual benefits.

President Mwinyi made the call here yesterday in remarks after arriving in the Qatar capital, Doha, standing in for President Samia Suluhu Hassan at the third Qatar economic forum slated to take three days, under the theme 'A New Global Growth



The blue economy sector in particular gas and oil was another viable sphere for large investment

Story'

Taking on board hundreds of policy-makers from around the world, the forum provides a platform for Asia-West dialogue as well as facilitating exchanges between public authorities and large private firms.

The president held talks with Mohamed Bin Ahmed Twar Al Kuwari, the Qatar Chamber of Commerce and Industry vice chairman, and stakeholders from the manufacturing industry.

Inviting Qatar-based investors, he said Zanzibar specifically and Tanzania at large have viable opportunities in agriculture, industries, roads, tourism, construction and communications.

Investment in industries by adding value to local raw materials was viable,

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Curriculum relevance advisory committee formed at MUHAS

By Henry Mwangonde

AUTHORITIES at the Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) have launched an industrial advisory committee to help in curriculum development to produce skills-based graduates in line with employers' needs.

Prof James Mdoe, the Education, Science and Technology deputy permanent secretary, said at the launching ceremony yesterday in Dar es Salaam that the team, comprising academicians with vast experience in various fields, will help the university develop 79 curricula for use by various institutions under the World Bank financed higher education for economic transformation project (HEET).

The experts' panel will advise on key areas to be included in curricula such as innovation, developing products and producing competent graduates, he said.

Asserting that the panel has a huge task and requires dedication and time, he expressed the belief that it will produce "something to be proud of as a university and as a country."

HEET project funds will also facilitate the construction of two campuses at

Mloganzila Referral Hospital and in Kigoma, turning Mloganzila into a medical academic city by 2050, with a College of Medicine being set up at Mloganzila Campus, he explained.

The project will chiefly address concerns expressed by employers that local graduates lack the skills needed for employment, with Prof Andrea Pembe, the MUHAS vice chancellor earlier saying that the university has embarked on developing curricula helping with innovation, also turning innovative products into marketable commodities.

HEET is a \$425m (972bn/-) five-year project meant to support higher education "as a catalytic force in the new Tanzanian economy," the ministerial top executive affirmed, noting that it is designed to revitalise the capacity of universities in relation to innovation and labor market relevance.

Requisite infrastructure for effective teaching and research is needed to obtain strategic results like increasing enrolment in priority disciplines and improving the quality of programs at universities. This is vital to meet the conditions and standards of the current and future labour market, he stated.

Strengthening system-level coordination, management and regulations to ensure the right levels of quantity, quality and relevance of higher education is also envisaged, he said.

Increasing the rate and extent of graduate employability through improving the relevance of curricula and creating new, demand-driven programmes are similarly targeted, he added.



Works and Transport minister Prof Makame Mbarawa tables his ministry's Budget estimates for financial year 2023/2024 in the National Assembly in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

WCF training medical staff on work hazards

By Guardian Reporter, Mwanza

THE Workers Compensation Fund (WCF) has embarked on a campaign to train medical personnel and hospital staff on safety at work as an important link to help victims of occupational accidents.

Hassan Masalla, the Ilemela district commissioner, standing in for the Mwanza regional commissioner, unveiled the exercise here yesterday, urging employers to submit their contributions to the fund for the benefit of victims of occupational hazards.

The occasion was the start of five day training for medical staff in the Lake Zone, which the DC said it was a game changer in assisting such victims.

"Most of the time, employers think of the work at hand and less about taking care

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Dr Mwinyi represents Samia at Qatar Forum

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he said, pointing at assembling of vehicles and equipment, production of edible oil, medical drugs and hospital devices.

Tanzania has been improving its investment environment, making it easier for investors from the Gulf Zone to do business in the country, he said, while.

Shariff Ali Shariff, the Zanzibar Investment Promotion Agency (ZIPA) director general, stressed on convening the Zanzibar and Qatar investment councils to a round table to boost relations.

He cited tourism as a key aspect of investment prospects in Zanzibar, where construction of sizeable posh hotels was relevant as the tourism market widens.

Gilead Teri, the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) managing director, said the protection of capital during the investment period is now assured by law, while opportunities abound in tourism,

mining, construction for instance in the capital, industries, finance and insurance services.

The blue economy sector in particular gas and oil was another viable sphere for large investment, he stated.

Sheikh Ali bin Abdullah bin Khalifa Al Thani, the Qatar Economic Forum (QEF) coordinator and CEO of Qatar Media City the event is a global platform for dialogue, to seek positive solutions to inflation, investment in emerging markets, transformation in the energy, trade, sports arenas and others.

The forum is witnessing a massive turnout by political and economic decision-makers from different countries, he said, noting that the number of participants exceeds 2,000 where half of them come from outside the country.

Seven investment agreements between Qatari public and private sector firms and foreign entities are expected during the forum, the coordinator added.

WCF training medical staff on work hazards

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WCF presence at the workplace is an important tool to ensure workers are quickly assisted when the need arises.

He urged the participants to abide by their work ethics in evaluating losses one has incurred at work, where Dr Abdulsalaam Omar, the WCF director of evaluation, said the training was part of a vital mission to transform the way the fund approaches occupational risks and accidents.

"In this financial year, we have trained 85 medical staff on the matter and now we are training 100 others," he said, noting that medical practitioners are a key link to help occupational hazard victims, being injured at places of work.

Medical personnel are trained on how to identify symptoms of infectious diseases including those

touching off pandemics, as well as body harms in occupational activities, he said, highlighting that this will help in heightening access to WCF services.

The trainees hailed the workplace accidents training as it would help the medical personnel in their daily activities, with Pasclates Ijumba from the Geita Referral Hospital saying medical staff will be assisting such victims "knowing exactly what they have gone through."

Dr Julieth Nkovabi from the Bugando Referral Hospital here said the training will help medical personnel and others to accurately report when they come across cases where an employee needs being compensated.

Even health workers face various challenges, including having to face people who merit being socially supported, she added.

Photo on Page 3

Government advised to boost accessibility of LPG as restriction against deforestation

By Correspondent Wilhelm Mulinda, Mwanza

THE government has been asked to create an environment that can enable people to access liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) at affordable prices to discourage tree felling for cooking energy.

In separate interviews here over the weekend, scores of people noted that the move is crucial in a bid to avoid deforestation and therefore protect the environment for sustainable development.

"Charcoal making for cooking energy is one of the major reasons for deforestation and that act can be discouraged a great deal if people will have an alternative way for cooking energy," John Kanyige said.

He pointed out that with the government insisting on tree planting in different areas across the country; it should also come up with a plan to enable people to access affordable cooking gas.

The approach will significantly help to protect the environment and avoid the possibility of deserts as well as other negative impacts that are likely to affect sustainable development at present and in the future, he said.

He noted that currently wood and charcoal are the main cooking energy in rural and even urban areas, a thing that leads to massive tree felling to meet the demand that is on the rise day to day owing to the increasing population.

He said that if people are enabled to get the gas at an affordable price

and be sensitized enough to use it throughout for cooking; the country will considerably stand a better position in saving forests from extinction.

Much emphasis on the use of gas for cooking purposes in homes and at institutions can ensure the country with an evergreen view throughout and also adequately harvest carbon-dioxide gas that has detrimental effects on air, among other benefits, he said.

He noted that adequate efforts are needed to protect forests that are essential for the ecosystem to ensure sustainability of life entirely depending on the environment.

He suggested that useful traditions and customs practiced in the past to protect forests be continued even now in some areas to serve the purpose for a better today and tomorrow.



Charcoal making for cooking energy is one of the major reasons for deforestation and that act can be discouraged a great deal if people will have an alternative way for cooking energy



CCM national Chairperson President Samia Suluhu Hassan chairs a meeting of the ruling party's National Executive Committee in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: State House

ATCL aircraft arriving, 3.7trn/- PPP road bills set for signing

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81km Mafinga-Mtwango-Mgololo road.

From July 2022 to the end of April 2023, cargo handled at the port of Dar es Salaam and elsewhere totaled 20.9m tonnes compared to 16.3m tonnes of cargo handled during a similar period in fiscal 2021/22, the minister noted.

Up to April 2023, local passengers in air transport rose to 4.6m from 1.75m using planes during fiscal 2021/22," he said, explaining the rise from improvements in air transport infrastructure and rising

air transport demand as economies return to normal following the Covid-19 pandemic in 2020/21.

The Tanzania National Roads Agency (TanRoads) has completed a pre-feasibility study for a 245km dual carriageway from Kibaha to Morogoro, to be built in the next fiscal year under the PPP contractual arrangement, he said.

The government has similarly set aside 15.4bn/- to clear payments of contractors and consulting engineers in relation to various bridges, chiefly the Magufuli Bridge in Morogoro region, Ruhuhu Bridge

(Ruvuma), Momba Bridge (Rukwa), Mara Bridge (Mara), Magara Bridge (Manyara), Msingi Bridge (Singida) and Kiyegeya Bridge in Morogoro Region, he said.

Other works involve the renovation of Kirumi Bridge in Mara Region, construction of Sukuma Bridge in Mwanza Region, Godegode Bridge (Dodoma), Mpiji Chini Bridge (Dar es Salaam), Sanza Bridge (Singida), Mirumba Bridge (Katavi), Simiyu Bridge (Mwanza) as well as Mitomoni and Mkenda bridges in Ruvuma Region.

Implementation was being

pursued for various projects signed in the current financial year, with priority in the Works sector where full implementation adds 3,934.7kms to a country's network of tarmac roads, now standing at 11,387.82kms.

Implemented the projects set for signing bring the total network of tarmac roads in the country to 15,522.52 km, an increase of 34 percent from a year ago, he said, asking the House to approve 3.6trn/- estimates where 1.47trn/- is for the Works sector and 2.09trn/- set for the Transport sector.



Agriculture minister Hussein Bashe (C) cuts the ribbon in Dodoma city yesterday to launch a book on recommended principles of tea cultivation and a tea growers' handbook in marking International Tea Day. The theme of the anniversary celebrations was: 'Sustainable Production and Marketing of Tea for Social and Economic Development in Tanzania'. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

JOHANNESBURG

Cholera outbreak kills 10 in South Africa

a bacterium that is generally transmitted through contaminated food or water.

Earlier, the city of Pretoria urged residents of Hammanskraal and surrounding areas not to drink from the tap, adding water tankers were being supplied.

Cholera has experienced a global resurgence since 2021, after a decade of steady decline, according to the United Nations, which this week warned one billion people in 43 countries were at risk.

The disease is not endemic in South Africa. But the country reported a few cases this year on the back of outbreaks in nearby Malawi and Mozambique -- the two most heavily affected countries in 2023, according to the UN.

The World Health Organisation has blamed the global rise in cases on poverty, conflict and climate change.

The rainy season still portends gloom for many hapless souls residing in conditions of squalor which continue to spawn all kinds of contagious diseases.

One such killer disease which thrives in dirty environs is cholera

which has, over the years, decimated hundreds of people in various cities and towns. Given the degree of environmental decay that has now assumed grave proportions, there are very few areas that have been spared the yearly visitation of this deadly disease. That so many lives continue to be lost every year through cholera outbreaks is a sordid indictment of the local government's failure to tackle the root causes of this lethal bug. Cholera is preventable, and as the old adage goes, prevention is always better than cure.

Government must live up to its responsibility by providing clean water for the people. But it is not an isolated incident as the World Health Organisation (WHO) says several have the highest burden of the water-borne disease in Africa. Cholera is life-threatening. If you get contaminated with cholera bacteria and you do not receive appropriate treatment within 24 - 48 hours, you can pass on. Dysentery can give you some time to take care of yourself but not cholera, said the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) water sanitation and hygiene

(WASH) specialist, Drissa Yeo.

Against the background that cholera, which often leads to the infection of the small intestine, is mostly contracted through drinking of contaminated water and eating of waste products, it is a shame that Tanzanians are still afflicted by such a disease in this day and age. But with the systemic collapse of critical institutions and basic health facilities in many of the regions across the country today, it is little surprise that many of our nationals are still dying of the preventable disease common among the poor that has been eliminated in most countries

It is very sad that for more than four decades, a preventable disease like cholera has been a recurring epidemic in Tanzania and has led to the death of thousands of our people, especially children. While there have been some efforts by the government to deal with the challenge, we have seen a corresponding commitment from the government where cholera appears to be ravaging citizens the most.

AGENCIES



Itemela district commissioner Hassan Masalla opens five-day impairment assessment training in Mwanza city yesterday for Lake Victoria zone medical practitioners. According to the Workers Compensation Fund director of assessment, Dr Abdulsalaam Omar, the event has drawn at least 100 participants from Geita, Kagera, Mara, Mwanza, Shinyanga and Simiyu regions. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Experts express worries over increases in invasive species

By Felister Peter

EXPERTS in Dar es Salaam yesterday expressed worries over increased invasive species at protected areas that threaten biodiversity conservation.

According to them, invasive species such as army worms and plants damage both land and plants. They are concerned that apart from affecting biodiversity at protected areas, the species prevents the growth of natural vegetation.

John Noronha, monitoring and evaluation manager at RTI (RTI is an independent, nonprofit institute that provides research, development, and technical services to government and commercial clients worldwide) implementing partner for the USAID "Tuhifadhi Maliasili" project mentioned the other threats to biodiversity conservation as wildfire. He said there are wildfires that are caused by humans but there are some types of grasses that catch fire by themselves when the sun is too hot.

"With the ongoing impacts of climate change that results in increased temperature, it is possible for such grasses to catch fire. Conservation managers and planners at protected areas must recognise these negative impacts of climate change and take actions. As conservationists we need to do something," said Noronha.

He was speaking at a breakfast debate on biodiversity conservation held recently in Dar es Salaam. It was jointly organized by the Journalists Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET) in collaboration with the USAID "Tuhifadhi Maliasili" activity.

Wildfires need to be controlled because once it happens, animals and other living organisms are forced to move as fire spreads, he added.

Noronha said that to sustainably manage these areas, it is important to recognize the impacts of climate

change and start taking measures. He said the effects are likely to be more severe in the next 20 or 30 years.

He said conservationists must now work beyond their jurisdiction and in collaboration with other stakeholders. He said since most of the protected areas interact, it is important to work together as the effects may begin at one place and spread to other areas.

"A river may start drying up slowly through decreased water levels; but after years, it may disappear," he said, stressing the need to immediately deal with the impacts.

He however underscored the need to come up with long term strategies and appropriate management plans especially in tackling climate change.

Noronha noted that despite the fact that all the protected areas have management plans, they were formed in the past 20 years, hence the need to review and update them.

Anna Lawuo, head of tourism promotion at the Tanzania Forest Services Agency (TFS) said a number of programs have been initiated by the government to combat the negative impacts of climate change.

One of the initiatives, according to her, is the AFR100 whereas Tanzania and other African countries committed to restore 100 hectares of natural vegetation by 2030.

She said during the agreement in 2011, Bonn Germany, countries around the globe to restore 350 hectares of natural vegetation.

"Under the landscape restoration initiative (AFR100), Tanzania committed to restore 5.2 hectares. So far over 200,000 hectares have been restored," said Lawuo.

She said as part of the efforts, the Tanzania Forestry Research Institute (TAFORI) has embarked on studies to come up with the best tree species to be planted in various parts of the country.

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

Parliamentary committee urges govt on legislation on investors

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Infrastructure Development has urged the government to initiate processes to review and amend laws to allow potential private investors to operate mega projects such as railway and ports.

Presenting views on the Ministry of Works and Transport budget estimates for year 2023/24 in the National Assembly yesterday, chairman of committee Selemani Kakoso said that allowing private investors to take lead in running operations of ports and railway will greatly address various loopholes and increase efficiency as well as the country's revenue collection.

The committee also wants the government to prioritize Engineering, Procurement, Construction plus Financing (EPC+F) mode of contract as well as Private Public Partnership (PPP) as these have been proven to be effective in various parts of World.

The Committee wants the government to supervise completion of the Dar es Salaam-Morogoro Standard Gauge Railway (SRG) part as its construction has taken too long.

"The part has remained stagnant for too long, there are two lots that are yet to be completed, this should be addressed to ensure that the Dar es Salaam-Morogoro SGR operations commences," he said.

Kakoso further said that the committee was still unhappy that the government

could not release funds on time for implementing some infrastructure projects.

"Delay in paying contractors is also one of the challenges that thwarts timely completion of many construction projects," he said.

The committee further expressed its dissatisfaction on the decrease of budget allocation for the ministry considering that the country is now pioneering to transform transport infrastructures.

"This year's budget is 3.7trn/- which consists of both work and transport sectors. The budget has however been reduced by 2 percent from the 3.8trn/- allocated in the 2022/23, we are not

satisfied with this decrease," he said.

On the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) project, the committee wanted the government to supervise well contractors so as to enable the projects to be completed within the scheduled timeframe.

Debating the budget estimates, members of parliament wanted the government to allocate more funds and disburse them on time so as to facilitate implementation of infrastructure development projects.

"These roads and other infrastructures are the key for an industrialization drive. They are the ones to be used in transporting raw materials, crops and other products

to town," said Aboubakar Hasenga (Kilombero).

Hasenga also urged the government to seriously invest in improving port operations by attracting private investors.

Kilumbe Ng'enda (Kigoma Urban) urged the government to send two ships in Lake Tanganyika as lack of the vehicles was affecting transport services as well as economic activities.

"This will be my last time to support this ministry's budget if Lake Tanganyika does not get a ferry, we are living without having even a single ferry there, things have been so difficult in the area and we cannot stay in this situation any longer," he said.



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Watu wote wanaodai kuwa na haki katika mirathi ya mrarehemu aliyetajwa hapo juu wanafahamishwa kuifika na kuangalia shauri hilo katika jalada kama wanawona inafaa kabla ya kutolewa kwa barua za usimamizi wa mirathi kwa waombaji waliotajwa hapo juu.

Mapingamizi yoyote kuhusu muombi haya yawe yamandichwa mnamo au kabla ya tarehe 30 mwezi uliuni mwaka 2023. Imetolewa leo tarehe 03 mwezi wa Mei 2023.

Address copyright infringement issues, Parliamentary committees call on govt

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE parliamentary committees on Subsidiary Legislations and Education, Culture & Sports have called on the government to strongly address all matters related to copyright infringement and content piracy to empower stakeholders in the creative industry.

Members of the committees argued that stakeholders in the industry ought to benefit from the content created.

Speaking here during a familiarisation meeting organised by the Copyright Office of Tanzania (COSOTA), the lawmakers argued that copyright infringement and content piracy are serious economic setbacks to content creators in the country.

The meeting was also attended by representatives MultiChoice and Azam Media, the biggest local content creators, who made presentations on how the vice affect them.

Prof Kitila Mkumbo, the chairperson of the Education, Culture and Sports Committee, noted that there is need for more public education on the matter, saying many people might be ignorant on such issues.

He applauded the two content creators for showing many works of Tanzania, thus help in creating employment for Tanzanian artists.

The Kigamboni MP also suggested that the parliament should come up with strong laws in effort to end the menace.

"This industry provides a platform that can help improve economic status of local artists and increase government revenues," he said, adding that more efforts should be in place to revert the trend.

Deputy Chairperson, Subsidiary Legislations Committee, Ramadhan Suleiman Ramadhan, also noted that piracy is one of the main challenges facing content creation and artistic activities.

He called on the ministry of Culture, Arts and Sports to do everything possible to control

piracy.

Tunduru North MP, Kungu Zidadu (CCM), noted that the government should come up with better ways to help Azam Media and DSTV on the war against piracy for the two companies help entertain Tanzanians through contents they show.

His Namtumbo counterpart, Abdallah Chikota (CCM), observed that there is need to increase awareness on copyright at all levels in the country.

"Let the authority help in tracing those who indulge in content piracy and those importing unregulated media tools," said the MP.

Ministry for Culture, Arts and Sports, Dr Pindi Chana assured the committee that the government is working on the matter, expressing hope that with collective efforts, there will be success.

She said; the government understands that every industry has its challenges, and we have been informed that one of the biggest challenges in the creative industry is Copyright infringement and for broadcasters is content piracy.

"I would like to assure you that the government is working tirelessly to address this issue and as you are aware recently the government formed a special committee to review matters related to copyright infringement and content piracy," she said.

The minister thanked all stakeholders including MultiChoice and Azam Media who submitted their comments on the matter.

She further urged operators to refrain from copyright infringement as the government, through the Copyright Office (COSOTA), will not be silent to all who commit such acts of vandalism but will hold them legally accountable.

"I would like to urge all operators and individuals to refrain from copyright infringement. The issue of copyright is guided by international laws and treaties which we as a country did ratify so we are obliged to adhere to such treaties," she added.



Nachingwea district commissioner Mohamed Hassan Moyo (R) has a first-hand account at the weekend of the extent to which forests and water sources have been destroyed at Naima village. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

ACT-Wazalendo queries privatisation process of Z'bar port

By Guardian Reporter

ACT-Wazalendo in Zanzibar has called on the Zanzibar government to explain about the tender for the privatization of the Zanzibar port to let people know how the national interests had been adhered to in the privatization contract.

Salim Bimani, the party's Director of Information and Publicity made the remarks when addressing a public rally here at the weekend, the meeting that was attended by Zanzibar First Vice President, Othman Masoud.

Bimani said the port is a sensitive economic department and that it was not right to privatize it, saying it should remain under government's management due to its importance, considering that

Zanzibar is an island nation.

"We want the government to tell us when the privatization tender was done and when and where it was advertised to enable Zanzibaris to understand, as it is not right for such issues to be conducted secretly," he said.

Bimani also expressed his surprise by the government's step to demolish Amani Stadium in order to build a bigger stadium of international standard, saying Amani Stadium has a great history for Zanzibar after the Revolution, hence the government could pick another area to build a new stadium.

Earlier, ACT-Wazalendo chairman, Juma Duni Haji said Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi still has a debt which he is yet to repay in regard to some

basic issues agreed upon with late Seif Shariff Hamad before the formation of the Government of National Unity after the 2020 General Election.

"We are taking this opportunity to remind him about the issues still outstanding in order to have an amicable environment before the 2025 elections," Duni added.

He said the 2020 election was conducted through the violation of human rights whereby more than 21 people lost their lives after being shot and others sustained permanent disabilities, an issue which is not supposed to be repeated during the next elections.

"We have written a book on the issue and have submitted to you including the President of Zanzibar, Union President and Prime Minister for them to read

so that such things should not be repeated, all in effort to beef up democracy and good governance," said ACT-Wazalendo chairman.

He further said it is surprising to witness acts of discrimination emerging which are against the principles of the Revolution that eradicated discrimination based on one's colour and gender.

He said as of now there are people in Zanzibar who are being discriminated against in regard to employment based on areas they hail from, adding that this is against the principles of the 1964 Revolution and the government goals towards national unity.

Regarding the new Union constitution, Duni said President Samia Suluhu Hassan should be commended by reviving the constitution making process.



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Financial Management skills	05/06	Jun	Dodoma
	12/13		Dar
	15/16		Zanzibar
	28/29		Morogoro
Pre-retirement	14/15	August	Dodoma
Office Administration and Management Skills	30/31	Aug	Dodoma
	07/08	Sep	Morogoro
	21/22		Dar
Pre- retirement program	11/12	Oct	Zanzibar
High Performance Leadership	08/09/10	Nov	Zanzibar
	22/23/24		Dar

YOUTH OPEN FORUM CALENDAR

PROGRAM	DATE	MONTH	PLACE
UNLOCKING THE BRILLIANCE WITHIN. "Youth from 7 to 20 years."	5/6	Jun	Dodoma
	8/9	Jun	Dar
	4/5	Sep	Arusha
	11/12	Dec	Dar
THE JOY OF PARENTHOOD. "Parent's program"	24	Nov	Dar

Virtual** (Can be accessed online from 1500 to 1700 in Tanzania)



Kasulu district commissioner Col Isack Mwakisu (2nd-R) pictured at the weekend briefing and sensitising farmers' representatives from various groups in Kigoma Region at the climax of World Metrology Day (May 20). Right is Weights and Measures Agency CEO Stella Kahwa. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Minister Bashe wants Dar Tea Auction in place next month

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

AGRICULTURE minister Hussein Bashe has ordered for the launch of the Dar es Salaam Tea Auction next month, saying the event has been postponed too many times.

It was supposed to start in October, 2020, he said, then the launch was pushed to February, 2023 and later June, 2023.

He said the government will not allow anybody without a permit to export tea outside the country from then on, calling on all stakeholders to register their direct market at the auction.

Bashe also called on local blenders to buy tea at the auction, urging those with trade contracts to show them at the auction too. The minister also noted that the government is ready to do everything to help off-takers in the sector.

He was speaking at the event to mark the International Tea Day, nationally held in Dodoma, convened by the Tea Board of Tanzania and brought together different stakeholders.

The day is an opportunity to celebrate the cultural heritage, health benefits and economic importance of tea, while working to make its production sustainable "from field to cup" ensuring its benefits for people, cultures and the environment continue for

generations.

According to the minister, the envisioned auction has no problems to tea producers "The journey might be having a lot of challenges but we have to start now", said the minister, calling on stakeholders to make the auction a commodity exchange.

Earlier, it was reported that the Tanzania Board of Tea (TBT) was waiting for the Warehouse Receipts Regulatory Board's approval of the two warehouses with a capacity to store 13,000 tonnes of tea at once.

Tanzania's farmers have a capacity to produce 6 to 7 million tonnes of tea per month.

The new tea auction will be conducted by the Tanzania Mercantile Exchange (TMX) via an online system, whereby buyers across the world will be able to get the opportunity to participate.

The European Union (EU) through the Agri-connect project has agreed to finance a major conference that will bring together all tea crop stakeholders and professionals who will help to train local people.

The government decided to open the auction in Dar es Salaam with a view to stimulating economic growth and empowering smallholder farmers.

The new auction suggests that farmers

and businesspersons would now not have to travel to Mombasa, Kenya where they were selling their product.

Tanzania tea sold through Mombasa auction is estimated at between 5,000 and 8,000 tonnes per year, depending on the harvest season and weather in major production areas.

Currently more than 32,000 smallholders' farmers are engaged in the sub sector whereby on average 40,000 to 60,000 people are employed in farms and factories. However over 2 million are engaging in the tea value chain.

"This is a great opportunity for producers and sellers, there is a team we formed that was able to visit all production areas and many farmers have shown interest in the presence of the auction," said the TBT acting director, Mary Kipeja.

She noted that the trials for the auction are ongoing, noting that there is also a need for sustainable production.

The director added that the tea industry has plunged in the past ten years, thus the need for cooperation among stakeholders to provide a new push to uplift it.

She said the local market accounts for only 15 percent while the aim is to reach over 35 percent as Mombasa auctions take 25 percent and direct sales are 60 percent.

Arusha District lauds Turkish international school for collaboration in social activities

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

ARUSHA District authorities have lauded Turkish Maarif Arusha School for its cooperation in social activities including tree planting for environmental conservation.

They have also commended the school for providing practical education to students, thereby enhancing their talents to enable them realise their goals as well as in self innovation outside classrooms.

Seleman Msumi, the Executive Director of Arusha District Council issued the praise at the weekend at the international school's first graduation ceremony for Form VI students at the event held at the school in the speech read on his behalf by Menard Lupenza, the District Secondary Education Officer.

Msumi said: "We thank the Turkish Maarif school and their headmaster, Heri Salum, for the excellent collaboration to our council in various social activities including tree planting.

"We expect all the 18 Form VI students at the school will score Division 1:3 passes because the school emerged first in Mock exams among schools with less than 40 students.

"As the district, we count on the school to place us on a good standing professionally in the entire Arusha Region."

Msumi appealed to the students

saying that since they have been taught technology using modern equipment as well as four languages - Kiswahili, English, French and Turkish, they should utilise the languages as an opportunity for their own advancement.

"Arusha is the country's tourism hub, hence knowing various languages will enable them to conduct tourism business as you will be able to communicate with people from various world countries," he added.

The director of Turkish Maarif Arusha School, Halil Server said they will make sure they provide quality education to international standards using modern technology in order to produce better graduates.

Meanwhile, the school's Headmaster, Heri Salum told gathered parents and guardians they appropriately taught the students and believes they will score high marks in their exams.

Parents' representative, Raymond Degera thanked school staff for better upbringing of the students in their two years at the school, saying they spent more of their time at the school than at home.

He also praised the Turkish government by seeing the importance of assisting Tanzania students and decided to invest in the education sector and appealed for cooperation between the Turkish and Tanzania governments to continue for

CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSION, BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION, ROYAL DANISH EMBASSY & EXPATRIATES DAR ES SALAAM

PUBLIC AUCTION:

UNIVERSAL AUCTION CENTRE under instructions received from Canadian High Commission, British High Commission, Danish Embassy & Expatriates We shall sell Household furniture's and Vehicles by public auction on Saturday May 27, 2023 commencing at 10:00 am. The auction will take place at Golden Resort Sinza, Lion Street.

Furniture and Computers Bidding Start at 10:00am: Sofa set, Sofa bed, China base/Hutch, Chest drawer, Dresser, Book case, Buffet, Dining Table, Chairs, Office Desk, Big File cabinet set mounted on rails, Beds, Mattress, Fridge double door, Deep Freezer, Washer, Garden table / chair, Computer set, TV Set, Music systems, Photo copy m/c, A/C split units, Trade Mill, Big Satellite dish complete, Scaffolding unit, Automatic Incubator, Water pumps etc. Vehicles Bidding Start at 12:00 hrs

Vehicles Bidding Start at 12:00 hrs

Make	Model	Year	Duty
Ford Ecosport Station Wagon	FY58 - Petrol Engine	2015	Not Paid
VW Amarok TDI Pickup Double Cabin	CNE Diesel Engine	2012	Paid
Nissan Murano Station Wagon	V035 Petrol Engine	2006	Paid
ISUZU Mobile Cold room 4 Tons	6HH Diesel Engine	1997	Paid

All items may be inspected at Golden Resort Sinza, Lion Street from May 24 to 26, 2023 from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.

AUCTION CONDITIONS:

- The winning bidder for Furniture has to make full payment to cashier immediately. For Vehicle winning bidder must pay 25% to cashier immediately and the final payment in full within 5 working days by June 2, 2023 at 4:00pm. For payments not made within 5 working days, the Vehicle will be offered to the next highest bidder and the advance payment will be forfeited.
- Payments via CRDB and NBC Bank VISA & Master Cards will be accepted.
- All items are sold on "as is" basis with no guarantee.
- Duty and all taxes are the responsibility of the buyer.
- Bidder will remove the items after all payments and duties.
- All persons entering the premises must obtain a Bid Number at the entrance.

For further information, contact: UNIVERSAL AUCTION CENTRE, (PLOT NO. 5 "E" LION STREET SINZA) CELL NO: 0754 284 926 Insta: universalauctioncentre

DAR ES SALAAM E-mail: universalauction@hotmail.com

LATRA to begin implementing law on transporting hazardous goods

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

LAND Transport Regulatory Authority (LATRA) has said it will begin implementing the law governing inspection of vehicles conveying hazardous cargo from the Port of Dar es Salaam to neighbouring countries along Tanzania roads.

Habibu Saluo, LATRA Director General made the remarks here at the weekend at a stakeholders meeting that aimed to gather views in regard to the authority's new regulations draft, organised by the Ministry of Works and Transport.

Saluo said out of eight regulations submitted to stakeholders, one is on transporting hazardous goods that has been causing many complaints by drivers due to health hazards they experience including death.

"A great percentage of the victims are drivers and other people passing near the trucks carrying hazardous goods,

especially chemicals, hence the new law can solve the problem," said Saluo.

Andrew Magombana, representative from the Works and Transport ministry said the ministry admitted challenges facing drivers in the transport sector, hence, he said, they have come up to gather views and recommendations from stakeholders.

"We believe that stakeholders have gone through the law and the eight regulations formulated including the one regarding the conveying of hazardous goods, online ticketing and others," said Magombana.

Raimona Mwantoke, a truck driver said drivers' face many challenges including transportation of toxic chemicals that also harm people along the Tanzania-Zambia Highway (TANZAM).

Amani Martin, Mbeya Region's Transport Supervisor said the government has brought up the law and regulations for review without involving them in earlier stages of preparation.

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Eight embark on seven-day Mt Kili expedition as part of celebration of sixtieth AU anniversary

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

A GROUP of eight people from various African countries have begun a seven days Mount Kilimanjaro expedition through Machame route as part of activities to mark 60 years of the African Union (AU) which is observed on May 25, every year.

Emmanuel Motta, Managing Director of Origin Trails said they chose Mount Kilimanjaro because it was the highest mountain in the continent hence the need to use it as a tool to unite Africans.

"The Africa we Want' by 2063 as part of the series of activities of the African Union (AU) Day Celebration which is celebrated on May 25, every year, and we will bring the AU flag on top of the mountain," he said.

He added that, on the day of the African Union (AU), they will climb Mount Kilimanjaro for seven days with some paintings and other artistic works with good messages on the 'Africa We Want' project for sustainable local and international tourism.

"During our descend from the top of Mount Kilimanjaro (May 25, this year to mark AU Day, we will use the art of painting through pictures because art expresses more than the words a person can say but in a language that everyone can interpret in their own way," he further enlightened.

He said that if he is a painter that day he will draw a picture about the Africa he wants, if he is a singer he will sing the song of the Africa he wants and the writer will also write the Africa he wants and that their ideas will be drawn through various experts who will participate that

day. "This programme that we will use will help promote Mount Kilimanjaro as a mass tourism destination because I think there are not many Africans who climb Mount Kilimanjaro, they are few, and those who climb are from other continents," explained Motta.

He said that after the pictures are drawn and placed on cloths, they will take them directly to the top of Mount Kilimanjaro, the goal being to promote the mountain.

"These pictures will be combined until they reach each country one kilometer at a time, so we will have 55 kilometers of pictures along with one kilometer of Africans who live outside the continent of Africa, this is the dream and vision of every African that we want to bring together and use Mount Kilimanjaro as a platform for Africans to raise their voices about the Africa they want."

A representative from Zimbabwe in the special expedition who is also a director of The African Great Art Banner (GAAB), Munyaradzi Muzenda, has asked Africans to use the opportunity to show the various talents they have as part of employment.



...we will use the art of painting through pictures because art expresses more than the words a person can say but in a language that everyone can interpret in their own way

'Prioritising social entrepreneurship is decisive in to Africa's development'

ABIDJAN

SOUTH Africa's minister of social development Lindiwe Zulu and African Development Bank (AfDB) Senior Vice President Bajabulile Swazi Tshabalala have agreed that helping Africans acquire the skills to start and scale businesses is critical to building resilience.

Minister Zulu led a 10-person delegation for a courtesy visit with Tshabalala and African Development Bank Vice President for Agriculture, Human and Social Development, Beth Dunford, at the bank's Abidjan headquarters on 16 May.

The bank's Director for Human Capital, Youth and Skills Development Martha Phiri, and other members of the Agriculture, Human and Social Development complex also attended.

Discussions touched on ways to boost opportunities for youth and women, the lessons of Covid-19 and the role South Africa can play in driving the rollout of social security across Africa.

"The entire continent needs comprehensive social security for its citizens," said Zulu. We have to start obviously with our own country, and then do SADC." She said the Covid-19 pandemic hit the middle class hard, prompting the government's decision to provide grants of 350 rands (\$18.35) to those that lost jobs and then to include those that had been out of work.

Zulu said the ministry was prioritizing social entrepreneurship as a long term strategy for South Africans.

Vice President Dunford agreed, saying, "We really think getting people the skills they need to drive the transformation of the country with ingenuity, energy, the resources they have, and to take forward their own ideas to really drive the private sector, which is the future."

The Bank has been focused on providing youth and women with the skills and resources needed for

entrepreneurship, Dunford added. She cited the Bank's planned Youth Entrepreneurship Investment Finance Action for Women in Africa initiative as examples.

Director Phiri pointed to the iDICE initiative in Nigeria as a further example of the bank's commitment to supporting African youth. In collaboration with partners, the \$618 million iDICE initiative will support more than 200 Nigerian technology and creative start-ups, including providing them with non-financial services.

"We believe we have a comparative advantage working in post-secondary education," Phiri said. She added: "With respect to technical and vocational training, we are providing support to infrastructure to expand access rates. Right now, access rates are below 20% and this is unacceptable."

In closing remarks, Tshabalala said the Bank's High-5 operational priorities influenced its value addition to projects. "I think what we do which is unique is that in all of these 5 areas we understand that you don't just build a road that goes from one place to the other. You think about what agriculture can I do there, what industrial activity can I put there. Do I need to put telecommunication cables in there, can I put some training in there during the building of the project and beyond? What role can I put there for women and for children?"

She stressed that fragility was an issue in all African countries and needed to be taken into consideration in project planning.

Tshabalala also expressed the hope that the issues that had been discussed during the meeting could be captured in order to inform the Bank's country strategy paper (CSP) for South Africa. The CSP is currently being prepared.

While in Abidjan, the South African delegation also met with representatives of the Ivorian government.



Origin Trails director Emmanuel Motta (R) pictured in Moshi at the weekend briefing tourists from East African Community partner states on how to ensure a safe climb of Mount Kilimanjaro in marking the 60th anniversary of the African Union, previously known as Organisation of African Unity (born May 25, 1963). Photo: Correspondent James Lanka

DC demands arrest of former village chairman over sale of land to herders

By Guardian Correspondent,

Namtumbo

NAMTUMBO District commissioner Ng'waniduhu Malenya has ordered for the arrest of the former Chairman of Mchomoro Village, Saidi Mohamed Mkalela and the Services Committee Chairman of Songambe Village Awezai Rupia for selling away land areas to herders without adhering to laid down procedures.

Addressing public meetings at Mchomoro and Songambe villages, DC said the government instructs for the removal of herders from unauthorized areas, but still some village officials, out of personal interests, continue issuing permits to let herders stay in the areas.

At the meeting Malenya said that there is no other way except to move from the areas reserved for the wider national interests.

DC said Namtumbo is a strategic

district as it is depended upon for food production, but also it contributes 18 per cent of water to the Julius Nyerere Hydro Power Project (JNHPP) Dam as well as the production of carbon dioxide hence the environment is threatened by leaving herders grazing their livestock in the unauthorized areas.

Daudi James Amani, a herder, told the DC the village government sold him an area and produced documents showing that he bought

seven acres for settlements, and not for grazing.

Meanwhile, Namtumbo District Livestock Officer, Paul Ambokile explained that the problem is having livestock in an area he bought for establishing human settlements, the situation that spurred complaints from other villagers in regard to the livestock grazing in their farms.

Namtumbo DC continues with his inspection visit to speak to residents, listen to their complaints in order to address them while calling on herders to move away on their own accord before the government takes action against them as well as against village officials who colluded with them.



Residents of Sai-Ituha in Ilomba ward, Mbeya Urban District, pictured yesterday showing what they said was evidence of their crops having been destroyed in farms allegedly by people contracted to build a wall around the Uyole Centre of the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (Uyole Centre) to prevent farming in the area. Photo: Correspondent Grace Mwakalinga

67,780 households in Ruvuma region benefit from programme run by Tasaf

By Correspondent Gideon

Mwakanosya, Songea

A TOTAL of 67,780 households in Ruvuma Region continued to benefit from the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) programme for the period beginning July to December 2022.

Ruvuma regional Commissioner,

col Laban Thomas said during the period the region's eight districts received more than 7.78bn/- towards TASAF beneficiaries.

He said the funds was provided as a subsidy to the targeted households, especially those with children in order for them to get essential school needs including health services and better nutrition.

"TASAF Phase III is now in its second round (2020-25) of implementation whereas in Ruvuma Region it is being implemented in eight districts and covers all villages," he said.

He said the government goal to establish the programme is to empower very poor households with income to finance their basic needs.

Also, Ruvuma Regional Community Development Officer, Vsaveria Mlimira said more than 107m/- was returned to TASAF headquarters due to beneficiaries not turning up for payment in the stated period.

He said every month submission of funds, 12,000/- to every poor household is done to enable the households enhance their incomes through saving and conducting various economic activities.

As for now TASAF is in Phase II of its implementation in Ruvuma Region.



Officials in Majengo Ward, Muheza District, come together with beneficiaries of Tanzania Social Action Fund (Tasaf) support beneficiaries yesterday in rehabilitating a two-km road linking Shauri Moyo, Kididima, Liganga and Mdote villages. Photo: Correspondent Steve William

DART to put electric gates at its stations to block private cars

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE Dar es Salaam Rapid Transit (DART), expects to install special electric gates at its bus stations to prevent private vehicles and motorcycles from passing through its rapid bus route.

The gates will be installed with a special device (sensor) that will enable the gates to open only when rapid buses pass and will not open when private cars and motorcycles pass the road.

This was revealed over the weekend by the Acting Director of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) of DART, Ng'wanashingi Gagaga, during a seminar for journalists in Dodoma Region.

He said that the gates will help to a large extent eliminate frequent accidents between rapid buses, private cars and motorcycle's that pass through those roads.

He said that they have already signed a contract with a contractor to start building the gates and initially it will be used on the first phase which is the Kimara-Kivukoni road.

"The contract timeframe is 32 weeks so we expect the gates will have been installed by the end of this year and we will get rid of the hassle of fighting with private car owners because they will no longer be able to pass on those roads," he said.

Gagaga said that lack of those gates has caused many people including bodaboda drivers to pass through those roads and cause inconvenience to rapid buses and disturb their time table.

"No one is allowed to pass on these roads except rapid buses, people have been passing by stubbornly and we have tried to fight them, we

have made great efforts but they still use these roads," he said.

He mentioned some of the efforts made including suing the public owned car drivers who have been forced to pass through rapid bus roads adding that action has been taken to many of them.

He said there are some people who have been using those roads even during the nighttime when there is no traffic jam, thus causing inconvenience to rapid buses.

"Some people have made a habit of passing through these roads because you can find someone passing on the expressway at midnight, so you ask yourself the reason behind it because at that time there is no traffic jam." Therefore, these gates will be a solution because if they try to pass they will not open," he said.

He said that they will continue to educate motorcycle users about the consequences of using rapid bus roads because they are the ones who use those rapid bus roads frequently.

“No one is allowed to pass on these roads except rapid buses, people have been passing by stubbornly and we have tried to fight them, we have made great efforts but they still use these roads”

Govt vows to boost local investments, nurture talents to meet employment market demands

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has expressed commitment to continue putting in place strategies to facilitate local investment including nurturing talents to meet the demanding employment market.

Ihala District Administrative Secretary (DAS), Charangwa Selemani made the remarks over the weekend in Dar es Salaam when addressing participants during an occasion to mark

5 years anniversary of ITM Tanzania Limited, a Human Capital Development and Business Solutions company.

He noted that, to ensure sustainable growth of the labour market in the country, the sector requires collaborative efforts from both the government and the private sector.

The DAS said the labour market is one of the most critical sectors in the economy, saying when there is growth in the sector,

economic growth is recorded. In attendance were ITM Holdings chairman, Sylva Monga, representatives from ITM Tanzania's sister companies from other countries.

ITM Tanzania Country Manager, Adelaida Kwayu thanked the government for continued support towards the growth of the sector, saying the company has successfully facilitated over 1,000 recruitments, connecting talented individuals with

organisations that recognise their potential.

"We currently have over 500 outsourced staff, providing organisations with the flexibility and support they need to thrive," she said.

ITM Tanzania is a subsidiary of ITM Holdings, headquartered in DRC. The group of companies has footprints in various countries including DRC, Rwanda, Nigeria, Benin, Togo, Senegal, Uganda, Kenya, Angola and Germany.

By Correspondent Maulid Mmbaga

THE government yesterday launched the Diaspora hub aimed to make the beneficiaries easily register online through their respective embassies.

Speaking at the launch of the hub in Dar es Salaam Dr Stergomena Tax, Minister for Foreign Affairs and East Africa Cooperation said the hub is geared towards easing the task of getting details of those who are in the Diaspora for the country to exactly know their number and what they are doing.

She said: "In the past there were logistical challenges, but with this new hub, I'm sure many Diasporas will register in their respective embassies."

Stergomena outlined some of the challenges that led to low response to registration as distance and costs to their

Govt inaugurates hub to register those in Diaspora

embassies, "but this is no longer a challenge."

The minister stated: "The government recognises the contribution of the Diaspora and we're putting in place a better system to involve them in important issues."

"This system will help the government to get a database, to know the actual number of Diaspora, where they are, their activities, and their skills and will help the government in various issues concerning the Diaspora."

"With the importance of Diaspora information economically and socially, accurate information will help to reach the Diaspora quickly and

easily during disasters, such as the war in Ukraine, and when Sudan was in turmoil, the information of our Diaspora made it possible to quickly identify them, and provide humanitarian aid as needed," she said.

According to the statistics of the Central Bank from January to December 2021, the Diaspora sent more than 569.3 million US dollars to the country, from January to December 2022. They sent US\$1.1 billion (2.6trn/-).

Last year, the investment made by the Tanzanian Diaspora for the purchase of houses and plots in the country, was 4.4bn/-, which has increased compared to 2.3bn/- invested in 2021.



Members of the Maasai community at Kimotorok village in Simanjiro District, Manyara Region, pictured at the weekend brandishing placards bearing messages protesting what they said were plans to relocate them from Simanjiro to Kondo District in Dodoma Region. Photo: Correspondent Allan Isack

		2022	2021
		TZS	TZS
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022			
	Notes		
Income from non exchange transactions			
Grants income	6 (a)	6,139,719,136	8,862,338,432
Amortisation of capital grants	17	66,988,405	28,063,998
Other income	6 (b)	4,080,000	-
		6,210,787,541	8,890,402,430
Operating Expenditures			
Staff costs	7	3,219,482,455	3,042,342,028
Program costs	8	1,701,298,984	5,203,015,997
Administrative costs	9	1,078,975,711	574,778,051
Travel costs	10	144,041,986	103,517,131
Equipment costs	11	-	17,764,075
Depreciation	15	66,988,405	28,063,998
		6,210,787,541	8,969,481,280
Deficit for the year		-	(79,078,850)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022			
	Notes	2022	2021
		TZS	TZS
ASSETS			
Current assets			
Cash and bank balances	12	136,503,376	101,198,018
Other receivables	13	106,612,800	96,740,550
Inventories in Transit	14	1,766,423,346	-
		2,009,539,522	197,938,568
Non-current assets			
Property and equipment	15	119,991,730	163,125,262
		119,991,730	163,125,262
TOTAL ASSETS		2,129,531,253	361,063,830
LIABILITIES			
Current liabilities			
Deferred revenue grants	16	1,766,423,346	-
Other payables	18	322,195,026	277,017,418
		2,088,618,372	277,017,418
Non current liabilities			
Deferred capital grants	17	119,991,730	163,125,262
Total liabilities		2,208,610,102	440,142,680
NET ASSETS		(79,078,850)	(79,078,850)
NET ASSETS			
Represented by:			
Accumulated deficit		(79,078,850)	(79,078,850)
TOTAL NET ASSETS AND LIABILITIES		2,129,531,252	361,063,830
The financial statements were approved by the Management of Room to Read Tanzania on 06th APRIL 2023 and were signed its behalf by:			
Juvenalius Kuruletera Country Director			
Joan Msumi Accounting and Finance Manager			



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LNG project accord shouldn't free the government from reform quest

WITH the host government agreements for the Lindi liquefied natural gas (LNG) project, Tanzania LNG, for global business, and vast inflow of capital plus tax receipts when the project takes off, the reform agenda in the country risks being off the rails again. Africa conducts reform as a matter of necessity, as with IMF conditions for bail out cash; when the situation cools down, usual profligate ways return. Consumption, state monopolies are popular in fiscal policy, not austerity, privatization or infrastructure mindlessness, first.

Profligate ways prefer raising salaries in tandem with inflation as it is done in countries experiencing hyper-inflation. It is a boon for consumption and vote winning, but also engenders sharp inequalities arising from differential access to the benefits of an economic windfall as in the case of the production-sharing agreement for a massive LNG plant. We have experience of that situation in the 2013 offshore gas transit by pipeline outcry, as it was potentially destabilising.

One seemingly ingenious idea that came up at that time was a sovereign fund to deposit oil and gas proceeds, and a house of cards impression of what sort of administrative control it would have. The ideas were designed to sidestep the central bank as well as the Treasury in how the fund was managed, while experience shows that no abnormal funds work. They are simply looted.

References to what is being done in Gulf countries are not helpful, as they have tiny populations and huge wealth, meanwhile as Libya's fall into chaos is a more salutary example, along with Nigeria. When a state-based economy is rapidly showered

with oil and gas proceeds, the result is to put off reforms, as its leading stakeholders or elites in traditional terminology, want things to stay that way to make state decisions, not market forces, dominant. Peace is then the victim, as elites will not be able to hide their ostentatious living, to deep anger.

LNG accords were first affirmed by international business press and confirmed by Energy minister January Makamba. Its international or outward aspect isn't at issue, but it had to wait until the sixth phase for it to be agreed, as regulatory agencies, used to phantasmagoric claims over private companies, wished to dictate the terms. The president made it stark clear the pact must be concluded at investor satisfaction.

At the local level, there is a reform drive that has brought into play a wide range of international stakeholders, like the LNG consortium, the 72-storey Zanzibar tourist residential complex project with Gulf investors, and others. But it is difficult to believe that much of the bureaucracy is mindful of reform; they seek any opportunity either to sabotage it (paying twice for a cargo plane), or reverse reforms (put 1.1trn/- annually to beef up parastatals). Placing them on the stock exchange with big strategic investors would spread out growth, uplift stability.

The reason why reform boosts stability is that it widens the arc of beneficiaries of higher flows of capital, profits and government earnings. Unless there is a rapid expansion of jobs and implicitly of services which then employ large numbers of otherwise idle youths, large flows of capital, large profits and huge public revenues ignite fierce contests to control big money. It can lead to chaos.

Prevention is crucial in ending obstetric fistula

OBSTETRIC fistula is among the serious and distressing maternal morbidities in Tanzania. Obstetric fistula is a childbirth-related injury caused by prolonged and obstructed labour which has a devastating impact on affected women and their families.

The government has attempted to identify all girls and women with untreated fistula and refer them to healthcare facilities for free surgical repair. It is estimated that 3,000 women develop obstetric fistula in Tanzania every year, leading to a significant backlog in the number of women requiring treatment. These women are some of the poorest and most marginalised in society.

A home birth, without a healthcare professional in attendance, increases a woman's chances of developing an obstetric fistula. This can leave women incontinent, isolated from their communities and even paralysed. Tragically, 93% of women who suffer an obstetric fistula will give birth to a stillborn baby.

Midwives working in Tanzania's rural areas play a vital role in reducing birth injuries. By identifying pregnancy complications, they can prevent obstetric fistula from occurring in the first place.

Tanzania has many tribes with different beliefs and cultural practices that tend to either directly or indirectly affect the health of a woman. In Tanzania, decision making in all matters at a family and community level is predominantly made by men. This has contributed to unequal opportunities to education and lack decision on when and where to seek healthcare services. Majority of Tanzania's believes that disease occurrence may have been influenced by witches or punishment from God hence concentrate more

on seeking spiritual healing from religious leaders and spiritualist (witchdoctors). Hence women choices about their reproductive health get affected resulting in delayed women in seeking early fistula treatment.

Another reason for the delay in seeking fistula treatment was a belief that fistula was caused by their ancestors' curse. These women took a lot of time to seek appropriate clan/traditional elders who could assist them to find out the cause of the curse and solution to their problem.

Stigma was another major factor that delayed women seeking obstetric fistula treatment. Self-stigma resulted in women's self-isolation from their loved ones and communities. Self-stigma negatively affects self-esteem and self-efficacy and triggers the feeling of guilt and shame, which may lead women to avoid seeking fistula care. In this context, self-isolation contributed to the delay in seeking fistula treatment because women failed to disclose their condition and seek information concerning fistula treatment.

Prevention is the key to ending fistula. Skilled care at birth, providing timely and high-quality emergency obstetric care for all women and girls who develop complications and ensuring that women and young people can access comprehensive sexual and reproductive health services and information, including voluntary family planning, could significantly reduce maternal disability and death.

The International Day to End Obstetric Fistula is marked annually on 23 May. It is a day to draw attention to the devastating injury caused during an obstructed labour; an injury which continues to impact the lives of tens of thousands of women in Tanzania.



Why the climate crisis matters: A call to action

By Melody Chironda

IT'S no secret that our planet is facing a climate crisis. We witnessed the devastating impacts of floods in Malawi, Mozambique, and Madagascar. Entire villages were swept away, leaving behind only debris and devastated families. Many people lost everything they owned and are now struggling to find food, shelter, and clean water. This experience made me realise just how important it is to address the climate crisis and protect vulnerable communities.

The World Meteorological Organisation said that Tropical Cyclone Freddy was the longest-ever in recorded history. The storm spent several days tracking over Mozambique and Zimbabwe, bringing heavy rains and flooding. It then looped back towards the Mozambique Channel and picked up energy from the warm waters and moved towards the southwestern coast of Madagascar. It left a trail of devastation. The severe storm killed at least 500 people in Malawi, Mozambique, and Madagascar since making landfall.

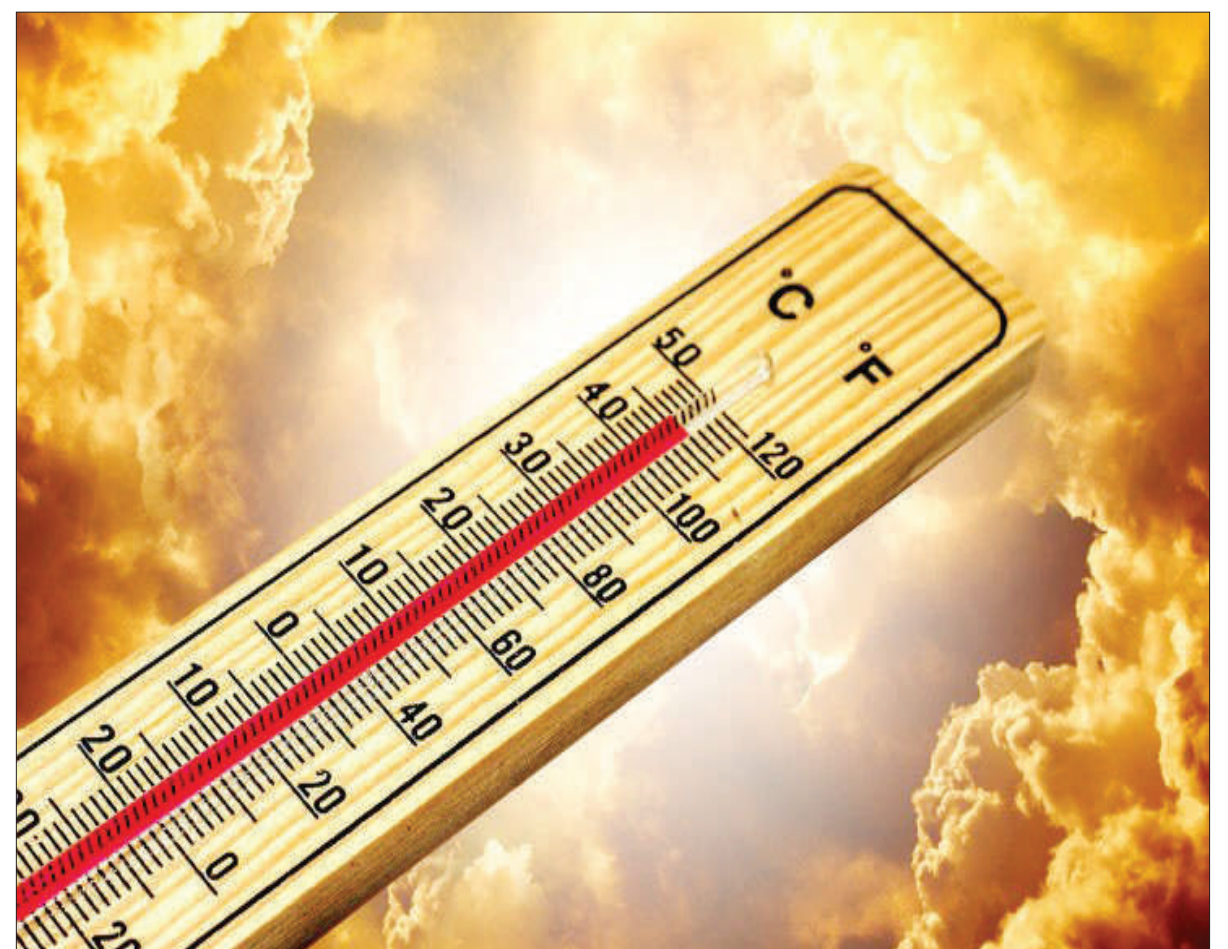
The devastating after-effects of Cyclone Freddy are still being felt by Malawians and Mozambicans, with entire communities struggling to rebuild in the wake of the disaster. The cyclone caused widespread destruction, including the loss of lives, homes, and infrastructure, and at least 508,000 people were displaced and without access to basic necessities like food, clean water, and healthcare. Both countries are currently facing the worst cholera outbreak in two decades, further straining an already overstretched health sector. As the affected regions continue to grapple with the aftermath of this historic storm, it is clear that urgent action is needed to address the growing threat of climate change and prevent future disasters from occurring.

However, this is not easy to achieve.

We see the effects of it all around us, from the devastating wildfires that ravage our forests to the increasing frequency and intensity of extreme weather events. But despite the overwhelming evidence that we need to take immediate action, many people still seem indifferent to the gravity of the situation.

So why is the climate crisis so important, and why do we need to act now?

Firstly, the science is clear. The planet is warming at an alarming rate, and human activity is the primary cause. The world is standing on the brink of irreversible damage caused by rising greenhouse gas



emissions.

Climate scientists sounded the alarm with a "final warning" in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)'s sixth assessment report. The time for action is now.

The 2015 Paris climate agreement was a historic moment, with 194 countries agreeing to limit global temperature increases to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels. The agreement recognized the urgent need to reduce carbon emissions and pursue sustainable energy solutions to prevent the worst impacts of climate change. However, progress has been slow, and many countries are falling short of their commitments. The recent IPCC report warns that time is running out, and urgent action is needed to avert a climate catastrophe. The report lays out a clear path to drastically cut emissions and repair the damage that's already been done, but it requires the immediate cooperation and funding of governments around the world - without delay.

The report's findings highlight that the time for procrastination has passed, and we must act now to save the planet from impending peril.

A 2021 report by IPCC found that human activities, particularly the burning of fossil fuels, are the primary cause of the current warming trend. This is a wake-up call for governments and individuals to take immediate and decisive action to tackle the climate crisis before it's too late. The

urgency for swift and drastic action to avert this catastrophic outcome cannot be overstated.

We've already seen the effects of this warming, including rising sea levels, ocean acidification, and the mass extinction of plant and animal species. If we continue down this path, the consequences could be catastrophic, including food and water scarcity, political instability, and more frequent and severe natural disasters. The haunting truth of our reality is this: the more greenhouse gases we emit, the more we intensify the catastrophic effects of global warming. We are hurtling towards an abyss of irreversible damage, where the harrowing consequences of climate change will continue to ravage our planet. The outlook is bleak, and every passing moment brings us closer to the brink of devastation.

Despite the dire warnings contained in the report, many people still seem not to care that a climate time bomb is ticking.

Misunderstanding, short-term thinking, climate denial, and climate fatigue all hinder progress in addressing the climate crisis. Many fail to grasp its severity, prioritize short-term needs, deny its reality or human cause, or feel powerless. Overcoming these barriers is crucial to building the momentum needed to tackle the climate crisis with the urgency it demands.

But it's not all doom and gloom.

To address these challenges, we need to raise awareness about the severity of the climate crisis and

the urgent need for action. We need to educate people about the science behind climate change, the impacts it will have on their lives, and the steps they can take to reduce their carbon footprint [link pls]. By reducing our carbon emissions and transitioning to clean energy, we can mitigate the worst impacts of climate change and protect vulnerable communities. It's important to remember that the effects of climate change will continue to worsen unless we take decisive action to address them.

There are many steps we can take to mitigate the effects of climate change and create a more sustainable future. We need to address the issue of climate denial head-on and challenge false information and propaganda. We must continue to promote the scientific consensus on climate change and emphasize the importance of taking action to address the crisis. By taking these steps, we can make a meaningful contribution to combating the climate crisis.

The IPCC report is a stark reminder that the climate time bomb is ticking, and we must act now to address the crisis.

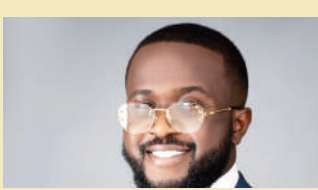
The bottom line is this - the climate crisis is real, and we need to act now to address it.

Melody Chironda is a passionate climate journalist covering and reporting on the latest developments and challenges in climate change and sustainability.



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Investors seek shelter in emerging markets as recession risk hits US

NEW YORK

INVESTORS are planning to ramp up bets in emerging markets, according to the latest Markets Live Pulse survey – a sign the asset class is becoming a favorite for those wary of a US recession.

Some 61 percent of the 234 money managers, analysts and traders surveyed said they expect to increase exposure to developing assets in the next 12 months, even as concern mounts about a potential downturn and the Federal Reserve's path ahead. The asset class, they say, stands to offer shelter if the central bank's fight against inflation tips the US into a recession.

"Economies in the developing world are far more resilient places today than they were 30 years ago, and EM central banks have been largely more responsible in dealing with the rise in inflation than the developed world has been," said Justin Leverenz, who manages the \$26 billion Invesco Developing Markets Fund, one of the world's best-performing major emerging-equity fund this year.

"There is significant value across the emerging-market landscape," he said. "Over the last 10 years, not only have EM economies become more resilient, they have been almost entirely neglected by global investors."

Some 49 percent of the survey re-

spondents said that even if a US recession causes a decline in emerging assets, their underlying growth and attractive valuations will still help them to outperform mature peers.

Malcolm Dorson, a money manager at Global X Management in New York, also said emerging markets are better-positioned than major economies in the wake of the pandemic.

That's helping certain developing nations to avoid the same type of policy and stimulus hangover threatening the US and Europe.

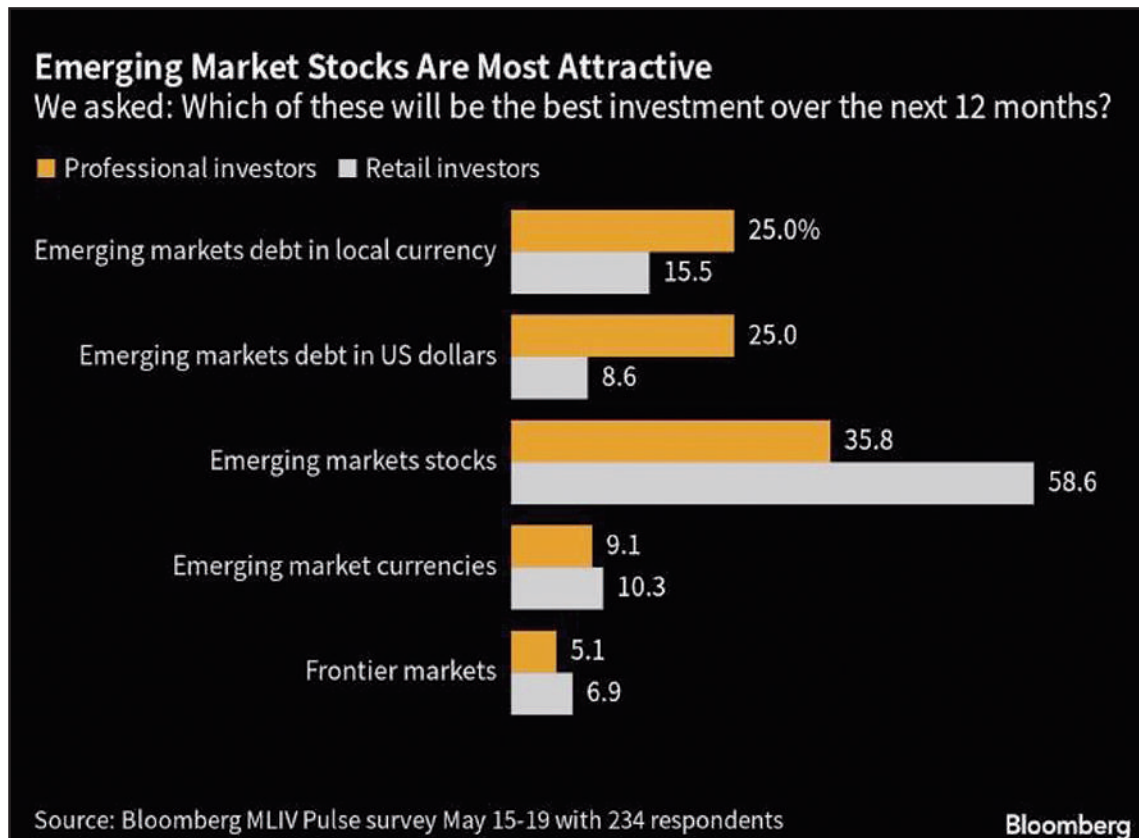
"We see the potential for underlying growth to improve for EM, valuations are cheap, and EM's long-term attraction remain undiminished," said Devan Kaloo, global head of emerging markets at abrdn Plc.

Favored Assets

That relative outperformance, the survey shows, will likely come from stocks. Some 41 percent of survey respondents said equities were the best emerging-market investment pick over the next 12 months.

At least some of that optimism comes down to relative opportunity. The MSCI Emerging Markets Index is up just 2.2 percent so far this year, compared to a 9.2 percent gain in a similar gauge of developed-market shares.

"We need emerging economies that



can sustain reasonable levels of potential output and businesses that can create value," said Lewis Kaufman, whose \$3.7 billion Artisan Developing World Fund has outperformed 99 percent of US-based peers so far this year.

On a geographic basis, respondents also rallied

around opportunities in Southeast Asia. A majority of those who answered said the region's assets would provide the best returns in emerging markets on a two-year basis.

"Southeast Asia is one of the best places to be for long-term investors," said Aninda Mitra, a macro and

investment strategist at BNY Mellon Investment Management in Singapore. "There's a track record of sound macro management, better demographics and a steadily rising flow of foreign direct investment."

Growth there is seen normalizing as China's economy reopens and manufacturing expands, according to Alexander Davey, global capability head for active equities at HSBC Asset Management. Goldman Sachs Group Inc., meantime, pointed to opportunity in bank stocks from Thailand.

Of those who answered Bloomberg's survey, which ran from May 15 to 19, about 65 percent were based in Europe or North America. Some 19 percent said they were based in Asia. The majority of respondents identified as portfolio managers, retail investors or strategists.

MLIV Pulse is a weekly survey of Bloomberg News readers on the terminal and online, conducted by Bloomberg's Markets Live team, which also runs a 24/7 MLIV Blog on the terminal.

Why Tanga Cement share price keeps on rising

By Mnaku Mbani

STRUGGLING Tanga Cement Company Limited (TCCL) share price closed at 1,900/- during the end of last week, the highest in 13 months, an increase of 360/-, compared to 1,540/- recorded during an opening day of the week.

This is an increase of 90 percent compared with the price recorded during the end of last session of 2022, whereby the sale order price was only 1,000/- per share.

"Equity investors are always having anticipations on the performance; and this is what drives the shares prices. And the performance can be current or expectations. For the case of Simba cement, there have been major announcements about its merger and acquisitions; and this has been the biggest expectation," said Raphael Masumbuko, chief executive officer of Zan Securities Limited.

"Investors have been looking on who want to acquire this company and its track records; and if the acquisition is made, what are the expectations. For Simba, there have been some announcement on mergers and acquisitions by Twiga Cement, of which its market price is high and have large market share and have a good track record in cement industry."

He said these reasons have pushed investor sentiments to expect that after the acquisition of TCCL, the track record of the Tanga based cement manufacturer will further improve.

"There is a positive sentiment for investors to invest in Tanga Cement, with anticipations that the acquisition will succeed," he said.

Masumbuko noted that the recent announcement to support the merger by the minister of finance and planning Dr Mwigulu Nchemba and investment, trade and industry minister Dr Ashatu Kijaji, both saying that this acquisition has come on the right time, has increased investor positive sentiments.

"Despite of hurdles on the deal, the positive sentiment by the government has increased positive anticipation to investors assuring that what they expect is going to happen; and this is what is driving TCCL shares," he explained.

Imani Muhingo, the head of research and financial analytics, EA Capital says the increase is the result of the recent government interventions of the 68.33 percent of the company's takeover deal by Scancem International DA, Twiga cement's parent company which was suspended by Fair Competition Tribunal (FCC), after second unconditional approval by Fair Competition Commission (FCC) in February this year.

The announcement also declared that the TCCL market acquisition share price is 2,256/-, which will also be the trading price, subject to stalled loan by the cement maker.

Muhingo noted that retail investors are currently buying TCCL share price because it is still low than the acquisition price' because they have nothing to lose, when the merger and acquisition deal is being concluded.

Since 2021, Scancem International targets to acquire 68.33 percent of Tanga Cement owned by Afrisam Mauritius Investment.

The FCC approved the acquisition, but the decision was quashed by the quasi-judicial

Fair Competition Tribunal (FCT).

In December 2022, Scancem International applied again to the FCC in a bid to acquire Tanga Cement and the application was approved by the FCC in February 2023.

However, the discussion has since refused to end as different parties disagree on the legality of the latest approval.

The second application was approved because market circumstances had changed, using the market data for 2022, according to FCC.

Meanwhile, foreign investors have overtaken local investors in dominating the trading activities at the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE).

The market report shows out of total turnover of 12.6bn/- recorded since the start of the current quarter, foreign investors have injected 8bn/- through buying, which is 64.20 percent against 35.80 percent by local investors.

On selling side, foreign investors have sold shares valued 7.9bn/-, which is 62.72 percent of total value of shares sold against 37.28 percent by local investors.

Analyst say there has been a comeback by foreign investors at the emerging markets including Tanzania, since the end of covid-19 pandemic.

Raphael Masumbuko, CEO of Zan Securities Limited, told the Guardian yesterday that currently, the activities involve foreign investors exchanging shares through block trade pre-arrangement market board.

"The covid-19 pandemic caused some institutional investors to suffer and other to emerge and there is a sign that we will start receiving them targeting to buy even shares from local investors," he said.

CRDB Bank seeks to expand into three countries

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

AFTER successful penetrating into Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) market, CRDB Group Plc is planning to expand its footprints into other three countries, as part of implementing its 2023-2027 medium term strategic plan.

The bank board chairman Dr Ally Laay revealed this during the shareholders' Annual General Meeting (AGM) held here over the weekend, saying the bank long term plan is to expand its footprints into Africa continent.

He mentioned targeted markets as Zambia, Comoro and Malawi, make it the first Tanzanian bank to enter into the three markets, which all are members of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC).

According to the board chairman, CRDB Bank will seek other international partners on the targeted footprints expansions, as what was done in DRC's subsidiary, where they holds a combined 45 percent of total share capital.

Commenting on the expansion, Fortius Rutabingwa, the bank's shareholder said was good decision, but he reminded over maintaining its top local market share.

CRDB Bank is currently the largest in Tanzanian market in terms of assets, customer deposits and lending, with total assets amounting to nearly 12trn/- as at the end of the first quarter of this year.

In Burundi market, where the bank has been operating over the last ten years, CRDB Bank Burundi managed to raise its position from ninths to currently second largest, and managed to break the even in just two years.

During last year, CRDB Burundi recorded a net profit of 23bn/-, contributing to 7 percent of the CRDB Group's profit.

He said with the change of global financial market system, CRDB Bank should also continue to build further partnerships with

other players in the financial markets including fintechs.

Salim Mbonde, a shareholder also commended the bank's footprint expansions outside the country, but he noted that this should be done with cautious in order to maintain its competitiveness in the local market.

The bank's managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela said the objectives of the five year strategic plan 2023-2027 are to maintain business sustainability, seeking new opportunities by targeting new markets in the next three to four years, building responsible behavior among employees, building team work and complying with the Environment, Sustainability and Governance (ESG) principles.

Other objectives of the new strategic plan according to Nsekela will be to enhance partnerships, products diversification to meet the needs of the market and more adoption of technology in offering goods and services.

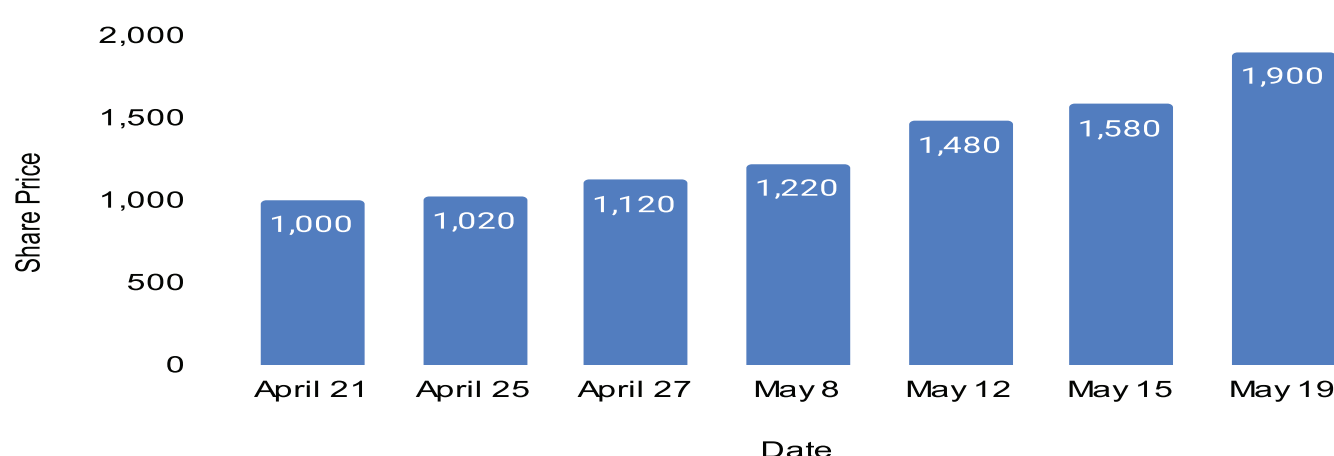
He also noted that the strategy has put the customer at the centre of all their actions which means that going forward, the Group will endeavour to undertake initiatives that aim to enhance the experience of their customers and respond to their unique financial needs.

More importantly, the new strategy has redefined the group's core purpose and outlined the long-term aspirations in becoming the undisputed leader in the market.

The bank's chief finance officer Fredrick Nshakanabo said ongoing challenges in the international financial markets that have led into rise in interest rates, resulted into increased costs of funds from international markets.

He said the bank will continue to reduce operating costs and increase efficiency to ensure business sustainability and increasing the value of shareholders investments.

Tanga Cement Share Price Trend April 21-May 19, 2023



CRDB Bank board chairman Dr Ally Laay (R) with managing director and Group CEO Abdulmajid Nsekela

Authority succeeds in scaling down business in illicit drugs

By Correspondent Daniel Semberya

It has been revealed that drug business in the country has been clamped down particularly after the establishment of the Drug Control and Enforcement Authority (DCEA) in the country, though the whole business and usage are being done secretly.

This was said by the Commissioner for prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of DCEA, Dr Peter Mfisi in an exclusive interview with this paper in Dar es Salaam last week.

Dr Mfisi mentioned some of the indicators which show that there is a decrease of drugs in the country such as: Firstly, its street market price is high compared to the prices in other neighbouring countries. He noted "When the supply is low, the price goes up."

The second indicator that shows there is a decrease of drugs in the country is because currently many Tanzanians who were using illegal drugs, have resorted to using alternative drugs as supplement to the usage of hard drugs, such as cocaine, heroin and others.

Alternatives are prescriptions drugs with psychoactive properties that are used for treatments but can naturally intoxicate one if used inappropriately.

According to Dr Mfisi, they are using alternative drugs because cocaine, heroin and its sorts are currently sold at higher prices by drug barons due to their shortage.

Also, some former drug users are now seeking treatments; why? Because they can't afford to buy those drugs and they are not easily found.

He further noted that according to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes (UNODC) report of 2019, Tanzania has clamped down the importation of Heroin directly from the source by 90 percent.

He mentioned some of the major reasons for the decrease of the importation of illegal drugs are: Political will and commitment of the current regime to arrest the situation. Other reasons are the enactment of the drug control and enforcement Act number 5 of 2015; and the establishment of DCEA in the country.

According to Dr Mfisi DCEA was established in 2017 under The Drug Control and Enforcement Act No.5 of 2015. Its functions are based on four key pillars namely: Drug supply reduction, drug demand reduction, drug harm reduction and regional and International Corporation.

Through these four pillars, DCEA has been conducting various operations to arrest drug traffickers and seize their drugs then take them to court and destroy cannabis and khat plantations.

DCEA educates the society on the negative impacts of illegal drugs so as to reduce its demand and need.

They also treat drug addicts, treat diseases associated with drug use like human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), Tuberculosis (TB), skin diseases, hepatitis type c. "We don't only treat their addiction, we also treat associated physical and mental illnesses," Dr Mfisi said.

Geographically Tanzania is situated in a place where it is easier to import a large number of illegal drugs particularly heroin directly from sources compared to some neighboring countries.

Why? Heroin is produced in Afghanistan and transported to Pakistan and Iran then by means of vessels can easily be transported to Tanzania through the Indian Ocean.

Dr Mfisi said Tanzania is a transit country because not all drugs imported through this country are used here; no, rather they are repacked and then sent to other parts of the world including West Africa, America, Europe, Asia and Australia.



Dr Peter Mfisi. Photo: DCEA

"With regards to their involvement in regional and International Corporation, Commissioner Mfisi noted "Drug traffickers don't have political boundaries, so, in order to arrest their international network syndicate, as a country we need to join hands and collaborate with other countries."

He said that despite several challenges, including limited resources, extended Indian Sea border from Tanga to Mtwara, which are used by drug barons to penetrate and import drugs, still they are working tirelessly to ensure Tanzania becomes free from drug trafficking destinations.

Commissioner Mfisi said that their organisation has been taking stern measures against officials who are bribed by drug barons.

"I can confidently say corruption among our officials has been halted because we currently arrest people with huge financial muscles who are implicated in drug business."

Meanwhile, Commissioner Mfisi has clearly said that cannabis (bhang) and khat (mirungu) are drugs that are strongly prohibited in the country, although some countries have allowed them to be consumed.

Some of the prohibited drugs which are mostly consumed in the country are cannabis, heroin, cocaine and khat, among others. He further said that the use of prescription drugs with

psychoactive properties such as valium, pethidine, ketamine as drugs of abuse is also on the rise.

According to the National consensus on key population size and HIV prevalence in 2014, there are approximately 300,000 People who use heroin in Tanzania, ranging from 250,000 to 500,000. About 30,000 people use drugs by injection. This is associated with a high risk of transmission of blood borne diseases such as HIV Hepatitis C and others due to their habit of sharing injecting equipment.

Dr Mfisi said, the government in collaboration with other stakeholders, has established 15 medically assisted therapy (MAT) centres where people addicted with heroin are given Methadone. In these centres other services including HIV testing and counselling, antiretroviral therapy, Prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted diseases and others are being offered to people with drug use disorders and their partners.

"I call upon all stakeholders to join hands with the government to establish rehabilitation centres that will be used to bring to normalcy these former drug users. Adding:

We need to train them and equip them with skills that will enable them to live as normal people in our community instead of bullying and marginalizing them."

Revolutionising digital financial products ecosystem in Tanzania

By Guardian Correspondent

DIGITAL financial products have played a significant role in catalyzing financial development and inclusion across Africa. This can largely be attributed to the affordable and accessible services that have subsequently been layered onto the mobile and digital platforms infrastructure.

The 2022 Mastercard New Payments Index revealed that 85 percent of consumers worldwide have made digital payments using digital wallets, contactless, QR codes, buy now pay later, money transfer apps, cryptocurrencies, biometrics, and other digital payment technologies.

Additionally, more than 61 percent say they have increased their usage of at least one digital payment method in the last 12 months. This makes it a promising market for the adoption of emerging payments across the continent.

Recently, Mastercard and Tigo Tanzania announced a strategic partnership that will see the two industry leaders revolutionize the digital payment ecosystem by enabling convenient online payments globally. Through this partnership, TigoPesa customers will be empowered to transact on global payments platforms and benefit from Mastercard's technology which will enable new digital commerce opportunities for consumers and merchants, through simple and secure payment experiences.

Speaking during the launch of the new service in Dar es Salaam, Shehryar Ali, Country Manager for East Africa, Mastercard said the partnership will result in a wide range of cutting-edge digital payment solutions being introduced in Tanzania and connect Tigo customers in Tanzania to a global online market place across multiple digital payment use cases and provide access to Mastercard's global network of merchants.

Ali said at Mastercard, they recognize the benefits that digital payments bring and have long been committed to creating an inclusive, digital economy that benefits everyone by making transactions safe, simple, smart, and accessible.

"With this in mind, we are inspired to accelerate change in the payments world which plays a key role in advancing Mastercard's worldwide commitment to financial inclusion and our pledge to bring a total of 1 billion people, 50 million micro and small businesses, and 25 million women entrepreneurs into the digital economy by 2025," he said.

Additionally, the partnership will result in a wide range of cutting-edge digital payment solutions being introduced in Tanzania and connect TIGO customers in the country to a global online marketplace across multiple digital payment use cases and provide access to Mastercard's global network of merchants.

According to him, Mastercard's enabling infrastructure and proposition will deliver a first-class digital experience for Tanzanian consumers, driving greater adoption

and usage for Tigo customers.

"The company recognizes that consumers today are looking for simple and secure financial products that add more value to their daily lives. Our innovation approach is focused on enabling the digital transformation of our partners so that millions of customers can enjoy seamless access to a global payments eco-system with a superior user experience," she added.

Ngozi Megwa, Senior Vice President, Digital Partnerships EEMEA, Mastercard said: "Our technology is fully equipped to empower our partners to launch innovative and relevant solutions that will create a strong value proposition for all our customers. With our deepened relationships with the telecommunications industry players, this partnership with Tigo embeds our commitment to further expand customer choice and access to digital commerce."

He said there is no minimum amount to start with and there is no cost in creating the virtual card with Tigo Pesa. All the user needs to do is have an active Tigo Pesa account and create a Tigo Pesa Mastercard virtual card.

Lenin Oyuga, Head-Telco Commercial and Partnerships for the Middle East and Africa Through the Tigo Pesa Mastercard Virtual Card we are enabling infrastructure and the proposition will deliver a first-class digital experience for Tanzanian consumers. This we believe will drive greater adoption and usage for Tigo customers.

He noted that Africa has entered a new era of digital evolution which has seen the underserved and unbanked being provided with an opportunity to access financial and digital access which allows financial freedom and security.

"It is important to note, COVID-19 also brought into stark contrast the reality of the digital divide and has underscored just how important it is for individuals and small businesses to be connected to the digital economy," he noted.

While some economies have progressed and many are moving towards the digital space, there are also others on the continent with large financially excluded and vulnerable populations, who have been disproportionately impacted. Around 30 million people in Africa were pushed into extreme poverty in 2021 and about 22 million jobs were lost in the same year because of the pandemic with the trend expected to continue in 2023.

Tigo's chief officer for mobile financial services (MFS) Angelica Peshla said, "As the leading digital lifestyle company in Tanzania we are always on the lookout, for such partnerships, our customers will now be able to complete online transactions that requires MasterCard credentials, while using funds from their Tigo Pesa wallets.

It also means that this service will allow customers to quickly and conveniently pay for goods and services in the international market, we hope this partnership will improve user experience and accessibility to a vast array of MFS services".

JICA, Energy ministry to promote natural gas utilisation

By Guardian Reporter

THE Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Tanzania through Ministry of Energy (MOE) have signed the Record of Discussions (R/D) for technical cooperation on the effective utilization of natural gas.

On 16 May 2023, Permanent Secretary of MOE Felchesmi Mramba and JICA's Chief Representative of ARA Hitoshi inked the R/D as an agreement to implement the Project titled "The Project for Capacity Development of Natural Gas Utilization in Tanzania".

JICA has been supporting the government for over 60 years since the 1960s in accordance with the vision of "Leading the world with trust". Cooperation in the energy sector in Tanzania has lasted over 40 years.

Before the signing, JICA dispatched a Detailed Planning Survey Mission to Tanzania from 23 February to 12 March, 2023 to formulate the Project. The mission held a series of discussions with MOE, Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation

(TPDC) and Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) and other stakeholders to develop a detailed plan for the project.

The project is designed to promote effective utilization of natural gas in Tanzania for economic growth in an environmentally friendly manner.

The project also aims to strengthen the capacity for planning and implementation of the natural gas utilization. The duration of the project is 24 months tentatively from October 2023 to September 2025.

The project will promote the natural gas utilization in Tanzania balancing the economic growth and environmental considerations by updating the National Gas Utilization Master plan (NGUMP), developing the legal framework necessary for the use of gas and building capacity of MOE, TPDC and EWURA to properly implement and regulate the use of natural gas, thereby contributing to the country's socio-economic development and growth.

CURRENT NEWS



Illicit drug users

African firms have what it takes to improve the global financial sector

By Special Correspondent

THE financial remittances sector is one of the fastest-growing sectors in the world. In Africa, this sector accounts for hundreds of thousands of direct jobs and millions more indirectly.

The infrastructure invested by companies within this space plays a crucial role in linking the continent to the hundreds of millions of Africans living and working in the diaspora, providing much-needed foreign exchange to countries and maintaining a connection between emigrants and their African homes.

As a result, the financial remittances sector remains a critical tool in powering emerging African economies and with the continent's increasing populations. If well managed, the sector can provide solutions to many of the continent's financial challenges, such as bridging the gap between the banked and unbanked populations and providing employment and wealth creation opportunities for millions on the continent.

The growth of Africa's population presents an increasing complexity in the above challenges. With this increase in challenges comes a significant rise in opportunities, which genuine Africa-founded, Africa-led, and Africa-based companies must address. One such company is the treasury management technology company Multigate, which recently qualified as a SWIFT Lite2 for Business Application provider.

The SWIFT-compatible application connects potential customers to thousands of financial institutions globally by leveraging the SWIFT network. The Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunications (SWIFT) system powers a large majority of global financial messaging between financial institutions.

In a statement, the CEO of Multigate, Eghosa Nehikhare, said: "The SWIFT-compatible application validates the fact that our business application has met the stringent SWIFT requirements, whose main aim is to safeguard client transactions and to ensure that businesses on this platform adhere to national and international best practices. This way, leveraging the SWIFT network, our customers can connect to thousands of financial institutions globally. We hope our story and journey inspire other financial solutions companies around the continent."

In 2021, the company secured its International Money Transfer Operator (IMTO) and Payment Solution Service Provider (PSSP) licenses in Nigeria. The company is expanding to other African markets and working with its regulators to secure the requisite licenses.

"We are excited and look forward to entering new markets, especially our East Africa regional drive, which includes Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania. From a strategy and innovation perspective, these markets align with our long-term vision," he says.

The issuance of these licences by Africa based firms remains crucial



Eghosa Nehikhare

in moving individual economies in Africa closer to their aspirations.

"As we seek to address the treasury/cash management needs of African corporates that trade regionally and globally, our product enables seamless consolidation of all global bank accounts for these corporates. This integrated product allows our African corporate clients to manage their liquidity more efficiently and reduce the complexities of managing multiple banking portals," Multigate CEO Eghosa Nehikhare says.

He adds that the company's recent success in providing

global solutions is a testament to the hundreds of companies set up every day across the continent to solve problems that, hitherto, have been classified as uniquely African.

"For instance, our journey to creating global solutions is constantly being chaperoned by our deep relationship management expertise and unique understanding of our client's needs. This enables us to provide our clients with the most secure treasury and liquidity management experience through our innovative digital platforms and robust partnerships governed by the highest regulatory standards,"

All resolutions approved at Ecobank's 35th AGM

LOMÉ

ECOBANK Transnational Incorporated ("ETI"), the parent of the Ecobank Group, the leading pan-African bank with a presence in 35 African countries, held its 35th Annual General Meeting (AGM) and an Extra Ordinary General Meeting, last week in Lomé, Togo.

At the meeting, shareholders approved the accounts and the appropriation of profits for 2022. In addition, shareholders voted for the reelection of Mr Simon Dornoo, Professor Enase Okonedo, Dr George Donkor, Mr Deepak Malik and Ms Zanele Monnagotla as directors of ETI. The co-option of the Managing Director, Mr Jeremy Awori, as a director, was also ratified.

Furthermore, shareholders approved the resolution authorising to raise senior-ranked debt, additional Tier 1, Tier 2-qualifying subordinated debt or a combination of any of these forms of instruments as the board of directors may deem appropriate.

Alain Nkontchou, Ecobank Group Chairman, said: "Ecobank is a powerhouse in the African

banking landscape and is positioned to support and facilitate the growth and development of African businesses as they grasp the immense single market opportunities created by the African Continental Free Trade Area. Quite simply, Ecobank is the solution for SMEs and corporates. The strength of our borderless payment, collection, working capital and financing solutions exemplifies this."

Jeremy Awori, Chief Executive Officer, Ecobank Group, commented: "In 2022, Ecobank demonstrated strong financial results and performance, despite the challenging economic conditions of high interest rates, inflation, and Ghana's debt restructuring. This success can be attributed to the bank's diversified business model, digital expertise, innovative approaches, growth momentum, and efficiency. These strengths allowed the bank to navigate the adverse economic environment, absorb the impact of the debt restructuring, and continue to thrive."

The holding company's (ETI) profit for the year was \$222 million compared with \$295 million in

2021. The Group's profit before tax, net revenue and total assets increased by 13 per cent, 6 per cent and 5 per cent, to \$540 million, \$1,862 million and \$29,004 million, respectively. In addition, the return on tangible equity of 21.1 per cent in 2022 is the highest Ecobank has achieved in the last decade. For the first quarter of 2023, our Group performance results are showing momentum as we continue to benefit from our pan-African and diversified business model, efficiency, balance sheet stability, deep customer relationships and the hard and smart work of all Ecobankers.

Ecobank is one of the leading banking groups in Africa and by far the largest in terms of countries of presence. It is renowned for its continuous delivery of innovation and excellence in customer service to its broad range of Consumer, Commercial, Corporate and Investment Banking customers.

The bank has significantly invested in its digital capabilities, including mobile banking, internet banking and payments infrastructure. This focus on digital banking enables it to reach more customers, reduce costs and improve efficiency.



ETI Shareholders listen to the proceedings during Ecobank Transnational Incorporated's 35th AGM and EGM in Lomé, Togo. Photo by Guardian Correspondent



Mvomero district commissioner, Judith Nguli (2nd L) hands over a tool box to Amili Bago one of the 144 KCB 2jajiri beneficiaries who completed VETA training in Morogoro region. Third from right is the 2jajiri Programme Manager Betty Muruve and Constantine Shirati (R), 2jajiri Projects Manager-Skills Development (E4D Programme). The programme is part of the partnership worth 2.2bn/- between KCB Foundation and Germany Development Corporation (GIZ). Photo by Guardian Correspondent

Europe's business jet industry aims for green foots rebrand

GENEVA

EUROPE'S business jet sector is putting its greenest foot forward at its flagship annual conference this week as it faces a downturn in flights on the back of commercial aviation's rebound and growing pressure to become more sustainable.

The European Business Aviation Convention & Exhibition (EBACE), hosted in Geneva, kicks off on Tuesday and brings together everyone from brokers, plane makers to engine producers.

Many have come under harsh scrutiny in Europe for their role in an industry seen as producing outsized emissions for global elites.

CO2 emissions from private jets in Europe grew by 31 percent between 2005 and 2019, according to environmental group Transport and Environment.

Pressure on the industry is increasing both from European regulators, who are keen to advance their green agenda, and also from activists who have targeted the sector in protests at airports, sector specialists said.

Protesters are expected to gather on Tuesday outside the conference location in Geneva to highlight the rising number of private jet flights amidst a worsening global climate crisis.

Consumers are also trying to limit their impact. "You do see many more clients nowadays asking their operators, can I get sustainable aviation fuel (SAF), can we offer an offset in the flight," said Roman Kok, a spokesperson for the European Business Aviation Association, one of the event organisers.

"There are more and more questions asked as to how sustainable their flights are."

The conference will look to strike a positive note by showcasing innovations in the sector, with a particular focus on areas like electric vertical takeoff and landing aircraft (eVTOL) and sustainable aviation fuel, which emits much less carbon than traditional jet fuel.

"The big innovations are usually deployed first in our industry," Kok said. "And later, they are then deployed with larger commercial aviation. It's the nature of our aircraft - they're smaller, it's easier."

ECONOMIC WORRIES

The sector has also been buffeted by Europe's broader economic troubles, with many potential customers wary of spending money to buy or charter private jets, which are seen as a luxury rather than a necessity.

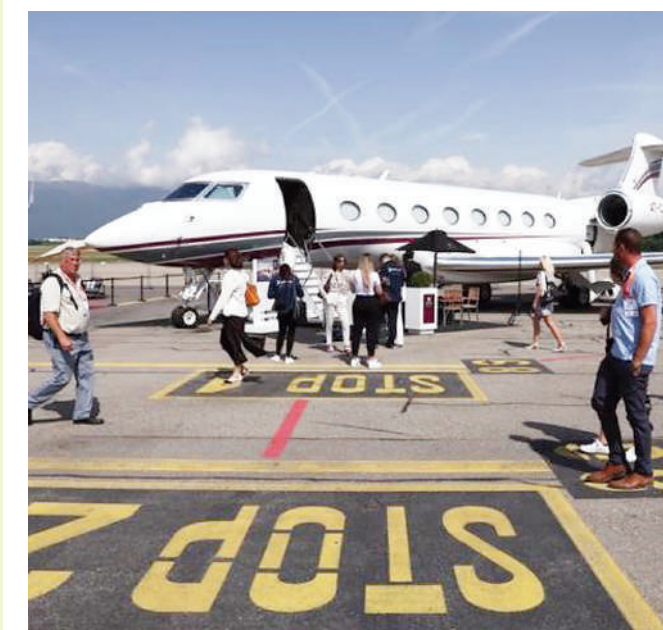
"The post-COVID macroeconomic environment has significantly darkened: supply chain issues, inflation, higher interest rates, geopolitical conflict and tension," said Richard Koe, CEO of WINGX, a market intelligence firm focused on business aviation.

Business jet flights have dropped in Europe by around 6 percent compared with the same time in 2022, WINGX data showed.

Immediately after the pandemic, business aviation rebounded faster than commercial air travel, swelling planemakers' order books as more wealthy travelers flew on private jets to avoid crowded airports and connecting flights.

But rising interest rates and economic pressures are raising questions over continued demand for private planes, even as corporate aircraft makers boost production in 2023.

"You immediately see that when the economy doesn't grow as much, there's a parallel with our industry. So that's for us the biggest indicator of why we're not growing as we were in 2017, 2018," Kok said.



ETI shareholders listen to the proceedings during Ecobank Transnational Incorporated's 35th AGM and EGM in Lomé, Togo. Photo by Guardian Correspondent

VIEW FROM THE TOP

WORLD

Biden's Papua New Guinea no-show takes shine off US pact

HIROSHIMA

THE people of Papua New Guinea were ready to party in honour of a special guest - the president of the United States.

Yesterday was even declared a public holiday, but the guest of honour was a no-show.

Joe Biden was supposed to be the first US president to visit a Pacific Island nation yesterday, but he cancelled his trip and instead flew home to Washington from the G7 summit in Hiroshima to focus on domestic problems.

Papua New Guinea (PNG) welcomed US Secretary of State Antony Blinken instead, but after six months of preparations, this is not the history making moment they'd longed for.

"It is going to be a disappointment for a number of the Pacific leaders who had made special arrangements to be in Papua New Guinea to meet with him," said Mark Brown, the Prime Minister of the Cook Islands and leader of the Pacific Islands Forum in a BBC interview.

Mr Biden had been expected to sign a security pact with PNG Prime Minister James Marape. The agreement, which was ultimately signed by Mr Blinken and PNG Defence Minister Win Bakri Daki, gives US forces access to the country's airfields and ports.

It also pledges tens of millions of dollars to boost security co-operation.

But with Mr Biden travelling home, this is not a good time for the US to disappoint leaders in this resource-rich and strategically placed region.

Washington and Beijing are battling for influence in the Pacific and the US is already playing catch-up after what analysts describe as years of neglect.

The 15 independent nations manage around 20% of the world's oceans. These hugely important maritime routes were used in World War Two to transport supplies to Australia and New Zealand.

Western interests in the Pacific waned after the war, but Chinese investments in the region have grown.

Beijing has worked to strengthen ties with several island nations over the last decade, sending aid and investing in schools, roads and bridges.

When Mr Blinken arrived in Port Moresby in PNG, he was driven on a six-lane highway built by China.

Last year the Solomon Islands signed a security pact with Beijing prompting fears that China could build its first military base in the region which would vastly increase the reach of its military.

"Many of our countries in the Pacific have well-established diplomatic relations with China," Mr Brown told the BBC.

"China has been filling a gap in the development sphere, helping Pacific countries achieve their development priorities."

He said the West was now showing "increased attention" in Pacific development needs. "I think we welcome that. But we also welcome the announcement by Secretary Blinken, in saying that he would like to see the US being the development partner of



The US and Papua New Guinea signed a security pact yesterday, but President Joe Biden did not attend

choice from Pacific countries."

But analysts fear Washington may have to do more to persuade the Pacific Island nations that they are serious about becoming partners.

Last year Fiji's acting prime minister told Secretary Blinken that island nations felt like "small dots" to Western leaders flying to meetings where they "spoke about us, rather than with us".

Beijing's President Xi Jinping showed up. He travelled to Papua New Guinea in 2018 - four years earlier he paid a state visit to Fiji.

Washington has woken up to Beijing's growing presence in the region and earlier this year it re-opened its embassy in the Solomon Islands which had been shut for 30 years.

Australia too has embarked on a diplomatic push and its defence and foreign ministers have made recent visits to a number of island nations.

But while Pacific Island leaders welcome the attention, they have their own priorities.

"We don't want our region to be an area of adversarial challenge between our development partners - rather, we want to find areas of collaboration, where we can have the best support to achieve our development agendas and our climate agenda," Mr Brown said.

"The important thing is China and the US don't have to work together, they have to work with us. There is plenty of room for all partners to come into the Pacific and help us achieve our development agendas."

Instead of being caught between the two superpowers, the islands could benefit from this increased interest.

"Pacific governments are relishing their place in the sun," Gordon Peake, a senior adviser for the Pacific Islands at the United States Institute of Peace told the AFP News Agency.

"Friends to all, enemies to none' is the informal foreign policy mantra of most Pacific nations and they're sticking to it, to great net effect."

The key for the Pacific Island nations will be getting the US and China interested in their priorities.

Cook Islands Prime Minister Mark Brown attended the G7 summit at the weekend as an extra guest where the leaders of the world's richest democracies stepped up their response to what they described as Beijing's rising military and economic threats.

But there was very little information about how the Group of Seven would tackle the world's climate crisis.

The Pacific Islands are extremely vulnerable to rising seas and strong cyclones, and the oceans are central to their way of life as it underpins their culture, food, livelihoods, and national economies.

"I think climate change is not something that's coming down the line, it's something that we live with, year after year, season after season. The impact that it has on our country is increased severity of hurricanes, storms, floods, but also the other extremes such as drought conditions," Mr Brown said.

"Our message is please hear the voice of the Pacific. Hear the call for greater action on climate change. This message has been repeated in a number of forums over a number of years. But we just have to keep pushing."

They will continue to push this message when Mr Blinken arrives in PNG on Monday where he will meet leaders from the Pacific Islands Forum.

These often-forgotten nations are now having their voices heard on the biggest diplomatic stages in the world.

And they are determined to make the most of it.

Agencies

Russian security chief calls development of relations with China Moscow's strategic course

MOSCOW

MOSCOW'S strategic course suggests further expansion of cooperation with China, Russian Security Council Secretary Nikolay Patrushev (pictured) said yesterday.

"Expanding and deepening relations with friendly China are Russia's strategic course. Our country prioritizes the development of mutually beneficial cooperation with the People's Republic of China in all areas, provision of mutual assistance and boosting coordination in the foreign arena for ensuring security, stability, sustainable development at the global and regional levels both in Eurasia and other parts of the world," he said at the Russian-Chinese consultations on social security, justice and public order.

Trust-based top-level contacts play a special role in strengthening the Sino-Russian partnership, Patrushev added, noting that the Chinese leader Xi Jinping visited Russia on March 20-22.

"His arrival right after being reelected as head of state confirmed an all-time high level of our relations and outlined the firm intention to continue deepening them," he emphasized.



World Health Assembly once again rejects Taiwan-related proposal

GENEVA

THE 76th World Health Assembly (WHA), the highest decision-making body of the World Health Organization, decided yesterday not to include in its agenda a proposal on Taiwan's participation in the annual assembly as an observer.

Currently, global health security poses significant challenges, and most assembly member states hope for increased solidarity and cooperation to tackle these issues. Taiwan's Democratic Progressive Party (DPP) authorities have gone against the trend and insisted on Taiwan-related proposals, a political ploy to engage in "Taiwan independence" separatist activities by hyping up its participation in the WHA.

Chen Xu, China's permanent representative to the United Nations Office at Geneva, said in a statement that there is only one China in the world, and Taiwan is an inalienable part of China's territory. Taiwan's participation in WHO activities must be handled under the one-China principle.

The DPP authorities refuse to recognize that both sides of the Taiwan Strait belong to one China, unilaterally abandoning the political foundation for the Taiwan region to participate in the WHA, Chen said.

The DPP authorities hyped up an alleged "international epidemic prevention gap." But they did not mention that under the one-China principle, medical experts from the Taiwan region can participate in the WHO's technical activities, Chen said. He added that the Taiwan region can establish and effectively operate contact points for the International Health Regulations under the one-China principle.

Chen stated that the actions taken by the DPP authorities are aimed at creating "two Chinas."

Chen emphasized that before the opening of the WHA, nearly 140 countries made clear to China their position of adhering to the one-China principle and opposing Taiwan's participation in the WHA. Nearly 100 countries specifically wrote to the WHO Director-General or issued public statements on the issue.

Xinhua

Greek conservatives win general elections, fall short of majority

ATHENS

GREEK conservatives received a clear mandate from Greek people to continue efforts to change the country with a strong government, Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis said on Sunday after his New Democracy (ND) party won the general elections by a huge margin.

ND garnered 40.79 percent of the votes, securing 145 seats in the next 300-member parliament, according to 96.03 percent of the votes counted, official results released by the Interior Ministry showed.

The main opposition party, SYRIZA-Progressive Alliance, gained 20.05 percent of votes with 72 seats, while another three parties that passed the three percent threshold will also enter the new parliament, said the Interior Ministry.

Xinhua

First Arab female astronaut reaches space station

THE first female Arab astronaut to go to space has arrived at the International Space Station (ISS).

Rayyanah Barnawi (pictured) is one of two Saudis on Axiom Space's second private mission, which took off on a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from the US on Sunday.

During her scheduled 10 days in orbit on the ISS, the 34-year-old biomedical scientist plans to carry out stem cell and breast cancer research.

She hopes to inspire women from all backgrounds in the Middle East.

In a video filmed in space before she reached the ISS, she said: "To the people around the world, the future is very bright. I would like you to dream big, believe in yourselves and believe in humanity."

Ms Barnawi is joined on Axiom Mission 2 by fellow Saudi mission specialist Ali Alqarni, the second male astronaut from the Gulf kingdom to go to space, and two Americans, commander Peggy Whitson and pilot John Shoffner.

The crew travelled to space inside SpaceX's Dragon spacecraft, which sat atop the Falcon 9 rocket



launched from Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Florida, at 21:37 GMT on Sunday.

Dragon docked autonomously with the ISS at 13:12 GMT on Monday.

day, Axiom Space tweeted.

During their time on the orbiting laboratory the crew will conduct more than 20 science and technology experiments, including the

repercussions of space on human health and rain-seeding technology.

Ms Barnawi's experiments will be based on some of the work she has done over the past nine years as a

research lab technician at the Stem Cell and Tissue Re-engineering Programme of King Faisal Specialist Hospital and Research Centre in Riyadh. At a recent news conference, she said that becoming the first female Saudi astronaut to go to space was "a great pleasure and honour that I'm very happy to carry".

She also said she was looking forward to sharing her experience on board the ISS through video link-ups with children.

"Being able to see their faces when they see astronauts from their own region for the first time is very thrilling."

Mishaal Ashemimry, a Saudi-American aerospace engineer and adviser to the Saudi Space Commission, said: "Our goals are to benefit all humanity through science."

"We hope this mission will inspire girls from various backgrounds in order to advance the human experience."

Women in Saudi Arabia only gained the right to drive in 2018, and human rights groups say male guardianship laws still limit women's rights there. Agencies

US-India partnership on steady trajectory, ties continue to expand in first four months of 2023 - report

WASHINGTON

THE US-India partnership is on a steady upward trajectory as a result of Washington and New Delhi making a concerted effort to move past Cold-War differences and toward advancing Indo-Pacific synergies, according to an article in Comparative Connections, a triannual e-journal of bilateral relations in the Indo-Pacific.

Akhil Ramesh and Michael Rubin said in the article that the US-India partnership continued to expand in the four months between January and April 2023. "Defence, technology and economic cooperation grew significantly in scope. The Biden administration's democracy summit, Quad meet-

ings, and bilateral meetings between various divisions and departments of the US and Indian governments show there will be no lack of engagement at the highest levels of government," they said.

"Supplementing the high-level cooperation, people-to-people ties will witness a revived enthusiasm thanks to Secretary of State Antony Blinken's work to ease the visa backlog in consulates in India. This will allow more Indian students and professionals to travel to the US and back with ease," they added.

The article noted that the biggest developments may not be government to government. In April 2023,

Apple opened its first store in India. Apple's entry into India reflected the effort both to establish alternatives to China's dominance of supply chains and to gain a larger share of the market in a country that, according to the United Nations Population Fund, now has the world's largest population.

The White House coordinator for Indo-Pacific affairs, Kurt Campbell, early in 2023, singled out India as the major US diplomatic focus for the upcoming year. Speaking at an event, he said, "Our interests are to see India playing an ever larger, responsible role in almost everything that we're doing." To that end, the first four months of 2023 were a great start, the article said.

In late April, the US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan, speaking to a packed audience at Brookings Institution, clarified the administration's agenda of creating new economic and trade coalitions and the risk of isolating traditional allies and partners.

This paradigm shift in the conceptualization of economic policy in Washington DC, wherein trade policy and national security policymaking intersect at varying points to influence each other, "has support among historically protectionist traders such as India".

The "New Washington Consensus," as some analysts have described it,

resonates in New Delhi, said Ramesh and Rubin.

On May 24, 2022, President Joe Biden met Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the sidelines of the Quad summit in Tokyo. According to the White House readout of the meeting the leaders reviewed the progress made in the US-India Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership.

"They committed to deepen the Major Defense Partnership, encourage economic engagement that benefits both countries, and expand partnership on global health, pandemic preparedness, and critical and emerging technologies."

Both President Biden and PM Modi

have consistently and vocally emphasized their desire to increase the share of manufacturing in their respective economies. For the US, this meant reviving the lost glory of the 1990s when it was a market leader in what are today several vital and critical sectors such as semiconductor manufacturing and processing of critical minerals, said Ramesh and Rubin.

The Biden administration has channelled investments from the private sector by offering generous subsidies through industrial policies such as the CHIPS and Science Act, the Inflation Reduction Act, and the bipartisan infrastructure law. ANI

Zelensky tells Biden Ukraine no longer controls Artyomovsk

MOSCOW

UKRAINIAN President Vladimir Zelensky admitted at a meeting with US President Joe Biden in Hiroshima on Sunday that Kiev no longer controls Artyomovsk (the Ukrainian name of the town: Bakhmut), according to a CNN broadcast.



"I think not," he said, responding to a question from the audience about Kiev retaining control over Artyomovsk. "But you have to understand that there is nothing left there. It's a pity, it's a tragedy, but as of today Bakhmut is only in our hearts. There is nothing in this place".

On Saturday, the Russian Defense Ministry reported that the liberation of Artyomovsk was completed as a result of the offensive by the Wagner assault detachments supported by the southern battleground's artillery and aviation.

Russian President Vladimir Putin congratulated the Wagner troops and Russian servicemen on the liberation of the city. According to the Kremlin press service, all those who distinguished themselves will be presented with state awards.

Artyomovsk is located in the north of the Donetsk People's Republic. It was an important transport hub for supplying the Ukrainian forces in Donbass, as well as a powerful Ukrainian outpost.

Fighting for the city began on August 1, 2022. The battle became one of the largest battles during the liberation of Donbass since 2014. Prior to the start of the fighting, the city was home to about 72,000 people.

PM Modi leaves for Australia after Papua New Guinea visit

PORT MORESBY

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi emplaned for Sydney from Port Moresby in Papua New Guinea.

PM Modi will be on a three-day visit to Australia, with whom India signed a historic trade deal last year. The prime minister decided to proceed with his visit to Sydney, after US President Joe Biden pulled out from the scheduled Quad Summit that was cancelled and later held on the sidelines of the just concluded G7 summit in Hiroshima.

During his Australia visit PM Modi will hold a bilateral meeting with his Australian counterpart Anthony Albanese.

At their bilateral meeting, the leaders will discuss trade and investment, including efforts to boost trade between the two countries through a Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement and work to strengthen people-to-people links, renewable energy, and defence and security cooperation, said the official statement released by the Australian government.

PM Modi will also meet Australian business leaders to drive Australia's growing trade and investment relationship with India and take forward opportunities from the Australia-India CEO Forum held in Mumbai in March," according to the statement.

"During the visit, the Prime Ministers will attend a community event in Sydney to celebrate Australia's dynamic and diverse Indian diaspora, a core part of our multicultural community," the statement added.

Meanwhile, Australian PM Albanese said he looks forward to visiting India in September in New Delhi for the G20 Leaders' Summit, the world's premier forum for economic cooperation.

Earlier today in Papua New Guinea, PM Modi underlined the role of capacity building in the India-Pacific Island countries partnership. He interacted with alumni of the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) from across Pacific Island Countries (PIC).

"These ITEC alumni, including government officials, professionals and community leaders, are contributing to their societies using the skills gained in India. PM lauded them for keeping India in their hearts and reiterated his support for capacity-building efforts in the region," according to Ministry of External Affairs Spokesperson Arindam Bagchi.

Earlier today, PM Modi also interacted with New Zealand Prime Minister Chris Hipkins. It is pertinent to mention that this is the first meeting since Hipkins became the country's Prime Minister.

"Had an excellent meeting with the New Zealand PM Chris Hipkins and discussed the full range of India-New Zealand relations. We talked about how to improve commercial and cultural linkages between our nations," tweeted PM Narendra Modi.

PM Modi also interacted with the leaders of Pacific Island nations on the sidelines of the third India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC) Summit in Papua New Guinea's capital Port Moresby.

The Third Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC) Summit held at Port Moresby on Monday, was jointly hosted with Papua New Guinea. Prime Minister Narendra Modi co-chaired the Summit with Prime Minister James Marape of Papua New Guinea.

ANI



Prime Minister Narendra Modi being conferred with Fiji's highest honour Companion of the Order by the Prime Minister of the Republic of Fiji, Sitiiveni Rabuka, at Port Moresby in Papua New Guinea yesterday. ANI

Sudan conflict: The Eritrean refugees caught between two crises

By Catherine Byaruhanga

IT is the airport wait from hell. Paloich Airport, which usually buzzes with the sound of well-heeled workers serving South Sudan's oil fields, has turned into a camp for thousands of people fleeing the conflict in neighbouring Sudan - now more than a month old.

There are no toilet facilities, no running water, no kitchens - just crowds of people living around their bags, resting on luggage trolleys, or sleeping under makeshift tents while waiting to catch a flight.

They have ended up here, four hours from the border with Sudan, in the hope of finding a way out.

But there are few flights and little information about when people may be able to leave.

Among these refugees are Eritreans who have been uprooted for a second time after previously arriving in Sudan to escape the situation at home. And these people are stuck in limbo.

According to the UN, there were over 136,000 Eritrean refugees and asylum seekers in Sudan before this war.

Most Eritreans do not want to give their names to journalists because they are scared of retribution from the Eritrean authorities.

Eritrea is a highly restrictive state that controls almost all aspects of people's lives, and many want to avoid the prospect of compulsory national service.

But Tesfit Girmay agreed to speak to me. He had arrived in Paloich five days earlier.

"The kind of life around here, you wouldn't wish it for animals let alone humans," he said looking at the tents around him.

As a single man he recognised that he was luckier than some.

"Maybe I can stand it. Sleeping outside, eating once a day, maybe I can stand it. But the biggest problem, there are people with children. There are people with four or five children," Mr Tesfit told me.

He fled the deteriorating economy in Eritrea at the end of last year and headed to Sudan, hoping to find work and maybe travel on to another country.

But in South Sudan, Eritreans find themselves trapped. Over 700 have arrived in the country.

Other nationals who fled the conflict in Sudan such as Kenyans, Ugandans and Somalis have been repatriated by their governments. But many Eritreans in Paloich said they were terrified to go back home, or see no future there.

Mr Tesfit said that Eritreans at the airport were banned from getting onto flights to South Sudan's capital, Juba. At the same time they have refused to go to the designated refugee camps in the country.

A three-hour drive further north, and closer to the border with Sudan, is another temporary camp bursting at the seams.

The former grounds of the Upper Nile University in Renk, once abandoned, are now repopulated by more than 6,000 people. Even the bushes on the opposite side of the road are being cut down to make space for more arrivals.

This is where I met another refugee from Eritrea. She was sat on the steps of a classroom with her three children



These children are among thousands of people stuck at Paloich Airport in South Sudan after fleeing Sudan

and told me that her husband had gone to town to look for food.

"I couldn't live in my country because I couldn't worship my God the way I liked it. I couldn't live there," said the woman, who wanted to remain anonymous.

She explained that she was an evangelical Christian and had difficulties in Eritrea, where religion is heavily regulated and people from faiths that are not officially sanctioned have been sent to prison.

After fleeing Khartoum, she said she had hoped to go to South Sudan's capital but that was proving to be a challenge.

"No-one can pass through to Juba. The road is closed only to Eritreans. I don't know what's going to happen next."

South Sudan's acting Minister for Foreign Affairs Deng Dau Deng told the BBC that his office had contacted all foreign embassies including Eritrea's, to ensure their citizens were repatriated.

But he acknowledged that the

situation with Eritreans was complicated by the fact that there are those who do not want to go back home and they do not want to be in touch with their embassy.

Mr Deng does not deny claims that some Eritreans who made it to Juba had been forced back to Paloich. As the Eritrean embassy was not going to fly them back to Asmara and there was no refugee camp in Juba for them, then they had to go elsewhere, he said.

For his part, Eritrea's long-time President Isaias Afwerki told state television that his country would welcome anyone fleeing the conflict in its neighbour.

"Eritrea has open borders and without fanfare will continue to receive Eritrean and Sudanese civilians as well as others affected by the current conflict and share with them whatever it has," the president said.

Here in South Sudan, the infrastructure is overwhelmed by the 60,000 people who have crossed into the country in just a month.

Back at Paloich Airport I met some South Sudanese desperate to get to other parts of the country.

Sandy Manyjeil had been stranded with her five children for two weeks.

"Yesterday evening they gave us a ticket. You wait at the gate, you show your ticket and after that they will take you or they won't. It depends on your luck," she said.

"Sometimes they take your ticket and they take you or they don't. Tomorrow, after tomorrow, no-one knows."

The government is operating free flights on cargo planes from Paloich and has transported over 7,000 people. But it is a fraction of those entering.

Its strategy is to get everyone out of Renk and Paloich to areas where they can find food, medicine and try to rebuild their lives.

But South Sudan has barely any tarmacked roads, few domestic flights and parts of the country still face bouts of violence since the 2013-2018 civil war.

It is an overwhelming challenge for any country and as the war in its neighbour continues the number of people, both nationals and foreigners, entering South Sudan keeps rising.

Agencies

From conflict to coexistence: China sees changing human-wildlife relations

BEIJING

RESIDENTS in the rural area are used to having unexpected visitors - wild animals like hedgehogs and weasels. But what if the intruder is an elephant?

Pu Cuifen, from a village in Eshan County, southwest China's Yunnan Province, had that experience two years ago when a herd of wild Asian elephants left their forest habitat in Xishuangbanna, trekked hundreds of kilometers northward to the provincial capital Kunming and then headed back home to the nature reserve.

"I've only seen elephants in a zoo before, not expecting a wild elephant would appear at my doorstep," said Pu, a villager group leader, adding that she immediately mobilized villagers to evacuate overnight for safety.

The elephants harmed no one but had corn and beans in the farmland, causing losses of up to 50,000 yuan (about 7,127 U.S. dollars). With government-supported insurance, the villagers got compensated soon.

"Learning the elephants arrived home, we felt happy for them," said Pu.

This epic journey of wild Asian elephants indicates an increasing population of the species in China and provides a successful experience to solve the "human-wildlife conflict," said Chen Fei, director of



This aerial photo taken on Aug. 13, 2021 shows a herd of wild Asian elephants in Mojiang County of Pu'er, southwest China's Yunnan Province. Xinhua

the Asian elephant research center under the National Forestry and Grassland Administration.

Monday marks the International Day for Biological Diversity.

With the continuous ecological conservation efforts in China, endangered wild animal species, such as Asian elephants, snow leopards and Siberian tigers, have seen a rise in populations and expanded their habitats, with humans exploring ways to avoid conflict and coexist with them in harmony.

COEXISTENCE WITH LOVE

Asian elephants, a pivotal species in the rainforest ecosystem, are under first-class national protection in China. The elephants are mostly found across Yunnan.

forestry and grassland bureau, said Yunnan raised the compensation standard for the crops more prone to be consumed by elephants. Such compensation will help protect the interests of farmers and, at the same time, avoid the wild animals seeking food on farms from being attacked, said Wan.

The province has also created "canteens" for the wild elephants, growing over 600 hectares of their favorite food, such as elephant grass and bamboo.

A national park for Asian elephants is also in the works.

Wang Chuan, 44, lives in a village in Jiangcheng County, where a dozen wild elephants wander nearby.

"Instead of attacking them or chasing them away, villagers now simply leave them alone," said Wang. "Our crops might get damaged, but we tolerate them with love."

CONSERVATION WITH HEART

While some residents are trying to live in harmony with wild animals, some others have changed their way of making a living, from damaging the environment to protecting it.

In Gyirong County, a core area of Qomolangma National Nature Reserve in southwest China's Tibet Autonomous Region, former logger and hunter Migmar has become a wild animal rescuer in the reserve on the China-Nepal border with Mount Qomolangma, the world's highest peak at 8,848.86

meters at its core.

He and his seven colleagues take turns patrolling every day. Since the establishment of the wildlife rescue station in 2019, they have rescued 17 wild animals, including those under China's first-class national protection, like a snow leopard.

Last year, he took care of an injured red muntjac attacked by a beast. He learned to bandage the deer and clean its wounds, and six months later, he released it into the wild. "Animals don't talk, but I can feel their trust. We have the responsibility to protect them," said Migmar, 44.

In northeast China's Jilin Province, the forest farm where Zhao Yan worked to produce timber has become part of a national park for the protection of tigers and leopards.

In the Northeast China Tiger and Leopard National Park, which spans an area of over 1.4 million hectares in Jilin and Heilongjiang, Zhao patrols more than 200 days a year, installing and checking infrared cameras and surveying the living conditions of wild animals.

"I'm not an expert, but a long time of fieldwork has given me abundant data on wildlife," said Zhao, now deputy director of the monitoring center for scientific research of the national park administration's Hunchun branch.

Xinhua

G20 Tourism Working Group meet in Srinagar: Spain, Singapore, Mauritius to discuss film tourism

NEW DELHI

AS Srinagar is decked up to host the third Tourism Working Group Meeting of G20 members yesterday, seven countries, including Spain, Singapore, and Mauritius are discussing film tourism in the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir.

Spain, Singapore, Mauritius, Nigeria, South Africa, Brazil and India are among seven countries to discuss the global perspective of film tourism, as well as, its economic benefits and impact in J-K. The side event on 'Film Tourism for Economic Growth and Cultural Preservation' is part of the mega third Tourism Working Group Meeting to be organized

at Srinagar between May 22-24.

Unveiling the draft of a national strategy for film tourism is the key agenda, and the speakers will highlight various challenges and country-specific enablers to promote destinations through films giving a fillip to tourism in J-K.

The "3rd G20 Tourism Working Group Meeting" will start in the afternoon on Monday with all the invited countries and the international organisations having the highest participation registered compared to the previous two such meetings organized at Gujarat's Rann of Kutch and West Bengal's Siliguri.

The meeting will deliberate on five key

priority areas: Green Tourism, Digitalization, Skills, MSMEs and Destination Management.

The meeting aims to strengthen economic growth, preserve cultural heritage, and promote sustainable development of the region.

The stage is set for discussions and deliberations on final deliverables and there are two key deliverables of the Tourism Working Group, which include the Goa Roadmap for Tourism as a vehicle for achieving sustainable development goals (SDGs) and G20 Tourism Ministers' Declaration, Secretary Ministry of Tourism Arvind Singh had said on Sunday while addressing a press conference at Sheri-Kashmir International Conference Centre (SKICC).

"This is the only working group meeting taking place in Srinagar as part of the G20 effort with excellent response from all the member countries, all the invited countries and the international organisations, having the highest participation registered compared to the first two Tourism Working Group Meetings at Rann of Kutch and Siliguri," said Singh.

The officer further said G20 member countries, invited countries, and international organizations will give valuable inputs and feedback on these two draft documents and after negotiations with G20 Member Countries on these drafts, final versions will be placed in the 'Fourth Tourism Working Group Meeting'.

ANI

SPORT



Jakaya Kikwete Sports Centre youth team players during a training session in Dar es Salaam on Sunday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Changing fortunes: Why mainstream Gospel radios struggle as others thrive

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

HABITUAL listeners to FM radios in the commercial capital may have noticed that at least two well-known radios have been off air for a week or so, for reasons that can only be guessed at, by and large. The same situation was there sometimes in the last week of April or thereabouts, and it was soon clarified that there were some maintenance works or frequency rectification work going on, to clear solace.

Audiovisual like the print media faces uneven threats depending upon the situation or wider societal environment, first the commercial viability threat, and then the threat of a clampdown. Threats on the media too often focus on libel, when it is an offence on individuals, but there is something like collective libel, the Easter Week tirade on social media tendencies of breaching accepted norms. Ability to survive on the market is a private worry that doesn't take much public time, but it matters.

Non-commercial threats have usually been tailing new media varieties, which put off their traditional competitors in more ways than one, and often they exchange fortunes for that reason. Traditional media looks like they are assured when it comes to observing societal norms, being unlikely to quarrel notably with public authorities as their positions on ethical or other issues reflect societal mainstream sentiments. New media risks are higher as they play with fire, pushing 'novelty.'

Their weakness is at the commercial level as people don't spend cash to be told what they already know, or what doesn't trouble them. The media situation is an extension of street life on the one hand and office life on the other hand, as street life often thrives in gossip while office life is prone to seeking out the bad news, as they put institutions on the defensive with authorities, or large groups in society. Bad news is like gossip but at a different level of social concerns, on public issues.

When a key new media Gospel station was off the air, many started wondering whether their adversaries in traditional Gospel stations were up to something. It is during this period when churches were being re-registered and civic or rather 'non-governmental' organisations were being re-registered as well. Upwards of 4000 such organisations failed to show their annual incomes and expenditures correctly and were deleted, but informally one has to be aware what is afoot, hotly contested.

As they key Gospel station, and its kindred stations on other frequencies was soon back on air, the fears eased as it isn't traditional in outlook, putting to question habitual conduct of certain quarters of society, and implicitly a

portion of what is known as cultural heritage. Yet the concerned zealots so to speak, riding a large wave of delivery broadcasting, involving the casting out of spirits, is a field of broadcasting and even street presence that some massive establishments would gladly wish to see their backs. They can lose composure, talk of 'faith robbers.'

At one point, an Easter service back in 2021 to be exact, the parish priest of a mainstream church in a leading cathedral pointedly talked of the new delivery preachers as using 'chuma ulete,' a folklore spirit or demon collecting cash from people in a mysterious, discreet manner. Some top pundits in mainstream churches contributing to programmes touching on doctrinal issues have laid battle with the new stream preaching. Pilloried outfits focus on practical healing to tell the story, meanwhile as they also project items of doctrine that are otherwise quite 'strange.'

This aspect seems to be giving the benefit of doubt as well as commercial benefit to the new wave church outfits or actually assemblies, often talking of organising 'workshops' on healing, involving clinics for women seeking to give birth, etc. Another special theme is deliverance of one's birthdate, and in the past there was a theme about delivering one's heel or underfoot, as at times soil on which one has walked, or the first hairs cut (after eight days, or is it 40 days) after birth. Too often such hair or umbilical cord is collected by next of kin, habitually for occult intent.

All this explains why traditional Gospel institutions and their radio stations have a difficulty running the show as used to be the case in the past. While the situation is not being set out too intensely except perhaps for connoisseurs exposed to internal meetings, a cursory look from the outside would suggest inverse proportionality of wider public acceptance of the new wave and diminishing fortunes of traditional preaching radios. With miracles being confirmed, traditional reverence declines.

This may perhaps explain current doldrums in relation to audiovisual presence of organs of major denominations, heard sporadically for some, and frequently missing for others. That also implies that the long held view that denominations tied to world religious fraternities obtain sizeable resources from outside ought to be reexamined as Europe is getting to be smaller relative to the rapid rise of the African population, needs of their institutions. Resource battles are increasingly local, as to who wins the hearts and minds of listeners, and ipso facto, how much cash they are ready to part with, as illustration of trust for spiritual effectiveness.

“ This aspect seems to be giving the benefit of doubt as well as commercial benefit to the new wave church outfits or actually assemblies, often talking of organising 'workshops' on healing, involving clinics for women seeking to give birth, etc. Another special theme is deliverance of one's birthdate, and in the past there was a theme about delivering one's heel or underfoot, as at times soil on which one has walked, or the first hairs cut (after eight days, or is it 40 days) after birth. Too often such hair or umbilical cord is collected by next of kin, habitually for occult intent

SPORTS

Yanga now joyously in dreamland



Young Africans Sports Club

By Lloyd Elipokea

WITH the splendid manner in which the present football season has unfolded thus far, this year could very well turn out to be an Annus Mirabilis for Yanga.

Indeed, the Jangwani Street club has been in such supreme form this year that they are challenging for silverware on three different fronts and most significantly, they have a realistic chance of actually claiming what would be a historic treble.

At this point, it should be noted that Yanga has already impeccably lifted the Mainland Premier League trophy, which marks their second consecutive league title victory.

Incredibly, the Jangwani Street side has also advanced to the final of the Azam Sports Federations Cup as well as the CAF Confederations Cup final to boot, which is truly remarkable.

It has been their sublime form though in the CAF Confederations Cup this season which has really caught the eye of local die-hard football fans and fellow Africans in general across the vast expanse of the continent.

What has made Yanga's progress in

the CAF Confederations Cup this season all the more exceptional is the fact that they are the first side in the eventful history of Tanzanian football to reach the climax of an African football competition.

Indeed, prior to this year, Tanzanian clubs had found it exceedingly difficult for donkey's years to vie for titles on the ferociously competitive continental football landscape.

In fact, to be wholly frank, the bald truth of the matter is that our pre-eminent domestic juggernauts had hitherto simply not been up to scratch, which greatly impeded their showings in continental football championships.

Still, despite that though, Yanga has distinctly shown this season that there is a wealth of potential in local football, to the utter elation of all Tanzanians.

Importantly, Yanga will face-off against Algerian powerhouse USM Alger in the CAF Confederations Cup final in what will hopefully be a riveting two-legged spectacle.

Godspeed then to Yanga as they attempt to claim a first-ever piece of silverware won by a Tanzanian club in continental football.

Indeed, if Yanga's dazzling exploits in the CAF Confederations Cup this season were to have a fitting story-book ending, it would make for ideal material to be used in a documentary.

One might question though why filming a documentary

about Yanga's outstanding form in the CAF Confederations Cup this season should be viewed as a matter of immense importance.

Well, for one thing, it would go a long way towards creating a permanent record of Yanga's unique exertions for the sake of posterity.

There are of course other ways of recording Yanga's sterling displays for future generations to revel in.

One such way is chronicling Yanga's impressive rise in the form of a book, therefore, one hopes that gifted non-fiction authors in the country will be inspired to pen an unforgettable account of Yanga's epic 2022-23 football season.

Yanga to hand over winner's medals to Feisal Salum

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

NBC Premier League champions Yanga have confirmed that they will hand over the winner's medals of all tournaments they will win this season to their midfielder Feisal Salum who wants out of the club.

Yanga have already been declared Premier League champions and grabbed the Community Shield trophy at the start of the season hence only ASFC silverware is next for them to compete locally.

Tanzania Football Federation (TFF)'s Legal, Ethics and Players' Status Committee has three times ruled out Salum's review to opt out of his contract and declared that he is still Yanga's player and the current contract runs up to 2024.

Now it has been revealed that Yanga will present him with his medal for winning the Premier League in Mainland Tanzania and if they win the Confederation Cup in Africa together with Azam Sports Federation, he will also be given medals.

The club's lawyer, Simon Patrick, has said that they recognize Salum as their legitimate player, so it is his right like other players to get a medal for any championship won by the club.

"His championship medal in the Premier League will be handed over to him and therefore he will also get medals if we win the CAF Confederation together with the Azam Sports Federation," said Patrick.

Salim already has the Community Shield medal after Yanga beat Simba 2-1 in this season's opening match held last year at the Mkapa Stadium.

Yanga advanced to the final of the Confederation Cup after their emphatic 4-1 aggregate win over Marumo Gallants prior to setting a date with the Algerian side in a two-legged final.

The first meeting is pegged at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on May 28 before a return leg game in Algeria on June 3, this year where the new champion will be decorated.

The Azam Sports Federation Cup final match will be played at the CCM Kwakwani versus Azam.



Feisal Salum

Heat roll past Celtics 128-102, take 3-0 lead in Eastern Conference finals

MIAMI

ERIK Spoelstra had his team fully expecting that Game 3 of the Eastern Conference finals would be extremely difficult, that the Miami Heat were going to have to take the best shot that a desperate bunch of Boston Celtics could muster.

He was wrong.

It was a Heat romp – and a team that had to pull off a frantic rally just to make the playoffs is now one win from the NBA Finals.

Gabe Vincent scored a career-high 29 points, Duncan Robinson added 22 and the eighth-seeded Heat rolled past the Celtics 128-102 on Sunday night. Miami leads the series 3-0, with a chance to finish off a stunning sweep on Tuesday night at home in Game 4.

“That was a solid, mature, professional approach,” said Spoelstra, now on the brink of a sixth trip to the NBA Finals as Miami’s coach. “There’s a lot of pent-up stuff here and we’re getting closer, but we still have to finish this off.”

Caleb Martin scored 18, Jimmy Butler finished with 16, Bam Adebayo had 13 and Max Strus added 10 for Miami. Every team in NBA history that has won the first three games of a best-of-seven has ultimately prevailed; the Heat are 8-0 in that situation.

“The rim was as big as the ocean for everybody,” Adebayo said, after Miami shot 57%.

Jaylen Tatum scored 14 and Jaylen Brown added 12 for the second-seeded Celtics, who won three times on Miami’s floor on the way to winning last season’s East finals – but simply never had a chance in this one and basically emptied the bench for the fourth quarter.

“I just didn’t have them ready to play,” said Boston coach Joe Mazzulla, who has been the subject of tons of criticism in this series – and will surely face more going into Tuesday. “Whatever it was, whether it was the starting lineup or an adjustment, I have to get them in a better place, ready to play. That’s on me.” Grant Williams and Payton Pritchard each added 12 for Boston.

“To their credit, they’re playing well above their means,” Brown said. “They’re ballin’ right now and I’ve got to give them respect. Gabe Vincent, Martin, Strus, Duncan Robinson, guys that we should be able to keep under control are playing their (butt) off.”

The NBA Finals start June 1, and the way things are going, that might mean the league is about to go a few days without games. The Western Conference finals could end Monday; Denver leads that series against the Los Angeles Lakers 3-0. And now, the East finals could end Tuesday.

“It’s the first to four games,” Vincent said. “We’re not satisfied with three.” There’s never been a season where both conference finals ended in sweeps; it happened in 1957 in the division finals immediately preceding the title series, when Boston beat Syracuse 3-0 and St. Louis beat Minneapolis 3-0.

Of all the 3-0 series leads in NBA history, this one might be the most unexpected – a No. 8 seed in the Heat, a team that struggled just to get into the playoffs, a team that was less than 3 minutes away from being eliminated in the play-in tournament, getting past top-seeded Milwaukee in five games, then fifth-seeded New York in six, and now on the brink of denying the Celtics a second consecutive East crown.

And the Heat let Boston know how much they were enjoying this one. Mindful that Boston’s Al Horford directed a timeout signal toward the Miami bench during Game 1 when the Celtics were on a second-quarter spurt to build a comfortable lead, Butler did the same to Horford as the Heat were running away in the third quarter of Game 3.

Besides, the Heat rallied to win Game 1 anyway. There was no rally required in Game 3 by the Heat. There was barely one attempted by the Celtics, for that matter.

“I don’t even know where to start,” Brown said. “It’s an obvious letdown. I feel like we let our fan base, organization down. We let ourselves down. And it was collective. We can point fingers, but in reality, it was just em-

barrassing.”

Boston got within 61-49 when Marcus Smart had a three-point play on the opening possession of the second half. The rest was all Miami, which immediately answered with a 28-7 run to open a 33-point lead at 89-56, which had the building rolling. The lead was so big, and there was so much time left, that the sellout crowd of 20,088 actually was subdued a bit by the time it was over.

They might have been yelled-out. Or maybe they were saving it for hockey on Monday night, when the Florida Panthers – another No. 8 seed on a magical playoff run in South Florida – will try to take a 3-0 lead in their East finals series against the Carolina Hurricanes.

“We’ll decompress tomorrow,” Spoelstra said, “but we’ll really get our minds right to finish this thing off.”

Meanwhile, Joe Mazzulla’s roller-coaster season is at its lowest. And with the Boston Celtics now on the brink of elimination, the first-year coach is blaming himself.

The Celtics are in the sort of trouble that no team in NBA history has escaped, trailing Miami 3-0 in the Eastern Conference finals after a 128-102 Heat romp on Sunday night that might not have been even as close as the score would make it appear.

“I think the most important thing is just sticking together, and then I have to be better,” said Mazzulla, the NBA’s youngest coach at 34. “I’ve got to put them in better positions. I’ve got to get them ready to play. I have to have the game plan ready for us to be physical and to execute, and it’s important that we stick together.”

It has been a disaster of a series for the Celtics. They’re letting the Heat shoot 52% from the field, 48% from 3-point range – compared to a 29% effort from deep by the Celtics – and the dam might have broken in Game 3. After Games 1 and 2 were decided late in Boston, with the Heat finding a way both times, this one was never in doubt.

“I just didn’t have them ready to play,” Mazzulla said.

That’s quite an indictment, especially after how the last eight months or so have gone for Mazzulla. He wasn’t supposed to coach the Celtics this season, getting the job on an interim basis out of necessity once Ime Udoka was suspended. The regular season was one success after another; the Celtics removed the interim tag just past the season’s midpoint, he coached in the All-Star Game and finished third in the Coach of the Year balloting.

But this series has made all those good moments seem long forgotten. He took criticism for not using a timeout in the third quarter of Game 1 when Miami scored 46 points to completely turn around that contest. He’s taken heat for not being fiery enough, as well, though players said the problems shouldn’t all be on the coach.

“I think it’s a collective effort,” Celtics forward Jaylen Brown said.

Celtics center Al Horford also had Mazzulla’s back, insisting there’s more than enough blame to go around right now.

“At the end of the day, that falls on each player,” Horford said. “We know what we have to do. We knew the magnitude of this game. As a player, I take responsibility because we didn’t have what we needed to have. That’s what that is.”

The phrase in sports parlance is “losing the locker room.” For a coach, that is often extremely damning – and means either players aren’t motivated, aren’t prepared, or just aren’t listening anymore.

Whether that’s happened or not isn’t clear, and really doesn’t matter. In a city that saw the Red Sox make history from coming from 3-0 down in the AL championship series against the New York Yankees in 2004, the Celtics now need the same miracle.

“I have to be better, figure out what this team needs to make sure that they’re connected, they’re physical and they’re together by the time we step on the floor,” Mazzulla said. Can it happen?

“I’m not sure,” Mazzulla said.

He’s got until Tuesday night to figure it out.

AP

Untouchable Man City make you wonder how anyone can stop them with Guardiola in charge

By James Ducker

MANCHESTER City started their title coronation with £484 million worth of talent on the bench and their second string still had far too much for Chelsea. Sam Allardyce has come out with a series of bemusing remarks since taking over at Leeds a few weeks ago, but the former England manager may have been on to something when he said City have the best two teams in the Premier League.

And therein lies the challenge facing the chasing pack as they wonder how to stop a third successive City title from becoming a fourth next season, how they crack the armoury of Pep Guardiola’s perfectly honed system, not least as it will also be re-tooling this summer.

Moreover, how they stop City threatening to become to England what Bayern Munich, winners of the previous 10 Bundesliga titles, are to Germany – a once unthinkable prospect on these shores but a reflection of the champions’ strength.

It comes to something when you can leave Erling Haaland, Kevin De Bruyne, Jack Grealish, Rodri, Bernardo Silva, Ruben Dias, John Stones, Ederson and captain Ilkay Gundogan on the bench and barely skip a beat against a team that has had more than £550 million lavished on it over the past year.

Spoiler: City are not the only ones who spend a lot of money.

To put things into some context, those eight outfield substitutes have scored 64 goals between them in the Premier League this season, which is more than 14 other clubs have each managed in the campaign, including Manchester United, and 28 more than Chelsea, a team that beat them in the Champions League final two years ago.

Kalvin Phillips, Cole Palmer and Sergio Gomez all made their first league starts of the season against Chelsea, goalkeeper Stefan



Manchester City’s Ilkay Gundogan lifts the trophy as he celebrates with teammates after winning the Premier League on Sunday. PHOTO: REUTERS

Ortega his second, Rico Lewis his eighth, Aymeric Laporte his 10th and Julian Alvarez, the game’s goalscorer, his 12th, and still City enjoyed 65 per cent possession and all the control. This was their 12th successive league win – an application of pressure Arsenal, for so long the leaders, were unable to withstand – and extended City’s unbeaten run to 24 matches in all competitions.

There is, of course, a very serious debate to be had about the means with which City have got to this point of complete domestic dominance – and perhaps mastery of Europe soon, too, as they target that elusive trophy and a historic Treble.

And it was certainly a little awkward seeing the Premier League chief executive Richard Masters handing out the winners’ medals on the pitch at the end when, three months ago, his organisation hit the club with 115 charges for alleged rule

breaches, a case that threatens to run and run, much to the dismay of the rest of the competition.

But the success of Guardiola’s system, where players can interchange freely and nothing looks discernibly different, and talents blossom to the point where they look so superior to the time when they first stepped foot in the building, is not solely the product of money. Of course, it is understandable that fans of rival clubs cannot look past the Premier League case against City, and why should they?

But it would take someone bearing a very hard grudge to deny Guardiola’s brilliance and there is not a club in Europe that would not want the Catalan steering their ship. Would Stones have become this good if he had swapped Everton for Old Trafford rather than the Etihad? Or Grealish for that matter? Both have had more than their fair share of nay-

sayers. How many other managers could cram half a dozen playmakers into the same side? Where was the rest of Europe in the pursuit of Rodri and Dias? Why did no one else snap up Manuel Akanji when he was available for just £15m?

Plenty of clubs were wary of going near Gundogan amid serious concerns about his injury record up to 2016. Similarly, it is easy to forget now what some people were saying about City’s decision to pay Wolfsburg £55m for De Bruyne, apparently a Chelsea “reject”.

It is a convenient argument now to say City have simply hoovered up the best players when it avoids some of the realities, and ignores how Guardiola has elevated so many of them into something much greater than they were previously.

THE TELEGRAPH

Support for Vinicius after Real star suffers racial abuse in La Liga

MADRID

FOOTBALL and beyond rallied around Vinicius Junior on Monday, demanding action against racism, after the Real Madrid star was abused once again in Spain’s La Liga.

The 22-year-old Brazilian international forward was targeted during a 1-0 defeat at Valencia on Sunday and was later sent off.

Vinicius issued a strongly worded statement afterwards saying that La Liga “belongs to racists” and several Brazilian players past and present offered their support.

Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva condemned the abuse, telling a news conference at the close of the G7 summit in Hiroshima, Japan: “He was attacked. He was called a ‘monkey.’”

Vinicius has frequently been targeted in La Liga and the latest incident came at Valencia’s Mestalla when he was racially abused by a home supporter.

Vinicius stood in front of fans behind the goal and pointed to the apparent culprit. Play was delayed for several minutes in the second half.

Referee Ricardo de Burgos Bengoetxea spoke to stadium officials, who made an announcement calling for racist insults to stop before play resumed around 10 minutes later.

In his post-match report, the referee wrote that a fan shouted “monkey, monkey” at the player.

Vinicius was sent off in added time at the end of the game for hitting Hugo Duro during a brawl, with Valencia triumphing through Diego Lopez’s first-half goal.

Vinicius left the pitch making a gesture with his hands indicating Valencia were heading down to Spain’s second division.

– Stop the game, says Ancelotti –

Real Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti said Spanish football needed to be prepared to halt matches.

“The Spanish league has a problem, and Vinicius is not the problem. Vinicius is the victim. There’s a very serious problem,” Ancelotti said.

“The fact I thought about taking



Real Madrid’s Vinicius Junior points to someone in the crowd during a Spanish La Liga soccer match between Valencia and Real Madrid, at the Mestalla stadium in Valencia on Sunday. Agencies

him off because of the racist atmosphere does not seem good to me,” Ancelotti told reporters.

“What has happened today has happened before, but not like that, it’s unacceptable.” Vinicius has been racially abused at several stadiums this season in Spain and an effigy of him was hung from a bridge in the Spanish capital by Atletico Madrid fans.

La Liga have filed legal complaints to Spanish authorities on multiple occasions this season, with the league pledging on Sunday to do so again after investigating.

However, Ancelotti said it was not helping.

“What has happened? Reports, and nothing at all has come from it. The solution is to stop the game,” said the veteran Italian.

Writing on Instagram, Vinicius said Spain was viewed as “a country of racists” in his homeland. “The prize for the racists today is that they have sent me off. It’s not football, it’s La Liga,” he said.

“The league that once belonged to Ronaldinho, Ronaldo, Cristiano (Ronaldo) and Messi now belongs to racists,” added Vinicius.

La Liga said in a statement that they were investigating the incident and would take legal action if a hate crime had been committed.

The Spanish top flight said they have been “proactive” in previous cases of racism against Vinicius, filing nine complaints with relevant authorities

and prosecutors.

– ‘Love and support’ –

Vinicius has received widespread support.

Madrid goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois said he heard “monkey noises” after about 20 minutes of the game and said he would have walked off with Vinicius if the Brazilian chose to stop playing. “If Vini wants to keep playing, we keep playing, but if Vini says he’s not playing any more, I’m leaving the pitch with him because we cannot tolerate these things,” Courtois told Movistar.

Former England defender Rio Ferdinand said Vinicius needed more protection from Spain’s football authorities.

“I see pain, I see disgust, I see him needing help,” he wrote on Instagram.

There was anger among many in Brazil. President Lula called for FIFA and the Spanish league to take “serious measures”.

“It’s unjust that a poor kid who’s done so well in life, who may be on his way to becoming the best in the world – he’s certainly the best at Real Madrid – gets insulted at every stadium where he plays,” he said in Japan.

On Twitter, Brazilian Football Confederation president Ednaldo Rodrigues said: “Vini Jr, you have our love and support, and that of all Brazilians.”

The forward’s fellow Brazilian international Richarlison, retired legend Ronaldo and music icon Gilberto Gil were among those who condemned the racist treatment he has received in Spain.

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Untouchable Man City make you wonder how anyone can stop them with Guardiola in charge

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

Simba director explains where the club stumbled

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

THE Chairman of the Board of Directors (COB) of Simba, Salim Abdallah 'Try Again', has suggested that the club stumbled when they failed to replace Luis Miquissone and Clatous Chama two years ago.



After the end of the 2020/21 season, Miquissone was sold to Egyptian giants Al Ahly while Chama moved to Morocco's RS Berkane.

Chama's move in Morocco did not work out well and he has since rejoined Simba. Al Ahly are struggling to offload Miquissone who is on a big contract.

Speaking on a Simba TV program, Abdallah (pictured) said the club failed to rebuild earlier and instead brought players who perhaps are not in the same weight category as the departed duo. "People are focused a lot at where we fell without looking at where we stumbled. We stumbled two years back when we released Clatous Chama and Luis Miquissone. We didn't prepare their replacement early.

"We sold Chama, his replacement was Peter Banda, if you compare their profiles, they might not match. This is where we stumbled, not where we fell. Now we go back to see where we went wrong so that we can fix it," Abdallah said.

He added: "So I must say to the Simba fans and Tanzanians in general that we did not have a good season, it is true that we did not achieve anything, but I must say that we will correct those mistakes and I can assure them that they will not be repeated.

"We will go to recruit, hire experts, we will go all the way to ensure that we get players who can meet and fulfil the goals and desires of the majority."

Try Again, as he is popularly known in Tanzania football circles, also revealed the intriguing details that led to Simba missing out on Congolese forward Caesar Manzoki's services despite having already signed a pre-contract to join them.

He said: "Manzoki had already signed a pre-contract with Simba, but he is a human being, he is a player who has his own career. He pleaded that he's got an offer from China, he was paid six times the salary that we were to give him.

"His salary there is 60,000 Euros. (Approximately Tsh 150m per month). Out of humanity, what do you do in such a scenario, mind you he is a player? You can't afford to pay him 60,000 Euros, you let him!"



Hans van der Pluijm

Singida's Hans van Pluijm proud despite semi-final exit to Yanga

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SINGIDA Big Stars head coach Hans van der Pluijm has applauded the club players for their performance after bowing to a 1-0 defeat to Young Africans in the Federation Cup semi-final game.

Singida Big Stars conceded a late second-half goal through substitute Fiston Mayele to crash out of the Federation Cup semi-final at Liti Stadium on Sunday afternoon.

In his reaction to the result, Pluijm, who guided the now-defunct Singida United past Young Africans in the Federation Cup semi-final match in 2019, praised the players' efforts in matching the CAF Confederation Cup finalists.

"In my opinion, our team has played very well today. We had the tactical discipline. We have changed a bit, dropping back so that they could not get much space playing around in the midfield.

"Tactically, we have done well. When you play against a team like Yanga, they can make one or two changes and change the game. When Mayele came on he took the ball on the side and then picked two players, but I am happy with what the boys have shown today," he said.

"It is unfortunate to lose a match in the semi-finals but the boys have played very well with the tactical discipline of what we trained. Unfortunately, we lost 1-0.

"Just look when you have Mayele and when he doesn't play you can contain and maintain them but when he came on he showed the difference," he added.

"That's the quality of an individual player but in general our team has played well. Tactically they showed what we trained, gave their best and don't forget you are playing against CAF Confederation Cup finalists.

"I have to give a compliment to my team. I am happy with the performance but not the results," he said.

Singida Big Stars will hope to bounce back from their Federation Cup exit in the league's penultimate meeting against Ruvo Shooting early next month as they aim to finish ahead of Azam.

Meanwhile, Young Africans will take on USM Alger in the CAF Confederation Cup first leg brimming with confidence of yet another spirited victory amidst a packed fixtures list.



Colourflex Man of the Match Vipin Abraham receives the cheque and trophy from Suraj Kumar representing ATEME, Jiuzhou and Horizon Teleports. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Aurobindo AKSC brushes aside Remax Strikers in Petrofuel DC Caravans Cup

By Guardian Reporter

AUROBINDO AKSC faced Remax Strikers in the opening match of game week 2 of the Petrofuel DC Caravans Cup held at Leader's Club on Saturday.

Aurobindo AKSC won the toss and elected to field first. However, their innings got off to a shaky start as Aurobindo AKSC's bowlers immediately put them under pressure.

Remax Strikers struggled to find their footing and faced constant challenges from the opposition's disciplined bowling attack. Despite the challenging circumstances, Athumani Siwa 16(31) and Mukul Pathak 17*(40) showed resilience and fought hard to stabilize the innings.

However, their efforts were not enough to build a substantial partnership or put up a formidable total on the scoreboard. Even-

tually, Remax Strikers finished their innings with a modest score of 62 runs for the loss of 7 wickets in the allocated 20 overs.

For Aurobindo AKSC, Vipin Abraham was the pick of the bowlers with mouth-watering figures of 4.0-1-0-3.

Chasing a relatively low target, Aurobindo AKSC approached their innings with confidence and determination. Their batsmen showcased their skills and ensured a steady run flow throughout.

Aurobindo AKSC's top-order batsmen took responsibility and built crucial partnerships, contributing significantly to the team's progress.

Remax Strikers' bowlers fought hard to defend their total and make a comeback. However, Aurobindo AKSC's batsmen displayed composure and showcased their expertise in handling the pressure situation.

With only three wickets down, Aurobindo AKSC comfortably achieved the target, securing victory in 11.2 overs.

For his outstanding bowling performance, Vipin Abraham won the Colourflex Man of the Match. Abhik Patwa's crucial batting per-

formance and key run outs that dismissed Shafi Kolo and Nyenje Hasham earned him the Rickshaw Game Changer of the Match.

With this win, Aurobindo AKSC sit comfortably atop Group B of the Petrofuel DC Caravans Cup having won both games so far amassing 4 points and recording a NRR of 2.68.

The Petrofuel DC Caravans Cup is an annual T20 Cricket competition organised by Caravans Cricket Club.

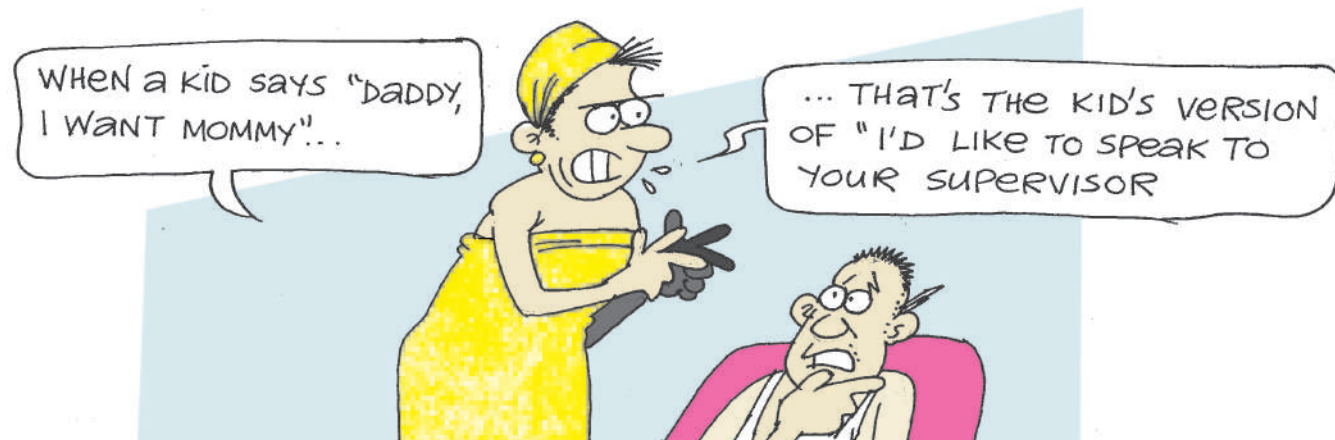
The title sponsor of this tournament is Petrofuel. Other sponsors of this tournament include Alliance Insurance, Colourflex, TATA Africa Holdings, ASAS, Rickshaw Travels, Ras Logistics, Pepsi, e-Parking, Remax, Flashnet, Aurobindo, Azania Bank, Jiuzhou, All Season Hotel, General Petroleum and Honeywell.

Other sponsors are Automark, Hisense, Oman Air, Ashton Media, Mo Assurance, Acom & Harmonic, Car & General, Horizon Teleports, Aone Bottlers, Samsonite, Bank of India, Canara Bank, Euro Cables, VL Smart Solutions, Mobidoc, GI Logistics, Delta Africa, Samaki Samaki and Tanzindia Assurance.

“

Tactically, we have done well. When you play against a team like Yanga, they can make one or two changes and change the game. When Mayele came on he took the ball on the side and then picked two players, but I am happy with what the boys have shown today

Flexibles by David Chikoko



WHEN a kid says "Daddy, I want mommy"...

... THAT'S THE KID'S VERSION OF "I'D LIKE TO SPEAK TO YOUR SUPERVISOR"

TO NIGHT @ 9:00

MJADALA

EATV TUESDAY

11:00 DADAZ
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA
13:00 Mpera Mpera
13:30 Kili Za Wana
13:55 Dandao Za Michezo
14:00 SSPORTS (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Mpera Mpera
15:55 Dandao Za Michezo
16:00 Hat Spot
16:30 Zote Kuntu
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 Kili Za Wana
18:30 #HASHTAG
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 MJADALA
21:30 Zote Kuntu
23:00 Kurasa
23:05 Club Bangers

MJADALA is a program that brings together stakeholders and the executive elite to discuss timely, national development issues.

The program targets an audience that is aware of current developmental challenges and opportunities and is keen to share, engage and participate in the shapping process.

eastafrica RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
14:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM