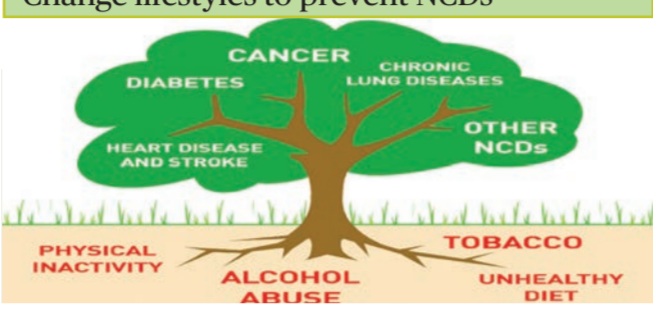




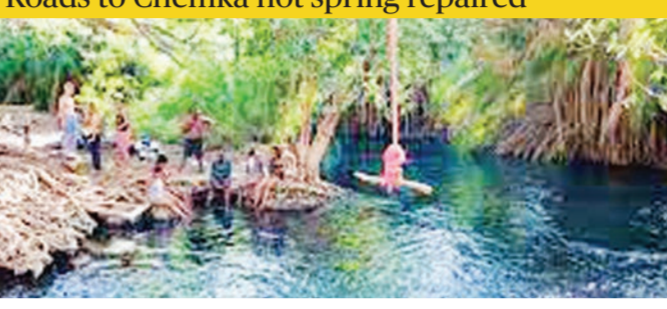
National Pg 3



National Pg 4



National Pg 6



Prof: Mloganzila faces challenges as it grows out of Muhimbili

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH)–Mloganzila branch is facing research and capacity challenges as it prepares to separate from its mammoth parent facility next month.

Prof Lawrence Museru (pictured), the MNH executive director told a research dissemination symposium at Mloganzila near Kibaha in Coast Region that research was yet to attain strength at the institution.

The symposium involved the Africa Future Foundation of South Korea, intended to showcase research works and cultivate research habits among the staff.

It was for the first time a research event had been conducted at MNH-Mloganzila, he said, underlining that the facility must build the capacity of its staff to conduct research, provide sharply calibrated results that can be used by the institute itself and the public.

Doing research and disseminating its results within the facility and among the public is a vital function of any health institute as it lights up the path in dealing with some acute issues relating to delivery of medical services, advising patients, etc.

Research is at the centre of the success of health institutions, so there is a need to empower staff on research methods, analysis and application of such methods to achieve those goals, he stated.

Prof Yunus Mgaya, the director general for the National Institute of Medical Research (NIMR) challenged staff as the newly independent hospital and learning facility embark on research instead of depending

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Experts urge legislation to protect budgetary reforms

By Guardian Reporters

A CROSS-SECTION of analysts have aired their views on the proposed national budget saying it puts the country in the right direction, with others recommending a new law to back up reforms to avoid future changes.

Those who spoke to this newspaper yesterday said the reforms, specifically cost-cutting measures, were long overdue, noting that policies and laws should be put in place to guarantee their implementation.

Presenting the main budget estimates for fiscal 2022/23, Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba listed cost cutting measures like lending cars to qualified officials to control spending on motor vehicles.

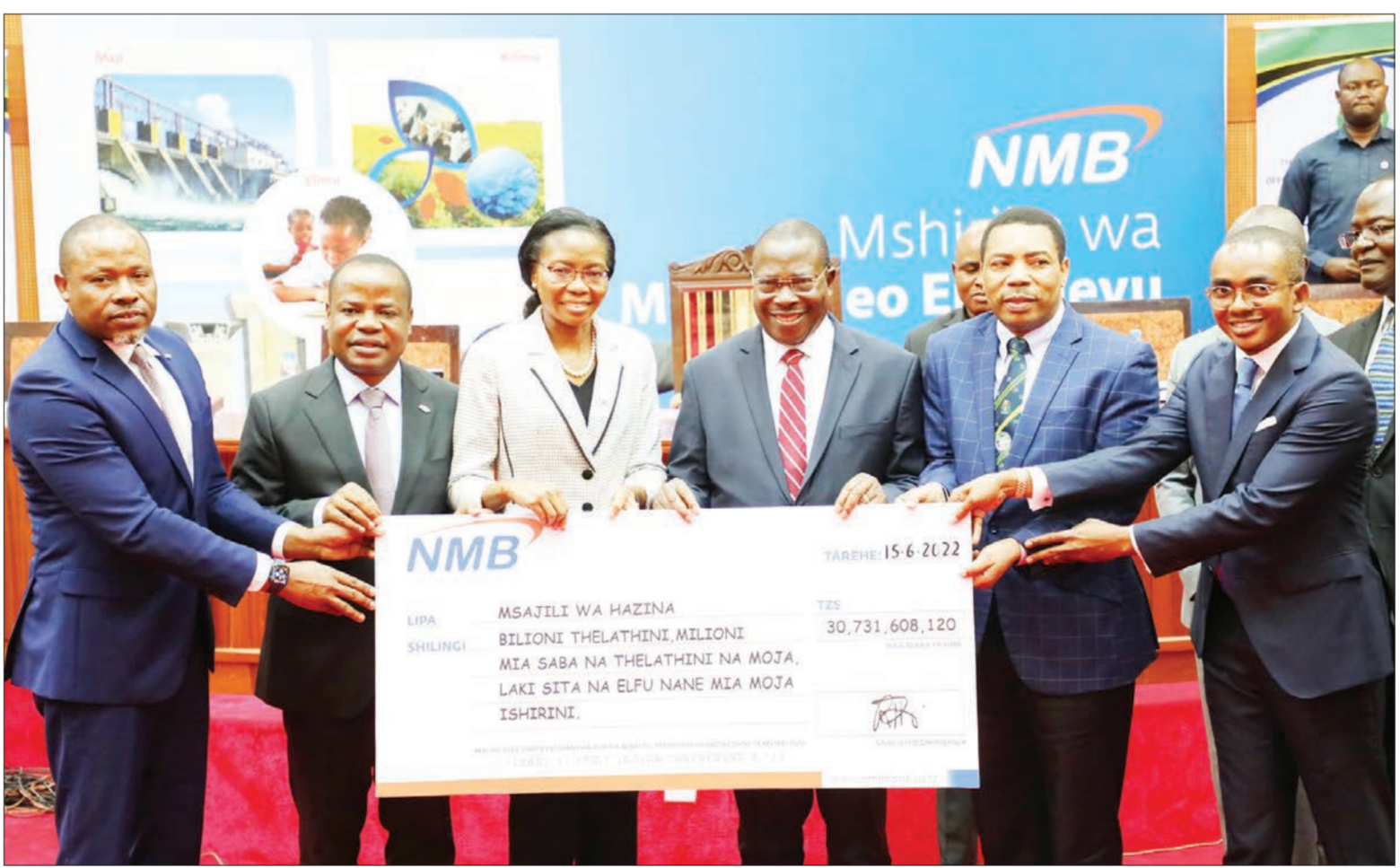
Currently, the government operates 15,742 cars, 14,047 motorcycles and 373 machinery plants, spending 558.45bn/- annually in purchasing vehicles, fuel, spare parts and conducting maintenance, with the changes intended to shift maintenance costs to beneficiaries of the car loans

Dr Donath Olomi, who heads the Institute of Management and Entrepreneurship Development (IMED) said the proposed budget signals a new direction which shows the government was determined to cut wasteful spending.

In selecting individuals to lead parastatals, the government should seek a balance in operating institutions with government capital, and creating a conducive environment for the growth of the private sector, he urged, underlining the need for legislation to ensure that the reforms are not altered in future measures.

Prof Haji Semboja of the University of Dar es Salaam said the budget touched on key issues but new ways of generating revenue via non-tax sources such as gas and oil are needed. A resource-rich country like

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Vice President Dr Phillip Mpango (4th-L) pictured in Dodoma city yesterday receiving from NMB Bank Plc CEO Ruth Zaipuna (to his right) a dummy cheque for 30.7bn/-. The amount was the bank's dividend pay-out to the government, courtesy of profit realised last year. From-R: Parliamentary Public Investment and Capital chairman Jerry Silaa, Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba, NMB board chairman Dr Edwin Mhede and NMB chief finance officer Juma Kimori. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Govt receives 30.7bn/- dividends from NMB

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

The government yesterday received a 30.7bn/- dividend from NMB Bank Plc after the lender registered a record profit last year.

Vice President Dr Phillip Mpango, along with Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba, received the 30.7bn/- dummy cheque from board chairperson Dr Edwin Mhede, flanked by chief executive officer Ruth Zaipuna

and chief finance officer Juma Kimori. The VP said he was delighted to see the money, already deposited with the Treasury Registrar, being paid as dividend from the

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Experts: Rein in oil companies' profits

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

THE government needs to sit down with big fuel traders and come up with a formula reducing profits that the dealers get from the business so as to bring relief to consumers.

This view was expressed by a number of economists and business researchers debating the government's 2020/21 state of the economy and national development plan presented in the legislature on Tuesday, noting that issuing the 100bn/- subsidy monthly wasn't a sufficient measure as it further goes to benefit traders and not poor taxpayers.

The economists and various stakeholders suggested that the government needs to

ensure it has long term plans to help tame inflation and rising fuel prices, contributing in a one-day debate organized by the National Assembly Secretariat, involving consultants from various organizations as well as MPs.

Ongoing disasters around the world have led to a sharp increase in prices of fuel, thus the government and big fuel dealers need to see how they can tame prices without disrupting fuel flows.

Some experts recommended an overhaul of the fuel importation and retail trading system as it is titled in favour of businessmen, who get more profits while ordinary people carry the burden of taxes. This includes the proposed tax registration for anyone who is 18 years old and above.

Dr Charles Sokile, the country director for Oxford policy management unit, and a consultant with the UK High Commission, said profits of fuel trading companies were too high, pegged at \$0.12 per litre (equivalent to 276/-) while traders in Kenya earn \$0.085 (195.5/-) per litre of petrol.

"We have seen oil traders in Tanzania

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Chief of Defence Forces General Venance Salvatory Mabeyo (born July 1, 1956) salutes as National Assembly Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson introduced him in the House in Dodoma city yesterday. He used the opportunity to bid legislators farewell, this pending his impending retirement after serving in the capacity since February 6, 2017. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph





Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi holds talks at the Zanzibar State House yesterday with a delegation of the Generation Equality Forum's national advisory committee led by its chairperson, Angela Karluiki (3rd-L). Photo: Zanzibar State House

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country's most profitable lender.

The bank paid a total of 96.7bn/- in dividends, approved by the bank's shareholders at the 22nd annual general meeting in the past few months, arising from 290bn/- net profit registered in the past year.

The 30.7bn/- dividend is a 41 per cent increase from the 20.8bn/-o dividend that the government obtained a year earlier, on account of its 31.8 per cent stake in the bank, with Dr Mpango having asked the bank board and management to find innovative solutions to raise dividends to shareholders.

With the money, the government has now received a total of 80.5bn/- from the bank during the past five years, the VP noted, vowing that he would whisper this large dividend news to President Samia Suluhu Hassan upon

Govt receives 30.7bn/- dividends from NMB

welcoming her back from a visit in the Sultanate of Oman.

NMB Bank needs to extend its wings further and reach more and more rural folks, he said, while CEO Zaipuna told the VP that in ensuring that NMB operates sustainably, its capital has been raised to 1.3trn/-, maintaining a high level of operational efficiency, thus reducing the cost to income ratio to 46 per cent.

The Bank of Tanzania, the regulator of the financial sector, wants commercial banks to maintain cost

to income ratios of not more than 55 per cent, with non-performing loans contained at five per cent of gross loan amounts, but NMB closed the year with four per cent of its loans listed as non-performing.

Rapid growth fuelled by the digital approach in service delivery enabled the bank to receive a number of international awards last year, including bagging the 'best bank in Tanzania' honour at the Euromoney awards, citing the bank's excellence for nine

consecutive years. It was also recognized as the 'best retail bank in Tanzania' at the global banking and finance awards ceremony.

"We have invested massively in digital service channels," the CEO noted, elaborating that the number of banking agents was raised to 10,194 in 2021 from 8,410 in 2020.

The board chairperson said the bank was doing everything possible to raise its performance further this year and yield more lucrative returns to its shareholders.



National Assembly Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson (L) has an audience with the British High Commissioner to Tanzania, David Concar, in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: Parliament

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on academicians alone.

The symposium was a necessary platform to share research findings and enrich medics' insights on human health, covering information gaps in that is available in artificial intelligence, he stated.

Research should no longer be conducted by at the Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) and NIMR but Mloganzila staff embarks on conducting research to help with problem solving at the

Mloganzila faces challenges as it grows out of Muhimbili

facility and among other health institutions by extension.

Research's findings inform which health technology can be used to solve a particular disease situation, he stated, noting that evidence based research must be done by health practitioners

and not just by the teaching staff.

NIMR was administering 120 researches on diseases and application of traditional medicines across the country, while, in collaboration with major zonal referral hospitals, the institute is conducting research on

three traditional medicines believed to offer relief in the case of Covid-19 infection.

Dr Sangeun Park, executive director for the Africa Future Foundation said it was vital to take up ethical principles when deploying artificial intelligence.

Experts: Rein in oil companies' profits

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earning huge profits, so the government should come up with changes to reduce their profits," noting that issuing the 100bn/- monthly subsidy wasn't an adequate measure and will not bring redress to poor taxpayers.

Inflation wasn't only caused by the Ukraine conflict but intensification of climate change impacts that affect food security, he said, underlining the need for long term plans to fight inflation, and impacts of climate change.

Measures that the government takes must engage traders to avoid a negative impact on transportation and agriculture, he cautioned.

Dr Jehovanness Aikaeli, senior economist at the University of Dar es Salaam, said the fuel subsidy allocated by the government wasn't sustainable and it can bring huge negative impacts in the future.

"We have witnessed countries such as Nigeria which also issued subsidies to tame oil prices but this didn't last

long. It has placed a huge burden on the poorer part of the population," he insisted.

Moshi Rural MP Prof Patrick Ndakieni also queried how the subsidy directed to reduce fuel prices was benefiting poor citizens.

When taking these measures, finding ways to reduce the prices of other key products such as sugar and edible oil was vital as they are used by the mass of poor citizens, he stated.

Dr Charles Kimei (Vunjo) said it was better for the government to focus on reducing levies in fuel trading rather than issuing subsidies.

Elijah Mwandumba, policy commissioner at the Treasury, said in response that the 100bn/- subsidy has provided huge help and relief to the whole country.

"When injecting the subsidy, we paid 400/- per litre of fuel and without doing so, this month the fuel price could have jumped to 3,700/- per litre and thus bring negative impacts in various sectors," he added.

Experts urge legislation to protect budgetary reforms

FROM PAGE 1

Tanzania need not depend on taxing a small section of the population, as the majority depend on one dollar per day to survive.

Cost-cutting measures have been there earlier but in the past few years these systems were not working and it was business as usual, the don stated, while Prof Razack Lokina said the new budget seems to be fair to ordinary citizens, looking at the global economy at present.

This year's budget is pro-people, seeking to increase people's purchasing power at a time when the global economy was still struggling to recover, he asserted.

In Dodoma, MPs have hailed the budget estimates saying that outlined measures will bring relief to poor Tanzanians struggling with rising costs of living. Several interviewed MPs commended the government for bringing a budget that touches the lives of the poor.

Sillo Baran (Babati Rural) cited this year's budget as "one of its kind" as its major focus is the productive sector. It will see greater investments to address the employment crisis, he declared.

Ukongu MP Jerry Silaa said the 41.48trn/- budget estimates touch the lives of Tanzanians, focus on key sectors of agriculture and employment, cut spending, provide free education from primary school to A-level education. "We hope that we will serious invest in implementing all these measures and

record huge achievements," the MP enthused.

He however faulted the increase of taxes and levies posed on artisanal miners saying that the move will hamper upward progress of the group.

Special Seats MP Dr Tea Ntala welcomed the proposal to extend free education for advanced level education, saying scrapping the 70,000/- that parents were paying for form five and six boarding students will bring relief to poor families and facilitate easy access to education.

The decision on vehicles for entitled civil servants, to be given loans to buy their own vehicles was positive as this will reduce chances of misuse of public funds, she stated.

Kunti Majala (Special Seats-Chadema) said that the budget brings hope to Tanzanians and that it shows how President Samia Suluhu Hassan was fully committed to improving the country's economy as well as helping the poor.

The MPs however, urged the government to outline new sources of revenue to ensure it caters for outlined development projects and other initiatives to achieve intended goals.

The outlined measures like cutting spending, reducing travels and addressing loopholes for financial losses in public sector procurement must be implemented, they emphasized, happy that the budget ceiling for fiscal 2022/23 estimates was an increase of eight percent from the 37.8trn/- budget ending June 2022.

UK vows more Rwanda deportation flights in the wake of a legal setback

LONDON

THE British government has vowed to organise more flights to deport asylum-seekers to Rwanda after a last-minute court judgment grounded the first plane due to take off under the controversial deal.

Home Secretary Priti Patel said "preparation for the next flight begins now" despite legal rulings that none of the migrants earmarked for deportation could be sent to the East African country.

Under a deal signed in April between Britain and Rwanda, the UK government plans to send some migrants who arrive in the UK as stowaways or in small boats to Rwanda, where their asylum claims will be processed. If successful, they will stay in the African country, rather than return to Britain.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson's government says the plan is a legitimate way to protect lives and thwart the criminal gangs that send migrants on risky journeys across the English Channel.

Human rights groups argue that the plan rides roughshod over the protections afforded to refugees under rules set up after World War II.

They have called the idea unworkable, inhumane and a waste of money – Britain paid Rwanda 120 million pounds (\$150 million) upfront for the deal. UK courts refused last week to ground the first flight, scheduled for Tuesday, but the number due to be aboard was whittled down by appeals and legal challenges. The European Court of Human Rights – an international tribunal supported by 46 countries including the UK – ruled late Tuesday that an Iraqi man due to be on the plane shouldn't fly, saying he faced "a real risk of irreversible harm."

That allowed the final few migrants on the plane to win a reprieve. UK Cabinet minister Therese Coffey said the government was "surprised and disappointed" by the ruling.

"I think the public will be surprised at European judges overruling British judges," she told Sky News.

Some lawmakers from the governing Conservative Party say Britain should withdraw from the Strasbourg-based European human rights court, which the UK helped to set up. The European court's judgment on Tuesday didn't overrule British decisions, which declined to ground the flight as a whole. The ECHR dealt with the cases of an individual being aboard.



Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development minister Dr Angelina Mabula (L) has an audience in Dodoma city yesterday with Nickel Corporation Ltd's country manager, Benedict Busunzu. Photo: Correspondent Munir Shemweta

Zanzibar to get modern hospital for heart disease

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has praised the readiness of Norway's Hauklend University hospital to build a modern hospital for heart disease in Zanzibar.

President Mwinyi made the remarks here yesterday when he met with and held discussions with a delegation from the Hauklend University Hospital and assured Dr Mwinyi that it was ready to start building the hospital.

Dr Mwinyi explained that the construction of the hospital will to a great extent assist in the provision of heart diseases treatment services in Zanzibar and reduce sending patients to foreign countries for treatment.

He said the Zanzibar government values the existing ties with the Hauklend University hospital that started in 2007.

He added that the cooperation has contributed to the strengthening of the health sector in the Isles, including the construction of the maternity wing at Unguja's Mnazi Mmoja hospital, provision of medical equipment at Kidongo Chekundu hospital, training of doctors and nurses and exchange of experiences.

For their part, the Hauklend University hospital delegation told President Mwinyi about their intention to build a hospital for treatment of heart diseases in Zanzibar.

They assured Dr Mwinyi that they were ready to start construction work during the current Fiscal Year as they are already mobilised for the big project.

Meanwhile, president Mwinyi met with the national consultative committee for the implementation of pledges by similar generations countries (GEF) led by its chairperson, Angella Kairuki and assured the committee that the Zanzibar government will submit the implementation plan to the cabinet to be discussed.

He praised the committee's plan by concentrating in important issues and explained that deliberate efforts will be made to make sure a special budget is provided to the relative ministry for its implementation.

Earlier, the committee's chairperson, Angella Kairuki used the occasion to introduce the panel and narrated its efforts since it was launched by president Samia Suluhu Hassan on December 16 last year.

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA and China have agreed to continue cooperation for the growth of Information Communication Technology (ICT) in the country to ensure that the government's goal to build the digital economy is attained.

The cooperation agreement was reached yesterday between the Minister for Information and Information Technology Nape Nnauye, and China's Ambassador to Tanzania Chen Mingjian in Dar es Salaam.

In regard to spreading communications services to inaccessible areas, especially rural areas, China agreed to continue

Tanzania, China agree to continue cooperation for the growth of ICT

cooperating with Tanzania to attain the goal. "We shall continue mobilising investors in the communications sector in the country to expand communications services as you have explained," said the Chinese Ambassador during his talks with the Minister.

Apart from agreeing that online

security still has many challenges as experienced by China on daily basis, the Ambassador stressed that his country still sees the importance of working together with Tanzania to ensure online security is assured by installation of enabling infrastructures to attain that goal.

"Basically, we have agreed to

strengthen online security especially in the area of capacity building for our ICT experts by exchanging experience that will enable the growth of the crosscutting sector in economic development, for example in regard to agriculture, health, trade and education," said Minister Nnauye.

In the discussions the two sides

agreed on how to enable Tanzania to receive and strengthen new communication technologies including 5G technology.

In order to ensure the ministry implements its responsibilities through the Department of Information, the two sides also agreed to strengthen the department's infrastructures to

enable it improve its services, keeping in mind that the department is the one involved in disseminating government reports.

In regard to supporting Tanzania's bid for reelection to the Executive Council of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) in its next meeting in September, China agreed to support Tanzania.

Ambassador Chen also pledged to convey the request to other friendly countries to support Tanzania to be elected to the ITU executive Council that will see 13 African countries joining the Council at its meeting in Bucharest, Romania in September and October this year.

USAID

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

GLOBAL HEALTH SUPPLY CHAIN PROGRAM

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE - TANZANIA

JOB PROFILE

Job Title : Demand Planning Advisor
Location : Dar es Salaam (GHSC TA-TZ project office)
Reports to : Demand Planning Team Lead
Supervises : None

OVERVIEW:

The Global Health Supply Chain Program Technical Assistance - Tanzania (GHSC TA-TZ) project, supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), provides expert technical assistance to Tanzania to strengthen country supply chain systems across all health elements, e.g., malaria, family planning (FP), HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis (TB) and maternal, newborn and child health (MNCH), and essential medicines. In coordination with in-country and development partners, GHSC TA-TZ assists Government of Tanzania (GoT) by providing strategic planning and implementation assistance; improving the delivery of health commodities to service sites; providing capacity building support to broaden stakeholders' understanding and engagement of the supply chain system; and strengthening enabling environments to improve supply chain performance.

JOB SUMMARY:

The Demand Planning Advisor will strive to improve overall availability of medicines in Tanzania; provide technical expertise to demand planning and quantification, with specific focus on HIV and TB; identify and encourage the adoption of leading practices for forecasting and supply planning; mentor and build the skills of relevant stakeholders within the GoT to forecast demand, and monitor supply plans; and recommend interventions to improve commodity security.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

Specific responsibilities will include, but not be limited to, the following:

- 1) Provide technical subject matter expertise on all areas related to demand planning management including but not limited to:
 - a) Providing expert technical assistance in quantification of commodity needs, focusing on HIV and TB, and advocating for best practices in forecasting and supply planning
 - b) Preparing for and executing quantification exercises, in partnership with GoT
 - c) Conducting forecast accuracy analyses and identifying areas of improvement
 - d) Coaching stakeholders from the GoT to review and analyze supply chain implications of product selection and changes in testing, treatment, and care guidelines, and adjust supply plans accordingly
 - e) Providing guidance to estimate the cost of required commodities and identifying financial resources to meet commodity financing needs
 - f) Coaching the GoT to perform pipeline analyses and monitor in-country supply levels
 - g) Highlighting potential supply plan challenges, and developing recommendations to address them
 - h) Consulting with project team members based in the field to identify issues in data quality and availability, and identifying opportunities to improve data that informs quantification exercises.
- 2) Update the ARV and TB pipeline database with stock on hand (SOH), consumption, shipment status, prices, and unit of measure.
- 3) Review ARV and TB pipelines by analyzing forecasts, updating supply

plans and sharing with stakeholders; and producing timely updates to GHSC-PSM

- 4) Support quantification of ARV commodities in Zanzibar by collaborating with Zanzibar Ministry of Health
- 5) Review ARV pipeline in Zanzibar by analyzing forecasts, updating supply plans and sharing with stakeholders; and quarterly report updates with the Chief Pharmacist Office (CPO)
- 6) Participate in routine communications with GHSC-PSM, and highlight issues that should be brought to national programs for decision making
- 7) Identify lessons learned, best practices, and potential success stories
- 8) Complete and submit timely written technical, activity and trip reports
- 9) Prepare presentations, participate and/or represent the project in stakeholder meetings
- 10) Perform other duties as assigned by Supervisor

QUALIFICATIONS:

Applicants for this position should be Tanzanian nationals or lawful residents who possess the following minimum qualifications:

- * Higher qualification in Pharmacy, supply chain management, or other Public Health professions
- * At least 5 years of experience
- * Experience with national quantifications of malaria, family planning (FP), HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis (TB) and maternal, newborn and child health (MNCH), others
- * Experience with programmatic interventions or commodity management for HIV/AIDS and TB in public sector health facilities
- * Data analysis and data management skills
- * Advanced skills in Excel highly desirable
- * Experience in and knowledge of leading practices in quantification
- * Knowledge of health supply chains in Tanzania
- * Ability to coach and mentor public sector stakeholders to conduct forecasts and quantifications
- * Experience with PipeLine, Quantimed, QuanTB preferred.
- * Experience working with the Government of Tanzania and other NGOs preferred.
- * Excellent written and verbal English.
- * Ability to prepare and present information related to commodity availability
- * Ability to work independently and on a team
- * Previous work experience with USAID-funded projects is desirable.
- * Proficiency in common computer packages (e.g., Word, PowerPoint, Excel) relevant to the work.
- * Able to travel in-country to support technical activities.

Additional requirements:

Readiness to conduct a test of Microsoft Excel skills.

Interested candidates are invited to send their cover letters, Curriculum Vitae with names and contact details of 3 work related references, enclosing certificate copies of relevant education and training.

Submission may be sent to - ghsc.recruitmentz@gmail.com by **22nd June 2022.**

Only candidates meeting the minimum requirements will be contacted. If you have not heard from us within two weeks after the closing date, kindly assume that your application was not successful.

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USAID

FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

GLOBAL HEALTH SUPPLY CHAIN PROGRAM

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE - TANZANIA

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title : Supply Chain Advisor - Vaccines
Department/Unit : Capacity Building and Data Use
Location : Dar es Salaam
Reports to : Senior Capacity Building Advisor

OVERVIEW:

The Global Health Supply Chain Program Technical Assistance - Tanzania (GHSC TA-TZ) project, supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), provides expert technical assistance to Tanzania to strengthen country supply chain systems across all health elements, e.g., Malaria, Family Planning (FP), HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis (TB), Vaccines and Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (MNCH). In coordination with in-country and development partners, GHSC TA-TZ assists Government of Tanzania health programs by providing strategic planning and implementation assistance; improving the delivery of health commodities to service sites; providing capacity building support to broaden stakeholders' understanding and engagement of the supply chain system; and strengthening enabling environments to improve supply chain performance.

JOB SUMMARY:

The Supply Chain Advisor will work under the technical guidance of the Senior Advisor Capacity Building, and will focus on supporting the supply chain system of vaccines with special focus on COVID-19 vaccines. S/he will work with the Immunization and Vaccine Development (IVD) program to strengthen the management of the COVID-19 vaccines supply chain. S/he will work with other in-country stakeholders including the Medical Stores Department (MSD), the Ministry of Health, President's Office of Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG), R/CHMTs, Implementing Partners and health facilities staff. This position will be based in Dar es Salaam, with significant in-country travel.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- * Serve as a technical resource for project staff for implementing the vaccines supply chain improvement strategies and management approaches.
- * Lead the development of new training materials, review existing and update training packages for the vaccines supply chain as needed.
- * Collaboratively plan, coordinate and implement training of health care professionals on the management of the vaccines supply chain.
- * Keep records of personnel trained by the project on the management of the national vaccine supply chain.
- * Support the quantification and forecasting of COVID-19 vaccines.
- * Collaborate with Immunization and Vaccines Development (IVD) and other stakeholders to carry out a rapid assessment of the vaccine cold chain storage, temperature monitoring and fleet scheduling
- * Work with key stakeholders to develop innovative and sustainable ways of capacity building of health care workers on the management of the national vaccine supply chain.
- * Conduct monthly COVID-19 vaccine shelf-life analysis to establish risk of expiry and respective remedial actions.
- * Collaborate with Management Information System (MIS) stakeholders and propose areas of systems integration to enhance data visibility and visualizations of vaccines at various levels.
- * Represent GHSC-TA-TZ in various platforms including technical meetings that are focused on discussing issues related to the

vaccines supply chain system.

- * Integrate vaccine data quality and use with IMPACT team approach initiative and periodically identify areas of improvement.
- * Carry out covid vaccine data analysis including conducting data triangulation of various source systems, including Vaccine Information Management Systems (VIMS), paper-based records, and physical counts.
- * Ensure work plan activities are completed on time and are of the highest quality possible.
- * Collect and analyze, and share data for reporting on COVID-19 vaccine indicators including but not limited to the number of people trained on COVID-19 related topics with USAID support.
- * Document success stories, best practices, and lessons learned in the national vaccines supply chain.
- * Complete and submit in a timely fashion written technical, activity and trip reports.
- * Perform other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Applicants for this position should be Tanzanian nationals or lawful residents who possess the following minimum qualifications:

- * Degree in Medical field, Supply Chain or Public Health.
- * At least five years of experience in health supply chains, including experience working in Tanzania's public health supply chain.
- * Knowledge of best practices in supply chain management and vaccine management.
- * Experience providing capacity building (training).
- * Knowledge of various electronic health information systems such as VIMS, DHIS2 preferred.
- * Proven strong leadership skills and ability to build strong interpersonal relationships.
- * Strong analytical and problem-solving skills.
- * Experience of working with consultants.
- * Ability to handle multiple tasks, set priorities and work independently.
- * Excellent technical writing and oral presentation skills.
- * Excellent written and verbal English.
- * A proven ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- * Knowledge of Microsoft Office, including Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.
- * Ability to use cloud-based project management applications such as Google suite, Zoom, etc.
- * Experience working with the Government of Tanzania and other NGOs preferred.
- * Previous work experience with USAID-funded projects is desirable.
- * Ability to travel for an extended period away from duty station to support technical activities.

Interested candidates are invited to send their cover letters, Curriculum Vitae with names and contact details of 3 work related references, enclosing certificate copies of relevant education and training.

Submission may be sent to - ghsc.recruitmentz@gmail.com by **22nd June 2022.**

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Formulate climate change policy, CSOs appeal to govt

By Beatrice Philemon

CIVIL Society Organisations (CSOs) in the country have advised the government to formulate a climate change policy that will guide the country on how to deal with the issues.

CARE International-Tanzania, Ardhi Yetu project coordinator, Daniel Katabalila made the remarks recently at the just ended one day workshop on Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) Implementation Index and Tracking that was organised by forum on climate change (Forum CC) with the funding from the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA).

"We need a policy that will be a road map for Tanzanians, CSOs, NGOs, government institutions and the private sector in dealing with climate change issues including mitigation and adaptation," he said.

He said despite efforts by the government and stakeholders in climate change resilience, the country must have a specific policy that will be directly dealing with the issues.

"We provide capacity building training to local communities to enable them manage the drivers of risk, identify threats associated with climate change and how they can cope with it," he said, adding the training was conducted in Morogoro, Iringa, Manyara, Kitemo District and Korong village in Simanjiro District.

The training was offered through a four-year Ardhi Yetu Programme (AYP) with funding from the Canadian government through CARE Denmark.

ActionAid Tanzania, Climate Justice and Youth Engagement Coordinator, Dinno Kamonalo noted that Tanzania has committed to implement the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) plan to achieve the goals of

the Paris Agreement, but majority of stakeholders across the country are not aware about NDCs.

He underscored the need for a strong institutional framework to ensure that effective implementation of NDCs through economic activities such as agriculture, fishing, pastoralism and the industrial sector.

She called on the CSOs to do collective effort to ensure the NDCs plan is well implemented.

During the meeting, CSOs recommended for the Forest Working Group (FWG) to be the best platform that will engage stakeholders to discuss different issues relating to the NDCs plan and climate change.

Msololo Onditi, Programme Officer at Forum CC said the government in collaboration with CSOs should ensure people are well educated on the NDCs and climate change in general.

Through the strategy, it will be easy for Tanzanians to participate in NDCs implementation, he added.

The stakeholders also suggested that climate change issues been taught at primary and secondary schools to broaden children's knowledge on the matter.



We need a policy that will be a road map for Tanzanians, CSOs, NGOs, government institutions and the private sector in dealing with climate change issues including mitigation and adaptation.

'Z'bar-Mainland joint financial resources commission exists'

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE Zanzibar government has said the Joint Commission for Financial Administration exists in accordance to the Union Constitution and some of its responsibilities is to have in place a good allocation arrangement of finance and resources, including foreign loans among the two parts of the Union.

The remarks have been made by the Zanzibar minister of state in the President's Office (Finance and Planning), Dr Saada Mkuya when briefing newsmen in regard to clarification on the government's budget tabled on Tuesday.

She said the commission, has its

headquarters but also admitted that many people are not aware of its responsibilities because it has not started to implement its responsibilities well.

She said in Zanzibar government is in the final stages to submit recommendations on names of members to sit in the joint commission.

The minister explained that the position of the commission's executive officer from Zanzibar is vacant after the death of the former holder three months ago.

"The government is in the final stages to appoint names of members to sit in the commission that will join those from the mainland," she added.



Iringa regional commissioner Queen Sendiga (L) pictured in Iringa municipality yesterday launching a Ni-Konekt online application service operated by the Tanzania Electric Supply Company (Tanesco). The app enables the firm's customers to access a wide range of services without the need for physical visits. Photo: Correspondent Friday Simbaya

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

TANZANIANS have been called upon to change their life styles, including excessive drinking and use of tobacco to guard themselves against non-communicable diseases (NCDs) that continue to spread fast in the country.

The call was made here yesterday by the Assistant Director, Non-Communicable Diseases Services in the Ministry of Health, Dr James Kiologwe at a training seminar on the prevention and control of NCDs for health workers from three regions.

He said as for now 80 per cent of NCDs are caused by rampant indulgence in excessive drinking and tobacco.

Dr Kiologwe said the diseases are spreading fast despite various efforts by the government and stakeholders; hence more education was needed to the community.

Tanzanians urged to change lifestyles to prevent NCDs

He said researches show that 26 per cent of adults suffer from blood pressure.

"More than nine per cent of the people are diabetic - equivalent to 1.2 million while 42,000 new cancer cases are recorded in the country every year while 11,000 children are born with sickle cell every year," he said and added that concerted efforts in education are needed to arrest the situation.

He added: "We have a big challenge regarding inadequate centres for providing services and only 50 per cent of the existing centres provide the services, the situation that forces many patients to travel long distances to district hospitals to get

the required services."

Arusha Regional Medical Officer Dr Sylvia Mamkwe thanked the government for improving various health infrastructures as well as provision of education to health workers.

Dr Mamkwe directed NCDs coordinators in the region to prepare quarterly reports from health centres to assist in dealing with the situation.

Meanwhile, the Manager of the national Plan for the Prevention of NCDs, Valerian Milinga said the seminar has brought together health service providers from Arusha, Kilimanjaro and Singida Regions.

He said the Health Ministry, in collaboration with the Office of the President - Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG), Tanzania Diabetics Association (TDA) and other stakeholders' plan that by 2023 they will empower 2,632 health services from all 600 health centres in all Mainland regions.

He said participants will be taught on various means to prevent the diseases including educating the public.

NCDs have been mentioned as including diabetes, blood pressure, heart diseases, mental diseases, cancer and injuries from accidents.

Honey processing centres will enable traders grab world markets - minister

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

MUDRICK Ramadhan Soraga, Zanzibar Minister in the President's Office (Labour and Economic

Empowerment) has said that the construction of processing centre for honey products to a great extent will help to empower entrepreneurs to access world markets.

Soraga made the remarks yesterday during his visit at the honey processing centre at Kizimbani, Zanzibar Urban West Region.

He said the government has agreed to allocate more than 960m/- for honey producers to enable them enter into the world markets.

He said Zanzibar has many honey producers who have been trained on modern methods of honey production and beekeeping.

"I'm pleased by the construction pace of the honey processing plant and of which the government has allocated funds for beekeepers to employ modern means in their activities," he said.

In the same vein, the Ministry's Permanent Secretary, Khadija Khamis Rajab called on entrepreneurs and honey producers to mobilise themselves to grab the opportunity for access to the funds allocated.

A total of two honey processing centres are expected to be built in the Isles - at Kizimbani, Unguja and Pujini, Pemba.

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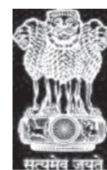
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1. The public is hereby notified that there will be a movement of special load from **Holili to Moshi** by vehicle with registration number (s) **KCJ943F/ZE1097, KCM104W/ZF0174, KBQ622Z/ZE0978 and KCK293W/ZE2585** of Spedag Interfreight.

The Journey is scheduled to start on **14.06.2022 to 27.06.2022**

2. Special load Dimensions:
Length - 21 M Width - 4.15 M Heigh - 5.15 M

3. Route: From **Holili to Moshi** Via **Soweto**

Travelling time will be only time **(06:30 am – 06:00 pm)**

We regret for any inconvenience caused

216998001



REQUESTS FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO SUPPLY OF INDUSTRIAL COMPRESSOR

ISOAF/PROC/01/0522

ISOAF Tz Limited is a Tanzanian-incorporated company with its head office in Dar es salaam and its plant in Nzega District. The company is a Thermal Insulation System Contractor for East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project. ISOAF Tz invites experienced and reputable Contractors to express their interest in Supplying Industrial Compressor to the coating plant of EACOP Project.

The EACOP Project development involves the engineering, construction, operation and maintenance of a crude oil export pipeline from Hoima, Uganda to an onshore Marine Export Terminal in Chongoleani, near Tanga Port in Tanzania.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE:

As part of its Scope of Work for the EACOP Project ISOAF Tz seeks a tender for an industrial compressor for our project staff in Sojo Village, Nzega District, Tabora. The compressor will work at site conditions of Altitude: 1250masl, Max 35°C, Min 10°C, HR max 70 min 20. The equipment are:

2 air compressors screw (oil flooded) of minimum output: 16m³/min @7.5 bar. One is on operation the other is for backup.

- 1 Adsorption Dryer Dew Point <-70°C by hot generation.
- 1 Prefilter: Class 2 for particles (Size <0.01um) & class 2 for oil(Quantity <0.01mg/m³ @21°C)
- 1 Postfilter Class 3 for particles (Size <1um) & class 3 for oil(Quantity <0.6mg/m³ @21°C)
- 1 Vertical or horizontal vessel 6m³ max pressure 11.5bar with all accessories (Security valve, pressure gauges, automatic discharge valve for condensation, certificates, ect)
- 1 Intelliflow Electronic flow controller
- 2 Filter for Cannon: Class 2 for particles (Size <0.01um) & class 2 for oil(Quantity <0.01mg/m³ @21°C).

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:

- Evidence of selling industrial compressors in the country in compliance with all applicable laws and jurisdictions for major projects.
- Compliance with Petroleum (Local Content) Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition for Tanzania.
- Registration on EWURA'S Local Suppliers and Service Providers (LSSP) Database is highly recommended
- A copy of their own and main suppliers ISO current certification if available.
- A two (2) years look ahead showing booked work, anticipated work and remaining capacity for the scope of work.

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO SUPPLY OF MINERAL DRINKING WATER

ISOAF/PROC/02/0522

ISOAF Tz Limited is a Tanzanian-incorporated company with its head office in Dar es salaam and its plant in Nzega District. The company is a Thermal Insulation System Contractor for East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project. ISOAF Tz invites experienced and reputable Contractors to express their interest in supplying Mineral Drinking Water to the coating plant of EACOP Project.

The EACOP Project development involves the engineering, construction, operation and maintenance of a crude oil export pipeline from Hoima, Uganda to an onshore Marine Export Terminal in Chongoleani, near Tanga Port in Tanzania.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE:

As part of its Scope of Work for the EACOP Project ISOAF Tz seeks a tender for the drinking water for our project staff in Sojo Village, Nzega District, Tabora

- 2 years of supplying drinking water

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

Companies expressing their interest are invited to

document their request with:

- Evidence of selling and/or producing drinking water in the country in compliance with all applicable laws and jurisdictions for major projects.
- Compliance with Petroleum (Local Content) Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition for Tanzania.
- Registration on EWURA'S Local Suppliers and Service Providers (LSSP) Database is highly recommended.
- A copy of their own and main suppliers ISO current certification if available.
- A two (2) years look ahead showing booked work, anticipated work and remaining capacity for the scope of work.

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO SUPPLY OF LIFTING EQUIPMENT

ISOAF/PROC/03/0522

ISOAF Tz Limited is a Tanzanian-incorporated company with its head office in Dar es salaam and its plant in Nzega District. The company is a Thermal Insulation System Contractor for East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project. ISOAF Tz invites experienced and reputable Contractors to express their interest in supplying Lifting Equipment to coating plants of EACOP Project.

The EACOP Project development involves the engineering, construction, operation and maintenance of a crude oil export pipeline from Hoima, Uganda to an onshore Marine Export Terminal in Chongoleani, near Tanga Port in Tanzania.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE:

As part of its Scope of Work for the EACOP Project ISOAF Tz seeks a tender for the provision of lifting equipment for our project in Sojo Village, Nzega District, Tabora

Requirements for the equipment required shall include, but will not necessarily be limited to the supply of:

- Crane with lifting capacity of 30-50 tons
- Telescopic machine with lifting height of 16meters
- Scissors unit 12 meters high
- Truck with carrying capacity of 25-30 tons with a hiab crane of 5-7 tons

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:

- Evidence of selling Lifting Equipment at international and regional levels in compliance with all applicable laws and jurisdictions for major projects.
- Compliance with Petroleum (Local Content) Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition for Tanzania.
- Registration on EWURA'S Local Suppliers and Service Providers (LSSP) Database is highly recommended.
- A copy of their own and main suppliers ISO current certification if available.
- A two (2) years look ahead showing booked work, anticipated work and remaining capacity for the scope of work.

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO SUPPLY OF CHEMICAL STORAGE TANKS

ISOAF/PROC/04/0522

ISOAF Tz Limited is a Tanzanian-incorporated company with its head office in Dar es salaam and its plant in Nzega District. The company is a Thermal Insulation System Contractor for East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project. ISOAF Tz invites experienced and reputable Contractors to express their interest of supplying Chemical Storage Tanks to the coating plant of EACOP Project.

The EACOP Project development involves the engineering, construction, operation and maintenance of a crude oil export pipeline from Hoima, Uganda to an onshore Marine Export Terminal in Chongoleani, near Tanga Port in Tanzania.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE:

As part of its Scope of Work for the EACOP Project ISOAF Tz seeks a tender for the supply of plastic or black stainless steel tanks with 100,000 ltrs to 200,000 ltrs filling capacity

Requirements for the equipment required shall include, but will not necessarily be limited to the supply of:

- 5 tanks if they are of 200,000 litres
- Or 10 tanks if they are of 100,000 litres.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:

- Evidence of selling or manufacturing chemical tanks in the country in compliance with all applicable laws and jurisdictions for major projects.
- Compliance with Petroleum (Local Content) Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition for Tanzania.
- Registration on EWURA'S Local Suppliers and Service Providers (LSSP) Database is highly recommended.
- A copy of their own and main suppliers ISO current certification if available.
- A two (2) years look ahead showing booked work, anticipated work and remaining capacity for the scope of work.

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO PROVIDE TRANSPORT SERVICES

ISOAF/PROC/05/0522

ISOAF Tz Limited is a Tanzanian-incorporated company with its head office in Dar es salaam and its plant in Nzega District. The company is a Thermal Insulation System Contractor for East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project. ISOAF Tz invites experienced and reputable Contractors to express their interest in providing Transport Services to the coating plant of EACOP Project.

The EACOP Project development involves the engineering, construction, operation and maintenance of a crude oil export pipeline from Hoima, Uganda to an onshore Marine Export Terminal in Chongoleani, near Tanga Port in Tanzania.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE:

As part of its Scope of Work for the EACOP Project ISOAF Tz seeks a tender for the provision of transport services for its employees from and to site which is located in Sojo Village Nzega

Requirements for the service shall include, but will not necessarily be limited to the provision of transport services:

- Sojo -Kahama 2 buses (Around 35 kms)
- Sojo-Nzega 2 buses (Around 60 km)
- The buses must with a minimum carrying capacity of 40-50 people at once
- The buses must be not more than 5 years in order to qualify.
- With Safety belts and with First Aid Kits

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:

- Evidence of experience in Transport industry especially in movement of people in the country in compliance with all applicable laws and jurisdictions for major projects.
- Compliance with Petroleum (Local Content) Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition for Tanzania.
- Registration on EWURA'S Local Suppliers and Service Providers (LSSP) Database is highly recommended.
- A two (2) years look ahead showing booked work, anticipated work and remaining capacity for the scope of work.

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO PROVIDE HOTEL ACCOMMODATION SERVICES

ISOAF/PROC/06/0522

ISOAF Tz Limited is a Tanzanian-incorporated company with its head office in Dar es salaam and its plant in Nzega District. The company is soon expecting to commence its operations as a Thermal Insulation System Contractor for East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project. ISOAF Tz invites experienced and reputable Contractors to express their interest in providing accommodation services for the EACOP Project.

The EACOP Project development involves the engineering, construction, operation and maintenance of a crude oil export pipeline crossing Uganda and Tanzania and an onshore Marine Terminal in Chongoleani, near Tanga Port in Tanzania.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE:

As part of its Scope of Work for the EACOP Project ISOAF Tz seeks a tender for the hotel owners in Nzega, Tabora region to provide accommodation services.

Requirements for the services shall include, but will not necessarily be limited to the supply of:

- Provision of Hotel rooms in Nzega District (Tabora Region) on half-board basis and Laundry included

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:

- Evidence of owning a hotel in Nzega district in the country in compliance with all applicable laws and jurisdictions for major projects.
- The hotel must be clean and OSHA Compliant and Certified
- Compliance with Petroleum (Local Content) Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition for Tanzania.
- Registration on EWURA'S Local Suppliers and Service Providers (LSSP) Database is highly recommended.
- A two (2) years look ahead showing booked work, anticipated work and remaining capacity for the scope of work.

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST TO SUPPLY INDUSTRIAL SAFETY GEARS

ISOAF/PROC/07/0522

ISOAF Tz Limited is a Tanzanian-incorporated company with its head office in Dar es salaam and its plant in Nzega District. The company is a Thermal Insulation System Contractor for East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project. ISOAF Tz invites experienced and reputable Contractors to express their interest in supplying Industrial Safety Gears the coating plant at EACOP Project.

The EACOP Project development involves the engineering, construction, operation and maintenance of a crude oil export pipeline from Hoima, Uganda to an onshore Marine Export Terminal in Chongoleani, near Tanga Port in Tanzania.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE:

As part of its Scope of Work for the EACOP Project ISOAF Tz seeks a tender for the supply of Personal protective equipment.

Requirements for the equipment required shall include, but will not necessarily be limited to the supply of:

- Safety Shoes with steel toe
- Protective glasses (welding glasses, safety googles..)
- Hard Hat (Helmets of different colors)
- Welding hoods
- Different industrial working gloves
- Industrial clothing

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:

- Evidence of selling or manufacturing industrial safety gears in the country in compliance with all applicable laws and jurisdictions for major projects.
- All the safety gear must internationally certified
- Compliance with Petroleum (Local Content) Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition for Tanzania.
- Registration on EWURA'S Local Suppliers and Service Providers (LSSP) Database is highly recommended.
- A copy of their own and main suppliers ISO current certification if available.
- A two (2) years look ahead showing booked work, anticipated work and remaining capacity for the scope of work.

Interested companies which meet the minimum requirements and have the capacity to provide the equipment listed above should express their interest by sending together with the above listed documents an email to: Info@isoaf.com. (Max. Email Size: 20 MBs & All documents must be submitted in the English language) on or before 17:00 hours East African Time (EAT), on 30th June 2022. Companies satisfactorily meeting the above minimum requirements will receive, subject to the signature of a Non Disclosure Agreement (NDA), a detailed pre-qualification questionnaire for further evaluation by Company.

EACOP project reserves the right not to consider companies that submit incomplete dossiers.

Note: Only pre-qualified companies will receive an invitation to submit their bid in furtherance of the Call for Tender process.

Govt scraps fees for Form five and six in bid to ease education access

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

THE government has announced decision to abolish school fees for Form five and six students as a policy strategy aimed to further facilitate easy access to education for children in the country.

In this regard, fee free education will now be from primary to high level secondary education.

This was revealed by the Minister for Finance and Planning in the parliament on Tuesday, while presenting the national budget estimates for the financial year 2022/23.

Dr Nchemba said currently, form five and six students are 90,825 and 56,880 respectively with financial needs amounting to 10,339,350,000/-.

"As directed by President Samia Suluhu Hassan, I recommend fee-free education for form five and six students. The government is planning on how to accommodate technical colleges in this programme once the economic situation allows," he said.

He said the government has continued to finance the fee free primary education programme where up to April 2022, a total of 244.5bn/- was disbursed.

The minister noted that President Samia has been deeply concerned by school drop-outs for various reasons including household income poverty, teenage pregnancies, poor education awareness in some communities, absenteeism and those who do not continue based on the prevailing rules including examination performance.

"To address the drop-out challenge facing children from poor families, the government recommends setting up a special window amounting to 8bn/- through the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) which will assist children from poor families," he elaborated.

He further said the government has completed construction of 15,000 classrooms in secondary and satellite schools and 50 dormitories for students with special needs. This has enabled all 907,803 students who passed the standard seven examinations in 2021 to be enrolled in Form One in January 2022.

Similarly, the government has completed construction of 560 block structures of classrooms in secondary

schools using funds obtained from mobile phones money transaction fees amounting to 7bn/-.

The minister further said in 2022/23, the government will implement the Higher Education for Economic Transformation (HEET) Project worth USD 425 million. The project entails construction of university infrastructures in existing universities and new colleges for Lindi, Kagera, Rukwa, Katavi and Manyara regions. The Project will also finance the completion of the Institute of Marine Science Zanzibar and construction of a new ICT centre in Dodoma.

"To further address teenage pregnancies, the government will continue to build dormitories for girls. In order to provide opportunities for children who do not proceed with high school and higher learning education, the government will continue to strengthen vocational education with the aim of building their capacities for self-employment or employment," he said.

He added: "So far, we have 77 districts with vocational education training colleges out of 138 districts across the country, and we have 25 regions with the colleges out of 26 regions. Songwe Region still has no VETA college. I recommend approving 100bn/- for the construction of technical colleges in Songwe."



As directed by President Samia Suluhu Hassan, I recommend fee-free education for form five and six students. The government is planning on how to accommodate technical colleges in this programme once the economic situation allow



Michael John (L, in cap), division officer for Kwekivu in Kilindi District, has a word with pastoralists of the Maasai community from Pagwi soon after a village council meeting late last week. Photo: Correspondent Dege Masoil

RC urges residents to stop infrastructures vandalism

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Iringa

IRINGA Regional Commissioner, Queen Sendiga has urged residents to stop vandalism of the Tanzania Electricity Supply Corporation (TANESCO) infrastructures for the firm to continue providing good services.

Sendiga made the call yesterday when speaking at the launch of a new online electricity application service—Nikonect held at TANESCO offices in Iringa Region.

Nikonect is a simple (digital) online service application system that enables a customer to access a wide range of services without having to visit

TANESCO offices.

The RC commended the power utility firm for bringing about positive changes in service delivery, adding the newly launched system will facilitate timely access to electricity as well as other services.

TANESCO's Acting Southern Highlands Regional Manager, Eng Sotco Nombo said the system is customer friendly whereas people can apply to join the services at any of their offices and be connected within four days.

Nombo said the system works in three main ways including a mobile phone (USSD Code) by dialing

*152*00#.

He said that customers can also access the Nikonect system using the web portal via www.tanESCO.co.tz and can also download the Nikonect App to the internet-enabled phone via the Play Store and App Store for iPhone users.

CCM Iringa Regional chairman, Dr Abel Nyamahanga urged the residents to take care of the electricity infrastructures and make sure they provide information on events of damage, for the company to take appropriate measures.

He said Nikonect is a new and digital system that will be responsible for

reducing the challenge of customers travelling to their offices in search of services.

Dr Nyamahanga added that reliable power services would contribute to individual's development as well as of the nation as people will conduct businesses and pay government taxes. He said the taxes would in-turn be used to implement development projects including water, health care facilities and schools.

Steven Mhapa, Chairman of Iringa District Council said that introduction of a new digital application system will enable customers to enjoy a range of services at their convenience.

Roads surrounding Chemka Hot Spring already repaired

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

A Chinese constructor—SINO Hydro Corporation Company executing water project from Hai District in Kilimanjaro to Arusha City has repaired road infrastructures surrounding the famous Chemka Hot Spring that was damaged during the project implementation.

There were reports that roads surrounding the famous tourism destination have been damaged.

Tourism stakeholders were also concerned that poor road infrastructures would discourage tourists from visiting the area which had been attracting visitors from all over the world.

A representative from SINO Hydro Corporation Company, Idd Mashashi admitted to having received complaints from the residents and tourism stakeholders, saying they have fixed the water leakages that caused road damage.

"There are no water leakages; we have just fixed all the pipes and no water is flowing to villager's homes. We are going to assess the damage caused to their houses before we consult the company's top management on possibilities of compensating them," said the official.

He said: "We want to ensure a good relationship with the villagers because they are the ones who will be taking care of the water infrastructures passing through their residential

areas."

Project Engineer from Arusha Urban Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (AUWSA) Mandela Augustine promised to consult the company's top management on how to further improve the roads and control water leakages during project implementation.

Hai District Council Treasurer, David Buremo said the Chemka tourism project area is one of their revenue sources; hence the need to ensure it is in good condition.

"The road leading to the Chemka Hot Spring was blocked by mud, but it has been cleared and repaired," he said.

In an interview, some villagers complained of leaking water entering their houses and some tourism food courts.

Sembuli Mkilaha said: "The road damage did not only affect us but also visitors going to the Chemka natural spring hot water."

Another resident, Mussa Mangarika who owns a food kiosk said that on April 28th, this year, the contractor started to pump water for trials; the waters flew to houses resulting in damages that caused a huge loss.

"The government should intervene in finding a solution to this problem; because even our food kiosks have been destroyed. We are not sure if the contractor will compensate us for the huge loss we have incurred," complained Mangarika.



Mbeya regional commissioner Juma Homera (2nd-R) exchanges views with agricultural experts on Tuesday on the need to boost maize production. This was at the climax of an agricultural trade fair held in a farm under the Uyole centre of the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute. Photo: Correspondent Grace Mwakalinga

By Daniel Jackson

THE African Development Bank's board of directors has approved grants worth \$9.25 million to implement the Africa Disaster Risk Financing Programme in Malawi.

Handshake-bwThe first grant, of \$4.9 million, will come from the African Development Fund. The second, valued at \$4.35 million, will be provided by the ADRiFi Multi-Donor Trust Fund.

These grants will support the government of Malawi in developing climate risk management solutions and paying its sovereign risk premium for the transfer of drought risks under the Africa Disaster Risk Financing

Africa disaster risk financing programme extended to Malawi following \$9.25m grants

Programme.

The ability to purchase parametric insurance is invaluable in a country like Malawi, which has experienced an increased frequency of climate shocks in the last few decades.

The African Risk Capacity Group (ARC) was founded in 2014 with the goal of providing natural disaster insurance relief to countries in Africa.

Tremor - The modern way to place reinsurance

The Africa Disaster Risk Financing

Programme aims to increase participation in ARC's sovereign risk pool, a mechanism designed to shield the country's farmers from the financial impact of drought and other climate shocks.

The ARC's wider mission is to help members of the African Union protect the food security of their vulnerable populations.

Dr Beth Dunford, the Bank's Vice President for Agriculture, Human and Social Development, said: "Africa is

the world's region most vulnerable to climate change-related weather extremes like flooding, droughts and tropical cyclones. We welcome Malawi into the Africa Disaster Risk Financing Programme, which boosts participating countries' ability to respond rapidly to the aftermath of climate-related disasters, arrange finance before shocks and better serve their most vulnerable populations impacted by the effects of climate shocks."



Aisha Ali Khatib of Tondooni in North Pemba Region pictured yesterday drawing water from a tap connected to a spring, a source of the precious liquid the village heavily depends on. Photo: Correspondent Rahma Suleiman

Fertiliser no silver bullet for farmers in sub-Saharan Africa

ATHENS

USING fertiliser to increase crop yields in sub-Saharan Africa may seem like a logical choice, but farmers in rain-fed areas must also weigh the potential for low rainfall or excess heat during the growing season.

When the risk of crop failure from climatic conditions, which varies from location to location, is incorporated into farmers' rate of return calculations, it does not make sense for many smallholder farmers in sub-Saharan Africa to use fertilizer, according to a study led by a University of Georgia researcher that was recently published in the journal *Nature Food*.

Ellen McCullough, assistant professor in the University of Georgia's Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics at the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, led the analysis of a large agronomic trial dataset covering 13 years and 17 sub-Saharan African countries estimating the maize yield response to using inorganic fertilizer based on soil characteristics and growing season climate.

The study aimed to highlight how uncertain economic returns are for smallholders – who often manage farms of less than 5 acres – using fertilizer, given that they must purchase fertilizer at the start of the growing season without knowing whether they will face good or poor growing conditions.

The research team developed a new analytical framework for thinking about this important input decision from the farmer's perspective.

The researchers used their fertilizer yield response model to predict how risky it was to use fertilizer for a large portion of maize-growing areas in sub-Saharan Africa given each location's

rainfall and temperature possibilities and soil conditions. They found that in about one-fourth of rain-fed maize-growing locations in sub-Saharan Africa, farmers cannot expect to clear a 30% rate of return on fertilizer use at least 70% of the time.

"In our analysis, farmers in many locations could not expect a good rate of return often enough to justify investing in fertilizer," McCullough said. "With fertilizer prices almost doubling in 2022, many more smallholder farmers in rain-fed areas are likely wondering whether it makes sense to buy fertilizer."



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Relocation of Ngorongoro residents to Msomera village to start soon - minister

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Handeni

The government will any time from now start relocating the registered ex-Ngorongoro residents to Msomera village in Handeni District, Tanga Region following completion of 104 houses.

Tourism and Natural Resources Minister Pindi Chana made the remarks recently when she visited the village to inspect the ongoing construction of human settlements and other essential

social services infrastructure.

In Msomera, Chana inspected construction of roads, water infrastructures, schools, health care facilities and livestock dipping infrastructures.

She said a total of 104 houses out of 500 have been completed, and that the government is working to complete the remaining houses.

"Relocation of the ex-Ngorongoro residents will commence any time from now as their houses at Msomera

village have been completed. We are satisfied with the standard and quality of the constructed infrastructures," said Chana, adding the residents will have access to all the social services.

According to the minister, construction of roads is meant to facilitate transportation of people and goods.

"Every Tanzanian has the right to social services such as education and health. We also want the villagers to be able to do businesses and have

ample land for agricultural and other economic activities," she added.

Tanga Regional Commissioner, Adam Malima insisted on the need to construct communication infrastructures to facilitate business activities.

On March 11, 2022, Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa said that until that time, the government had received a list of 86 preliminary households with a total population of 453 people who had signed up for the relocation.



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

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216904602

IN THE HIGH COURT OF TANZANIA
DAR ES SALAAM DISTRICT REGISTRY
AT DAR ES SALAAM
LAND CASE NO 67 OF 2011

KINONDONI MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.....PLAINTIFF

VERSUS

ANTHON MASANZA.....1ST DEFENDANT
STARA MPONDA.....2ND DEFENDANT

SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

TO:
STARA MPONDA
P.O.BOX 20066
DAR ES SALAAM

WHEREAS, the above mentioned case has been fixed for hearing 20th day of JUNE, 2022 at 9:00 AM before Hon. DR. J. L. MASABO - Judge you are required to appear in this court without fail and must produce on that day all the documents upon which you intend to rely in support of your case.

TAKE NOTICE that in default of your appearance on that day aforementioned, the suit will be heard and determined in your absence.

GIVEN under my HAND and SEAL of Court this 30th day of MAY, 2022



[Signature]
DEPUTY REGISTRAR
HIGH COURT OF TANZANIA
DAR ES SALAAM

216904602

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Cutting expenditure on cars a welcome gesture

FINANCE and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba has unveiled budget proposals that to a large extent met with expectations that concrete measures will be taken to lighten the burden of low income earners in the prevailing situation. One such initiative is to get the vast majority of public officials who are legally entitled to be assured of vehicles in their day to day work, be formally entrusted with ownership of the vehicles, take care of them on their own, and obtain scaled government allowances for petrol. The government will no longer be shouldering deliberate misdeeds like stealing petrol, etc.

This measure is one among reforms being taken by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to rectify weak areas of the supervision of resource collection and use in the government, despite that the minister did not project a game changing amount of savings. He said that total expenditure on vehicles amounts to 500bn/- and the measure is likely to permit savings of up to 55bn/-, a helpful contribution to budget allocations, definitely. There are other areas of savings which will add to government ability to pay for other things, like removing lots of unnecessary travel when one can attend a conference or meeting by video link, etc.

Some of the needed changes could presumably be brought up by the technical examination of the motor vehicles entitlements issue by a committee of the Treasury and the Works ministry, with the Paymaster General coordinating the review and measures to be instituted. There is

an issue of what vehicles are deemed appropriate for specific cadre of officials, with corrections already made to the range of vehicles purchased for public officials, during the fifth phase government.

But definitely a lot needs to be done, for instance shifting the vehicles to personal ownership, implicitly repaying their costs and maintaining them.

The whole issue of entitlement to vehicles and of what sort has been a thorn in sentiments of the public on government performance, as it attracts mixed emotions, with those entitled to such vehicles and those close to them seeing the sumptuous vehicles as epitome of success in life. On the contrary, those not near such individuals - or in their own private environment - see the provision of sumptuous vehicles as gross misuse of government funds as they could purchase cars on their own, or be loaned against their salaries. They would in that case be more economical; massive vehicles are fuel guzzling to nefarious magnitudes.

Country or off-road vehicles by aid personnel was tied to roads being bad in African states even in urban areas, but public officers, seeing the use of lesser vehicles as demeaning, took up large vehicles as status symbols, and it sank in the motivation of aspirants to leadership or management that they ought to have one such vehicle. The levels of salary being what they are, most entitled officials can't maintain them. So it has taken considerable outcry and need to motivate the public with lower taxes, thus cutting such costs.

Scrapping high school fees largely symbolic, but profound motivator

FREE education, which a range of pundits still insist on calling it 'free free' education because parents or guardians are still responsible for a range of provisions, took another rung on the ladder with the proposed scrapping of fees for forms five and six in public schools. Quite a few of those listening to Finance minister Mwigulu Nchemba set out that provision in the national budget for the next financial year were rather unimpressed, seeing the 20,000/- fee demanded, as the fifth phase had already pruned fees from 40,000/- earlier, as just a goodwill gesture, that the sums were trifle. They have a point until they are poor.

There was plenty of acumen in the measure, as well as other substantial diminutions or scrapping of taxes that directly touch productive activities, in agro-productivity and processing, to create jobs to whatever extent possible. The high school fee scrapping measure can be compared to the lowering of money transfer charges by up to 60 per cent of what was operating up to the moment, subject of course to its being properly supervised. There is a danger that middlemen either in service provision firms or regulatory agencies not observe the measure to the full, owing to the fact that people are used to the pain.

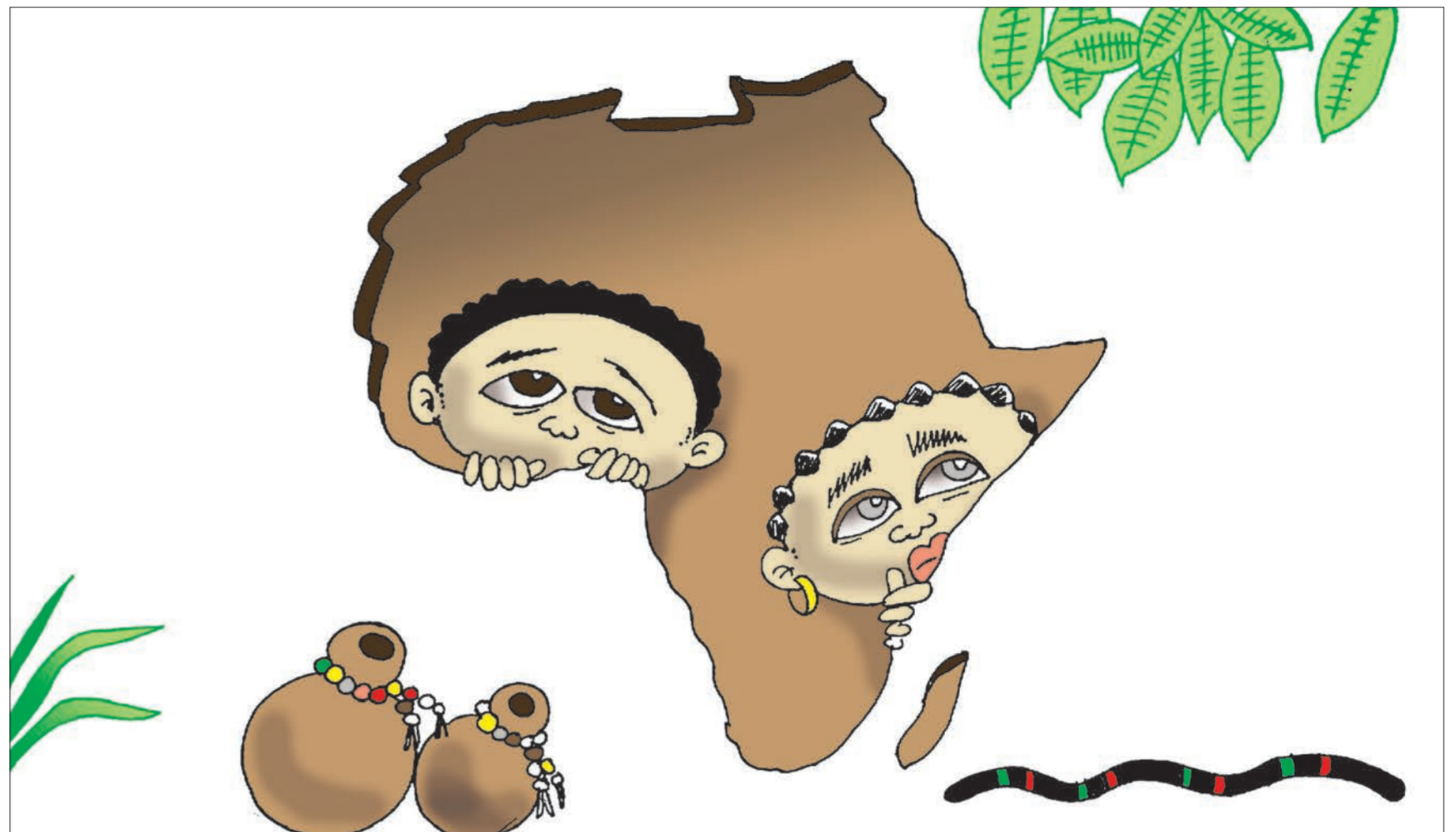
What is evident is that the government, by which is meant the president and closest advisers including those in the Treasury like the responsible minister, are aware

of the impact of burden reducing measures to large numbers of people. It is the opposite of the measures taken last year with the charge on money transfers or such transactions, raising plenty of disquiet and even affecting the speed or frequency of such transactions, giving more business to the bank windows that was on agents' laps earlier. The reason is that there was a different mood last year, of COVID-19 impact costs and the need to propel public services.

The mood is noticeably different this year, as the COVID-19 impact is now in the background, and plenty of funds have been added to the economy from public sources and the private sector. The start of the war in Ukraine while most countries were struggling to recover from crude oil price push due to COVID-19 lockdowns worsened the situation.

Inflation set in, leading to a malaise in public sentiments on whether the common person, the low income earner, matters in policy making. The budget was a response to this need; it follows that cutting off the high school fee is a drop in a glass, not in the ocean as some believe.

What the various budget measures add up to, as the minister emphasized, is that the government is genuine about cutting sleaze in its ranks and doing something for the poor. As they say, Rome was not built in a day, and thus placing public expenditure under control, or taming inflation, takes time. It can be done if you play your part.



The world's worst food crisis for decades and what to do about it

By Mark Lowcock

THIS is what happens when you starve. With no food, the body's metabolism slows down to preserve energy for vital organs. Hungry and weak, people often become fatigued, irritable and confused.

The immune system loses strength. As they starve, people—especially children—are likelier to fall sick or die from diseases they may have otherwise resisted. Cholera, respiratory infections, malaria, dengue, and diphtheria kill more people in famines than starvation itself.

For the lucky (or unlucky?) ones who escape disease but still have nothing to eat, their organs will begin to wither and then fail. Eventually, the body starts to devour its own muscles, including the heart.

Many will experience hallucinations and convulsions before, finally, the heart stops. It is a terrible, agonizing, and humiliating death. It is nearly as terrible to watch - as I know from my own experience over nearly 40 years in Ethiopia, Somalia, Yemen and elsewhere.

When I was young, many people—including researchers and scientists—thought famine was a permanent feature of the human experience. Famines are shocking, scarring events, the most extreme form of humanitarian disaster. They involve large-scale loss of life with a slow but visible prelude, a tipping point beyond which prevention is no longer possible, and then an explosion.

As an undergraduate, I went to Nobel-prize-winner Amartya Sen's lectures on poverty and famine, and I wrote a masters' dissertation on the use of food grain prices as an early warning of food crises.

For many of my friends and me, the Ethiopia famine of 1984 was a lightbulb moment. In previous eras, famine was a feature of the fragility of agriculture against the ever-increasing pressure of higher populations.

In 1968, Paul Ehrlich published *The Population Bomb*, in which he predicted that by the 1980s, four billion people would have been killed by famines. His opening sentences set the scene: "The battle to feed humanity is over. In the 1970s, the world will undergo famines in which hundreds of millions of people are going to starve to death."

Ehrlich predicted that England would cease to exist by 2000 because the country would be consumed

by hunger. Historical experience gave these dark warnings a degree of credence. Researchers think that famines may have taken more lives than war over the course of human history.

More than 120 million people are believed to have died in famines in the hundred years after 1870, a larger number even than those killed in that period's uniquely bloody wars.

The doom mongers, though, were wrong. In fact, in the past 50 years, famine has become much rarer and much less lethal. So far this century, there has just been one real famine. That was in Somalia in 2011, when a quarter of a million people died.

Ehrlich and his ilk were wrong because they failed to see how the world was changing. Three main factors have combined to produce unprecedented advances in reducing large-scale loss of life through starvation over the last 50 years.

First was an exponential increase in agricultural output and productivity. Improvements in plant breeding, protection, storage, irrigation, harvesting, transporting, and marketing have contributed to a 300 percent increase in food grain production, using only 12 percent more agricultural land around the world.

The global spread in the use of nitrogen-based artificial fertiliser and the development through the Green Revolution of improved seed varieties for major crops explain most of the improvements.

Second, a spectacular reduction in global poverty has increased people's ability to afford food. In the 60 years after 1960, the extreme poverty rate globally dropped from more than 50 percent of the total human population to less than 10 percent. In particular, the 25 years from 1990 to 2015 saw a reduction from 35 percent to less than 10 percent, even while the global population continued to grow dramatically.

So not only was there a lot more food available, but most people now had enough income to be able to buy it. Food security has been enhanced by the entitlements created by social safety net schemes established in dozens of the poorest countries over the past 20 years, including ones I have seen myself in countries including Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Kenya, Malawi, Pakistan, Uganda, Yemen, and Zambia.

Third, when famine does threaten, the response is now much more effective than it was 30 years ago. My first job was on the famine in

Ethiopia in the mid-1980s. Then, the overwhelming focus of the relief effort was on food, water, and shelter. Now we understand that in a famine, starvation is not the main cause of death.

The real killers are those diseases that a healthy person can generally fight off but a starving one cannot. As a result, today's famine responses include comprehensive immunisation programmes, primary healthcare, and nutrition interventions as well as food and clean water.

The result of all this scientific, technological, and economic progress is that modern-day famines are manmade - the result either of deliberate attempts to starve a population, or of wilful negligence.

That was true to a degree in the past: Mao Zedong's Great Famine in China in the 1960s, generally believed to be the worst famine in history in terms of the total number of lives lost, arose largely from the authorities' policy choices.

And the famine that some people claim took three million lives in North Korea in the mid-1990s—a repetition of which remains a risk, as I saw during a visit to Pyongyang and the south of the country in 2018—could have been forestalled had the regime been willing to accept the international help on offer.

Despite all the progress famine is now back. But so far in the 21st century, ignorant policy choices have not been what generated famine threats. Deliberate, concerted attempts to prevent aid reaching the starving, as part of the military or political strategy of states or armed groups, are now the only explanation for the failure to have eradicated famine from the human experience.

In every single case of famine or near famine in the last ten years - including those I dealt with at the UN from 2017-21 - the fine line between, on the one hand, acute suffering and chronic hunger and, on the other, mass death through starvation and related causes, was policed by the men with guns and bombs. Pressure on them has meant the worst has been avoided.

The world now faces its most serious food crisis for many decades. It arises from the cumulative effects of a decade of spreading conflict, the repeated undermining by climate change of livelihoods based on increasingly volatile rainfall, and the economic crunch on the most vulnerable countries from the COVID pandemic.

And then on top of all that has come Putin's invasion of Ukraine, disrupting global grain markets and taking the

food exports of Russia and Ukraine - enough food for 400 million people - largely off the table this year.

The new global food crisis affects us all. Everyone going to a supermarket for weekly shopping is aware of prices rising. For most of us, the impact is manageable. Buying food is not the biggest call on our incomes. We can tighten our belts and adjust.

But for about 10% of the world's population, mostly in the poorer countries of the Middle East (like Syria and Yemen) and sub-Saharan Africa, it's different. Tens of millions of them are falling back into extreme poverty, where they barely have enough calories and nutrients to nourish their bodies properly and their children suffer stunting and life-long cognitive impairments.

However, it is the roughly 1% of the world's population who faced acute hunger even before the Ukraine crisis, those who cannot survive at all without help from aid agencies, who will be the victims if today's food crisis is allowed to deteriorate into multiple simultaneous famines.

They are mostly concentrated in relatively few countries, including in particular Afghanistan, Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Yemen and parts of the Sahel. Millions may starve to death. That is what policy makers should be really focused on.

So, what can be done? Simultaneous actions are needed in four areas.

First, a real effort needs to be made to get more grain onto the market in the very short term. There is plenty of food to feed everyone this year. Diplomatic efforts, which have become increasingly visible over the last month, to find a way to access the grain silos in the Black Sea ports and export the 20 million tonnes of wheat they contain should be intensified.

They may not work; if they don't, those holding large stocks of grain for strategic reserves should be prevailed upon to release a modest proportion of them. That would ease the market and take the edge off price increases.

Second, because it seems unlikely that the underlying causes of this year's crisis will be solved quickly, reducing medium term reliance on Russia and Ukraine is now a practical necessity.

Farmers around the world need greater help and encouragement to plant more wheat, maize, sunflower and other food crops, as well as better access to inputs, above all seeds and fertiliser. Diversification in the fertiliser market, in which Russia and its allies are dominant, is a particular priority.

Move to control wasteful spending, ease cost of living commendable

BY GUARDIAN REPORTER

THE national budget tabled in the National Assembly by Finance and Planning Minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba on Tuesday outlined several measures meant to curb wasteful spending of public funds on one hand and invest massively in social services.

It has since been rightly dubbed pro-poor for belt-tightening measures such as checking the use of public vehicles as well as travels by government officials on one hand and scrapping of school fees for form five and six students.

President Samia Suluhu Hassan announced recently that the 100bn/- subsidy released this month by the government to cushion Tanzanians from high cost of living occasioned by skyrocketing global oil prices will continue to be availed every month until things stabilize.

It must be remembered that this 100bn/- is slashed from the government's recurrent expenditure without affecting development budget namely projects that employ Tanzanians and keep wheels of the economy moving.

This means that the budget has been designed to plug holes that allow public funds to be squandered through unnecessary expenditure by government and give relief to ordinary Tanzanians by ensuring that essential commodities are affordable and parents don't have to worry about fees for their children in both primary and secondary schools.

This measure ends all forms of fees and contributions in government schools for a total of 90,825 form five and 56,880 form six students. This will relieve parents of the burden of 10.3bn/- as they remain with indirect costs such as uniforms and other scholastic materials.

Dr Nchemba said that currently, the government has a total of 15,742



Finance and Planning Minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba tables the 2022/23 national budget in the National Assembly on Tuesday this week. File photo

vehicles and 14,047 motorcycles and it spends a whopping 558.45bn/- annually for purchasing vehicles, fuel, spare parts and maintenance of the same.

But in the 41.48trn/- budget for 2022/23 financial year, the minister said the government will lend vehicles to deserving officials so that owners carry the maintenance burden while the government provides fuel. This measure alone will save at least 50bn/- annually.

However, this cost-cutting measure is proposed to exclude security and

defence organs, the judiciary, top leaders in government ministries, public corporations, departmental agencies, regions, districts and project supervisors but the minister noted that no more than five people will be exempted in each institution.

Another important aspect is that this budget seeks to strengthen value for money in public sector procurement by focusing on real prices of goods and services, instead of merely picking the lowest bidder as often it is also far above prevailing market prices. If

this is implemented, billions will be saved annually and directed into development projects.

To further reign in wasteful spending, this budget proposes that public procurement be a strategic sourcing function linked with a prudent functional supply base, thus the Paymaster General will examine the relevant supply chain management for each sector, enabling the government to exercise synergies.

We are in the era of information and communication technology and the government is set to strengthen its operations through the same to curb needless expenditures, with regional conference rooms having ICT facilities for virtual meetings, eliminating unnecessary travel to attend meetings or conferences outside the region.

Also, the Controller Auditor General (CAG) who plays a key role in highlighting how taxpayers' money is spent, will have a fortified budgetary allocation to strengthen the department's work, by increasing staff and efficiency to ensure that public funds are well monitored, spent, and audited.

One of the biggest loopholes for wastage of taxpayers' money was that public officers suspended or removed from their positions continued to enjoy remunerations for positions they no longer hold. This budget has plugged that hole as they will henceforth be earning money according to their real positions.

Dr Nchemba said paying

salaries and related benefits to demoted permanent secretaries, RCs, DCs and DEDs is costing Tanzanians unnecessarily, pointing out that the government has 25 ministries but there are 200 people on the payroll earning the same as permanent secretaries.

In addition, the government has 185 local government authorities but the list of DEDs includes 500 persons who are paid the salary related to the position.

Priority in the national budget is key for realization of a country's development aspirations. In this one, more weight is given to agriculture, livestock, fisheries and energy sectors to accelerate economic growth.

For, the sectors catalyse production for local and international markets, reduce inflation and help create employment, identified these sectors as cushioning effects in the wake of the Russian invasion of Ukraine and the resulting economic imbalance worldwide.

Dr Nchemba was optimistic that the national economy will remain stable despite disruptions just as countries were recovering from effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, indicating that the economy is expected to grow from 4.7 per cent in 2022 to 5.3 per cent in 2023.

Growth is expected to go in tandem with maintaining inflation at 3.0 per cent, though with risks of inflationary push rising to within 7.0 per cent, he stated.

Our country's revenue is projected to reach 14.9 per-

cent of GDP in fiscal 2022/23 while tax revenue is expected to reach 11.7 of GDP, he said, pointing at the strength of the shilling against major global currencies especially the US dollar, as the shilling has remained stable.

The US dollar exchanged at an average of 2,308.87/- from July 2021 to April 2022, from 2,309.48/- from July 2020 to April 2021, with the dollar appreciating by 0.03 per cent, due to monetary policy and budget implementation.

Trade in goods and services plus transfer of assets abroad, along with the positive trend of various economic and social activities, he said, elaborating that the foreign currency stock stood at \$5.46bn by end of April, enough for 4.8 months of imports of goods and services.

The government debt sustainability assessment report drawn up in 2020 showed that the national debt is sustainable in the short run as well as in medium and long term projections, Dr Nchemba said.

Good news is that the value of exports in April 2022 stood at \$7.03bn/- compared to \$6.36bn/- in the same period last year, on account of the sale of traditional and non-traditional goods such as flowers and vegetables, cement, plastics, cereals, rice and maize.

If measures stated in this budget are implemented to the letter, Tanzania is likely to leapfrog in its development endeavours and significantly lift millions out of poverty.

MADRID

1 in 6 people over 60 years of age -nearly 141 million people globally- suffers from abuse, according to World Health Organization (WHO) estimates.

The World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) (June 15th), aims to raise awareness and eradicate this problem that affects both developing and developed countries.

WHO defines elder abuse as "a single, or repeated act, or lack of appropriate action, occurring within any relationship, where there is an expectation of trust, which causes harm or distress to an older person." It can take various forms: physical, psychological or emotional, sexual, financial abuse or neglect.

The lack of accurate data is one of the symptoms of this problem, but a 2017 review of 52 studies in 28 countries from diverse regions provided the pooled prevalence of different types of abuse:

- Psychological abuse: 11.6%
- Financial abuse: 6.8%
- Neglect: 4.2%
- Physical abuse: 2.6%
- Sexual abuse: 0.9%

The abusers

This violence happens at home and at institutions such as nursing homes and long-term care facilities. A staggering fact: 90% of abusers are family (adult children, spouses and partners).

But anybody can fit the abuser profile: relatives, strangers, friends, health care providers, public and private institutions... Whoever interacts with older people, especially with those who suffer a severe disability (i.e. dementia), can easily become abusers.

Why is that?

HelpAge International points out ageism. "Stereotypes about older people can be used to justify elder abuse or minimise its impact. In many ways, elder abuse is the most harmful expression of societal ageism".

The normalization of this violence is a mask that makes it invisible or even an accepted or necessary conduct. So, how can we even identify it? Here are some examples:

Physical abuse: hitting, pushing and restraining by physical (tying them

Elder abuse: Human rights have an expiration date



The United Nations expects an increase in elder abuse because of the ageing populations: the global population of people aged 60 years and older will more than double, from 900 million in 2015 to 2 billion in 2050. Credit: Maricel Sequeira/IPS

to furniture) and chemical means (medication). Also sexual abuse.

Emotional or psychological abuse: use of hurtful words, yelling, threatening or repeatedly ignoring the older adult. Isolation, infantilization and victimization are also forms of emotional abuse.

Neglect occurs when the caregiver does not try to respond to the older adult's physical, emotional and so-

cial needs (housing, food, medication or access to adequate health care, including aspects such as therapeutic cruelty and therapeutic nihilism).

Abandonment (leaving an older adult who needs help alone without planning for his/ her care) is also a type of neglect.

Financial abuse happens when someone steals money or belongings from an older adult (retirement, So-

cial Security benefits, etc.), uses his/her bank accounts or credit cards or changes names on a bank account, insurance policy, house title or will without permission.

Longevity and inequality

Inequality determines the way we age and is also in the roots of elder abuse.

According to a 2008 report of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and

Development (OECD), "the increase in life expectancy" was concentrated "in populations continuing on to higher education" and diminished "in the groups having high school diplomas or less".

In the OECD countries, a 25 year male with a university degree may live 7.5 years more than another male with lower education level. For women, the difference is 4.6 years. It goes without saying that inequality in education and any other development indicator is worse in the "emerging economies".

Gender is also an inequality and abuse trigger, especially at old age. In 2015, 54% of people above 60 were women (61% within those aged 80 or more). Although female life expectancy is higher, their life quality is worse because of poor health and higher rates of abuse.

During their lifetimes, women suffer marginalization and poverty. Income inequality, differences in education, health services and job market explain why many women have no retirement benefits or lower ones. Moreover, they are the principal caregivers to children and other old people, often without any compensation.

The gap between the narratives and the facts

The United Nations expects an increase in elder abuse because of the ageing populations: the global population of people aged 60 years and older will more than double, from 900 million in 2015 to 2 billion in 2050.

During the COVID-19 pandemic rates of elder abuse have increased. Both the poor access to adequate health services and the restriction on social interactions have severely affected the elderly.

Neither population ageing nor elder abuse are new. There are countless initiatives, campaigns, plans and organizations around the globe trying to bring ageing into the public agenda,

but real transformations are yet to come.

This year, WEAAD coincides with two important events. The first is the United Nations Decade of Healthy Ageing (2021-2030), aimed to align the goals of the 2030 Agenda and the ageing agenda.

The Decade addresses four areas for action:

- Change how we think, feel and act towards age and ageing;
- Ensure that communities foster the abilities of older people.
- Deliver person-centred integrated care and primary health services responsive to older people.
- Provide access to long-term care for older people who need it.

The second event is the 20th milestone of the Second World Assembly on Ageing and the fourth review and appraisal of the implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing (MIPAA).

UN believes that "an international legal instrument for older persons would advance the implementation and accountability of MIPAA", and admits the "uneven progress" in its implementation and "the absence of an international standard on the rights of older persons, gaps between policy and practice, and the mobilization of necessary human and financial resources".

When the conquest becomes the problem

Between 2015 and 2030 the world population aged 60 or over is expected to grow by 56%, reaching 1.4 billion people in 2030 (16.5% of the total population).

By then, "older persons are expected to account for over 25 percent of the population in Europe and Northern America, 17 percent in Asia and in Latin America and the Caribbean, and 6 percent in Africa" (UNDP).

The mainstream narrative that labels groups of population as a nuisance -migrants, women, indigenous people, the elderly... the list is open- denying their humanity and emphasizing that they put "the system" at risk, makes it possible for this violence to be perpetuated.

Moreover, in the current context of questioning the role of the State and the public sector, it is worth asking whether it is possible to guarantee good treatment of the elderly when what is at stake is no longer the viability of the systems of health and social protection necessary for a long-lived population, but even its mere existence for anyone.

Assisting at-risk youth becomes life's work for trafficking survivor

STANFORD

Arien Pauls-Garcia's journey to working with at-risk youth in California was long and dangerous and started at 19 when she found herself sold and exploited by traffickers.

Now, she is the Program Manager and Victims Advocate for at-risk minors at the Central Valley Justice Coalition in Fresno, California. She works with youth identified as at-risk of being sexually exploited.

It took time, grit, and strength for Pauls-Garcia to come this far.

Pauls-Garcia grew up in poverty in Humboldt County, California. As she went through tough family situations, such as having several stepdads and her mother experiencing numerous mental health problems, she used MySpace, a social networking platform, to talk to someone who would understand her.

She met a man who turned out to be a 'Romeo pimp,' a commonly used term to define traffickers seducing young girls or boys into believing they were loved. Romeo then sold her to another man with whom she spent four years.

Pauls-Garcia went through traumatic experiences—she was beaten, raped, branded, and forced to have an abortion by her traffickers.

"I experienced very horrific things that a person should never experience. I didn't run or leave because of the shame, guilt, and embarrassment. I believed it was my choice to be in that situation and that I would not be accepted back into society," Pauls-Garcia reflected.

When Pauls-Garcia escaped her trafficker, she tried to figure out how to become a person and not an object for sale.

"I really wanted to contribute to society and figure out my goals. I attempted to find a job for a year and a half," Pauls-Garcia elaborated. She could not find employment because she had a record of misdemeanor charges of solicitation and trespassing.

However, through determination, she slowly built her life. This year marks her 10th freedom anniversary. She became one of the faces of the AB-262 bill. This new legislation allows human trafficking survivors to apply for vacatur relief by establishing clear and convincing evidence that arrests and convictions directly resulted from human trafficking.

Pauls-Garcia is also working on getting her record cleared up. She will graduate with her Bachelor of Science in Justice Studies at Grand Canyon University and plans to apply for law school.

As she continues to build her life, Pauls-Garcia wants human trafficking victims to know that the journey will be hard.

"It won't always be sunshine and daisies. But the work that you put



The Helping Young People Elevate (HYPE) Center is a center that is designed for youth who experienced homelessness, human trafficking, and systematic oppression.

into yourself will be worth it in the end. If you mess up, that's okay. You don't have to ever go back to that life; there will always be a solution to our problem. Just keep fighting for it, and it will happen," Pauls-Garcia said with powerful conviction.

California received the highest number of substantive signals related to human trafficking out of all 50 states in 2020.

National Human Trafficking Hot-

line connects victims and survivors to services and support groups.

In National Human Trafficking Hotline's 2019 California data report, 3,184 phone calls, 935 texts, 208 emails, and 88 webchats were made to the line. However, the signals increased in 2020—more than 113 phone calls, 187 texts, and 20 webchats were made in 2020 than in 2019. The number of human trafficking cases continues to rise in California.

Marty Parker, Special Agent at the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), noticed increased human trafficking cases since the pandemic.

"I can imagine that there were potentially people who had lost their jobs because of COVID-19. And were, therefore, desperate, which either got them into prostitution on their own or were more vulnerable to be trafficked into prostitution," Parker said as reflected on the im-

pact of the pandemic on human trafficking.

Parker handles child exploitation and human trafficking cases. Her squad is located in Oakland, California, and they work joint proactive operations with local police departments. Her job includes many tasks, such as recovering victims of trafficking, arresting suspected pimps and traffickers, and making contacts with law enforcement agencies.

"What we see on a day-to-day basis is people who are being trafficked are US citizens, normal people, your friends, kids, neighbors. This is everybody's problem. This is every city and every town," Parker said.

In 2013, Parker's squad successfully prosecuted a popular escort website called MyRedBook. The website included advertisements for girls and pornography.

"If we've got a girl who needs justice, we're going to go after the bad guy. If there's a missing kid, we're going to find them," Parker stated.

Parker works on human trafficking cases to give a voice and justice to survivors. Many of them were taken away from their families, and their childhood was stripped away. Parker said housing was a huge issue when survivors tried to regain their lives. Since there are a limited number of temporary and domestic violence shelters, sometimes there are no empty beds.

SF SOL (Safety, Opportunity, Lifelong relationships) Collaborative aims to create a continuum of care for youth experiencing or are at risk of experiencing commercial sexual exploitation. They have served over 300 youth so far. The California Department of Social Services funds them. Their collaborating partners include the City and County of San Francisco, Department on the Status of Women, Freedom Forward, WestCoast Children's Clinic, Family Builders by Adoption, and Huckleberry Youth Programs.

Nazneen Rydhan-Foster, Program Manager of SF SOL, oversees the budget, project management, and anti-trafficking initiatives. One of their successful projects includes collaborating with the Helping Young People Elevate (HYPE) Center.

The HYPE Center is designed for youth who experience homelessness, human trafficking, and systematic oppression.

"What's great about this center is that it's made by youth and for youth. We really hope to see this center live on, be there, and serve the youths in San Francisco."

The center went through some rough moments because they had to shut down their center when COVID-19 hit. However, they slowly opened up.

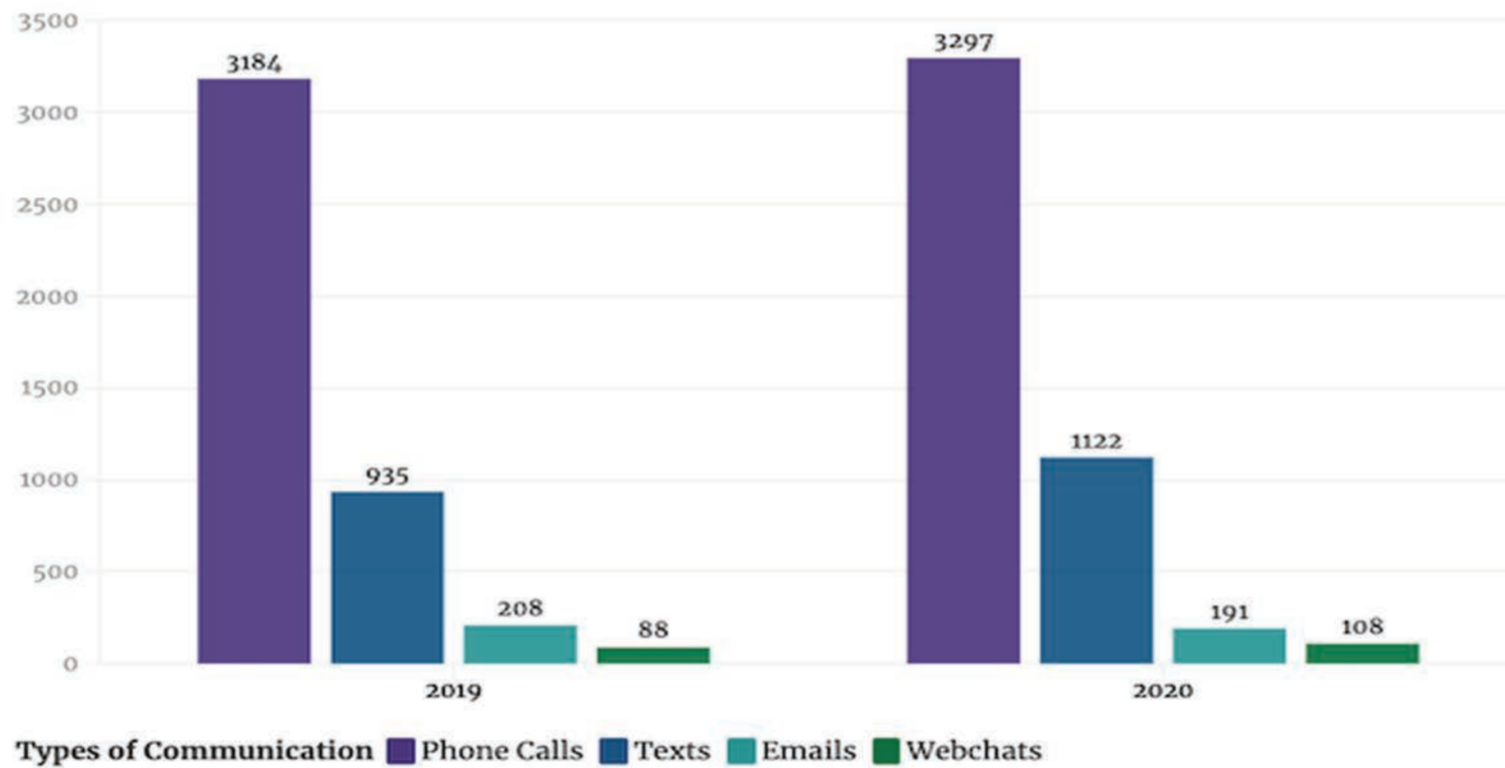
Breaking the Chains, a non-profit organization in Central San Joaquin Valley, California, started with a safe house for adult female survivors. They house six survivors who spend nine months to two years in the facility. On a day-to-day basis, they now serve an average of 90 to 100 clients. Since 2015, Breaking the Chains has offered services to over 800 clients. Its mission is to provide hope, healing, and restoration to all lives impacted by trafficking.

Tiffany Apodaca, Co-Founder of Breaking the Chains, a survivor of childhood sexual abuse and abandonment, also noticed increased human trafficking cases since the pandemic.

"It increased significantly. The simple fact is what we did—we put everybody at home on electronic devices, and there were not a lot of eyes on people. If there was trafficking happening within the household, then there weren't teachers or anybody who could put eyes on kids to see if there was any abuse," Apodaca explained how and why human trafficking got worse during COVID-19.

Breaking the Chains is launching its expanded Juvenile Justice Program on July 1, 2022. They will start with an ad-

Communication with the National Human Trafficking Hotline in California



Source: National Human Trafficking Hotline

Signals made to the National Human Trafficking Hotline in California increased in 2020. Compared to the hotline's data report in 2019, more than 113 phone calls, 187 texts, and 20 webchats in 2020 were made.

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Tunduru villagers grapple to curtail illegal logging

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu, Tunduru

FOR a couple of years now, Sauti moja villagers have been grappling to cut back illegal logging at their 21,966 hectares village land forest reserve in Tunduru district, Ruvuma region.

The Ruvuma Landscape is dominated by miombo woodland with abundance of large forest blocks. In this second part of the article, our reporter takes us through comments of the Tunduru district forest officials, District Commissioner, the Forestry and Beekeeping division director in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism.

Further investigation by this paper revealed that Sauti moja village government leaders and the village natural resource committee in Tunduru district sold logs to the log trader they did not know him well.

When this paper asked them during an interview to name the log trader, no one named him, instead they named another person. First they hastate and then they started to ask each other before naming a person who was not written in the documents.

Both the village chairman Said Juma and the Chairman of the village natural resource committee Musa Makawa said the logs trader was called Said Lwegambali while further investigation by this paper revealed that the log trader was called Miraji Issa.

Tunduru district forest officer Joyce Mpangala admitted to know the log trader adding that his permit allowed him to harvest only 20cbm but he had harvested 30cbm.

"When it was discovered that he had cheated for harvesting the logs in excess, he admitted the offense. He



A resident of Sauti moja village Ismail Kondo shows the village land forest reserve which is illegal logs harvesting. Photo: Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

was fined 50,000/- for committing the offense and 2.9m/- for the 10cbm excess logs. He paid all the money.

"We received information from good villagers who were closely following up the whole process. I informed members of Tanzania Forest Service (TFS) who issues

license and transport permit, and other officials then we went. During the inspection, we found that the trader had harvested 10cbm more. According to the law when one harvest logs in excess, that is an offense, he must be fined before letting him go, she added," she said.

Tunduru district acting head of natural resource Ombeni Higi said apart from legal measures taken by district forest officials, the district is working out plans to investigate more by sending other experts from different departments.

"We are going to institute investigation

and auditing to establish if there will be any mismanagement of forest products and misappropriation of public funds, we shall take legal action for all government officials at village level responsible. The district will send experts to the village. The team of experts will include administration officials and au-

ditors from the office of the district executive director, he said.

Tunduru District Commissioner Julius Mtatiro said that the villagers are the custodian of the forests and the environment at large in their respective areas. Therefore they must protect and conserve the forest by all means including providing information to issues of illegal logging.

"I know this problem and already measures are being taken. I would like to ask the villagers to report these issues of illegal logging with evidence because sometimes the villagers would call to the district officials to report on illegal harvesting but when you command district officials to go there, they find nothing. Therefore, I would like to take this opportunity to ask the villagers to be serious when they report any problem, they should have evidence," he said.

The director of Forestry and Beekeeping in the Ministry of natural resources and Tourism Dr. Ezekiel Mwakalukwa said illegal logging and other issues of forest deforestation will end as the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism has launched Participatory forest management (PFM) and the National community based forest Management (CBFM) Action Plan 2021-2031.

The two documents follow the implementation of the National Forest Policy (NFP) of 1998 and the implementation of the Forest Act, No 14 of 2002 together with accompanying regulations. The government has put the policy and legal frameworks to support CBFM in Tanzania and its long term implementing strategy-2021-2031.

According to statistics released recently in Dodoma by the Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism Dr. Pindi Chana deforestation in the country stands at 460,000 hectares annually.

COVID-19 deadlier during pregnancy - says study

By Special Correspondent

PREGNANCY puts women at higher risk of severe medical complications or death from COVID-19, according to a new study of more than 1,300 women in sub-Saharan Africa.

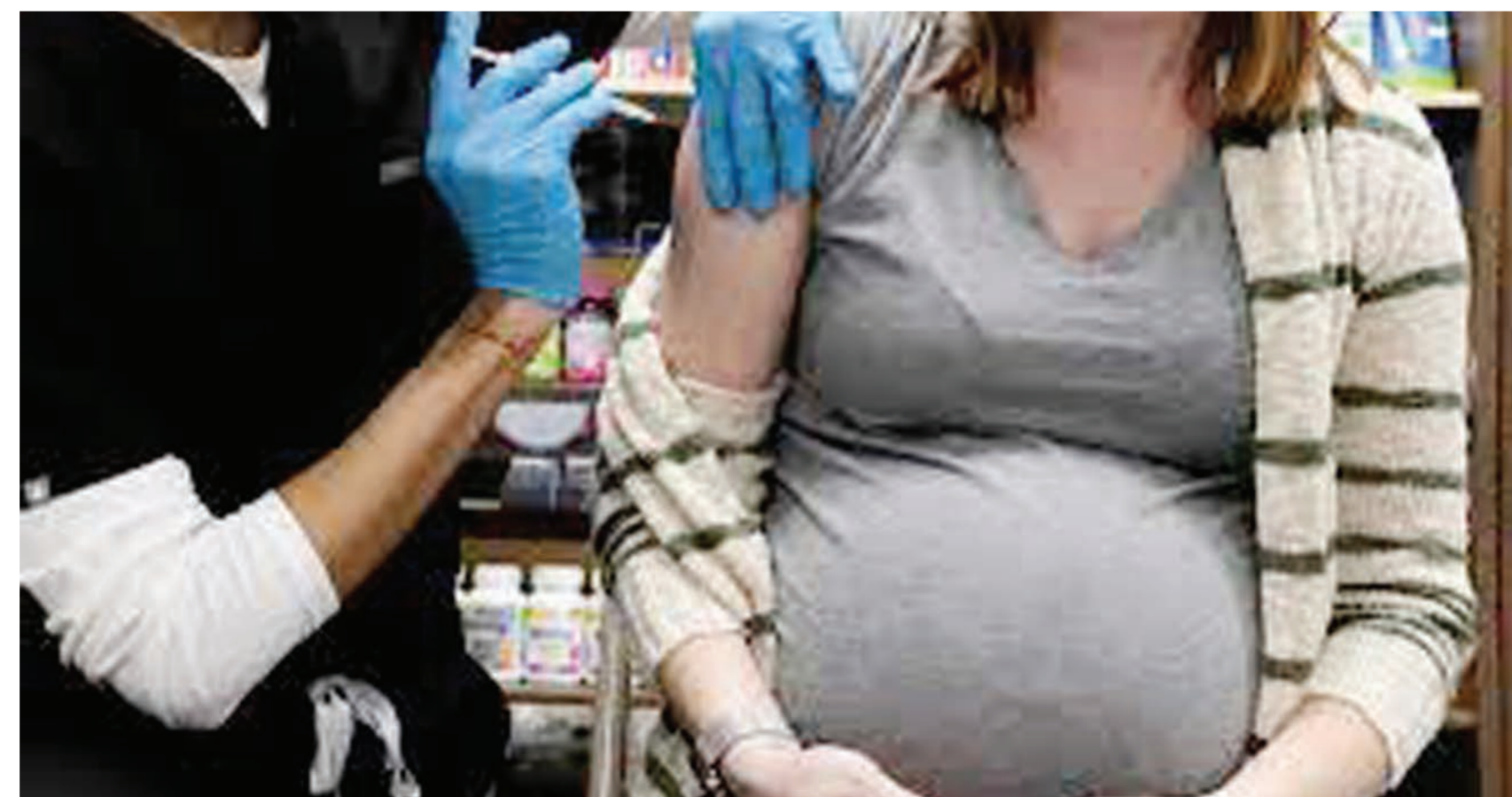
Researchers argue that vaccinating pregnant women against the coronavirus should be made a priority across the region, where most countries do not yet recommend vaccination during pregnancy.

Multiple studies have already shown that COVID-19 is more dangerous to pregnant women than to those who are not pregnant. But most of the women in these studies lived in Europe, North America or Asia. Until now, little data was available from Africa.

"Africa is not Europe, is not the U.S.A.," said Jean Nachege, an infectious disease epidemiologist at the University of Pittsburgh School of Public Health and lead author of the new study. "We should not just rely on data coming from the U.S., Europe or China to try to understand COVID on the continent."

Populations in Africa are typically younger than those in Europe, North America and East Asia. But certain infectious diseases like HIV, malaria and tuberculosis (TB), as well as noninfectious diseases such as sickle cell anemia, are more common there. Those conditions can make it harder for the body to fight off infections.

In the study, published in the journal Clinical Infectious Diseases, Nachege and his colleagues from the AFREhealth research network analyzed health records from 1,315 women treated at hospitals in six



A healthcare worker administers the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) vaccine to a pregnant mother in Johannesburg, South Africa.

countries in sub-Saharan Africa between March 2020 and March 2021. Roughly a third were pregnant and had tested positive for the coronavirus. Another third were pregnant and had tested negative, and the other third were not pregnant and had tested positive. The researchers tested how pregnancy, infection with the coronavirus, and conditions such as HIV, TB, malaria and sickle cell

anemia affected a woman's likelihood of severe disease or death.

The findings were grim. Pregnant women who were hospitalized in sub-Saharan Africa were five times more likely to die in the hospital if they tested positive for the coronavirus. And being pregnant doubled the odds that a woman admitted to a hospital with COVID-19 would die.

"We had it in both ways: pregnancy

impacted COVID, and COVID impacted pregnant women," said Nachege.

Pregnant women with COVID-19 were also at higher risk of serious complications requiring intensive care. It wasn't possible to tell whether pregnancy made the combination of COVID-19 and TB or HIV riskier, but women with HIV, TB, malaria or sickle cell who had the coronavirus were more likely to get seriously ill.

"It's very good that the study was conducted in sub-Saharan Africa, and it is very reassuring that the findings are consistent with the results of other studies," said Ana Langer, a physician specializing in reproductive health and head of the Women and Health initiative at Harvard University.

Because the study considered only hospitalized women, it wasn't possible to tell if pregnancy makes women

more likely to get infected with the coronavirus or if they get sick from it in the first place. Using data collected in the past can also cause problems with the analysis, which the researchers used statistical tools to correct. But "this was the best study they could do with the availability of funding and the other circumstances," Langer said.

Nachege hopes that his findings will convince policymakers in sub-Saharan Africa to recommend vaccination for pregnant women and women who could become pregnant.

"The bottom line is that pregnant women need to get vaccinated," he said. "If not then, before even she gets pregnant. The most important implication of this study is to advocate for COVID vaccination in women of childbearing age."

Multiple studies have shown that the COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective during pregnancy, and 110 countries recommend COVID-19 vaccination for some or all pregnant women. However, only 13 of sub-Saharan Africa's 48 countries currently do so. Lack of government support stymies efforts to make the vaccine more accessible to pregnant women and is complicated by high rates of vaccine hesitancy in sub-Saharan Africa, where only about 19% of women intend to get the vaccine.

"Women and their families are worried about their safety, they think that the vaccine could harm them, or their fetuses and babies, and it has been extensively demonstrated that that's not the case," said Langer. "The vaccine is safe for pregnant and breastfeeding women."

Should Sri Lanka join the ranks of the 'poorest of the world's poor'?

UNITED NATIONS
As one of the world's foremost international humanitarian organizations, the United Nations has pledged to provide food and medicines to cash-strapped Sri Lanka - a country suffering from a major financial crisis.

As of last week, a UN team, led by the Resident Coordinator in Colombo, Hanaa Singer-Hamdy has appealed to international donors for more than \$47 million in "life-saving assistance" to 1.7 million people in a country with a population of over 22 million.

This stands in contrast to the staggering \$5.0 billion the government is seeking for the island's economic survival during the next six months - primarily for food, fuel and fertilizer.

Last month, the UN announced that with a \$1.5 million donation from the Government of Japan, the UN's children's agency UNICEF will procure medicines for over 1.2 million people, among them 53,000 pregnant mothers and nearly 122,000 children with immediate medical needs.

The World Food Programme (WFP) is expected to receive about \$1.5 million from Japan to provide food assistance to children and families in need of support.

In addition, Australia has made available the equivalent of nearly \$5 million for food security, essential medicines for women's health, nutrition data collection and analysis with UN agencies working together, including the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the World Food Programme, the World Health Organization (WHO), the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) and the UN Children's Fund.

Currently, some of the UN's biggest aid recipients are either countries embroiled in military conflicts such as Ukraine, Afghanistan and Yemen - or the 46 member states categorized as Least Developed Countries (LDCs), "the poorest of the world's poor".

The majority of LDCs are from Africa, including Angola, Rwanda, Zambia, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Somalia and the Central African Republic, while the LDCs from Asia include Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Myanmar and Afghanistan.

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/dpad/least-developed-country-category/lDCs-at-a-glance.html>

According to published



The long lines for kerosene, used in cooking, which is in short supply island-wide. Credit: Sunday Times, Sri Lanka

reports, Sri Lanka's foreign exchange reserves have hit a low of \$1.9 billion, equivalent to funds that could finance less than one month's imports while its debt service repayments amount to about \$6.9 billion. Last month, Sri Lanka defaulted on its debt repayments for the first time in history.

An editorial in the Sri Lanka Sunday Times put the problem in its right perspective: "Once called the 'Granary of the East', Sri Lanka is also considering tapping the SAARC Food Bank - from the buffer stocks of India, Pakistan and Bangladesh. The country is not only financially bankrupt, it is facing a famine in a few months".

"From a middle-income country not long ago, it has come to this", said the editorial.

"What an inglorious comedown for the country and humiliating stigma for its people no better personified by the presence of its Foreign Minister and chairman of the ruling party accepting a container of food aid from abroad at the Colombo harbour".

"Brought about by stupendously irresponsible agricultural policy decision-making at the highest levels of Government, it is now humble-pie that is left to be eaten as Sri Lanka appeals to the world for food in the midst of a global economy facing recession, inflation, and a hurricane of shortages of oil, gas and wheat."

Should Sri Lanka, long designated by the UN as a "middle-income country," be heading towards the ranks of the 46 LDCs?

In an interview with IPS, Ambassador Anwarul K. Chowdhury, former Permanent Representative of Bangladesh and the first Under-Secretary-General and UN High Representative for LDCs, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, responded to questions on the benefits and privileges of being an LDC.

"LDCs benefit from exclusive international support measures (ISMs) in the areas of trade, development cooperation and participation in international organizations and processes."

Such measures in the area of trade, he pointed out, include preferential market access for goods and services; special treatment under World Trade Organization rules and certain regional trade agreements; and technical assistance and capacity building.

A range of financial and technical assistance provided by multilateral and bilateral partners, such as special programmes and budget allocations at the UN, including the Technology Bank for LDCs and Fund for LDCs, established by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Support for debt cancellation and/or debt rescheduling are also available for LDCs, he added

Other support measures help LDCs participate in international forums, such as caps and discounts on contributions to the budget of the United Nations and financial support for representatives of LDCs to travel to General Assembly and other meetings, said Ambassador Chowdhury, who was also Senior Special Adviser to UN General Assembly President (2011-2012).

Excerpts from the interview:

Q: Do you think that Sri Lanka, which has appealed for humanitarian assistance from the UN, may end up being an international basket case?

A: It is not conceivable that Sri Lanka would become an international basket case. But it needs to steer away from the man-made, to say more directly, the current corruption-driven economy, in the right direction to return to its steady developing socio-economic development of yester years.

Among the eight members of SAARC only three are not LDCs, but among the other five LDCs, the Maldives have already "graduated" out of the LDC category and Bhutan, Nepal and Bangladesh are scheduled to graduate by 2026 (as their economies improve).

Being the victim of a catastrophic economic mismanagement should not

prompt Sri Lanka to think of seeking an LDC status. The United Nations defines LDCs as countries that have low levels of income and face severe structural impediments to sustainable development.

Q: If the situation continues to deteriorate, what are our chances of joining the 46 LDCs?

A: Joining the LDCs group involve a long process and requires fulfillment of all three criteria to be eligible. According to the UN, those three are:

1. Income: Countries must have an average per capita income (GNI) of below USD\$1,018 for inclusion, and above USD\$1,222 for graduation. [The Gross Domestic Product per capita in Sri Lanka was last recorded at 4052.75 US dollars in 2020.]

2. Human Assets: Countries must also have a

low score on the Human Assets Index (HAI), a tool that measures health and education outcomes, including under-five mortality rate, maternal mortality, adult literacy rate and gender parity for secondary school enrolment. [Sri Lanka is much above the "60 or below" threshold.]

3. Economic and Environmental Vulnerability: Countries must score high on the Economic and Environmental Vulnerability Index (EVI), which measures factors like remoteness, dependence on agriculture and vulnerability to natural disasters.

[Sri Lanka is below "36 or above" threshold. The current economic downturn and challenges faced by Sri Lanka may not fully fit the country's EVI threshold]

IPS - How does this work? Does Sri Lanka have to apply to the UN for LDC status?

A: The Committee for Development Policy (CDP) reviews the list of LDCs and makes recommendations for inclusion in and graduation from the category every three years.

According to UN guidelines, the time frame of the eligibility procedure includes preliminary finding that the country satisfies inclusion criteria; notifies the country of its findings; prepares a country assessment note; provides a draft to the country; finds the country eligible and formally notifies the country of eligibility conclusion; and the General Assembly finally takes note of the CDP recommendation.

Q: What's the downside of being an LDC?

A: In reality, there is no downside except the psychological perception of being categorized as one of the poorest countries. Some say that foreign direct investment (FDI) is not forthcoming.

If there is a downside, how come six countries have "graduated" from LDCs over the years since the category was established by the General Assembly in 1971 and ten more are in the pipeline for graduation by 2026.

IPS UN Bureau Report

RADIO One RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.00 HRS DAKIKA 45 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA SHERIA 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA MICHEZO 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA UKIMWI 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM HIZI NAZO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS KIPIMA JOTO 23.00 HRS WEEKEND SHOW 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM COMMERCIALS 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM NEWS PAPER REVIEW 07.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA KISWAHILI 09.00 AM WATOTO SHOW 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.15 AM MIWANI YA MAISHA 11:00 AM MITAA WA MAGOMA 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 15:00 HRS MUZIKI NA MICHEZO 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.15 HRS MICHUNDO MOTOMOTO 18.00 HRS BONGO TEN 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.15 HRS CHEMSHA BONGO 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.03 HRS WEEK END SHOW I 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS WEEK END SHOW II 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS WEEK END SHOW III 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM COMMERCIALS 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM NEWS PAPER REVIEW 07.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA - FAMILIA 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.15 AM SUNDAY SPECIAL 11:00 HRS TOP 20 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS NANI ZAIDI 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS MAMBO YA PWANI 18.00 HRS AFRICAN PANORAMA 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MBAYU ZANGU 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.03 HRS MAMBO MSETO 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS RAFIKI I 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS RAFIKI II 01.00 - 05.00 MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	



Mwanza RC joins NBC to hone businesses on proper management



Mwanza Regional Commissioner Eng Robert Gabriel addresses invited guests during a dinner event organized by NBC Bank for its clients in the region recently. The event provided an opportunity for the lender to discuss business opportunities, growth plans, and services offered by the bank in the region.

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

MWANZA Regional Commissioner recently joined senior officials of the National Bank of Commerce (NBC) to train large and small businesses in the region aimed at equipping them with skills on how to grow their businesses for their development and the nation as a whole.

Speaking during a dinner hosted by NBC

Bank for the city's small and large customers over the weekend, Engineer Gabriel advised the businessmen to make good use of the financial services offered by NBC Bank to boost their capital in order to maximize profits.

"The basic thing to do is to make sure that in everything you think about your business make sure you think about doing it more broadly. If it is a shop business then make sure you open a large store with good and modern services so

that you can attract and serve as many customers as possible to grow your capital but also attract financial institutions to be persuaded to continue supporting you," he said.

The event was aimed at discussing business opportunities and introducing new banking services offered by the lender through its Business Club known as NBC Business Club.

Mussa Mwynidaho, the bank's Head of SMEs Unit, said they were committed to improving services so

that its customers could continue to enjoy simplified services to suit their business needs so that they could grow their businesses.

"Through NBC Business Club we have a comprehensive strategy to uplift SMEs and large businesses by sharpening their business capacity through training and seminars, networking as well as helping them formalize their businesses so that they can be trusted by financial institutions when they need loans. This initiative has been

productive not only for our customers but also for us as a bank we have been able to get feedback that has enabled us to improve our services for them," he said.

He said through the club, the bank has been able to introduce new products for SMEs including the 'Commercial Property Financing' service that enables commercial building owners to be issued with low interests loans and the 'Commercial Asset Financing' service which enables the SMEs to get loans for machin-

ery business and contracting activities.

"Also through today's event, our customers in the Mwanza region will have the opportunity to be more aware of our unsecured loans product, an exciting product for SMEs as part of the bank's strategy to support them to grow and support the country's industrialisation agenda. The loans, which are issued, based on the creditworthiness of a borrower, cover distributors and suppliers of large companies." He mentioned.

484 retail shop owners, managers empowered with entrepreneurship, customer serving skills

By Francis Kajubi

A TOTAL of 484 retail shop owners and managers have graduated from an eight months entrepreneurship and customer serving skills training programme aimed at growing their businesses and improving sales by 30 percent.

The training has been funded by TechnoServe Tanzania, the Citi Foundation funded programme was implemented during October 2021 and June 2022, through the Pan African Youth Entrepreneur Development (PAYED) programme.

This is phase five since the programme was implemented in Tanzania for the first time five years ago.

PAYED Programme Manager Tunsime Kyando, said TechnoServe had piloted digital technologies that not only helped shop owners manage sales and finances but also helped us to scale our impact.

"The 484 retail business owners were trained through Talentlms, WhatsApp groups, bulk sms, phone calling and field visits," she said.

The eight month programme had recruited a total of 484 youth shop owners where females are 245 equivalents to 51 percent and 239 male equivalent to 49 percent. Of the total beneficiaries, 26 equivalent to 5 percent are people living with disability.

She said the program

works with youth shop owners on best practices such as shop management, sourcing and inventory management, records keeping and merchandising. All critical centres to improve shop operations and increase profitability.

The programme, among other things, targets to dole sustainable employability skills among jobless youth while also improving access to financial products for the group's micro-retail shop owner.

The training also targets youth who already have businesses but lack knowledge and skills of managing and growing them professionally.

According to her, during the period, the project team had observed that there is a huge number of youths who can't interact well with digital training platforms, specifically talentlms regardless of the fact that they possess digital devices and are active in social media.

"We observed that youth below secondary education are very slow to adopt, as compared to those who have completed Ordinary secondary and above," she asserted.

Regardless of the external factors, she pointed out, such as changes in political regime, economic depression as a result of Covid-19 effects, and changes in approaches to deliver the project, the team is still able to attain project results as per plans and targets.



PAYED Programme Manager Tunsime Kyando clarifies a point to retail business owners during a training session held in Dar es Salaam recently. Photo: Courtesy of TechnoServe.

For example, she asserted, the project target was to mobilize not less than 400 beneficiaries in PAYED 5, but the team went further to recruit 484 beneficiaries, with an average of 90 percent participation and completion.

She affirmed that such an accomplishment comes from the team's hardworking and team work spirit, engaging stakeholders, innovation and quick adop-

tion to digital technologies, ability to leverage from past experiences and the power of referrals.

She said from the hybrid of digital and physical interactions, beneficiaries' retention and flexibility is at its stake, something that guarantees an increase in impact.

However, managing participation and other project activities is now more simplified through dig-

ital adoption that creates space for project teams and beneficiaries to build more relations and increase interactions.

"The team's activeness in adopting and designing new tools is becoming mandatory so as to ensure efficiency when we are working remotely as well as tools that will effectively improve our performance," she added.

Over the years TechnoServe has worked with Citi Foundation to combat youth unemployment by developing a proven approach to help youth micro retailers maximize their economic potential.

"Our results suggest that with the right support, micro retailers in the developing world can increase their income by more than 30 percent," she concluded.

Bourse organises course to enhance securities market participants

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

THE Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange PLC (DSE) will conduct a two week securities investment and trading (SIT) course to be held in the city next month.

Speaking at the DSE Chief Executive Officer Moremi Marwa, said the course will be held from 4th July to 18 July 2022 at the bourse offices.

"This course is aimed at enhancing skills and capacity of the securities industry market participants, college students and investors," he said.

He said during the course, participants will understand how they can enhance their knowledge about bond trading, raising capital and financing alternatives, capital markets legal framework

Others are DSE rules, equity and debt research, financial analysis and valuation of securities, asset & portfolio management alongside their current profession/work or increase their

potential to be employed by or work as the DSE licensed dealing member (broker/dealer), custodian banks, investment advisors, auditing firms or other major players in Capital markets including the prospective investment banking industry.

According to him participants may be treasury managers, financial controllers, risk managers, investment advisors, lawyers, investment bankers, investor relations officers, bond dealers, audit committee members.

Others who may apply to participate are fund managers, accounting officers, employees of securities brokerage firms, mutual funds, hedge funds, pension funds managers, insurance companies, university students and interested parties.

Dar to host 9th African Islamic banking summit

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA is next month set to host the 9th African Islamic Finance Summit that aims to bring on board stakeholders from various parts in Africa to strengthen knowledge and skills in the Islamic financial industry for economic development.

Organized by AlHuda Centre of Islamic Banking and Economics (CIBE), the Summit is set to be held on July 8, this year in Dar es Salaam.

A statement issued by Zubair Mughal, the chief executive of

ficer of AlHuda CIBE stated participants will learn deeply and broaden awareness on Islamic alternative modes of banking, explore the untapped African financial market for socio-economic benefits of the region to promote financial inclusion.

He said the three-day summit will feature presentations on the first day followed by a two-day post event workshop on Practical and Operational Aspects of Takaful.

The Banking and Takaful industry of Tanzania and the surrounding areas will actively participate

in the conference to gain ample knowledge of the Islamic financial sector and solutions to the escalating problems of the society. More than 20 international speakers would give their valuable contribution in the topics of discussion.

"African countries are facing a lot of challenges for the development of people's social and economic lives, their economies are just on the way to growth. This is the right time to make sound financial decisions with Islamic Finance concepts for building their financial policies not only

at institutional level but for state," he said.

Detailing on the importance of Islamic banking and finance he said; "this is the best alternative to change the lives of the poor. Investing in Islamic Banking and Finance could mean greater foreign investment that could result in enhanced global connectivity, improved job creation, socio-economic development and poverty alleviation."

The main objective of the summit is to raise awareness on the significance of developments in the Islamic financial infrastruc-

ture of Africa. This goes hand in hand with understanding linkages of the African Islamic finance industry with the international financial market and demonstration of the flexibility of Islamic Financial markets during the recent financial and pandemic crisis.

"The summit will also share the best practices of the international Islamic banking market with African Islamic finance industry and assess innovations in Islamic financial markets," he summed up.

Participation at the event is open to the public at a very nominal fee. Registration for partici-

pancy of organizations, companies and banks is currently open. The organizers, AlHuda Centre of Islamic Banking and Economics (CIBE), is a well-recognized name in the Islamic banking and finance industry.

The company deals in research and provides state-of-the-art advisory consultancy and education through various well-recognized modes on Islamic financial products development, Shariah advisory, Islamic Microfinance and Takaful consultancies and various publications in Islamic banking and finance.

Vodacom M-Pesa users to share 3.3bn/- profit

By Guardian Reporter

VODACOM Tanzania Plc has started the disbursement of 3.3bn/- to its over 7.7 million M-Pesa users as a share of the profit accumulated on M-Pesa Trust Accounts. The pay-out will make a cumulative total of 174bn/- which has been paid since the company started issuing the profit. These payments are expected to be completed by 17th June, by which time all subscribers will have received their share.

Elaborating further on the M-Pesa interest payout, Epimack Mbeteni, Vodacom Tanzania Director of M-Pesa said: "We are extremely gratified to see that the M-Pesa



platform and its many services are a part of people's everyday life. It is through their use of such services that we are able to return this interest to them. We are currently disbursing 3.3bn/- to customers who used the platform in the last

quarter of the past financial year, disbursing funds directly into their M-Pesa accounts."

The profit will be paid to individual customers, retail agents, and other M-Pesa business partners based on their M-Pesa wallet

transactions between January and March this year. Share of profit is dependent on the level of activity the user has had on M-Pesa for the said period. Such activities include transfers, bill payments, and airtime purchases to name a few.

Customers can SMS the word AMOUNT to 15300 to find out how much interest they will receive. Upon receiving the disbursed amount, M-Pesa customers can redeem the interest via cash withdrawal, airtime, or bundle purchases, and transact the bonus to pay bills or purchase products.

Mbeteni concluded by saying: "This revolutionary mobile money platform has played a huge role in building inclusion and access to services in the country. Women and youth have seen the ease and convenience of using M-PESA and are taking advantage of the numerous M-Pesa services that simplify and improve their lives. It has also been a key resource empowering small businesses to weather the difficulties which were caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. For us at Vodacom Tanzania, our priority is to make sure that the M-Pesa platform remains safe, agile and responsive to customer needs."

30,000 Manyara coop members ready to participate in August census

By Guardian Correspondent, Manyara

OVER 30,000 members of cooperative societies in Manyara Region have been called to participate in the population and Housing census slated for August this year in order to assist the government conduct the exercise effectively.

The call was made here on Monday by the Registrar of Cooperatives for Manyara Region, Venance Msafiri at a meeting with members of the cooperative societies in the region.

Msafiri said the aim of the meeting is to sensitize members to come out in great numbers during the Census to help the government in the important exercise.

He also said the over 30,000 members come from various cooperative societies formed in the region and unanimously agreed to fully participate in the August 23 Census.

He said the Census is important because it will enable the government know the correct number of its citizens for better development planning.

"My brothers, the Census is a very important exercise as the government will know the exact number of the people in the country and will make it easy for it in the planning and implementation of development projects," he said.

He further said in order to make the exercise a success they have started educating various groups to urge them to participate.

Cleofas Mulokozi, a member of Mwanda Cooperative society said members of the society will fully participate in the Census.



My brothers, the Census is a very important exercise as the government will know the exact number of the people in the country and will make it easy for it in the planning and implementation of development projects,

Rotary Club donates medical supplies worth 6million/- to Ukonga prison hospital in Dar

By Guardian Reporter

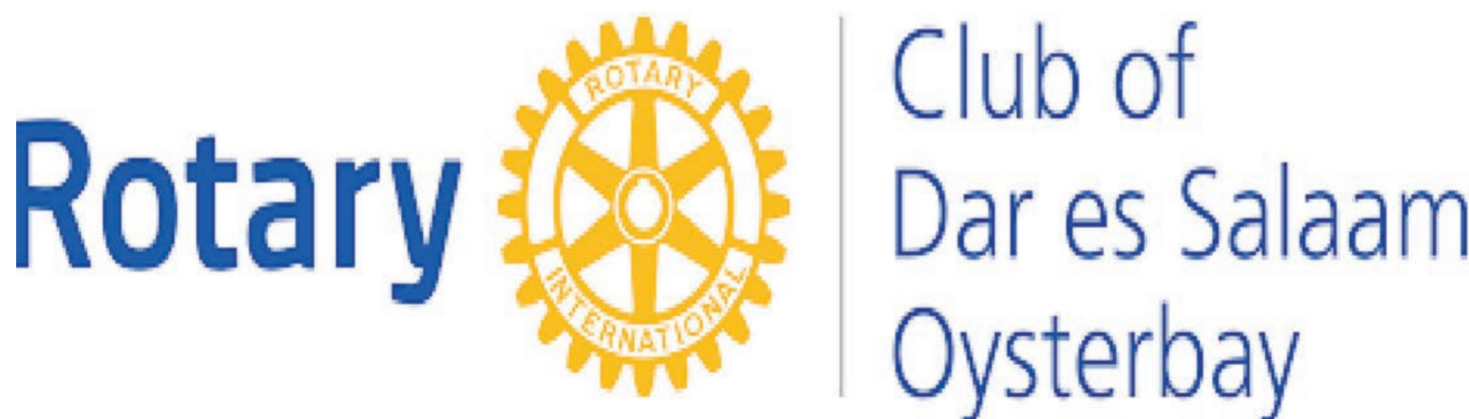
ROTARY Club of Dar es Salaam Oysterbay has donated medical supplies worth 6m/- to Ukonga prison hospital in Ilala District to support provision of health services to communities in the area.

The equipment includes wheelchairs, oxygen cylinders, delivery kits, pulse oximeters and examination screens.

Speaking during the handing over event in Dar es Salaam over the weekend, the club's president Aisha Sykes said their core zeal is to support the government's efforts towards enabling provision of quality health services in the country.

She said the support is one prime example of how Rotarians serve their communities hands-on projects in the areas where help is most needed.

Sykes said: "Ukonga is a com-



munity that we have been working with over the past few years. We conducted medical camps here in February 2021 and February 2022, and have engaged closely with the community ever since. We shall continue to work with the Ukonga community to resolve some of the challenges facing them, in line with our thematic areas as Rotary, which include education and disease

prevention."

She said the club had noticed that the hospital did not have sufficient medical tools and therefore decided to donate some.

She said that one of the key concerns that the club found was that the facility was providing its services to a large community which is still growing.

Ukonga prison hospital medi-

cal officer, Dr Abdilatif Mkingule commended the Rotarians for supporting service provision at the facility.

"This support is going to provide huge relief to the clinic as it complements the government's efforts to improve health services to reduce disease burden, eradicate maternal death and complications among others," he said.

Rotary is a network of 1.4 million individuals worldwide who are united together to act against some of the world's most pressing issues. Rotary's areas of focus are promoting peace, fighting disease, promoting local economies, water and sanitation, saving mothers and children, education and protecting the environment.

EABC, AHERI in new partnership to transform East Africa into a knowledge-based economy

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African Business Council (EABC) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Africa Higher Education Research Institute (AHERI) to promote higher education and industrial growth in the EAC and the continent.

Speaking during the signing ceremony in Nairobi, Kenya, EABC Executive Director John Bosco Kalisa (pictured) said "This partnership is set to transform East Africa into a knowledge-based economy."

He stated that trade in goods is expedited by the free movement of persons & services. The services sector contributes 51% of EAC's Gross Domestic Product.

In accordance with the EAC Common Market Protocol, countries liberalized 7 key services sectors of business services, communication services, distribution services, education services, financial services, tourism and travel-related services, and transport services.

Kalisa expounded that the MoU is hinged on collaboration in research to boost East Africa's productive capacity, competitiveness and innovation of new products and services that meet continental and global market requirements.

Robert Owino, Executive Director of AHERI said: "Harmonization of the education system and research in Africa is important in the actualization of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA)."

He called for 4% of Gross Domestic Product to be allocated to research and development. Africa's research and development funding was only 0.42% of GDP (2019).

He stated that EABC and AHERI have partnered to advocate for appropriate legislation on intellectual property rights and address skills mismatch in order to enhance academia and industry collaboration in East Africa and the continent. He noted that with the advancement of technology youth have the opportunity to access online consultancy works such as computer programming and export their skills globally.

Barrack Otieno, Director ICT, AHERI expounded that prominent leaders and intellectuals in East Africa pursued education from academic institutions under a common system during the former EAC.

Pre-independence era Makerere University College was the only higher education institution in the region serving students from Kenya, the then Tanganyika, and Zanzibar in East Africa, noting that AHERI and EABC partnership is set to turn ideas into action.

The two parties will collaborate on joint research projects, conferences, resource mobilization and development of the education sector including technological and professional education and research.



Banking sector outlook remains positive on growing demand for country's digital services

By Correspondent Geoffrey Nangai



NMB Bank CEO Ruth Zaipuna

Tanzania's banking sector remained sound and well capitalized during the post COVID-19 era last year thanks to sound and accommodative policy interventions undertaken by the Bank of Tanzania.

The pandemic forced banks to rethink how they operate their businesses that prompted banks heavily relying on traditional methods to be under pressure to transform their business and operating models by adopting innovative digital ways due to change in consumer expectations, heightened competition, evolving regulations and advancements in technology.

The banking sector in Tanzania however posted a bullish performance last year with the largest top ten banks in terms of assets and deposits sharing a record net profit of 715bn/- that was driven by income growth, cost containment and a decline in impairment provisions.

During the period, digital banking services also continued to expand driven by increasing financial inclusion and mobile penetration rate.

Banking and financial analysts however predict that supported by a growing demand for digital banking services and a positive operating environment, the banking sector is poised to remain in its growth strategy in the years to come.

The Banking Industry Trends Report 2021/22 released by research firm Deloitte last year however noted that the future of banking in-

volves innovating ways to make a consumer's daily life easier.

"The high cost of investing in new technology and robust digital systems also poses a significant challenge to banks that have not considered significantly shifting to a digitized banking environment. Banks will have to create or select the right platforms that bring the most distinctive and personalised user experience," the report said.

The report noted that Artificial intelligence (AI) generates an enormous opportunity for the banking sector to understand the entire consumer footprint and accelerate their digital transformation journey.

Several top tier banks in the region such as NMB Bank Plc have developed credible and reliable systems that allow their clients to have a smooth transition into the new operating mode of a digitized banking environment. Some of these systems include Mobile money, Mobile banking applications and online transaction systems.

According to the NMB Chief Executive Officer Ruth Zaipuna, the bank last year leveraged on its strong digital capabilities to enhance its service delivery by delivering customized offerings, driving further efficiency gains and widening access to affordable and reliable banking services.

Speaking during the Bank's Annual General Meeting a few weeks ago, Zaipuna said the bank last year continued to invest in innovation delivery channels to support the bank's financial inclusion drive.

"During the year, we continued to

enhance NMB Mkononi, our mobile banking platform to make it simpler and safer for our customers. The channel continues to grow day by day and has helped reach the unbanked," she added.

She noted that the bank's digital investments have helped to ease access to stable, reliable and safe banking services with the strong adaptation of translating to lower cost-to-serve customers.

She added, "Being at the forefront of widening financial inclusion, we continued to scale our agency banking footprint to broaden access to financial services closing the year with 10,194 agents across the country."

Zaipuna noted that the bank will continue to explore and pursue opportunities for further digitalization and automation to enhance its service delivery.

"We constantly engage with our customers and gather their views to understand their current and evolving needs and offer tailor-made solutions. We remain committed to further develop innovative solutions to scale and widen financial inclusion," she said.

The bank's Board Chairman Dr. Edwin Mhede during the event was however optimistic that amidst a rapid competitive environment and continued strong domestic recovery, the bank eyes to remain the leading commercial bank in the country.

"Through disciplined execution of our key strategic pillars and optimized investments in technology to enhance efficiency and productivity,

we aim to continue providing the best propositions for our customers, expand financial inclusion by widening access to affordable financial services and continue supporting key national development priorities, Dr.Mhede said.

He noted that the bank will continue exploring available opportunities within the Tanzanian market and beyond borders to determine the best fit in line with the bank's strategic ambitions.

"Am confident that the bank will continue to withstand the challenges that may arise and we remain committed to providing excellent customer experience by providing products that address customer needs. The management and the board will continue to closely monitor developments and remain mindful of the evolving global conditions while pursuing our growth strategy" he added.

The NMB Bank board on a few days back declared a 96.7bn/- dividend for the bank's equity shareholders being a 41 percent increase as compared to 68.5bn/- issued by the bank last year promising to continue creating a shared value for the bank's customers and shareholders.

This follows strong 2021 financial performance of 290bn/- profit after tax being a 41 percent increase as compared to the preceding year translating to 193/- per share to its equity shareholders that will be paid on or about June 15, 2022.

The bank has paid a total of 213bn/- to the bank's equity shareholders in the past three years.

High debt burden measure: How do we know when it is too much?

By Gibons Mwabukusi

To adequately meet its service delivery obligations, especially to the poor and most vulnerable in Tanzanian society, the government needs to ensure it has and uses the maximum available resources.

The main resources are local taxes, levies, and penalties and whenever possible government will borrow from inside and outside the country to increase this pool of resources.

Borrowings can be means of implementing urgent needs, development projects, or even means of increasing foreign currencies within the economy.

However persistent borrowing over several years creates Public Debt which will have to be paid sometime in the future from the same local resources that are used to serve the public.

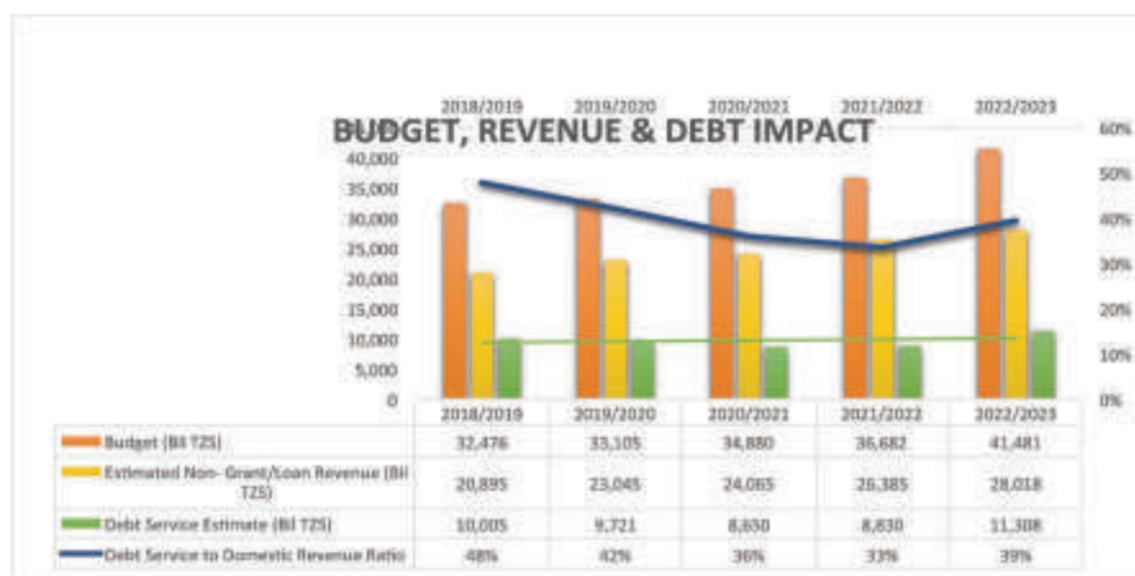
The recent Controller and Auditor General (CAG) report for the year 2020/2021, revealed a total public debt of about 64.5 trillion at a ratio of 71% and 29% for both external and internal debts respectively. The level of Debt burden is still at an acceptable level and below the 70% debt ceiling set according to the recommendations.

Overall public debt was expected to rise further due to additional borrowings up to 69.44 trn/- as of April 2022 including 47.07trn/- (67.8%) and 22.37trillion (32.2%), and further borrowing for the coming fiscal year to finance the expected budget deficit.

Public debt in 2020/2021 was at 27.9% and estimated debt service levels of 39% are far above what was predicted in the CAG 2015/2016 fiscal year report.

While the cost of servicing the national debt was trending downward in 2021/2022, this is expected to change in the 2022/2023 budget with a 6% increase.

This might impact the needed internal revenue for budget implementation, it is estimated that in the 2022/2023 budget for every 10 shillings collected in internal revenue, 4 shillings will be used to pay service debt at 39% thus, decreasing the level of predictability that internal collections bring in implementation of a development project. Non-borrowing internal revenue collection is the major source of financing debt service, with



more available can be useful in complementing development expenditure thus any increase in debt service hinders this ability.

As shown in the graph below debt service has been constant at approximately one-third of the total budget and has utilized more than 30% of the available internal revenue.

External debt at 71% of total debt, caution for external borrowing must be taken, a recent rise in interest rates because of controlling inflation in major economies like the US might increase the risk of further costs to any external borrowings.

Considering these risks, controlling internal price fluctuations and the government's ability to structure external loans that will be both flexible during difficulties and favorable to any shock changes such as interest rates rising will help to have the sustainable cost of borrowing that does not have a major impact on cash flows that are sourced internally.

Lower Tax Collection Increases Reliance on Borrowing

As the Tanzania government has continued to implement a budget with a considerable amount of borrowing, this is a result of lower

tax collection. Over a long period, revenue performance has been below the expectations which has impacted the budget performance overall. The actual debt service is or about the same as the debt budget service estimate thus, any below target internal revenue performance increases the strain on the resources used in the budget even more.

Efforts to increase capacity to attain at least the projected internal revenues are important to decrease the stranglehold the debt service might have.

Tax to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is an important measure of the efficiency of tax collection in the economy. Since any growing economy will increase tax revenue due to increased tax base, collection, and efficiency.

The CAG report for the 2020/2021 fiscal year shows that tax performance in terms of actual tax to GDP ratio was below 12% at 11.4%, which is a decrease of 1.4% compared to the 2017/2018 fiscal year.

From the graph above clearly, taxes to fund annual budgets have been around 60% and there has been no movement to close that gap in terms of tax revenue. While there has been an increase in the

budget up to 24% in the 2021/2022 budget compared to the 2016/2017 level (at TZS billion.29,547) there has been no significant change in the level of tax revenue collected.

Thus, any economic growth had not spurred significant positive change in the level of tax to GDP growth. If there could be better tax performance in terms of tax to GDP improvement; budget funding would be positively impacted. But also increasing efficiency and reducing any unnecessary expenditure will improve the budget deficit and shift the graph. Therefore, the government needs to identify and commit to specific measures that will increase the level of tax collection as recommended by the World Bank to 15% of GDP. This will not only increase growth but will also finance a lot of social obligations and improve Tanzanians' lives. There is a very big chance that reaching 15% of GDP will immensely decrease the deficit and reduce dependence on loans and external sources.

Can this Public Debt hurdle negotiated? Finally, it is important for the government to comprehensively show and project in a multiyear the total expected borrowing

cost that financing the fiscal budget deficits to anticipate and predict new realities related to the public debt. This will not only show where we are but also where we are heading and help decision-makers in the future borrowing portfolios.

The set debt ceiling is just bound to change whenever is necessary to finance public expenditure as we have seen in other countries. More tools that might help to control public debt should be devised for example government might study and devise the appropriate level of debt service cost to tax revenue as maximum controlling means for debt and budget implementation cash flows.

In a bigger picture of country debt, it is therefore important to reign and control the level of public debt particularly external debt which is higher as a share of the total debt. These efforts might be challenged as the government is proposing an increase in the level of annual borrowing to 18% of approved domestic revenue from 12.5% and tax collection to the tune of 11.7% of GDP in the fiscal year 2022/2023. The logical steps that might be key, may include finding alternative sources that external borrowing might be complemented.

Measures such as encouraging grants that are earmarked for NGOs by foreign partners to be directed to the country as well as that encourage and increase overseas individual remittances from abroad as means of increasing foreign currency.

Gibons Mwabukusi is the Dar es Salaam-based commentator

Credit Suisse weighs new round of job cuts after loss warning

ZURICH

CREDIT Suisse Group AG is weighing a fresh round of job cuts, part of a renewed push to slash costs after warning of a second-quarter loss, according to people familiar with the matter.

The Swiss bank is considering headcount reductions across divisions including investment banking and wealth management in different regions, said the people, who asked not to be identified as the matter is private.

The dismissals are likely to come as the bank prepares to update investors on risk, compliance, technology and wealth management on June 28, said the people. Final numbers are still to be decided, they said. A Credit Suisse spokeswoman declined to comment, pointing to the lender's statement on Wednesday.

The bank warned on Wednesday it expects a loss at the group-wide level and at its investment bank in the second quarter. Market conditions have remained challenging after the invasion of Ukraine and monetary tightening by central banks across the world, leading to weak customer flows and ongoing client deleveraging. "Given the economic and market environment, we are accelerating our cost initiatives across the Group with the aim of maximizing savings from 2023 onwards," Credit Suisse said, without providing more details.

Chief Executive Officer Thomas Gottstein's two years in charge have seen the \$5.5 billion hit from Archegos, the collapse of partner Greensill Capital and a string of profit warnings that eroded investor confidence, weakened key businesses and prompted an exodus of talent. The lender has said that 2022 will be a year of transition as it seeks to reduce risk at the investment bank while shifting resources to wealth management.

BANKING & FINANCE

WORLD

UK grounds migrant flight to Rwanda as Europe court steps in

LONDON/BOSCOMBE DOWN

BRITAIN'S first flight to take asylum seekers to Rwanda did not take off as scheduled on Tuesday after the European human rights court issued last-minute injunctions to stop the deportation of the handful of migrants on board.

The British government's plan to send some migrants to the East African country has been criticized by opponents, charities, and religious leaders who say it is inhumane. It has been forced to fight a series of legal challenges in London courts aiming to stop it going ahead.

In the last few days, at least 30 individuals earmarked to be on the first flight successfully argued that they should not be deported to Rwanda on health or human rights grounds.

Just a handful of migrants were set to fly from an air force base in southwest England on Tuesday. Shortly before the plane was due to leave, the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) granted injunctions to prevent their deportations.

"I have always said this policy will not be easy to deliver and am disappointed that legal challenge and last-minute claims have meant today's flight was unable to depart," Home Secretary Priti Patel said.

"It is very surprising that the European Court of Human Rights has intervened despite repeated earlier success in our domestic courts."

She said the government would not be deterred and would prepare for the next flight.

The flight was cancelled after the plane's engines had been started and cabin crew was seen boarding.

The ECHR's ruling relating to one of the men, an Iraqi, stated he "should not be removed until the expiry of a period of three weeks following the delivery of the final domestic decision in the ongoing judicial review proceedings."

The High Court in London is due to hold this judicial review in July to decide on the legality of the scheme.

Britain says the 120-million-pound (\$148 million) deal struck with Rwanda will stem the flow of dangerous cross-Channel trips and smash the business model of people-smuggling networks.

'Catastrophic'

But the United Nations' refugee chief called it "catastrophic", the entire leadership of the Church of England denounced it as immoral and shameful, and media reports have said Prince Charles, the heir to the throne, had pri-



Protesters stand outside the High Court where the ruling on Rwanda deportation flights is taking place, in London on Tuesday. AP PHOTO

vately described the plan as "appalling".

Prime Minister Boris Johnson, who said his government would not be put off by criticism, "some of it from slightly unexpected quarters," had earlier commented that legal bids were undermining attempts to support safe routes for asylum seekers.

Asked if Britain might withdraw from the European Convention on Human Rights, he said: "It is certainly the case that... the legal world is very good at picking up ways of trying to stop the government from upholding what we think is a sensible law."

"Will it be necessary to change some laws to help us as we go along? It may very well be and all these options are under constant review."

Sangeeta Shah, a professor of international law and human rights at the University of Nottingham said

Britain would be joining Belarus and Russia in not being part of the convention if it did opt out. Last week, Russia's parliament passed bills to end the European court's jurisdiction.

"Britain would be saying, 'we don't believe in a system that the whole of the rest of Europe does believe in,'" she said.

According to official figures, more than 28,500 people were detected arriving in Britain on small boats last year and the government says its strategy will stop these.

Dozens of migrants, including women and young children, arrived on Tuesday, a Reuters witness in the Channel port of Dover said.

Human rights groups say the policy will put migrants at risk and the UN refugee agency says Rwanda, whose own human rights record is under scrutiny, does not have the capacity to process the claims properly.

Agencies

Putin to assess global policy and economic situation at SPIEF, says aide

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin will give assessments to the situation in global policy and economy when speaking at the plenary session of the 25th St. Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF), aide to the Russian President Yuri Ushakov told reporters.

"It is anticipated that the President will give assessments to the current situation in the global economy and policy. Certainly, the case in point will be problems

currently faced by the world's economy at large, unfair competition among states, trade and financial wars, sanctions, restrictions, and so on," he said.

"The President will share his assessment of multipolar economic model forming and will give the assessment to opportunities and prospects opening this process for players of the entire global market," Ushakov noted.

The greater portion of the President's speech will be dedicated to further economic development of the country, the Kremlin spokes-



man said.

"The President will dedicate a significant part of his statement to tasks Russia faces at present and will face tomorrow - tasks of supporting further economic development of the country, stimulating domestic business activity, creating conditions for comfortable doing business and strengthening external trade and investment ties," Ushakov added.

Sudanese student aims to use Chinese solutions for powering agriculture in Africa

HEFEI

ALTYEB Ali, 32, from Sudan, aspires to forge a new path for agricultural development in Africa after acquiring knowledge about solar energy and agrivoltaic systems in China for almost seven years.

Ali, who was born into a farming family in southeast Sudan, was well aware of both the significance and the plight of agricultural development in his country. While Sudan has abundant solar energy resources, it is also beset by other difficulties, such as drought and water scarcity in large parts of the country.

After working in Sudan as a mechanical engineer for a year, Ali got a scholarship to pursue a master's degree in solar energy applications and technology at Kunming University of Science and Technology in 2015.

A new energy forum he attended near graduation made him realize that solar energy actually has broader application scenarios, particularly in agriculture.

At this forum, he met Liu Wen, a professor at the University of Sci-

ence and Technology of China, and this presentation on agrivoltaic systems particularly piqued Ali's interest.

"This technique can generate electricity and save water while boosting crop quality and yield, making previously unsuitable dry land feasible for farming. If I master this technology, I can solve many agricultural problems in Sudan," according to Ali.

Ali was more driven to understand this technique after an in-depth discussion with professor Liu, and he enrolled as a doctoral student studying agrivoltaic systems at Liu's university three months later.

Ali began to study how to plant, irrigate, fertilize and harvest based on his knowledge of solar energy application.

He also looked at how to build a photovoltaic greenhouse, and calculate evaporation and evapotranspiration in agrivoltaic systems. "We grew various plants including tomatoes, eggplants and roses in the experimental base of our college," Ali said.

In 2021, Ali moved to a larger ex-



Sudanese student Altyeb Ali checks the growth of vegetables at a research base in east China's Anhui Province, May 31, 2022. File photo

perimental field in Fuyang city of east China's Anhui Province and spent eight months there.

"By applying different agrivoltaic systems, we can intervene and separate sunlight to only let in the

sunlight needed for plant growth, and use the other light for power generation.

The study proved that this system can greatly reduce water evaporation and evapotranspiration

while satisfying plant photosynthesis," Ali said.

He noted that this study could be of great use in his hometown where many vegetables cannot be grown in summer due to strong sunlight.

"By introducing agrivoltaic systems and greenhouses, we can control sunlight, temperature, humidity and water evaporation so that people can consume a greater variety of fruits and vegetables all throughout the year," Ali said.

Talking about the future, Ali said he intends to pursue postdoctoral studies in China after graduation to acquire a deeper understanding of the agrivoltaic system and then return to Sudan.

He plans to become a university teacher in Sudan and start a company to promote the application of agrivoltaic systems in Sudan as well as other African countries.

"My study experience in China has increased my confidence in my future as well as in the development of agrivoltaic technology in Sudan, which could have strategic implications for African countries," Ali said.

Xinhua

Ukraine crisis threatens 2023 grain harvest, says top FAO economist

ROME

THE conflict between Russia and Ukraine has affected access to food on a global level and could deal a blow to the crop harvest in 2023, which is a "major concern" of the Rome-based United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the agency's chief economist has said.

Maximo Torero told Xinhua in a recent online interview that this year, global access to food is hampered by the rocketing prices.

"In March, we had the biggest peak in the FAO's food price index," he said, adding that although the

monthly index declined slightly in April and May, cereal prices continue to increase. The main reason behind the price increase, Torero said, is that Russia and Ukraine are key exporters of cereals, including maize and wheat.

The FAO said that the two countries produced around 30 percent of the global wheat supply in 2021.

As a result of the surge in prices, "consumers and especially vulnerable countries are facing significant challenges to be able to procure the amount of food that they need today," he said.

Access to fertilizers is another major concern, and this is especially

true for the 2022-2023 season, Torero said. Russia is the world's top exporter of nitrogenous fertilizers, the second leading supplier of potassium fertilizers, and the third of phosphorous fertilizers.

Now "fertilizers are not flowing at the velocity they are supposed to flow," he said. "We are really concerned that in 2023, if this is not resolved, we could have a problem with food availability and access," he noted.

The Russia-Ukraine conflict that started in late February "made it uncertain whether Ukraine will be able to harvest its winter crops and plant the spring crops," he said.

The FAO's recently released outlook for winter cereal crops in Ukraine is also bleak.

Yields are expected to fall 10 percent below average levels due to the delayed or missed fertilizer application and the country's inability to control pests and diseases.

Torero noted that Ukraine also faces a challenge in storage capacity as its ability to export via the Black Sea ports is completely stymied.

In the past, the country exported over 90 percent of its agricultural commodities. He recalled that several million tonnes of grain from the 2021 harvest remain stuck in Ukraine.

"If farmers are not able to sell their crops, they will lack the financial resources needed to start the next growing season, and this will seriously affect the 2023 harvest," he said.

"For now, it remains crucial to facilitate exports from Ukraine to free up the country's storage capacity and help farmers and their families earn income.

This will also help increase the availability of wheat globally, and reduce the pressure on prices," he said. The FAO has tabled a series of policy proposals to cushion the impact of the conflict on global food security, Torero said.

The first one is a global Food Im-

port Financing Facility (FIFF), which would help countries avoid food shortages caused by the increase in their food import bills.

The second proposed tool is the Food Insecurity Experience Scale (FIES), which is designed to measure the individual food insecurity of households in countries that are facing significant challenges.

The other proposals aim to increase the efficiency of the use of fertilizers and reduce food loss and waste. In the medium and long run, Torero said the emphasis should be on "how we can ensure that the most vulnerable countries can increase their resilience." Xinhua

US warned over 'illusions' about Taiwan

BEIJING has warned Washington not to make any "misjudgments" or have "illusions" in playing the "Taiwan card" to contain China, saying that the nation is determined and capable of defending its sovereignty and territorial integrity.

In a meeting with United States National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan in Luxembourg on Monday, senior Chinese diplomat Yang Jiechi reiterated that the Taiwan question concerns the political foundation of China-US relations which, unless handled properly, will have a subversive impact.

"The risk does not only exist, but will escalate as the United States attempts to contain China with the Taiwan question, and as the Taiwan authorities rely on the United States to seek its 'independence'," said Yang, who is a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and director of the Office of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the CPC Central Committee.

Yang stressed that China takes an unambiguous and steadfast stand in safeguarding its national sovereignty and territorial integrity.

China's internal affairs brook no interference by other countries, and any attempts to thwart or undermine China's national unity are doomed to fail, he said.

Yang also stated China's solemn position on issues concerning the Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, the Tibet autonomous region, and the South China Sea, as well as human rights and religion.

The meeting between Yang and Sullivan came three days after State Councilor and Defense Minister Wei Fenghe met with US Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin on the sidelines of the 19th Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore.

During that meeting, Wei also slammed the US for its wrongdoing on the Taiwan question, which is the most sensitive matter in China-US relations, saying that "the People's Liberation Army will relentlessly safeguard China's sovereignty and territorial integrity, and if anyone dares to separate Taiwan from the motherland, the Chinese military will definitely smash such attempts at any cost, even by going to war".

A statement issued by the White House said that the meeting between Sullivan and Yang included candid, substantive and productive discussion of a number of regional and global security issues, as well as key issues in US-China relations.

Both sides agreed at the Luxembourg meeting that maintaining unimpeded channels for communication between the two sides is necessary and beneficial, Xinhua News Agency reported.

During his meeting with Sullivan, Yang urged the US to correct its strategic perception about China, make the right choices, and translate US President Joe Biden's commitments to President Xi Jinping during their virtual meeting in November into concrete actions.

In November, Biden had promised Xi that the US does not seek a new Cold War with China, does not aim to change China's system, does not target China with its alliances, does not support "Taiwan independence" and has no intention of seeking a conflict with China.

However, the US administration has been insisting on further containing and suppressing China in an all-around way. It has kept using the Taiwan question to provoke China by selling arms to Taiwan or elevating "official" relations with the island while urging its allies and partners to contain China.

Noting that China firmly opposes using competition to define bilateral ties, Yang said "mutual respect, peaceful coexistence, and win-win cooperation" are the correct approaches for China and the US to get along with each other.

Analysts said that in the light of the ongoing Russia-Ukraine conflict, the interactions between the world's two largest economies are necessary and beneficial for them to avoid misunderstanding and miscalculation and properly handle their differences, and their communication about the regional and international issues is also conducive to promoting global stability.

However, they said that the US should keep in mind that the Taiwan question is a red line for China, and Washington needs to refrain from meddling in China's domestic affairs and rationally view China's development in order to ensure that the growing competition between them would not escalate into a much bigger conflict.

Zhou Wenxing, an assistant professor at the School of International Studies at Nanjing University, said that while trying to establish new guardrails in terms of its relations with Beijing, Washington is simultaneously dismantling existing and other more important guardrails.

"If Washington seeks to de-escalate rising tensions, and get its sour relations with China back to normal, it should preserve rather than destroy the guardrails they both share. The one-China principle is and will be a very significant guardrail guiding China-US ties," Zhou said.

Rabi Sankar Bosu, an Indian contributor to Chinese media outlets, said that the US, with the aim of preserving its own hegemony across the world, openly described China as a rival.

Date of Russia-Africa summit being discussed, Kremlin aide says

MOSCOW

THE date and other details of a Russia-Africa summit are being discussed, Kremlin Aide Yury Ushakov told reporters on Tuesday.

The sides are planning to hold the summit, Ushakov said. "We are discussing how and when it should best be organized," he said.

President Vladimir Putin's recent talks with the president of Senegal were of special significance, as the country is presiding at the African Union, Ushakov noted.

Putin met Senegalese President Macky Sall, who is also African Union Chairperson, in Sochi on June 3. Russia



has always been on Africa's side in its fight against colonialism, Putin said, also reminding that the 2019 summit meeting took place in Sochi.

Agencies

Biden to meet with Saudi crown prince despite 'pariah' pledge

WASHINGTON

US President Joe Biden will meet Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman during a trip to the Middle East in July, in a break with his campaign pledge of making the kingdom a "pariah" as he struggles to combat record high US gasoline prices.

Weeks after taking office, Biden shifted US policy on Saudi Arabia, adopting a tougher stance over the kingdom's human rights record and in particular the killing and dismembering of Washington Post journalist Jamal Khashoggi in Turkey in 2018. US intelligence implicated the prince in the murder. The Saudi government has denied any involvement by him.

Biden's predecessor Donald Trump had a close relationship with the prince, the defacto ruler of the country.

But while a presidential candidate in 2019, Biden vowed to make Saudi Arabia "pay the price, and make them, in fact, the pariah that they are" over the killing of Khashoggi. The White House has said, as recently as this month, that Biden's view has not changed.

The talks with the crown prince - part of Biden's first trip to the region - are seen by rights advocates as at odds with his promise to put human rights at the heart of US foreign policy. Biden's trip from July 13 to July 16 will also include a stop in Israel and the occupied West Bank.

A senior US official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said that if Biden "determines it's in his interest to engage with any particular leader, and if such an engagement can deliver results, then he will do so."

The official pointed to the crown prince's role in helping secure an extension of a UN-brokered truce between Yemen's warring parties as an example of what he said was a need to engage with Saudi Arabia as way to help bring peace and security to the region.

Biden's July 15-16 visit to the kingdom comes after the OPEC+ group of oil-producing nations, led by Saudi Arabia, agreed to boost oil production to offset Russian losses - following Western sanctions on Moscow

More people are avoiding the news, trusting it less - report

A GROWING number of people are selectively avoiding important news stories such as the coronavirus pandemic, the conflict in Ukraine, and the cost-of-living crisis, according to a report released on Tuesday.

While the majority of people surveyed consume news regularly, 38 percent said they often or sometimes avoid the news - up from 29 percent in 2017 - the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism said in its annual Digital News Report.

Around 36 percent - particularly those under 35 - say that the news lowers their mood.

Trust in news is also declining, and is lowest in the United States. On average, 42 percent of people said they trust most news most of the time; that figure has fallen in almost half the countries in the report and risen in seven.

"Large numbers of people see the media as subject to undue political influence, and only a small minority believe most news organizations put what's best for society ahead of their own commercial interest," wrote Reuters Institute Director Rasmus Kleis Nielsen in the report, which is based

on an online survey of 93,432 people, conducted in 46 markets.

Younger audiences are increasingly accessing the news via platforms such as TikTok, and have a weaker connection to news brands, the report found.

Each week 78 percent of 18- to 24-year-olds access news via aggregators, search engines and social media. Forty percent of that age group uses TikTok each week, with 15 percent saying they use it to find, discuss or share news.

The growth in the number of people who pay for online news may be leveling off, with a large proportion of digital subscriptions going to a few national brands.

Across 20 countries where payment for news is widespread, 17 percent of survey respondents paid for any online news, the same figure as last year. Payment for local news varies across markets.

The Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism is funded by the Thomson Reuters Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Thomson Reuters. The poll has a margin of error of 2-3 percentage points up or down. **Agencies**

DR Congo accuses Rwandan army of invading, occupying its key town - provincial official

KINSHASA/KIGALI

REGIONAL authorities of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) accuses on Monday the Rwandan army of invading and occupying Bunagana, a key strategic town bordering Uganda, amid a diplomatic tug of war between the two Central African countries, provoked and fueled by the recent offensives of the March 23 Movement (M23).

According to a statement by General Sylvain Ekenge, spokesman for the military governor of DRC's north-eastern North Kivu province, where heavy fighting between the army and M23 rebels has intensified since April, the provincial government accuses the Rwandan army of "violating our frontier intangibility and territorial integrity by occupying Bunagana on Monday at around 7 a.m." There was no immediate comment from Rwanda on the latest accusations. Yet the Rwanda Defense Force (RDF) said Tuesday in a statement that the defense and security of the Rwandan population, as well as Rwanda's territorial integrity, is assured.

Tensions between the two countries intensified last month after DRC accused Rwanda of supporting M23 rebels in renewed fighting in the country's northeastern North Kivu province. Rwanda has denied the charge and instead accused the Congolese army of allying with Rwandan rebels of the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), active in eastern DRC, whose elements are blamed for the 1994 genocide against Tutsi.

Tuesday's army reassurance came on the back of counter accusations of shelling rockets into the shared border. Last Friday, Rwanda accused the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (FARDC) of firing rockets into Rwanda. DRC also said a rocket fired from Rwanda had killed two children.

The provincial statement comes hours after the M23 claimed to have occupied Bunagana, a key transit point for goods on the Ugandan border, which had fallen in the hands of the rebels in 2013.

In a statement published earlier, Major Willy Ngoma, spokesman for the M23, stressed that the capture of this city on the border with Uganda is not a premeditated act by the organization.

"Faced with the deliberate and repeated harassment suffered by our troops on the part of this negative coalition with the use of long-range cannons fired from Bunagana, terrorizing the civilian population and forcing thousands of inhabitants of this region, we have decided to take control of the city of Bunagana to silence the said threat and thus encourage the population to



return to their homes," reads the statement.

On the same occasion, the M23, which reaffirms its commitment to pursue the search for a response to its demands by peaceful means, calls on Congolese President Felix Tshisekedi to seize the opportunity to put an end to the violence and to open the direct negotiations.

However, General Sylvain Ekenge, on behalf of North Kivu's military government, pointed the finger at Rwanda, which has been accused of supporting the M23 rebels.

"After seeing huge setbacks suffered by their proteges on the pitch, the Rwanda Defense Forces have, this time and in the open, decided to violate the intangibility of our border and the integrity of our territory by occupying the border town of Bunagana this Monday", said the spokesman, accusing the Rwandan army of "neither more nor less an invasion".

Stemming from a former Congolese rebellion, the M23, created in April 2012, quickly gained international notoriety when it occupied the city of Goma, capital of North Kivu, for ten days in November 2012. This occupation followed eight months of intense fighting in Rutshuru territory.

Although the rebels withdrew from Goma after coming under heavy international pressure, they continued to control key strategic sites, such as the border town of Bunagana. After its defeat by the army in 2013, the M23 signed a peace accord with the government in December 2013, in which it agreed to demobilize its fighters and transform itself into a political party.

However, under the leadership of Commander Sultani Makenga, parts of

the group returned to the DRC at the end of 2016, accusing the Kinshasa authorities of not having respected commitments on the demobilization of its combatants.

Late on Sunday, North Kivu's governor said that M23's offensive on Sunday was supported by the Rwandan army, accusing Rwanda of seeking to occupy Bunagana.

The relations between Kinshasa and Kigali, which have seen signs of thawing under the current administrations, are now undergoing a diplomatic tug of war, provoked and fueled by the recent offensives by the deemed M23 "terrorists". DRC on Thursday accused Rwanda of sending 500 commandos in disguise into its territory. The two countries on Friday accused each other of firing rockets across their shared border.

It is already an open secret that Kinshasa has been upset about Kigali's alleged support of M23, as Kigali, while denying all allegations of backing M23, also accused the Congolese army of supporting the FDLR remnants, responsible for the 1994 genocide.

The two neighboring countries share complicated and tangled relations since the tragic genocide in 1994, as Rwandan Hutus accused of slaughtering Tutsis during the 1994 Rwanda genocide arrived in eastern DRC.

However, besides all the tiffs and tit-for-tat, the two countries have also counted on regional mediation and possibly a tete-a-tete between the two presidents in Angola, attempting to bury the hatches and restore the fragile peace in eastern DRC. But to this day, the meeting is still pending as neither of the two countries has yet confirmed or announced any details of the rendezvous.

Hundreds of people fleeing the fighting are crossing into the Ugandan border district of Kisoro, a relief agency said on Monday.

Irene Nakasiita, a spokesperson of the Uganda Red Cross Society, told reporters that there is an ongoing validation exercise to ascertain the exact number of people, but the estimate is in the hundreds.

According to the United Nations, thousands

of residents of Bunagana, including around 5,000 displaced persons and returnees living there, fled to neighboring Uganda due to clashes between the Congolese army and M23 fighters on Sunday.

More than 25,000 people were reportedly forced to flee their villages again to churches, schools, and other makeshift shelters in Kabin-di, Rwanguba, and Kinoni, in the Rwanguba health zone.

The resumption of clashes around Bunagana affected humanitarian activities, which resumed in this area ten days ago, warned the UN. With traffic disrupted on the road linking Burayi to Bunagana, where thousands of displaced persons and returnees have been waiting for assistance since the violence began in March, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) was forced to cancel an interagency mission scheduled on Monday.

As the situation still remains highly volatile, an escalation of violence in Rutshuru territory could lead to continued displacement, worsening an already precarious humanitarian situation.

The UN on Saturday voiced concern over the deteriorating security situation in the eastern DRC, calling on local armed groups to lay down their arms and encouraging the reconciliation between Kinshasa and Rwanda under the mediation of Angolan President Joao Lourenco.

"We also welcome the nomination of President Joao Lourenco of Angola by the African Union to defuse tensions between the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda. The UN fully supports these political efforts," said Stephane Dujarric, spokesman for UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, in a note to correspondents, noting that the UN supports ongoing national and regional political efforts to accompany the disarmament of armed groups, including the Nairobi process launched by the DRC and Kenya.

Xinhua

China's FAST telescope discovers world's first persistently active repeating fast radio burst

By Wu Yuehui

AN international research team led by Li Di, a researcher with the National Astronomical Observatories (NAO) under the Chinese Academy of Sciences, lately detected and localized FRB 20190520B, the world's first and only persistently active repeating fast radio burst (FRB) so far, with the help of China's Five-hundred-meter Aperture Spherical Radio Telescope (FAST), known as the "China Sky Eye".

The discovery was made through the Commensal Radio Astronomy FAST Survey (CRAFTS), a novel and unprecedented commensal drift scan survey of the entire sky visible conducted with FAST.

The study was published in international academic journal Nature on June 9, 2022, Beijing time.

FRB is the brightest radio burst known in the universe, and can release within one millisecond as much energy as that radiated by the sun in about a whole year. Nearly 500 FRBs have been reported worldwide, among which less than 10 are active with frequent bursts in certain phase windows. No persistently active repeating FRB had been found until now.

As the world's largest single-dish radio telescope, the "China Sky Eye" began searches for FRBs several years ago. On May 20, 2019, scientists detected a repeating FRB using FAST, which was later named FRB 20190520B.

When it was first detected, the FRB already showed signs of activ-



Photo shows China's Five-hundred-meter Aperture Spherical radio Telescope (FAST), world's largest single-dish radio telescope, located in Pingtang county, Qiannan Buyi and Miao autonomous prefecture, southwest China's Guizhou province. File photo

ity, according to Niu Chenhui, first author of the paper and a young scholar at the NAO.

"We detected three bursts within 10 seconds under one wave beam. Twenty seconds later, we detected one more burst when another wave beam swept it," Niu recalled.

Based on the time of these four earliest bursts detected through the drift scan survey using the FAST and the pointing location from the telescope, researchers narrowed down the source of the bursts, providing more accurate and reliable information about the FRB's location for follow-up study.

Later, through observations carried out using multiple pieces of international astronomical equipment and on the basis of data from

interferometer arrays and optical telescope, researchers concluded that the host galaxy of FRB 20190520B is a dwarf galaxy with a redshift of 0.241 that is 3.3 billion light-years away from the Earth.

According to Li, the world's first persistently active repeating FRB has shown features that are more distinct in many aspects than those of FRB 20121102A, the first repeating FRB found by humankind in 2016.

While FRB 20121102A was only active in certain periods, active and repeated bursts of the FRB 20190520B have never ceased, with several hundred bursts already detected by the "China Sky Eye", Li pointed out.

Continuous observations using the FAST are expected to help create a brand new evolution roadmap of

the FRBs, Li said.

The discovery of the world's first persistently active repeating FRB has challenged traditional views about chromatic dispersion analysis of FRBs, and laid a foundation for modeling the evolution of FRBs and understanding this violent and mysterious phenomenon in the universe, Li added.

After they were published, the preliminary results of the study have attracted widespread attention from the international astronomical community. The important discovery has been followed by several articles on FRB modeling, with their topics covering FRB scattering timescale models, supernova explosion explanations, etc.

The CRAFTS has found at least six new FRBs, making unique contributions to uncovering the mechanisms of this mysterious phenomenon in the universe and advancing research in this new field of astronomy.

People's Daily



Tegeta United's players are presented with a trophy by SelCom Company's Public Relations Manager, Bella Hakili, after the conclusion of the 2022 Dar Youth Cup tournament which took place at Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club recently. The competition brought together junior soccer players that featured in U-9, U-11, and U-13 categories to discover and develop their talent. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT MIRAJI MSALA

Z'bar values importance of sports

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar has disclosed that it is committed to seeing that all people are involved in sporting activities.

Zanzibar Sports Council (BTMZ) Executive Secretary Said Kassim Marine confirmed the drive at the opening of a three-day workshop for amputee football coaches, referees, and players in the isles on Monday.

The workshop which has been sponsored by the International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) ended on Wednesday.

Marine noted the isles' sports policy of 2018 advocates for sports inclusion.

The Secretary-General said the policy highlights that every person has a right to be involved in sporting activities.

Marine said the government values the importance of sports to any person as they play an important role in health and are a source of income.

"Zanzibar's government is advocating

for sports inclusion, we do not want to see someone is left behind due to either his or her physical or mental abilities."

"Everyone should take part in sporting activities, we thank ICRC for sponsoring this workshop," he said.

The workshop was hosted by Zanzibar Amputee Football Federation (ZAFF), with World Amputee Football Federation (WAFF) Secretary-General Simon Baker attending it.

The workshop's participants are trained on injury and protection of players with disabilities and ICRC instructors are Baker, Subhash Sinha, and Juan Blandon serving as an assistant.

The ZAFF is now fully registered, its registration was supported by ICRC.

After the federation's formation, ICRC donated assorted sports items to the body including crutches, jerseys, and balls.

The committee also conducted a seminar on how to organize and manage amputee football.

Mchenga outfit clobbers Oilers in 2022 RBA League

By Guardian Correspondent

DAR ES SALAAM hoops side, Mchenga, made short work of Oilers as the former cruised to a 100-42 victory over the latter in a 2022 Regional Basketball Association (RBA) League match played at the Nation Indoor Stadium on Sunday evening.

Mchenga started well, taking a 25-2 lead in the first quarter before leading 17-11 in the second quarter to stay 42-23 ahead at halftime.

In the third quarter, the two teams put spirited showing and Mchenga garnered a 28-9 lead.

Mchenga came back through the inspiration of Edgar Mwakasendile and Tamimu Kajjage outscoring the Oilers 30-20 in the fourth quarter.

Damas Mbao of Mchenga was the top scorer of the game having slotted in 21 points, Oilers' players Mwakasendile and Lusajo Samwel ended with 19 points and 14 points respectively.

Speaking after the game, Mchenga's coach Mohamed Yusuph said the victory came about due to his players' determination that was spurred by the 102-42 defeat they conceded to Pazi in a past clash.

"Our game against Pazi motivated us and we are now planning to torment other outfits will confront," Yusuph noted.

Mchenga which recently got sponsorship from Duka Direct started the game fast, proving it is determined to contain

Oilers, one of the old hoops outfits in the city.

One of the Oilers' officials, Okare Emsu, said his team's poor performance in the league has been caused by the outfit's failure to register competent players.

"As you can see all players that had retired have made their way back and are getting an opportunity to play, I guarantee we will improve," Emsu that also turns out for the outfit noted.

In the other match, Ukonga Warriors edged out hard-fighting Police 54-41.

Ukonga Warriors were good in both defending and attacking in such a way that they looked more dangerous when marching upfront.

The first quarter saw Ukonga Warriors lead 18-16 in a tight battle as either outfit was studying the opponent's weaknesses and strengths.

Ukonga Warriors committed many fouls in the first two periods. The second half was even more thrilling with both teams pressing upfront in turn in search of points, much to the delight of their supporters.

Felix John produced an impressive performance for the eventual winners having notched 20 points while John Kakuse added 16 points for the outfit and took seven rebounds.

Lawi Mwambasa top-scored for Police, having slotted in 14 points, and teammate Hamisi Mpili chipped in with 10 points.

NBC Premier League lacks playmakers

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

THE 2020/21 Mainland Tanzania Premier League was probably the best when it came to creating chances that led to goals than the 2021/22 season due to the latter having few assists so far.

Yanga is close to lifting this season's top-flight trophy, having collected 64 points and holding on to the top spot, followed by Simba SC with 51 points.

Geita Gold FC's striker George Mpole is the leading goal scorer having registered 15, followed by Yanga's goal-getter Fiston Mayele with 14 goals, the two are vying for the top-flight's golden shoe award.

On the Premier League list of players with assists, there is still no one guaranteed to win the prize set aside for a footballer with the most assists so far as the one at the top so far has five assists.

This season has moreover witnessed the players have failed to establish themselves as playmakers as was the case last season that saw Simba SC midfielder Clatous Chama end with 15 assists in the league.

Chama may have done so due to the season having more teams that totaled 18, whereas this season has the top-flight made up of 16 teams.

This nevertheless could not be the reason. This season's players with assists are still not even in the top 10 of last season's players with assists.

This shows how difficult it has been for players to create scoring opportunities.

Last season's top 10 assists providers were Chama with 15, fellow midfielder Luis Miquissone with 10, Gwambina FC's Rajabu Athuman with nine, Iddi Selemani of Azam FC with eight, and Ruvu



Yanga winger Said Ntibazonkiza (R) dribbles past Polisi Tanzania midfielder Tariq Simba as the teams faced off in the 2021/22 NBC Premier League clash held in Kilimanjaro recently.

Shooting's Abdulrahman Mussa with a similar total of assists.

David Luhende (Kagera Sugar), and Dickson Ambundo (Yanga) finished with seven assists, Yanga's Deus Kaseke and Yacouba Songne, and Simba's Rally Bwalya with six each.

The last season's goal-scoring record is likely to have been set by John Bocco of Simba that was the leading goal scorer with 16, followed by fellow attacker Chris Mugalu that netted 15.

Prince Dube of Azam FC drilled in 14 goals, Meddie Kagere of Simba scored 13, Mpole and Mayele have already surpassed Kagere's total and need two goals to reach Bocco's record.

Despite all that, some players have distinguished themselves this season by having several assists, despite being few. The footballers make the top five list.

Reliants Lusajo - 5

The Namungo FC captain is the

leader in the list of the league's footballers with assists, having executed five assists.

Lusajo that is as well his side's leading goal scorer with 10 goals needs to provide 10 assists in the remaining four matches to beat Chama's record set last season.

It may be a real challenge for the attacker but if he continues with his quality he could emerge as the footballer with the most assists.

Abdulrahman Mussa - 5

Even though his team, Ruvu Shooting, is positioned in the bottom half of the league's standings and is sometimes found in the relegation zone, Mussa has distinguished himself by providing assists, having executed five assists.

Mussa's five assists have produced five of the 24 goals scored by Ruvu Shooting so far.

Djuma Shaban - 5

He is Yanga's right-back who has shown great ability to defend, drive

the team forward, improve attacks, as well as execute five assists this season.

Djuma's five passes have seen the footballer challenge Lusajo and Mussa in the race to emerge as the footballer with the most assists this season.

Last season, Kagera Sugar's full-back David Luhende was the only defender to have made it into the top 10 list of footballers with the most assists, as the defender provided seven.

Aboubakar Ngalema - 4

Ngalema is a fullback, just like Djuma, but he plays on the left side of Dodoma Jiji FC.

The Dodoma Jiji FC defender has so far provided four assists in 23 goals scored by the outfit this season, making it into the list of top five footballers with assists this season.

Said Ntibazonkiza - 4

Despite not playing for a club so far after parting ways with Yanga last month when his contract expired, Ntibazonkiza is leaving the Premier League this season have made it to the list of five players with the most assists.

This season, his assists are the ones executed by a player who is out of contract and, if he would have continued playing for Yanga, he would probably have provided many more and emerged as the standout performer at the end of the season.

These numbers make Chama keep on holding on to the league's best playmaker tag so far due to the rest of the top-flight's footballers having failed to reach his record of 15 assists.

His feat may be out of reach due to the footballers' failure to even reach Miquissone's record of 10 assists he set last season.

With these numbers, it seems the top position in the list of footballers with the most assists this season is very clear and anyone can grab it.

The footballer may be Lusajo, Mussa, Djuma, Ngalema, and a few others including footballers that have not made the list, if they do the unthinkable in the remaining four matches.



Bongo Flava musician, Banana Zorro, performs at the 20th Anniversary of the success of DCB Commercial Bank held in Dar es Salaam last weekend. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Dar chess players to feature in Africa Youth Championships' qualifiers

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

MORE than 200 Tanzanian youths are expected to compete in a chess tournament which will be used as a qualifying tournament for Africa Youth Chess Championships (AYCC) slated for next month in Zambia.

The qualifying tournament will be held at the Russian Cultural Center in Dar es Salaam this weekend,

of the qualifying tournament, there will be two winners, a girl, and a boy, that will qualify for the Africa Youth Chess Championship.

He said the winners will also rake in prize money, as well as get medals, trophies, and certificates.

The official noted: "We have organized a chess tournament for youths, it will be held at Russia Cultural Center this weekend and registration's deadline has been set for

tomorrow."

Masamba pointed out: "On that day, we will have a technical online meeting which is compulsory to all players."

"The tournament will be used to select players who will represent the country in the AYCC which will be held in Zambia from July 2-10," he said.

Southgate's historically bad England loss to Hungary tests goodwill with fans

WOLVERHAMPTON, England

AND to think Gareth Southgate was looking forward to playing in front of England fans again.

There was a smattering of shell-shocked supporters in the half-empty stands applauding the 51-year-old as he walked to the far side of Molineux but, turning towards the Sir Jack Hayward stand, that recognition was drowned out by a cacophony of angry boos after Hungary's remarkable 4-0 win on Tuesday night.

This was Southgate's biggest defeat as England manager, and the first time England have lost by a margin of four goals since 1964 against Brazil. It is their biggest home defeat since 1928 and the first time they have lost a home match by four goals without scoring in their entire history.

It may not matter in the grand scheme of things -- after all, the Nations League is hardly a pressing priority in a World Cup year.

But having enjoyed lengthy and widespread support since taking charge of England six years ago, this was about as brutal a referendum on the current state of Southgate's popularity as anyone could imagine.

Chants of "you're getting sacked in the morning" and "you don't know what you're doing" are palpably absurd, especially when the shock of the score line subsides.

Southgate is by definition the second-most successful England manager of all-time, having guided England to a World Cup semifinal and a European Championship final in the last two major tournaments. He has earned the right to experiment and there should be no lasting judgement based on four games crammed in as a coda to an exhausting campaign with preseason for most a matter of a few short weeks away.

But if the 2019 Nations League was a stepping-stone in the right direction from Russia, incorporating as it did victories over Spain -- in Spain -- and Croatia before a narrow extra-time defeat to the Netherlands and a third-place finish with a penalty shoot-out win over Switzerland, then this fortnight has to rank as a troubling step back.

These four matches were supposed to be an examination of how England fare without the home comforts of last summer -- two away games, a behind-closed-doors fixture and then a home game away from Wembley to finish. Two points, one goal and no wins is a troubling return. Southgate has spent much of this camp talking about a need to balance short-term results with experimentation ahead of Qatar. The end product -- two defeats to Hungary, a credible draw against Germany and a stalemate with Italy -- therefore only heightens the pressure on Southgate to get it right at the World Cup.

And if he didn't know that before, he does now. He is an acutely thoughtful man, prone to introspection over his position, stating even as recently as last week that he would "not outstay my welcome" as England manager despite possessing a contract until 2024.

Having talked up the benefits of a full house after only 2,000 schoolchildren could attend Saturday's game against Italy due to UEFA sanctions, the abuse he received here will hurt. It feels like a lifetime ago now, but there was actually a rendition of "Southgate You're The One, Football's Coming Home Again" early in the first half, a chant created in 2018 and sustained in 2020 as Southgate's popularity reached heights rarely witnessed by previous England managers.

He achieved his previous level of acclaim by making giant strides in rebuilding the relationship between players and supporters, navigating longstanding historic hurdles to progress further than most of his predecessors. But the issue of finding the right balance in midfield remains arguably the biggest conundrum Southgate is yet to solve.

It is, of course, not Southgate's fault he does not have a Luka Modric, Jorginho or Frenkie de Jong to call on, but England need to find a way to overcome the absence of a deep-lying playmaker able to knit the team together. They were passed into submission by Modric in 2018's semifinal against Croatia, saw the tide turn firmly against them as Jorginho and Marco Verratti took control for Italy in last summer Euro 2020 final and here, with almost endless possession at their disposal, they were unable to break down a well-organised but limited Hungary side. It is the reason he opted for a safety-first central-midfield axis of Declan Rice and Calvin Phillips at the Euros and is perhaps the crux of the accusation he is too conservative.

It was the root cause of the frustration that steadily multiplied in the stands as England laboured and fell further behind. Roland Sallai opened the scoring as England failed to deal with a 16th-minute free-kick. The 25-year-old doubled the scoring with 20 minutes left, becoming the first Hungary player to score twice in an away game against England since both Ferenc Puskas (two) and Nandor Hidegkuti (three) did so in a 6-3 win at Wembley in 1953.

That was Hungary's last -- and only other -- victory on English soil, achieved by a team known as the "Mighty Magyars," then considered the finest in world football. The 2022 version are not nearly as talented but England did their best to make them look that way, capitulating with more calamitous defending as Zsolt Nagy and substitute Daniel Gazdag struck to inflict humiliation on the hosts and leave them staring at relegation from League A, Group 3.

Southgate introduced Raheem Sterling at halftime -- his go-to guy with Harry Kane already on the pitch -- switched systems from 4-3-3 to a back three and even threw on Phil Foden for his appearance this month following a case of COVID-19 -- but England barely mustered anything, bar a late Kane header which hit the crossbar.

John Stones was sent off for a second bookable offence eight minutes from the end, an inexplicable decision by French referee Clement Louis Jean Turpin given Gazdag appeared to simply run into him off the ball.

ESPN

Barcelona need the fire Samuel Eto'o gave to them as a player, and now to Cameroon as FA president

By Graham Hunter, ESPN
Spain writer

THIS brief respite in the packed calendar before the next European season means the onset of an entertaining, risky and frustrating sideshow called the "transfer market." Sometimes, it can be useful to reflect on the past and how it informs the present. For example, we are approaching the 13th anniversary of an atrocious piece of Barcelona summer market business that didn't have the same financial penalties as their recent misadventures, but was nonetheless excruciating and embarrassing for the Camp Nou club.

At the time, Barcelona had just won the treble, only the fifth club to do so. Pep Guardiola had emerged as a catalytic figure -- not only for his club, but for a particularly exciting and intricate brand of football -- and footballers like Carles Puyol, Gerard Pique, Sergio Busquets, Pedro, Xavi and Andres Iniesta were about to conquer the world. Yet Samuel Eto'o, despite the best form of his career and 36 goals scored during that treble-winning season, was informed he would be offloaded in order to bring Zlatan Ibrahimovic from Inter Milan.

You read that correctly: sufficient adults at Camp Nou were foolish enough to think that a) getting the Sweden star instead of Africa's greatest player was a beneficial exchange and that b) Zlatan was worth a higher transfer fee than Eto'o! In the process, Guardiola allowed Barcelona to take on a moody, self-interested player, but pushed out a ferocious, free scoring, Tasmanian Devil force of nature to do so, and paid a €46 million fee for the privilege. Ridiculous.

The rest is history: Zlatan lasted one unhappy season in Blaugrana colours, while Eto'o immediately became the only player in history to win the treble in consecutive seasons: not only was he central to Barca's brilliance in 2008-09, but he was key as Inter ended Barca's Champions League defence in the semifinals, and to the Nerazzurri registering the greatest season in their history. For those keeping score: Eto'o won LaLiga, the Copa del Rey and the Champions League in Spain, and then Serie A, the Coppa Italia and the Champions League in Italy, all within 21 months.

Operation 'Oops!' or what?

Overall it was indefensible, both in its original form and with the benefit of hindsight. However, there was a little bit of context recently when Eto'o, now president of the Cameroon Football Federation (Fecafoot), went into his national team's dressing room following their narrow win over Burundi and let rip, using some juicy language, at the players for their efforts. The context is: Eto'o is not an easy man with whom to coexist.

Cameroon, who have already qualified for the 2022 World Cup in Qatar, were attempting to qualify for the next African Cup of Nations. You might think that a win, featuring massive possession control, by



Samuel Eto'o has been an uncompromising leader for Cameroon since taking over as Fecafoot president, but those qualities will yield results in the long run. How Barcelona could do with a similarly strong voice in the squad. (Agencies)

Cameroon at the end of a long, tiring season, was, as they say, a win. Not Eto'o. He reckoned he'd witnessed one of the things he most despises: a lack of an "all or nothing" attitude. And so, he "lost it." Who filmed him in the dressing room? And who thought it was a good idea to distribute it on social media?

Firstly, it was ironic that Eto'o, who was constantly in dispute with his national FA, his employers at the club level, his teammates and, inevitably, the media (one of whom he headbutted) while in the prime of his career should immediately use his new position to hammer the players who represent his country. Ironic because there was just such an incendiary conflagration back in 2010, not long before the World Cup in South Africa, where then-Fecafoot president, the legendary Roger Milla (star of Italia '90), put the boot in on Eto'o, who was on his way to that second consecutive Treble while in Italy.

In questioning Eto'o and his effort while playing for the Indomitable Lions, Milla said: "He's done much for Barcelona and Inter, but nothing for Cameroon." The tit-for-tat continued, with Eto'o threatening not to bother playing for his country at the World Cup "if that was how he was viewed." All in all, it was a ludicrous situation that was eventually avoided, and Eto'o scored both of Cameroon's goals as they were eliminated after a group stage containing losing finalists Netherlands, plus Denmark and Japan.

So was Eto'o conscious of the possible consequences, I wonder, when he let rip at the current squad while in Tanzania, where their win over Burundi was hosted? And was he aware that some of them might take it as badly as he took Milla's words back in 2010? It

wasn't an elongated verbal battering, so I'll reproduce most of it here:

"I'm not happy, not happy at all. I have to pick the Cameroon team and those of you who don't want to put the work in can f--- off. I don't care who you are. Everyone must do their job."

"Do you know how many years I've shed over the years because of all those lost chances in the World Cup? I know exactly why we didn't make it back then, and I have no intention of letting it happen again now. Not as long as I'm president. That's why I took this job: to make sure history doesn't repeat itself."

"And it doesn't matter who you are: no one is guaranteed a place in my team. Everyone has to earn it without exception. If you want to wear the Cameroon shirt, I expect you to knuckle down and put the work in. Anyone who has a problem with that will not be part of my team. I don't care if I have to pick a bunch of kids to go to the World Cup."

"I was exactly where you are for 20 years. I know exactly what you're thinking, and you're probably all calling me a b-----. But I was the best and even I ended up where you are now."

"I'm going to give you everything ... I'm going to turn my entire life over to getting you in the best shape for this competition. And I'll go toe to toe with every single one of you if I have to. You're here now, and I expect you to put the past and all its baggage behind you. For me, nothing matters more than Cameroon. There's nothing greater or more beautiful than this country of mine. I'd die for my country, and I'm going to do it proud, with or without you."

"If you intend to join me on this journey, then I want to see some graft. And don't make the mistake of assuming you're in my squad. In fact, if I see another performance like the one I saw today, I can tell you now you won't be going anywhere. I need much more from you."

"I had beautiful experiences as a Cameroon player. We had exceptional teams, but we lacked any kind of unity at a basic human level, and that's why I didn't get my World Cup. This time around that's going to be different. I need the players in this team to connect on a human level. To enjoy being together, living together. If we get that right, nobody will be able to stop us."

I think for almost anyone outside the professional game, it's the type of diatribe you'd imagine giving to a set of players if, by some magical process, you were suddenly in charge. Themes like "try harder," "show more pride," "I'll drop you unless," or "don't be under any misapprehensions that I'm the big bad boss" would be reasonable.

Also, most of us believe (often incorrectly) that these themes are central to a team's underperformance. Whether it's effective or, more probably, dangerous to attack modern, well-paid, pampered professionals like that and let it be seen in public is highly debatable, but that's not the key element attracting my attention.

For anyone who saw Eto'o try to throttle a club employee who had awarded an offside against him in Barcelona training; who knows of his background story that, as a kid, he hid for months in his sister's flat in France in order to enter that country illegally; who heard him raging against Ronaldinho and Frank Rijkaard when standards were dropping at Camp Nou in the period before Guardiola took over; or who sympathised

with his almost constant railing against Fecafoot's inefficiency and self-interest back when he was their leading player, there will have been a clear understanding, watching this video that Eto'o hasn't changed.

This is him. He's fueled by a vast, volcanic and volatile inner fire that led him, unerringly, to speak the truth as he saw it, to not fear retribution and to treat every training session, every match and every competition as if it were life or death. This video, for those who didn't have the privilege to see him in full flow back in the day when he performed for Madrid, Mallorca, Barcelona, Inter, Chelsea and Cameroon, is Eto'o in the raw, a force of nature.

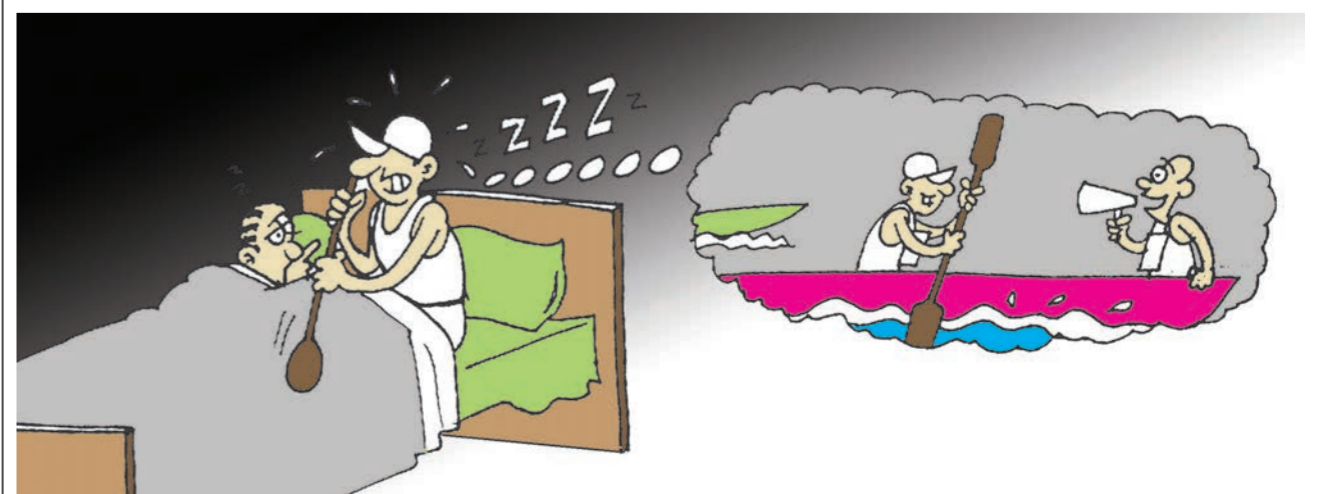
Now think for a second. How many players do you know, nowadays, who are like this? Not absolutely identical in every indomitable, irascible detail, but broadly cut from the same cloth? I'll bet that those you name, from whichever club or national team, are generally successful, regarded as leaders and, even if polemic figures, are well-regarded by their peers.

This latest bout of "Eto'o-ism" may or may not work well; certainly, Serbia, Switzerland and Brazil, Cameroon's World Cup group stage opponents, will be watching hawkishly. But the reason I mentioned Laporta, Xavi, Cruyff, Aleman, Begiristain and Guardiola towards the top of this column is that all of them are engaged in trying to find a little bit of that Eto'o-style aggression which which to improve their squad.

For as much as they need to cut costs while adding talent, Barcelona patently lack punchy, all-or-nothing, naked competitive aggression in their squad (only Gavi, Pique and Jordi Alba qualify as exceptions.) While Manchester City (staffed by Begiristain and Guardiola, who respectively signed and sacked off the young Cameroon striker) have, I think, just added some of these invaluable intangibles in Erling Haaland. Notwithstanding the young Norwegian's immense talent and impressive physical attributes, he's a guy who "goes to war" day in, day out. Kudos to him.

As for Barcelona, how they identify and successfully tempt more guys with that precious, dangerous and frustrating, but ultimately essential, Eto'o spirit, something they once had and lost? Well, that's going to be a long, hard and potentially fruitless task.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Barcelona need the fire Samuel Eto'o gave to them as a player, and now to Cameroon as FA president

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5 EATV THURSDAY

TO NIGHT @ 9:00

NIRVANA

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 WEEKEND MOVIE (r)
13:30 Kali za Wana
14:00 Bongo Hits
14:30 Ujenzi (r)
15:00 Funzuka
15:30 Ubongo Kids (r)
16:00 Zote Kuntu
16:30 #HSHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Bongo Hits
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 NIRVANA
21:30 TOP 10
22:00 Zote Kuntu
23:00 Kurasa (r)
23:05 EATV SAA 1

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eastafrika RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM

Betting company hands over sports gear to TASWA SC

By Guardian Correspondent

BETTING firm, M-BET Tanzania, has handed sports gears to Tanzania Sports Writers Association (TASWA) SC ahead of various sporting activities the side will feature in.

Allen Mushi, M-Bet Tanzania's Marketing Manager, said that his firm knows the role of sports journalists in developing sports in the country and decided to support the team.

The club will take part in a special football match against Members of Parliament outfit, Bunge SC, to be held in Dodoma on June 18.

Apart from the football match, the day will see sports writers' netball team, alias 'Taswa Queens', confront Bunge Queens in a tie slated to take place at the same venue.

Mushi also said M-BET Tanzania decided to support TASWA SC as part of the firm's involvement in Corporate Social and Responsibility (CSR), as well as improve sportswriters' health.

The official noted: "Sports are part of building a healthy body, I believe sports journalists and Members of the Parliament's sports club will build their bodies when playing the match."

"It will be part of the training for all players as they compete against each other," Mushi revealed.

The official explained that M-Bet is extremely proud to be part and parcel of sports development in Tanzania. This is the first time that M-Bet Tanzania supports sports journalists.

TASWA SC Chairman Majuto Omary thanked M-Bet Tanzania for the support and called upon other sports stakeholders to emulate the firm's good example.

Majuto said their club is facing several challenges in its operations and thanked M-Bet Tanzania for coming on board to support it at the right time, in the right way - and for the right cause.

The leader noted: "This is good support for us, and we believe it will open the way for other sponsors to join the betting firm."

"I take this opportunity to call on my fellow journalists to give them maximum support in their activities," Majuto stated.

Tanzania women's cricket squad hammers Rwanda in 2022 Kwibuka Twenty20 tournament



Tanzania women's cricket team's Tabu Said (R) receives the Player of the Match's prize from an official once the former's side came up against Rwanda in the 2022 Kwibuka T20 tournament tie which took place in Kigali two days back. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA CRICKET ASSOCIATION

By Guardian Reporter

H UDA A Mrisho and Fatuma Omary put scintillating batting showing to catapult Tanzania women's cricket squad to a five-wicket drubbing of Rwanda women's side in this year's Kwibuka T20 tournament's duel that took place in Kigali early this week.

It was another dominant display showcased by Tanzania women's cricket team which has consequently recorded five victories in a row.

Hosts Rwanda women's squad registered 93 runs for the loss of seven wickets in 20 overs after winning the toss and opting to bat first in the match played at IPRC Kicukiro cricket ground.

The side had to bank on experienced players, skipper Marie Diane Bimenyimana, Henriette Ishimwe, Sifa Ingabire,

and Flora Irakoze to end with a respectable total amid huge pressure posed by Tanzania women's cricket team's bowlers.

They experienced a shaky start following the opening batters' early dismissal. Alice Ikuzwe ended two runs short of a two-digit score and fellow opener, Sarah Uwera, made her way back

much earlier with two runs to her name.

Sifa, slotted at number three, sought to see to it the hosts get some stability with her 28-ball 13, they then faced a setback given Gisele Ishimwe ended five runs short of a two-digit figure.

Marie Diane later significantly improved the team's total as she

notched 32 runs not out consisting of three boundaries.

There was equally encouraging showing by Flora and Henriette as the batters posted 14 runs not out and 10 runs respectively.

Henriette, one of two female cricketers from East Africa selected for the 2022 FairBreak Invitational tournament held in Dubai last month, had her efforts to make her presence felt against Tanzania ended in vain.

The batter, placed in the middle order, had her spell coming to an end when she was bowled by Tanzania women's squad bowler, Nasra Nassoro, leaving the batting side with 63 runs after 17 overs with six wickets taken.

Tanzania women's side's bowlers Tabu Omary and Nasra ran rings around Rwanda women's squad batting unit, in which Tabu ended with a four-wicket haul giving away eight runs in four overs.

Nasra a dependable all-rounder notched three wickets and gave away 19 runs (one four and two wides) in four overs.

Tabu's bowling exploits ultimately had the performer being presented with the Player of the Match award.

Tanzania women's team later smoothly got down to a successful chase, having registered 94 runs and lost five wickets in 15.1 overs.

Opener Fatuma once again made her experience count, given she posted 31 runs as Tanzania women's squad confidently garnered the fifth victory.

The cricketer that also took part in the 2022 FairBreak Invitational tournament was in good form against Rwanda women's squad, blasting four boundaries in her spell.

Hudaa, slotted at number four, was the batter with the most runs in the team as she recorded 34 runs not out that included five boundaries.

Saumu Godfrey that opened the innings with Fatuma ended four runs short of a two-digit figure, clearing the boundary once in her stint.

Tanzania women's team is leading the rest of the pack in the eight-team showdown with victory in all five ties.

In the day's other ties, the second-placed Kenya women's team commanded a 42-run victory over Nigeria women's squad that is occupying the fourth spot.

Botswana women's squad positioned seventh on the table, beat Germany women's squad, positioned at the bottom, by 17 runs.

The day moreover had Uganda women's squad, positioned third on the table, garnering an 84-run victory over Brazil women's team, occupying the sixth spot on the tournament's table.

Judo players eye medals in 2022 Commonwealth Games

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE Judo Association of Tanzania (JATA) has stated it hopes to see the country's judo players win medals in the Commonwealth Games slated for July 28-August 8 in Birmingham, England.

Innocent Mallya, JATA Secretary-General, said he is confident that the country's two judo players that have qualified for the Games have what it takes to bring home medals.

The two judo players, Thomas Mwenda and Abdulrabi Alawi are now camping at Dar es Salaam Police Academy at Kurasini in the city under coach Zaidi Hamisi.

"We are confident that we will win medals in Birmingham, I have said so as the judo players that will represent the country are in good shape and ready for the challenge," Mallya said.

He said the two judo players' good results in the just-ended Africa Zone Five Championships which took place in Kampala are adding to his confidence and trust.

In the Africa Zone Five Championships, Tanzania won two medals, two silver, and a bronze.

The showdown took place from June 21-25, with Tanzania being represented by 10 judo players.

The players are Vincent Joseph, Thomas Mwenda, Philemon Kaberege, Raphael Daudi, and Bakari Ngapa.

Nyasha Emmanuel, Hagai Mwandambo, Gervas Chilipweli, Adam Mwakisoma, Andrew Mlungu, and Jeremiah Makeme also made the list.

The country's judo players have battled it out in the Commonwealth Games

on three occasions but have never won medals.

The country so far excelled in the 2014 Commonwealth Games which saw Mlungu reach the quarterfinals.

The 2022 Commonwealth Games are officially known as the XXII Commonwealth Games and are commonly known as Birmingham 2022.

The Games will see 5,054 athletes from 72 Commonwealth nations participate in 283 events from 20 sports disciplines under

the theme 'Games for All' in Birmingham.

Birmingham was announced as host on December 21, 2017, marking England's third time hosting the Commonwealth Games after London 1934 and Manchester 2002.

Two cities initially launched bids for the games, Durban, South Africa and Edmonton, Canada.

Edmonton withdrew its bid in February 2015, leaving Durban as the only bid to go forward to Commonwealth Games Federation

General Assembly in September 2015.

Durban initially secured the right to host the games, as they were the sole bidder for the event.

The city previously considered bidding for either the 2020 or the 2024 Summer Olympics, but later dropped the idea as it wanted to focus on the 2022 Commonwealth Games.

It would have marked the first time the games were held in Africa and the second time a Com-

monwealth republic would have hosted, following Delhi, India in 2010.

The games were set to open on July 18, 2022, coinciding with the birthday of the late South African President, Nelson Mandela.

It was reported in February 2017 that Durban might be unable to host the games due to financial constraints.

This was confirmed one month later on March 13, 2017 when the CGF stripped Durban of their rights to host the Games

A section of golfers that took part in a competition, dubbed 'Play for Sight' Charity Golf Day, which took place at Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club's course recently, and Lions Club of Dar es Salaam Mzimama's officials pose for a photo with a sample check of 25m/- that Pigabet Company presented to the showdown's Competition Committee for sponsorship of the event. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT



Flexibles by David Chikoko

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