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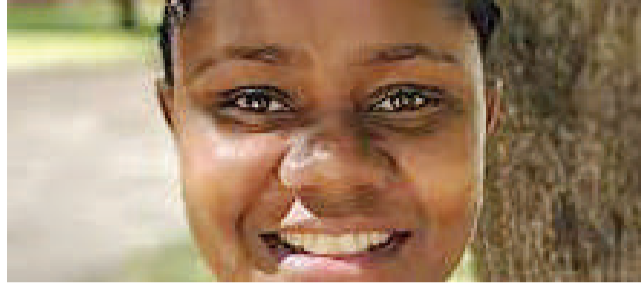
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National Pg 3
Police hold 7 over killing of magistrate



National Pg 4
Govt to reduce importation of medical tools



National Pg 5
Production of electricity from natural gas up



Yassir Ally, a member of staff of Zanzibar's Mnazi Mmoja Referral Hospital, takes the height and weight measurements of a child awaiting health screening at the facility yesterday. This was at a five-day specialised heart condition diagnostic camp jointly organised by the hospital and the Dar es Salaam-based Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Govt readies UHC bill for February in next reading

By Henry Mwangonde

THE government is set to table the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Bill for the second reading with key amendments made to the earlier draft when the legislature reconvenes early next month.

Health minister Ummu Mwalimu told a media editors in Dar es Salaam yesterday that key improvements were made to the earlier draft of the bill, including removing a provision for arrest and sentencing for those failing to join the scheme.

Insisting that the bill seeks to ensure the

majority of the people are accommodated in the scheme, he said that other changes in the new draft include allowing beneficiaries in the private sector to retain membership in the scheme upon retiring.

An earlier provision made such employees cease to benefit upon retirement, she stated, affirming that membership in the scheme will be mandatory but not to the point of arresting and prosecuting anyone on that score.

The aim is to include everyone in the scheme even for those without regular

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State agencies 'must pay 44bn/- debts to TEMESA'

By Guardian Reporter

GOVERNMENT institutions have piled up 44bn/- in debt to the Tanzania Electrical, Mechanical and Electronics Services Agency (TEMESA), a parliamentary committee has observed.

Jerry Silaa (Ukongu), chairman of the standing committee for Public Investments in the National Assembly, made this observation to journalists after the committee met with several government agencies.

He said the committee was instructing that government institutions owing TEMESA large amounts of money be pushed to pay for the government vehicle maintenance agency to attain its objectives, as debts now stand at 44bn/-.

The committee commended the government for abandoning the use of a task

force in tax collection earlier conducted by the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA).

The committee noted that current cordial methods have contributed to increased revenue collections and reduced TRA tax enforcement expenditure, he said after the meeting with TRA officials, the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS), along with TEMESA.

The panel lauded President Samia Suluhu Hassan for directives to collect tax without undue constraints, noting that upon taking office, the president directed that taxes be collected without using excessive force. She similarly endorsed the hiring of more than 2,000 employees to boost visits to taxpayers and oversee compliance, he stated.

"Now if you look at the 2022/2023 financial year, TRA targeted to collect 23.6trn/- in tax

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Tanzania-EU business forum enlists 400 foreign companies

By Getrude Mbago

TANZANIA is set to host the first business forum with over 400 potential investors from the European Union (EU), a month from now.

Manfredo Fanti, EU ambassador to Tanzania, told journalists yesterday in Dar es Salaam that the forum is jointly organised by the government, the EU country mission and the East African Community (EAC) Secretariat.

The high-level event is scheduled for February 23 and 24 in Dar es Salaam, with President Samia Suluhu Hassan gracing the opening event with a keynote speech, and later closed by Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi.

He said the forum is a result of



... The forum will help them improve their projects or access potential partnerships

President Samia's visits in Europe where she met various investors, traders and stakeholders, encouraging them to invest in Tanzania. The EU is satisfied with various measures taken by the government including ensuring a friendly environment for investors, he stated.

EU firms now see more opportunities and the importance of investing in Tanzania, he said, noting that the planned event is meant to present Tanzania's opportunities and comparative advantage as a strategic destination for direct investments.

The high-level event will bring investors from EU member states, interested in energy transition, agriculture, manufacturing, logistics, digital

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Tanzania takes up IMF gender issues initiative

By Correspondents Carlos Banda and Beatrice Philemon

Philemon

THE government supports an initiative of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to include gender issues in implementing development plans.

Dr Mwigulu Nchemba, the Finance

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President Samia Suluhu Hassan chairs a Cabinet meeting at State House in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: State House



Govt readies UHC bill for February in next reading

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earnings as in the informal sector, the minister affirmed.

The government will equip the Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA) with resources like transferring staff from the Health ministry to work on tidying up regulations on the scheme, she said.

The government has set aside start-up funds for the scheme while other sources are being 'brainstormed' in the course of adopting the scheme she said, affirming that the bill will be tabled for the second time next month, and the plan be made into law to become operational at the start of the next financial year.

Preliminary remarks in tabling the bill for its first reading said that the universal health care plan is in line with Tanzania's 2007 Health Policy which requires that all Tanzanians contribute towards health expenses as anyone will need such expenses at one time or another.

Dr Bernard Konga, the head of the government taskforce on the plan, earlier said that upon the rollout of the scheme, improved provision of health services will be assured as individuals will access treatment services without financial challenges.

Improved services are expected in local public healthcare facilities like strengthened access to drugs and better supply of health equipment,

he said, touching on the likelihood of sustainability of the scheme.

Upon the rollout of the scheme, regulation of private healthcare insurance provisions will be altered to facilitate organised establishment of packages that are user friendly, he stated.

"In creating a good environment for implementing the law, there are various strategies before and after its passage, like public awareness on the matter and increased healthcare provision centres in rural areas," he stated.

The government disburses 20bn/- per month for purchasing drugs and other health equipment, with availability of drugs standing at 67-percent at the end of last month, from 62-percent two months earlier, he added.



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Tanzania takes up IMF gender issues initiative

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and Planning minister, made this affirmation at the opening of consultative talks on the IMF strategy on gender mainstreaming in Dar es Salaam yesterday, bringing together stakeholders from the World Bank, UN Women, UN country office, the Bank of Tanzania, the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments), the IMF, the Tanzania Gender Networking Group (TGNG) and other stakeholders.

The government was injecting fiscal resources in line with gender issues through improvement of health services for mothers and children, provision of quality education under the free education policy as well as women's economic empowerment, he said.

He appealed for international community cooperation with the government to ensure the successful implementation of this initiative, expressing satisfaction with existing ties between Tanzania and the IMF.

Current cooperation arrangements focus on allocating adequate budget funds for improvement of the business environment and effective management of public funds to accelerate welfare gains while enhancing internal revenue by higher tax collections, he stated.

"Community development and strengthening of the economy have in recent years contributed to an increase in life expectancy for Tanzanians along with diminishing infant mortality for children below five years," he said.

There was also a decrease in the number of children with stunted growth, and a vast increase in primary school enrolment for children, girls and boys alike, he asserted.

Li Xiangming, the IMF director for East Africa regional technical assistance, said inclusion of gender issues in IMF strategy targets the building of a gender equal society and empowering women to participate in building the economy and attaining sustainable development.

Key focus areas where much emphasis will be placed include women economic empowerment, land ownership, access to quality education and combating all forms of gender abuse, she stated.

Gender abuse impedes women and children's development, she said, pointing at narrowing gender gaps as essential to boosting growth

and putting the economy on a path of steady recovery.

"It is great to hear from government representatives, civil societies and development partners on how our work complements one another in reducing gender gaps," the director asserted.

The IMF will play its part in narrowing gender gaps in concerted efforts with partners by bringing together relevant stakeholders particularly domestic ones to discuss the redesigning of macroeconomic and financial sector policies to have a more equitable impact on men and women, she stated.

"We plan to draw on support from IMF headquarters, work closely with UN Women and other partners to hold regional and country workshops on gender equality issues," she added.

She said IMF can support gender issues but stakeholders engaged in these areas should indicate which specific areas that IMF can support them to be able to make changes and reduce gender gaps.

Apart from that, the IMF plans to incorporate gender lens in its capacity development work on budgetary processes and financial inclusion, said Xiangming.

Zlatan Milisic, the resident coordinator for the UN system in Tanzania, lauded the IMF for expanding its macro-economic scope to include gender equality, underlining that it is a key driver of development.

"Data has shown us that the economic crisis caused by the adverse effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the raging conflicts, particularly, the war in Ukraine and the resultant supply chain disruptions, have disproportionately negatively impacted on women," stated Milisic.

Women are now facing higher rates of poverty, greater risks of food insecurity, skyrocketing rates of violence and a global pushback on their rights, he stated.

"Attention is needed to address women's social and economic status. The pandemic took a toll on income-generating activities for women who depend on informal economy and cross-border trade," he pointed out.

"The Ukraine crisis caused an increase in commodity prices of grains, edible oil, energy, fuel, and fertiliser which have detrimental implications for households and women," he added.



Tanzania Agricultural Seed Agency CEO Dr Sophia Kashege (C, back to camera) pictured at the weekend briefing Agriculture minister Hussein Bashe (in light-green coat, facing microphone), who was on visit to the agency's seed production farm at Suluti in Namtumbo District, Ruvuma Region. Part of the farm is said to have been invaded by individual farmers. Photo: Correspondent Valentine Oforo

Tanzania-EU business forum enlists 400 foreign companies

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connectivity and construction, he stated.

"More than 400 distinguished business and investment stakeholders are expected from Europe, including high-level leaders and prominent companies, and will join with over 200 participants from Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar," he elaborated.

The event will also provide a platform for dialogue between regulatory agencies and private firms on how to further improve the business environment, notably the regulatory framework and facilitate business-to-business (B2B) transactions and networking.

This would enhance possibilities of partnerships between local and

EU firms, he stated, noting that the forum will offer tools for private sector development, enabling them to access finance and skills development from EU financing institutions.

Cedric Merel, the head of cooperation for the EU delegation in Tanzania, said they have witnessed great progress in various sectors where a number of policy and legal reforms were conducted.

Tanzania's economy is growing rapidly while giving priority to youth and women where the EU is interested to support these efforts, he stated.

Maftah Bunini, the planning, research and information technology director at the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) urged local investors and business people to participate in the meeting. The

forum will help them improve their projects or access potential partnerships, he said.

"This forum offers Tanzania a great opportunity to welcome new European investments, technology and expertise in the country and is part of current efforts to attract businesses and investments from across the world to key sectors such as renewable energy, mining critical minerals, sustainable agriculture and trade," he declared.

To ensure the success of the forum, the EU and the government have engaged multiple stakeholders from the private sector in Tanzania and Europe, financial institutions and other experts.

They will showcase Tanzania's opportunities in various areas, facilitate discussions among business peers, government

officials and political leaders with a view to catalyse new partnerships, he further affirmed.

An EU investment report last year said the European Union is a major trade and investment partner for Tanzania with a total trade volume of euros 856m in exports from the EU to Tanzania and euro 456m in imports from Tanzania to the EU in 2021.

Investment inflows from the ten most active EU member States was \$1.5bn from 2013 to 2020, he said, noting that its contribution to the Tanzanian economy was substantial.

It is estimated that EU companies currently provide 151,000 jobs, of which 38 percent are women while the largest companies alone paid \$1.45bn in taxes from 2015 to 2021, he added.



Finance and Planning Minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba (3rd-R) sings Tanzania's national anthem in Dar es Salaam yesterday. It was at the opening of a meeting on the International Monetary Fund's decision to include gender-related issues in the implementation of its development plans. Photo: Correspondent Ben Mwaipaja

State agencies 'must pay up 44bn/- debts to TEMESA'

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2022/2023 financial year, where TRA is collecting taxes without undue force, the target has been attained by 98.1 percent, he stated.

In the 2020/2021 fiscal year TRA's internal expenditure was high especially because of allowances paid to the task force mandated to collect taxes, he said.

"After disbanding the tax force, not only has tax collecting improved but TRA expenditure declined as well. We, therefore congratulate the government and TRA for

the decision of not using undue pressure to tax payers," he declared.

Mid last year, while touring Kagera Region, President Samia directed TRA to 'stop troubling' businesses for outstanding tax arrears going back several years, to focus on arrears from the previous financial year. Pursuing arrears going back several years was responsible for an undesirable situation in the business environment, she stated.

The committee made a decision to require that TBS be involved

in DNA marking of fuel imports, noting that earlier the task was being conducted by private firms.

"If you may recall it ignited extensive debate in the legislature and hence we decided unanimously to involve TBS, as a government institution, to do the task. The aim is to reduce costs," he said. DNA markings are purchased outside the country but TBS has informed the panel that it was in the process of producing the technological input in the country, he added.



Gloria Mutta (R), Tanzania Commercial Bank's communication and relations manager, presents 100 bags of cement to Kiburugwa councillor Fatuma Michael in Dar es Salaam yesterday in supporting the construction of a police post in the ward. The others include TCB Mbagala branch manager Edward Mwoleka (3rd-R), acting Temeke district commissioner Bertha Minga (2nd-L) and TCB official Adam Lameck. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

'Map of government town is completed'

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR'S Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development has completed the government town map for the first phase where six areas identified for building the city.

Ministry's Permanent Secretary Dr Mngereza Mzee Miraji said this here over the weekend when speaking shortly after the meeting between his ministry and the Presidential Delivery Bureau (PDB).

Dr. Miraji said the map of the government town has been completed and soon the government will decide where to build the town, mentioning some of the areas that his ministry has proposed to build the government town including, Fumba, Kisakasaka, Dunga and Tunguu in Unguja has been found suitable to build the government town due to the criteria required in government town.

"It is true that a month ago we called the executives of all the ministries to give us their final opinion so that we can make adjustments in the design of the existing Government Town, but today the combined areas of Fumba, Kisakasaka, Dunga and Tunguu," said Dr. Miraji.

He said the source of funds for the Zanzibar's government town is still unknown, "but I'm sure that once the government decides to build a certain part, there will undoubtedly be a source of money and its budget where the President's Office of Finance and Planning will explain the source."

He also said that through the meeting there are responsibilities that have been agreed between the Ministry of Lands and the PDB and those tasks have been required to be completed within a week.

Dr. Miraji thanked the PDB for organizing a joint meeting with his Ministry with the aim of bringing

efficiency in the implementation of the duties.

Mwanaisha Ali Said, Zanzibar Housing Corporation (ZHC) director general described the session that is very important because ZHC still has practical challenges including money, how to get money and how to write texts to get money and various priorities.

"PDB has become an important institution for ZHC by using their expertise in the sector housing and the project management sector have helped guide us as priorities of Zanzibar President Dr. Hussein Ali Mwinyi are many even the priorities of the corporation. There are also many houses in Zanzibar," said Mwanaisha.

PDB Head of the Communications Dr. Mohamed Mansour Nassor said his bureau was able to find out how the ZHC works, its strategies, successes and challenges.

He said the meeting is a continuation of the meetings of PDB and various ministries in monitoring the implementation of projects so that they can know what the challenges are that face those projects and provide them with solutions to achieve the goals that President Dr Mwinyi wants in his leadership.



...but I'm sure that once the government decides to build a certain part, there will undoubtedly be a source of money and its budget where the President's Office of Finance and Planning will explain the source

Police hold 7 over killing of magistrate, another person

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

POLICE in Mbeya Region are holding seven people for allegedly killing two people including resident magistrate Joachim Mwakyo and another person who is yet to be identified in Handeni District, Tanga Region.

Mwakyo (51) took their last breath on January 20, this year when the suspects attacked them using various tools after a land dispute arose at Kibole village in Itete ward, Busokelo District.

According to the Regional Police Commander, ACP Benjamin Kuzaga, the residents are allegedly to have killed them by hitting them with sharp objects.

He named the arrested suspects as Amokile Mwakangundya (30), Zawadi Mwakagile (27), Lutengano Mwakagile (27), Wito Mwakatobe (19), Lwitiko Kikomile (27) and Tubike Kisasa (48) all are residents of Kibole village as well as Aliko Mwakikyoko (40) Ngichwa village resident in Kyela District.

He said that the magistrate had a land dispute with the village government which later went to various courts for conciliation.

"The village government claimed that the area is a forest reserve but the magistrate was claiming that it was his area that he bought from one of the villagers. So they took each other to court and their case went up to the High Court," RPC

Kuzaga said. The case commenced in 2018 and ended in 2018 at the High Court of Tanzania-Mbeya where the ruling came showing that the villagers won the case.

But on January 20, this year at around 20.00pm the deceased and with other persons were seen walking in the area, something which shocked the villagers.

He narrated that some villagers who were at the camp near the area stopped and started to question them on why they were at the area which they are not allowed to go and that where the trouble arose leading to death of the two and injuring two others.

"During the arguments, the late

Mwakyo shot some villagers who were seen harassing him and injured two of them. They are Tubike Kisasa (48) who was injured on right thigh and Huruma Mwakakigira (45) who was injured on the right leg," he said.

He further explained that after the two were injured, a group of villagers came and started to hit magistrate Mwakyo and his friends leading to their death.

The police arrived at the area immediately after getting the information and found various sharp objects including stones, and the suspected gun used by the deceased.

Commander Kuzaga said police is currently interrogating the arrested suspects while looking for others beyond further legal measures were taken.

He urged residents in the region to stop taking the law into your own hands.

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

Expression of Interest

The United Nations World Food Programme seeks Milling Companies, that can provide milling services in Tanzania.

The United Nations World Food Programme is updating its Milling Services shortlists and is inviting applications from registered grain (maize and sorghum) milling facilities Millers who are interested and capable to provide these services:

1. Miller must own the milling facility registered in the company name and indicate the daily working hours capacity (MT/day).
2. Miller must have a good internal control measures in place to ensure the quality of the milled products along with the technical staff required to run and monitor the operations.
3. Miller must have the capacity to do fortification if required or requested.
4. Miller must have an adequate holding or storage capacity for grain stock before and after milling.
5. The ideal location for the milling facilities should be in Dodoma town (most preferred), Kahama town and Kigoma.

Any grain Milling Company which is interested and capable of providing these services is requested to complete a WFP Milling Questionnaire (see below for details). Only companies which meet above-mentioned WFP's criteria need reply to this Expression of Interest:

- Milling company must be fully registered with all relevant Tanzanian Governmental departments and has all required licenses.
- Milling company, as well as its employees must not be blacklisted by any UN or non-UN organization.

If your Milling company meets these criteria and wishes to be considered for provision of these Milling services in Tanzania, you must submit the below documentation via email by close of business day of the **30th of January 2023** to Mohammed.KHALIFA@wfp.org and Clementina.mapunda@wfp.org

- 1- A completed WFP Questionnaire (please contact Mohammed.Khalifa@wfp.org or Clementina.mapunda@wfp.org to obtain a copy).
- 2- A copy of the company Commercial registration, Certificate of Incorporation, a copy of the most recent audit report, a copy of Bank letter that shows your company's account information.

This announcement is not a tender and rates are not being requested at this stage. Accordingly, please note that neither this Expression of Interest nor the receipt of completed questionnaires binds the World Food Programme to issue any tenders or contracts to any such interested parties. **Following assessment of applications, WFP reserves the right to accept or reject your interest to be included in WFP's service provider's shortlist, without any further clarification.**

Please note that WFP does not charge fees from applicants at any stage of the Milling Services shortlisting process.

Queries, strictly related to this expression of interest should be directed to: Mohammed.Khalifa@wfp.org or Clementina.mapunda@wfp.org

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

Expression of Interest

The United Nations World Food Programme in Tanzania Seeks a Warehouse Facilities in Dodoma and surrounding areas.

WFP Tanzania seeks to identify warehouse facilities in **Dodoma and surrounding areas**. The warehouse Facility will mainly be used for the storage of food and commodities and some non-food items, which should ideally meet the following requirements:

- Very good condition without any major repairs required.
- A good accessible location, Near a main roadway and preferably accessible to railway.
- Fitted with Fire detectors; Ablution amenities; main Water and Electricity power from national supply.
- Secured by a surrounding fence, equipped with a gate and proper lightings.
- **Minimum size required, in terms of covered storage area, is no less than 5,000 SQM** and can at least hold up to **10,000 MT of food commodities** with an adequate open area for trucks to turn, manoeuvring and park.

Any interested party/ies in possession of a warehouse facility that fit the description in or around Dodoma City should respond to this expression of interest, as WFP may require such facilities soon.

WFP invites qualified landlords, who own such facilities, to submit their information (as detailed below) for consideration for short listing.

1. Proof of ownership/**Title deed** (certified)
2. Certificate of **incorporation or commercial registration**.
3. Land and structure **blueprint**, pictures of the facility and **Google coordinates** of the Warehouse location.

Please submit requested information to WFP no later than 4pm, **30th January 2023** at the address listed below:

Please note that this is **not an invitation to tender**. No rates/prices are required at this stage, and this invitation does not bind the World Food Programme to issue any tenders or contracts to the companies who expressed their interest. This expression of interest may be followed by a visit, inspection of facility and offices.

Please note that WFP does not charge any fee for registration forms.

WFP Tanzania Logistics Unit
113 Ada Estates, Kinondoni, Burundi Street, Mwindu Lane,
P.O. Box: 77778, Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania

By email to: Mohammed.khalifa@wfp.org and Clementina.mapunda@wfp.org

Queries strictly related to this expression of interest should be directed to Mohammed.khalifa@wfp.org and Clementina.mapunda@wfp.org

Govt working on strategies meant to reduce importation of medical tools come 2030

By Guardian Correspondent, Njombe

THE government is working on strategies aimed to reduce importation of medical tools by 2030 and thus save 24bn/- that are part of the funds spent annually on the same.

Chief pharmacist, Daudi Msasi said this here when he visited the construction site of a gloves factory in Idofo area in Makambako town council.

"The ministry of health is working hard to ensure that when we reach 2030, the importation of medical tools should be at 50 percent because currently the importation is at 80 percent, our aim is to cut it to 50 percent because we are spending a lot of funds to import the tools," he said.

He expressed hope as the factory will produce 80 percent of the total needs of gloves in the country.

"There are also medicines factories which will be constructed here, but we also have other factories in Kibaha, Coast Region, we will continue encouraging investments in the area so as to ensure that the country has enough medical tools and medicines to serve people during disasters, we don't want to Covid-19 to experience the same challenges as it was for Covid-19 pandemic," Msasi said.

Mavere Tukai, director general of the Medical Stores Department (MSD) said that the construction of the factory will help eliminate the hustles of importing medical products.

"As major buyers, we know the ordeal we go through when ordering the products, you can wait three to six months for the product to arrive, the packaging of the product has other challenges, you can wait until those six months and you find that the quality is not satisfactory and end up returning for replacement, but if we produce

them ourselves we will greatly help reduce the challenges," Tukai said.

Tukai said the factory will have the capacity to produce 20,000 gloves per hour equal to 10,000 pairs and thus making production of approximately 86,400,000 pairs per year.

Rosemary Silaa, chairperson of the MSD board of directors said that they will supervise to ensure that products at the factory are produced by adhering to all quality standards and distributed on time.

She said the government has a plan to facilitate construction of more factories that use rubber raw materials.

"For this factory alone, we will employ more than 200 people from this area, but more jobs will be produced as we construct other factories, this will also help improve the lives of people," she said.

Njombe Regional Commissioner, Antony Mtaka urged the production at the factory to also include condoms.

"Statistics show that Tanzania spends 25bn/- to 30bn/- to import condoms and 20bn/- for gloves, this a very huge amount which if we can put much effort on, we can help reduce the imports and rescue the funds," he said.



For this factory alone, we will employ more than 200 people from this area, but more jobs will be produced as we construct other factories, this will also help improve the lives of people

COVID-19 hits 3 boarding schools

HARARE

A FRESH wave of COVID-19 has hit three boarding schools in Mashonaland East province, with 80 students and teachers testing positive last week.

The development comes a fortnight after schools opened for the first term, raising fears that learning institutions could become super spreaders of the viral disease given the overcrowding that characterise most classrooms and boarding facilities throughout the country.

According to a Health Ministry situational report dated January 20, 2023, the three schools – namely Murehwa High, Nhowe Mission and Hurungwe Primary – have since isolated the confirmed cases while surveillance tests have been intensified.

All the three are located in Murehwa district, with health officials claiming in the report that efforts to reach out to other parts of the district were being hampered by transport challenges.

According to the Health ministry report, as of Saturday, at least 40 learners at Murehwa High School were in isolation while 32 cases were recorded at Nhowe Mission with three cases being reported at Hurungwe Primary School.

At Hurungwe Primary School, two female teachers tested positive for the virus.

"No admission of cases in isolation and no death has been reported," part of the report read.

Mashonaland East provincial medical director Paul Matsvimbo yesterday confirmed the cases saying the situation was under control.

"I confirm that there are COVID-19 cases and Nhowe Mission and Murehwa High School. As for Hurungwe, I will check on the latest developments. The boarding schools have already implemented public health safety measures that is isolating those who tested positive among other measures.

"The situation is under control and all those who tested positive are stable and doing well. Our

health officers are on the ground monitoring the situation," Matsvimbo said.

COVID-19 national co-ordinator in the Office of the President coordinator Agnes Mahomva said it was not unusual to have cases reported in schools as the school surveillance system was strong and comprehensive.

"The Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education together with the Ministry of Health implements this surveillance system very strictly. Cases which are normally identified in communities during the school holidays are, therefore, picked up by the school surveillance system once schools open.

"Government continues to urge all citizens to get vaccinated. Wear face masks properly indoors, in public transport vehicles and crowded places; avoid crowded gatherings as well as frequently wash hands with soap and running water and or sanitise," Mahomva said.

Community Working Group on Health (CWGH) executive director Itai Rusike said there was need to have all eligible schoolchildren vaccinated to avoid further spread of the disease.

"The COVID-19 standard operating procedures in schools should be strengthened and supported. Public schools with limited resources should also be provided with all the necessary Covid-19 preventive measures such as safe transport, uninterrupted supply of water, handwashing facilities, temperature screening gadgets, alcohol-based hand sanitisers and facemasks," he said.

Primary and Secondary Education ministry spokesperson Taungana Ndoro could not be reached for comment yesterday.

A Health ministry sitrep dated January 21, 2022 showed that Zimbabwe has so far recorded 261 553 positive cases of COVID-19 and 5 652 deaths since the onset of the pandemic in 2020.

A report by Al Jazeera yesterday, quoting a prominent government scientist, stated that 80% of the country's population has been infected.



Women farmers who are beneficiaries of Farm Africa's 'Realising Gender through Empowering Women and Adolescent Girls', a project implemented in Ikungi District, Singida Region, pose for a photo at the weekend at the presentation of smartphones to the farmers and extension officers. Photo: Correspondent Valentine Oforo

Ex-Energy ministry PSs praise JNHPP implementation speed

By Guardian Reporter

RETIRED Permanent Secretaries and their deputies in the Energy Ministry have praised work speed on the implementation of the Julius Nyerere Hydro Power Project (JNHPP).

Led by the Chief Cabinet Secretary of the Zanzibar Government Eng. Zena Ahmed Said, the former senior Energy Ministry officials made the remarks during their visit at the JNHPP construction site at the weekend.

The visit comes a month after President Samia Suluhu Hassan officially inaugurated the filling of the dam whose depth is now 116

metres above mean sea level.

Addressing reporters soon after their visit, Eng. Zena Ahmed Said explained that the project was huge for Tanzania and beyond and is progressing well and whose completion now stands at 80.22 percent.

She added that by the end of January 2024 the project will start generating electricity to be fed to the national power grid for transmission to various areas of the country.

She mentioned various benefits from the 2,115 MW project including the availability of reliable power supply that will do away with rampant power

shortages.

She said many youth employed in the project will remain with the skills gained to enable them work in similar other projects.

"I call upon the Energy ministry to establish a database that will identify all those involved in the project as I am told 90 percent of them were Tanzanians," she added.

Energy Ministry Permanent Secretary, Felchesmi Mramba said the dam will be of great benefits to Tanzanians as the government has established many plans including its setting aside of 400,000 hectares of land in Rufiji Delta area for irrigation farming.

He added that the dam will also be used for fishing activities.

Former Permanent Secretary in the Energy Ministry, Avemaria Semakafu showered praise on the government for speedy implementation of the strategic project that is expected to spur the development of Tanzanians and the nation in general and called upon both the ministry and the Tanzania Electric Supply Company Limited (TANESCO) to compile a special publication that will incorporate all stakeholders involved in the huge project.

JNHPP is among huge power projects in the East and Central Africa region and the 2,115 MW of electricity to be generated will augment the 1,600 MW currently being produced by various power generating sources and do away with frequent power shortages as well as reducing its cost to Tanzanians.



Jenista Mhagama, Minister of State in the President's Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance), pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday having a word with the widow of former president Dr John Magufuli, Janeth Magufuli (L), at the latter's residence. It was complete with special regards from President Samia Suluhu Hassan. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Climate change threatens farming activities in 40 areas of Pemba

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

MORE than 40 areas in the island of Pemba have been identified to be threatened by the effects of climate change as they face submersion by salty water which hampering farmers in their farming activities, including rice farming.

This was revealed at the weekend by the Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Office of the

First Vice President, Daima Mkali Moto in his report to the National Leaders House of Representatives Committee on how climate change has adversely affected Ndagoni area of ChakeChake District, Pemba.

Moto said various efforts have been taken by the government and the people of the area including construction of ridges to prevent sea water flow into farming and residential areas.

He said farming activities, including rice farming have been suspended in some areas of Ndagoni due the inflow of sea water into farming area.

He also said some effects have to a great extent been attributed by human activities in particular the rampant cutting down of mangrove trees which assist in preventing the inflow of sea water.

"The entire Ndagoni area in

ChakeChake District is adversely affected by the effects of climate change to the extent that many farming areas have been submerged by sea water thereby stopping all farming activities," he said.

"We have done research and found out that apart from the effects of climate change, human activities including rampant cutting down of mangrove trees has amplified the problem," he added.



Manyara Regional Police Commander George Katabazi shows journalists yesterday elephant tusks he said police officers impounded at Matufa in Babati District at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Jaliwason Jasson

Tanroads starts construction of 512km tarmac road connecting Ruvuma and Morogoro regions

By Guardian Reporter

THE government through the Tanzania National Roads Agency (TANROADS) is expected to commence implementation of a project that will see construction of a tarmac road to connect Ruvuma and Morogoro regions.

TANROADS manager in Ruvuma, Eng. Ephatar Mlavi said the construction is of the 512km-Lumecha-Londo in Namtumbo district, Ruvuma Region to Kilosa-Kidatu in Morogoro region.

Eng. Mlavi said the project will involve construction of a road at tarmac level and currently the government is going through various contracting proposals which opened on August 26, 2022.

"The project will be implemented under Engineering, Procurement Construction and financing (EPC+F) Mode of contract," he said.

On the Songea-Makambako road project, Eng. Mlavi said the sixth phase government is expected to commence construction of a 111km Songea-Lutukira consisting part of the Mtwaru corridor.

He said the government has already signed an agreement with the World Bank (WB) who are the supporters and the project is at the initial stage of procurement.

"The project will involve the

construction of the 111km road which include 14 kilometres of Songea bypass in Songea municipality and the construction of the 97-km Songea-Lutukira in Madaba council with a length of 97km thus connecting Songea District in Ruvuma Region and the Njombe district in Njombe region," he asserted.

He however said the Ruvuma Region has already been connected with Njombe District through Nyasa District through the bridge at Ruhuhu River in Ludewa District.

He said the construction of Ruhuhu Bridge commenced in June 2016 and completed in October, 2021 at a cost of 8.9bn/- which connects Nyasa and Ludewa districts.

In the 2022/23 fiscal year, TANROADS in Ruvuma Region requested a budget of 41bn/- to implement development projects. However, only 28bn/- was approved.



The project will be implemented under Engineering, Procurement Construction and financing (EPC+F) Mode of contract

LAAC urges PCCB to enable WEO participation in the war against graft

By Guardian Reporter

THE Parliamentary Standing Committee on Local Government Accounts (LAAC) has urged the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) to equip Ward Executive Officers (WEO) with knowledge for their participation in the war against graft.

LAAC Chairman Abdallah Chaurembo made the call in Dodoma when members of his committee were being trained on a new campaign dubbed 'TAKUKURU-rafiiki' which is aimed at equipping the law makers so that they work together with PCCB in the war against corruption.

He said apart from being key people in implementing

development projects, WEOs can also play a key role in providing civic education on key issues which the public need to know such as corruption and its effects.

"PCCB has a role to play to ensure these officers are well informed of the effects of corruption and what bad effects it causes to the people," he said.

The deputy minister in

the President's Office Public Service Management and Good Governance Deogratius Ndejemi directed PCCB to establish strategies which will help to prevent corruption from taking place instead of controlling its effects.

The Director General for the PCCB Neema Mwakalyelye said the agency was ready to ensure

corruption was an issue of the past in the country including through the Rafiki programme.

On the response from the public on corruption, Mwakalyelye said 92-percent of people in the country have shown their readiness to fight the malpractice saying the Rafiki programme has come to address some shortfalls in war against the vice.

She thanked the committee for taking the front seat in the war against corruption saying the entire directive issued by the committee will adhere to improve efficiency.

The Rafiki programme was established to increase participation of citizens in the war against corruption especially in the service sectors and implementation of other key projects.

Production of electricity from natural gas up, Makamba says

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

ENERGY Minister January Makamba has said the generating capacity of power plants feeding to the national grid has increased, reaching 1,777.05MW in December last year, an increment of 4.87 percent compared to 1,694.55MW in September the same year.

He said in the period of between July and December last year a total of 38,172 million cubic feet of natural gas was produced at Songosongo and Mnazi Bay Blocks, an increase of 27 percent compared to the period of July to December 2021 when 29,999 million cubic feet was produced.

Makamba made the remarks at the weekend when submitting his ministry's report to the

Parliamentary Energy Committee regarding its ministry's implementation of the government budget for the period of between July and December 2022.

Makamba said the increase of the plants' electricity generating capacity feeding the national power grid stems from the production of 90MW at the Kinyerezi I Extension.

He further told the committee members that the generating capacity for plants not connected to the national power grid has reached 39,302MW thereby making the total generating capacity from all power plants in the country to reach 1,816.352MW, compared to 1,733.38MW produced in 2021/2022, an increase of 4.89 percent.

In regard to the increase of natural gas production, the minister

said "the increase stems from the installation of three compressors at the Songosongo Block that has enhanced the pressure and outflow of gas from the well and at the moment the average of 240 million cubic feet is being produced per day from the Songosongo and Mnazi Bay blocks.


The produced natural gas is put to various uses including as cooking gas, in various institutions, motor vehicles and for the production of 62 per cent of electricity for the national power grid.

For his part, the committee chairman thanked the ministry for energy for submitting its budget's implementation report and issued various directives that will help its implementation with more achievements.

The meeting was attended by the deputy energy minister, Stephen Byabato and other senior officials from institutions under the Ministry of Energy.



Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development deputy minister Ridhiwani Kikwete (C, squatting) accompanied by UN Global Compact Network Tanzania director Marsha Yambi (L) and MultiChoice Tanzania Head of Corporate Affairs Johnson Mshana at the weekend's planting of a tree at Bwilingu A School at Chalinge in Coast Region. The gesture marked the launch of BeGreen project, an initiative implemented by the two agencies. The idea is to plant trees in public facilities such as schools as a way of conserving the environment. Photo: Guardian correspondent



SIMBA CEMENT
STRENGTH WITHIN

CAUTIONARY NOTICE TO MEMBERS

PROPOSED ACQUISITION BY SCANCEM INTERNATIONAL DA OF 68.33% OF THE SHARES IN TANGA CEMENT PLC FROM AFRISAM MAURITIUS INVESTMENT HOLDINGS LIMITED

TANGA CEMENT PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY (DSE: TCPLC)
(Incorporated in the United Republic of Tanzania) ("Tanga Cement" or "the Company")

Members are referred to (i) the joint announcement made by HeidelbergCement AG ("HeidelbergCement") and AfriSam Mauritius Investment Holdings Limited ("AfriSam") on 26 October 2021 ("Joint Announcement"), (ii) the further joint announcement made on 1 July 2022 ("First Extension Announcement") and (iii) the further joint announcement made on 1 August 2022 ("Second Extension Announcement"), which announcements relate to the proposed acquisition by Scancem International DA ("Scancem"), a subsidiary of HeidelbergCement, of 43,504,403 ordinary shares in Tanga Cement from AfriSam, which shares constitute 68.33% of the issued share capital of Tanga Cement ("Acquisition"). The Acquisition is regulated by a share purchase agreement concluded between Scancem, AfriSam and AfriSam (South Africa) Proprietary Limited on 22 October 2021 ("SPA"), as amended.

The Board of Directors of Tanga Cement understands that the parties to the SPA have concluded a further addendum to the SPA on 16 January 2023, in terms of which the Longstop Date has been further extended from 16 January 2023 to 16 January 2024.

Although the parties have cautioned that; "there can be no certainty that all Conditions will be fulfilled or waived timeously", Tanga Cement remains eager for the Acquisition to conclude. We continue to work closely with the relevant parties to the Acquisition, the Regulatory Bodies and our advisers to ensure that the Acquisition is finalised in the best interest of all the shareholders of Tanga Cement. We wish to thank shareholders for your patience and continued support of Tanga Cement.

Further announcements will be made in due course.

On behalf of the Board.



Patrick Rutabanzibwa
Chairman of the Board
19 January 2023

Mwinyi directs public officials to implement govt directives in time

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has called upon officials in public institutions to implement in time all directives issued by the government for more achievements in their responsibilities.

President Mwinyi made the remarks here yesterday when opening the 5th National Business Council (NBC) at Zanzibar State House.

He said he has established an organ under the President's Office to make follow ups and oversee the performance of government officials on issues decided by the government.

He said the economy of Zanzibar is faced by various challenges apart from its gradual growth, saying some of the challenges are within

the government capacity that can be solved but others are outside its capacity.

Dr Mwinyi said the effects of Covid-19 pandemic affected the world economy and many nations shook economically, in particular island nations such as Zanzibar.

He added that apart from the disease's diminishing, it has continued to affect other nations including China, one of Zanzibar's big development partners.

"When the Phase VIII government took power, Zanzibar had plans to build the Mpagaduri Container Port, the project had reached a good stage but we saw it fit to discuss building a much bigger port to cater for everything," he said.

He said as for now Zanzibar needs such a port - to cater for containers, as oil terminal, as fish port and as a

port for handing cereals and other products.

He said the government decided to build such a port at Mangapwani due to its area and deep water.

Submitting her report on the National Business Council, the Council's secretary, who is also the chief cabinet secretary, Zena Ahmed Said noted that the council has four committees - economy and Trade, Investment and tax paying, Agriculture and Livestock and Tourism and Lands.

She said the council was able to work on and find solutions to various issues submitted by the committees including benefits for those leaving employment in private institutions, control of unofficial tour guides, control of guest houses and hotels and many others.



Shinyanga Regional Police Commander Janeth Magomi pictured at the weekend showing journalists containers allegedly used in stealing oil from Standard Gauge Railway project construction sites. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu



World Vegetable Center

AVRDC – The World Vegetable Center

**Regional Communications Officer
World Vegetable Center
Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA)**

The World Vegetable Center (WorldVeg) is a non-profit, autonomous international agricultural research center with headquarters in Taiwan and five regional offices around the globe. WorldVeg conducts research and development programs that contribute to realize the potential of vegetables for healthier lives and more resilient livelihoods. For further information please visit our website: www.worldveg.org

The Center is recruiting a Regional Communications Officer to lead the Center's communication function at ESA-level and thus contribute to the building and enhancement of WorldVeg's image, raise the Center's profile and influence policies and actions of governments, farmers, development partners, corporates, foundations, academia, philanthropists in respect to nutritional, social and economic importance of vegetable crops.

JOB SUMMARY

The Regional Communications Officer will be responsible for the implementation of the WorldVeg's communication strategy at regional level. She/he will develop and implement communications plan for internal and external audiences including staff, resident scientists, development partners, media and other stakeholders.

The post holder will also be responsible for establishing and promoting the brand of WorldVeg regionally, raising awareness about the organization's work at various forums and ensuring transparency and regular information sharing with the public. He/she will be a strategic thinker with strong understanding of various media platforms and the development sector.

Reporting: The Regional Communications Development Officer will report to the Regional Director, ESA and will work closely with other regional communications officers of WorldVeg, the Director Global Engagement, and the Communications team at Headquarters.

KEY RESULT AREAS

1. Develop and implement annual communication workplans.
2. Produce periodic (country, regional, project-level) reports.
3. Organize and manage the Center's events including the activities to celebrate the 50th anniversary of WorldVeg to be held throughout 2023.
4. Share knowledge to inform and influence policy and programmes at national and regional level.
5. Collaborate with other WorldVeg regional communications officers to enhance the visibility of WorldVeg's at global level.
6. Develop a good partnership with WorldVeg project managers to generate ideas and stories for dissemination to the public.

KEY ACTIVITIES

- Develop the ESA annual communication and outreach strategy and contribute to other WorldVeg communication plans as may be required from time to time.
- Support country or project offices in the region in communication related activities producing communication and visibility products and materials, as well as providing necessary guidance to the country/project teams etc.
- In collaboration with WorldVeg project managers and the Communications team at HQ, develop knowledge and communications products on on-going projects, initiatives and impacts for wider dissemination to regional economic communities, governments, resource partners, and other development partners with the goal of informing, raising awareness, and facilitating advocacy / resource mobilization.
- Be the regional focal point for information requests from outside actors and channel such requests to technical staff for effective response.
- Provide oversight and quality control of communication support for events organized by the Region.
- Participate in OneCGIAR inter-agency communication and reporting efforts particularly in relationship to projects which are implemented jointly.
- Establishing standard information-sharing and clearance processes, in consultation with technical colleagues.
- Contribute to the development and production of communication and visibility products (e.g., success/beneficiary stories for print and web, leaflets, brochures, presentations, posters, etc.), including drafting/reviewing texts in English, and overseeing the design, printing and distribution process.
- Facilitating media relations for ESA, including organizing press conferences/briefings or field visits and producing media-style public information products, media speaking/talking points, press releases, human interest stories for use by WorldVeg. Liaise with relevant colleagues in headquarters, specifically the Communications Team at HQ and the Director Global Engagement to facilitate exposure of WorldVeg's activities and ensure the accuracy/coherence of content developed.
- Providing information and advice to staff on communications related matters.

JOB REQUIREMENTS

Qualifications and Experience

- Master's degree in Social Science, Business Management, Communication, Marketing, Public Relations or a related field.
- Minimum 8 years of demonstrated experience in the communication industry.
- A good understanding of the media industry in terms of communication for development aspects.
- 5-10 years business/management experience
- Proven competence in written and spoken English, good writing and editorial skills.
- Fluency in French will be an added advantage.
- Proven skills in developing, writing, editing and dissemination of impactful communications pieces.
- Have high energy, confident person who is able to engage people and get them to buy-in to our mandate and/or to partnering with WorldVeg.
- Strong organizational and time management skills. Also, very strong networking skills and excellent interpersonal relationship skills
- Ability to work effectively across multiple functions, locations and cultures
- Strong team leadership skills.

HOW TO APPLY

Applicants should submit a letter of application explaining their suitability for and interest in the position along with their curriculum vitae, a recent passport size photograph, names and addresses (including telephone/e-mail) of three professional referees and date of availability. Please send applications stating the job title by email to info-esa@worldveg.org by the closing date on **10 February 2023**.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

2 suspected armed robbers killed in shootout with police in Ngara

By Guardian Correspondent, Kagera

TWO people suspected to be armed robbers have been killed in a fire exchange with the police in Ngara District, Kagera Region.

Kagera Regional Police Commander, William Mwampaghale said during the incident, an AK 47 rifle with 25 bullets was seized together with hand grenades.

The deceased whose names have not been identified are said to be aged 25 and 30 and their bodies have been preserved at Nyamiaga hospital mortuary for further investigations.

Mwampaghale said the two were planning to carry out a crime

at Kumunazi in which the police received information about the matter and thwarted the incident before it happened.

According to the police, the incident took place at Kumunazi village at Rulenge in the district and acted by sending equipped officers to the scene before it happened.

"After the incident we arranged a trap in all the roads leading and out of Kumunazi and when it was 9:35 PM, a motorcycle with three people passed and our officers stopped to ask but they refused and started firing bullets in the sky," he said.

The regional police boss said the police were forced to attack the motorcycle after the passengers were seen to have carried heavy

arms and were in the process shot in their legs.

He said the driver of the motorcycle managed to escape and the two died from bleeding from injuries which they acquired during the shootout with the law enforcers.

RPC Mwampaghale warned people who are planning to carry out criminal activities saying the police in the region have intensified security adding that no criminal will stay in the region safe.

Kagera is one among the region's leading in deaths originating from crime related incidents with most being conducted by foreigners who end returning to their home countries after carrying out the incidents.

DC warns traders against selling subsidised maize at higher prices

By Guardian Correspondent, Kahama

Kahama

TRADERS in Kahama District, Shinyanga Region have been cautioned against buying subsidised maize provided by the National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) that are sold at low prices and resell to other people at higher prices.

Authorities are concerned that such acts are against the government's aims to alleviate challenges facing Tanzanians including the high prices of food commodities.

The caution was given here yesterday by Kahama District Commissioner, Festo Kiswaga as he addressed reporters at Nyamilangano Ward, following complaints from the people regarding traders who buy the subsidised maize and later sell it at

higher price.

He said the government has provided maize to be sold to the people at a subsidised price of 15,000/- per 20 kg bag but some traders buy the maize and later sell it at up to 25,000/- per 20kg bag.

Kiswaga said traders who will be found doing so will be arrested and face court prosecution for economic sabotage as the government was currently engaged in alleviating food shortages facing many Tanzanians.

"During the 2020/21 season people harvested a lot of maize all of which was bought by NFRA for storage, but now the same is being sold to the people at 15,000/- per 20kg bag compared to the current market price of 25,000/- per 20kg bag," said DC Kiswaga.

He said as of now they are making procedures to send the maize to all 58 wards in Kahama district to

spare the people the need to travel long distances looking for the staple food.

He also called upon all the people to report to the nearest village government offices and ward executives whenever they are asked to pay more for the maize sold by unscrupulous traders.

Ushetu Member of Parliament, Emmanuel Cherehani said in the last season people had little harvests due to the effects of climate change, the situation that called for food assistance to alleviate food shortage in many families.

He said in the first phase, NFRA sold 100 tonnes of maize at subsidised price of 15,000/- per 20 kg bag and many bought the staple food to feed their families.

He added that this time they have received 400 tonnes that is expected to reach all families in the 20 wards of the district.

Rufiji villagers commend their MP for ending a dispute with investor

By Guardian Correspondent, Rufiji

RESIDENTS of Nyanda and Utunge villages in Rufiji District, Coast Region have commended the government for ending a long-time land dispute between them and the investor.

The ending of the conflict involving sugar production by Lake Agro Ltd will enable the firm to start implementing the project.

Speaking soon after the meeting that brought together the residents, the investor and the constituency Member of Parliament, Mohamed Mchengerwa who is also the Minister for Culture, Arts and Sports at Nyanda village, retired

Nyanda Village Chairman, Amir Omari Magulu praised the minister for his wisdom and efforts to resolve the long-time conflict.

Magulu said the conflict stems from the investor's violation of the earlier agreement of handing over an area for investment and for not getting the right information about the investment.

Giving the resolution regarding the conflict, Mchengerwa called upon Rufiji District officials to meet with the investor to openly discuss the intended investment in order to iron out their differences in order to allow the implementation of the country's second biggest sugar project.

He explained that the only existing challenge is poor communication between the investor and the villagers, with the latter not knowing what was going on in regard to the project.

He further said the government has already provided a lot of funds to assist Tanzanians including the people of Rufiji, adding that in regard to Rufiji District, the government has already set aside 46bn/- for the construction of the Nyamwage-Utete and Ikwiriri-Mkongoro roads.

Rashidi Omari Goboleni and Asha Juma Mbonde, residents of Nyanda Village thanked minister Mchengerwa for his directives to end the conflict.

Firm gives smartphones to extension officers, women farmer's leaders to digitise dairy farming in Singida

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Ikungi

FARM Africa has handed over smartphones to extension officers and some women farmer's leaders in Ikungi District in Singida Region to help digitise their dairy farming activities.

Through use of the disbursed modern digital gadgets that have been installed with the special online portal, called 'KOBO-COLLECT', beneficiaries will stand a professional side to timely access helpful information and solutions when encountering any challenge in their plantations.

"The installed agro e-system, among others, has been tailored to help farmers to timely get assistance from extension officers in case of experiencing hindrances in the course of their daily farming executions," said Godson Lema, monitoring, evaluation and learning officer at Farm Africa.

Lema said with the smart phones, extension officers are expected to speed up and digitalise their works through simplified monitoring and evaluation methods.

They will be easily monitoring farmer's performance, compiling and submitting relevant reports as well as dispatching necessary feedback, he said.

At least six best women farmers from six villages of Ikungi District were presented with the smart phones and three extension officers were also given the gadgets.

Hellen Jackson, gender inclusion and youth officer at Farm Africa said the focus is to assist farmers to establish their special working group through WhatsApp platforms, the group that will help them to share positive ideas and experiences.

She added, the digital devices will also assist the farmers to access useful information on the available markets for their produce, as well as extending their farming networks.

Tumaini Elibariki, Programme Manager for Farm Africa in Tanzania said currently, women make up 68 percent of Tanzania's sunflower sector but they only represent 17 percent of members of the AMCOS.

"We are working round the clock to support cooperative members, especially women, with training on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP), Quality Declared Seeds (QDS) production and on climate-smart agricultural techniques, so that they can stand a chance to increase the quantity and quality of sunflowers they grow in Tanzania's extreme climates," he remarked.

For instance, he said, among others, the project constructed a warehouse in the village of Mng'ana in Ikungi district to assist cooperative members to enhance collective marketing and reduce post-harvest losses, the development which is providing women in the sunflower sector with the resources and skills to increase their incomes and expand their businesses.

Christened, 'Realising Gender through Empowering Women and Adolescent Girls', the on-going initiative attracts a total of 700 farmers under the Agricultural Marketing Cooperatives (AMCOs) across the district.

Beneficiaries were also capacitated in different areas including training on additional value chains for sunflower cultivation.

The farmers are currently working to produce at least 15.6 tonnes of sunflower record seeds varieties through the Quality Declared Seeds (QDS) system with an eye to help curtail shortage of the improved variety among the farmers in the area.

The QDS system is a seed-producer implemented system for production of seed that meets at least a minimum standard of quality but does not entail formal inspection by the official seed certification system.

"We have decided to empower the beneficiary farmers to produce the QDS sunflower seeds in order to help bridge the existing gap in timely access of sunflower seeds among most farmers across the district," Jackson noted.

The farmer's plantation has already been blessed by the Tanzania Official Seeds Certification Institute (TOSI) and the QDS seeds to be produced are expected to help the sunflower farmers in the next year's cropping season.

Together with that, the initiative is currently working to impart the women and adolescent girls with vital knowledge on how best to pool resources and undertake transportation, packaging, distribution and the marketing of sunflower products to buyers.

The training, among others, was based on how to produce soaps, glue, waxes and relevant others. Besides, the project's general focus incorporates a series of training towards the beneficiary sunflower farmers on how to access quality supplies and boost productivity to meet growing domestic demand for sunflower oil, increasing incomes for women working in the sector.

The intent behind the QDS system is to provide farmers with the assurance of seed quality while reducing the burden on government agencies responsible for seed certification and the scheme is not designed to compete with the existing conventional quality control system, but rather complement it and ensure farmers have greater access to quality seed.



We have decided to empower the beneficiary farmers to produce the QDS sunflower seeds in order to help bridge the existing gap in timely access of sunflower seeds among most farmers across the district



FINCA Microfinance Bank

PUBLICATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Issued pursuant to regulation 7 and 8 of the Banking and Financial Institutions (Disclosure) Regulations, 2014

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022		
(AMOUNTS IN MILLION SHILLINGS)		
	CURRENT QUARTER 31.12.2022	PREVIOUS QUARTER 30.09.2022
A. ASSETS		
1 Cash	739	1,136
2 Balances with Bank of Tanzania	795	5,015
3 Investment in Government Securities	-	-
4 Balances with Other Banks and financial institutions	10,929	8,203
5 Cheques and Items for Clearing	-	-
6 Interbranch float items	-	-
7 Bills Negotiated	-	-
8 Customers' liabilities for acceptances	-	-
9 Interbank Loan Receivables	-	-
10 Investments in Other securities	-	-
11 Loans, Advances and Overdrafts (Net of allowances for Probable losses)	61,607	55,779
12 Other Assets	772	445
13 Equity Investments	-	-
14 Underwriting accounts	-	-
15 Property, Plant and Equipment	4,850	5,016
16 TOTAL ASSETS	79,692	75,594
B. LIABILITIES		
17 Deposits from other banks and financial institutions	14,937	13,151
18 Customer Deposits	43,284	39,810
19 Cash letters of credit	-	-
20 Special Deposits	-	-
21 Payments orders / transfers payable	-	-
22 Bankers' cheques and drafts issued	-	-
23 Accrued taxes and expenses payable	528	251
24 Acceptances outstanding	-	-
25 Interbranch float items	-	-
26 Unearned income and other deferred charges	267	301
27 Other Liabilities	4,299	6,959
28 Borrowings	7,063	5,915
29 TOTAL LIABILITIES	70,378	66,387
30 NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)(16 MINUS 29)	9,314	9,207
C. SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS		
31 Paid up Share Capital	37,895	37,895
32 Capital Reserves	-	-
33 Retained Earnings	(29,532)	(30,076)
34 Profit/ (Loss) Account	1,359	1,252
35 Other Capital Accounts/Capital Advance	-	-
35a. Other- Statutory Reserve	(408)	136
35b. General Provision Reserve	-	-
36 Minority Interest	-	-
37 TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	9,314	9,207
D. PERFORMANCE INDICATORS		
(I) Shareholders Funds to Total Assets	12%	13%
(II) Non Performing loans to Total Gross Loans	14%	13%
(III) Gross loans and advances to total deposits	114%	113%
(IV) Loans and Advances to Total Assets	77%	74%
(V) Earning Assets to Total Assets	91%	85%
(VI) Deposits Growth	10%	10%
(VII) Assets Growth	5%	19%

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AND LOSS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022				
(AMOUNT IN MILLION SHILLINGS)				
	Current Quarter 31.12.2022	Comparative Quarter 31.12.2021	Current Year Cumulative 31.12.2022	Comparative Year Cumulative 31.12.2021
1 Interest Income	7,791	4,007	23,162	15,040
2 Interest Expense	(1,725)	(652)	(5,830)	(4,354)
3 Net Interest Income (1 Minus 2)	6,066	3,355	17,332	10,686
4 Bad debts written off	-	-	-	-
5 Impairment Losses on Loans and Advances	(2,105)	(431)	(3,840)	(2,163)
6 Non-Interest Income	700	662	3,396	3,334
6.1 Foreign exchange profit/(loss)	7	(9)	27	(54)
6.2 Fees and Commissions	500	452	1,775	1,744
6.3 Dividend Income	-	-	-	-
6.4 Other Operating Income	193	219	1,594	1,644
7 Non-Interest Expense	(4,558)	(3,852)	(15,504)	(15,219)
7.1 Salaries and Benefits	(1,539)	(1,590)	(6,563)	(6,794)
7.2 Fees and Commission	(75)	(90)	(303)	(327)
7.3 Other Operating Expenses	(2,942)	(2,172)	(8,638)	(8,098)
8 Operating Income/(Loss) before tax	105	(266)	1,384	(3,362)
9 Income Tax Provision	2	(95)	(25)	(95)
10 Net income (loss) after income tax	107	(361)	1,359	(3,457)
11 Other Comprehensive Income/(Loss) for the year	-	-	-	-
12 Total Comprehensive Income/(Loss) for the year	107	(361)	1,359	(3,457)
13 Number of Employees	230	229	230	229
14 Basic Earning Per Share	3	(17)	36	(93)
15 Number of Branches	20	20	20	20
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS				
(I) Return on average total assets	0.14%	-1.20%	1.75%	-6.25%
(II) Return on Average shareholders' funds	0.28%	-1.71%	3.59%	-46.10%
(III) Non interest expense to gross income	53.66%	81.56%	58.36%	83.32%
(IV) Net interest margin to average earning assets	0.16%	-1.56%	1.99%	24.88%

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022				
(AMOUNTS IN MILLION SHILLINGS)				
	CURRENT QUARTER 31.12.2022	PREVIOUS QUARTER 30.09.2022	CUMULATIVE CURRENT YEAR 31.12.2022	CUMULATIVE PREVIOUS YEAR 31.12.2021
Cash flow from operating activities:				
Net income/(Loss)	105	745	1,384	(3,362)
Adjustment for:				
-Impairment/Amortization	392	565	2,162	2,419
-Net change in loans and advances	(5,829)	(8,540)	(26,250)	(3,139)
-Gain/Loss on sale of assets	69	-	130	11
-Net change in Deposits	5,260	4,966	20,179	6,222
-Net change in Short term negotiable securities	-	-	-	-
-Net change in Other Liabilities	(2,417)	6,118	2,808	(2,075)
-Net change in Other Assets	(327)	301	2,150	(1,012)
-Tax paid	-	-	-	(203)
-Others (Specify)	2	-	(25)	(19)
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	(2,749)	4,175	2,538	(1,158)
Cash flow from investing activities:				
Dividend Received	-	-	-	(265)
Purchase of fixed assets	(226)	(153)	(514)	7
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	(68)	-	(130)	-
Purchase of non-dealing securities	-	-	-	-
Proceeds from sale of non-dealing securities	-	-	-	-
Proceeds from maturity of investment in fixed deposit	-	-	-	4,677
Others (specify) - Additions on Right of use asset	-	-	-	(49)
Others (specify) - Proceeds from issue of share	-	-	-	3,218
Net cash provided (used) by investing activities	(294)	(153)	(644)	7,588
Cash flow from financing activities:				
Repayment of long-term debt	(37)	(28)	(105)	(10,114)
Proceeds from issuance of long term debt	-	-	-	-
Proceeds from issuance of share capital	-	-	575	-
Payment of lease liabilities	(359)	(139)	(1,048)	(931)
Net change in other borrowings	1,544	140	4,066	-
Others (Specify)	-	-	-	-
Net cash provided (used) by financing activities	1,148	(27)	3,488	(11,045)
Cash and Cash Equivalents:				
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(1,891)	3,995	5,382	(4,615)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the Quarter/ year	14,354	10,359	7,081	7,018
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the Quarter/year	12,463	14,354	12,463	2,403

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022							
(AMOUNTS IN MILLION SHILLINGS)							
	Share Capital	Share Premium	Retained Earnings	Regulatory Reserve	General Provision Reserve	Others	Total
Current Year (2022)							
Balance as at the beginning of the year	37,320	-	(30,664)	664	-	-	7,380
Loss for the year	-	-	1,359	-	-	-	1,359
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transactions with owners	575	-	-	-	-	-	575
Dividends Paid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Regulatory Reserve	-	-	-	1,072	(1,072)	-	-
General Provision Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance as at the end of the current period	37,895	-	(28,173)	(408)	-	-	9,314
Previous Year (2021)							
Balance as at the beginning of the year	34,102	-	(27,455)	972	-	-	7,619
Loss for the year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	(3,457)	-	-	-	(3,457)
Transactions with owners	3,218	-	-	-	-	-	3,218
Dividends Paid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Regulatory Reserve	-	-	-	308	(308)	-	-
General Provision Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance as at the end of the previous period	37,320	-	(30,664)	664	-	-	7,380

SELECTED EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022		
In preparation of the quarterly financial statements, consistent accounting policies have been used as those applicable to the previous year audited financial statements (if there were changes during the quarter, the changes be explained as per IAS 34 & IAS 8)		
Name and Title	Signature	Date
Edward Zakaria Talawa (Chief Executive Officer)	(Signed)	23 rd January 2023
Deusdedit Edward Mulindwa (Head of Finance)	(Signed)	23 rd January 2023
Peter Kaisi (Internal Audit Manager)	(Signed)	23 rd January 2023
We, the undersigned directors, attest to the faithful representation of the above statements. We declare that the statements have been examined by us and, to the best of our knowledge and belief, have been prepared in conformance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the requirements of the Banking and Financial Institutions Act, 2006 and they present a true and fair view.		
Name	Signature	Date
1. Nasama Massinda (Board Chairman)	(Signed)	23 rd January 2023
2. Mary Pascal Mabiti (Board Member)	(Signed)	23 rd January 2023

MINIMUM DISCLOSURES OF BANK CHARGES AND TARRIFIS		
Number	Item/Transaction	Charge/Fee
1	Savings Account(TZs)	
	Mkwaja(TZs)	
	(a) Required minimum opening balance	0
	(b) Required minimum operating balance	0
	(c) Monthly Services Fees	1,500
	(d) Interim Statement per page	1,500
	(e) Monthly Services Fees	0
	(f) Withdraw charges over the counter	1,000
	(g) Interest payable	0
	Hakika Individual (TZs)	
	(a) Required minimum opening balance	0
	(b) Monthly Services Fees	0
	(c) Interim Statement per page	1,500
	(d) Interest payable	4%
	(e) Balance enquiry	2%
	(f) Withdraw charges over the counter	1,000
	Hakika Legal Entity(TZs)	
	(a) Required minimum opening balance	0
	(b) Monthly Services Fees	0
	(c) Interim Statement per page	1,500
	(d) Interest payable	3%
	(e) Balance enquiry	0
	(f) Withdraw charges over the counter	2,000
	Mtoto (TZs)	
	(a) Required minimum opening balance	0
	(b) Monthly Services Fees	0
	(c) Interim Statement per page	1,500
	(d) Interest payable	4%
	(e) Balance enquiry	0
	(f) Withdraw charges over the counter	1,000
2	Mobile banking Charges(TZs)	
	(a) Balance enquiry	100
	(b) Minimum Statement	100
	(c) Full Statement request	0
	(d) Finca Mobile (In Finca Account)	400
	(e) Finca Account to Finca Account Transfer	100
	(f) Finca Mobile (In and Out Finca Account)-Finca Account to wa	1,000
3	Loans (TZs)	
	Business Loan -Small	
	(a) Interest	
	(b) Loan Processing Fees	3%
	Business Loan - Medium	
	(a) Interest	3.8%
	(b) Loan Processing Fees	3.0%
	Business Loan - Large	
	(a) Interest	3.0%
	(b) Loan Processing Fees	3.0%
	Small Enterprise	
	(a) Interest	3.0%
	(b) Loan Processing Fees	3.0%
	Micro Business	
	(a) Interest	6.3%
	(b) Loan Processing Fees	2.0%
	Lien Loan	
	(a) Interest	2.0%
	(b) Loan Processing Fees	1.02%
	Education provider	
	(a) Interest	4.8% , 3.8% & 3%
	(b) Loan Processing Fees	3.0%

We mark International Day of Education with zest and considerable apprehension

ACTIVISTS around the world have been preparing to mark the fifth International Day of Education falling on January 24 under the theme "to invest in people, prioritize education." This is what the sixth phase government has largely tried to do, following from the footsteps of the fifth phase and in large measure all previous phases of government. Each phase had its challenges and its objectives, and at times objectives had to be reset anew, after we realised we had fallen far back from reasonable expectations.

A United Nations chronicler says that education is a human right, a public good and a public responsibility, as the triad of marking the day, as the first element, as a human right, means it is duty bound upon governments that everyone has access to functional literacy to have a life of dignity in society. The second element, public responsibility, underlines the need to take into account what governments do in that direction as an aspect of their being legitimate in office, while he third, public good, underlines the need for resource allocation. It is a reminder that like other rights, either there are public goods allocate for its observance or it has to be paid for, directly.

The chronicler noted that the United Nations General Assembly proclaimed February 24 as International Day of Education in celebration of the role of education for peace and development. It affirmed that without inclusive and equitable quality education and lifelong opportunities for all, countries will not succeed in achieving gender equality and breaking the cycle of poverty that is leaving millions of children, youth and adults behind. That theme is largely understood the world over but rather superficially, as it constantly meets with resistance in the face of tradition, especially in relation to power to decide what young girls do as they come of age, that is, reproductively.

Regional, global networking on infections vital safeguard

SINCE the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic just over three years ago, global health authorities have relearned the hard way the old age maxim that prevention is better than cure. A few areas of laxity can allow a pandemic to start, and it needs nearly the whole world (government, global agencies) to bring it to a halt, or render substantial attention to those it is falling upon. That is why a meeting of the six East African Community (EAC) partner states and a wide range of development partners to discuss the issues was apt and can't be taken lightly; all sorts of diseases can use an opening to expand.

The large number of experts were at the weekend seeking to identify strategies in preventing infectious diseases, where it appears a key worry was pandemics arising from livestock herding, as its key officials in the EAC Secretariat had a key role in the palaver. One of them observed that in the past two decades the EAC region has been plagued by cross border diseases, impacting the livestock sector and other spheres of business and economy. The issue at the meeting was the formulation of harmonised strategies to curb such outbreaks in the bloc, an aspect of such efforts in Africa and elsewhere.

A notable datum on the conference is that its participants were drawn from the One Health (OH) forum coordinated by the World Health Organisation (WHO), seeking to link efforts to prevent outbreaks of diseases like Ebola,

With young boys the difficulties encountering their right to education is altogether different, namely in the fact that economic hardship and social dislocation makes them a vulnerable group which is used by families to make ends meet, or to eke out some comfort at their expense. Instead of going to school they are often put to hawking or farm work, and if the situation in a family is unhappy, or there is routine pain in living in that neighbourhood, they themselves vacate rural areas to towns, becoming 'street children.' It is a distinctive problem from the lack of education per se, but the two are related.

This becomes plain and obvious when the chronicler says that today (that was early 2022), about 244 million children and youth are out of school while 771 million adults are illiterate. In global terms it means that their right to education is being violated and it is unacceptable in relation to marking the International Day of Education. But scratch pundits in any country about the issue and a ready answer will come up, that they had access to alternative education, the sort we learn just by being members of society, like hunting or farming, tending cattle, drawing water, cooking, caring for kids; plenty of it...

While the condition of a number of countries around the world especially in relation to girls' education is grim to say the least, confined to traditional education obtained in the neighbourhood like literacy in a mother tongue and little else besides, we also have our worries in that regard. International media were at the end of the week picking up discussions going on at certain levels of regional authorities and ministerial departments why thousands of pupils selected for Form I had not joined secondary schools. The problem isn't new and it is becoming acute because the government has done excellent work building largely sufficient number of schools and classrooms for the purpose.

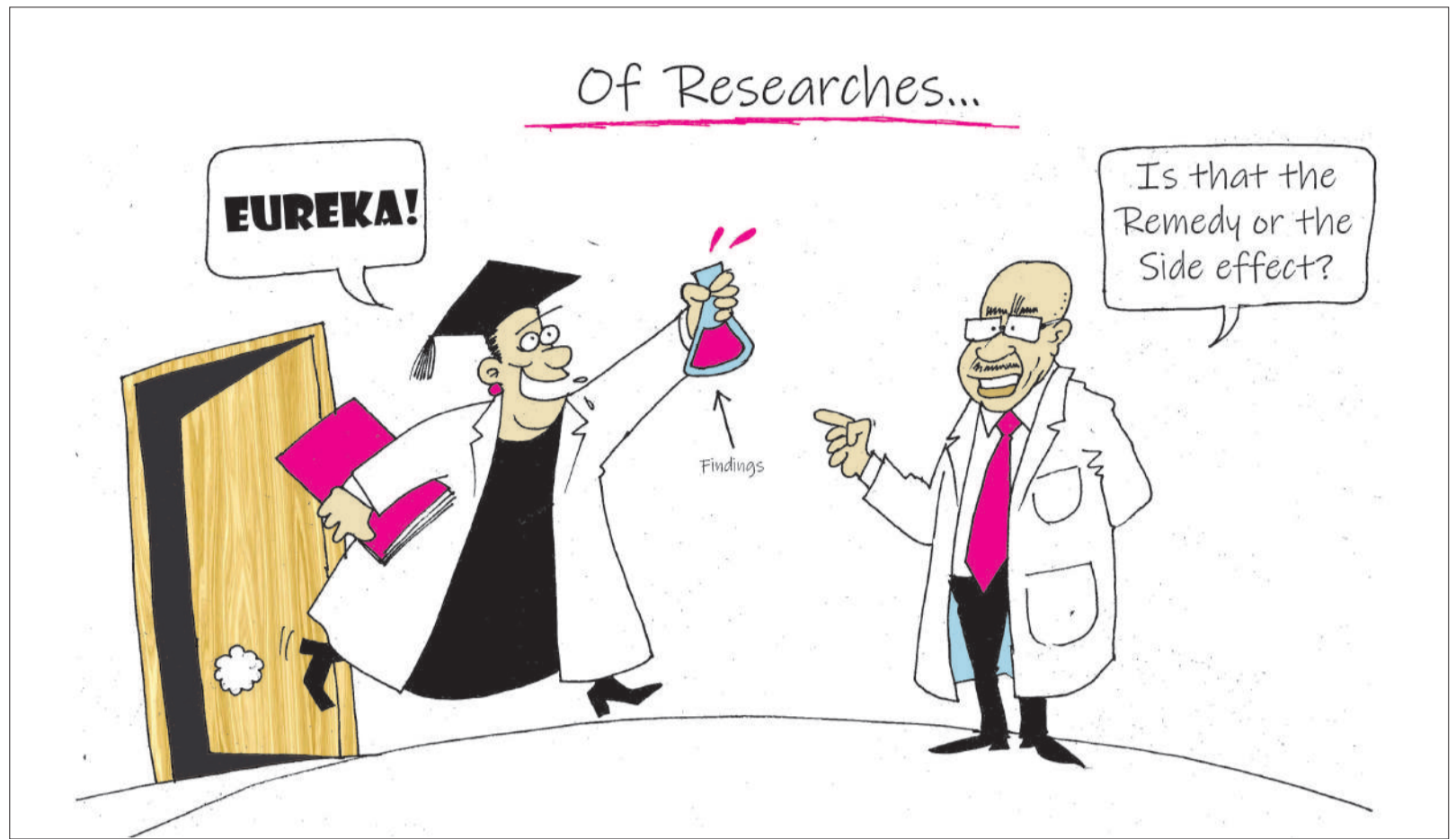
Covid-19 and cholera. It is clear that these diseases don't fall into the same category in relation to factors of causation, but they are indeed pandemic or epidemic in character depending on the situation. Cholera is usually treatable but is a shocking outbreak, Ebola is more devastating but doesn't often spread too far at any particular moment while Covid-19 was a specific global crisis which persists unevenly in various areas.

Drawing up a workable strategy about these diseases is a tall order, especially as some discussion was also directed at non-communicable diseases, which is an altogether different issue.

At a preliminary level, it can be expected that some issues require regional and even urban authorities' cooperation to see that standards are being observed, especially for cholera. Extensive efforts have in the past year or so been noticed in the city of Dar es Salaam to sort out chronically dirty market areas, which in several areas has been pursued in the wake of extensive rebuilding of such markets.

The problem is that there is often a plurality of standards, where the inside of a market is clean and its outside is dirty, though some markets were onerously dirty until some action was taken, for instance at Buguruni on the outskirts of the city centre. Let us hope that the standards will be set at a higher level as a lever against infectious diseases. That in itself may add one stitch and hopefully stall the need for nine others.

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By Special Correspondent

Africa faces marine fisheries resources

THE goal of fisheries management is to produce sustainable biological, environmental and socioeconomic benefits from renewable aquatic resources. Wild fisheries are classified as renewable when the organisms of interest (e.g., fish, shellfish, amphibians, reptiles and marine mammals) produce an annual biological surplus that with judicious management can be harvested without reducing future productivity. Fishery management employs activities that protect fishery resources so sustainable exploitation is possible, drawing on fisheries science and possibly including the precautionary principle.

Modern fisheries management is often referred to as a governmental system of appropriate environmental management rules based on defined objectives and a mix of management means to implement the rules, which are put in place by a system of monitoring control and surveillance. A popular approach is the ecosystem approach to fisheries management. According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), there are "no clear and generally accepted definitions of fisheries management". However, the working definition used by the FAO and much cited elsewhere is:

The integrated process of information gathering, analysis, planning, consultation, decision-making, allocation of resources and formulation and implementation, with necessary law enforcement to ensure environmental compliance, of regulations or rules which govern fisheries activities in order to ensure the continued productivity of the resources and the accomplishment of other fisheries objectives.

According to the FAO, fisheries management should be based explicitly on political objectives, ideally with transparent priorities. Political goals can also be a weak part of fisheries management, since the objectives can conflict with each other.

For the most recent several decades, the political goals in fisheries management of commercially important species have been rapidly evolving, primarily driven by (1) a recognition of the response of fish and other target animals to changing climate, (2) new technologies for fishing particularly on the high seas, (3) development of competing policy priorities for aquatic environments leading to a more ecosystem-based approach to fisheries management, and (4) new scientific insights about the processes affecting fish population size and recruitment. The political objectives operative in recreational fisheries management are often substantially different from those

prevalent in commercial fisheries management. For example, catch-and-release regulations are common in some types of recreational fisheries.

Fisheries objectives need to be expressed in concrete management rules. In most countries fisheries management rules should be based on the internationally agreed, though non-binding, Code of Conduct for Responsible Fisheries, agreed at a meeting of the U.N.'s Food and Agriculture Organization FAO session in 1995.

Many countries have set up Ministries/Government Departments, named "Ministry of Fisheries" or similar, controlling aspects of fisheries within their exclusive economic zones. Four categories of management means have been devised, regulating either input/investment, or output, and operating either directly or indirectly.

A large scale study in 2008 provided strong evidence that ITQs can help to prevent fishery collapse and even restore fisheries that appear to be in decline. Other studies have shown negative socioeconomic consequences of ITQs, especially on small-scale fisheries. These consequences include concentration of quota in that hands of few fishers; increased number of inactive fishers leasing their quotas to others (a phenomenon known as armchair fishermen); and detrimental effects on coastal communities.

Traditional management practices aim to reduce the number of old, slow-growing fish, leaving more room and resources for younger, faster-growing fish. Most marine fish produce huge numbers of eggs. The assumption was that younger spawners would produce plenty of viable larvae.

However, 2005 research on rockfish shows that large, elderly females are far more important than younger fish in maintaining productive fisheries. The larvae produced by these older maternal fish grow faster, survive starvation better, and are much more likely to survive than the offspring of younger fish. Failure to account for the role of older fish may help explain recent collapses of some major US West Coast fisheries.

A Fishery Manager's Guidebook issued in 2002 by the FAO advises that a set of working principles should be applied to "highlight the underlying key issues" of fisheries management.

Managing fisheries is about managing people and businesses, and not about managing fish. Fish populations are managed by regulating the actions of people. If fisheries management is to be successful, then associated human factors, such as the reactions of

fishermen, are of key importance, and need to be understood.

Fisheries mismanagement is due, in part, to corruption. Corruption and bribery influence the number of fishing licenses that are distributed and to whom, as well as the negotiation of fishing access agreements.

The environmental impact of fishing includes issues such as the availability of fish, overfishing, fisheries, and fisheries management; as well as the impact of industrial fishing on other elements of the environment, such as bycatch. These issues are part of marine conservation, and are addressed in fisheries science programs.

Fisheries also have an evolutionary impact on species, especially related to the implementation of minimum landing sizes.

Marine resources are resources (physical and biological entities) that are found in oceans and are useful for humans. The term was popularized through Sustainable Development Goal 14 which is about "Life below water" and is one of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals established by the United Nations in 2015. The official wording of the goal is to "Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development".

Marine resources include:

- biological diversity (marine biodiversity)
- ecosystem services from marine ecosystems, such as marine coastal ecosystems and coral reefs
- fish and seafood
- minerals (for example deep sea mining)
- oil and gas
- renewable energy resources, such as marine energy
- sand and gravel
- tourism potential

The text of Target 14.7 of Sustainable Development Goal 14 states: "By 2030, increase the economic benefits to small island developing states and least developed countries from the sustainable use of marine resources, including through sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism".

Fisheries and aquaculture can contribute to alleviating poverty, hunger, malnutrition and economic growth. The contribution of sustainable fisheries to the global GDP was around 0.1 per cent per year.

The African marine fisheries sector is huge. It's valued at more than US\$24 billion per year.

The sector is comprised of two main players. One is the continent's artisanal or small-scale fishers, a form of fishing conducted on small fishing boats by coastal communities. The other is industrial fisheries, including trawlers and distant water

fishing fleets.

These vessels are sometimes owned by African nationals but mostly overseen by international fishing companies or as part of a joint venture. Fishing by non-African fleets is done through access agreements or licenses issued by African states.

Perhaps surprisingly to some, the small-scale fisheries make a greater contribution to the continent's economy than their industrial counterparts. They're also vital to the livelihoods and diets of millions of people.

In Africa, the fisheries and aquaculture sector employs about 12.3 million people. Half of these are fishers, the rest work in fish processing and marketing, or fish farming. Their catch feeds millions.

But all is not well in Africa's oceans. Distant water fleets are over-exploiting fish stocks through overfishing and illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing. This is because there's limited domestic or regional capacity to monitor the activities of these trawlers and enforce existing laws.

It's hard to provide exact data, because the actions of some of these fleets are unsanctioned, but it's estimated that in west Africa, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing is the equivalent of 40 per cent to 65 per cent of legally reported catch.

The marine fisheries sector is under threat due to these unsustainable rates of fishing, and also because of weak fisheries governance. Some African states are trying to address the problems of unsustainable fishing through the introduction of new policies and management practices. In a recent paper, we reviewed four case studies of such measures, from Ghana, Liberia, Madagascar, and Somalia.

Our findings demonstrate two things. First, fisheries governance measures in Africa are largely constraining small-scale fishers, while failing to contain the industrial fisheries sector.

Second, despite a higher incidence of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in industrial fisheries than in small-scale fisheries, efforts to develop and regulate fisheries continue to advance the industrial sector. African states have continued to enter new agreements and issue new licenses to distant water fleets. They also fail to institute stringent measures to curb their illegal activities.

We argue that the small-scale fishing sector is better adapted to meet the continent's nutritional and socioeconomic needs. States must therefore redirect efforts to govern fisheries towards regulating the industrial sector. They must also ensure small-scale fishers have priority access to nearshore fishing grounds and fish stocks.



Publication of financial statements

Issued pursuant to regulations 7 and 8 of the banking and financial institutions (disclosures) regulations 2014

ABS BANK TANZANIA LIMITED CONDENSED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022 (Amounts in Million shillings)		
	Current Quarter 31-Dec-22	Previous Quarter 30-Sep-22
A. ASSETS		
1. Cash	37,590	27,710
2. Balances with Bank of Tanzania	144,295	100,466
3. Investment in Government Securities	198,315	197,118
4. Balances with other Banks and financial Institution	127,178	204,285
5. Cheques and items for clearing	546	510
6. Inter branch Float Items	-	-
7. Bills negotiated	-	-
8. Customers' liabilities for acceptances	25,096	24,464
9. Interbank Loans Receivables	-	-
10. Investment in other Securities	3,000	3,000
11. Loans, Advances and Overdrafts (Net of allowances for probable losses)	604,829	612,949
12. Other Assets	26,507	26,379
13. Equity Investments	-	-
14. Underwriting accounts	-	-
15. Property, Plant and Equipment	22,142	22,396
16. TOTAL ASSETS	1,189,498	1,219,280
B. LIABILITIES		
17. Deposits from Other Banks and financial Institutions	130,853	131,017
18. Customer Deposits	775,758	806,023
19. Cash Letter of Credit	26,529	24,943
20. Special Deposits	-	-
21. Payment orders/Transfers payable	-	-
22. Bankers Cheques and Draft Issued	183	180
23. Accrued Taxes and Expenses Payable	5,762	10,976
24. Acceptances Outstanding	25,096	24,464
25. Interbranch Float Items	-	-
26. Unearned income and Other deferred charges	2,504	2,511
27. Other liabilities	28,777	25,103
28. Borrowings	22,228	22,211
29. TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,017,690	1,047,428
30. NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES) (16 minus 29)	171,809	171,852
C. SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS		
31. Paid up share capital	98,722	98,722
32. Capital Reserves	76	76
33. Retained Earnings	8,176	8,176
34. Profit(Loss) Account	22,535	20,574
35. Other Capital accounts	42,299	44,303
36. Minority Interest	-	-
37. TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	171,809	171,852
38. Contingent Liabilities	173,108	167,288
39. Non performing loans & advances	42,257	41,273
40. Allowance for probable losses	33,415	29,167
41. Other non performing assets	-	-
D. SELECTED FINANCIAL CONDITION INDICATORS		
(i). Shareholders Fund to total assets	14.4%	14.1%
(ii) Non performing loans & advances to total gross loans	6.6%	6.5%
(iii) Gross loans advances to total deposits	79.6%	77.3%
(iv) Loans and Advances to total assets	50.8%	50.3%
(v) Earning Assets to Total Assets	78.2%	83.2%
(vi) Deposits Growth	-3.45%	13.31%
(vii) Assets growth	-2.44%	3.84%

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022 (Amount in million shillings)				
	Current Quarter 31-Dec-22	Comparative Quarter 31-Dec-21	Current Year Cumulative 31-Dec-22	Comparative Year Cumulative 31-Dec-21
1. Interest Income	26,862	19,945	95,344	71,660
2. Interest expense	(4,908)	(3,646)	(17,798)	(14,942)
3. Net Interest Income (1 minus 2)	21,954	16,298	77,546	56,718
4. Bad debts written off	-	-	-	-
5. Impairment Losses on Loans and Advances	(7,246)	(4,332)	(13,012)	(8,027)
6. Non Interest Income	13,437	10,010	56,886	39,271
6.1 Foreign currency Dealings and Translation Gains/(Loss).	7,156	4,696	31,636	19,364
6.2 Fees and Commissions	6,323	5,203	25,182	19,569
6.3 Dividend Income	-	-	-	-
6.4 Other Operating Income	(42)	111	68	339
7. Non-Interest Expenses	(25,381)	(21,880)	(89,044)	(75,408)
7.1 Salaries and Benefits	(14,714)	(12,347)	(48,881)	(41,014)
7.2 Fees and Commission	(2,211)	(1,603)	(8,007)	(5,840)
7.3 Other Operating Expenses	(8,456)	(7,930)	(32,157)	(28,554)
8. Operating Income/(Loss)	2,765	96	32,375	12,555
9. Income Tax provision	(804)	(95)	(9,840)	(3,119)
10. Net Income/(Loss) After Income Tax	1,961	2	22,535	9,436
11. Other Comprehensive Income (itemize)	(2,004)	1,738	7,132	1,398
12. Total Comprehensive Income/(Loss) for the year	(43)	1,739	29,667	10,833
13. Number of employees	492	457	492	457
14. Basic Earnings Per Share	2.0	-	22.8	9.6
15. Number of Branches	15.0	15.0	15.0	15.0
SELECTED PERFORMANCE INDICATORS				
i) Return on Average Total Assets	0.7%	0.0%	1.9%	0.97%
ii) Return on Average Shareholder's Fund	5.6%	0.0%	17.3%	8.4%
iii) Non interest Expense to Gross Income	71.7%	83.2%	66.2%	77.17%
iv) Net Interest Income to Average Earning Assets	9.0%	8.3%	8.0%	7.3%

SELECTED EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022

In preparation of the quarterly financial statements, consistent accounting policies have been used as those applicable to the previous year audited financial statements (if there were changes during the quarter, the changes be explained as per IAS 34 & IAS 8)

We, the undersigned directors, attest to the faithful representation of the above statements. We declare that the statements have been examined by us and, to the best of our knowledge and belief, have been prepared in conformance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the requirements of the Banking and Financial Institutions Act, 2006 and they present a true and fair view.

Name: Abdi Mohamed
Signature: _____
Date: January 20, 2023
Managing Director

Name: Obedi Laiser
Signature: _____
Date: January 20, 2023
Chief Financial Officer

Name: George Binde
Signature: _____
Date: January 20, 2023
Chief Internal Auditor

Name: Simon Mponji
Signature: _____
Date: January 20, 2023
Chairman

Name: Richard Magongo
Signature: _____
Date: January 20, 2023
Director

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022 (Amount in million shillings)				
	Current Quarter 31-Dec-22	Comparative Quarter 30-Sep-22	Current Year Cumulative 31-Dec-22	Comparative Year Cumulative 31-Dec-21
I. Cash flow from operating activities:				
Net income/(Loss)	2,765	11,658	32,376	12,555
Adjustment for non Cash items;				
- Impairment/Amortisation	8,945	2,521	19,771	16,272
- Net changes in Loans and Advances	874	12,547	(94,079)	(83,409)
- Gains/Losses Sale of Assets	-	-	(42)	(317)
- Net changes in Deposits	(28,842)	50,295	179,934	64,712
- Net change in short term negotiable Securities	(3,201)	36,115	17,297	2,084
- Net change in other Liabilities	8,329	(15,134)	8,715	371
- Net change in other Assets	(1,412)	15,250	184	2,044
- Tax Paid	(9,340)	(631)	(11,052)	(3,568)
- Other (Net change in SMR)	(920)	(4,616)	(11,065)	2,509
Net cash (used)/provided in operating activities	(22,802)	108,003	142,038	13,254
II: Cash flow from investing activities				
Dividend Received	-	-	-	-
Purchase of Fixed Assets	(792)	(454)	(2,112)	(3,594)
Proceeds from Sale of Fixed Assets	-	-	42	317
Purchase of Non-Dealing Securities	-	-	-	-
Proceeds from Non-Dealing Securities	-	-	-	-
Other (specify)	-	-	-	-
Net cash (used)/provided in investing activities	(792)	(454)	(2,069)	(3,278)
III. Cash flow from Financing activities				
Repayment of Long-term Debt	-	-	-	-
Proceeds from Issuance of Long Term Debt	-	-	-	-
Proceeds from Issuance of Share Capital	-	-	(0)	0
Payment of Cash Dividends	-	-	-	-
Net Change in Other Borrowings	-	-	-	-
Others (Lease payment)	(688)	(397)	(2,167)	(4,169)
Net cash used /provided by financing activities	(688)	(397)	(2,167)	(4,169)
IV. Cash and cash equivalents				
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(24,283)	107,152	137,801	5,807
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the quarter/year	282,782	175,630	120,698	114,891
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the quarter/year	258,499	282,782	258,499	120,698

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022 (Amount in million shillings)							
	Share Capital	Share Premium	Retained Earnings	Regulatory Reserve	General Provision Reserve	Others	Total
Current year							
Balance as at the beginning of the year (1-Jan-22)	128,722	76	8,176	-	-	5,167	142,141
Profit for the year	-	-	22,535	-	-	-	22,535
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-	-	7,132	7,132
Transactions with owners	(0.00)	-	-	-	-	-	(0)
Dividends Paid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Regulatory Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
General Provision Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance as at the end the current period (31-Dec-22)	128,722	76	30,712	-	-	12,299	171,809
Previous Year							
Balance as at the beginning of the year (1-Jan-21)	128,722	76	(1,259)	-	-	3,769	131,308
Profit for the year	-	-	9,436	-	-	-	9,436
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-	-	1,398	1,398
Transactions with owners	0.00	-	-	-	-	-	0
Dividends Paid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Regulatory Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
General Provision Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance as at the end the current period (31-Dec-21)	128,722	76	8,176	-	-	5,167	142,141

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'Sunday Markets' attract low-income residents in Ethiopian capital, Addis



ADDIS ABABA

On a typical Sunday morning, consumers and traders congregate on one of the busiest roads of the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa.

On weekdays, the multi-functional roadway serves its designated purpose at full capacity. On weekends, traders sell their wares in makeshift tents erected on one side of the two-way road.

Often, consumers flock to these markets, commonly known as Sunday Markets, where significantly reduced prices cut out the layers of intermediaries in the supply chain.

Azalech Gizaw, who was out to buy clothing at one of the Sunday Markets in Addis Ababa, said the informal markets have increasingly become people's go-to place, particularly low-income residents.

"Unlike other places, here, we can get products at a very discounted price. The major reason is that the Sunday Markets, be it those selling agricultural or factory products, have fewer intermediaries than those of the average market with four or more middlemen in the supply chain," Gizaw said.

Lealem Tilahun is a vendor at the Sunday Market in the capital city's "6 kilo" area.

To keep prices and cost down, he said, Sunday Market vendors often exert extra efforts in avoiding the layers of intermediaries in their product supply chain.

"Our discounted price is mainly due to our relative advantage as compared to the rest of the market," Tilahun said. "For one thing, we do not have to pay hefty rent fees, which often forces sellers to charge extra amount on their products to subsidize their rent fees."

Tigist Worku, another vendor at "6 kilo," runs a clothing shop selling sweaters at prices as low as a

quarter of those at formal markets across the city. The popularity of these Sunday Markets has come amid rising inflation in Ethiopia.

In May 2022, the country posted a general inflation of 37.2 percent, one of the highest levels in recent years.

Since then, the general inflation rate has seen-sawed, dropping to 30.7 percent in September but surging to 33.8 percent in December, according to the latest figures from the Ethiopian Statistics Service.

The federal government and regional administrations have been taking steps to ease inflationary pressures but with mixed results.

Backed by the Addis Ababa city administration, informal markets were designed to stabilize the soaring cost of living in the Ethiopian capital.

As part of the ongoing efforts to put in place various alternatives to narrow the commodity supply gap and tackle inflation, the city administration earmarked venues for informal markets dedicated to items with the most inflated prices.

Most of such informal market venues sell food and related products, such as onions, garlic, tomatoes, and cabbages at relatively lower prices than at traditional marketplaces.

Gizaw described these informal markets as "the best-preferred options for the poor," but wanted the authorities to allow them to run also during weekdays.

Worku concurred. "We only sell our products on weekend, Saturday and Sunday. One can imagine how difficult it would be to work only two days a week and still sell at a very discounted price."

"It is impossible because we also have a family to support," she said.

"If we get a dedicated marketplace, it would lift a great deal of the pressure from our shoulders, and our customers would not be limited to coming here only on weekends," Worku added. ■

Global economy facing 'turning point' amid challenges

DAVOS

THE global economy has regained steam after a difficult COVID-19 pandemic, but experts at the World Economic Forum (WEF) say a recovery is far from certain.

Under the theme "Cooperation in a Fragmented World," the WEF's 2023 annual meeting concluded here on Friday. The gathering came amid unprecedented global challenges such as high inflation, an energy crisis, climate change and geopolitical conflict.

Growth is on an upward trajectory and could witness a more robust recovery in 2023 through global cooperation and following China's adjusted COVID-19 response measures.

The global economic outlook is not as bad as feared a couple of months ago, "but less bad doesn't quite yet mean good," Kristalina Georgieva, the managing director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), told a closing panel at the WEF.

"We have to be cautious," Georgieva said headline inflation was heading down. China's optimized COVID-19 response is expected to boost global growth, with the IMF forecasting the Chinese economy will reach an estimated 4.4 percent, far outpacing global growth. Signs of declining inflation, resilient consumer spending and strong labor markets, among others, suggest

that growth could rebound in the short term. "Be careful not to get on the other side of the spectrum, from being too pessimistic to being too optimistic. Stay in the middle of realism that seems to serve the world well," Georgieva said.

The WEF issued its Global Risks Report 2023, saying that conflict and geo-economic tensions have triggered a series of deeply interconnected global risks.

with the cost of living crisis being the most significant short-term risk. At the same time, climate change and climate adaptation are the most considerable long-term concern.

Georgieva said that future growth prospects depend on how supply chain security is managed. "If we diversify rationally, the cost of this adjustment would be low -- we put it down to 0.2 percent of GDP. If we trash trade that has been an engine for growth for so many decades, the cost can go up to 7 percent loss of GDP, equaling 7 trillion U.S. dollars," she said. "Labor markets are holding firm so far, but interest rates are yet to bite, and if they bite more severely, then we can see unemployment going up. And it is very different for a consumer to have a cost of living crisis and a job than the cost of living crisis and no job," Georgieva said.

European Central Bank President Christine Lagarde was also cautious about the global economic outlook. "The greatest tragedy in

this moment would be if central banks were to lurch away from a focus on assuring price stability prematurely, and we were to have to fight this battle twice," said former U.S. Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers.

Despite recent signs of improvement, "relief must not become complacency," Summers noted. Attendees at the forum said cooperation would be for global growth. WEF President Borge Brende expressed confidence that "we can shape a more resilient, sustainable and equitable future," but "the only way to do it is together."

United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called for urgent action on several interconnected challenges, including the global economic crisis and climate.

He underlined the need to "forge the pathways to cooperation in our fragmented world." Leslie Maasdorp, vice president and chief financial officer of the New Development Bank, told Xinhua, "Without multilateral cooperation, you cannot really deal with challenges that are cross-national ... I believe that the one positive lesson we can learn from COVID is that we are interconnected."

Though challenges still threaten the global economy, attendees voiced hope that a severe recession may be avoided. "We are now heading to a year where hopefully the corporates, the consumers, the state, policymakers will continue



Trucks transport containers at the international container terminal of Taizhou Port in Taizhou, east China's Jiangsu Province, Jan. 17, 2023. Xinhua

to have that resilient, determined approach to engineer the transitions that must take place," Lagarde said.

"The situation around the world must be improving a little bit," said Lagarde. "Players are moving from defense mode, that they had effectively been in 2021 and 2022, towards a more competitive mode." In his closing remarks on Friday, Brende said despite the many complex issues facing the global community, progress had been made at the annual meeting, especially in tackling the most urgent crises of food, energy and climate.

"For me, the greatest lesson of the week has been that although the world is more fragmented today, it does not need to be tomorrow," Brende said. Business leaders worldwide have been pessimistic about the global economy in recent months, but now, cautious optimism is emerging.

They are confident about the robust growth of the Chinese economy and expect China to be a "key driver" of a global recovery. China's econ-

omy posted steady growth in 2022 despite pressures including COVID-19 breakouts and a complex external environment, with its gross domestic product growing 3 percent year on year to a record high of 121,020.7 trillion yuan (about 17.95 trillion U.S. dollars) in 2022, data from the National Bureau of Statistics showed.

The 2022 GDP growth was published at the time when the WEF was underway. With the better-than-expected data, optimism over both the Chinese and global economies spread in Davos.

Maasdorp was confident in China's expected growth, a sentiment shared across the banking sector. Although he predicted a "bumpy period" in the first quarter of this year and potentially in the second, there are strong expectations for more robust growth driven by consumption in the year's second half.

Haitham Al Ghais, secretary general of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, praised China for factoring renewable energy into its growth strategy.

"We are extremely proud of the steps taken by the Chinese government to promote renewable energy as a part of the energy mix as required for China to fuel its continuous development and economic growth," he said. "We are very confident in the Chinese economy and the strength of the leadership and the government and the people of China," Al Ghais said. Xinhua

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

20 African heads of state, private investors meet in Dakar for food security, says AfDB

DAKAR

ABOUT 20 African heads of state and private sector leaders are among around 1,500 delegates meeting in Dakar, Senegal, this week, for a high-level discussion on roadmaps for achieving food sovereignty in the continent.

The three-day meeting, under the auspices of the second edition of the Feed Africa Summit (Dakar 2), lays out action-driven discourse on how heads of state would mobilise government resources and leverage development partners and private sector financing to harness Africa's food and agriculture potential and turn advocacy efforts into concrete actions.

With the theme, 'Feeding Africa: Food Security and Resilience', the summit is organised by the African Development Bank (AfDB) Group.

It will be held from Wednesday to Friday at the Abdou Diouf International Conference Centre (CICAD) in Diannadio.

As a prelude to the summit, the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Equipment and Food Sovereignty of Senegal, in partnership with AfDB Group, will hold a press conference today.

During the three-day summit, key stakeholders, including political leaders, development partners and private sector investors, will come together to mobilise much-needed resources to bridge financing need in the continent's food value chain.

According to the summit document, the objectives include mobilising high-level political commitment, development partner support and private sector investment around production, markets and trade to increase food production in Africa, sharing successful food and agriculture experiences in selected countries and galvanising national governments, development partners, as well as the private sector around food and agriculture delivery.

Developing necessary infrastructure and logistics with special agro-industrial processing zones to build markets and competitive food/agriculture value chains is another strategic objective of the meeting.

At the summit, private sector actors will commit to the development of critical value chains, AfDB said in the event document. It added that central bank governors and ministers of finance will bear the task of developing financing arrangements to implement food and agriculture delivery compacts, working with ministers of agriculture, as well as private sector players. Commercial banks and other financial institutions are considered critical parts of the private sector participants.

The regional bank stated: "Globally, 828 million people suffer from hunger, with Africa accounting for 249 million or a third of that number. The irony is that Africa alone, with 65 per cent of the remaining arable land, has the potential to feed nine billion



people in the world by 2050. Its vast savanna areas alone are estimated at 400 million hectares, of which only 10 per cent is cultivated.

"With the removal of barriers to agri-

cultural development aided by new investments, Africa's agricultural output could increase from \$280 billion per year to \$1 trillion by 2030. Investing in raising agricultural productivity, supporting in-

frastructure, climate-smart agricultural systems, with private sector investments all along the food value chain can help transform Africa into a breadbasket for the world."

Ambassador Dr Ramadhani Dau and lessons which Tanzania should learn from Malaysia

By Guardian Correspondent

A DEBATE of sorts may have been taken up by a range of economists and political observers on account of observations made by Tanzanian Ambassador to Malaysia, Dr Ramadhani Dau.

The holding of debate or intense examination of the views is tied to either some perceived novelty in the suggestions, that the ideas are rather original and can make a difference.

Another reason people may wish to conduct debate or find themselves in the midst of such engagement is perceivable political impact, the way in which such ideas can make feasible strategy for a political party, or improve policies.

Rapidly scanned, the remarks contained in a fairly explicit series of suggestions in an interview with an English

language local daily revolved around using similar institutions for rapid economic development as in Malaysia.

Two of such organisations that the envoy cited was one related to federal lands administration, and another relate to a vast or far-reaching pensions fund that lends cash for infrastructure development, etc.

There is also a strategic bank where parents open accounts for their children, and they only reclaim the cash upon adulthood; if they die the next of kin will oversee that account.

There is another institution (or set of institutions) where people buy shares and can be loaned for enterprise development, which one can say it isn't far from a number of local savings and credit associations.

Apart from parents doling cash into accounts for the use

of their children later, the envoy also referred to pilgrimage funds for which people start saving from an early age.

There are different arrangements here, but it is not apparent that fulfilling the pilgrimage is a universally demanded activity on each believer, here, nor indeed is it a routine demand for Christians to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

A number of questions will confront those who wish to make use of the ideas that the envoy has raised, and appeared to be convinced that they are of relevance to Tanzania at the moment (and would indeed have made a difference had we learned and adopted them earlier).

One question that arises precisely from that point is that assuming that ideas are tied up with historical experience, what sort of ideas did we cher-

ish at the time that Malaysia sketched out that path in its growth or development trajectory?

This key parameter is relevant because we had two different sorts of leadership during the 1970s.

Ideas that developed Malaysia were anchored in culture, just like the ideas we chose during the late 1960s even up to the early 1980s, that they were also based on culture, the sort of theme or convergence among communities that would ring a bell in the minds of people.

Mwalimu Nyerere, in one of his landmark essays after the Arusha Declaration said that if communist theoretician Dr Karl Marx had been born in Shinyanga he would perhaps have come up with something like the Arusha Declaration.

Mwalimu was right in that

remark as a sociologist at the University of Dar es Salaam unveiled in what is called an inaugural lecture, in 2014, of the proximity of Russian social philosophers of the 1820s to 1860s to Ujamaa, not by Nyerere's plagiarism but proximity of conditions.

At the time that Nyerere was coming up with a philosophy of rural socialism, there were alternative trends for instance by leaders of Somalia (Muhammad Siad Barre), Sudan (Jafaar el Nimeiry), Egypt (Gamal Abdel Nasser) and even more so, Muammar Gaddafi (Libya) who sought to adapt socialism to their peculiar environments, and as with our case, by and large failed.

Their efforts had a considerable impact in society but did not stabilise as political and social systems, facing ruin or dislocation of various sorts

later.

Malaysia wasn't in an African environment and thus the key anti-colonial thrust of its social experimentation was different from us. And then it had an explicit strategic input of the time, that traditional ruling classes (mostly feudal) in South Asia and the Far East were beset with the threat of a takeover by communist guerillas, and the country that came closest to that situation, in Malaysia's neighbourhood, was Burma.

Even now there is a military dictatorship based on the country's powerful Buddhist clergy, whose role since the 1960s, as elsewhere in the region, is anchored in halting radicalism, socialism.

That means the sort of institutions that Dr Dau is taking note of are anchored in the social traditions, and each coun-

try has its traditions. But as an economist (he was in the Faculty of Business Administration in younger days) he would realise that there was disposable surplus that was channeled in the right way, which also relates to traditions, and in Tanzania there are sections of society or communities who have some headway with family businesses, etc.

This however does not add up to a social model as here the state was more important; we don't have huge family businesses running whole sectors of economy as in Malaysia, Thailand, South Korea or Japan, but Kenya, Angola and to an extent Nigeria or other, have companies of that sort. Ethical interpretations can be left aside, but simply take note that models can't just be copied from one country to another.

AfDB: Africa's economic growth to outpace global forecast in 2023-24

ABIDJAN

AFRICA is set to outperform the rest of the world in economic growth over the next two years, with real gross domestic product (GDP) averaging around 4 percent in 2023 and 2024.

This is higher than projected global averages of 2.7 percent and 3.2 percent, the African Development Bank Group said in Africa's Macroeconomic Performance and Outlook report for the region, released in Abidjan last week.

In remarks during the launch, African Development Bank Group President, Dr Akwumi Adesina (pictured) said the release of the new report came at a time when African economies, faced with significant headwinds, were proving their resilience.

"With 54 countries at different stages of growth, different economic structures, and diverse resource endowments, the pass-through effects of global shocks always differ by region and by country. Slowing global demand, tighter financial conditions, and disrupted supply chains therefore had differentiated impacts on African economies," he said.

Adesina added: "Despite the confluence of multiple shocks, growth across all five African regions was positive in 2022—and the outlook for 2023-24 is projected to be stable."

Niale Kaba, Minister of Planning and Development of Côte d'Ivoire, said: "The release of this report by our bank, the African Development Bank Group, at this time of the year is an excellent opportunity for Africa and its global partners. We need these regular updates to assess our countries' macroeconomic performance and pros-

pects. This reliable information will help decision-making and risk management for potential investors in Africa."

An economist, Jeffrey Sachs, Director of the Center for Sustainable Development at Columbia University commended the report which he said showed that African economies are growing and growing consistently.

Sachs, who is also United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres' Advocate for Sustainable Development Goals, said: "Africa can and will rise to growth of 7 percent or more per year consistently in the coming decades. What we'll see, building on the resiliency we see in this report, is a real acceleration of Africa's sustainable development so that Africa will be the fast-growing part of the world economy. Africa is the place to invest."

AfDB Chief Economist and Vice President, Kevin Urama observed that Africa is still a favourable destination for investments in human capital, infrastructure, private sector development, and natural capital.

Urama said: "Africa has a significant role to play in driving inclusive growth and sustainable development globally. There are many smart investment opportunities in key sectors: agriculture, energy markets, minerals, health infrastructure and pharmaceutical industries, light manufacturing, transport and logistics, digital economy and more. The continent remains a treasure trove for smart investors globally."

The report shows that all the continent's five regions remain resilient with a steady outlook for the medium-term, despite facing significant headwinds due to global socio-economic shocks.

It also identified potential risks and called



for robust monetary and fiscal measures, backed by structural policies, to address them.

The Macroeconomic Performance and Outlook report will be released in the first and third quarters of each year. It complements the bank's existing annual African Economic Outlook report, which focuses on key emerging policy themes relevant to the continent's development.

The report shows that estimated average growth of real GDP in Africa slowed to 3.8 percent in 2022, from 4.8 percent in 2021 amid significant challenges following the Covid-19 shock and Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Despite economic slowdown, 53 of Africa's 54 countries posted positive growth. All the five regions of the continent remain resilient with a steady outlook for the medium-term.

However, the report sends a cautionary note on the outlook following current global and regional risks. These risks including

soaring food and energy prices, tightening global financial conditions, and the associated increase in domestic debt service costs.

Climate change—with its damaging impact on domestic food supply and the potential risk of policy reversal in countries holding elections in 2023—pose equally challenging threats. The report advocates bold policy actions at national, regional, and global scales to help African economies mitigate the compounding risks.

Africa's pre-Covid-19 top five performing economies are projected to grow by more than 5.5 percent on average in 2023-2024 and to reclaim their position among the world's 10 fastest-growing economies.

These countries are Rwanda (7.9 percent), Côte d'Ivoire (7.1 percent), Benin (6.4 percent), Ethiopia (6.0 percent), and Tanzania (5.6 percent).

Other African countries are projected to grow by more than 5.5 percent in the 2023-24 period. They are the Democratic Republic of Congo (6.8 percent), The Gambia (6.4

percent), Mozambique (6.5 percent), Niger (9.6 percent), Senegal (9.4 percent), and Togo (6.3 percent).

Despite the confluence of multiple shocks, growth across all five African regions was positive in 2022 and the outlook for 2023-24 is projected to be stable.

In East Africa, growth is estimated to have moderated to 4.2% in 2022 from 5.1 percent in 2021. However, it is projected to recover to the pre-pandemic average above 5.0 percent in 2023 and 2024.

While the production structure in East Africa is relatively diversified, countries in the region are largely net importers of commodities. They thus bear the brunt of high international prices in addition to recurrent climate shocks and insecurity, particularly in the Horn of Africa.

In Southern Africa, growth decelerated the most, to about 2.5 percent in 2022 from 4.3 percent in 2021. This slowdown reflects subdued growth in South Africa, as higher interest rates, weak domestic demand, and persistent power outages weighed on the economy.

In West Africa, growth is estimated to have slowed to 3.6 percent in 2022 from 4.4 percent in 2021.

This reflects decelerations in Côte d'Ivoire and Nigeria, the region's two largest economies. Nigeria's growth in 2023—though hit by Covid-19, insecurity, and weak oil production despite higher international oil prices—could benefit from ongoing efforts to restore security in the restive oil-producing region.

Neglecting China's contributions to COVID-19 fight exposes ignorance, prejudices

By Zhong Sheng

THE international community has gained a deeper understanding of China's persistent efforts to efficiently coordinate COVID-19 response and socio-economic development, as the country implements its optimized COVID-19 control measures in a steady and orderly manner.

It believes that China's economy will speed up recovery and inject a stronger impetus into global economic development.

However, a few media outlets from the West are still holding political prejudices. They ignored China's achievements in the COVID-19 fight over the past three years and the huge contributions made by the country to the world, trying to smear China and sound a pessimistic tone about it.

However, they cannot weaken the international community's confidence in China's economic development, but will only expose the ignorance and prejudices of these Western media outlets.

No one knows the weight of another's burden. Over the past three years, the Chinese government has taken responsible measures and spared no effort to protect the lives and health of the Chinese people, to promote global solidarity in the fight against COVID-19 and to push for global recovery, making important contributions to the world.

China's COVID-19 response philosophy has been consistent. It always puts people and their lives above everything and protects their lives and health to the maximum extent possible.

Over the past three years, the country has effectively handled the impact of five rounds of global pandemic outbreaks and prevented widespread infections caused by the more pathogenic original strain and the Delta variant, keeping the death toll and severe cases to the minimum, which is very difficult for a big country with more than 1.4 billion people.

Facts proved that China has secured maximum outcomes at minimum cost and reduced the impacts of the disease on economic and social development to the largest extent.

In 2020, China's GDP grew 2.2 percent and exceeded 100 trillion yuan (\$14.75 trillion), making China the only major economy that reported positive economic growth that year. In the same year, the U.S. and the euro-



People join a lantern festival in Taijiang district, Fuzhou, southeast China's Fujian province, Jan. 6, 2023. (People's Daily Online/Xie Guiming)

zone saw their economies shrink by 3.5 percent and 6.8 percent, respectively.

A year later, China saw a GDP growth of 8.4 percent, beyond the forecast of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Last year, the country's GDP went up 3 percent year on year to reach 120 trillion yuan, and the growth was higher than most of the world's major economies.

China's average annual economic growth

stood at 4.5 percent in the past three years, obviously higher than the world average and that of a few countries which have long resorted to the "let it rip" approach.

As the world is facing growing downward pressure on the economy and weakening momentum for global trade, China is actively expanding opening up and providing high-quality products and services to the rest of the world. It has well played the role of a sta-

bilizer for global recovery.

Trade data are seen as a barometer of economic development. China's foreign trade in goods has continuously expanded, from 32.16 trillion yuan in 2020 to 39.1 trillion yuan in 2021, and to 42.07 trillion yuan in 2022. Its share in the global export market topped the world for 14 consecutive years, making the country a key factor in safeguarding the stability of the global industrial and supply chains.

Thanks to its sound economic prospects and constantly optimized business environment, China will keep being a promising land for investment given the uncertainties in the global market.

Foreign direct investment (FDI) into the Chinese mainland, in actual use, expanded 9.9 percent year on year to nearly 1.16 trillion yuan in the first 11 months of 2022, which has already outnumbered the whole-year figure of 2021 and set a new historical high.

German automaker BMW reported a net profit of nearly 3.18 billion euros in the third quarter of 2022, up 22.9 percent year on year. Its sales in China bucked the trend by 5.7 percent while the company saw an 11.1 percent decline in the European market.

The Wall Street Journal said the remarkable performance in the Chinese market is one of the major factors driving the growth in BMW's profit.

Many multinational corpora-

tions performed better in China than in their home countries during the COVID-19 pandemic.

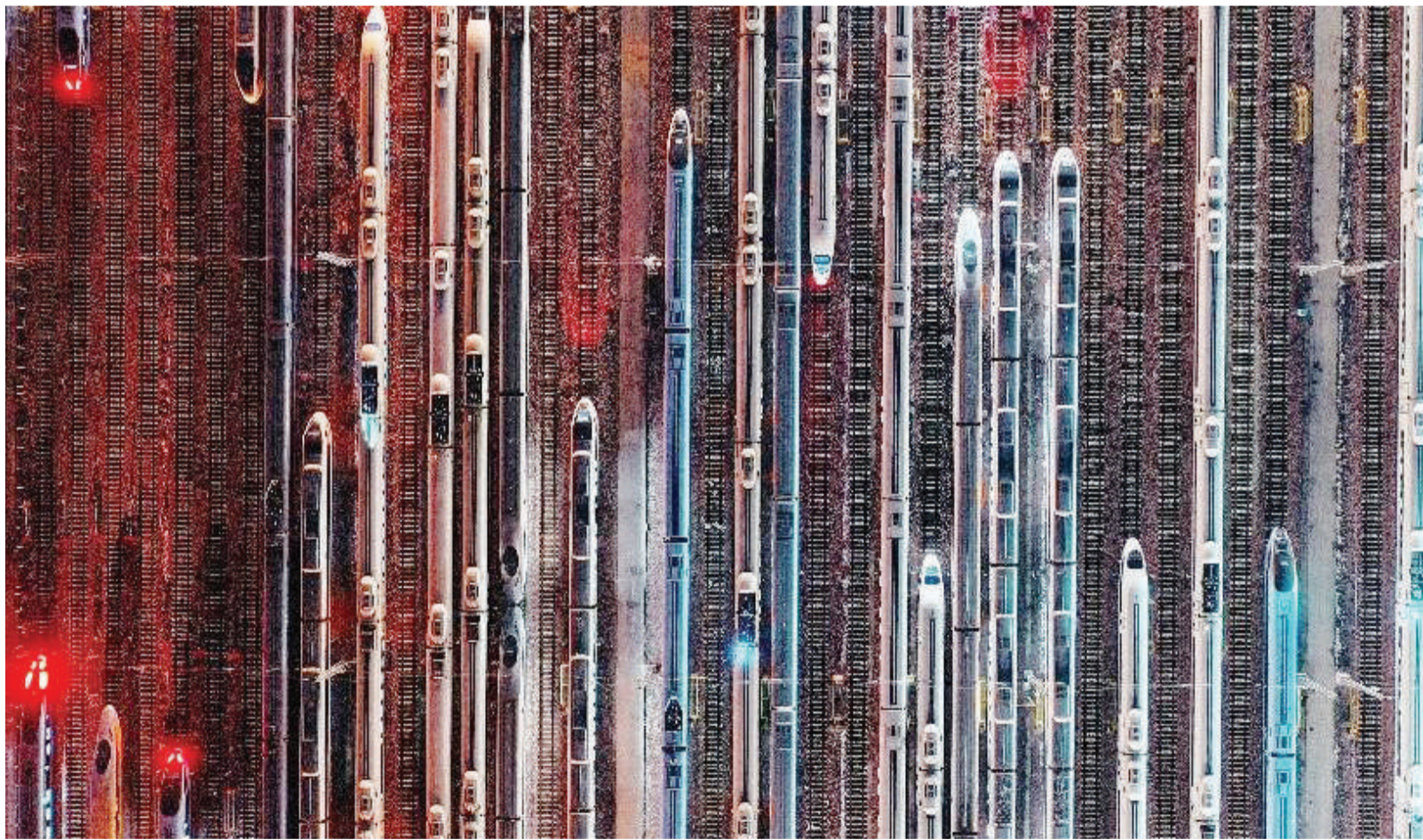
Eight German multinational companies, including Siemens, BASF and Bosch, said in the German newspaper Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung in November last year that China is the world's second-largest consumption market and the most energetic market, and German companies' development in China is vital to Germany's economic development.

Kevin Kang, KPMG China's Chief Economist, noted that China remains one of the key regions for the global supply chain layout of multinational corporations, due to the country's giant consumption market, efficient productivity, high-quality talent resource, complete industrial clusters and constant improvement of the business environment.

At present, China is doing well in the COVID-19 response and seeing an accelerated resumption of work and life. As the country's domestic demand gradually picks up and relevant policies take effect, the Chinese economic vitality will be further released.

China will keep working with the international community to better cope with the virus and better protect people's lives and health, so as to make greater contributions to promoting global recovery.

People's Daily



High-speed trains are ready to depart at Zhengzhou, central China's Henan province, Jan. 16, 2023. (People's Daily Online/Wang Wei)

RADIO One **RATIBA YA VIPINDI** **JUMATATU - JUMAPILI**

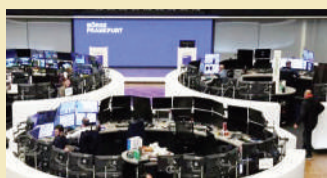
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Africa needs strategic industrial policy to correct market failures, says AfDB

By Guardian Reporter

THE African Development Bank (AfDB) has said Africa currently needs strategic industrial policies that will help to correct market failures, drive export orientation and encourage healthy competition in key sectors.

The continental bank says in its recent Africa's macroeconomic performance and outlook released last week that this will help to increase exports penetrations into the world market.

"The penetration of Africa's exports into international markets is held back by industrial policies that fail to support competition and value addition to its primary products," said the report.

"African economies have to rethink their development models by harnessing private sector opportunities."

The bank said African countries have to catalyze climate-smart agriculture and agribusiness, transform their energy sector by favoring the emergence and development of gas-to-power, green hydrogen, and other renewable energy manufacturing industries.

According to the report, countries also need to foster healthcare infrastructure and pharmaceutical industries, in line

with national resource endowments and market competitiveness by supporting local content development and franchising to develop value chains and get more value from natural resources, especially in countries with minerals for green development.

AfDB President Dr Akinwumi Adesina explained that the bank reiterates its call for accelerating implementation of structural reforms to enhance government-enabled private sector industrialization in key sectors including agriculture and agribusiness.

He said despite the challenging external environment, Africa has demonstrated continued resilience, with all but one country maintaining positive growth in 2022 and with outlooks stable for 2023 and 2024.

According to the report African countries also need to boost regional trade to enhance resilience to spillovers from the global economic slowdown and reduce persistent trade deficits.

"Structural reforms to boost regional trade can build a more vibrant regional market in the medium to long term," the report says.

"That requires accelerating investments in regional hard and soft infrastructure, including regional transport



African Development Bank President Dr Akinwumi Adesina

and logistics."

It also requires promoting the free movement of goods and services by removing trade and nontrade barriers and strengthening single payment systems.

"With the recent disruptions in global supply chains and calls

for re-shoring and friend-shoring trade, the African Continental Free Trade Area presents a major opportunity for countries to internalize shocks while improving their trade balances and building economic resilience," the report asserts.

To meet the significant financing gaps in Africa, the report recommends that it is imperative to enact policies that can mobilize and leverage private financing for development in Africa.

Multilateral development banks and other development finance institutions are also urged to deploy their risk capital to catalyze private financing for inclusive growth and sustainable development in Africa.

"The global finance architecture should be refined to better align financial flows with inclusive growth and sustainable development without exacerbating debt vulnerabilities," the report says.

Africa's current account deficit narrowed slightly, to 1.5 percent of GDP in 2022 from 1.7 percent in 2021, due to improved trade balances buoyed by higher commodity exports.

The deficit is projected to stabilize at 1.6 percent of GDP in 2023-24, supported by the knock-on effects of commodity prices on net commodity importers and exporters.

Similarly, the average fiscal deficit is estimated to have narrowed to 4.4 percent of GDP in 2022 from 5.2 percent in 2021, thanks to fiscal consolidation measures by several countries.

Rising commodity prices and increased tourism earnings due to opening up due to eased restriction of movement of people boosted revenues in net exporters.

However, the report notes that slowing global demand, tighter financial conditions, and disrupted supply chains had differentiated impacts on African economies.

According to the report, the impacts of shocks on resource-intensive economies and major commodity exporters varied in 2022 depending on the type of exported commodities.

Overall, the report projects that the outlook is positive, with prices for key exports remaining high and competition for Africa's natural resources expected to grow as advanced economies look for alternative food and energy markets and for mineral resources to support their green transitions.

Stakeholders seeking audience with ministry to discuss youth agri-project

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

STAKEHOLDERS engaged in agriculture are seeking an audience with the sector ministry to discuss how to improve 'Building a Better Tomorrow-Youth Initiative for Agribusiness (BBT-YIA) project' to produce highly qualified individuals who will boost farm productivity and transforming agri-business sector.

Ray Mark, Chief Executive Officer of Young World Feeders based in Dodoma region said "We need to meet with the ministry to discuss what is behind agriculture, how the BBT-YIA project can be sustainable, before enrolling youth at Bihawana Farmers Training Centre (BFTC) for agri-business course starting next month.

Mark said this dialogue will help the ministry to have best roadmap for the implementation of BBT-YIA project and allow more youth to benefit from what will learn.

"Stakeholders are ready to share skills

and knowledge they have in agri-business value chain with the ministry to support youth who will be engaged in BBT-YIA project to become permanent farmers of what they will plan to grow/cultivate upon completion of the training," Mark said.

A total of 162,492 acres of land has been earmarked by the ministry of agriculture in Mbeya, Dodoma, Kagera and Kigoma regions to be allocated to youths engage in profitable and sustainable agribusiness activities, improve livelihoods and creating job.

The agribusiness venture is set to benefit many youth from seven districts that include Chunya, Bahi, Chamwino, Misenyi, Karagwe, Uvinza and Kasulu who will undergo agribusiness training at Bihawana Farmers Training Centre (BFTC).

During the training, the youth will undergo both theory and practical exercises in ensuring that they put into practice what they have learnt.

Among other things, the land will be



A youth engaged in farming. BBT-YIA is meant to contribute to the attainment of the Agenda 10/30 envisaged to increase youth employment by one million. File Photo

offered to youth for farming activities in accordance with their farming activities in their localities.

Highlighting on exchange program, he advise the ministry to introduce student exchange program to provides an opportunity for youths to learn by observing, participating and doing in other areas.

The program will also allow them to relate what they learnt in other class

and what exists in the real situation and even prepares them for tasks they are expected to perform on completion of their training.

"Students from Young World Feeders can go to Bihawana Farmers Training Centre (BFTC) for exchange program, while BFTC's students can go to Sokoine University Graduate Entrepreneurs Co-operative (SUGECO)," he said.

According to the ministry of agriculture report, BBT-YIA's was introduced to enhance the engagement of youth in the agricultural sector for sustainable and improved livelihoods.

BBT-YIA's strategic objectives are to inspire youth through implementing behavior/attitude changing communication strategy and empower youth through training mentoring and coaching, engage youth in profitable and sustainable management of agribusinesses, enable youth-led enterprises by improving business environment and coordinate effectively youth agribusiness support initiatives for synergy and efficiency.

The BBT-YIA formulation process adopted a participatory approach involving the government, the private sector, development partners and other key stakeholders.

BBT-YIA is a tool designed for contributing the attainment of the Agenda 10/30 that envisage increasing the youth employment by one million and obtaining the growth rate of the agricultural sector by ten (10) percent by 2030.

In a course of eight years, the project is intended to achieve 12,000 profitable enterprises across 12,000 villages across the country.

This is however possible through partnerships among the following institutions including the Ministry of Agriculture, private sector, development partners, Tanzania Youth in Agriculture Association and Non-Government Organizations (NGOs).

Kenya's digital lenders protest central bank nod delay

NAIROBI

DIGITAL lenders are protesting delays in getting operational licences from the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) amid their blockade from Google Play store and apathy from funders that provide cash for onward lending.

An estimated 278 digital credit providers (DCPs) still await the CBK's nod after filing applications with the banking regulator last year, dimming their Kenya operations.

The regulator last September offered 10 lenders permits under a fresh licensing regime that seeks to rein in those who practise predatory lending and violate consumer privacy.

While the 278 firms have been allowed to continue with their business as they wait for the CBK to complete the licensing process, they face credibility risks that are derailing operations.

The firms, which raise billions of shillings for onward lending to cash-hungry Kenyans, are struggling to source fresh funds from jittery investors who are demanding CBK certification before they can

release the money.

Multiple executives with the firms awaiting CBK clearance told the Business Daily that they risk a cash crunch should the delays persist.

Unlike banks and micro-finance institutions, digital lenders do not take deposits that in turn are loaned to borrowers.

US tech giant Google has since December 15 declined to host mobile loan applications without CBK permits on its PlayStore.

This means millions of short-term borrowers are unable to download or get an update on personal loan apps from lenders who are yet to get licences.

Play Store allows web and android users to access applications for their phones.

"Currently we only accept declarations and licences from entities published under the Directory of Digital Credit Providers on the official website of the CBK," says Google.

Google's policies come amid heightened scrutiny of the digital loan providers in the market that has witnessed a proliferation of lenders.

In addition to charging

high-interest rates, consumers say the digital lenders have been infringing on their data privacy by bombarding the contacts they have saved on their mobile phones with calls and messages when they default.

This forced the passage of a new law in December 2021 that for the first time brought digital lenders under the watch of the banking regulator.

"The truth is that we are worried it's taking too long. We believe that the CBK may be suffering from capacity issues and is overwhelmed by the number of applications," one of the digital lenders told the Business Daily, seeking anonymity for fear of CBK reprisals.

According to CBK (Digital Credit Providers) Regulations, 2022, the central bank was supposed to issue licences to qualifying digital lenders within 60 days of application.

The 278 lenders met the September 17 licensing deadline, indicating that more than 120 days have lapsed without the regulator issuing fresh permits.

"Other applicants are at dif-

ferent stages in this process, largely awaiting the submission of required documentation expeditiously to enable completion of the review of their applications. All other unregulated DCPs that did not apply for licensing must cease and desist from conducting digital credit business," the CBK said on September 19.

Digital lenders seeking the CBK's licensing are required to submit multiple documentation that runs hundreds of pages per applicant, a process that is partly blamed by the credit providers for the delays in issuing the permits.

Sources say the CBK met the digital lenders in mid-December to discuss their growing grievances and promised to fast-track the applications.

The regulator offered licences to 10 players, with the majority having been in operation for less than two years, leaving others – including market leaders – grappling with the reasons for their deferred approvals.

Of those licensed, Mwanzo Credit and Rewot Ciro began operations in January 2021 while My Wage Pay opened doors in July 2021 at the same



Central Bank of Kenya Governor Patrick Njoroge PHOTO | NMG

time as Flash Credit.

Kweli Credit, which had not started disbursing loans, also received CBK's approval.

Sokohela, which started operations in 2019 but scaled down as a result of Covid-19, made a comeback among the first companies that have received licences.

Industry leaders, including Tala, Zenka and Oye mobile, are yet to receive the regulatory nod but continue operations pending the conclusion of the process.

The players say the licensing process was thorough and interactive, with the regulator poring over all the details

submitted by the digital loan providers.

Under the new rules, the lenders were supposed to furnish the regulator with a Certificate of Incorporation and Memorandum and Articles of Association of the applicant and that of any significant shareholder.

Digital marketing; The swift strategy

BY ALLEY MTATYA

LET us run back to late 2022 for a minute, I like to monitor digital media trends when they happen. Last year around October 2022 a popular American musician by the name of Taylor Swift released her eagerly awaited album named, 'Midnights', well, at exactly 12 midnight. Some might not know her but in short she's an American born singer and song writer who rose from singing country music to singing pop music. Last year August 2022, the singer took to Instagram to describe her soon to be released 10th studio album, Midnights, as "the stories of 13 sleepless nights scattered throughout her life." Indeed, it was the beginning of a veer, a truly brilliant marketing move.

The album went on to be Spotify's most streamed album in a single day as well as breaking the record for the most streamed artist in a single day in Spotify's history. It didn't end there, after the release of Midnights in October 2022 at exactly midnight, Swift broke yet another record becoming the first-ever artist to occupy all 10 top spots on the Billboard Hot 100 chart. Swift's fan base is diverse and vast as the majority of her fans are younger and can be found mostly on Tik-Tok.

The Swift Social and Mainstream Strategy Swift posted a campy series of videos on Tik-Tok titled 'Midnights mayhem with me,' during which she used a bingo cage to randomly select one song off the 13-track album and announce its title, mind



you this launch is all happening on social media for all 13 tracks. The last video she released titled 'Snow on the beach', generated 86 million views with 24 hours after being posted. Swift was also working with Spotify to release her lyrics snippets on billboards around the world. On October 17, 2022 the first billboards were released att...you guessed it, 'Midnight', in New York and London.

Just after that prolific album release she took to business with an American bank; Capital One, as you can imagine at that moment fans were geared and hyped up to hear her new album live. Well after the album launch, 2023 would see her plan for her album tour, 'the Eras Tour'. Taylor Swift took her business to the next level that was quite unique and not like any other, her partnership with Capital One Bank, specifically their Credit Card service for her tour ticket sales. Swift is and has been a Capitol One brand ambassador since 2019 and she has been spotted in several Capital One product campaigns. The business duo jointly offered fans exclusive Taylor Swift merchandise, including blankets, T-shirts, album-themed bundles and even her signed CDs.

This partnership was kind of a build up to the pre-album launch, because few months to the launch Capital One had unveiled their campaign 'Multiple Taylors', starring Taylor Swift which was made in partnership with a Texas based advertising agency called GSD&M which premiered at the World Series Game 3 a few months into Swift's album launch. According to the bank, Capital One Venture X cardholders could earn both unlimited double miles on all purchases and "exclusive access to unforgettable experiences", including the tour presale premium, of which the pre-sale window was postponed due to an unprecedented demand.

The Power of Social Communities If you look at the power of Swift's community that she has built and how some of the brands were able to leverage or were able to engage on her album launch that brought in more than 1.2 million in sales in just 2 days.

When you are a brand or a business organization or producing social content, you're not just competing with others in your space, you're not competing with other brands but you're competing with content that

people are consuming in social forms. Whether the content is from their family, from friends or from creators that they follow, it has to measure up.

Referring back to Taylor Swift, not only did the album drop but it was already generating a lot of conversations on social media, to the extent that it made millions of people to run to Spotify and stream her new songs.

That became part of the "zeitgeist", there was part of the conversation, so for example if you were a marketer that wanted to capture any social media attention at that period of time, basically if you were not talking about the Taylor Swift's album you would have been struggling because people's attention was there.

The brands, the influencers or the entities that do social media best are the ones who are part of the conversation. They may be leading it or they may be contributing to it but that does not necessarily matter as you just need to be a part of that conversation.

Taylor Swift is also known for her appeal to the Instagram generation. Before, during and after her new album launch, Swift moved between Instagram, YouTube, Tumblr and Twitter to interact with fans - sending them into a frenzy. She really took the majority of socialites on that day on an immersive journey that caused a buzz. Personally, I loved most of the creative's that were used throughout the teaser campaign they ignited the hype.

Takeaways from Taylor's Technique 4 techniques for Swift's impactful social media campaign: First, she played the long game, with strong and simple creative theme that let fans know the artist is switching things up. Secondly, fan first formula - direct interaction, providing content for them to personalize - drove a greater spread of anticipation with her audience. Thirdly, countdowns and detail-oriented teasers for what's next to feed her fan's endless appetite for more. Even paintings on the walls of scenes in her music video hinted at collaborations in songs to come. Finally, personalization drove the feeling of closeness with fans. Celebrities live a private life, away from the public eye. This means, fans love when they get insights into their lives.

Alley Mtatya (pictured) is the founder of Eyeland Advertising and Analytics

European Central Bank to raise deposit rate to 3.25pc

LONDON

THE European Central Bank will be more aggressive than previously thought in its tightening campaign, adding another 50 basis points to its deposit rate on Feb. 2, as it continues its battle against rampant inflation, a Reuters' poll found.

Although the euro zone's central bank has been raising rates at its fastest pace on record it has so far failed to bring inflation anywhere near its 2% target. Prices rose 9.2% in December on a year earlier, official data showed last week.

ECB President Christine Lagarde and her Governing Council will take the deposit rate to 2.50% on Feb. 2, said 55 of 59 economists in the Jan. 13-20 poll. They are likely to follow that up with another 50 basis point lift in March.

The central bank will then add 25 basis points next quarter before pausing, giving a terminal rate in the current cycle of 3.25%, its highest since late 2008. In December's poll, the rate was put at 2.50% at end-March and was seen topping out at 2.75%. (Graphic: Reuters Poll - ECB deposit rate outlook, <https://fingfx.thomsonreuters.com/gfx/polling/movakjzjyva/Reuters%20Poll%20-%20ECB%20deposit%20rate%20outlook.png>)

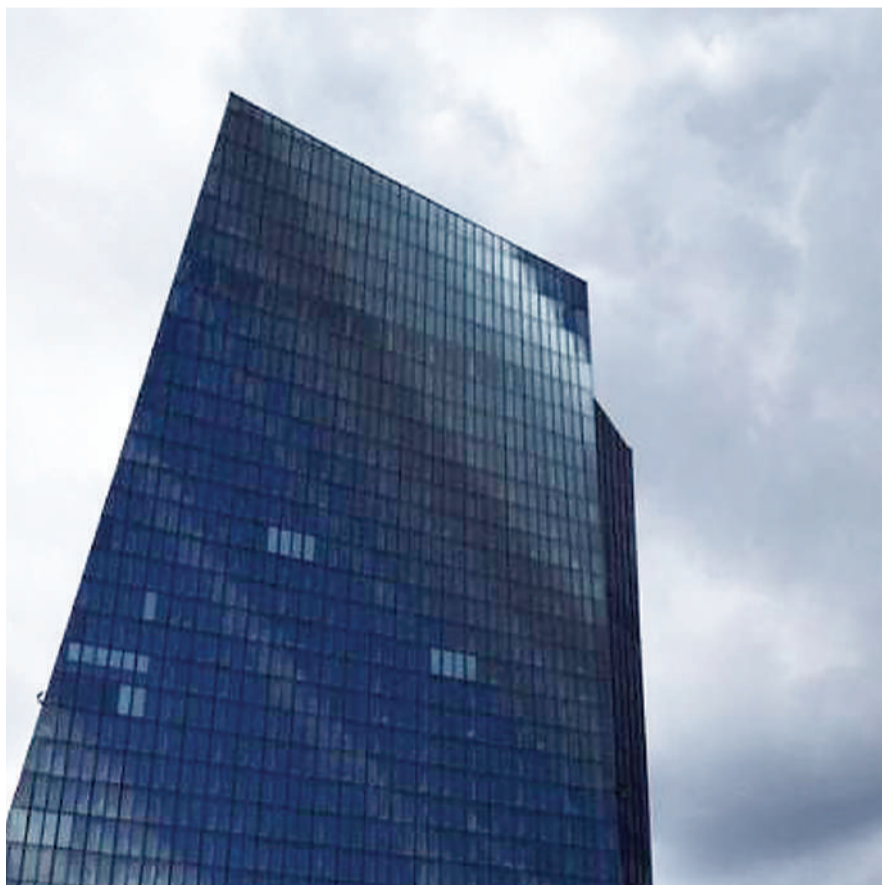
Asked how the risks were skewed to their terminal deposit rate forecasts, over two-thirds of respondents, 23 of 33, said it was more likely it ends higher rather than lower than they currently expect.

"The risk is they will actually be as aggressive as they have claimed. Lagarde and others have said they are in for the long haul where we are going to raise rates meeting by meeting in 2023," said Silke Tober at the Macroeconomic Policy Institute (IMK).

"It's a very clear risk but I happen to think it would be a mistake."

The refinancing rate was expected to rise 50 basis points to 3.00% next week and reach a peak of 3.50% in March.

The US Federal Reserve, which began raising rates many months before the



European Central Bank

ECB, is forecast to end its tightening cycle after a 25 basis point hike at each of its next two policy meetings. It is then expected to hold rates steady for at least the rest of the year, according to a recent Reuters poll.

Inflation has already peaked in the 20-nation EU, the poll found, and will drift down, but was not seen at the ECB's target until at least 2025. Inflation will average 6.0% this year and 2.5% next but will be 2.0% across 2025.

A mild winter so far, falling gas prices and recent positive economic data meant some quarterly growth forecasts were upgraded in the latest poll from a December survey.

Although a technical recession was still predicted - with a 0.2% contraction last quarter and 0.3% in the current one - the economy was now expected

to grow 0.1% next quarter rather than flatline. It is forecast to expand 0.3% in the following two quarters, unchanged medians showed.

All but one of the 36 economists who responded to another question said the bloc's downturn was more likely to be shallower than they expect rather than deeper.

"Not only has the risk of severe, energy-driven recessions diminished markedly but the direction of travel of leading indicators, including our PMI data, signals a rising likelihood of an earlier pick-up in growth than expected," said Ken Wattret at S&P Global.

Across this year growth was pegged at 0.1%, a turnaround from the 0.1% contraction forecast last month. In 2024 it was expected to grow 1.3%, unchanged from December's prediction.

Russian oil ban becomes beneficial for Singapore

SINGAPORE

A ban on Russian crude oil by the European Union and the US went into effect late last year, forcing Russia to find more buyers in the eastern part of the world.

Besides China's and India's surging appetite for Russian crude imports, a flood of cheap oil is pouring into Singapore.

It's being blended and then re-exported globally as traders reap huge profits. Recall that Russian energy products were sold to China and repackaged for European markets last summer.

Before Russia invaded Ukraine, Europe was Moscow's largest crude and refined petroleum products customer. But those days are over as Western sanctions forced Russia to rejigger its energy supply chains towards the East.

Moscow realized besides expanding pipelines to Asia and elsewhere, which could take years to develop infrastructure to increase flows, a fleet of shadow tankers would be its best bet to transport the oil. Now demand is soaring in Singapore for storage tanks as inexpensive Russian crude finds a home, according to Bloomberg.

Tank space in the city-state is being snapped up due to a rise in interest and profits from mixing cheap fuel supplies from Russia with shipments from other sources, according to an executive from a tank operator and a consultant who advises traders on the matter. This process can help to obscure the cargoes' origins, they said.

Unlike many Western countries, Singapore has yet to ban Russian oil or petroleum products, although banks based in the country are prohibited from financing or dealing directly with Russian countries.

In the coming weeks, Europe prepares to enforce new sanctions on Russian petroleum products, which will only increase Russia-to-Asia flows that will be pushed to hubs like ones in Singapore, mixing cheap Russian fuels with other sources for re-distribution globally.

"We have observed an increase in the number of inquiries of short/spot-term storage in the period leading up to December," a spokesman for oil storage company Advorio Asia Pacific said via e-mail.

Six-month leases for Singapore fuel oil or crude oil storage jumped by as much as 20% last year, according to local tank operator firms, including Advorio, Jurong Port, Horizon, and Royal Vopak.

Ship tracking data by Vortexa Ltd. showed oil-receiving terminals more than doubled volumes of Russian naphtha and fuel oil in December versus a year ago. Terminals received 2.6 million barrels of naphtha, nearly 40 times higher than the volume one year ago.

Russian naphtha sitting in Singapore tank farms is being quickly re-exported to other Asia markets, according to Armaan Ashraf, global head of natural gas liquids at industry consultant FGE.

William Tan, senior vice president of fuel consultancy Miyabi Industries, said Singapore tank farm storage is becoming very popular with traders taking in cheap Russian crude, blending it, and exporting it elsewhere for "very good" profit margins. He said traders are reaping 20% profit margins.

Russia will need to expand its shadow fleet tankers as energy supply chains are rejiggered because of Western sanctions. Traders are capitalizing on these new trade flows. Still, the West has yet to cripple Russia but only bring forward a world where energy is traded in anything but dollars.



Singapore oil hub

Financials lift Indian shares after strong earnings in banking

BENGALURU

INDIAN stocks rose on Monday, after declines in the previous two sessions, helped by gains in financial stocks as banks reported strong quarterly results over the weekend.

The Nifty 50 index was up 0.69% at 18,153.30 as of 10:26 a.m. IST, while the S&P BSE Sensex rose 0.76% to 61,084.25.

Thirty-nine of the Nifty 50 constituents advanced while 11 declined. Most of the major sectoral indexes gained, with the heavyweight financials rising over 1%.

Private lenders ICICI Bank and Kotak Mahindra Bank advanced about 1% each after reporting higher quarterly net profit and healthy loan growth.

"Financials is one pocket that cannot be ignored and will likely power markets in the near term," said Mayuresh Joshi, head of equity research at William O'Neil India.

The earnings from the financials space have been along expected lines on all key parameters such as advances growth, asset quality, net interest margin and provisioning, he added.

Domestic sentiment was also boosted by Wall Street equities' rally on Friday. Most Asian markets were closed on Monday for the Lunar New Year holidays.

However, analysts cautioned the domestic market will remain volatile as the jury is still out on the impact of rate hikes by global central banks, with valuations still stretched, and as foreign investors continue pulling out.

So far this month, foreign investors have been net sellers of around \$1.90 billion worth of Indian stocks.

Among other stocks, Reliance Industries was volatile after reporting India's largest company by market capitalisation reported a bigger-than-expected fall in quarterly profit late on Friday. The stock was last up 0.57%.

Yes Bank tumbled nearly 9% after logging an 80% net slide in net profit as provisions for bad loans surged in the December quarter.

Best passive income areas to invest in 2023

PASSIVE income is money that you earn without much active effort on your part. Usually, passive income comes from another source besides your employer or contractor.

Passive income can come from sources such as rental properties or a business in which you are not actively participating at every given moment, for example, royalties, or stock dividends.

Some people believe you do absolutely no work to get passive income, but that is not the case. You may have to do some initial work before the passive income can come in; for example, building a business takes time, money, and effort to start up. Over time, once the company can run on its own without you, the income becomes passive.

1. Investing: Dividend stocks

In terms of passive income, investing can mean many things. What we mean here is investing in dividend stocks. Dividend stocks reward investors with regular payouts of company profits.

Accredited investors, financial advisors, and brokerage firms are all aware that the stock market is one of the best ways to bolster your personal finances and achieve your financial goals, whether short-term liquidity needs or a long-term diversification strategy designed for a retirement account.

As a source of passive income, options like index funds, mutual funds, and exchange-traded funds (ETFs) can also help beginners prosper as high-yield savings accounts.

Investment strategies are practically infinite in a money market, seeing the cohabitation of old financial institutions and upstart cryptos, low-risk investment properties, and high dividend income strategies that carry more volatility.

Amid all these passive income opportunities, dividend stocks may be one of the best ways to generate more passive income. The caveat to passive income from dividend stocks is that you must invest a large lump sum of money into these stocks to see gratifying returns.

The risk of investing large sums of money into dividend stocks is that if the company you are invested in falls on hard times, they may not be able to pay out dividends or may have to decrease their payout percentages.

Investing in preferred stocks or dividend aristocrats yields higher dividends.

2. Real estate: Property and REITs

Owning real estate is deemed one of the oldest and most traditional passive income ideas. It is not as easy as everyone may assume, but (if done correctly) it does generate a cash flow that rivals any other passive income stream.

To have a successful rental property, you must maintain and repair the property when needed, which can be time-consuming and costly. And if you decide to hire a property manager, that can cut into rental income even further.

The sweet thing about owning commercial real estate is that while you may earn small amounts of passive income from the monthly rent, you are also sitting on an appreciating asset growth over time.

If you do not want the responsibility of a rental property, another way to invest in real estate and make passive income is by investing in real estate investment trusts, also known as REITs.

As opposed to direct real estate investing, REITs allow individual investors to make money on real estate without having to manage or own physical properties. This is also known as crowdfunding, which can make you passive income.

Opting for a REIT cuts down on the upfront investment; however, you lose some control over the property, leading to less residual income.

3. Peer-to-peer lending

Peer-to-peer lending is when you act as a lender to a third party, often through a designated platform, where the middleman is cut out. You will gain passive income from the interest you earn on the initial amount you loaned.

P2P lending is also known as "social lending" or "crowd lending." It is a newer form of investing that has quickly gained popularity and already has some prominent lending competitors on the market.

Lending websites connect borrowers directly to lenders for a fee. Usually, the interest rates depend on the borrower's credit.

4. Asset building: Digital products

Asset building can give you passive income,

but you must put in some upfront work to build the asset before it can become passive. The risk of this type of passive income is that there is no guarantee that your asset will produce.

Digital products are one type of asset you can build. With the internet at our fingertips, it's easier to create and sell digital products than ever before. A digital product can be an ebook, an app, or an NFT. Once you have made your digital product, you can sell it again and again online.

6. Affiliate marketing and sales

Affiliate marketing sales are when someone purchases after clicking on a link or using a referral code that you publish on a website, video, or podcast. With this type of sale, you will earn a commission on each sale generated from your affiliate marketing.

This can be a great way to make passive income if you have a lot of traffic to your website or blog. For influencers on social media, bloggers, or people with massive YouTube channels, affiliate marketing is an easy supplement to other sources of passive income.

Some other ways for influencers to generate passive cash include online courses or merchandise shops run as small businesses (such as t-shirt ecommerce pages that operate similarly to Etsy or Amazon, just personalized).

While there are many ways to make passive income as an influencer, it would be hard to get more passive than affiliate marketing.

It is crucial to remember that this space is very competitive and the most successful are those creating ongoing quality content.

7. Asset sharing

With asset sharing, you can make money from the things you already own, like a room in your house or car. Asset sharing is when you rent out a piece of your property for the use of others.

Some examples of asset sharing that can generate easy passive income for you are renting out space in your home, renting out your car or trailer, putting advertisements on your property or your vehicle, or renting your parking space or driveway.

With a space rental, you can easily rent a room in your house or backyard for parties, where you do not have to do anything further.

People have made loads of money renting their houses with Airbnb, and because of that, people are now renting their cars for a few hours a day, a weekend, or even their parking spaces.

European stocks indices rise on economy optimism

LONDON

EUROPEAN stock indexes rose slightly in early trading on Monday, supported by hopes that inflation could be past its peak, as markets softened their expectations for future Federal Reserve rate hikes.

Liquidity was thin overnight as markets in China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaysia, South Korea and Taiwan were closed for the Lunar New Year holiday.

At 0947 GMT, the MSCI World Equity index was up 0.3 percent on the day, holding just below last week's highs.

Europe's STOXX 600 and London's FTSE 100 were both up 0.2 percent on the day.

Signs of inflation softening, falls in commodity prices and the easing of China's COVID-19 restrictions have raised hopes so far this year that a global economic downturn may not be as severe as feared.

Money markets are pricing in a 98 percent chance that the Fed will raise rates by 25 basis points next month, and have steadily lowered the likely peak to 4.75 percent to 5.0 percent, from the current 4.25 percent to 4.50 percent.

"The market's still quite buoyant at the moment," said Peter Chatwell, head of global macro strategies trading at Mizuho, who said markets were being driven by the idea that U.S. inflation has peaked.

"On the surface, it looks like inflation has been dealt with and the most likely path ahead is lower. I'm still cautious about

the inflation outlook for the second half of the year," he said.

Wall Street rallied at the end of the last week, after a jump in Netflix and Alphabet shares.

Investors are waiting for euro zone and US flash PMI data on Tuesday, which are expected to show less severe economic contractions than the previous month, according to analysts polled by Reuters.

The data is forecast to show more improvement in Europe than in the United States.

The US dollar index was down around 0.3 percent at 101.59. The euro was up 0.6 percent at \$1.0918, having hit a nine-month high of \$1.0927, helped by an easing of recession fears amid a fall in natural gas prices, as well as hawkish comments from European Central Bank governing council member Klaas Knot in an interview on Sunday.

The British pound was up 0.1 percent at \$1.2409 and the Australian dollar, seen as a liquid proxy for risk appetite, was up 0.6 percent at \$0.701.

The dollar edged higher against the yen, up 0.2 percent at 129.815, having fluctuated last week after the Bank of Japan defied market pressure to ease its ultra-loose monetary policy.

Euro zone bonds were little changed, with the benchmark 10-year German yield at 2.19 percent.

Oil prices edged higher, with Brent crude up 0.5 percent and US crude up 0.4 percent.



German share price index DAX graph is pictured at the stock exchange in Frankfurt

Ghana eurobond holders fret over better terms

ACCRA

GHANA'S dollar bonds fluctuated amid concern an offer of better terms to investors in local government securities may shift a bigger burden of a planned restructuring onto holders of the external debt.

The eurobond maturing January 2026, on which the nation missed a coupon payment last week, was little changed after S&P Global Ratings downgraded the note to default.

Securities due 2027 and 2035, on which coupon payments are due next month, fell marginally.

Ghana's three-pronged approach to its debt restructuring – a swap for local securities, a suspension of payments on eurobonds, and negotiations under the Group of 20 Common Framework for bilateral debt – has unnerved investors as authorities took the decisions without consulting them.

While the government has sweetened its swap proposal for cedi-denominated debt, thus showing a willingness to listen to feedback, it also has raised the possibility that terms offered to other creditors would have to be tougher.

The restructuring is needed to unlock an International Monetary Fund bailout.

"I see a positive and a negative side," said Carlos de Sousa, a money manager at Vontobel Asset Management in

Zurich, which holds Ghanaian bonds.

"On the positive side, the government is showing flexibility to reach an amicable solution with domestic bondholders instead of imposing a restructuring. On the negative side, if the domestic debt restructuring is too modest, then a larger burden may have to fall on external creditors."

Officials have now proposed a 5% coupon in 2023 on debt that domestic investors have been asked to exchange for new bonds.

That's a departure from their initial announcement that they won't pay interest this year. The average original coupon rate for 54 cedi-denominated sovereign bonds is 19.2 percent, according to data compiled by Bloomberg. The list excludes Treasury and cocoa bills, Treasury notes and sinkable bonds.

"Maybe this has increased confidence that the domestic restructuring can get done, so the rest of it can get done quicker too," said Kieran Curtis, director of investment at abrdn in London, which holds some of the nation's eurobonds.

Still, a smooth process is not guaranteed. Ghanaian banks are holding out for better terms. No bank will make a profit in 2022 if they accept the new bonds offered under the exchange, and some face collapse, according to people familiar with ongoing talks.



Serengeti Breweries commits on ESG compliance

By Frank Manyo

COMPANIES are shifting into conscious investing to protect society, and the environment, and operate under the right governance (ESG).

Serengeti Breweries Limited (SBL) has been placing ESG at the heart of its operations. Generally, ESG policies are supposed to encourage companies to follow positive environmental, social, and governance principles that drive their respective businesses.

ESG frameworks are essential to sustainable investing because they can help corporations like SBL determine whether the company is in alignment with their values, as well as analyze the ultimate contribution to society.

ESG brings life into SBL's operations across all plants in three locations, Mwanza, Moshi, and Dar es Salaam. A few weeks before closing off the year 2022, SBL launched its

Sustainability Report under the patronage of the parent company East African Breweries Limited (EABL), depicting great performance within ESG pillars.

"SBL is proud to be at the forefront of championing sustainable development in a unique way that is inclusive and creative. We look forward to extending this approach further to attend more goals" SBL's Corporate Relations Director, John Wanyancha highlighted, during his opening remarks at the launch.

"As we kickstart into the new year 2023, SBL stands to expand its activities across the three components of ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance pillars)."

He said, "Companies cannot disregard the vitality of adhering to our crucial environmental necessities, social welfare demands, and appropriate governance acts".

As a direct response to the call, throughout the past year, SBL has devoted resources and committed to enhancing crucial points

across the environment, and water, and combating climate change.

On the water, which is essential for the stability of any community and SBL operations, the beer maker extended its reach towards developing a water treatment plant in Basuto village in Hanang district, Manyara region.

The facility can serve 14,000 people and purify 900,000 liters of water in 12 hours. This project serves safe and clean water to four villages in the Basuto ward.

In addition, SBL has worked on cutting down its water usage during production, which ultimately helps conserve water and reduces costs and carbon footprint.

According to the EABL Sustainability report, SBL managed to attain decent goals on its water usage ratio, which improved to 3.95 L/L, a reduction of 7.6 percent, equivalent to saving 40 million liters of water across its sites.

WORLD

Harris says abortion rights threatened across United States

WASHINGTON

DEMOCRATIC Vice-President Kamala Harris said abortion rights are under attack across the United States in a speech Sunday marking the 50th anniversary of Roe v. Wade, the Supreme Court decision that had established a right to abortion until it was overturned last year.

"The right of every woman in every state in the country to make decisions about her own body is on the line," Harris said. "Republicans in Congress are now calling for an abortion ban at the moment of conception nationwide. How dare they?"

Last week, White House officials said 60 anti-abortion bills have been filed in

the 2023 legislative session and over 26 million women currently live in states that have banned abortion.

"A majority of Americans oppose these attacks," Harris said, adding voters in states including Kansas, California, Michigan, Montana, Kentucky and Vermont affirmed abortion rights in ballot proposals.

Speaking in Tallahassee, Florida, Harris also made the case for federal legislation to protect reproductive rights, which Democrats failed to pass last year when they controlled both chambers of Congress. The proposal is unlikely to win support of Republicans who now hold a narrow majority in the House of Representatives.



US Vice-President Kamala Harris speaks to mark the 50th anniversary of the 1973 US Supreme Court Roe v. Wade decision, in Tallahassee, Florida, on Sunday. AFP

On Sunday, Biden released a proclamation to protect access to medication abortion after some state officials took steps to try to prevent women from legally accessing medication abortion.

The Food and Drug Administration said this month that abortion pills would become more widely available at pharmacies and through the mail. A legal battle is underway at a federal court in Texas, where abortion opponents have sued to undo the approval of the drugs.

Harris's decision to speak in Florida was guided by the state's decision last year to pass

an abortion ban without exceptions for rape and incest, White House officials said.

The state's Republican Governor Ron DeSantis is a potential 2024 presidential candidate.

Democrats, and some Republicans, cite concerns about the loss of abortion rights for Republicans' weaker-than-expected performance in last year's midterm elections. Biden's party sees abortion as an issue that can help it in the 2024 elections, when control of the White House and both chambers of Congress will be up for grabs.

Russia's Lavrov visits ally South Africa amid Western rivalry

PRETORIA

RUSSIAN Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov was in South Africa yesterday for talks with one of its most important allies on a continent that is divided over Russia's special military operation in Ukraine and related Western attempts to isolate it.

A ministry spokesman said Lavrov had arrived in South Africa on Monday morning. He and South Africa's foreign minister, Naledi Pandor, are expected to hold a joint news conference around 1000 GMT.

President Cyril Ramaphosa's government regards South Africa as neutral in the Ukraine conflict and has expressed a desire to mediate.

Pandor has repeatedly insisted that South Africa will not be dragged into taking sides, and has criticized the West for its selective condem-



Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs of Sergei Lavrov (left) is welcomed by South African Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Naledi Pandor (right) ahead of their meeting at the OR Tambo Building in Pretoria yesterday. AFP

nation of Russia while ignoring other issues such as the Israeli occupation of Palestinian territory.

Even as South Africa has proclaimed impartiality on the conflict and abstained from voting on United Nations resolutions, it has retained close relations with Russia, historically a friend of the governing African National Congress when it was a liberation movement against white minority rule.

South Africa has little trade with Russia, but it is a champion of a world view, that seeks to undo perceived US-hegemony in favor of a 'multipolar' world in which geopolitical power is more diffuse.

Lavrov's second African visit in six months comes ahead of the Russia-Africa summit, which has been postponed to July 2023 from last year due to the Ukraine conflict. **Agencies**

Hong Kong welcomes joyful, bustling Spring Festival

HONG KONG

IN Sik Sik Yuen Wong Tai Sin Temple, a well-known shrine and tourist attraction in Hong Kong, large crowds came early Sunday morning to pray for blessings.

With the adjustment of the COVID-19 pandemic prevention policy, the streets and lanes of China's Hong Kong Special Administrative Region during this year's Spring Festival, which falls on Sunday, are filled with a warm and festive atmosphere.

On Lunar New Year's Eve, a large number of people headed to the Wong Tai Sin Temple to take part in a ritual to be the first to offer incense to the temple's deity at the stroke of midnight after a two-year hiatus.

On the first day of the Lunar New Year, a large number of people also came to the temple to worship.

A woman with her surname Wong said,

"The temple is filled with a festive atmosphere. I am so happy and blessed."

Affected by the pandemic, the scale of the Lunar New Year Fair in Hong Kong was reduced in the past two years or canceled for a lower risk of crowd gathering.

While this year's fairs were held at 15 locations for seven days from Jan 16, attracting more than 1.14 million visitors. Jan 21 was the peak, with more than 100,000 visitors rushing to the fair at Victoria Park on a single day.

Meanwhile, the Hong Kong Well-wishing Festival 2023 at Lam Tsuen in Tai Po, which is noted for its wishing trees, saw the most bustling day of the year.

As one of the most distinct Chinese New Year festivities in Hong Kong, the well-wishing festival, which runs through Feb 5 from Sunday, has attracted locals and visitors to Lam Tsuen to take part in the traditional

celebration by throwing placards onto the wishing tree and lighting wishing lanterns.

"I hope the Hong Kong economy will be better than last year. I hope Hong Kong will be prosperous and everyone here will be happy," said a Hong Kong resident with the surname of Yeung.

Chan Kwok-ki, chief secretary for administration of the HKSAR government, attended the well-wishing festival on Sunday, saying that the event is very meaningful, not only because it has a traditional cultural atmosphere, but also a chance for people to get together.

With the resumption of normal travel between Hong Kong and the Chinese mainland, more mainland tourists came to Hong Kong, adding a lively atmosphere to the Spring Festival.

John Lee Ka-chiu, chief executive of the HKSAR, delivered a Lunar New Year mes-

sage on Saturday, wishing all Hong Kong people a happy, healthy and blessed Year of the Rabbit.

Lunar New Year is the most important festival on the Chinese calendar, Lee said, adding that the rabbit is a symbol of great vitality, so the Lunar New Year is seen as heralding a new start and new hope for Hong Kong.

"Our economy will continue to grow and our tourist attractions will be filled with visitors," he said. **Xinhua**



Our economy will continue to grow and our tourist attractions will be filled with visitors

China goes all out to ensure security of industrial, supply chains

CHINA is seeing accelerated resumption of work and life as it implements its optimized COVID-19 response measures. It gives a leg up to the country's economic recovery and further makes global industrial and supply chains stable and unimpeded.

Since the onset of COVID-19, China has worked to address both targeted epidemic control and economic and social development. It optimized COVID-19 control in light of the evolving situation and achieved remarkable progress. This not only stabilized the fundamentals for economic and social development to the largest extent but also made important

contributions to maintaining unimpeded global industrial and supply chains and to promoting global recovery.

China's average annual economic growth stood at 4.5 percent in the past three years, which is obviously higher than the global average. In 2021, the country's foreign trade in goods hit a historical high of \$6 trillion. Between January and November 2022, China's foreign trade in goods increased 8.6 percent year on year. In a word, China's progress in the fight against COVID-19 and economic development is self-evident and can withstand the test of history.

The optimized measures will continu-

ously make COVID-19 response more science-based, targeted, and effective, and will also further spur stable economic growth. The Chinese economy enjoys strong resilience, potential, and vitality. The fundamentals sustaining its long-term growth remain unchanged.

Meanwhile, China has rolled out a series of policies that are expected to assist economic recovery. The Ministry of Industry and Information Technology tailored targeted measures for major corporations and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), encouraging the former, especially state-owned ones, to play their role in supporting the indus-

trial chain and driving the development of relevant sectors.

Shanxi province in north China released 29 measures in seven aspects, focusing on coordinating work resumption, smoothing the industrial and supply chains of the manufacturing sector, and speeding up the appropriation of government funds.

Northwest China's Gansu province strictly follows the optimized measures of COVID-19 control and has made a "white list" of enterprises on the industrial and supply chains of major industries.

The above measures have accelerated

economic recovery across China, ensuring the security and stability of industrial and supply chains. The momentum for rapid economic rebound is being gathered and released.

China boasts the world's most complete industrial system. It accounts for 30 percent of the global manufacturing output and remains an important manufacturing hub of the world.

Optimizing its COVID-19 response will help China strengthen the resilience and security of its industrial and supply chains, and also make the world economy more stable and certain.

International media have captured the

positive signal heralding China's positive economic development, and the world has enhanced expectations for China's economic growth and the positive global spillover effects of such growth.

According to a survey recently launched by China Council for the Promotion of International Trade, which involved over 160 foreign enterprises in China and foreign chambers of commerce, 99.4 percent said they were more confident in China's economic prospects in 2023, and 98.7 percent said they would maintain and expand their investment in China.

People's Daily

New suppliers race to plug in to electric car market

WOKING

THE global auto industry has committed \$1.2 trillion to developing electric vehicles (EVs), providing a golden opportunity for new suppliers to grab contracts providing everything from battery packs to motors and inverters.

Start-ups specializing in batteries and coatings to protect EV parts, and suppliers traditionally focused on niche motorsports or Formula One (F1) racing, have been chasing EV contracts. Carmakers design platforms to last a decade, so high-volume models can generate large revenues for years.

The next generation of EVs is due to hit around 2025 and many carmakers have sought help plugging gaps in their expertise, providing a window of opportunity for new suppliers.

"We've gone back to the days of Henry Ford where everyone is asking 'how do you make these things work properly?'," says Nick Fry, CEO of F1 engineering and technology firm McLaren Applied.

"That's a huge opportunity for companies like us."

Bought from McLaren by private equity firm Greybull Capital in 2021, McLaren Applied has adapted an efficient inverter developed for F1 racing for EVs. An inverter helps control the flow of electricity to and from the battery pack.

The silicon carbide IPG5 inverter weighs just 5.5 kg and can extend an EV's range by over 7 percent. Fry says McLaren Applied is working with around 20 carmakers and suppliers, and the inverter will appear in high-volume luxury EV models starting in January 2025.

Mass-market carmakers often prefer to develop EV components in-house and own the technology themselves. After years of pandemic-related parts shortages, they are wary of over-reliance on suppliers.

"We just can't afford to be reliant on third parties making those investments for us," said Tim Slatter, head of Ford in Britain.

Traditional suppliers, such as German heavyweights Bosch and Continental, are also investing heavily in EVs and other technologies to stay ahead in a fast-changing industry.

But smaller companies say there are still opportunities, particularly with low-volume manufacturers that cannot afford huge EV investments, or luxury and high-performance carmakers seeking an edge.

Croatia's Rimac, an electric hypercar maker part-owned by Germany's Porsche AG that also supplies battery systems and powertrain components to other automakers, says an undisclosed German carmaker will use a Rimac battery system in a high-performance model - with annual production of around 40,000 units - starting this year, with more signed up.

"We need to be 20 percent, 30 percent better than what they can do and then they work with us," CEO Mate Rimac says. "If they can make a 100-kilowatt hour battery pack, we must make a 130-kilowatt pack in the same dimensions for the same cost."

No time to lose

Some suppliers like Cambridge, Massachusetts-based Actnano have had long relationships with EV pioneer Tesla. Actnano has developed a coating that protects EV parts from condensation and its business has spread to advanced driver-assistance systems (ADAS), as well as other carmakers including Volvo, Ford, BMW and Porsche.

California-based start-up CelLink has developed an entirely automated, flat and easy-to-install "flex harness", instead of a wire harness to group and guide cables in a vehicle. CEO Kevin Coakley would not identify customers but said CelLink's harnesses had been installed in around a million EVs. Only Tesla has that scale.

Coakley said CelLink was working with US and European carmakers, and with a European battery maker on battery wiring.

Others are focused on low-volume manufacturers, like UK start-up Ionetic, which develops battery packs that would be too expensive for smaller companies to make themselves.

"Currently it costs just too much to electrify, which is why you see some manufacturers delaying their electrification launch," CEO James Eaton said.

Since 1971, Swindon Powertrain has developed powerful motorsports engines. But it has now also developed battery packs, electric powertrains, e-axes and is working with around 20 customers, including carmakers and an electric vertical take-off and landing (eVTOL) aircraft maker.

"I realized if we don't embrace this, we're going to end up working for museums," said managing director Raphael Caille.

Mate Rimac says major carmakers scrambled in the last three years to roll out EVs and now have strategies largely in place.

"For those who haven't signed projects, I'm not sure how long the window of opportunity will remain open," he said.

Agencies

Russian-Japanese dialogue on peace treaty currently hardly possible – Kremlin

MOSCOW

A MEANINGFUL dialogue with Japan on a peace treaty is hardly possible now because Tokyo has sided with those countries that are unfriendly to Russia, Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov told journalists yesterday.

"Japan has quite actively joined the camp of those countries that became unfriendly to us. And with its actions in terms of bilateral relations Japan is not displaying anything constructive."

Essentially, any meaningful dialogue is currently absent and certainly under these conditions it is hardly possible to talk about this possibility de facto," the Kremlin official said replying to a question on Moscow's readiness to interact with Tokyo on the peace treaty.

Earlier, Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida said that the country's government, despite the difficult state of affairs between Tokyo and Moscow due to the situation around Ukraine, maintains its policy directed at resolving the territorial issue and concluding the peace treaty.

For decades, Moscow and Tokyo have been holding consultations in order to clinch a peace treaty as a follow-up to World War II. The southern Kuril Islands issue remains the key sticking point.

In 1945, the whole archipelago was handed over to the Soviet Union. Tokyo laid claims to Iturup, Kunashir, Shikotan and a group of uninhabited islands.

The Russian Foreign Ministry has repeatedly stated that Moscow's sovereignty over the islands is enshrined in international law and cannot be called into question.

In March 2022, the Russian Foreign Ministry announced that Moscow was terminating peace treaty talks with Tokyo due to the unilateral restrictions that Japan had imposed on Russia over the situation in Ukraine.

Additionally, Russia withdrew from dialogue with Japan on joint economic activities on the southern Kuril Islands and blocked the extension of Japan's status as a sectoral dialogue partner of the Organization of Black Sea Economic Cooperation.

Brazil and Argentina to discuss common currency

Buenos Aires

BRAZIL and Argentina aim for greater economic integration, including the development of a common currency, Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva and Argentine leader Alberto Fernandez said in a joint article they penned.

"We intend to overcome the barriers to our exchanges, simplify and modernize the rules and encourage the use of local currencies," says the text published on the Argentine website Perfil.

"We also decided to advance discussions on a common South American currency that can be used for both financial and commercial flows, reducing costs operations and our external vulnerability," the article said.

The idea of a common currency was raised originally in an article written last year by Fernando Haddad and Gabriel Galipolo, now Brazil's finance minister and his executive secretary, respectively, and was mentioned by Lula during the campaign.

Lula chose Argentina for his inaugural international trip since taking office, keeping with the tradition of first visiting Brazil's largest trading partner in the region. That follows four years of tense relations during the government of former Brazilian right-wing President Jair Bolsonaro.

Lula's trip to neighboring Argentina also marks the return of Brazil to the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), which Brazil left in 2019 under order from Bolsonaro, who refused to participate in the regional group due to the presence of Cuba and Venezuela.

Both presidents emphasized the need for a good relationship between Argentina and Brazil to strengthen regional integration, according to the article.

The leaders also emphasized strengthening the Mercosur trade bloc, which includes Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay and Uruguay, and which Brazilian Finance Minister Haddad recently lamented has been abandoned in recent years.

"Together with our partners, we want Mercosur to constitute a platform for our effective integration into the world, through the joint negotiation of balanced trade agreements that respond to our strategic development objectives," both presidents said.

Earlier in the day, the Financial Times reported the neighboring nations will announce this week they are starting preparatory work on a common currency.

The plan, set to be discussed at a summit in Buenos Aires this week, will focus on how a new currency which Brazil suggests calling the "sur" (south) could boost regional trade and reduce reliance on the US dollar, FT reported citing officials.

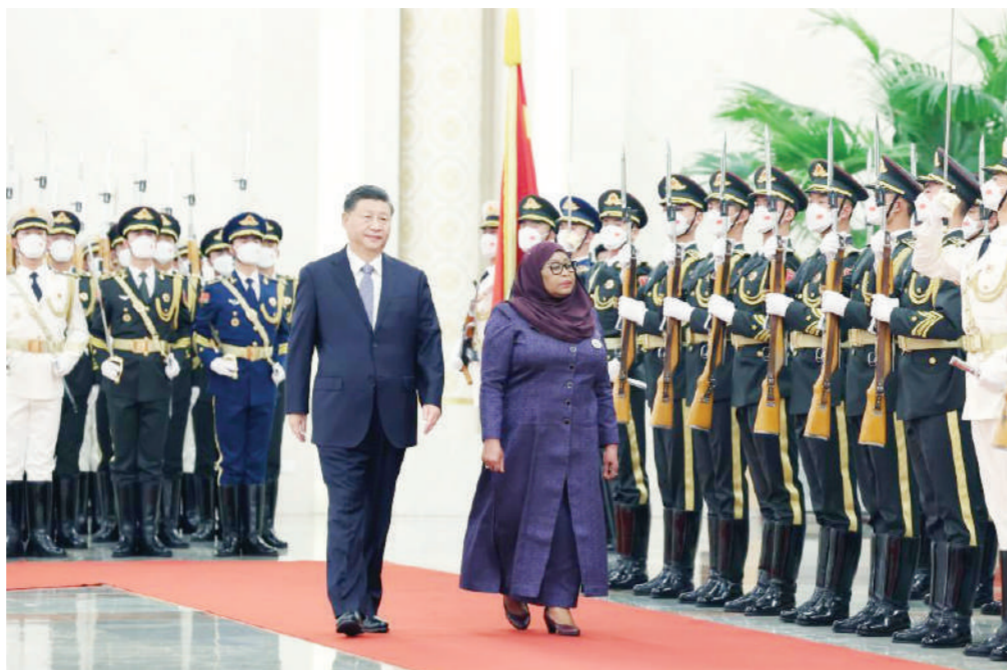
Politicians from both countries have discussed the idea already in 2019, but met with pushback from Brazil's central bank at the time.

Initially starting as a bilateral project, the initiative would later be extended to invite other Latin American nations, the report said, adding an official announcement was expected during Lula's visit to Argentina that starts on Sunday night.



Together with our partners, we want Mercosur to constitute a platform for our effective integration into the world, through the joint negotiation of balanced

Description of the ten major events of China-Tanzania relations in 2022



On November 2-4, 2022, Tanzanian President Samia Suluhu Hassan paid a state visit to China, during which she held talks with Chinese President Xi Jinping. The two presidents announced the elevation of the bilateral relationship to a comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership. At the end of their talks, the two presidents witnessed the signing of 15 bilateral cooperation documents.



In January, April and July 2022, the Chinese government donated three batches of COVID-19 vaccines to Tanzania, totaling 5 million doses.



On July 17, 2022, Air Tanzania Company Limited (ATCL) resumed its direct flight between Dar es Salaam and Guangzhou, which has played an important role in facilitating personnel exchanges between China and Tanzania.



On February 23, 2022, Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, sent a congratulatory letter for the inauguration ceremony of the Mwalimu Julius Nyerere Leadership School. On June 8, 2022, General Secretary Xi Jinping replied to a letter from all participants of the Former Liberation Movements of Southern Africa Leading Cadres Workshop 2022 at the Mwalimu Julius Nyerere Leadership School.



On March 20, 2022, Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi held video talks with the then Tanzanian Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation Liberata Mulamula. The two sides agreed to further align the Belt and Road Initiative with Tanzania's Development Vision 2025 and expand bilateral cooperation in agriculture, trade, investment, infrastructure, health care and other fields.



On October 27, 2022, the New Wami Bridge, built by Power Construction Corporation of China (PowerChina), opened to traffic. As a key transport infrastructure connecting northern towns and Mount Kilimanjaro with Dar es Salaam, the New Wami Bridge will ease the traffic pressure and facilitate safe crossing of the Wami River by vehicles and pedestrians.

Japanese finance minister warns of severe finances

TOKYO

JAPAN'S finances are becoming increasingly precarious, Finance Minister Shunichi Suzuki warned yesterday, just as markets test whether the central bank can keep interest rates ultra-low, allowing the government to service its debt.

Japan's public debt is more than double its annual economic output, by far the heaviest burden in the industrialized world.

The government has been helped by near-zero bond yields, but bond investors have recently sought to break the Bank of Japan's 0.5 percent cap on the 10-year bond yield, as inflation runs at 41-year highs, double the central bank's 2 percent target.

"Japan's public finances have increased in severity to an unprecedented degree as we have compiled supplementary budgets to respond to the coronavirus and similar issues," Suzuki said in a policy speech starting a session of parliament.

Suzuki (pictured) reiterated the government's aim to achieve an annual budget surplus - excluding new bond sales and debt-servicing costs - in the fiscal year to March 2026. The government, however, has missed budget-balancing targets for a decade.

The Ministry of Finance estimates that every 1-percentage-point rise in interest rates would boost debt service by 3.7 trillion yen (\$29 billion) to 32.5 trillion yen (\$251 billion) for the 2025/2026



fiscal year.

"The government will strive to stably manage Japanese government bond (JGBs) issuance through close communication with the market," he said.

"Overall JGB issuance, including rolling over bonds, remain at an extremely high level worth about 206 trillion yen (\$1.6 trillion)." "We will step up efforts to keep JGB issuance stable."

"Public finance is the cornerstone of a country's trust. We must secure fiscal space under normal circumstances to safeguard trust in Japan and people's livelihood at a time of emergency."

Labor reform
Prime Minister Fumio Kishida

echoed Suzuki's resolve to revive the economy and tackle fiscal reform. He stressed the need for a positive cycle of growth led by corporate profits and private consumption, which accounts for more than half of the economy.

"Wage hikes hold the key to this virtuous cycle," Kishida said in his policy speech. He vowed to push labor reform to create a structure that allows sustainable wage growth and overcome the pain of rising living costs.

"First of all, we need to realize wage growth that exceeds price increases," Kishida added, pledging to also boost childcare support, and push investment and reform in areas such as green and digital transformation.

NZ's incoming PM 'making haste' on changes in priorities

WELLINGTON

NEW ZEALAND'S incoming Prime Minister Chris Hipkins said yesterday that his government would be "making haste" on reprioritizing and looking at whether current policies need to be scaled down.

Hipkins appeared Monday on a number of New Zealand media after he was chosen on Sunday to replace Jacinda Ardern as head of the Labour party, thereby making him the country's next prime minister.

Hipkins (pictured) told TVNZ's Breakfast yesterday that the government would be refocusing on "bread and butter issues" for New Zealand including inflation and would look at reining in other policies, without elaborating.

"We'll be making haste on all of those issues," Hipkins told a second morning programme the AM Show. "Within the next few weeks you're going to see quite a lot of clarity around us about reprioritization."

Hipkins has a tough road ahead with Labour trailing the opposition in opinion polls and the country expected to fall into recession in the next quarter before a general election on Oct 14, but he was looking on the bright side.



"I'm really optimistic, I've had a huge amount of support. And I think New Zealand are giving me a fair hearing," Hipkins said on the program.

Labour has pursued a number of policies that have been unpopular or seen as expensive by many voters, including the proposed merging of state-owned radio and television stations and an overhaul of ownership of the country's water infrastructure.

Hipkins is expected to be sworn in as prime minister on Wednesday after Ardern officially resigns.

SPORT



Moshi Rugby Club's players in a group photo before battling it out in a recent competition that took place in Kilimanjaro. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA RUGBY UNION

Sevens rugby would be a remarkable success on home soil

By Correspondent Lloyd Elipokea

EVEN though rugby can at times be a bone-crunching sport, it is still nonetheless true that in terms of sheer entertainment value, rugby is right up there with the globe's most captivating and exciting sports.

This is especially true of sevens rugby, which is a format of rugby that has unarguably become a roaring success around the globe.

In sevens rugby, teams made up of seven players face off against each other in two halves, with both halves lasting for a mere seven minutes. The fact that the duration of the game is so short adds to the levels of pulse-racing excitement as both teams have no choice but to go on the attack to score tries lest they be on the receiving end of a speedy defeat.

Here on the continent, sevens rugby has caught on well in various countries such as rugby powerhouse South Africa, Namibia, and Uganda among others.

Sadly, it is mind-boggling why the sport has never been introduced here in Tanzania.

Luckily though, there is still time to remedy that mistake. Indeed, this writer would like to call upon the local sporting fraternity to move with break-neck speed to introduce sevens rugby here in the country as the sport has the potential to achieve meteoric growth.

Let us switch focus now to consider domestic women's netball where the national team, Taifa Queens, will unhappily watch this year's Netball World Cup in Cape Town from the sidelines.

Unfortunately, the Taifa Queens failed to book a spot at the Netball World Cup, which is a crying shame as the sport has boundless potential here on home soil.

Still, despite failing to earn a place at the Netball World Cup, there could be a way to

ensure that the global sporting spectacle aids netball's development here in the country.

Indeed, it might be a gem of an idea if local netball's governing body (CHANETA) were to send a team of netball experts to the mega event in Cape Town in a bid to watch the tournament and draw as many lessons as possible from the netball contests.

Unquestionably, this could be one reliable way of picking up new tactics in netball, which could prove to be especially helpful when our netball teams square off with opposing netball sides.

Let us turn our attention to arguably the world's most pre-eminent football league, which is the English Premier League.

Indeed, now that we're in the post-World Cup period, the attention of African football fans has been firmly focused on the continent's most skillful sons who ply their trade in England's top flight.

This assemblage of top-notch African talents includes Mohamed Salah of Liverpool, who seems to have lost a bit of his edge but is still dangerously capable of changing a match entirely on his own.

Another prized African attacker whom ardent continental football devotees will be keenly following is Leicester FC's Kelechi Iheanacho of Nigeria who is known for his enormous impact as a super substitute.

Other African football icons who are likely to catch the eye include Everton's playmaker Alex Iwobi of Nigeria and Arsenal's midfield stalwart Thomas Partey of Ghana.

Thus, with the abundance of illustrious African football stars on display in the English Premier League, African football fans ought to derive a lot of pleasure in the coming days, weeks, and months until the season's finale.

Magdalena holds sway in 2023 Ladies First Marathon

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

ARUSHA-based athlete Magdalena Shauri has emerged as the overall winner of this year's edition of the Ladies First marathon which was held at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam over the weekend.

The showdown, sponsored by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), attracted more than 180 women from across Tanzania.

Magdalena who is also a member of the national athletics team won medals in the 1,500m event clocking 4.25.76, finished top in the 5000m race posting 16.00.22, and won 800m posting 2.11.52.

The experienced runner was awarded the gold medal and cash prize totaling 600,000/- (200,000/- for each category).

Zanzibar's Unguja North's athlete Winfrida Makenji ended second, having triumphed in two individual categories of 100m, posting 11.71, and 200m clocking 24.10.

Winfrida was also one of the runners making the Unguja North squad which triumphed in the 4x100m relay event posting 47.19. She went home with a 600,000/- in cash prize (200,000/- for each category).

In the 10,000m race, Arusha's Jackline Sakilu emerged as the winner having clocked 35.51.98, followed by Mara's Neema Nyaisawa in the second place after posting 36.21.72.

Another Arusha athlete Marcelina Mbua took third place having clocked 36.45.42.

The 400m race saw Unguja North athlete Jane Maige John finish first after notching 55.37, followed by Thereza Benard from Unguja South in the second place with 57.79, and Himildia Omar from Unguja South that took third spot after clocking 59.73.

Salma Charles from Coast Region took second

place in the 1500m event having notched 4.36.24, third place was won by Arusha's Valeria Charles that posted 4.40.27.

In the 100m event, Coast Region's athlete Siwema Julius took second position having posted 12.68, followed by Betha Evarist from Kilimanjaro in the third spot, recording 12.94.

Mara's Neema Nyaisawa took the second spot in 5000m notching 17.00.90, and Verelia Charles registered 17.28.47 to finish third.

In the 200m event, the second position was won by Jane Maige John who notched 24.41, whereas Thereza Bernard Masanganya ended third after notching 25.86.

In the 800m race, Salma Charles finished second after recording 2.16.99, the third position was won by Verelia Charles having notched 2.18.90.

In the javelin, Mwaamina Hassan from Unguja North was the winner by throwing a distance of 45m.84cm, the second spot was won by Tanga's Marieta Msigwa that threw a distance of 38m.66cm, third spot was won by Coast Region's athlete Elizabeth Krario that threw a distance of 38m.22cm.

Unguja South's team emerged victorious in the 4x100m relay having clocked 51.53, the event's second place was won by Urban West's team which posted 53.02.

Unguja North's squad emerged winner at the regional level having amassed six medals (five gold medals and one silver medal), and Arusha's team finished second overall with eight medals (four gold medals and as many bronze medals).

The category's third spot went to Coast Region with four medals (three silver medals and one bronze medal). The top three winners in each category received cash prizes.

Speaking after the completion of the showdown, Japan's Ambassador to Tanzania, Misawa Yasushi, and Nakamura Toshiyuki, an

SPORTS

In Feisal Salum saga, there are no winners, only losers

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

FEISAL Salum Abdallah, alias 'Fei Toto', caused controversy all around Tanzania after it was confirmed that the footballer indeed wrote Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, to terminate his contract with the club.

Yanga was understandably rattled by Salum's bold and unexpected move.

Despite the rumours and speculations that had gone on for several weeks, few expected Salum would decide to walk away from a contract that had more than 18 months to run.

It was why Yanga was confident and took the naive decision not to positively respond to his apparent plea to improve his contract.

Being one of the key players for not only Yanga and Taifa Stars, Salum had also asked for an improved salary to match his growing influence and status in the team.

His pleas were met with sympathy but unfortunately nothing much was done which frustrated and pushed him to the desperate and risky decision.

Prominent football lawyer, Daniel Geey notes: "FIFA rules can allow for a player to breach his contract and move to a new club."

Geey discloses: "He will have to pay compensation to his old club, which will depend on his current ability and worth."

"Although not household names, players such as Matuzalém, Morgan De Sanctis, and Lassana Diarra have all been ordered to pay their previous clubs millions of euros after breaching their contracts."

The lawyer revealed: "Needless to say, few players will go down this route, the risk of paying fortunes to a previous club is high, as is the prospect of years of distracting and expensive legal costs."

Once Salum sent that infamous letter his contract was unilaterally terminated and all that was remaining was that he was going to pay. This is a view that is supported by advocate Zawadi Lupelo.

He argues: "I have reviewed the FIFA regulations on the status and transfer of players, especially article 17, the TFF Players Status Committee was supposed to order Salum to compensate Yanga and sanction him instead of telling him to go back to serve his club."



Yanga's midfielder, Feisal Salum.

have to pay to their former club.

Article 17 of the FIFA Status and Transfer of Players Regulations sets out the factors to take into account, which include the player's wages and other benefits from both the previous and current contracts.

The factors moreover include the time remaining on the contract that had been breached, and fees incurred by the former club when purchasing the player (e.g agents' fees).

The other factor is whether the breach is within a protected period (i.e. whether it was within the first three years of a contract for a player whose contract was signed while he was under the age of 28, or within the first two years for a player over the age of 28)

In Salum's case, it is true he did indeed take a risky plunge into the unknown but the Players Status Committee made an even more unfortunate decision that puts his career at a crossroads.

Instead of resolving the issue, the committee made matters worse and now the player has refused to return to Yanga.

As for the player, the best he can do is return to his club and start training, otherwise, it is a long way from the current deadlock, as it stands, and has no winners but either losers or survivors.

The lawyer pointed out: "FIFA regulations do not have the option of ordering a player who terminated the contract without just cause to return to his club."

Article 17 of the FIFA regulations on the status of players talks about the consequences of termination of a contract without just cause, it has made it clear that the remedies that should be taken when a player or team breaks a contract without just cause are compensation and sanctions and not otherwise.

Thus the TFF Players' Status Committee should, after satisfying themselves that Salum has terminated his contract without having a valid reason, they should have set compensation and fine for the player.

It should be noted that in the past players were not allowed to terminate their contracts until the Bosman rule changed football.

Bosman rule gave players the freedom to move to another player once their contract had ended.

Then FIFA gave players the right to break the contract. But the criterion of just cause is to discourage players from breaking contracts carelessly, that is why the violator is fined.

The amount that the player (and their new club) may



Zanzibar's Unguja North women's athletics squad skipper Nasra Abdallah (L) receives a trophy from Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)'s Chief Consultant, Toshiyuki Nakamura, after the former's squad emerged as overall champion of this season's that took place in Dar es Salaam last weekend. Standing (R) is Japan's Ambassador to Tanzania, Misawa Yasushi. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Advisor to JICA president, promised continued support for sports development in Tanzania.

"We are aware of the importance of sports and JICA will continue supporting sports development in Tanzania until there is gender balance in the world," Toshiyuki said.

The two-day event attracted six top female athletes from all 25 regions of Mainland Tanzania and all five regions of the Isles. So far, Songwe was the region that did not send athletes to the event.

Minister for Social Development, Gender, Elderly, and Children Dorothy Gwajima was the guest of honour at the opening of the event on Saturday.

The Ladies First Marathon motivates and encourages women to take part in sports. This is the fourth time that the JICA Ladies First Marathon is taking place.

The showpiece had previously taken place from 2017 to 2019 but did not take place in 2020 and 2021 due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

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Unguja North's squad emerged winner at the regional level having amassed six medals (five gold medals and one silver medal), and Arusha's team finished second overall with eight medals (four gold medals and as many bronze medals).

Guardiola hails 'incredible' hat-trick hero Haaland

MANCHESTER, England

PEP Guardiola hit back at suggestions Erling Haaland would not adapt to Manchester City's style of play after the Norwegian scored his fourth hat-trick of the season in a 3-0 win over Wolves.

The 22-year-old now has 25 Premier League goals in just 19 appearances and 31 in total just halfway through his first season with the English champions.

"The numbers are incredible," said Guardiola. "He lives 24 hours for his profession, job, passion, love.

"He's not stressed much when it's going well or going bad. He is stable."

Haaland's remarkable scoring rate has slowed slightly in recent weeks and with City trailing Arsenal in the title race, questions had been asked over whether Guardiola's men function better as a team without a natural striker.

City have won the title for the past two years while largely playing without a recognised number nine.

"When he played and scored, I don't know many goals, he is the solution and everything of the team and when he does not score, he is the problem in our team," added Guardiola.

"We know his quality. We know each other. He is not a player to be dropped. We can't play the false nine with him. You have to adapt some movements with him and we are doing quite well."

A comfortable win was just what Guardiola was looking for after he called out a lack of hunger and desire from his squad to retain the title after coming from behind to beat Tottenham 4-2 on Thursday.

"We talk a little bit these days about what we think we miss," said Guardiola. "It's just one game. We will see in the future."

"Our football was really, really good. Today we improved. That was just today. We will see what happens in the next games."

AFP

Ronaldo makes Saudi league debut for Al Nassr, doesn't score

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia

CRISTIANO Ronaldo failed to score in his Saudi Pro League debut for Al Nassr, but his presence electrified fans at King Saud University Stadium as the team beat Ettifaq 1-0 to retake first place on Sunday.

Talisca headed the winner in the 31st minute when Abdulmajeed Al-Sulaiheem's cross was too high for Ronaldo, who didn't seem to mind as he wheeled around to celebrate with the Brazilian midfielder and the rest of his new teammates.

Al Nassr, which has played 14 games, moved a point ahead of defending champion Al Hilal, which has played a game more.

The Al Nassr fans had to wait three weeks after the announcement of one of the most surprising transfers in soccer history to see their new hero in competitive action.

On Thursday, Ronaldo played for a combined XI from Al Nassr and Al Hilal in an exhibition game against a Paris Saint-Germain team featuring old foe Lionel Messi.

Ronaldo, a five-time Ballon d'Or winner who starred for Real Madrid, Juventus and Manchester United, signed a deal to June 2025 with Al Nassr, apparently after rejecting offers from Europe, North America and beyond.

Media reports have claimed the Portugal star could be earning up to \$200 million a year from the

deal, which would make him the highest-paid soccer player in history.

Al Nassr president Musalli Al-muammar would not confirm the figures in Ronaldo's two-and-a-half-year contract but said the 37-year-old deserves to be the highest paid player on the planet.

The attention-catching deal fuels the debate about Saudi Arabia using so-called "sportswashing" to boost its image internationally. Saudi Arabia's sovereign wealth fund owns Premier League team Newcastle, and the country is considering a bid to host the 2030 World Cup.

Ronaldo had been a free agent after his contract was terminated by Manchester United following an explosive TV interview in which he criticized manager Erik ten Hag and the club's owners after having been repeatedly benched and even temporarily suspended by the club.

He also came off a disappointing World Cup where he was benched in the knockout rounds and left the field in tears after Portugal lost in the quarterfinals to Morocco.

While Saudi Arabia earned its biggest international soccer win ever at the World Cup in neighboring Qatar when it beat eventual champion Argentina in its first group-stage game, its domestic league has few other stars and is not watched by a major international audience.

AP



Arsenal silence doubters with statement win over Man United

LONDON

PREMIER League leaders Arsenal have had their title credentials questioned all season but their last-gasp win against Manchester United has silenced many of the remaining doubters.

Eddie Nketiah scored the winner in the dying moments of a pulsating match at the Emirates on Sunday as the home fans were infused with fresh belief that this could be their year.

The game against in-form United was seen as a critical test for the Gunners, especially after Manchester City closed the gap at the top of the table to just two points earlier in the day.

It was a challenge they did not fluff, hitting back hard after conceding the first goal, scored by Marcus Rashford, and staying calm after Lisandro Martinez cancelled out Bukayo Saka's strike in the second half.

Arsenal, who have made their best-ever start to an English top-flight season, now have 50 points after 19 games -- five clear of defending champions City with a game in hand at the half-way point of the campaign.

"I don't think it gets much better than that," said a buoyant Arsenal coach Mikel Arteta.

"It was a beautiful moment, a really special one because we were pushing and pushing and pushing and the goal wasn't coming and it came at the end... it was just electric. It was really emotional, really passionate and I lost it."

Arteta said he hopes the result, which follows last week's 2-0 win against Tottenham in the north London derby, gives his team the belief that Arsenal can be crowned league champions for the first time since 2004.

But he wants to keep his team's feet on the ground despite a remarkable season in which they have lost just once in the league.

"We know our reality, we know how much we still have to improve," said the Spaniard, who was previously Pep Guardiola's assistant at City.

- Winnable matches -

Arsenal face the defending champions in the middle of next month but their upcoming fixtures all look winnable and it is getting increasingly difficult to see where they will slip up.

Leaving the match against City



Arsenal's Eddie Nketiah, second right, scores his side's third goal during the English Premier League soccer match between Arsenal and Manchester United at Emirates stadium in London, Sunday, Jan. 22, 2023. (Agencies)

aside, Arsenal's next opponents in the league are relegation-threatened Everton, Brentford, Aston Villa, Leicester, Bournemouth, Fulham, Crystal Palace and Leeds.

City, with title-winning pedigree, appear to have found their form again after a wobble and the sides at the bottom of the table will fight for their lives as the trap door looms.

But former Arsenal captain Arteta has transformed his side from also-rans last season into title favourites, through luck and judgement.

Saka has gone from strength to strength while Nketiah has stepped up in the absence of new signing Gabriel Jesus, injured while playing for Brazil at the World Cup.

The 23-year-old now has six goals in six games in all competitions since the tournament in Qatar. "What Eddie's doing is incredible," said Arteta. "We cannot say we saw that. We were hoping that he could do that because of the way he is, because of his mentality, because of his qualities."

When asked to sum up the first half of the season, Arteta said it was "extraordinary" but was again careful to avoid the impression that his team are the finished article.

"It doesn't get much better than that, that's the reality," he said. "I think we deserve the points that we have."

Arsenal downs Man United, rings in a new Premier League era

By Henry Bushnell

THE balance of power in the English Premier League had already begun to shift long before a precious yellow ball floated toward Eddie Nketiah at the far post, in the 90th minute of an instant classic.

It had shifted long before Arsenal and Manchester United sparred for 90 thrilling minutes at the Emirates on Sunday, just like the Arsenal and Manchester United of old. They traded goals by homegrown stars and spells of ascendancy.

They were level at 2-2, with United nearly submerged and Arsenal unsatisfied, when bodies converged near the penalty spot, and that ball emerged, spinning toward a stealthy Nketiah. He guided it into a gaping net, and gave Arsenal a 3-2 win, and cued an explosion.

He capped a captivating game with the dramatic conclusion it deserved, and christened a new Premier League era.

Arsenal, whose relative mediocrity had been the butt of jokes for roughly a decade, had already built a somewhat commanding lead atop the league it hasn't won since 2004. It had already entered its own new era, guided by young-20-somethings and a sharp-as-can-be manager, Mikel Arteta. They had propelled Arsenal effectively eight points clear of the reigning king, Manchester City. They had proven themselves capable of challenging for a title.

But Sunday's reigniting of the rivalry that defined the turn-of-the-century Premier League spoke to something deeper, something big-

"We have played well enough to win most of the matches but the reality as well is that we still have a lot of things that we can get much better at."

So does he believe Arsenal are now favourites for the title, on course to win the Premier League for the first time since Arsene Wenger's last triumph nearly two decades ago?

"I don't have an opinion," he said. "It can be a perception. I know my team so well, I know where we are, I know why we are here and I know where we want to be."

"And we are still far from that and I know the level of the other teams, especially one that has won everything in the last five or six years and we are not there yet."

Meanwhile, Manchester United manager Erik ten Hag said his team must change their mentality if they want to become a trophy-winning team, bemoaning defensive errors in his side's 3-2 defeat against Arsenal on Sunday.

Eddie Nketiah struck in the closing minutes at the Emirates to claim a dramatic victory for the Premier League leaders, who restored their five-point advantage over Manchester City.

Marcus Rashford gave the visitors a first-half lead in London but Nketiah equalised shortly afterwards.

England forward Bukayo Saka

put the hosts ahead in the second half, before Argentina defender Lisandro Martinez opened his United account with a looping header.

But United were unable to hold out against relentless Arsenal pressure and lost for the first time in any competition since early November.

A disappointed Ten Hag, who was without influential midfielder Casemiro through suspension, said there were too many mistakes to talk about.

"It was like a pack of cards with the goals we conceded," said the Dutchman, pointing out that the first two started with corners.

The Red Devils also conceded late in a 1-1 draw at Crystal Palace on Wednesday and Ten Hag was frustrated by his side's inability to hold out in the closing stages once more.

With the clock running down, Nketiah was left unmarked to flick home Martin Odegaard's shot at the back post.

"At this moment I'm annoyed and I also told the players 'if you want to win trophies, titles, we have to change our mentality' because it's not possible that you are in a top game and you're making three such big mistakes where you concede goals, especially the last goal."

"You have to feel the game on that point. A point was the maximum and you have to take the point and you can't give such a goal away like we did at the top level."

United remain fourth in the table, now 11 points adrift of Arsenal having also played one game more.

and there are no longer only two whose players and coaches and executives are capable. City and Liverpool ran away from the pack because they were powered by superior expertise, not just by superior bank accounts; but they no longer are.

Now they have worthy contemporaries. Now Liverpool's stars have aged, and the shrewd front office that brought them to the club has slowly crumbled. Key decision-makers and analysts have left. The Reds have struggled and slipped, back into the middle of the pack.

Arsenal, meanwhile, has risen, faster than even its own diehard Gooners could have imagined. United, finally, has stepped out of the Dark Ages, and is actually being run like a modern football club. It has recovered from a calamitous start to the 2022-23 season. It has its own sharp manager, Erik Ten Hag, who seems competent enough to lead United back to soccer's summits.

The Red Devils are a couple years behind their old rivals, and that became evident as Sunday's second half wore on, after Lisandro Martinez's brilliant header had leveled the match at 2-2. Arsenal, a team of once-disparaged veterans and transfer-market bargains and exuberant youngsters, overwhelmed the Red Devils over the game's tense final 15 minutes.

They ultimately won that game and control of the title race. They are, it must be said, only halfway there, and Man City still appears twice on their calendar. They could yet stumble; City, according to most analytical models, remains the most fearsome team in the land.

But even if Arsenal's drought continues beyond this May, the era of the City-Liverpool duopoly is decidedly over. There are new kids on the block, old clubs with new ambitions and faculties, each eager to define whatever era comes next.

(Agencies)

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Arsenal silence doubters with statement win over Man United

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Players making Aruti Aces Cricket Club pose for a picture before facing Aga Khan SC in this season's Cello/Ruby's Magic Gymkhana Shield showdown match held in Dar es Salaam last year. PHOTO: COURTESY OF GYMKHANA CRICKET CLUB

Aruti Aces secures qualification for Gymkhana Shield tournament knockouts

By Guardian Reporter

ARUTI Aces cricket outfit has gallantly secured progression to the knockout stage of this season's Cello/Ruby's Magic Gymkhana Shield tournament, following the squad's emphatic four-wicket victory over Pak Stars in Dar es Salaam on Sunday.

Youthful all-rounder, Jaffary Kanyita, put the man of the match displays with the bat to solidly ensure Aruti Aces comes out victorious and make certain of its qualification for the knockouts.

Pak Stars were visibly unconvincing when they batted, given the cricketers ended with 82 runs whilst losing all wickets in 19 overs of the scheduled 20 overs after taking the crease first.

Experienced all-rounder Nisar Ahmed was surprisingly the only cricketer with significant showing for the batting side, having notched 26 runs which included a boundary and two sixes.

Ahmed that had opened the innings managed to make up for the early exit of fellow opener Ivan Ismail that was a victim of Aruti Aces' early bowling onslaught.

Ismail was a pale shadow of the otherwise resolute performer, having ended with paltry six runs because the cricketer was dismissed by Aruti Aces' Ally Mpeka.

Ahmed managed to push Pak Stars' score to 63 runs after 11.6 overs, exiting after he was dismissed by Aruti Aces' Aisah Chibanda.

The cricketer's fellow members of the batting unit found it difficult to frustrate Aruti Aces' bowling attack, with none of the remaining having notched two-digit scores.

Wickets kept on falling at regular intervals as Pak Stars were visibly losing steam, another reliable cricketer Zamoyni Ramadhani could so far end two runs short of a two-digit figure.

Aruti Aces' bowling unit, led by Mpeka, had no mercy for Pak Stars' batsmen, as Mpeka wound up his bowling stint with a five-wicket haul.

The cricketer conceded 15 runs, had one maiden over and recorded the 3.75 economy rate in four overs to deservedly walk away with the Man of the Match prize.

Mpeka was ably assisted by skipper Mohammad Ali as the latter completed his bowling stint with two wickets in four overs.

With a modest target of 83 runs in their sight, Aruti Aces' crickets wasted no time, chasing the score for the loss of six wickets in 14.5 overs.

After an early wobble which had the openers Asif Butt and Ejaz Aziz experiencing brief spells, youthful cricketer Kanyita showcased his ruthlessness at the crease to win the tie for the batting squad.

Aziz ended one run short of a two-digit figure, having been caught by Pak Stars' wicketkeeper Mohamed Omary from a delivery by pacer Ramadhan, leaving Aruti Aces with 33 runs after 5.4 overs.

Kanyita took the crease after Aziz's dismissal to showcase a solid showing that had the former making his way back with 31 runs.

Jeremiah Makanya and Mpeka later on put the game beyond Pak Stars' reach, as Makanya notched 10 runs not out and Mpeka scored two runs not out.

KMC FC, Namungo FC seeking an end to winless streaks

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

KINONDONI Municipal Council F will host Namungo FC at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam in the afternoon, as the former looks to end a three-game winless streak in the 2022/23 NBC Premier League.

Namungo FC is also on a poor run of form, with the club's two straight matches ending without victories.

Hosts Kinondoni Municipal Council FC settled for a 1-1 draw with Mtibwa Sugar last week that saw them drop to 10th position in the 2022/23 NBC Premier League table as a consequence.

Having managed to win just two of their past 10 league matches - recording four draws and four losses along the way - Kinondoni Municipal Council FC finds itself two points clear of the relegation zone.

They are looking ahead to a very tough schedule in the upcoming weeks which makes this clash against Namungo FC a very important affair.

Thierry Hitimana-coached Kinondoni Municipal Council FC is having difficulty scoring goals, with just three goals scored by the club in the last three games. They have conceded four goals during that same time.

There is a silver lining for the hosts, though, as they have only failed to score in one of their last five matches.

They will take confidence in their home form. Only Dodoma Jiji FC and Simba SC have overcome Kinondoni Municipal Council FC in their 10 games on home soil.

Namungo FC, on the other side, disappointed their fans heavily in a tough 2-0 home loss to struggling Polisi Tanzania.

Dennis Kitambi, Namungo FC's head coach, will have to find a way to motivate his charges to bounce back after that tough home defeat against a numerically disadvantaged opponent.

Although coach Kitambi has plenty of attacking talent at his disposal, they are just not clicking in the final third.

Namungo FC has only scored 16 goals in the 20 league games of the season so far.

Striker Reliants Lusajo, who topped the goal-scoring charts in the early days, has not found the back of the net in more than 10 games now.

Kitambi also will be concerned about his team's away form as they have won just three of their 11 league games on the road. However, they have only lost once in their last five outings.

In head-to-head stats, Kinondoni Municipal Council FC and Namungo FC have met in seven league matches since 2019/20.

The Kinondoni tax collectors have claimed two wins compared to one for Namungo FC, while four matches have been drawn.

Kinondoni Municipal Council FC is yet to lose at home against Namungo FC, claiming two wins and one draw in three games as hosts.

When the teams met earlier this season, at the Majaliwa Stadium in Lindi in October 2022, they played out a goalless stalemate. The last four head-to-head meetings have ended in stalemates.

Robertinho on cloud nine after Simba SC win over Dodoma Jiji FC



Simba SC striker, Jean Baleke (C), dribbles past Dodoma Jiji FC players, Collins Opare (L), and Justine Omary when the sides took on each other in a 2022/23 NBC Premier League duel that took place in Dodoma on Sunday. Simba SC posted a 1-0 victory. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SIMBA SC head coach Roberto Oliveira had every reason to be in a buoyant mood after watching his side clinch a hard-fought victory away to Dodoma Jiji FC on Sunday.

New signing Jean Baleke scored the all-important goal for Simba SC just before the halftime break when he reacted quickly to a defensive lapse from Dodoma Jiji FC to beat the on-rushing goalkeeper Daniel Mgone.

Dodoma Jiji FC improved after the break and pushed Simba SC to the wall but missed the final touch needed to find the back of the net.

After the game, Oliveira, alias Robertinho, faced the media and answered questions on the game and individual performances showcased by Baleke.

Robertinho was delighted with

the win as Simba SC extended the side's winning run to four games in a row to stay within touching distance of defending champions and table leaders, Yanga.

The tactician noted: "I am very happy today because after the good results and performance in Dubai against the biggest team in Russia we came back in the Premier League and have got two good results. I am happy because my objective is to build a strong team for the CAF Champions League."

Oliveira stated: "Today I had no five players due to yellow cards and four others were injured. I used new players but they understood my philosophy very fast. Simba SC is a big team and needs to win every time and the coach has to prepare the team to attack."

The gaffer revealed: "I am for the new players who played for the first time, Jean Baleke scored and that is nice. I lost nine players and used new ones but we still won

and played well. In football you need to prepare for everything and anything, playing home or away is the same."

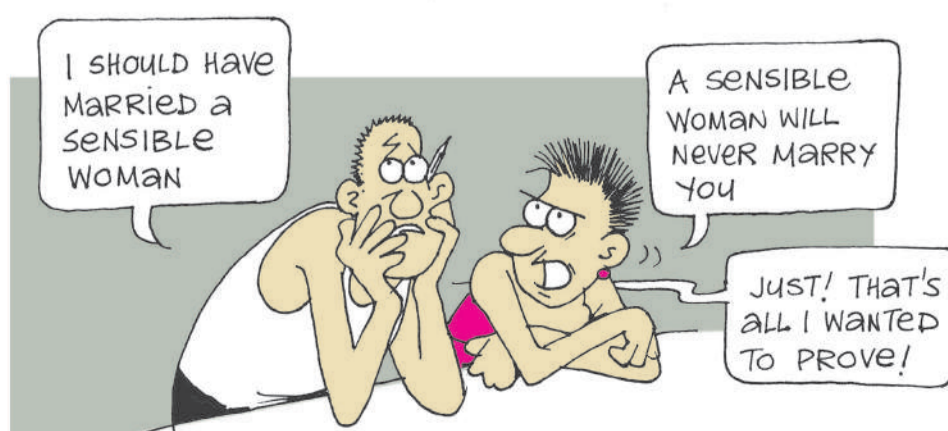
He noted: "The most important thing is that my players understand my philosophy. Simba SC is a big team, we have to play well and win."

Oliveira revealed: "I am happy the players believe in me and we are building good relationships between them and the technical bench."

The results temporarily reduced the gap with Yanga to three points behind the latter in the 2022/23 NBC Premier League table, but the defending champions had one game in hand- they took on Ruwu Shooting in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

The NBC Premier League will take a break this coming weekend to accommodate the Azam Sports Federation Cup, which will witness Simba SC coming up against Coastal Union in the round-of-16 tie at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium on Saturday.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



TO NIGHT @ 9:00

MJADALA

EATV TUESDAY

11:00 DADAZ
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA
13:00 Mpera Mpera
13:30 Kali Za Wana
13:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
14:00 SPORTS (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Mpera Mpera
15:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
16:00 Hot Spot
16:30 Zote Kuntu
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 Kali Za Wana
18:30 #HASHTAG
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 MJADALA
21:30 Zote Kuntu
23:00 Kurasa
23:05 Club Bangers

MJADALA is a program that brings together stakeholders and the executive elite to discuss timely, national development issues.

The program targets an audience that is aware of current developmental challenges and opportunities and is keen to share, engage and participate in the shapping process.

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