



BUSINESS TCRA reaps about 450bn/- from spectrum auctioning

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Samia: Probe 65 projects worth 12.8bn/-

Spain, World Bank linked in Msimbazi River project

By Guardian Reporter

Spain is working with the World Bank in the project of rehabilitation of Msimbazi River crossing Dar es Salaam, its resident envoy said yesterday. Jorge Moragas Sánchez, ambassador of the Kingdom of Spain said on the occasion of the Spain's national day that his country is eager to work with the government in the various areas of development for mutual benefit.

Dr Pindi Chana, the Natural Resources and Tourism minister who graced the occasion, looked forward to strengthening bilateral relations, saying Spain was in strategic partnership with Tanzania in the water and health sectors, rural electrification and agribusinesses areas.

Cooperation will be expanded to encompass various other sectors, she said, expressing appreciation of Spain's decision to include Tanzania in its list of African countries set to benefit from the country's special policy for African countries launched in March 2019.

The trade volume between the two countries stands at 183.3bn/-, the minister noted, wishing that business relations take a more robust shape, pointing at larger numbers of Spanish tourists.

The recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic saw Spanish tourists visiting Tanzania dwindling from 18,838 in 2019 to 13,150 in 2021, expressing the hope that travel agencies will bring to attention of the Spanish tourism market the country's abundance of attractions and their diversity.



President Samia Suluhu Hassan, Vice President Dr Philip Mpango among the congregation during mass held in remembrance of Father of the Nation Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere at the Diocese of Bukoba Cathedral in Bukoba municipality yesterday. More photos on Page 4. Photo: State House

By Henry Mwangonde

President Samia Suluhu Hassan yesterday directed the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) and the Zanzibar Anti-Corruption and Economic Crimes Authority (ZAECA) to investigate 65 development projects worth 12.8bn/- showing irregularities identified during the Uhuru Torch race.

The president issued the directive at the climax of the Uhuru Torch race, tied up with commemorating the death of founder president Mwalimu Nyerere at the Kaitaba Stadium in Bukoba.

She said the anti-graft bodies need to carry out internal clean up exercises to address cited shortfalls before beginning the task, castigating them for merely waiting for reports from the Controller and Auditor General (CAG) or from inspections conducted in Uhuru Torch racers for them to start doing anything.

The two bodies are legally supposed to be preventing and fighting corruption but they conduct no preventive action, the president declared.

"It is sad to note that corruption is still an issue and there are people who do not think of the life of the common people," she stated, asserting that public officials are aware of what goes on but wait for Uhuru torch racers to identify anomalies.

"This is the right time for our anti-graft bodies to start feeling guilty," she remarked.

The president urged vigilance in border areas as a precaution against Ebola spread, now ravaging central Uganda and also spotted in Kampala, the capital.

She said malaria prevalence has dropped from 17 to 14 per cent among the population but still remains a challenge in regions where prevalence levels range from 12 to 24 per cent.

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Wildlife collaring starting in southern circuit parks

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

EXPERTS from the Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI) and the Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) have launched a collaring exercise on wildlife in Mikumi, Ruaha and Nyerere national parks to combat poaching and avert intrusion of wildlife into farms and settlements.

The collaring exercise targeting elephants, lions, leopards, wild dogs and giraffes in the three parks straddling Morogoro region, shall permit early warnings if such animals go out of range, threatening to cause harm to the public.

“Animals like elephants have been crossing lines from national parks to farms where they destroy crops

Dr Pindi Chana, the Natural Resources and Tourism minister, said at the launching at Mikumi National Park in Kilosa district,

that 53 groups of wildlife will be covered.

The exercise will help to stem unmonitored intrusions of wildlife, wreaking havoc in farms, causing poverty, and at times injuries and death, she stated.

The technology will also help in tracing animals in conserved areas and those at the risk of extinction, or when their movements may cause harm.

In tracing animals' movements, the technology will help in showing the stability of animal groups by availability of pastures or

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Natural Resources and Tourism minister Dr Pindi Chana (C, in eyeglasses and white cap) pictured yesterday in the Kilosa District segment of Mikumi National Park as Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI) and Tanzania National Parks (Tanapa) fit communication devices to an elephant for tracking purposes, including monitoring the movements of poachers. It was at the launch of an operation also designed to cover Ruaha and Nyerere national parks. Photo: Correspondent Ashton Balaigwa

DCEA arrested 2,397 suspects, burnt down 21 cannabis farms

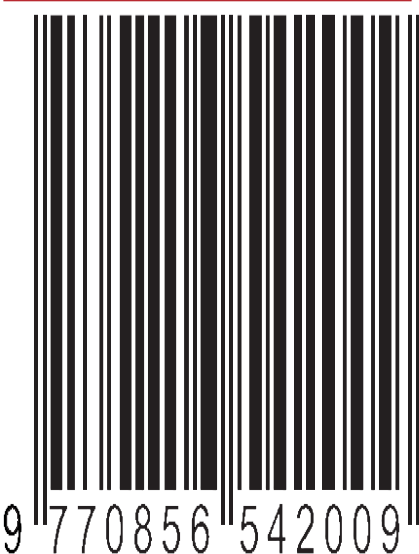
By Guardian Correspondent

A TOTAL of 2,397 suspects for drug trafficking were arrested from July and September this year, the Drug Control and Enforcement Authority (DCEA) has declared.

Gerald Kusaya, the DCEA commissioner general, said at a press conference yesterday that among them are 29 suspects suspected to be involved in cocaine smuggling, 179 being found with heroin, while 1,934 suspects had marijuana, apart from 244 others found with the chewing drug, khat.

During the three months, the authority destroyed 21 farms of cannabis, putting to ashes 6,680.44 kilograms of cannabis, 22.66 kilograms of heroin, 366 kilos of cocaine and 4,397.79 kilos of khat, he said.

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Samia: Probe 65 projects worth 12.8bn/-

FROM PAGE 1

Noting considerable strides in controlling HIV/Aids, the president said research on HIV/Aids prevalence countrywide is being readied, to provide a clear picture of the disease situation.

She similarly noted that there were 3,101 persons with addiction in various rehabilitation centres, describing the situation as alarming, since most of them are youths who ought to be productive, helping their families and communities.

She qualified the country's food security as satisfactory owing to harvests recorded last year, urging farmers to carefully use grain stocks they still hold.

Prof Joyce Ndalichako, the Youth, Labour and People with Disabilities minister at PMO, said in presenting a report on the Uhuru Torch race that despite successes the race identified irregularities involving the misuse of public funds.

The torch was raced through a 39,273.9 kilometres route from April 2 in 31 regions, 195 districts for 195 days where racers inspected 1,293 projects of 650bn/- total worth.

A total of 65 projects found with irregularities were not inaugurated in 43 municipal and district councils across the country, the report noted.

Uhuru Torch race leader Sahili Geraruma said the Youth Fund has failed to serve the intended group because of corruption.

"The Uhuru Torch race has noticed that a large percentage of the money set aside for loans for the youth are channelled to other issues by some district and municipal councils," he stated.

This leads to failure by the group to access the loans and waters down the purpose of setting up the fund, he added.



National Assembly Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson addresses the 145th Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly (Oct 11 to 15) in the Rwandan capital, Kigali, yesterday. Photo courtesy of National Assembly

DCEA arrested 2,397 suspects, burnt down 21 cannabis farms

FROM PAGE 1

DCEA has intensified the war against drug trafficking by obtaining x-ray machines to identify illicit items like drugs inside any package, he said, also referring to enhanced security at key airports. The drug fighters were collaborating with security organs in patrols along the coast from Tanga to Mtwara and the vast Zanzibar and Pemba shorelines, he stated.

"Drugs are smuggled into the coun-

try using waterway routes and airports," he said, noting that some smugglers swallow the drugs, "but they won't be safe at our airports because our x-ray machines can detect everything in packages and the stomach." Controlling drugs from foreign countries apart, the use of domestic illicit drugs such as cannabis was on the rise, he stated, also hinting at mace, which chroniclers say is also used as herb.

He cautioned on the use of drugs

especially among the youth to beware its adverse mental health effects, cancer and damaging internal body organs such as lungs, liver and heart. Drugs damage men's reproductive systems, resulting in weak ability to have children while women using drugs can hardly conceive, he stated.

Controlling the use drugs was vital for the young population to avoid a situation where a large part of the population is addicted to intoxi-

cants, he cautioned.

DCEA was working with local officials at village and ward level to combat illegal cultivation of marijuana, he said, noting that people plant marijuana at farms located away from villages, in forest or woodland areas. "We need to cooperate with communities to be tipped on such farms," he stated. DCEA officials at one point had to walk for eight hours to reach a cannabis farm in Kilosa District of Morogoro Region, he added.



National Assembly Deputy Speaker Mussa Hassan Zungu (with shovel) sprinkles sand on the grave of Mussa Hassan Mussa, legislator of Zanzibar's Amani constituency, at burial held at Bwejuu village in Zanzibar yesterday. The MP died in Zanzibar on Thursday. Photo courtesy of National Assembly

Wildlife collaring starts in southern circuit game parks

FROM PAGE 1

hunting packs, visualise ecological drawbacks and signal poaching situations, along with illegal hunting, she said.

Collaring will provide solid material for the redrawing of maps on the presence of animals in various places with changing seasons to help open new tourism circuits, she said.

Prof Eliami Sedoyeka, the permanent secretary, said technology will facilitate easy visibility of the animals before they cause harm, while Esteria Ndaga, the acting conservation commissioner with TANAPA said controlling movements of the animals will enable farmers to concentrate on their work without fear of undue intrusions.

"Animals like elephants have been crossing lines from national parks to farms where they destroy crops," she said, convinced that this technology will help reduce such incidents.

Dr Julius Keyyu, the TAWIRI head of research, said the technology will help to trace the animals whenever they cross park boundaries, as well as monitoring diseases affecting them if there is an outbreak.

The technology will permit real-time monitoring of security needs on elephants to protect them from poaching by alerting rangers and field teams about elephant location.

"It will also identify critical habitats, seasonal dispersal areas and corridors for elephants that may require enhanced protection. The collars overall will strengthen elephant conservation efforts in the three parks," he added.

Ruaha National Park collects 606m/- in fines from seizure of livestock

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

RUAHA National Park in Mbeya-Iringa regions has collected 606m/- in fines following seizure of livestock introduced by herders in the Ihefu Valley Marshlands in Mbarali District.

Reading the report from the special operation to remove the livestock from the Ihefu valley to the Regional Defence

and Security Committee on Tuesday here, Ruaha Chief Conservator, Godwell Meing'ataki said the operation seized 5,849 livestock in the valley area.

He said of the livestock seized, 5,644 were subjected to 606m/- fines and so far 96 livestock are still held waiting for either identification by their owners or finalisation of legal procedures.

He said the special patrols also arrested 10 poachers involved in illegal fishing in the Ihefu Valley with crude fishing gear.

"Efforts to preserve the Usangu area are to a large extent hampered by Govt Notice (GN) No. 28 which increased the Ihefu/Usangu area to be part of Ruaha National Park," said Meing'ataki.

He added: "The difficulty in implementation of preservation measures is contributed by some villages becoming part of the area announced by the GN, hence for villagers going on with their normal activities go against conservation.

"These activities include farming, cutting down trees for preparation of farms that affect natural vegetation,

establishing new settlements, livestock grazing and poaching."

He said the operation to remove the livestock involved various strategies including use of planes to identify areas with livestock, helicopters to drive along the livestock from inaccessible areas as well as game wardens to lead them to livestock enclosures.

Receiving the report on

the special operation, Mbeya Regional Commissioner, Juma Homera praised the Defence and Security Committee for the work done.

However, he instructed that from now on all livestock that will be seized should be forfeited and owners thereof fined, saying the strategy will stop herders introducing their livestock to the Park areas.

CPB assures cowpeas farmers of reliable market

By Guardian Reporter, Simiyu

COWPEAS farmers will this year have nothing to worry about markets to sell their produce following a decision by the Cereal and Other Produce Board of Tanzania (CPB) to purchase the crop at a motivational price.

Speaking at the ongoing food exhibition currently underway in Simiyu region, Marketing Manager for the board Frank Bubelwa said the board was in high demand of the crop and other cereals.

"We have opened doors to buy their crops to carry the burden which they have been facing of lacking markets but also to encourage them to continue growing," he said.

He said the board has the ability to purchase as many tonnes as possible saying the aim is to ensure farmers benefit from farming to improve their lives.

He said the board buys the crop at a price which is friendly to the farmer as part of a motivational gesture to let the farmer continue farming the next season.

Francisco Amos an officer from the board also assured the farmers over weight and measurements used by the board saying the farmer is given access to see during the selling process.

"We have quality weigh machines and the farmer is allowed to witness the measurements during selling but also participate in the whole process to ensure there is transparency," he said.

Amos said the board also facilitates transportation of crops for farmers from farms to selling depots especially for those who have no means to transport the crop to the market.

CPB was established by the Cereals and Produced Act no. 19 of 2009 (The Cereals and Other Produce Act No. 19 of 2009).

Unlike other crop boards that are responsible for managing crops, CPB has been tasked with trading grain and other crops to enable the farmer to have a reliable market and a competitive price for his produce.

The board, CPB was initiated with the aim of addressing the responsibilities of the former National Milling Corporation (NMC) and the former Export Agricultural Board (GAPEX) in ensuring the farmer has access to reliable markets for the crops they grow and also to bring about a balance in the grain and other crops sectors.

Assets entrusted to the CPB include factories, warehouses, factory sheds and land.



Mwinyimkuu Sangalaza (standing), CCM's publicity secretary for Dar es Salaam's Ilala District, conducts leadership training for members of the party's parents' wing in the city's Wazo ward on Thursday. He is with, among others, Kinondoni District CCM parents wing officials Johnson Kashasha, Wazo ward publicity secretary Hawa Mafumbi, CCM Wazo ward chairman Abdallah Mbondele and the ward's parents wing chairperson, Jesca Mrope. Photo: John Badi

New initiative launched for child marriage in Shinyanga

By Guardian Correspondent, Shinyanga

with 58 per cent.

general.

let their children study to realise their life dreams.

DEVELOPMENT partners continue waging war against child marriages in Shinyanga Region in order for girls to continue with their studies and realise their life dreams.

This follows the launching of a new initiative in preventing child marriages and pregnancies.

UNICEF's 2012 statistics say Shinyanga Region leads nationally with the problem at 59 per cent followed by Tabora Region

The aim of the initiative is to reduce the levels in the entire Shinyanga Region and stress is to be made in Masengwa and Tinde wards which will act as examples to eradicate the problem.

For his part Shinyanga District Community Development Officer, Aisha Omary said development partners have had great huge contributions in the fight against child marriages and pregnancies in Shinyanga District and the region in


She said in Shinyanga District, in the past two years the situation on child marriages was pathetic, whereby up to 10 marriages were conducted on school girls per year, but after intense education, the marriages dropped with now two to three marriages per year.

Shinyanga Regional Community Development Officer, Lidya Kwesigabo called on the community to abandon violence on girls saying misleading traditional beliefs were now outdated, and should

Meanwhile, Kwesigabo said a total of 113 children in Shinyanga Region were subjected to sexual abuse including rape in the period of two months, April to June this year.

For his part, the WEADO Director, Eli-Asenya Nko said in the project they would like to see the community to remain safe without incidences of child pregnancies in Shinyanga Region.

IN LOVING MEMORY



GOSBERT STANSLAUS MUTAGAYWA

Today marks two years since you left us, but you are still very alive in our memories.

We thank God for the days that we were blessed with your presence, love and laughter. May you continue to rest in peace knowing that we will always love you and cherish our memories together.

Deeply missed and remembered by your loving wife- Irene Mutagaywa, Daughter-Evelyn Mutagaywa, sister- Rosemary Mutagaywa, mother in-law, sister's in-law, brothers-in-law, other relatives, colleagues, friends and our good neighbors.

We are all praying for you.
"So also you have sorrow now, but I will see you again, and your hearts will rejoice, and no one will take your joy from you"
 (John 16:22)





Advertisement
BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED

Requests the submission of Expressions of Interest from qualifying parties wanting to participate in the below goods/service package at Bulyanhulu Gold Mine

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Limited (BGML) is a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation. Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Site is located 45km south of Lake Victoria, in the Kahama District of Shinyanga Region, northern Tanzania. There are road accesses to the mine from Mwanza, 127km to the northeast and from the town of Kahama, 84km to the south.

BGML, therefore, invites "Expressions of Interest" from reputable, experienced and certified companies interested in pre-qualifying for inclusion in a tender process for the provision of the below goods/service packages.

| No. | Reference no. | Description of services to be procured | Pre-Qualification Criteria |
|-----|---------------|--|---|
| 1 | BUL-22-10-01 | RING MAIN UNIT DESIGN, SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION. SAFE PLUS COMPACT SWITCHGEAR 12KV 25KA; NOMINAL VOLTGE 6.6KV; RATED FREQUENCY 50HZ; RATED CURRENT FOR BUSBARS 1250A; RATED CURRENT FOR CABLE SWITCH DISCONNECTOR 630A; IMPULSE VOLTAGE TO EARTH AND BETWEEN PHASES 95KV. | i. Contractor specialised in RMU design, supply and installation with minimum Class 5 - Electrical CRB registration ii. Experience working with similar works in last 10 years iii. Fully conversant with the risks and control measures of working in Mining industry iv. Team with multi discipline members. v. List of previous works. |

The above Services/goods are intended to be awarded through a competitive tendering process in which a restricted number of suitable pre-qualified and experienced contractors shall be invited to receive the tender documents. Please submit an "Expression of Interest" on your company's letterhead if your company qualify as per the **pre-qualification** criteria together with the following additional information and/or documentation:

- Full company profile;
- Company registration documents i.e. Certificate of incorporation, business licence, TIN, VRN, Tax Clearance Certificate etc.;
- BRELA - Register of Companies detailed information certificate
- Applicable certification, accreditation and affiliated registration
- Required equipment availability to perform the specific work
- Approved Local Content Plan or acknowledgement of submission from the Mining Commissioner

Kindly send your response by email to bulytender@barrick.com by latest 1800hrs on the **22nd October 2022**. Any responses received after this date shall not be considered. Please quote reference number in the subject line of your email.

If you do not hear from us in 21 days after the deadline date, please consider your EOI unsuccessful.

Pre-qualification of any company submitting an "Expression of Interest" shall be at the sole discretion of BGML.

For and on behalf of **BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED**

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Bukoba hosts Nyerere memorial mass, Uhuru Torch Race climax



Vice President Dr Philip Mpango delivers the government's message on behalf of President Samia Suluhu Hassan during the Mwalimu Nyerere memorial mass at the Bukoba Cathedral.



Manyara regional commissioner Charles Makongoro Nyerere (R, front row), a son of Mwalimu Nyerere, attends the memorial mass.



President Samia waves to the multitudes at Bukoba municipality's Kaitaba Stadium to stand witness as she officiated at the climax of the annual countrywide Uhuru Torch race yesterday.



The president receives the Uhuru Torch at Kaitaba Stadium from the national leader of this year's edition of the race, Sahil Geraruma, this marking the climax of the marathon event.



President Samia Suluhu Hassan in a group photo with Vice President Dr Philip Mpango, Diocese of Bukoba (Catholic Church) Apostolic Administrator Bishop Methodius Kilaini (to the president's right), priests and other leaders shortly after attending memorial mass for Father of the Nation Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere at the Bukoba Cathedral yesterday. All photos: State House



Youths colour the climax of the Uhuru Torch race with a series of performances at the stadium.



Scores of senior government and other officials were among the hundreds of people at Kaitaba Stadium yesterday to witness the climax of the Uhuru Torch race as graced by President Samia Suluhu Hassan.

UN Women boss lauds TAMWA-Zanzibar for successful execution of SWIL project

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

UN Women Executive Director Sima Bahous has lauded the work done by the Tanzania Media Women's Association (TAMWA-Zanzibar) to encourage more women to participate in leadership positions through the 'Strengthen Women-In-Leadership (SWIL)' project.

The four-year project is expected to reach at least 6,000 women by 2023. Sima said this here yesterday when visited the TAMWA-Zanzibar offices located in Tunguu, Central Unguja District. The UN envoy said that the work done by TAMWA-Zanzibar is to be commended and appreciated by everyone with the aim of achieving gender equality between men and women.

She had a room to speak to civil society organizations (CSOs) representatives, religious leaders and political parties' representatives following the implementation of the project.

Sima was pleased with the various methods used by TAMWA-Zanzibar in implementing the project by involving various groups in the community, including religious leaders who have defined the foundations of religion and the role of women in leadership, a situation that has helped to bring awareness to the community and the disappearance of stereotypes. The UN Women boss expressed his satisfaction with the great innovation done by TAMWA-Zanzibar to involve men in community mobilization, which largely contributed to changing society and seeing the importance of women being leaders, something that was not previously given strength in various areas of Unguja and Pemba.

Sima has explained that the pride of his organization is to continue working with various institutions including TAMWA-Zanzibar in bringing sustainable development for women that goes in line with the Sustainable Development

Goals (SDGs) by 2030 that emphasize the equality of women and men in decision-making bodies.

TAMWA-Zanzibar Director Dr Mzuri Issa said SWIL project has brought positive changes in society as many women have been able to be assertive and come out in large numbers to contest for various positions in the last general election. SWIL project is being implemented by TAMWA-Zanzibar in collaboration with various stakeholders aimed at empowering women to participate in political and leadership movements to ensure women have opportunities in leadership at all levels of decision-making and remove various issues faced by women including oppressive systems, misinterpretation of some religious principles, humiliation in politics and corruption. One of the aspirants in the 2020 general election through ACT-Wazalendo Halima Ibrahim lauded TAMWA-Zanzibar through SWIL project that empowered her to get into politics.

She became one of the confident women by standing in front of the people and that is why it was not a problem for her to run for Malindi Constituency, which is known to be one of the centre of politics for many years.

Halima asked the leader to consider redeveloping the project because he still believes that there are a large number of women who need to be empowered and who were previously not fortunate enough to have that opportunity.

One of the religious leaders, Khamis Abdulrahman, said that religion has not cut women to be leaders, but they should follow the procedures that exist in religious beliefs.

He said that while providing education through their sermons about the role of women in leather, they experienced many challenges, including harsh words from the community due to the patriarchal system that was built that a woman is the breadwinner of the family.



Dr Mzuri Issa (R), director of the Zanzibar chapter of the Tanzania Media Women's Association (Tamwa), shares a light moment with the United Nations Women's Organisation (UN-Women) executive director Sima Sami Bahous who visited the association's offices at Tunguu in Zanzibar yesterday. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

Adolescent girls appeal for removal of discriminatory laws affecting the group

By Guardian Reporter

ADOLESCENT girls from various regions in the country have called upon the government and stakeholders to strengthen protection of their rights which include removal of all discriminatory laws and policies that affect development of the group.

The girls also raised their voices calling for change of sanitary pad tax policy, which they see hindering full participation of girls in education and other economic activities during their menstrual periods.

In their joint statement to commemorate the International Day of

Girl Child on October 11, this year, the girls called upon the government to issue strong punishments to culprits who have been destroying their dreams.

Speaking to reporters in Dar es Salaam at the forum to commemorate the global day, the girls said the majority of girls especially those from vulnerable backgrounds fail to achieve their life dreams due to several challenges they face including violence.

Neema Mbena, a student from Shaaban Robert Secondary School in Dar es Salaam called for coordinated support from public leaders, non-

governmental organisations (NGOs), private sector and religious to work and keep girl children safe from the harmful practices.

She urged the government to take action and scrap value added tax (VAT) on sanitary pads to enable girls to achieve their educational and development dreams.

Mbena noted that taxing sanitary pads have raised prices becoming one of the major setbacks for girls from the equal participation education system to meet their dreams.

Loveness Athuman from Tabora commended the organisers for bringing together the girls from vari-

ous parts in the country to discuss challenges facing the group and recommend durable solutions.

She said the forum has opened the minds of the girls and increased their understanding of various things that touch them, including rights and how to prevent and fight against violence acts.

"Adolescent girls face a disproportionate burden of domestic work, early marriages, risks of early pregnancy, as well as sexual and gender-based violence, this forum has helped us a lot as we are also going to help other girls back in our areas, we call for the government and stake-

holders to put in place friendly policies that promote girls rights," she explained.

Activists also, have for many years been sensitizing on gender responsive policy and legal reforms to enhance friendly and sustainable services on menstrual health and hygiene.

Country director of Girl Effect, Khalila Mbowe said that taxing women and girls on pads is depriving the rights to enjoyment and access to education as menstruation is not a choice but a biological process that every woman and girl faces.

She said tax removal will also

increase school performance and reduce the rate of dropouts of the girls in both primary and secondary schools and decrease inequalities that exist between boys and girls, where girls will participate fully in school activities.

The forum learned that despite the fact that the government has ratified a number of regional and international human rights treaties pertaining to gender equality and rights including child marriage and violence, there are a number of discriminatory laws and policies that adversely affect girls and young women in the country.



Shinyanga regional commissioner Sophia Mjema signs the visitors' book during her tour of the Cereal and Other Produce Board of Tanzania pavilion at the on-going food exhibition in Simiyu Region yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

'Govt should learn from Community Health Fund'

By Henry Mwangonde

THE government should learn from the successes of the Community Health Fund (CHF) under the Health Promotion and System Strengthening (HPSS) Tuimarisha Afya Project, to facilitate proper implementation of the envisaged Universal Health Coverage (UHC), a symposium said yesterday.

Speaking at the ongoing Tanzania Health Summit (THS) Dr Francis Lutalala, CHF coordinator in Dodoma Region said CHF has helped those in the informal sector to access health services at an affordable price. He said some of the advantages of the CHF were that registration was done digitally in a sense that a holder was easily recognized, especially when bills are brought forward.

"The holders of the card were paying less than 30,000/- but also they were able to access services even when they moved out of their residential places," he said.

He added that the UHC should grab some of the successes used by CHF including the ability to let the schemes be self-reliable financially.

The Project Manager of HPSS Ally Keby said the UHC was timely and mandatory adding that the investment made by the government in the health sector must go in line with the ability to afford the services.

"The only way to ensure quality health services is through insurance, we have learnt through the 15 years of implement-

ing the CHF iliyoboreshwa project which has taught us a lot," he said.

There are many issues to be addressed before the UHC is implemented like how to integrate transportation issues to critical and emergency diseases," he said.

The Deputy Permanent Secretary in the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government Dr Grace Magembe said that even though the country will introduce the Universal Health Insurance (UHC), the Improved CHF will not be abandoned, but rather strengthened.

"The CHF will not be abandoned. We are going to embrace what the CHF was doing," Dr Magembe stated.

Dr Magembe noted that there was concern from not only partners but also common citizens over the existence of the CHF upon the introduction of the UHC.

She called upon the participants to give their opinions on how best to incorporate the CHF into the envisaged UHC, which was recently read for the first time in the Parliament.

She said there was still a long way to go regarding creating awareness among the members of the public about the UHC, calling for continued collaboration between the government and stakeholders.

The HPSS Tuimarisha Afya project IS a Swiss-Tanzania Cooperation Project, funded by the Swiss Government and implemented by Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute.

Court gives Makonda 14 days to file affidavit against the charge of snatching a vehicle

By Guardian Reporter

THE Kisumu Resident Magistrate's Court has given 14 days to the former Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner, Paul Makonda to submit his affidavit against the civil case filed by businessman Patrick Kamwelwe.

The order was issued yesterday in Dar es Salaam by the court before the Chief Resident Magistrate, Richard Kabate, when the case was mentioned for the first time.

Judge Kabate gave the order after the learned council Gift Joshua representing Paul Makonda who is the second respondent in the case no. 234/2022, claimed that his client has not received a charge sheet.

Following these allegations, Magistrate Kabate adjourned the case until November 8, 2022, where it will be mentioned.

Kamwelwe has opened the civil case, asking the court to order Makonda and his colleague, William Malecela popularly known as Le Mutuz, to pay him more than 247.2m/-,

as compensation for looting his Range Rover.

Kamwelwe claims that Makonda, through Le Mutuz, lent him the car to use for two weeks, but so far he has not returned his car.

In the case, Kamwelwe is asking the court to order Makonda and his colleague to pay him that amount of money as compensation which he claims is due to the action of the defendant to abuse his black Toyota Land Rover/Range Rover Sport, with chassis numbers 20153.

In the analysis of those funds, 247,243,750/-, which is equal to USD106,250, Kamwelwe wants Makonda and his colleague to give him USD11,250, as the tax cost of importing the car, USD50,000 as compensation for taking the car, plus USD45,000, which is the value of the car.

Kamwelwe, who is also popularly known as PCK, has claimed that Makonda has continued to use the car even after being sacked from the public office, despite the fact that it is not his legal property.

Kamwelwe, who was born in Mpanda - Rukwa, was living in Dar es Salaam before fleeing to the United States due to threats, claims that after following up to get the car back, that's when the harassment started and he was charged with a criminal case of possessing illegal property.

Speaking to the media recently, he said that due to the allegations, in June 2017, he was brought to the Kisumu Resident Magistrate's court, while his bank accounts and assets are held until now.

Ministry, stakeholders launch campaign to eliminate GBV

By Guardian Reporter

THE Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Elders and Children in collaboration with stakeholders have launched a special campaign aiming to eliminate gender based violence (GBV) in the country.

Speaking at the climax of a campaign against Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) in Manyara Region, Deputy Permanent Secretary in the ministry, Amon Mpanju said the government is determined to end gender base violence at street, village, wards, councils and regional levels.

Mpanju linked the increase in GBV cases with poor parenting and moral decay within the society. He said the issues of parenting and child upbringing are not given priority by some parents and guardians, hence the increase in such incidences.

He called on the community in Manyara Region to support the government efforts and stakeholders in fighting the brutal acts including FGM against women. He said the society is responsible in ending such acts because the perpetrators are within the community.

He added that the government is also putting in place a strategy to ensure the society understands how to protect their children from acts of violence by establishing guidelines for establishment of child desks at primary and secondary schools.

He said the desks would help both parents and children to report the cruelty acts for legal ac-

tions to be taken.

Representing Babati District Commissioner, Lazaro Twange said the region is firmly organised in reaching out to parents and guardians in providing education through social development and social welfare officers.

He said the move will help to create awareness on the problems that faces women and girls as well as enabling local government leaders to take actions to end FGM.

"We thank the ministry for supporting us in the fight against FGM in our region. We will continue to educate people especially women and young girls on the impacts of FGM so that they become good ambassadors," said Twange.

A representative from the police gender desk, Mariam Kipesa said that through the desk they have put in place deliberate strategies to ensure that violence against women and young girls are eliminated.

Simanjiro Member of Parliament, Christopher Olesendeka called upon Manyara residents to continue supporting the campaign against FGM by educating people at their specific localities.

Representative from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Dr Majaliwa Marwa said the campaign will be a springboard to reduce and finally eliminate FGM in the region.

He commended the government for coming up with a strategy to eliminate FGM as it shows its commitment to end the violent acts against females.



Tanzania Education Authority director general Bahati Geuzye (R) presents a leaving certificate to one of the Standard Seven leavers at Chamwino Primary School in Dodoma Region yesterday. It was on the occasion of a graduation ceremony. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Hindu community in Tanzania celebrates 'VijayaDashmi' to promote righteousness

By Beatrice Philemon

HINDU community in Tanzania has joined their fellows in the world to celebrate the 'VijayaDashmi' as part of promoting the victory of 'dharma' to encourage righteousness and harmony which nourishes every aspect of life.

Hindu Swayamsevak Sangh Tanzania General Secretary, Shailesh Shah Karyavah said last Sunday at the VijayaDashmiUtsav anniversary that took place at Shishukunj in Dar es Salaam.

"Today all Hindus come together to celebrate this very special day to fight every evil force in the world through righteous means," he said.

VijayaDashmi is among the most important and one of the greatest Hindu festivals celebrated in India every year and it is celebrated on October 10th

day of the Hindu calendar month of Ashwin.

According to the Hindu calendar, following the 9 days of the festival of Navratri, Vijayadashmi marks the victory of DurgaMaa over the demon Mahishasura.

It is said that all the Gods had to combine their powers into the form of DurgaMaa in order to defeat the evil Mahishasura.

This signifies that the good and righteous can only prevail over the evil forces in our society when they come together in an organised manner.

Apart from that, Vijayadashmi also marks the victory of Shri Rama who defeated the evil Ravana on this same auspicious day.

He said in Sangh it is very important because the very first shakha was started in 1925 on Vijayadashmi day in

Nagpur India and today it has spread to more than 40 countries outside India.

"On this auspicious occasion we celebrate the worship of MaaDurga, a symbol of Shakti and the coming together of all swyamsevak around the globe known as Sangthan," he said.

Apart from that, every Sunday they come together in small groups to discuss various issues relating to how to improve their physical fitness through yoga and sports and also enrich mental fitness through discussions on current challenges in the society and how best we should address those challenges.

"Next week we are going to organise a diabetes camp in Mkuranga District to allow people to make free check-ups and we will be accompanied by doctors to educate them about what diabetes is, food they should eat every day and other issues to help them live

healthier," he said.

Meanwhile, India High Commissioner to Tanzania, Binaya Pradhan lauded Tanzanians for participating in this event.

"I am very happy to see our friends in Tanzania participate in this event that was organized by Hindu SwayamsevakSangh Tanzania (HSS)," he said.

VijayaDashmi is a major Hindu festival that allows HSS's members and citizens in Tanzania to come together and demonstrate their culture, Indian values as you notice today for women, men and children.

In the same vein, Hindu SwayamsevakSangh Tanzania Volunteer, Shivi Pathak, called on Hindu's across the country to recognise the principle of Hindu approach to life in its completeness.

During the event, I got a chance to

educate Hindu's on Hinduism, Dharma, Sangh, Hindu identity, culture and to obey the laws of nature and live their life accordingly.

Elaborating on what Hinduism is, he said Hinduism is a way of life which is inclusive and respectable towards everyone and all approaches to ultimate truth and believes in the fundamental unit of source of life while 'Dharma' is the energy of harmony which nourishes every aspect of life.

"Hindu believe in the originality of life and today I urge them to recognise the roots and live their life in tune with nature," he said.

Apart from that, Hinduism acknowledges and respects multiple paths or beliefs that lead us to realise ultimate truth. "We instil discipline and virtues desirable to lead a harmonious life in any society we live in," he said

According to him Hindu SwayamsevakSangh Tanzania is a group of Hindus who aims to coordinate the Hindu community in Tanzania to practice, preserve, and advance ideals and values of Hindu Dharma whose ultimate objective is to bring peace in the world.

They impart value based education and fitness training for children, youth and adults through their weekly shakhas. They also have optimistic plans to conduct service activities and community outreach projects.

"Through our regular educational programmes based on Dharma, we instil and promote discipline, self-confidence, teamwork, and the spirit of selfless service, we have plans for service activities and outreach projects, through which we aim to foster a sense of civic duty, responsibility, and volunteerism," he said.



Saidi Mkabakuli (2nd-L), TIB Development Bank's marketing and public relations manager, briefs Industry, Trade and Investment deputy minister Exaud Kigahé (R) at the bank's pavilion during the climax of the recent investment and trade exhibition held at Kihaba in Coast Region. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Oman and Zanzibar plan \$500m joint investments

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

THE government of Zanzibar has signed three agreements with Oman companies and government for establishment of projects worth over \$500 million.

Zanzibar President Hussein Ali Mwinyi referred to the projects as "ventures that tied up historical ties" between the two countries.

During his three-day visit to the Sultanate, Mwinyi addressed local business directors as well as government officials before the signing ceremonies at the Bustan Palace Hotel in Muscat.

"These are the agreements that will cement our historical ties between our two countries," he said, adding the ventures will also bring the two peoples closer together to work on areas of common concern.

He added: "Zanzibar and Oman used the trade winds to do business and now we are embarking on new technologies to do the same in modern times."

The agreements included establishing a knowledge transfer centre, a digital infrastructure platform and the setting up of a data park to store both private and public information

to facilitate joint business ventures.

Mwinyi also urged delegates to start talks on tourism ventures between the two countries and promised to create a "fruitful environment" for investors in the sector.

"Zanzibar has all the attractions and is a major tourist destination," Mwinyi said.

"Omanis are not strangers to this fact and I would urge them to come and invest in tourism and we will create a fruitful environment of investments," he added.

Investment experts say the agreements will be "fast-tracked" with both sides keen to get the projects going as soon as possible.

"I don't see any hiccups or delays in the signed investments of these projects," Ali Al Khanjari, one of the business delegates who was present at the signing ceremony stated.

Khanjari said: "I visited Zanzibar a month ago and I could see a number of Omani business people already engaging in investment discussions."

Zanzibar was part of Oman's overseas territory in the 19th century when shows regularly sailed the Indian Ocean to establish a thriving trade between Asia and East Africa.

Wildlife populations plunge 69pc since 1970 - WWF

By Special Correspondent

WILD populations of monitored animal species have plummeted nearly 70 percent in the last 50 years, according to a landmark assessment released Thursday that highlights "devastating" losses to nature due to human activity.

Featuring data from 32,000 populations of more than 5,000 species of mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles and fish, the WWF Living Planet Index shows accelerating falls across the globe.

In biodiversity-rich regions such as Latin America and the Caribbean, the figure for

animal population loss is as high as 94 percent.

Globally, the report found that monitored animal populations had fallen 69 percent since 1970.

Marco Lambertini, director general of WWF International, said his organisation was "extremely worried" by the new data.

"It shows a devastating fall in wildlife populations, in particular in tropical regions that are home to some of the most biodiverse landscapes in the world," he said.

Mark Wright, director of science at WWF, said the figures were "truly frightening", particularly for Latin America.

"Latin America is renowned for its biodiversity of course, it's really important for lots of other things as well," he said.

"It's super important for regulating the climate. We estimate currently there's something like 150 to 200 billion tonnes of carbon wrapped up in the forests of the Amazon."

That is equivalent to 550 to 740 billion tonnes of CO₂, or 10 to 15 times more than annual greenhouse gas emissions at current rates.

The index found that freshwater species had declined more than those found in any other habitat, with an 83-percent

population fall since 1970.

The report found that the main drivers of wildlife loss are habitat degradation due to development and farming, exploitation, the introduction of invasive species, pollution, climate change and disease.

Lambertini said the world needed to rethink its harmful and wasteful agricultural practices before the global food chain collapsed.

"Food systems today are responsible for over 80 percent of deforestation on land, and if you look at the ocean and freshwater they are also driving a col-

lapse of fishery stocks and populations in those habitats," he said.

With world leaders due to convene in Montreal for the COP15 biodiversity summit in December, the report authors called for an international, binding commitment to protect nature, similar to the 2015 Paris Agreement on climate change.

The Living Planet Report argues that increasing conservation and restoration efforts, producing and consuming food more sustainably, and rapidly and deeply decarbonising all sectors can alleviate the twin crises of climate change and biodiversity loss.

NBAA says accountants and auditors play crucial role in curbing money laundering

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE National Board of Accountant and Auditors (NBAA) has said that accountants and auditors play a crucial role curbing money laundering in the country.

This was said yesterday in Dar es Salaam by the Chairperson of NBAA organising committee for the coming 50 years anniversary celebrations, Dr Rehema Kiure, when addressing journalists on the accountancy exhibition scheduled for November 10 and 12 this year at Mnazi Mmoja grounds.

She said for the past 50 years since its establishment, NBAA has been creating guidelines to its members (accountant and auditors) to report to relevant authorities all doubtful transactions.

Dr Neema said the board has been teaching auditors and accountants to report to security organs whenever they see doubtful transactions for the culprits to be held responsible.

"We have been collaborating with other institutions in providing guidelines for accountants and auditors to alert the government whenever they come across such transactions," she said.

"Auditors are the ones who give opinions to financial reports while accountants process

financial transactions. They have to be careful with any doubtful transactions and report to the government for legal actions to be taken," she said.

She said it will also introduce a brain teaser on accountancy issues, whereas it will be published in various media for people to answer and win different prizes at the climax of 50 years commemoration on November 30th, 2022.

"When we talk about receipts, some people think of paying taxes only and forget that if you are an accountant or auditor you are supposed to provide proof of receipt in all transactions you have made. We aim at teaching people why it is important to provide receipts," said Dr Neema.

She suggested for the government to include accountancy in school curricula so that accountancy can be taught from primary school level. She said the move will enable many people to understand financial management.

Dr Neema called upon Tanzanians to participate in the coming accountancy exhibitions, adding there will be a number of companies and financial institutions that will provide free education on how to prepare financial reports.



Zabibu Sindangu (L), project coordinator with the NGO Support For Future Foundation (S4F), pictured at Michungwani in Muheza District on Thursday being assisted by executive director Dr Sylvia Ruambo (R) in helping Hassan Hatibu Ally into a wheelchair presented to him shortly earlier by the organisation. Photo: Correspondent Steven William

Dr Chana tasks TAWA board to boost revenues

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

AMBASSADOR Dr Pindi Chana, Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism has directed the Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA) board of directors to come up with better ways to increase income that will be tandem with the large size of the authority.

Dr Chana made the directives when officiating the 3rd TAWA board of directors held here on Thursday.

The minister said that for the size of the authority with an area of 160,000 square kilometres and the

amount of income is still small, they should use the new reserves available to develop projects and increase income.

She said that the projects that will be developed will be the right way to increase the number of tourists and achieve the government's goal of having 5 billion tourists and having an income of USD 6 billion by the year 2025.

Dr Chana added that the number of tourists and income has increased and thus indicates a good way of conservation where in 2021 to 2022 the number of visitors who visited Tan-

zania's reserves is 158,000 who have brought an income of 49.5bn/- compared to 38,000 tourists who have brought an income of 25.7m/-.

She also said that in order to ensure that they control the damage caused by wildlife, the ministry is preparing to attach GPS to elephants, especially elephants, in order to know where they are in order to help them track when they receive information about attacks.

The minister thanked the government leaders, especially district commissioners, for managing well the activities of conservation of natural

resources in those areas and bringing productivity to the conservation, including the water sources that help in generating electricity, urging people living nearby conservation areas to cooperate in conserving the environment because the conservation areas are not places to feed livestock but are areas set aside for the benefit of all Tanzanians.

"If you bring livestock into the reserve, you will dry up the water sources and destroy the natural vegetation, let's work side by side in preserving and using other sources to feed our livestock," she said.

TAWA board chairman retired General Hamisi Semfuko congratulated President Samia Suluhu Hassan for improving tourism activities by launching the Royal Tour which has helped the tourism sector and made 60 percent of hunters from foreign countries including the United States enter the country.

Prof Eliamani Sedoyeka, ministry's permanent secretary, asked the board to increase efficiency and creativity to increase the authority's income.

The board is led by Chairman Major General Hamisi Semfuko, Sec-

retary Mabula Misungwi and board members are Dr Jafari Kiegesho, Dr Simon Mduma, Prof Suzan Augustino, Beatrice Kimoleta, Deputy Police Commissioner Simon Thobias and Dr Vales Msuha.

TAWA Conservation Commissioner, Mabula Misungwi thanked President Samia Suluhu Hassan for providing them with a project for the construction of 16 police stations to deal with incidents of aggressive and destructive wildlife where he promised to manage it well and ensure that the intended activity is carried out well.



Mkuranga district commissioner Khadija Ali (L) speaks at Thursday's launch at Mwanambaya village of Reach the Goal, a vocational education and training centre for girls who dropped out of school for reasons including pregnancy and early marriage. It is jointly managed by Himiza Development Organisation and Lutogo Development Initiative. With her (from-R): Lutogo founder Lulu Mwalubandu, Himiza director Prisca Ngweshemi and Mkuranga district community development officer Timothy Kudra. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

Deputy minister: We'll take power to Uzini constituency

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

SHABAAN Ali Othman, Deputy Minister for Water, Energy and Minerals has promised the Kinooni residents in Kiboje village that within a week the Zanzibar Electricity Corporation (ZECO) will deliver electricity to the area so that they can get rid of the costs of raising water by using electricity of the generator.

Othman made the pledge here on Thursday when he visited the Uzini Constituency following the complaints by the area representative Haji Shabaani Waziri that the residents in the area do not have electricity, clean and safe water.

The deputy minister said he will make sure that starting from the 13th to the 19th of this month; electricity will be delivered to those areas to relieve residents from incurring unnecessary costs of refuelling the generator to raise water from the well to the upper water tank.

He said his ministry, through ZECO, provides electricity poles for free as an implementation of the order of the Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi to ensure that the corporation delivers electricity quickly to the area.

Othman asked the residents of other areas of the province to be patient while ZECO ex-

perts conduct a feasibility study, as soon the electricity service will be delivered to all areas of Uzini province.

During the visit, the deputy minister visited other areas of the Uzini Constituency such as Kwambani and Kidimni, where many residents have faced the challenge of clean, safe water, some getting it with rations while others lack it completely.

According to him, the ministry is implementing water projects in order to relieve the problems of the people, it will not take long for the projects to be completed as there are many wells dug in various areas of Unguja and Pemba.

One of the Kinondoni residents Mastura Mgeni Hamadi said the women of the area have been collecting 3,000 shillings every day to put diesel fuel in the generator so that they can raise water in the tank from the water well.

"I ask the government to think about this water problem for the women because they have been suffering a lot, leading to increasing poor living conditions," said Mastura.

The Uzini representative thanked the deputy minister for making a visit to the state to listen to the concerns of the people who have been complaining about the lack of access to water and electricity services for a long time.

East Africa public relations week set to take place in Nairobi

By Guardian Reporter

THE Kenyan capital city will for the first time host the East Africa public relations week, a collaborative event that will bring together some of East Africa's brilliant minds in the communications sector.

Running under the theme of "Enhancing Sustainability through Communication," the event is expected to reinforce lasting partnerships among the participating countries, building on the goal to foster sustainable practices in line with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals.

The event will be jointly hosted with other communications umbrella bodies in Tanzania, Uganda, South Sudan, Rwanda, Burundi and The Democratic

Republic of Congo.

Arik Karani, President of Public Relations Society of Kenya (PRSK) said the aim is to unite the East African countries through cohesive communication.

"With the PRSK turning 50, we thought of bringing the East African public relations associations together under one roof. Together with our fellows in Uganda, Tanzania, DRC, South Sudan, Burundi, and Rwanda, we assure participating organizations and individuals that this will be one of the most memorable events in the region. We have lined up some of the best speakers in the continent, and exciting networking activities to ensure that everybody gets maximum value and visibility during the 5-day event," said Karani.

"Our vision is to come together as pub-

lic relations and communications colleagues to discuss how to advance excellence in our profession, countries, and region," Karani said.

Assah Mwambene, President of the Public Relations Society of Tanzania (PRST) stressed the need for an integrated, unifying and cohesive approach to communicating the needs of the East African region.

"I am looking forward to having a formidable Public Relations strategy in East Africa in terms of positioning the East Africa community to the next level," said Mwambene.

He added: "Our vision is to come together as public relations and communications colleagues to discuss how to advance excellence in our profession, countries, and region."

He said the conference will have three tracks—a forum on sustainability and shared value, a PR Summit, and an awards gala.

The summit will also feature breakout sessions with top industry leaders and seasoned practitioners from across the continent and fun excursions at the coastal towns to ensure that delegates have the best experience.

Stephen Mwanga, President of the Public Relations Association of Uganda (PRAU) said: "This will be an exciting and interactive conference, bringing together communicators across East Africa to discuss matters pertaining to the Public Relations Industry in the region."

John Mading, South Sudan's Public Relations Society President concluded the online discussion by affirming the role of

public relations in East Africa's regional integration agenda and its relevance to the conference.

"PR and communication are at the centre of every major discussion and event. They bring clarity and common understanding on various issues. Since the inception of the EA Community, the involved countries have been keen on advancing the agenda of the 4 pillars of East Africa integration," said Mading.

"Our role as communicators is to ensure we are well equipped to advise and craft strategies for successful implementation of these pillars," added Mading.

Some key topics will feature discussions on sustainability, climate change reporting, the blue economy, the post-pandemic workplace, and impactful partnerships.

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Taking A New Look
At The News
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It's good if TPA projections backed by means envisaged

TOP officials at the Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) have lately outlined a set of measures is set to boost capacities of the Dar es Salaam, Tanga and Mtwara ports to handle 27.5m tonnes of cargo by the 2024/2025 financial year. That this projection is a bit high is noticed in an admission in the same speech by the port's coordinator that the port can handle upwards of 10m tonnes of cargo annually at present. The breakdown is 4m tonnes of dry general cargo, 6m tonnes of liquid bulk and 1m tonnage in containers. Doubling that isn't easy to project, as any projection of extra cargo flows must remain current proportions.

The reason is that Dar es Salaam port isn't alone in the region, and the more it invests on improvements the more others do the same, and even as the country completes the construction of the standard gauge railway, others have such facilities or extend them in their countries. Incidentally these observations were made at a media capacitation meeting, which reduces the significance of commitments before an engaged audience of stakeholders, and more or less boosts the image of the concerned authorities. That is why it is vital to look into details to see how far the claims are backed by their 'weight in gold' in reality.

The idea that the key objective is to increase capacities of our ports in an intensely competitive manner in the east and central Africa region is implicitly an assertion of something like 'we must run while others walk,' as it is unclear how in two years the cargo directed at the port could double to 20m tonnes. The 4m extra could be assigned to other ports, itself still a ponderous proposition. That the government was carrying

out port improvement on existing ports and building new ones to create capacity ahead of demand is true; not of that effect.

What the port authorities are setting out is an ideal situation, though the 2024 time limit is far too short, and indeed even for 2030, the usual upper limit for economic projections of the sixth phase, just as 2025 used to be for the sixth phase. The reason is to set out what is achievable in the context of the current policy layout, as it is mentally easier to know what that implies. Policy has a big impact on projections not in determining the figures but feasibility of objectives.

What needs to be examined firstly is the feasibility of creating capacity 'ahead of demand,' and the feasibility of doubling local demand for cargo handling capacity. It isn't possible to total up cargo handling demand for landlocked clients of the port without doubling demand for clearing cargo for internal operators. Port officials can't realistically project demand doubling soon, that is, by 2024. When the top official noted that TPA has completed the 2022-2045 port master-plan that sets out the required efficiency levels for Tanzanian ports, it was apparent that the figure was more realistic of the ultimate capacity by the period the plan ends. It is unclear if there was a technical hiatus in that regard, but all the same the official's appeal for investments in purchasing modern plants and an improved port management systems, that is, to the government, has gaps in it. If port officials want modernisation they should also seek it in the methods in which modernisation comes about for instance share sales or joint venture pacts.

Prioritising VETA graduates in 'soft loans' can pay dividends

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has formally directed district councils to prepare updated records of those graduating from vocational training centres in their areas to put them on first priority in issuing loans to the youth category. It was at a handing over of a Vocational Education Training Authority (VETA) complex in Bukoba municipality, where the vital input was that the youths need to purchase equipment to employ themselves. It is different from loaning just any youth groups as premises for doing a good job are vastly unassured, often.

District councils operate under the rule of setting aside 10 per cent of their revenues for a revolving fund to finance loans to women and youth, at four per cent each group and two per cent for those living with disabilities. One needs a further guideline on how to prioritise any groups that are formed, or any individuals if the loans are issued that way as well. Making a priority of those with vocational training, and focusing on equipment can make a preliminary difference, while other particularities are sorted out by experience much later. So far out of the 139 districts on the Mainland, 77 have VETA colleges while the government pursues plans to ensure each district has a VETA college. There are efforts to widen scholarships for boys and girls equally, though it is possible families cough up cash for boys' vocational training, and not just out of gender bias. It is easy for boys to lose direction if they have no skills while girls remain unruffled, ready for the most routine of their lifelong callings, or occupations.

Running costs for the colleges

will not be easy to add to local government dues or the Ministry of Education, with estimates putting running costs of such colleges at one billion shillings annually. Even with the setting up of the relevant databases, it isn't evident that 10 per cent of council revenue (with vast unmet expenditure needs ordinarily) is sufficient to make a difference in the start-up capital. And even if they had it, chances of obtaining projects and succeeding are a different matter, needing a dynamic economic environment.

At the moment many experts will concur that the economy is by and large dynamic, but there is a gap of the demand and the supply. Many business complexes are being opened but the growth in expenditure for consumption goods doesn't appear to be in line with room for specialising shopping, etc. What is needed is far less skills for youths or purchasing equipment but reducing the public debt, diminishing taxes and obtaining vast inflows in investments.

This will give the boys something to do and create far more consumers, which similarly occasions massive input in services investment and all kinds of jobs in a direct or indirect manner. The key is growth via low taxes, a better instrument of inviting investors than dozens of foreign embassies. As we end marking Nyerere Day this year, academics will do well to take a step beyond Mwalimu's essay, 'The Varied Paths to Socialism' by looking for more workable answers to unemployment, by exploring 'The Varied Paths to Self-Reliance.' Private sector predominance, low taxes, might hold the key here.

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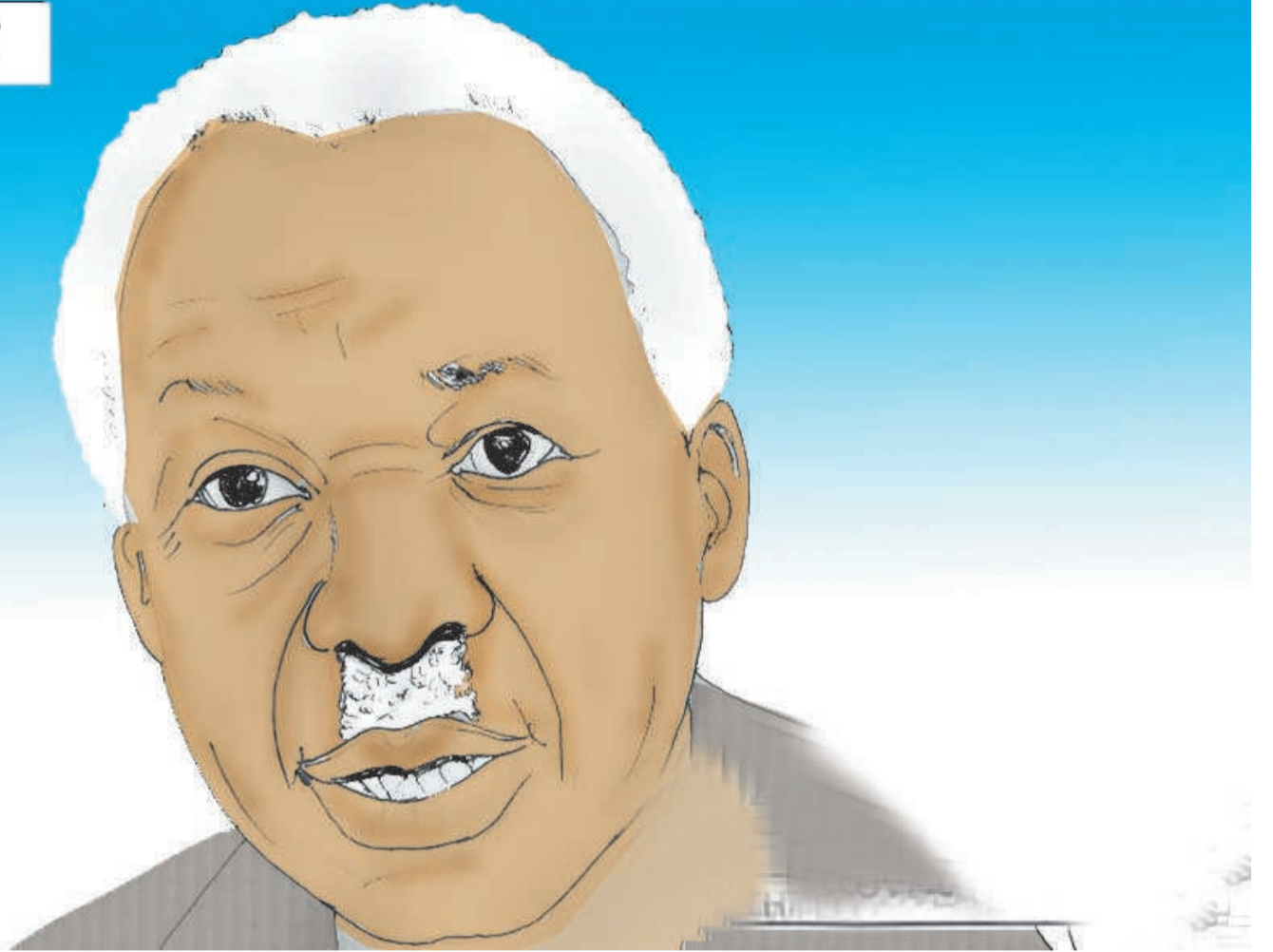
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Nigeria's technocracy: Mere wishful thinking?

By Augusta Nnadi

WE love technocrats. We advocate for capacity. We champion ideas and pray for leaders with intellect. Yet, more often than not, technocrats fail woefully in politics. This seems contrary to the idea that smart people should make great politicians.

It is also ironic that intellectuals capable of proffering solutions to our many problems cannot seem to garner the support necessary to get into political positions. Even when technocrats are voted into these positions, most times, they end up with less than average performance, disappointing the expectations of their supporters.

I cannot claim to understand why this happens. However, I can pose a few ideas and allow you to draw your conclusions.

One thing that is common among technocrats is: they have made their mark as intellectuals. They are brilliant people. Some have a background in academia. Some are chairmen of boards. Some are conveners or founders of their various organisations. Most have enjoyed one appointed position or the other.

They have received multiple awards attesting to their contribution to the collective body of knowledge in the world. They are leaders with excellent track records. It is beyond doubt that they KNOW how to solve problems. This exact fact is why they fail in Nigerian politics.

Most technocrats as I said previously have served in appointed positions. They have come close to political power and in some cases, they are considered political stakeholders. So they have had a taste of what it means to wield political power and influence without having to do the dirty work Nigerian politics often requires.

Due to this, they somehow convince themselves that they are actual politicians. With this tweaked mindset, they approach elections, believing they have gained experience to contest with career politicians. This, oftentimes, leads to their first rude wake-up call.

To be fair, this is not always the case. Sometimes, technocrats who put in their best efforts may win their party ticket but still lose to career politicians in general elections. Other times, they play the game right, win the elections, and then get overwhelmed by the position they worked tirelessly to get into.

Thing is: technocrats understand their value. In the academia or private sector, the value they provide in a lot of ways takes them to the apex of their career. So, they have never needed to depend on the people around them to achieve desirable results. As the private sector is focused more on the result than the process,

its top teams are usually led by a one-man master-of-all. Problem is: this method just cannot work for the public sector. Thus, you see the technocrat struggling to lead a group of civil servants even with years of heading agencies in the private sector.

Reason: There is an aura you can feel when talking to very brilliant people. It is a form of confidence bordering on arrogance. This is the cumulative energy you have when you know you are rarely wrong. Through no fault of theirs, technocrats all share similar energy and people are almost always threatened by this aura. This is why we are so quick to criticise those we perceive as the "elites" while shielding the "less-privileged". This is also why technocrats face a very difficult time in Nigerian politics.

Let me explain.

When technocrats decide to run for office, most times, they are convinced that they are the best candidate for the job. This is a great mindset. It is only troublesome when this mindset starts creeping into your practice of politics. Why? Because Nigerians can smell arrogance from a mile away and we love nothing more than putting people in "their place" at any cost.

So when you combine this self-assuredness with proper intonation of any language, you have created the worst monster a regular Nigerian must defeat; simply to make us feel good about our own shortcomings. It does not matter that you can solve the healthcare problem or design a system that reduces the cost of living; Nigerians will fight you simply because you ate eba with cutlery.

On the off chance the technocrat wins the election and gets inaugurated, another part of politics begins.



This part can even be considered to be more important because now, you need to live up to expectations. This is where most technocrats come to realise that indeed politics, policy-making and governance though independent, are not mutually exclusive. The first error here is appointing only technocrats into positions. This is great for governance, but terrible for politics. Why?

The blind cannot lead the blind.

The private sector, corporations and agencies are very different from the public sector. This is a rude awakening that intellectuals with only private sector experience encounter when they get into public service. In the former, everyone is competent and looking to move up in the corporate world. In the latter, the order of the day is soldier come, soldier go, barracks remain. Simply put, your core support staff in public service will be the first to remind you that you have a tenured stay whereas the only security they enjoy is this job.

This situation often leads to another critical error most technocrats make. They start to look for replacements for the staff. In a sane world, this will be a great move. In Nigeria, it is seen as a personal vendetta and will be treated as such. Your government will be met with such resistance that you will realise Nigeria only love change when it is chanted or sung about.

At this point, you will understand that the fanfare, noise and everything you once condemned as a waste, might be the only incentive to get utility out of people whom you actually pay. Before you scream blood, there might be an alternative to this madness. Consider this. A technocrat

comes into office against all odds.

For efficiency's sake, change is introduced gradually by appointing 80% technocrats and 20% politicians to head ministries. Already, this may appease the "powers that be" and offset some animosity from the political elite. Just be certain that the 20% career politicians are competent and enjoy the goodwill of the people.

Now, a legitimate government enjoys the goodwill of the people in their first 100 days. This period is very crucial. This is the best time to adopt the most radical of your policies without suffering as much backlash from the people. After this period, the technocrat must maintain the trust of the people by consciously communicating proposed policies.

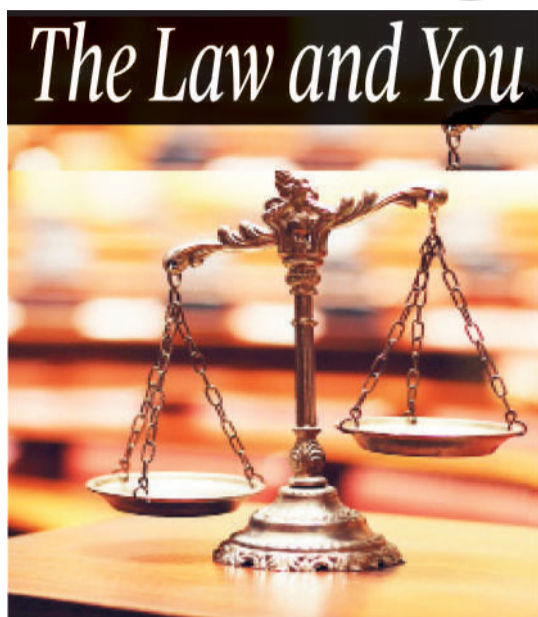
Of course, the government is not expected to release sensitive information. But just like movie teasers are made to gain the interest of fans, policies can be released in bits to get a feel of the people before an official announcement is made. What this does is make the people feel like they are indeed a part of the decision-making process in matters that concern them.

Political communication is hinged on two pillars: the government and the masses. It is the biggest tool a technocrat has in the arsenal. Career politicians know this and that is why they keep trumping technocrats in elections.

Humans love attention and the right communication skill places just enough attention on the people to endear them to the right ideas. When wielded properly, communication can make the once perceived arrogant know-it-all, become the approachable messiah that was misunderstood.

By Telesphor Magobe

Not all ceremonies qualify as marriage in the eyes of the law



Thus, marriage could be converted “(a) from monogamous to potentially polygamous or (b) if the husband has one wife only, from potentially polygamous to monogamous, by a declaration made by the husband and the wife, that they each, of their own free will, agree to the conversion” [Section 11(1)(a) and (b)].

Furthermore, Subsection (2) provides that for conversion to take place there must be a declaration made in the presence of a judge, a resident magistrate or a district magistrate and shall be in writing and signed by the spouses before the judge, resident magistrate or district magistrate at the time of making it.

Section 15(1) prohibits a man with a monogamous marriage to contract another marriage and Subsection (2) prohibits a man with a polygamous or potentially polygamous marriage to contract a marriage in any monogamous form with another woman. Subsection (3) prohibits a woman with a subsisting marriage to contract another marriage.

In the case of *Evangerina Kokushubira Elizeus v Revina Anatory* (Civil Appeal No 16 of 2021, judgment April 13, 2022), Judge Nngigwana of the High Court of the United Republic of Tanzania rejected the findings of the trial court. The Judge said since there was evidence from the plaintiff’s case (at the trial court) that the appellant’s husband swore an affidavit before contracting the second marriage and since the respondent was told by the appellant’s counsel that he was single and that since it was not in dispute that Elizeus

Banyenza did not wear a first marriage wedding ring, it was not enough for the respondent to satisfy herself that the latter was not married.

The Judge said Section 38(1) of the Law of Marriage provides for circumstances (ceremonies) which resulted from marriages declared to be a nullity. Among the circumstances (ceremonies) the Judge mentioned include lack of consent as was in the case of *Fatma Massoud v Massoud* [1977], where there was a subsisting marriage. The Judge cited Section 38 (1)(c), which states: “A ceremony purporting to be a marriage shall be a nullity if either party is incompetent to marry by reason of an existing marriage.”

The Judge said where there was a valid subsisting marriage especially monogamous, no one could contract another marriage, otherwise the marriage so contracted was “void ab initio” as was in the case of *Ramadhani Said v Mohamed Kilu* (1983).

The Judge cited Section 15(1) of the Law of Marriage Act, which provides that “no man, while married by a monogamous marriage, shall contract another marriage. The second marriage was, therefore, nothing in law, but a nullity.” Thus, the Judge held: “This court orders that the second marriage between the respondent and the appellant’s husband Elizeus Banyenza was void ab initio meaning, with no legal effect at all.” It suffices to say that a marriage contracted even in secrecy, while the first marriage still subsists is a nullity in the eyes of the Law of Marriage Act. So, if a person wants to contract a marriage must ensure he or she has the legal capacity or competence to do so.

Today’s axiom: “There is nothing in the mind which was not first in some manner in the senses” - Rene Descartes. The author is a lawyer based in Dar es Salaam. He can be reached at tmagobe@gmail.com

THE other day I was reading a WhatsApp post on increasing cases of divorce involving educated women. The story somewhat claims a marriage between an educated man and a non-educated woman may last longer, but not so with an educated woman. The story ends with a question: “What is wrong with educated women?” In today’s column I won’t dwell on this.

I heard of another story about a man who had contracted a civil marriage in Morogoro a few years ago and then plans to contract a Christian marriage, while the first marriage still subsists.

The narrator of the story was a person who had attended a sendoff ceremony in Dar es Salaam recently and said the person’s second marriage was planned to take place in Mwanza later this year. Apparently, his first wife doesn’t know what is going on.

It is this second story that has prompted me to write today’s column. The point I want to make is that there is still confusion among some Tanzanians (and I am sure it is so with non-Tanzanians too) when it comes to the legal meaning of marriage.

One may wonder whether a person who has a marriage contracted according to religious rites can contract a civil marriage, while the first marriage still subsists or whether a person who has a civil marriage can contract a marriage according to religious rites, while the first marriage still subsists.

In Tanzania, marriage is defined as “the voluntary union of a man and a woman, intended to last for their joint lives” [Section 9(1) of the Law of Marriage Act, 1972 (R.E. 2019)]. So, when a person marries, it is presumed that their marriage is not just meant to last for a little while, but until death. However, where there is proof that a marriage has irreparably broken down [Section 107(3)(c)] the court grants a decree of separation or divorce to an applicant (Section 110).

Subsections (2) and (3) of Section 9 talk about a monogamous and a polygamous marriage respectively - that a “monogamous marriage is a union between one man and one woman to the exclusion of all others” and that a “polygamous marriage is a union in

which the husband may, during the subsistence of the marriage, be married to or marry another woman or women.”

A monogamous marriage could be a Christian or non-Christian marriage, while a polygamous marriage could be an Islamic or non-Islamic marriage. Thus, the Law of Marriage Act recognises only two kinds of marriage: “those that are monogamous or are intended to be monogamous; and those that are polygamous or are potentially polygamous” [Section 10(1)(a) and (b)]. It also recognises the conversion of marriages.

Community awareness needed to save girls from GBV rampant in Kilwa

By Beatrice Philemon

AFTER the introduction of fee-free education from primary to form six, it natural to expect that parents and communities would work together to ensure that children, especially in disadvantaged areas, fully utilize the opportunity to create a better future.

Alas, that is not the case across the country. Kilwa District in Lindi Region is one of the places in the country where parents, guardians and communities either take part in commission of gender-based violence against children or just sit back as if nothing is happening.

For decades now, government authorities, religious leaders and civil society organisations have been working together to stamp out school drop-outs occasioned by child marriage and early pregnancy with little but significant success.

Women’s platform in Kilwa, known in Kiswahili as Tumaini Jipya kwa Wanawake Kilwa (TUJIWAKI) is one of the CSOs working in the district. According to its secretary Pili Kuliwa, in 2020, a total of 75 pupils were impregnated in Kilwa District and between January and March this year, a total of 40 pupils were impregnated, according to reports from police gender desk and social welfare department that were submitted to TUJIWAKI recently.

“But these figures are conservative because most cases go unreported because of low level of awareness and cooperation by parents and members of the community,” she said in an interview recently.

Highlighting trends on teenage pregnancy and early marriages in both primary and secondary schools, she quoted official reports showing that in 2019, a total of 160 students were impregnated in Lindi Region.

Currently the district has 23 wards; among those 17 have paralegals serving people in need of legal services and advice.

She named wards as Kilwa masoko, Kivinje-Singino, Lihimalyao, Mandawa, Kiranjeranje, Miguruwe, Njinjo, Mitole, Kipatimu, Chumo, Namayuni, Mingumbi, Kinjumbi, Tingi, Somanga and Miteja.

Mwanaisha Kapinda is a GBV survivor in Kilwa who has now turned into a vocal activist dedicated to fighting the child pregnancy and marriage which almost destroyed her life. The now 25-year-old is passionate about girl child’s education.

Kapinda told this writer that her predicaments began with her father who left his family since 2005, leaving her mother with the burden of taking care of the family. As a girl in woman-headed family, this exposed her to predators.

She walked for three to four hours



to get to school and another three to return. Pupils from well-to-do families used three-wheelers or motorcycles to get to school.

Like most girls in her situation she was impregnated by a lift-giving and gift-dishing man in 2014 while she was in form three and her life turned upside down. Her dream of getting a good education and serving her community and country came crumbling.

“Because I’m from a disadvantaged family, that man lured me with gifts and money and no one intervened until he got me pregnant,” she said.

She said her peasant mother did not oppose the illegal relationship and leaving school until that man married her in 2018 but only to die in 2019, leaving her a widow.

Kapinda said she found another man and

got married for the second time in 2019 and gave birth to her second child but her husband died in 2020, leaving her a widow for the second time.

“I felt like I had reached the end of the road. Life was very difficult because I had no support at all; I had to leave the house and move back to my parents’ house,” he said.

At her parents’ she started eking out a living as a hairdresser which turned out to be the best decision she has ever made. She met a client who gave her encouragement and advice which changed her life for the better.

“A teacher called Shakila Natangu was a client like no other; every time we met, she encouraged me to look for a way learning any skill that can enable me take care of my

children,” she said.

“She repeated it until it stuck and going back to school became my life’s mission.”

In 2019, an opportunity presented itself at an event to mark the International Day of the Girl Child in her area organized by TUJIWAKI in collaboration with ActionAid Tanzania and Tanganyika Christian Refugee Services. “After the session I sought an audience with organizers, I explained my situation and asked if there was an opportunity for me to go back to school and learn a skill,” she narrated.

“I was so relieved when I was told that there was an opportunity for me to go back to school. I slept so well that night.”

In February this year, Kapinda joined a Folk Development College based in Kilwa

Masoko where she is pursuing a two-year tailoring course. Run by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Folk Development Colleges act as multipurpose centres offering folk education and vocational training programmes provided in a flexible timetable, to address learners’ different needs.

Kapinda is a prominent speaker at gender awareness avenues such women platforms and events where she acts as an inspiration and role model because she has gone through both child pregnancy and child marriage yet she is back to school.

“I don’t want to see any girl go through what I went through; it was hell on earth,” she said.

HONG KONG

A SURGING US dollar may benefit the export and tourism sectors in Southeast Asia, but the weaker local currencies will drive up the costs of imported goods and commodities, especially food, adding to the already high inflation pressures, experts said.

Currencies across the region – from the Thai baht to the Indonesian rupiah – have been hitting record lows in the past few weeks as the US dollar continues to gain ground on the back of aggressive rate hikes by the Federal Reserve. Analysts note that while this is benefiting the exports and tourism industries, ordinary consumers are suffering from the high cost of food and fuel.

“It is the issue of the dollar strengthening” that is affecting the value of baht and other currencies around the world, Bank of Thailand Governor Sethaput Suthiwartnarueput has said.

The baht has weakened by 12 percent since early this year as the US dollar has appreciated about 18 percent, Sethaput said, public broadcaster Thai PBS said in a report this week.

Top commodity exporters like Brunei, Indonesia and Malaysia are among the big winners as their products would be more competitively priced in a dollar-denominated market. Meanwhile, the depreciation of the baht would likely draw in more tourists to Thailand – where the travel and tourism industry is a key contributor to the nation’s GDP. In the Philippines, where about 10 percent of the population work abroad, the strong US dollar translates to higher remittances.

But Southeast Asian countries are also dependent on imported fuel and food and their weaker currencies have led to higher consumer prices.

“Weaker local currencies tend to favor export-oriented countries that make their exports cheaper in international markets and increase the local currency equivalent of their export revenues in US dollar,” said Michael Ricafort, chief economist at the Manila-based Rizal Commercial Banking Corp.

Higher export revenues can help some economies recover from the pandemic, Ricafort said. However, for net importing countries, weaker local currencies will increase import costs and boost inflation.

But even net exporters cannot keep inflation at bay. Such is the dilemma in Malaysia – Southeast Asia’s third biggest economy.

The ringgit fell to an all-time low of 4.6920 against the dollar on Oct 14 on the back of news that the US Consumer Price Index was up 8.2 percent from a year ago in September. The high inflation rate is expected to prompt the Fed to continue with its steep hike in interest rates.

With exports accounting for nearly 70 percent of its GDP, a weaker ringgit can benefit the Malaysian economy. Hafidzi Razali, senior analyst at risk consultancy firm BowerGroupAsia, said a weak ringgit makes Malaysian ex-

US dollar surge tricky load on southeast Asia



A customer checks exchange rates at a foreign currency money-changer in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on Jan 5, 2017. The (VINCENT THIAN / AP)

ports more competitive in the market. And it could also encourage more foreign tourists to travel to Malaysia, as the costs would be cheaper.

However, Hafidzi also pointed out that Malaysia is a net importer and that a weaker ringgit means higher food costs for Malaysian consumers. And if food prices go up further, it might hurt domestic consumption and economic recovery efforts.

Malaysia’s inflation rate in August increased to 4.7 percent owing to an uptick in

the prices of food and beverages, according to official data.

Coming to Indonesia, which is a key exporter of coal, natural gas, minerals and palm oil, it could benefit from a weak rupiah.

But these export revenues cannot offset the impact of higher food prices. Inflation in Southeast Asia’s largest economy rose to a seven-year-high of 5.95 percent in September. Indonesia’s central bank has increased interest rates by 50 basis points in September

to control inflation and defend the rupiah.

Exports account for roughly 20 percent of Indonesia’s GDP. Sawidji Widodoatmodjo, dean of the faculty of economics at the Jakarta-based Tarumanegara University, said the value of exports is “not that big” and that the higher export revenues that will be gained from a weak local currency cannot compensate for the rise in local food prices.

He said the weak rupiah has increased the prices of imported wheat and soybeans.

This is hurting most consumers as instant noodles and tempeh (fermented soybeans) are staple food in Indonesia.

If the rupiah weakens, the prices of food increase. And if people’s incomes do not rise in line with inflation, their buying power would be weaker, Sawidji said.

As for the Philippines, the sliding peso has been a double whammy. The Philippine currency has dropped by more than 13 percent this year. But unlike some peers in the region, the Philippines is not a net exporter. The country is also dependent on imported food, and this has spurred inflation to a four-year high of 6.9 percent in September.

Fermin Adriano, economist and former undersecretary at the Philippine Department of Agriculture, said a weaker peso means the “losers will outweigh the winners because we are not an export-oriented economy”.

Adriano said the “winners” are the exporters, tourism industry and the millions of overseas Filipino workers. The “losers” are the “vast majority of the people who are dependent on a lot of imported products”.

And while migrant workers might welcome a weak peso, Adriano noted that such benefit may not last as the families who receive the remittances will also have to spend more because of inflation. He also cited the millions of US-based Filipinos who need to deal with rising prices in their adopted homes.

In Vietnam, inflation is still below 4 percent and the value of the dong currency has depreciated by less than 5 percent as of Oct 7 despite the near 20 percent surge in the value of US dollar, according to a report by investment management firm VinaCapital.

“Vietnam is now one of the only countries in the world in which policy interest rates are above the inflation rate, making it attractive for Vietnamese savers to hold their money in Vietnamese dong rather than selling it to buy US dollars,” the report said.

Agencies

BEIJING

FOR China, the past decade has been an epic journey. Under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, remarkable transformations, landmark projects and historic breakthroughs took place in this land of vitality and prosperity.

An extensive review of these achievements, measured from multiple perspectives, may provide some insights into how far China has advanced in its pursuit of national development and rejuvenation over the past ten years.

NEW HEIGHTS

In May 2020, when an eight-member Chinese team climbed to the summit of Mount Qomolangma to survey the mountain, they kept in touch with the base camp of the peak via 5G network.

This owes to the world’s highest 5G base station, which was built at an altitude of 6,500 meters in tandem with the survey mission to provide signals covering the summit of Mount Qomolangma.

Delivering a 5G signal to the world’s highest peak is not the only new height China reached in the past decade. On June 25, 2021, the world’s highest electrified railway started operation in southwest China’s Tibet Autonomous Region, connecting the regional capital Lhasa and Nyingchi City.

The country now also boasts the world’s highest civil airport, train station and grid-connected photovoltaic power station as growing innovation and infrastructure strengths are taking the Chinese people to higher levels of development and well-being.

From 2012 to 2021, China’s GDP grew from 53.9 trillion yuan (about 7.58 trillion U.S. dollars) to 114.4 trillion yuan, and its per capita GDP jumped to over 12,000 U.S. dollars from 6,300 dollars. Also in this period, the country’s contribution to global economic growth exceeded 30 percent.

FASTER SPEED

Backed by technological advancement, development progress and institutional strength, China has gained speed in many areas. In 2021, China introduced a high-speed maglev train that can operate at a top speed of 600 kilometers per hour as the country continued to lead the world in rail technologies.

In December last year, a Long March-4B rocket successfully sent a new group of satellites into space, marking the 400th launch mission of the China-developed Long March carrier rocket series.

Of the 400 launch missions by Long March rockets, the first three 100 launches were

China: Ten perspectives on a remarkable decade

completed in 37 years, seven and a half years, and around four years, respectively, while the fourth 100 missions were carried out in only 33 months.

With leapfrog development being made in telecommunication infrastructure, China has become faster digitally. The country has built the world’s largest 5G network, and every administrative village now enjoys access to a broadband service.

In the battle against the COVID-19 virus, China also moved fast to brave the challenges. Makeshift hospitals were built quickly, and the shortage of medical resources and supplies was solved in the shortest time possible. By doing so, people’s lives and health were protected to the maximum extent.

GREAT STRIDES

Over the past ten years, China has made great strides in different spheres from space exploration, scientific and technological innovation to infrastructure construction.

China’s Tianwen-1, consisting of an orbiter, a lander and a rover, successfully landed on Mars on May 15, 2021, nearly 300 days after it was launched from the Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site on the coast of southern China’s island province of Hainan on July 23, 2020.

In September 2022, the C919, China’s first homegrown large jetliner, secured certification from the Civil Aviation Administration of China, a milestone step on its journey to market operation.

The 55-km Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, known as the longest bridge-and-tunnel sea crossing in the world, links China’s Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR), the city of Zhuhai in the southern Guangdong Province and Macao SAR. It has brought tremendous opportunities and benefits to the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

PRECISE APPROACH

China’s elimination of extreme poverty has been one of the highlights of the country’s remarkable development over the past decade. The country had lifted all of its 98.99 million impoverished rural residents out of poverty by the end of 2020. Precise measures were implemented to improve the efficiency of poverty alleviation work.

This approach required officials of all levels to identify who the actual impoverished people were and the factors that led to their poverty.

Nearly 20 million civil servants and volunteers were positioned in impoverished villages to battle poverty on the frontline. Each

household or even family member was given a bespoke poverty relief plan.

GOING DEEPER

The Jinping Underground Laboratory, located 2,400 meters beneath the surface in southwest China’s Sichuan Province, is the deepest underground laboratory in the world.

Within the depths of this lab, experiments in astrophysics and dark matter are able to be performed, which has helped China attain leadership in the world concerning research in these fields.

The construction of the lab is just an epitome of China’s broader enormous strides in exploring the mysteries of space and seeking excellence in the pursuit of science.

China has been striving to strengthen scientific and technological innovation by placing it at the center of overall national development. Major achievements include the unveiling of the Fendouzhe deep-sea manned submersible, the Five-hundred-meter Aperture Spherical Radio Telescope (FAST) and the launch of a deep space monitoring network.

POWER OF REFORM

China’s consistent and firm reform efforts were the powerful impetus behind the country’s historical changes and substantial achievements in the past decade.

By fully leveraging the decisive role of the market in allocating resources, China has granted market entities more vitality and space to develop and amass wealth. Driven by these efforts, China’s market entities have been growing and are playing crucial roles in fuelling the economy and stabilizing employment.

The number of market entities registered in China has topped 160 million, creating job opportunities for approximately 300 million people, official data showed.

Focusing on ensuring and improving people’s well-being, the Chinese government has made institutional innovations ranging from trial projects in pursuit of effective rural residential land reform to the reform of the medical and healthcare system.

Amid efforts to boost opening up, China has also shortened the negative list for foreign investment for five consecutive years since 2017, and put more laws and regulations into force, including the Foreign Investment Law, to step up protection for foreign investors.

SOLID FOUNDATION

Under natural conditions, it takes 200 to

400 years to form a one-centimeter layer of black soil that is very precious for farming.

In the northeastern province of Heilongjiang, the average thickness of the arable layer in the black soil area has increased from 19.8 cm to 23.3 cm due to the promotion of agricultural technologies, crucial to ensure China’s grain security.

Just like crops need fertile soil to grow, China achieved tremendous growth in the past decade thanks to its robust economic fundamentals.

China boasts the biggest and most complete industrial system worldwide. It is the world’s largest producer of over 220 types of industrial products and has all the industrial categories listed in the United Nations industrial classification.

The country also built the world’s largest 5G network, largest high-speed railway system, largest expressway network and largest online retail market.

All these efforts help create a solid foundation for the development of the real economy and China’s industrial upgrading.

HIGHER DENSITY

China is seeking to increase the “density” of its economic growth – higher-quality and more efficient economic expansion by maximizing economic and social benefits, advancing innovation, and boosting emerging sectors while minimizing the environmental impact and resource exploitation.

Compared with 2012, China’s energy consumption, carbon emissions and water consumption per unit of GDP had dropped by 26.4 percent, 34.4 percent and 45 percent, respectively, in 2021.

China’s land consumption per unit of GDP declined by 40.85 percent in the 2012-2021 period.

China’s innovation capabilities have grown significantly, with the country moving up to 11th place in the Global Innovation Index 2022 released by the World Intellectual Property Organization, 23 places higher than its 2012 ranking.

New growth drivers such as biomedicine, new energy vehicles, and artificial intelligence constantly came to the fore, injecting new impetus into the Chinese economy.

REACHING OUT

China is leaving ever-increasing marks on global development, bringing better lives and other tangible benefits to countries and regions worldwide.

A series of landmark projects bore witness to this contribution. The Peljesac Bridge in the south of Croatia, built by a Chinese consortium, opened in July 2022. It realized “the centuries-old dream of connecting the south with the rest of Croatia,” said Croatian Prime Minister Andrej Plenkovic.

Thanks to the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative, the Maldives has its first cross-sea bridge, Serbia’s Smederevo steel mill restored prosperity, and the Mombasa-Nairobi Standard Gauge Railway helped facilitate transportation along the

route.

A vast market, a host of myriad global events, a manufacturing powerhouse – China has never been more integrated into the world economy.

Currently, an average of over 73 million yuan worth of goods are traded per minute between China and the rest of the world, while over 40 trains travel back and forth between China and around 200 European cities every day.

INFUSING WARMTH

Guided by the people-centered philosophy upheld by the Chinese leaders, the country’s remarkable development in the past decade has spread warmth and care among its people.

Nearly 99 million rural poor people were lifted from poverty as the country eradicated absolute poverty for good, and a moderately prosperous society in all respects has been built.

Some 350 million rural students are guaranteed a nutritious diet, while 1.04 billion people are covered by basic pensions and 1.36 billion by medical insurance.

Going forward, China has set out new development goals and placed common prosperity in a more prominent position, aiming at affluence shared by everyone, both in material and cultural terms.

“We must insist that our development is for the people and depends on the people and that its fruits are shared by the people,” stated a document on the country’s development for the 2021-2025 period and long-term goals through 2035.

Agencies

African leaders form Ebola disease taskforce

KAMPALA

A high-level meeting of leaders from different African countries has established the Africa Ebola Coordination Taskforce (AfECT) and resolved to increase investment in research on drugs and vaccines.

In the meeting, which was held in Kampala yesterday, the leaders said this will be essential in curbing outbreaks and relieving the continent from depending on foreign countries to handle public health emergencies.

The resolution followed the Emergency Inter-Ministerial Meeting on Cross-Border Collaboration for Preparedness and Response to Ebola Virus Disease (EVD). The meeting was called because of the outbreak of EVD in Uganda amid the risk of spreading to other countries.

The emergency meeting was attended by nine African countries and other development partners. The meeting was attended by Ministers of Health (or their representatives) of Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Liberia, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda.

According to the Communique, the resolution will be jointly coordinated by the Africa Centre for Disease Control and Prevention

(Africa CDC), the African Union Commission, and the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Speaking at the event, Dr Ahmed Ogwell Ouma, the Director of Africa CDC, asked African leaders to come out of their comfort zones to own the fight against epidemics through increased investment.

"This is not the first outbreak of Ebola Sudan [in Uganda] but it is unfortunate that we don't have rapid diagnostic kits [to detect the disease early] and neither do we have a [approved] vaccine," he said.

A growing number of experts on the continent have also questioned the protocol international agencies use to declare and prioritise diseases. WHO declared monkeypox as a public health emergency when it started attacking people in European countries, years after Africa was grappling with the disease with no vaccine or drug.

"It appears these diseases only attract [international] attention when they cross to other continents. Knowing that we are on our own motivates us to make our continent a safer place," Dr Ouma added.

The technocrats from different governments endorsed the plan to support local researchers and develop health products to address African problems.



Some Ebola survivors receive discharge certificates at Mubende regional referral hospital.

SADC centre encourages citizens to embrace millets as nutritious food

By Guardian Reporter

THE Southern African Development Community (SADC) Plant Genetic Resources Centre (SPGRC) is encouraging citizens to embrace millets as nutritious food in line with the endorsement of the Governing Body of the Food and Agricultural Organisation- International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture (FAO-ITPGRFA).

In a statement to mark the year 2023 as the International Year of Millets (IYM), the SPGRC

also encouraged food scientists to value-add millets and make them part and parcel of peoples' daily meals.

It urged national gene banks to make available traditional millet varieties for use in breeding programmes, research, and direct consumption at household level to address nutritional gaps in the SADC Region.

The theme for the International Year of Millets was proposed at the UN General Assembly and endorsed by Members of the Governing Bodies of FAO, in-

cluding the 160th Session of FAO Council and the 41st FAO Conference.

This is because millets have proven to be climate resilient and highly nutritious yet still remain relatively undervalued, and under-utilised cereal crops. Millets are a group of cereal grains that belong to the Poaceae family, commonly known as the grass family.

Despite being widely perceived as crops in terminal decline in favour of maize, sorghum and millets were in fact

among the first plants to be domesticated and still serve as a traditional staple food in Sub-Saharan Africa and Asia with both continents constituting the vast majority (over 90%) of millet production worldwide.

Compared to other cereals like maize and rice, millets have the ability to grow in dry and marginal environments clearly making it a crop with an important role in the future food and nutritional security.

Millets are often called 'nutri-cereals' with multiple-use prop-

erties because of their high nutritional content, which includes protein, fibre, micronutrients and phytochemicals.

Millet is a versatile foodstuff that contains at least 9% protein, a range of amino acids and more oil than maize and more digestible (11% fibre) than sorghum (6.7% fibre) as it contains no tannins, a bitter-tasting brown substance. Millet is consumed as a whole grain like rice, cracked or as flour in flatbread, fermented foods, porridges, couscous, beverages and snacks. It is also

a gluten-free seed grain, high in energy but with a low glycaemic index (low GI) which is an important property in managing type 2 diabetes as it does not raise blood sugar rapidly. It is high in fat, protein, iron, zinc and phosphorus (P) making it essential for bone growth.

As an animal feed, millet is grown to produce silage, hay or directly grazed when green. As a fodder for animals, the seeds can be fed to poultry, the green plant used for grazing or used for silage and hay produc-

tion. The dry plant material can also be used to weave baskets, for thatching and to build light fences especially in rural communities.

Millets are very resilient crops, highly suitable for cultivation under adverse and varying climatic conditions.

Despite these clear advantages of climate resilience and nutritional benefits, millets remain relatively undervalued and underutilised, with its production being on the decline in the SADC Region.

Scientists plan to restore flamingo habitats in Kenyan soda lakes

NAIROBI

UPON the mid-day sun, the graceful pops of floating pink flamingos on the Southern edge of Lake Nakuru National Park create a small haven. Their synchronised grunts and growls serenade the afternoon's epic silence.

Barely ten years ago, the populations of these birds in the lake were massive, a sight to behold. They became the flagship of Lake Nakuru to the world. However, the increasing volume of water levels experienced in the past ten years has dealt a blow to the flamingo populations which are a common feature in Kenyan soda lakes that also include Lakes Bogoria, Elementaita, Solai, and Simbi Nyaima.

The dwindling populations, experts say, is directly linked to the increasing water levels that have resulted in the decline of their food; and now research scientists are exploring ways to help manufacture flamingo food in a pioneer project to solve the challenge.

"The increase in freshwater volume affects the chemistry of the lake. Initially, the pH levels of Lake Nakuru stood at 10.5, creating a perfect environment for the production of food for the flamingos. The increasing water levels have however seen the pH levels reduce to 9.5," Kenya Wildlife Service Senior Researcher Joseph Edebe said during a media café organised by Media for Environment, Science, Health and Agriculture.

While African saline lakes are hosts to two species of flamingos, the Greater flamingo and the lesser flamingo, the two flamingo species differ in their food preferences. The Greater flamingo consumes small planktonic and animals such as Mollusca and arthropods, as well as mud and algae, the lesser flamingo depends on blue-green algae. The rising water levels impacted the production of algal food.

With the fact that flamingos are only able to feed in shallow waters above 80 centimetres, the increasing volumes have not been favourable and they tend to move to edges and places where there is an abundance of food.

Data from the water bird counts revealed a declining trend in the number of flamingos within Lake Nakuru which was once renowned for hosting thousands of flamingos. In January 2021, figures indicated that there were 6,000 flamingos in Lake Nakuru. At the time, experts say the lake was at its highest point, a sharp decline from an estimate of 850,000 in

the year 2000.

The increasing water levels have not only had an impact on the feeding grounds-it has also had an impact on Tanzania's Lake Natron, the only regular breeding site for the East African population.

Data from Nature Tanzania, Bird Life International's partner in Tanzania from 2018 to 2021 reveals a dramatic decline in their breeding sites in Lake Natron in Tanzania.

In the 2018 water bird counts, 760,000 lesser flamingos were counted including 120,000 chicks. By 2019, 1.7 million lesser flamingos were counted alongside 955,000 chicks. By 2020 however, only 250 lesser flamingos were counted alongside 35 chicks. In 2021, only 1,900 were counted. In the same year, no nests were recorded.

"There was a very dramatic decline in flamingo numbers between 2018/19 and 2020/21. Natural dynamics and changes in climate at the lake basin and beyond appear to be the main reason for the sharp fluctuation in lesser flamingo numbers in the past two years. Torrential rains at the end of 2019 and early 2020 resulted in water levels rising at Lake Natron," Emmanuel Mgmwa, the director for Nature Tanzania told the Standard.

Although there have been lesser numbers of flamingos recorded in Rift Valley soda lakes where they once thrived in droves, it is expected that the increasing levels forced flamingos to migrate to other areas where they can find food. While some lakes like Nakuru in Kenya are experiencing declines, in others like Lakes Simbi Nyaima, Solai and parts of creeks and salt farms in Coast, the numbers have been increasing.

In Tanzania, lesser flamingos have also been recorded in seasonal wetlands like Mungere seasonal swamp in Monduli district.

"The disappearance of flamingos in the lakes they once thrived in does not mean that they are dead, it means that they are seeking refuge in places where there is food. A number of flamingos have been recorded in brackish wetlands within the Coast and this means that they are looking for food," Paul Gacheru, a species expert with Nature Kenya said.

And now scientists have embarked on a one-of-a-kind project to manufacture flamingo food, an initiative expected to bring back the flagship species back to Kenyan soda lakes.

The project will be a first in the region and



seeks to propagate food specifically for the flamingos whose populations have been on the decline.

According to Dr Judith Nyunja, the principal research scientist at the Kenya Wildlife Research and Training Institute, the project is in its initial stages of developing a programme. The project, she says, will entail propagating the blue-green algae in the laboratories before finally exposing it to the natural environment where it is expected to thrive.

"We are looking into ways where we can enhance food production using science. The greatest challenge the flamingos are facing at the moment, especially the lesser flamingos, is the lack of enough food. The project, known as the Spirulina project, is expected to solve this," Dr Nyunja said.

The initiative, she says, entails visiting the field, which are the soda lakes including Lakes Nakuru, Bogoria, Solai, and Elementaita among others to collect water samples. The scientists will then extract the algal food within the water samples, which will be then propagated in the lab.

She says the propagated food will be introduced into demonstration ponds that

will be set up within all the soda lakes which the project will be rolled out to restore flamingo habitats.

"Within the ponds, we will monitor the frequency with which the flamingos are visiting to look for food. Once it becomes a success in the demonstration ponds, we will introduce it in abundance to these lakes," Dr Nyunja added.

The research that seeks to introduce flamingo food to the lake will solve the critical challenge that had initially been documented among flamingos in Lake Bogoria which host the current largest congregation of flamingos.

Early this year, a number of flamingos were recorded to have been trapped by Prosopis, commonly known as Mathenge in Lake Bogoria. The incidents occurred on the edges of the lake which had also experienced increasing water levels, forcing the flamingos to seek refuge on the edges that incidentally are inhabited by the invasive Mathenge, trapping a number of them as they try to fly.

"The result we got from examining a carcass in the lab detailed that the birds were becoming weaker as a result of lack

of enough food. This means the birds easily got entangled by thorns on the shores of the lake where they were foraging for food," Edebe said.

The scientists have also embarked on a project of tagging flamingos to track their movements so as to understand more about the movements and the places they spend their time in particular seasons of the year. The project is jointly being undertaken by researchers from the Kenya Wildlife Research and Training Institute in collaboration with the National Museums of Kenya.

"The project is in its initial stages. It will shed a lot of light on the lives of these birds, where they spend most of their time, where they move to at certain periods of the year and even their movements between feeding and breeding grounds," Edebe added.

The current research is part of the plans and achievements the research institute is looking into, nearly a year since it became an independent national institution mandated to undertake research that generates practical scientific information to guide on conservation and management of wildlife in the country.

Ukraine rises from near zero to major recipient of US arms

UNITED NATIONS

THE Russian invasion of Ukraine in February 2022 has resulted in a never-ending flow of arms to the battle-scarred country – elevating the besieged nation to the ranks of one of the major recipients of US weapons and American security assistance.

As of last week, the US has provided a hefty \$17.5 billion in arms and military assistance to Ukraine.

The five biggest arms buyers from the US during 2017-2021 were Saudi Arabia, which accounted for 23.4 percent of all US arms exports – followed by Australia 9.4 percent, South Korea 6.8 percent, Japan 6.7 percent and Qatar 5.4 percent.

The figure for Ukraine during the same period was 0.1 percent, according to the latest statistics released by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).

But this meagre figure is expected to skyrocket in 2022, judging by the uninterrupted flow of American weapons.

In a statement to reporters October 4, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said pursuant to a delegation of authority from the President, “I am authorizing our 22nd drawdown of U.S. arms and equipment for Ukraine since August 2021.”

This \$625 million drawdown, he said, includes additional arms, munitions, and equipment from U.S. Department of Defense inventories.

This drawdown will bring the total U.S. military assistance for Ukraine to more than \$17.5 billion since the beginning of the Biden Administration in January 2021.

Pieter Wezeman, Senior Researcher, Arms Transfers Pro-



A school destroyed during a Russian air strike in Kharkiv, Ukraine, September 2022.

gramme at SIPRI, told IPS arms supplies to Ukraine were very small compared to those of the top-15 recipients of US arms.

This will change in 2022 as Ukraine has received major weapon systems from the US, such as 20 HIMARS long range rocket launchers, close to 1000 older model used light armoured vehicles, radars and 142 M-777 towed guns, he said.

“These are most valuable systems per item which Ukraine has received from the US, but the numbers involved and the military or financial value of these weapons are modest compared to what certain other countries have received in major systems in recent years.”

He pointed out that Ukraine has not received other items that per piece or especially valuable such as

modern tanks, combat aircraft, major ships and long-range air defense systems.

Dr. Natalie J. Goldring, a Visiting Professor of the Practice in the Sanford School of Public Policy at Duke University, told IPS these weapons transfers entail numerous risks.

One significant risk is that the weapons will be captured by Russian forces and potentially used

against Western forces. Another is that weapons that remain when the conflict ends will be transferred to other areas of conflict, she warned.

One of the nightmare scenarios, she pointed out, is US weapons being used against US forces. Transferring vast quantities of weapons in such a short period of time increases this risk by making it more difficult to ensure accountability and prevent diversion of the weapons.

Perhaps the largest risk, she said, “is that Russian President Vladimir Putin will not accept the argument that these weapons are only being supplied to help Ukraine defend itself, particularly if we’re supplying weapons that can attack targets inside Russia.”

That may lead to an escalation and expansion of the conflict, and would likely produce even more threats of nuclear weapons use than President Putin has already made she noted.

“Escalating threats in turn increase the risk of actual use of nuclear weapons, whether deliberate or through accident or miscalculation”, said Dr Goldring, who also represents the Acronym Institute at the United Nations, on conventional weapons and arms trade issues.

In the end, she argued, regardless of the outcome of the conflict itself, the military contractors win. The Defense Department has already started ordering replacements for some of the weapons shipped to Ukraine. US weapons manufacturers are profiting from what appears to be an open-ended commitment to supply Ukrainian forces.

Even for weapons that are still in production, supply line challenges may make it difficult to replace the weapons transferred to Ukraine in a timely manner. This raises the question of how long the US military will be able to sustain these

shipments without threatening US force readiness, she added.

According to the US Department of Defense, the security assistance package for Ukraine that was announced on 4 October 2022 is the 22nd drawdown from US stocks in less than a year.

In the 4 October 2022 press statement on the additional drawdown authority, Secretary of State Anthony Blinken said, “The capabilities we are delivering are carefully calibrated to make the most difference on the battlefield and strengthen Ukraine’s hand at the negotiating table when the time is right.”

“But without an indication of when real peace negotiations will take place, the seemingly unending flow of weapons from the United States is likely to continue and US defense contractors will continue to increase their profits. At the same time, though, the risks of these transfers also increase as the quantity of weapons transferred grows,” she declared.

Justifying US arms sales, Blinken said: “We will continue to stand with the people of Ukraine as they defend their freedom and independence with extraordinary courage and boundless determination. The capabilities we are delivering are carefully calibrated to make the most difference on the battlefield and strengthen Ukraine’s hand at the negotiating table when the time is right. We stand United with Ukraine”.

At the UN General Assembly last month, President Biden made it clear yet again that the US will support the people of Ukraine for as long as it takes.

Blinken said “recent developments from Russia’s sham referendum and attempted annexation to new revelations of brutality against civilians in Ukrainian territory formerly controlled by Russia only strengthens our resolve.”

“United with our Allies and partners from 50 nations, we are delivering the arms and equipment that Ukraine’s forces are utilizing so effectively today in a successful counter-offensive to take back their lands seized illegally by Russia,” he declared.

Wezeman said it is very large numbers of anti-tank missiles, such as over 8,000 Javelin anti-tank missiles, and over a million rounds for heavy artillery and probably thousands of advanced guided rockets for the HIMARS systems that account for the bulk of the US military aid to Ukraine.

Such amounts of ammunition, he said, surpass by far the amount of ammunition normally imported by any recipient of US arms in a given year.

Even though tens of thousands rounds of such ammunition need to be supplied to equal the value of let’s say 1 new F-15A combat aircraft and related infrastructure, training, munitions spare parts etc., the numbers are so large that they do matter, said Wezeman.

He said there has already been discussions about sending further major weapons to Ukraine, even the possibility of supplying tanks and combat aircraft, as suggested. And if this happens, Ukraine will further rise amongst in the ranks of arms recipients from the US. **IPS**

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 373 00--

In this puzzle you have no clues, only a list of words that all fit into the grid. The Guardian have given you a head start

M A D A G A S C A R

3 LETTERS: ART, APE, RID
4 LETTERS: MOOT, DIET, SURE, OVEN, NETA, WAGE, PAID
5 LETTERS: AROMA, TEASE, DAILY, ASANA, EVADE
6 LETTERS: ASMARA, ASCEND, KARATE, DENTAL, TYRIAN
7 LETTERS: FARANGA,
8 LETTERS: AGRARIAN
10 LETTERS: MADAGASCAR

CROSSWORD

CLUES: Across
 1 Selling of black Africans
 5 one of the two branches of Islam
 7 consumed
 8 a male honey-bee
 10 a pen for pigs
 11 Masai warrior
 13 greater, further
 15 total number of points made in a game
 17 slaughterhouse
 19 a way of acting
 20 citrus fruit

Down:
 1 neither very good nor very bad
 2 sharp-tasting or sour
 3 a thick cord made of twisted fibres
 4 to give as a gift to charity
 6 an expanse of land
 7 molluscs having wormlike bodies and spiral protective shell
 9 Chief city of Sri Lanka
 12 soft, delicate
 14 to go or come in
 16 to adhere, to be attached
 17 short for amplifier
 18 fuss or difficulty

SOLUTIONS

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| BOUNDARIES | SOUTHERNER |
| CAFÉ AGAIN | CROW PANDA |
| KABODET | KNEPALU |
| AOHSEE | CANARK |
| PLUNGE | CHOREA |
| LEERS | AMW |
| SOON ELECT | SNAAGREE |
| WDA | GER |
| LEGALES | GESTURES |
| LEMS | USER |
| TRIOL | NWINDIF |

RADIO One RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

| MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME | TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME | WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME | THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME | FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME | SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME | SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME |
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BUSINESS

Prices stable as OPEC+ quotas offset slowing Chinese oil demand

LONDON

Oil prices were stable on Friday as support from a large cut to the OPEC+ supply target and a weaker dollar were countered by global recession fears and weak oil demand in China.

Brent crude futures were down 31 cents, or 0.3 percent, at \$94.26 a barrel at 0924 GMT while U.S. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures fell 25 cents, or 0.3 percent, to \$88.86.

The Brent and WTI contracts both oscillated between positive and negative territory on Friday but were down about 4 percent over the week after two weeks of gains on concern over the global economy.

The US dollar this week dropped from recent highs, making dollar-denominated commodities cheaper for holders of other currencies.

China, the world's largest crude oil importer, has been fighting COVID flare-ups after a week-long holiday ahead of a Communist Party Congress where President Xi Jinping is expected to extend his leadership.

The country's infection tally is small by global standards, but it adheres to

a zero-COVID policy that is weighing heavily on economic activity.

The International Energy Agency (IEA) on Thursday cut its oil demand forecast for this and next, warning of a potential global recession.

On the bullish side, the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and allies, together known as OPEC+, last week announced a 2 million barrel per day (bpd) cut to oil production targets.

Underproduction among the group means this will probably translate to a 1 million bpd cut, the IEA estimates.

"The prospect of a decrease of around 1 million bpd from next month onwards will sharply reduce a previously expected build in critically low oil inventories over the coming months," said PVM analyst Stephen Brennock.

Saudi Arabia and the United States, meanwhile, have clashed over the decision.

Oil prices were also supported by a steep drawdown in U.S. distillate stocks, though there has been a larger than expected surge in U.S. crude oil in storage. [EIA/S]



Oil barrels in robotic storage in oil blending factory

TCRA reaps about 450bn/- from spectrum auctioning

By Guardian Reporter

The Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) has confirmed that it concluded a successful spectrum auction this week, bringing in a total of almost \$187.5 million (about 450bn/-).

The authority conducted and completed assignment of IMT multi-band frequency spectrum blocks in 700MHz, 2300MHz, 2600MHz and 3500MHz bands through an auction held on October 11, 2022.

The regulator said that five bidders participated in the auction but only four bidders won blocks of spectrum.

Tanzania's three biggest operators - Vodacom, Airtel and Tigo - all have a very similar market share in the country, and all were successful bidders.

Vodacom paid about \$63.2 million for a block of 700MHz, two blocks of 2300MHz and one block of 2600MHz spectrum; Airtel paid \$60.1 million for two blocks of 2600MHz and two blocks of 3500MHz; and Tigo spent \$34 million on two blocks of 3500MHz spectrum.

Smaller operator Halotel (Viettel) spent almost \$30.2 million on one block of 2600MHz.

Millicom sold Tigo Tanzania to a consortium led by Madagascar-based group Axian back in April 2022, but the new owners continue to operate under the Tigo brand.

The TCRA didn't specify who the unlucky bidder was, but minor operator TTCL didn't receive any spectrum, so it was likely the loser.

"To ensure that consumers fully benefit from access to mobile broadband services, TCRA has included Coverage and Quality of Service Obligations to all successful bidders," the authority said in a statement. But it didn't say what exactly the obligations

| S/N | Licensee | Band | No. of Blocks | Total Proceeds (USD) |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| 1 | Vodacom (T) PLC | 700 MHz (FDD) | 1 | 25,548,468.98 |
| | | 2300 MHz (TDD) | 2 | 34,378,597.94 |
| | | 2600 MHz (TDD) | 1 | 3,300,000.00 |
| 2 | Airtel (T) PLC | 3500 MHz (TDD) | 2 | 21,100,001.02 |
| | | 2600 MHz (FDD) | 2 | 39,000,200.00 |
| 3 | MIC (T) PLC (Tigo) | 3500 MHz (TDD) | 2 | 34,000,000.00 |
| 4 | Viettel (T) PLC (Halotel) | 2600 MHz (FDD) | 1 | 30,169,000.00 |
| Total auction proceeds | | | | 187,496,267.94 |

would be.

Airtel put out a statement about its spectrum haul, saying the additional spectrum will support its network expansion in the market "for both mobile data and fixed wireless home broadband capability, including 5G rollout" and will provide "significant capacity" to accommodate strong data growth in the country.

It adds: "This investment reflects our continued confidence in the opportunity inherent in the Tanzanian market, supporting the local communities and economy through furthering digital inclusion and connectivity."

Airtel Africa, a provider of telecommunications and mobile money services in 14 countries across Africa, is again making its presence felt in the African market with a spectrum acquisition that will boost its network in Tanzania.

Shares in Airtel Africa at 0936 GMT were up 1.10 pence, or 0.9 percent, at 124.90 pence on Wednesday.

In September 2022, Vodacom Tanzania became the first mobile operator to launch 5G in the East African nation, and Airtel likely wants to follow suit soon.

TCRA said the spectrum allocation will help advance the country's mobile and fixed broadband infrastructure and capability, "which will serve as a catalyst for the nation's economic development in particular digital economy to facilitate growth of all sectors".

It also hopes the spectrum allocations will bring socio-economic benefits to sectors like education, health, agriculture, commerce and financial services and also bring down mobile communications costs for Tanzanians.

According to data by TCRA for the second quarter of this year, Vodacom is still leading with the largest number of voice subscribers with 17.1 million or 31 percent of market share, followed by Airtel with 15.2 million or 27 percent, Tigo is third with 14.9 million subscriber or 27 percent of market share and Halotel is fourth with 7 million or 12 percent of the market share.

The country has a total of 56.2 million mobile telecommunication subscribers of which 37.4 million have mobile money accounts.

On Mobile money, Vodacom (M-Pesa) is leading with 14.5 million

subscribers, followed by Tigo Pesa with 9 million, Airtel Money has 8.1 million subscribers and Halopesa has 3.4 million subscribers.

In 2018, TCRA raised \$20 million from a local subsidiary of South Africa's Vodacom Group and another telecoms firm in the country's first broadband spectrum auction that will help operators meet growing demand for high-speed networks.

Like elsewhere on the continent, mobile phone use has surged in the East African nation over the past decade, driven by the launch of cheaper smartphones and data services.

Market leader Vodacom Tanzania and a newcomer in Tanzania's fast-growing communications sector, Azam Telecom (T) Limited, were picked as winners of the spectrum auction in the 700 MHz band.

Vodacom Tanzania Plc acquired 2 x 10 MHz for a total price of \$10.005 million and Azam Telecom (T) Ltd acquired 2 x 10 MHz for a total price of \$10 million. The total auction proceeds is \$20.005 million, according to Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA).

Tanzania score improves on Absa Africa markets index

By Guardian Reporter

Tanzania's score on Absa Africa financial markets index gained to 55 this year from 54 recorded last year, remaining in 11th position out of 26 reviewed markets.

The index report shows this was a result of first social bond issuance and efforts to liberalise capital control.

NMB Bank Tanzania listed the Jasiri bond, the first gender bond in sub-Saharan Africa, on the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange in April.

The Absa Africa Financial Markets Index evaluates the financial development of 26 countries, primarily based on measures of market accessibility, openness and transparency.

Scores are determined by the relative, rather than absolute, performance of each country across six key pillars: market depth; access to foreign exchange; market transparency, tax and regulatory environment; capacity of local investors; macroeconomic environment and transparency; and legal standards and enforceability.

Tanzania scored high on access to financial exchange with 64, market transparency, tax and regulatory environment with 75 and microeconomic environment ad transparency by 76.

For East Africa raking, Tanzania is behind Uganda, the leading at fourth position in 2022, after scoring 66 from 6th position in 2021 and Kenya which ranked 8th this year after scoring 61 from 10th position in 2021.

The report shows 2021 Uganda scored 60 and the improvement



in a difficult environment," says Arrie Rautenbach (pictured) Chief Executive Officer, Absa Group.

"Those improvements are not by chance, but rather reflect a continued focus by countries to foster a financial market ecosystem that is better placed to meet Africa's financing needs."

He says at 26 countries, the Absa Africa Financial Markets Index now represents 78 percent of the continent's population and 82 percent of its gross domestic product.

"As Africa strives to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063 of the African Union, while combatting the consequences of climate change, it requires more and innovative sources of funding as well as more inclusive financial systems," commented Antonio Pedro, acting Executive Secretary, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

He said advances in technology contribute to achieving the latter, offering equitable and universal access to affordable finance for all, and ensuring that no one is left behind.

"Financial markets can provide innovative and streamlined solutions at scale that address the unique features of African economies and support the development of local businesses. By deepening and expanding domestic capital markets, liquidity can be increased, costs of capital reduced and green and innovative instruments developed," he noted.

IMF urges Asian central bankers to tighten policy

WASHINGTON

Most Asian central banks must tighten monetary policy further as rising commodity prices and their currencies' depreciation, driven by steady US interest rate hikes, push inflation above their targets, the International Monetary Fund has said.

China and Japan are exceptions, where the economic recovery has been weaker, slack remains substantial and inflation has not risen as sharply as elsewhere, said Krishna Srinivasan, director of the IMF's Asia and Pacific Department.

Many Asian currencies depreciated "quite sharply" as U.S. monetary tightening led to widening interest rate differentials, helping push up import costs for the countries, he said.

"While our baseline is for inflation to have peaked by end-year, large exchange-rate depreciations could lead to higher inflation and greater persistence, particularly if global interest rates rise

more forcefully, and require faster monetary policy tightening in Asia," Srinivasan said in a news conference during the IMF and World Bank annual meetings in Washington.

Large currency depreciations and rising interest rates could also trigger financial stress in Asian countries with high debt, Srinivasan said.

"Asia is now the largest debtor in the world besides being the biggest saver, and several countries are at high risk of debt distress," he said.

Most of the rise in Asia's debt is concentrated in China, but also seen in other economies, Sanjaya Panth, deputy director of the IMF's Asia and Pacific Department, told Reuters in an interview on Thursday.

"Some form of market stress cannot be ruled out. But the relatively strong position of many economies gives us comfort," he said, pointing to their low levels of external debt, higher reserves and resilient financial systems.

Privacy, data protection laws needed in Africa, says report

By Guardian Correspondent, Lusaka

Digital biometric data collection programmes are becoming increasingly popular across Africa.

Governments are investing in diverse digital programmes to enable the capture of biometric information of their citizens for various purposes.

Indeed, these programmes have gained momentum and have been hailed as key enablers of development.

They are also expected to fast-track the recognition and registration of 494 million people in Sub-Saharan Africa who form 45 per cent of people worldwide who do not have any form of official proof of legal identity.

Digital IDs are progressively replacing the old paper-based identity documents.

Digital IDs are taking the form of smartphone applications or smart cards which utilise technologies such as Bluetooth, Near-field communication (NFC), Radio-frequency identification (RFID), 8block-chain technology, and Public Key Infrastructure.

They have the potential to provide timely, efficient and secure solutions for authorities that issue them and their ability to interface with other systems and databases is another advantage.

They are being applied in different ways for government services and consumer and commercial applications across different sectors.

The COVID-19 pandemic heightened the need to

prove identity and at the same time enhanced the use of new contactless biometric technologies such as facial recognition and iris scans, as people avoided biometric devices requiring contacts such as palm print, fingerprint, and hand-key readers, which accelerated digital transformation in several countries.

Likewise, the rising smartphone access, mobile telephone coverage and internet penetration rates on the continent are key drivers for biometric programmes, with an additional 120 million new subscribers expected within Sub-Saharan Africa by 2025, up from 495 million recorded in December 2020.

Mobile technologies and services are expected to generate \$155 billion of economic value by 2025, up from 130 billion recorded in 2020.

Proponents of biometric data collection such as governments, the African Union (AU), the World Bank,

Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and the private sector players such as banking, telecoms and security sector, state that such systems are important to accurately identify, authenticate and verify the identity of individuals, including by facilitating know-your-customer (KYC) requirements; ensure the provision of legal identity in line with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16.9; promote national security; strengthen democracy and election integrity; prevent financial, identity fraud, identity theft; combat corruption; and counter-terrorism.

Near-field communication is a set of communication protocols that enables communication between two electronic devices over a distance of 4 cm or less.

The Public key infrastructure (PKI) is the set of hardware, software, policies, processes, and procedures required to create, manage, distribute, use, store, and revoke digital certificates and public-keys. PKIs are the foundation that enables the use of technologies, such as digital signatures and encryption, across large user populations.

Further, proponents say these systems enhance trust and confidence in identification and payment systems; improve financial sector services; facilitate efficient delivery



A Tanzanian national registers for a national identity card

of social services including e-health, aid delivery and social protection programmes; enhance the quality of data by eliminating the duplication of records; control physical and digital access to premises and digital systems; improve data security; link databases to improve monitoring and feedback systems; and support the growth of the digital economy.

Unfortunately, these programmes also present new risks to the realisation and enjoyment of human rights and freedoms. These programmes require the mandatory collection and processing of sensitive personal data of millions of citizens, and the protection of the privacy of this data from a technical, legal, regula-

tory and procedural perspective is critical.

According to a recent study on the rise of biometric surveillance by Collaboration on International ICT Policy for East and Southern Africa (CIPESEA) as of 2021, 136 countries had implemented digital ID programmes which amount to 3.6 billion digital IDs in circulation. Further, 82 percent of all countries issuing national IDs have implemented digital ID programmes that depend on digital ID chip cards or plastic cards and biometrics.

This demand has created a global market for digital ID which has increased from \$18 billion in 2018 to \$44.7 billion in 2022, according to Acuity Market Intelligence, with

the size of the market for biometric and digital identity documents in Africa estimated at \$1.4 billion.

In Tanzania, the justifications for the introduction of biometric identification include modernisation of processes and records management from paper-based to digital systems; enhancing national security and preventing crime; improving social welfare; boosting economic development; improving access to social services; providing accurate data of residents; enhancing the efficiency of service delivery, and improving identification of residents through the issuance of documentation.

In 2015, the Tanzanian government introduced a Biometric Voter Registra-

tion System with a private Dutch company, GenKey, working as a subcontractor for South Africa-based Lithotech Exports, contracted to implement the system through which 24 million eligible voters were registered, according to the report.

In Tanzania, the deactivation of SIM cards in 2020 and deregistration of cards suspected to have been used to commit crimes denied many citizens access to the internet due to failure to re-register.

Further, incomprehensively implemented biometric digital ID programmes could entrench digital exclusion and discrimination of vulnerable groups from accessing government services.

In 2021, President Samia Suluhu Hassan indicated that the government was weighing the possibility of introducing biometric voting during the 2025 polls as a way of curbing the number of irregularities common with elections in the country.

In other development, Tanzania became the second country in the EAC to adopt the ePassport in a project that commenced in September 2017 and launched in February 2018.

The project was financed by the government of Ireland with HID Company supplying the services at a cost of \$57.82 million.

The National ePassport program is implemented by the immigration department and registration commences with an online application where applicants are required to provide their NIDA num-

ber. The registration process utilises the person's biometric data collected through NIDA and the immigration department together with documents such as birth certificates, national identity cards, affidavits of birth or certificates of naturalisation.

The biometric information collected includes the applicant's fingerprints, photograph and signatures. The ePassport which costs \$67.5, replaced the old passport which was phased out in January 2020.

Notably, the programmes, such as the issuance of ePassports by almost 50 African nations, have been implemented amidst a deficiency of comprehensive data protection laws, adequate protection or remedies and independent oversight institutions. Just over half of the countries on the continent have specific data protection frameworks.

This is compounded by the absence of effective and robust safeguards against data privacy abuse, especially in countries where surveillance by state security agencies remains poorly regulated with no clear audit processes and enforcement mechanisms.

There are also no clear strategic approaches to rolling out data protection and security programmes, which has led to a crowded and disorganised identity management ecosystem.

For Tanzania, the data protection bill has been tabled and is waiting for the parliament to debate before passing it.

Alison offers new free training in internet skills

By Guardian Correspondent, Arlington

People across Africa can now gain valuable skills in using the internet, thanks to free courses from two of the global leaders in education and skills training.

The online college, Alison.com, which was among the sponsors of this year's hugely successful e-Learning Africa conference, has teamed up with mEducation Alliance (mEA) to launch digital literacy courses that will give learners everywhere the skills they need to use online resources successfully - and certificates to prove it.

The mEducation Alliance is a non-governmental organization focused on the role of technology in educa-

tion to advance quality educational outcomes.

Digital literacy means being able to interpret, communicate, and create information using websites, social media, emails and any other online format. The courses have been written by renowned expert Helen Crompton, an associate Professor of Instructional Technology at Old Dominion University, Virginia, US on behalf of mEA.

Among her many accomplishments is being recognized as one of the top nine experts on mobile learning by the United Nations.

"The mEducation Alliance is delighted to partner with Alison, one of the world's largest free learning platforms for education

and skills training," said the Alliance's founder and Executive Director, Anthony Bloome.

"Their dedication to making it possible for anyone to study any subject, anywhere, at any time, for free online is directly aligned with our goal to advance quality educational access, particularly for learners in developing countries. We are so excited about our overall strategic partnership and that our co-developing two global digital literacy courses is the first of many activities in which we will partner together in the coming years."

Mike Feerick (pictured), founder and CEO of Alison, said: "We welcome our partnership with mEA which is a world leader in tech

for education. Together we have created two excellent courses - Global Digital Literacy 101 which is a short, certificate course providing a general overview of digital literacy while the longer, 102 course is a Diploma in Global Digital Literacy".

"At Alison, we believe that empowering people through free education is the best way to improve living standards and combat poverty worldwide. These digital literacy courses will equip learners with all the skills they need to navigate the internet successfully and safely, opening up opportunities for work and further skills development," he said.

He said the ultimate goal of these digital literacy courses is for participants to gain the

knowledge and confidence they need for the 21st century workplace as well as gain essential skills in navigating the digital personal and social environment.

The course will also equip basics of using email, search engines and social media, the courses cover important topics such as keeping your personal information secure and avoiding scams.

"There are numerous examples of African changemakers who have used digital media to the benefit of their communities and the courses have useful information for anyone hoping to follow in their footsteps, from selecting the right platform to branding and promoting your message," he added.



Elon Musk is under federal investigations, Twitter says

WILMINGTON

Elon Musk (pictured) is being investigated by US federal authorities over his conduct in his \$44 billion takeover deal for Twitter Inc, the social media company said in a court filing released on Thursday.

While the filing said he was under investigations, it did not say what the exact focus of the probes was and which

federal authorities are conducting them.

Twitter, which sued Musk in July to force him to close the deal, said attorneys for the Tesla Inc CEO had claimed "investigative privilege" when refusing to hand over documents it had sought.

In late September, Musk's attorneys had provided a "privilege log" identifying documents to be withheld, Twitter said.

The log referenced drafts of a May 13 email to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and a slide presentation to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC).

"This game of 'hide the ball' must end," the company said in the court filing.

The court filing, which asked Delaware judge Kathaleen McCormick to order Musk's attorneys to provide the documents,

was made on Oct. 6 - the same day that McCormick paused litigation between the two sides after Musk reversed course and said he would proceed with the deal.

Alex Spiro, an attorney for Musk, told Reuters that Twitter's court filing was a "misdirection" and asserted: "It is Twitter's executives that are under federal investigation."

Twitter declined to comment on Spiro's

statement. It also declined comment when asked by Reuters about its understanding of any investigation into Musk.

The SEC did not immediately respond to a request for comment and the FTC declined to comment.

The SEC has questioned Musk's comments about the Twitter acquisition, including whether a 9% stake he had built up before announcing his bid had been disclosed late and why it indicated that he intended to be a passive shareholder. Musk later refuted the disclosure to indicate he was an active investor.

In June, the SEC asked Musk in a letter whether he should have amended

his public filing to reflect his intention to suspend or abandon the deal.

The Information, a tech news site, reported in April that the FTC was scrutinizing whether Musk failed to comply with the antitrust reporting requirement relating to an investor's intentions of being a passive or active shareholder.

Twitter said in June, however, that the takeover deal with Musk had cleared an antitrust waiting period for review by the FTC and US Justice Department.

McCormick has given Musk until Oct. 28 to close the acquisition. If the deal does not get done by then, a trial date will be set for November.

Uncertainty will push business away from Europe, says expert

LONDON

Multiple uncertainties facing the European economy caused by the energy crisis, supply chain disruption and disputes over support measures would push some businesses away from the region and could undermine the economy, an expert has said.

“Obviously businesses dislike uncertainty,” Charlie Cai, a professor of finance at the University of Liverpool, told Xinhua recently.

Cai said the European energy crisis started even before the Russia-Ukraine conflict, combined with the high cost of living pushed up by COVID-19. “These are now the two key things at the moment.”

The European Union has prioritized stabilizing



energy prices this winter, but disagreement followed over the support measures among the member states. The short-term uncertainty has pushed some businesses away, especially energy-

hungry ones, Cai told Xinhua.

It remains to be seen whether governments can stabilize prices. “Nobody knows, and this is a risk,” he noted. With different support packages from governments comes uncertainty on whether businesses can benefit from some kind of price cap.

Cai said business leaders need to make a swift decision on whether to hedge. “My personal sense is it’s probably going to get worse before getting better. So some of the deals may now look not favorable,” but that could change in a few months.

A Wall Street Journal article recently reported that high natural-gas prices have pushed some European manufacturers to the United States.

“That wouldn’t surprise me given the heightened uncertainty of energy security, and because of the post-COVID supply chain destruction, a lot of manufacturers start rethinking their supply chain structure,” Cai said.

Cai said that the United States has created more manufacturing and green investment opportunities. “Some businesses look what’s on offer, and it looks probably more

favorable.”

But the outflow of businesses is bad news for the European economy, said the expert. “It means less investment and employment in the short term.”

“In the much longer term, when companies move away, it would change the structures of the supply chain. That will affect quite a lot of companies,” he said.

He noted that a departure from Europe would hit supply chain security and efficiency, along with innovation. “Europe may potentially, gradually lose its advantage in advanced manufacturing if more and more of them move away. The innovation would not happen there, and that kind of help and cluster effect will disappear.”

But these were still early days, Cai stressed. “To understand how serious this situation is, we need more data. Companies cannot

move their production overnight. We need to see more evidence to enable us to understand the full picture.”

Thinking about the whole supply chain is the key to choosing where to produce. In many cases, he said that companies are present in both the U.S. and European markets, noting that there would be no sudden outflow because the demand and supply of material and labor cannot suddenly appear.

Nevertheless, Cai said that the uncertainties in Europe are pushing some businesses away.

Speaking of the risks, Cai said the primary concern in Europe was high inflation intertwined with high interest rates. “Both of these two are connecting to each other in some way that is hurting the businesses in terms of how they operate.”

With a strong US dol-

lar, prices of commodities like energy have risen, dealing a severe blow to importers, Cai said. Worse yet, the United States could still hike interest rates higher; if Europe follows, borrowing costs will rise, impacting economic growth.

“Businesses may previously think some investment projects were viable, but now they’re not. And they thought some contracts they received were profitable, but now they’re not. It means more and more default, and this is going to hit the banks’ balance sheet,” he noted.

On top of that, pay disputes amid high inflation have led to strikes across Europe, and the walkouts could push up inflation in turn, he said, noting that this would cause economic instability and social unrest because high inflation hits lower-income groups harder.

5.3bn cell phones to turn into waste in 2022 - report

PARIS

More than five billion of the estimated 16 billion mobile phones possessed worldwide will likely be discarded or stashed away in 2022, experts said Thursday, calling for more recycling of the often hazardous materials they contain.

Stacked flat on top of each other, that many disused phones would rise 50,000 kilometres (30,000 miles), more than a hundred times higher than the International Space Station, the WEEE research consortium found.

Despite containing valuable gold, copper, silver, palladium and other recyclable components, almost all these unwanted devices will be hoarded, dumped or incinerated, causing significant health and environmental harm.

“Smartphones are one of the electronic products of highest concern for us,” said Pascal Leroy, Director General of the WEEE Forum, a not-for-profit association representing forty-six producer responsibility organisations.

“If we don’t recycle the rare materials they contain, we’ll have to mine them in countries like China or Congo,” Leroy told AFP.

Defunct cell phones are just the tip of the 44.48-million-ton iceberg of global electronic waste generated annually that isn’t recycled, according to the 2020 global e-waste monitor.

Many of the five billion phones withdrawn from circulation will be hoarded rather than dumped in the trash, according to a survey in six European countries from June to September 2022.

This happens when households and businesses forget cell phones in drawers, closets, cupboards or garages rather than bringing them in for repair or recycling.

Up to five kilos (8 pounds) of e-devices per person are currently hoarded in the average European family, the report found.

According to the new findings, 46 percent of the 8,775 house-

holds surveyed considered potential future use as the main reason for hoarding small electrical and electronic equipment.

Another 15 percent stockpile their gadgets with the intention to sell them or giving them away, while 13 percent keep them due to “sentimental value”.

“People tend not to realise that all these seemingly insignificant items have a lot of value, and together at a global level represent massive volumes,” said Pascal Leroy.

“But e-waste will never be collected voluntarily because of the high cost. That is why legislation is essential.”

This month the EU parliament passed a new law requiring USB-C to be the single charger standard for all new smartphones, tablets and cameras from late 2024.

The move is expected to generate annual savings of at least 200 million euros (\$195 million) and cut more than a thousand tonnes of EU electronic waste every year.

According to Kees Balde, Senior Scientific Specialist at the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), legislation in Europe has prompted higher e-waste collection rates in the region compared to other parts of the world.

“At the European level, 50-55 percent of e-waste is collected or recycled,” Balde told AFP. “In low-income countries, our estimates plunge to under 5 percent and sometimes even below 1 percent.”

At the same time, thousands of tons of e-waste are shipped from wealthy nations -- including members of the European Union -- to developing countries every year, adding to their recycling burden.

At the receiving end, financial means are often lacking for e-waste to be treated safely: hazardous substances such as mercury and plastic can contaminate soil, pollute water and enter the food chain, as happened near a Ghanaian e-waste dumpsite.



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WORLD

UN chief asks G20 to steer global economic recovery

UNITED NATIONS

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Thursday called on the Group of 20 (G20) to change course and steer a global economic recovery.

Guterres (pictured) made this appeal in a letter to G20 finance ministers and central bank governors.

"Today, the G20 is at a crossroads: it can proceed with the status quo, or it can take a new course to steer a global economic recovery for all. I believe a new course is the right choice," the UN chief wrote.

To this end, the UN system and partners have proposed a Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Stimulus to address deteriorating market conditions and accelerate progress toward the SDGs.

The SDG Stimulus calls for a massive increase in public-sector commitments toward development, humanitarian and climate mitigation and adaptation by just 2 percent of global gross domestic product, he writes in the letter. "I call on the G20 finance ministers and central bank governors to reinforce an SDG stimulus to ensure that countries at all levels of development can respond to both immediate and long-term challenges."

Guterres noted that the SDG Stimulus consists of five recommendations: immediately enhance debt relief for vulnerable countries, leverage better the lending from multilateral development banks and public development banks to support the SDGs, involve private bondholders and sovereign debtors in debt relief efforts, structurally bolster liquidity support for vulnerable countries through an enhanced use of Special Drawing Rights, align finan-

cial flows with the SDGs and the Paris Agreement.

"Now more than ever, the leadership of the G20 is needed to steer the world out of its deepest crises. I look forward to working with the G20 to develop a common strategy to advance the recommendations of the SDG Stimulus," Guterres wrote. The letter, dated Oct 12, was released on Thursday.

Climate disasters

Also on Thursday, Guterres said he will soon launch a plan for universal early-warning coverage for climate disasters.

In a video message for the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction, Guterres said climate disasters are hurting countries and economies like never before. Ever-rising greenhouse gas emissions are supercharging extreme weather events across the planet.

Yet, the world is failing to invest in protecting the lives and livelihoods of those on the front line. Those who have done the least to cause the climate crisis are paying the highest price. Entire populations are being blindsided by cascading climate disasters without any means of prior alert, he said.

"People need adequate warning to prepare for extreme weather events. That is why I am calling for universal early-warning coverage in the next five years," he said.

Guterres said early-warning systems and the ability to act on them are proven life-savers, noting that he will launch an action plan to provide early-warning systems for all within five years at the UN Climate Change Conference in Egypt next month.

He urged governments, international financial institutions and civil society to

support such systems.

"On this International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction, I call on all countries to invest in early-warning systems and support those who lack capacity. Extreme weather events will happen. But they do not need to become deadly disasters," said Guterres.

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Xinhua

Iraq elects new president after year-long political deadlock

BAGHDAD

IRAQI lawmakers on Thursday elected Abdul Latif Rashid as the new president of Iraq, marking a crucial step toward forming a new government for the country and ending a year of political deadlock.

The parliament session was held shortly after unidentified militants fired nine Katyusha rockets on the heavily fortified Green Zone that houses key government buildings, including the parliament.

The rocket barrage wounded some security members and civilians in the zone, the media office of the Iraqi Joint Operations Command said in a statement.

According to the power-sharing system in Iraq after 2003, the presidency should be reserved for the Kurds, the parliament speaker's post for the Sunnis, and the prime minister's for the Shiites.

In Thursday's session, Rashid received 162 votes in the second round of voting, defeating Barham Salih, who gained 99 votes, while eight votes were consid-

ered invalid, according to the media office of the parliament.

The newly-elected Rashid was later sworn in as the President of Iraq, the fifth president of the country since 2003.

Abdul Latif Rashid, 78, is a veteran Kurdish politician born in the city of Sulaimaniyah in northeastern Iraq. He worked as Minister for Water Resources from September 2003 to December 2010.

He is an active member of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) under the leadership of Jalal Talabani, who became president of Iraq in 2005.

Rashid was formerly a spokesperson for the PUK in Britain, where he received a bachelor's degree in civil engineering in 1968 from Liverpool University, a master's degree in 1972, and a doctorate in Engineering from Manchester University in 1976.

After the parliament session, Rashid tasked Mohammed Shia' al-Sudani with forming a new government as al-Sudani was nominated by the Coordination Framework (CF), the largest parliamentary alliance and an um-



A handout picture released by the Iraqi parliament, shows then-presidential candidate Abdul Latif Rashid attending a parliamentary session on Thursday. AFP

brella group of Shiite parliamentary parties.

Al-Sudani, now as the prime minister-designate, will have 30 days to form the new government, according to the constitution.

Al-Sudani previously served as minister of human rights from 2010 to 2014 and minister of labor and social affairs from 2014 to 2018.

Iraqi caretaker Prime Minister Mustafa al-Kadhimi congratulated al-Sudani, and wished him success in the task of forming the government.

Rashid's election as president came as politi-

cal tensions have been rising in the past months between the Shiite cleric Moqtada al-Sadr's Sadrist Movement, the biggest winner in the parliamentary elections in 2021, and its rivals in the CF alliance.

Al-Sadr demanded to dissolve parliament and hold early elections, but it was rejected by the CF parties, which became the largest bloc after al-Sadr ordered his followers to withdraw from the parliament in June.

Agencies



Territorial integrity of Ukraine: Defending the principles of the Charter of the United Nations

MOSCOW

DURING the 11th emergency session, which resumed on October 12, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution titled "Territorial integrity of Ukraine: defending the principles of the Charter of the United Nations" which condemns the referendums held in the Donetsk and Lugansk people's republics and the Zaporozhye and Kherson regions.

This deplorable initiative repeats much of the UN Security Council document, which Russia vetoed on September 30. The Western delegations have moved the discussion of the Ukrainian issue from the Security Council to the General Assembly, as they have many times before, thereby suggesting that the Security Council is unable to fulfil its main responsibility of maintaining international peace and security.

In a situation where member states were subjected to colossal pressure, up to and including the threat of sanctions, Russia proposed holding a secret vote on the draft resolution. This would clearly give many delegations an opportunity to express their real position on the matter without fearing the consequences of decisions which Washington and its satellites regard as wrong. However, our proposal was rejected following underhanded procedural manoeuvres orchestrated by our opponents in violation of the existing rules of the UN General Assembly.

Beyond that, the document has not received unequivocal support, despite all the tricks and unprecedented pressure, including direct threats of denying financial assistance or humanitarian aid for refusing to do as Washington says. Dozens of countries refused to vote for the resolution: 143 countries voted for it, while the remaining 50 states abstained or did not take part in the vote.

There is no doubt that despite its title this resolution has nothing to do with defending the principles of the UN Charter. Statements on commitment to international law made by the United States and other NATO countries are nothing but evidence of their policy of double standards, as we can see from numerous examples. They were in the forefront of the defenders of Kosovo's "independence," demanding that it had a right to secede despite the absence of a real threat to civilians. Another relevant example is the US statements on its readiness to use force to defend Taiwan, which is an integral part of China.

The referendums were held in the Donetsk and Lugansk people's republics and the Zaporozhye and Kherson regions in full compliance with the UN Charter, the norms and principles of international law and the 1970 Declaration on Principles of International Law, which only guarantees the territorial integrity of states "possessed of a government representing the whole people belonging to the territory without distinction as to race, creed or colour." The Kiev regime obviously did not and does not satisfy this criterion, considering its use of terrorist methods against civilians and infrastructure.

Overall, the adoption of this resolution has confirmed Western resolve first and foremost to attain its own geopolitical goals in opposition to Russia, to preserve its waning monopoly in global affairs, and to sow discord among member states of the General Assembly. It is also apparent that this confrontational initiative is not aimed at finding a peaceful solution but at drawing out the conflict in Ukraine.

Agencies

Kwasi Kwarteng sacked as UK chancellor after mini-budget backlash

LONDON

KWASI Kwarteng has been sacked as chancellor, just weeks after he announced unfunded tax cuts that triggered financial turmoil.

Kwarteng (pictured) met PM Liz Truss at Downing Street a little earlier, after cutting short a US visit and flying back to London.

In a letter confirming his sacking, Kwarteng backs Truss's economic "vision" for the country and says he will continue to support her from the backbenches.

Earlier, a No 10 source told the BBC that Truss thought the chancellor was "doing an excellent job".

The PM faces growing calls from within her party to rethink her economic plans, with one Tory MP telling the BBC: "It's checkmate, we're screwed".



IMF fiscal chief urges targeted fiscal policy amid high food, energy prices

WASHINGTON

IN a time of high inflation, fiscal policymakers should target those most affected by surging food and energy prices, while keeping a tight fiscal stance to help fight inflation, an International Monetary Fund (IMF) official has said.

"Fighting inflation with a steady hand is something which is, at this point in time and in our view, the first macroeconomic priority," Vitor Gaspar, director of the IMF's fiscal affairs department, told Xinhua in an interview earlier this week.

"So what fiscal policy can and should do

– based on the experience of the pandemic where fiscal policy was able to respond in an agile and flexible manner – is that fiscal policy can target those most affected by the cost of living crisis," said Gaspar.

The cost of living crisis, he noted, is associated with this "broad-based inflation," but has "particularly strong dimensions associated with the food price surge and the energy price surge."

"What fiscal policy can do that monetary policy cannot is to target the vulnerable, and it can do it in a way which is compatible with maintaining an appropriate macroeconomic policy mix," he said.

In its new Fiscal Monitor released Wednesday, the IMF argued that policymakers must protect low-income families from large real income losses and ensure their access to food and energy, but they must also reduce vulnerabilities from large public debts and, in response to high inflation, maintain a tight fiscal stance so that fiscal policy does not work at cross-purposes with monetary policy.

Higher prices threaten people's standard of living everywhere, prompting governments to introduce a variety of fiscal measures, including price subsidies, tax cuts, and cash transfers. Limiting price increases through price controls, subsidies, or tax cuts would be "costly

to budgets and "ultimately ineffective," the report noted.

"One example that one may consider is to imagine that you introduce a domestic price cap or a price smoothing mechanism, but the shock proves very persistent.

Eventually you will have to remove the price cap and let the price adjust," Gaspar said. "And although the price cap may have repressed inflation for a temporary period, it then increases the persistence of inflation when finally you have to let the price go up," he continued.

"They're not ineffective, they're ultimately ineffective. So they don't work in the long run,"

Gaspar told Xinhua.

The Fiscal Monitor noted that in a time of high inflation, policies to address high food and energy prices should not add to aggregate demand, noting that demand pressures force central banks to raise interest rates even higher, making it more expensive to service government debt.

Global public debt is projected to remain elevated at 91 percent of GDP in 2022, after receding from a historic high in 2020, and remains about 75 percentage points higher than pre-pandemic levels, according to IMF data.

China confident in its path of socialism with Chinese characteristics

By Ren Yin

GOOD news about technological breakthroughs keeps pouring in these days.

China's Shenzhou-14 astronauts have completed their extravehicular activities; the country's Long March rocket series has set a record of 103 consecutive successful launches; China's domestically developed single-aisle C919 passenger jet has undergone all the test flights necessary to obtain an airworthiness certificate in the country...

These breakthroughs fully prove the notable strengths of China's socialist system in pooling resources and efforts for major undertakings, and have further enhanced the Chinese people's confidence in their own development path.

Whether China follows the right development path directly concerns the rise and fall of the undertakings of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the Chinese people. The path of socialism with Chinese

characteristics is the right path that leads the Chinese people to happiness and tranquility.

China is a large country with over 1.4 billion people. Its large size brings it not only advantages, but also difficulties. It's a huge challenge to achieve modernization in such a large country. At present, only about 1 billion people, or less than 1/7 of the global population, are living in modernized countries and regions. China has to make many more efforts than other countries do to improve its development.

There's no precedent in human history that a major developing country with a vast territory, a huge population, and a big gap in regional development has ever achieved modernization. Therefore, China must explore a path of its own.

The fundamental reason for China's remarkable progress is that it has unwaveringly followed the right path of socialism with Chinese characteristics.

At an activity introducing CPC's experiences held at the



The return capsule of the Shenzhou-13 manned spaceship is exhibited at the Beijing Science Carnival that marks the National Science Popularization Day, Sept. 16, 2022. (Photo by He Luqi/People's Daily Online)

Hangzhou International Expo Center, Zhejiang province on April 14, 2021, Zhang Guojin, Party head of Chengxi village in Zhejiang's Sanmen county,

shared with 430 attending foreign deputies a story of how nine Party heads of the village had worked successively to lift villagers out of poverty.

Zhang showed 35 notebooks to the foreign deputies, which recorded how the village that was once barely able to feed its villagers has turned into a

provincial-level demonstration village that sees annual revenue of over 10 million yuan (\$1.43 million). The village's grain output has increased by 27 percent year on year, and factories for industrial development have been built.

In just about three decades, China, the world's largest developing country, has eradicated absolute poverty and become the world's second largest economy. Such a development miracle exactly indicates that socialism with Chinese characteristics is the right path for China.

A country or a nation is able to make such a miracle only when it has firm faith in what it pursuing. As a socialist country with a huge population and a super-large market, China has to encounter pressure and challenges that are never encountered by other countries on its way to modernization.

Today, profound changes unseen in a century are evolving rapidly in the world, and the Chinese nation has entered

a key stage of its rejuvenation. Standing at a new historical starting point, the Chinese people have the courage, confidence, and ability to manage their own affairs well.

At China National Archives of Publications and Culture, a number of exhibits are displayed, such as the gavel that witnessed China's accession to the WTO in 2001; newspapers recording poverty alleviation stories; and the design sketches of Bing Dwen Dwen and Shuey Rhon Rhon, the mascots of the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics and Paralympics. They are witnesses to China's remarkable progress in modernization.

If the path is correct, one will eventually reach their destination. Rooted in a land of more than 9.6 million square kilometers, nourished by a nation's culture of more than 5,000 years, and backed by the invincible force of nearly 1.4 billion people, China is confident in following the path of socialism with Chinese characteristics.

Opening up is the hallmark of contemporary China

By Gu Xueming, Zhang Dan

OPENING up is a fundamental policy of China, as well as a hallmark of contemporary China. Following the introduction of the reform and opening up policy in 1978, China has fully grasped the opportunities brought about by economic globalization and constantly expanded opening up, making a historic change in its relations with the rest of the world.

Over the past 10 years, China has worked to change its opening up pattern from one based on the flow of products and factors to one based on institutions and rules. A new system for a higher-standard open economy has taken shape.

The country witnessed rapid growth in exports of high-technology, high-quality and high-value-added products. From 2013 to 2021, annual export growth of high-technology products stood averaged 5.1 percent. The comparative advantages of Chinese exports are more and more driven by innovation, rather than factors.

Thanks to the improvement in both the volume and quality of inbound foreign investment, China's high-tech industry lifted its actual use of foreign capital from 140.9 billion yuan (\$20.08 billion) in 2016 to 346.9 billion yuan in 2021, with an average annual growth of 19.7 percent. More and more multinational companies are setting up headquarters, R&D centers and purchasing centers in China.

China has been accelerating the building of a new system for a higher-standard open economy. Since 2013, the country has set up 21 pilot free trade zones (FTZs), and they have seen their successful practice in 278 cases of innovation in institutional reform promoted at the national level.

The number of items on the national and FTZ negative lists has been downsized to 31 and 27, respectively, which effectively activated the energy, impetus and potential of reform and innovation.

The construction of the Hainan Free Trade Port is in steady progress. A tax system that is applicable to high-



Vehicles are being assembled in a workshop of the Chengdu branch of Dongfeng Peugeot Citroen Automobile Company Ltd. in Longquanyi district, Chengdu, southwest China's Sichuan province, Sept. 11, 2022. (Photo by Li Xiangyu/People's Daily Online)

level free trade ports is being established step by step according to the principles of zero tariff, low tax rate, streamlined tax structure, strengthened law enforcement, and phased implementation, to enhance trade liberalization and facilitation.

In 2020, China ranked 31st among 190 economies in the World Bank's ease of doing business index, rising from 96th in 2013 and becoming one of the fastest-growing economies in the world.

Over the past 10 years, China has promoted reform, development and innovation through opening up, seeing continuous improvement in the quality of its economic development.

By advancing supply-side structural reform through high-level opening up, optimizing imports and improving the quality of domestic supply by exploiting

domestic and foreign innovation factors, China is providing products and services of higher quality to the global market and promoting mutual reinforcement between the domestic and international circulations. China's efforts further optimized factor allocation in industries, accelerated industrial restructuring and raised the quality of economic development.

The added value of the service sector accounted for 53.3 percent of China's GDP last year, up from 46.1 percent in 2013, maintaining an important engine driving economic growth. The country's manufacturing industry also saw a significant rise in its comprehensive capability and international influence. The share of the added value of China's manufacturing industry in the world increased to nearly 30 percent in 2021 from 22.5



Containers are being handled at a terminal in Haikou, south China's Hainan province, Sept. 13, 2022. (Photo by Zhang Junqi/People's Daily Online)

percent in 2012, which has consolidated the fundamentals for China's economic development.

Over the past 10 years, China has adhered to win-win cooperation and made unwavering efforts to build an open world economy despite the headwinds of de-globalization.

Facing unstable global recovery, rising de-globalization, as well as profound changes and a pandemic both unseen in a century, China has worked to stabilize foreign trade and foreign investment, and improve the management system for foreign investment. It has boosted confidence in global recovery while pushing for the healthy development of its own economy.

Between 2019 and 2021, the average annual growth of China's actual use of foreign capital stood at 10.8 percent, 9.1 percent higher than the global average.

During the same period, the average annual imports growth was 13.7 percent, 5.7 percentage points higher than the global average.

China's contribution to global economic growth exceeded 30 percent for years, and the country, with a minor rise in its export prices, is alleviating global inflation, serving as an important force driving global recovery.

China follows a principle of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits and promotes high-quality development of the Belt and Road Initiative, which not only brings win-win benefits to participating countries, but also enhances the wellbeing of their people.

Responding to the international aspiration for more equitable, sustainable, and secure development, China proposed

the Global Development Initiative and the Global Security Initiative for building a community with a shared future for mankind. The two initiatives have been warmly responded by over 100 countries.

The development of China in the past 10 years has fully indicated that opening up is the path China must take to achieve prosperity and development. China's door of opening-up will not be closed and will only open even wider.

Facing the future, China will take advantages of its super-large market, drive high-quality development with high-level opening up, and further integrate itself into the world to stabilize global trade and investment, world economy and people's confidence. With the outcomes of high-level opening up, the country will benefit not only the Chinese people, but also the people of the rest of the world.

Digitalisation leads to better life of Chinese people

By Ren Guan

NAVIGATION apps that show real-time traffic information and estimated travel time, virtual fitting rooms that help you get the most fitted clothes you want when you shop online, and virtual museums where you can get close to valuable cultural relics at home... These scenarios have already become a part of the daily lives of the Chinese people.

As China steps up its efforts to build a digital country, digital technologies are being widely applied, bringing digital dividends to more and more people.

The country has further consolidated the foundation of its digital industrialization and accelerated the process of industrial digitalization over the past ten years. China's digital economy grew from 11 trillion yuan (\$1.58 trillion) in 2012 to 45.5 trillion yuan last year. Today, digital technologies are reaching every corner of the country and are bringing profound changes to the lives of the Chinese people.

Over the past ten years, digitalization has made people's lives easier.

From 2012 to 2021, internet penetration in China grew from 42.1 percent to 73 percent, with optical networks covering all prefectural-level cities.

Besides, all administrative villages and villages lifted out of poverty across the country have broadband access.

As of the end of July, China had 475 million 5G mobile users. The country is home to the world's largest 5G network.

Thanks to the leapfrog development of digital infrastructure, new technologies and business models emerge, such as the sharing economy, online retail and mobile payment.

The fruits of digital construction are benefiting all aspects of society. Today, people order food by scanning QR codes and pay bills with facial recognition. Parking and garbage sorting are also made intelligent through digital technologies.

In rural areas, farmers are selling farm produce on livestream platforms, and digital technologies are turning traditional agriculture much smarter. More and more farmers are seeing increasing income thanks to digitalization.

Over the past ten years, digitalization has made services much more convenient for people.

Today, online and remote services are very prevalent in China. In south China's Hainan province, 18 urban hospitals, 340 rural healthcare centers and 2,700 village clinics have been equipped with 5G telemedicine devices. These devices can reduce the average length of patient visits by three to five hours and improve hospitals' efficiency by 30 percent.

In a scenic area in Fuzhou, southeast China's Fujian province, a series of 5G-enabled smart tourism programs have been launched, such as a 5G visible management platform and a B&B monitoring system. With these programs, the scenic area has witnessed a 13-percent rise in tourist visits.



Photo taken on July 8, 2022 shows workers adjusting antennas at a 5G base station in Xuba township, Tongling, east China's Anhui province. (Photo by Guo Shining/People's Daily Online)

In Fuzhou, east China's Jiangxi province, education authorities have connected rural and urban schools through the internet, so as to bring the quality education resources in cities to rural children.

China has established the world's largest online education platform and a national platform for medical insurance information. Over 90 percent of China's counties and districts have access to telemedicine. During the remarkable decade, digital technologies have made important contributions to

narrowing the urban-rural and interregional gaps regarding social service resources.

Over the past ten years, China has made huge improvements in digital government services. Digital government is an important part of China's digital construction efforts. Applying digital technologies in government services is an effective measure to modernize the governance system and capability, as well as an inevitable choice for China to meet the public's ever-growing demand for government services.

At present, mobile government service platforms are seen almost everywhere in the country, and people can have their errands done via a single website and in any province in the country.

Nearly 90 percent of provincial-level administrative licenses can be applied online, and applicants can receive the licenses with only one visit to the relevant offices at most. The average processing time has been reduced by over a half.

According to a UN survey, China's E-Government Development Index is the ninth highest in the world.

By building a digital country, China will energize the digital economy, improve e-government services, optimize the digital environment, build digital cooperation and enhance digital security. Digital technologies will surely better benefit society and give people a greater sense of fulfillment, happiness and security.

The Guardian

SPORT



Organizers of this year's Junior Athletics Championship are pictured at a ceremony for unveiling the maiden showdown which will get underway at Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium in Arusha tomorrow. More than 300 juniors have registered to take part in the showdown. The officials are (L-R) Tanzania Youth Athletics Championship (TAYAC) coordinator Deogratius Mark, Arusha Regional Athletics Association's committee chairman Gerald Babu, Juliana Mwamsuva, one of TAYAC directors, and TAYAC information officer Valentine Kasimiri. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA YOUTH ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIP

Tanzania ought to invest in young athletes - call

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA's athletics legend Suleman Nyambui has stressed the need for the country to have more junior athletics events for it to realize its dream of having many top athletes.

Nyambui, the former Athletics Tanzania (AT) Secretary-General that has further served as Brunei's national athletics team's head coach, said all countries which are doing well in athletics invest in junior events.

The former athlete noted: "It is the best way for the country to produce top athletes who can compete in both local and international events and bring home medals."

"We should start from the grassroots, we must organize many tournaments for the youths, the tournaments will help the juniors gain experience and exposure," he said.

Nyambui, also the national athletics team's head coach that led the athletes in the 2022 Commonwealth Games in England, said so recently in Arusha where Tanzania Youth Athletics Championship (TAYAC) organizers officially unveiled the maiden junior athletics championship which gets underway at Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium tomorrow.

More than 300 juniors have registered to battle it out in the two-day championship.

Those registered are the ones aged between 15-20 and more than 50 schools from in and outside Arusha have also registered to battle it out in the tournament.

One of TAYAC's directors Juliana Mwamsuva said all is ready for the championship.

She thanked all sponsors of the championship including Vodacom Tanzania, Moyo Medicare Specialist Clinic, Bonite Bottlers, Arusha Jambos Houses, HD Printing Solutions, Bonds Security Co Ltd, Radio 5 FM, Supreme Auto Upgrade, and Arusha Regional Athletics Association.

"All is set for the Junior Championship which will be held from tomorrow to Sunday, we are happy that many junior athletes have registered to compete in it, this is one of the best platforms for young athletes to showcase their talents," she said.

She said in the past three years TAYAC has been organizing the championship with emphasis on the 6-14 years age category, but this

time around they sought it wise to have the event targeting age groups of 15-20.

"TAYAC deals with organizing sports competitions in track and field for both local and regional levels, in the past three years we have been organizing athletes events for juniors aged six to 14, most of the athletes who battled it out in the championship in the past three years are now mature, so this coming event aims to welcome them to another age group, we do not want to leave them behind," she said.

She said there will be trophies and awards to be handed over to individual winners and schools.

The official said she believes that talented athletes should be nurtured at a tender age and the Junior Championship is a better platform for transition.

Juliana pointed out: "We aim to see that many junior athletes are graduating to the senior team so that they can represent the country in both local and international events."

"We always make follow up on talented athletes and offer some athletics coaching lessons, it pleased us to see that some of the athletes that have been competing in our events were selected to represent Arusha at the last year's National Athletics Championships which were held in Arusha," the official revealed.

"We hope that this year many of our athletes will make it in their regional teams," she noted.

She said TAYAC programs focus on promoting youths' participation in sports, health development in youths, and increasing youths' access to health care.

TAYAC also creates a marketplace for young athletes by introducing training sessions with international coaches and clubs.

Juliana pointed out: "We provide youth community with an opportunity to continuous professional athletics training, we expose youths' hidden talents to quality fields, coaching, and standard competition, then they participate in sports competitions, be recognized, and awarded for their talents."

"Our programs are also aimed at reducing Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) as chances of cardiovascular, respiratory tract infection, diabetes, and cancer are reduced," she said.

Cuba Gooding Jr. avoids jail in touching case, angering accusers

NEW YORK

AS Cuba Gooding Jr.'s forcible touching case faded to black Thursday with no jail time for the movie star, some of the dozens of women who have accused him of groping, unwanted kissing and other inappropriate behavior criticized the outcome as a slap on the wrist – and a slap in the face.

The Oscar-winning actor turned #MeToo defendant avoided prison time by complying with the terms of a conditional plea agreement that saw him plead guilty to charges in-

volving just one of what prosecutors have said were allegations from at least 30 women, many at New York City nightspots.

Assistant Manhattan District Attorney Coleen Balbert told a judge Thursday that since the deal was reached in April, Gooding has stayed out of trouble and completed six months of alcohol and behavioral counseling. That enabled him to withdraw his misdemeanor guilty plea – for forcibly kissing a waitress at a Manhattan nightclub in 2018 – and instead plead guilty to a non-criminal harassment violation. AP

Club solidarity in Africa inter-club tournaments would hurt fan base dynamism for city rivals

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

HIGHER level authorities, at either a personal or collective level, seem to be bothered by active aid and support for foreign sides arriving in Dar es Salaam in either of the African inter-club tournaments to contest with the city rivals.

The clincher was last weekend when Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, was on duty with Al Hilal SC, Sudanese champions and perennial participants at the group stage and the knock-out phases of the CAF Champions League.

A fan of next street rivals, Simba SC, stole the show on that day.

The recital is that after the Sudanese equalized, he stepped up on the sidelines and made an impressive martial salute, clad in Msimbazi Street outfit colours, and this gesture impressed the visiting side.

A request was aired on social media that the fan is facilitated to travel for the return match in Khartoum at the weekend, on an Al Hilal SC sponsorship as a club guest back there.

This event irritated officialdom, so the minister was issuing instructions, or perhaps it was an appeal, for solidarity.

Largely in reaction to the minister's intervention, officials of Simba SC – popular club leaders rather than the management – have appeared on some busy airwave chan-



Tanzania's Yanga winger, Bernard Morrison (L), dribbles past Sudan's Al Hilal SC defender, Ibrahim Imoro, in the first leg of the 2022/23 CAF Champions League's second preliminary round tie which took place in Dar es Salaam last weekend, with the two sides locked to 1-1 draw. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

nels to wish all the best for their rivals.

The issue is whether there is actually a measure of solidarity that is building between the two sides, whether it is indeed feasible, and finally, whether it would be a good thing if it was feasible.

The key element of the minister's reasoning is inadequate, it relates to the flag, not the cash.

By comparison with several countries and perhaps for the whole of East and Central Africa, sponsorship cash that is getting into soccer here is higher by any comparison, even if the standard of football is largely below par in comparison.

A clear available case is Uganda, whose best play-

ers are outside the country and we have usually recruited some of them to feature in top Premier League sides.

We have little chance against their national side, but their players come to our clubs.

There is often no explanation why countries have more well-financed clubs than others, and how far the level of financing relates to the level of soccer in a country on the one hand, and on the other, the country's economy or culture of competition.

In the England Premier League, London has four or five sides that regularly feature among the 16 top-run sides, while in France the capital has only one club at

the top level.

It is even difficult to say if it has any important club at all apart from that single side which is based in the capital, Paris. These distinctions relate to enthusiasm.

It is well worth examining whether the idea of solidarity for local teams when a foreign team comes playing in Dar es Salaam is not an extension of the traditional view among sports administrators to limit the number of foreign players among top league sides.

When it comes to soccer the whole idea of a nation is but another team that is composed, and that is why the idea coming from those quarters of a union league is a non-starter because Zanzibar is self-reliant in soccer and a member of CAF. And if it can stand the heat, it can be a member of FIFA as well.

What sort of patriotism is wanted concerning a foreign team visiting when we can field an 11-man side composed entirely of foreign players?

There was a time legendary Arsenal FC coach, French tactician Arsene Wenger was asked why he did not have English players on his first team and he responded, 'I didn't know that.'

Why? Because club scouts look for a good midfielder, defender, winger, or striker from whatever quarter, and they don't think of nationality, race, or tongue.

It is high time that culture administrators realize that soccer is part of globalization, and we all have our Dar es Salaam clubs (even if we have other regional clubs, for instance, senior minister Mwigulu Nchemba is a club stakeholder with Singida Big Stars FC and a ranking Yanga supporter).

When it comes to clubs we support them as clubs and not as countries, so when they win, they win as clubs and not as this or that country.

In that case, when Al Ahly wins the CAF Champions League, neither Egypt as a country nor other Cairo clubs will celebrate as it is a club achievement.

Were it not matter for pleasure or pain if Yanga or Simba SC wins in this or that continental tie as either side winning is good for us all, the level of excitement will die down, and sponsorships dwindle rapidly.

Poking fun at the rival club is a big part of the excitement, essential to sentimental affinity within a club, hence asking club leaders to crush that bad wishing for their rivals is to fail to understand the game.

If one is not happy that the rivals are failing and they ought to respect the Msimbazi Street side for their huge achievements so far, why would they bother to come to the stadium if no one laughs at another? So why smother the competition?

SHIMIWI Games vouch for sports tourism, says official

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

SPORTS events and tourism are closely linked therefore sports tourism is accessible to someone that can travel to either participate in sports or observe them.

Connections between sports and tourism have long been established, a relationship that is now gaining global significance.

Sports enthusiasts have for instance travelled from one point of the world to watch various nations battle it out in the Olympics and FIFA World Cup.

Such action is termed tourism, considering that a person is moving to the place that hosts the tournament.

Due to sports and tourism potential, media attention has increased on them and people are becoming more aware of the health and recreational benefits that sports and tourism provide.

The prominence of the sports and tourism relationship has compelled many travel companies, entertainment, and sports organizations to produce brochures to advertise their sports and adventure holidays.

Tanga is lately hosting the 2022 Inter-Ministerial Sports Federation (SHIMIWI) Games, the 36th edition of the showdown which attracts sports persons from various ministries and other public institutions.

About 2,510 sportspersons across all government



Various athletes from the Ocean Road Cancer Institute's outfit congratulate their teammate Steven Sanga that triumphed in the men's 21km cycling race of the 2022 Mei Mosi Cup tournament that was held in Dodoma in April. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT RENATHA MSUNGU

ministries, departments, agencies, as well as regional administrative secretariats have turned up in Tanga to battle it out in the showdown.

The 15-day event started on October 1 and will come to an end today, with the games carrying the slogan namely 'sports reduce risk of being affected by non-communicable diseases and increase productivity at workplaces'.

Tanga Regional Commissioner Omari Mgumba disclosed the SHIMIWI Games have close coordination with tourism and urged all sportsmen and women who turned up for SHIMIWI Games to feel at home because Tanga residents are ready to serve them.

He insisted despite moving to the region for sports, the games' com-

petitors will enjoy services, products, hospitality, cultural activities, adventure, and refresh their minds.

"You have come to Tanga for a sports competition, but you gain another advantage for exploring nature, cultural centers, and relaxing... you will go back home refreshed," he pointed out.

Since the games' commencement, various venues that had hosted the tournaments had been packed by fans watching players battle it out in various sports disciplines, football, netball, athletics, cycling, tug-of-war, draft, and scoring game.

Mkwakwani Stadium and grounds found at Galanos Secondary School, Poptal Secondary School, Tanga Tech-

nical Secondary School, Usagara Secondary School, Harbours Club's netball and basketball courts, Chumbageni Police's courts, and Tanroads basketball and netball courts are among the venues which hosted this season's SHIMIWI Games.

After the culmination of the competitions, the city experiences another vibe, giving guests get the opportunity to explore beautiful scenes that include former German East Africa headquarters marked by well-planned streets, and the first Tanganyika schools.

Other scenes include Tanga Technical School had Jakaya Kikwete, who went on to become Tanzania's Fourth Phase President, as one of the institution's students, and Usagara Secondary

School, formerly known as Karimjee Indian school.

Tanga is calm mostly during the night, with the majority of people that are Muslims going back home immediately after evening prayers and joining their families to rest.

It was though quite busy during the SHIMIWI Games as residents and guests enjoy entertainment, a cool ocean breeze, and others doing business across the streets.

The SHIMIWI Games' competitors had a chance to enjoy Swahili cuisines served at local restaurants popularly known as 'Mama Lisha'.

Other people headed to the entertainment area serving octopus soup, and Pakistan's natural stimulant drink, alias 'Al Khasus', while others were drinking hot coffee and watching Tarab.

The Guardian visited various hotels, lodges, restaurants, and cafes that had hosted lots of customers, with all the city center's hotels and lodges having been fully booked.

Shuttle bus owners and car rental companies had good business, renting cars to SHIMIWI Games participants that headed to venues to take part in clashes.

SHIMIWI Games undoubtedly have turned out to be more of sports tourism.

Referee to cash in on Maradona 'Hand of God' World Cup ball

By GERALD IMRAY

A FORMER World Cup referee is about to cash in on his biggest mistake – to the tune of about \$3 million.

The ball used when Diego Maradona scored his notorious "Hand of God" goal against England at the 1986 World Cup has been put up for auction by the Tunisian ref who was in charge of the game and missed soccer's most famous handball.

Graham Budd Auctions said Thursday they expect the 36-year-old Adidas ball owned by ex-referee Ali Bin Nasser to fetch between \$2.7 million and \$3.3 million when it goes up for sale in Britain on Nov. 16, four days before the World Cup in Qatar kicks off.

The ball auction comes amid a boom for sports memorabilia.

The shirt worn by Argentina great Maradona in that game against England at the World Cup in Mexico was sold in May for \$9.3 million, at the time the highest price paid at auction for a piece of sports memorabilia. That was beaten by a 1952 Topps Mickey Mantle baseball card, which went for \$12.6 million in New York in August.

A Michael Jordan Chicago Bulls jersey from Game 1 of the 1998 NBA Finals – the season featured on the ESPN and Netflix documentary "The Last Dance" – fetched \$10.1 million last month, double what auctioneers expected, to eclipse Maradona's shirt for the record for game-worn memorabilia.

"2022 has been an amazing year in the sports memorabilia market with records broken on three occasions," auction house chairman Graham Budd said. "It's an exciting time in the market and we're wondering whether this famous football will break records as well."

The Maradona goal that gave Argentina a 1-0 lead in the quarterfinal against England – but should never have been allowed – has become part of soccer legend.

Maradona jumped as if to head the ball but instead punched it past goalkeeper Peter Shilton. England players protested to Bin Nasser but the goal stood. Maradona quipped afterward that it was scored "a little with the head of Maradona and a little with the hand of God," leading to its iconic name.

AP

Neymar, Barcelona to stand trial for corruption, fraud

MADRID

BRAZIL forward Neymar will stand trial next week on fraud and corruption charges over his transfer to Barcelona from Santos in 2013 and the complainant, Brazilian investment firm DIS, said on Thursday it was demanding a five-year jail term.

Along with Neymar, the defendants in the trial being brought by Spanish prosecutors, which begins in Barcelona on Monday, are his parents, the two clubs, former Barca presidents Josep Maria Bartomeu and Sandro Rosell, and former Santos president Odilio Rodrigues.

The case stems from a complaint by DIS, a Brazilian company that owned 40% of the rights to Neymar when he was at Santos. It argues it lost out on its rightful cut from the transfer because the true value of the deal was understated.

Neymar, who is a key member of the Brazil team that will be heading to the World Cup in Qatar next month, has denied the allegations but lost an appeal in Spain's High Court in 2017, which paved the way for the trial.

Baker McKenzie, who will be defending Neymar and his family in the trial, told Reuters they will argue that the Spanish courts "lack jurisdiction to prosecute the Neymar family" since the transfer involved Brazilian nationals in Brazil.

Spanish prosecutors want a two-year prison term for Neymar and the payment of a €10 million (\$9.78 million) fine plus a five-year jail term for Rosell and an €8.4m fine for Barcelona.

DIS is also requesting jail terms for Rosell and Bartomeu, and a total fine of €149m fine for the defendants.

Rosell has previously denied any wrongdoing. His representatives did not respond to a request for comment.

Barcelona and lawyers representing Bartomeu declined to comment on the case. Santos did not immediately respond to a request for comment and Rodrigues could not be immediately reached.

DIS acquired 40% of Neymar's rights when he was aged 17 in exchange for €2m. It argues that the player's sale to Barcelona was well below his real market value.

Barca said at the time of Neymar's move that the transfer figure was €57.1m, of which €4m was paid to Neymar's family.

DIS received a 40% share of the remaining €17.1m that was paid to Santos.

"Neymar's rights have not been sold to the highest bidder. There were clubs that offered up to €60m," DIS lawyer Paulo Nasser told a news conference in Barcelona on Thursday.

Neymar's lawyers argue that competition rules relate to products and services and do not apply to the transfer market.

"The rules of free competition do not operate since the transfer from one club to another depends on the free will of the player," a Baker McKenzie spokesman told Reuters.

(Agencies)

Arsenal win in Europa League as McTominay rescues Man Utd

LONDON

ARSENAL maintained their perfect start to the Europa League as Bukayo Saka's goal clinched a 1-0 win at Bodo/Glimt, while Manchester United left it late to beat Omonia Nicosia.

Saka struck midway through the first half in Norway to give the Gunners a third win in as many outings in Group A.

"I'm really happy with the win against a team that has won the last 14 games here at home," Arsenal coach Mikel Arteta told BT Sport.

"We were expecting a really tough night here and we made a lot of changes again but I'm delighted to find a way to win."

Arsenal are two points clear of PSV Eindhoven, who thrashed FC Zurich 5-0. Bodo/Glimt have four points from four matches.

Scott McTominay spared United's blushes with a 93rd-minute goal in a 1-0 win over Cypriot Francis Uzoho pulled off a string of fine saves to frustrate a wasteful United before the Scotland midfielder fired home in stoppage time.

Omonia goalkeeper Francis Uzoho pulled off a string of fine saves to frustrate a wasteful United before the Scotland midfielder fired home in stoppage time.

"You have to be patient sometimes. Their goalkeeper was a differ-



Union SG's Victor Boniface, second left, scores his sides third goal during the Europa League Group D soccer match between St. Gilloise and Braga at the Den Dreef Stadium in Leuven, Belgium, Thursday, Oct. 13, 2022. (AP Photo)

ent class but we created enough chances and deserved to score in the end," McTominay told BT Sport.

"It's a massive goal because we need to win the group."

Erik ten Hag's team stayed three points behind Group E leaders Real Sociedad, who beat 10-man Sheriff Tiraspol 3-0 to record a fourth successive win.

La Real are guaranteed to advance. They host United on November 3 in a clash likely to determine which team goes directly into the last 16.

Each of the eight

group runners-up will face a team that drops down from the Champions League, in a knock-out round play-off in February.

- Betis lose perfect record -

Real Betis dropped their first points of the competition after a 1-1 draw at home to Roma in Group C as they missed the chance to secure a last-16 spot.

Sergio Canales put Betis ahead on 34 minutes but Andrea Belotti equalised for Roma, who remain third in the section behind Ludogorets. The Bulgarians won 2-0

at home to HJK Helsinki.

Freiburg eased to a fourth consecutive victory in Group G, piling further misery on Nantes with a 4-0 win away to the French Cup holders.

Fenerbahce and Rennes both ensured they will progress from Group B. Fenerbahce won 2-1 at AEK Larnaca, while Rennes defeated Dynamo Kyiv 1-0 in Krakow.

Belgium's Union Saint-Gilloise must wait to make sure of a place in the last 16 despite coming from two goals down in a thrilling 3-3 draw against Braga.

Union Berlin revived their hopes in Group D as Robin Knoche's 89th-minute penalty gave the surprise Bundesliga leaders a 1-0 victory over Malmo. All four teams in Group F are level on five points. Lazio drew 2-2 at home to Sturm Graz while Feyenoord were held by the same scoreline by Midtjylland.

Ferencváros are three points clear in Group H after beating Red Star Belgrade 2-1. Trabzonspor hammered Monaco 4-0 to climb above the Ligue 1 side into second.

Villarreal qualified for the last 16 of the Europa

Conference League as winners of Group C. Senegalese midfielder Nicolas Jackson scored the only goal in their 1-0 win at Austria Vienna.

West Ham advanced from Group B following a 2-1 win over Anderlecht courtesy of goals from Said Benrahma and Jarrod Bowen.

The Hammers need just a point from their final two games to wrap up top spot.

Istanbul Basaksehir and Djurgarden will also continue their European adventure in the new year.

AFP

Has Klopp run out of gas in the face of Man City dominance?

MANCHESTER, England

JURGEN Klopp's trademark toothy grin has become somewhat of a rare sight in the Premier League this season.

More frequently, he has worn the look of a man with pressing concerns, perhaps having come to the crushing realization that even his special talents can only go so far.

English soccer owes him, however, for keeping the Premier League interesting, competitive, honest.

Without him, Manchester City's dominance would have been even more pronounced over four years when Liverpool has defied expectations and spending power to – just about – keep pace with the team managed by Pep Guardiola and funded by Abu Dhabi's royal family.

Liverpool is no pauper, though. Record transfer fees went for goalkeeper Alisson and center back Virgil van Dijk. And even in the summer, \$71 million was spent on center forward Darwin Nunez to replace the outgoing Sadio Mane.

But the sparkle has gone, for now at least. Everything seems that much harder for a team that was within reach of an unprecedented quadruple of trophies with only two games to go last season.

Even the normally jovial Klopp has become irritated when questioned by the media this season. His team has looked disjointed and brittle defensively.

Injuries have ravaged an already aging midfield, and Mane's absence has



Jurgen Klopp

Pep Guardiola

been felt in attack.

Ahead of Sunday's visit of Man City to Anfield, Liverpool is 13 points behind the reigning champions and 14 adrift of leader Arsenal, but having played a game fewer than both.

Because of that, Wednesday's 7-1 rout of Rangers in the Champions League – including the fastest-ever hat trick in the competition's history by Mo Salah – provided welcome relief.

Klopp's broad smile was on full show at Ibrox, but the result offers little in the way of confirmation that Liverpool can overcome its early season struggles.

A 2-0 win over Rangers last week was followed by a loss to Arsenal, underlining the impressive strides made by Gunners manager Mikel Arteta and his credentials to be the main challenger to Guardiola this season.

A record of only two league wins from eight games this season is evidence of Liverpool's dramatic decline.

So are wildly fluctuating results across all competitions, including a Premier League-record equalling 9-0 win over Bournemouth and the seven struck at Rangers, while there was also the crushing 4-1 loss to Napoli and a 3-3 draw with Brighton at home.

There are tangible reasons for the slump, including injuries to a host of key players that has left Klopp plugging holes and struggling to put out a consistent

team.

Meanwhile, the loss of Mane to Bayern Munich has removed a pivotal part of the attack that propelled the team to three Champions League finals (winning one), the Premier League title, FA Cup and League Cup under Klopp, who is under contract to 2026.

One of the world's deadliest strikers was never going to be easy to replace, no matter how much faith Liverpool has placed in Nunez.

With Luis Diaz also joining in January, there is a sense of transition at Anfield. But what about the less tangible factors – notably the mental strain of trying to keep up with a rival as relentless as City?

It cannot be overstated just how psychologically taxing it must be to compete with a team with seemingly bottomless resources, as well as the brilliance of one of the sport's greatest managers in Guardiola.

While Klopp is coping with the loss of Mane after finishing one point behind City last season, Guardiola has added arguably the most fearsome forward in the world in the form of Erling Haaland.

While Liverpool has had to perfectly judge virtually every signing, City just keeps on topping up perhaps the most talented pool of players in club soccer.

It must be exhausting, yet Klopp has continued to go toe-to-toe with his Catalan counterpart.

Just one point separates the teams over

the past four completed seasons, yet City has won three titles in that time to Liverpool's one.

Liverpool has recorded the sort of numbers that would place it among the most dominant teams in the history of English soccer, but has been left with relatively little to show for it. That "failure" is bound to take its toll.

Has Liverpool finally run out of gas after defying expectations for so long?

The question, more pointedly, is whether Klopp has the energy to go for it all again.

His team went through a similar slump after winning the title in 2020, with a paper-thin defense of the trophy that left it 17 points adrift of City.

Liverpool returned last season to come within a whisker of a clean sweep.

That already feels like a long time ago – but victory on Sunday could serve as encouragement that the good times may yet return.

AP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Arsenal win in Europa League as McTominay rescues Man Utd

PAGE 19



Osinachi Joseph Egbu, alias 'Sinach'.

Nigerian Gospel musician set to grace Festival of Praise

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

PROMINENT Nigerian Gospel singer, Osinachi Joseph Egbu, in collaboration with her Tanzanian counterpart John Lisu, will stage a show in the Festival of Praise slated to take place at the Diamond Jubilee Hall in Dar es Salaam today.

Lisu, also the festival's organizer, told The Guardian that Osinachi, known professionally as Sinach, will bring God's word to Tanzanians through her compositions, as well as compositions by other local singers.

"I will collaborate with her in the festival, she will take the stage to sing her song titled 'Way Maker' that captured the world of Gospel music, the track was viewed by more than 200 million fans," Lisu revealed.

He mentioned the singers who will accompany the Nigerian singer as Tanzanians Christina Shusho, Ambwene Mwasongwe, Pastor Epa, Moravian Church Choir, Kenya's Ruach Worship Team, and Gospel Winners Choir.

"We are asking Gospel music lovers to show up in large numbers at this festival which is one of the most important events of praise and worship held in this country," he said.

Lisu further has asked the worshippers from various churches to come out in large numbers to get anointing through worship songs that will fill them with more faith to do acts that please God.

Osinachi is a Nigerian singer, songwriter, and senior worship leader at Loveworld until 2021.

The singer, born in 1972, is the first singer-songwriter to top the Billboard Christian Songwriter chart for 12 weeks in a row.

Her song 'Way Maker' received three nominations and won the Song of the Year at the 51st GMA Dove Awards, making her the first Nigerian to win the award.

The visual for 'Way Maker' is currently the second most-watched Nigerian music video on YouTube.

She also won the BMI song of the year, and in 2021 was recognized by the US Congress while on tour in the United States of America.

She has released nine studio albums with several other hit songs, including 'I Know Who I Am', 'Great Are You Lord', 'Rejoice', 'He Did It Again', 'Precious Jesus', 'The Name of Jesus', 'This Is My Season', 'Awesome God', 'For This', 'I Stand Amazed', 'Simply Devoted', and 'Jesus is Alive'.

Sinach received a Bethlehem Hall of Faith certificate of commemoration during her visit to Israel in December 2017.

In September 2019, Sinach became the first gospel artist from Africa to tour India, headlining concerts with several thousand in attendance.

In May 2020, she became the first African artist to top the Billboard Christian Songwriters chart. In July 2022, she joined the Grammy Recording Academy as a voting member.

Yanga talisman calls for unity in pursuit of 2022/23 CAF Champions League group stage ticket



Tanzania's Yanga forward, Fiston Mayele (C), negotiates his way past Sudan's AI Hilal SC defenders in the first leg of the 2022/23 CAF Champions League second preliminary round match which took place in Dar es Salaam last weekend. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA'S Yanga forward Fiston Mayele is eager to restore hope to the club's fans as the squad is set to come up against in the 2022/23 CAF Champions League second preliminary round rematch against Al Hilal SC of Sudan.

Yanga drew 1-1 with Al Hilal SC in the first match which took place in Dar es Salaam at the end of last week, a situation that caused panic among the outfit's fans given they believe that their side will not emerge victorious in Khartoum.

The NBC Premier League

defending champions will arrive in Khartoum today to ensure that they avoid all kinds of trouble ahead of the game.

Mayele pointed out that the journey to the group stage is not over yet as they have what it takes to move forward while asking Yanga's fans to continue to give players the courage to fight.

The Congolese striker noted: "We know the fans were hurt by the draw at home and, to a large extent, we know that it was not our expectation to get a draw."

"We assure our fans that we will fight to win this game, we will be away to make sure that we garner good results. We ask the fans not to be disappointed with us rather they ought to

support us," Mayele stated.

Yanga's head coach Nasreddine Nabi sat with his players and studied the game through video footage, and noted to know how they played the first match of the round which ended in a 1-1 draw.

Despite having the opportunity to do well, the coach said he will make changes to his team that will play on Sunday.

"We are more of a family, there are times when we meet as a family and talk, I am happy to see that even the players have told me that they still see a chance to do well in Sudan and they are hurt by the results of the first leg," Nabi, whose biggest test this season is qualifying for the continental show-down's group stage, noted.

"I said before that we are going to meet the best team, but we played with quality, unfortunately, we did not use our chances, we can make changes to some players but not to a large extent."

"We will play with the strength to fight for Yanga, the players realize they let their fans down, although we will be away we can do something different, this is football," Nabi who has in the past coached Sudan's El Merreikh, Al Hilal SC's biggest rival, noted.

Yanga needs to get either a win of any margin or a 2-2 should they harbour hopes of qualifying for the group stage of this season's CAF Champions League.

Failure to do so will see the side battle it out in the playoffs of the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup group stage.

Geita Gold FC coach happy with away draw with Coastal Union

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

GEITA Gold FC head coach Fred Felix states he was impressed by his side's performance against Coast Union despite failure to capitalize on scoring opportunities created by his players in the 2022/23 NBC Premier League match that was held at Mkwakwani Stadium in Tanga on Thursday.

The two sides were locked to a goalless draw and Felix, alias 'Minziro', said before the game his club had some challenges but he is at least satisfied with the way his charges executed themselves in the match.

"Ahead of the tie, we did not train for two days, we also arrived here almost at 4 am which means we did not have enough time to rest but my players played well," the gaffer noted.

"We created some clear-cut chances, unfortunately, maybe the sharpness is not yet there but I'm more than pleased with the performance," he said.

Geita Gold FC's next game will take place at its home turf, Nyankumbu Girls Secondary School Stadium, coming up against Namungo FC next week.

Felix pointed out he feels that if his players can replicate their performance against Coastal Union, then they are destined for posting good results.

"If we can have the same performance and the same



Geita Gold FC head coach Fred Felix

desire which my players are showing in the games we have played this season so far, I think there might be good results," he said.

Geita Gold FC Information Officer Hemed Kivuyo said after the tie versus Coastal Union, the Geita side's players will be given two

days of rest and then resume training on Tuesday.

He said the team is aimed at reopening Nyankumbu Girls Secondary School

Stadium with a win against Namungo FC.

"Our fans are starved of watching our games live, so the next game is an opportunity for them to see the team back at its home venue, we will do our best to win so that they are happy with our return," he said.

He also said they expect players Kelvin Nashon and Selemani Ibrahim who missed previous games due to injuries to be fit and ready for the Namungo FC encounter.

In the previous season, Geita Gold FC managed to earn a single point from two games they played against Namungo FC.

Geita Gold FC lost 2-0 away to Namungo FC and managed to settle for a goalless draw with the latter at home.

Last Thursday's game has taken Geita Gold FC to seven points from the same number of games.

The side as a result remains clinging on to 10th place in the 2022/23 NBC Premier League.

Before featuring in last Thursday's encounter, Geita Gold FC was camping in Bagamoyo, Coast Region.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

