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**TANZANIA** 

MONDAY 3 JULY, 2023

National Pg 3 lumbos to move from Kenya to Mozambique



National Pg 6 Tanzanians urged to visit DITF grounds



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# Joy as mobile money transfer levy ends

By Getrude Mbago

OBILE money users, with a total of 44 million accounts, Lare happy with the scrapping of transfer levy that took effect on Saturday, July 1.

Telecom operators said the move is likely to boost the frequency of cash transfers, as a section of mobile money users and operators lauded the move, saying the levy was "burning them a lot."

Elsie Ngilipa, a Dar es Salaam resident, said she was going to make greater use of cash transfers, noting that she has children attending college who need pocket money every week.

"This move is real a blessing to me," she stated, noting that high costs of sending money electronically brought a lot of challenges, even suggesting that some clients were being mentally affected.

Elia Hubert, a small-scale trader, said things haven't been easy for the past two years due to the high charges.

"I remember I was sometimes opting to walk or take a commuter bus to reach the person who I want to provide the money instead of sending it by mobile phone due to charges when sending or withdrawing funds, he said.

Removing the transfer fees ends the burden on low-income consumers with small businesses, along with women and most of those living in rural areas. It is a step towards better financial inclusion, he asserted.

Jackson Mmbando, public relations and corporate communications manager at Airtel Tanzania hailed the move, saying that the firm is heightening its capability to enable users to send levy-free money transfers more

"We've received the order and we're are working on it and from tomorrow we'll have full answers on the matter,"

Angelica Pesha, Tigo-Pesa chief of operations said the scrapping of levy is well received, as anecessary step to achieve financial inclusion and uplift the digital economy.

"With no levy on transfers, we expect both the volume and value of transactions to increase as our customers will be able to do more transactions, sending money more conveniently," she remarked.

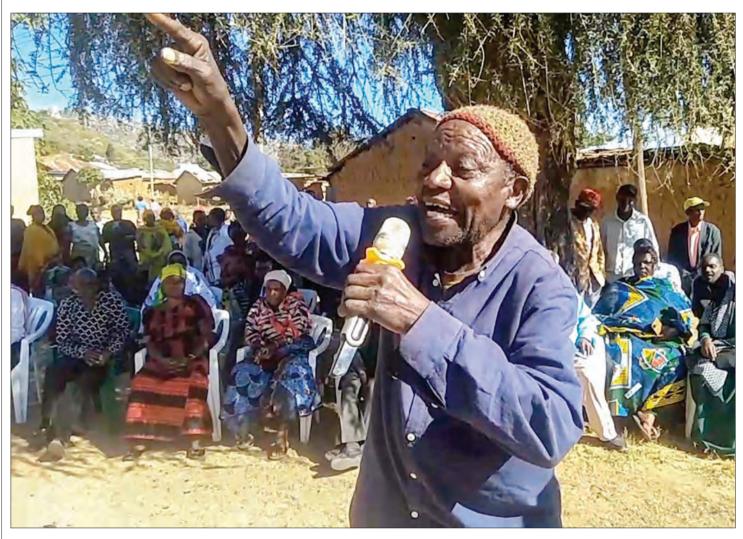
The firm is presdently investing in technology infrastructure to ensure seamless service delivery across the country, she highlighted.

Zuweina Farah, Vodacom (T) director of external affairs, said the company has already removed the charge, noting that this will have a positive effect on mobile phone use and thus stimulate financial inclusion.

Mobile money services carry a lot of advantages as they make it easy for people to access services beyond money transfers, including savings, loans and insurance, so improving the mechanism was an important move.

Nape Nnauye, the Information, Communication and Information Technology minister, last week lauded President Samia Suluhu Hassan for the decision to remove the charges.





Joseph Mkazi of Ruaha ward in Iringa Region poses a question to Iringa Urban legislator Dr Jesca Msambatavangu, seeking clarification on conflicting reports relating to the Dar es Salaam Port. This was at a public meeting called by the MP, who was categorical that the port remained safely and fully in Tanzania's hands. Photo: Correspondent Friday Simbaya

# Beware imposters, PSSSF warns on members' dues

**By Guardian Reporter** 

THE Public Service Social Security Fund (PSSSF) has warned its members to be vigilant in the wake of fraudulent designs taking place especially through 'sim-banking.'

James Mlowe, a public relations and members education officer, issued this precaution via a pavilion presentation at the ongoing Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair at Kilwa Road grounds.

He said cyber criminals have been defrauding pensioners receiving monthly pensions by sending short messages pretending that the pensioner's account has been blocked.

"Through this, they direct the pensioner to send his account information and when the pensioner carries out those instructions, criminals enter that account and clear all cash they will find," he stated.

ducted by pretending to be representing sick pensioners receiving the lump sum cheque but now they are designing methods of stealing pensioners' monthly payments, he said.

The fund checked the lumpsum fraud trend with an education campaign among retirees "and that is why they have invented this new strategy," he

Osmond Hyera, a teacher at

Earlier fraud was being con- Msasani primary school, said he heard of fraud cases, with a fellow teacher running into criminals who tried to steal his lumpsum payment.

> "The scammers told him that they will swiftly facilitate his payment so that he can get it quickly and they introduced themselves as government officials,' he said, noting that his

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## 'Serengeti is world's third best nature destination'

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

A GROUP travel advisors' magazine has voted the Serengeti National Park as the third best nature destination in the world. William Mwakilema, the Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) conservation commissioner, said in a statement at the weekend that Serengeti has been voted by travellers and outdoor enthusiasts as the third top nature-based destination in the world for 2023. Trip Advisor, acclaimed as the world's largest travel platform serving 400 million tourists per month, organizes an annual travellers' choice award, which the TANAPA CEO said they had received news of the award with gratitude. It was a vote of confidence for Destination Tanzania in the world travel market, he said, while the magazine wrote that the Maasai call the plains of Serengeti national park as a place where the land moves on forever.

"And here, you can witness the famous Serengeti annual migration, the largest and longest overland migration on earth," it affirmed, elaborating on the annual migration that has enthralled travelers for

"From the sprawling Serengeti plains in Tanzania to the champagnecolored hills of Kenya's Maasai Mara game reserve, over two million wildebeests and half a million zebra as well as gazelle, relentlessly tracked by Africa's great predators, migrate in a clockwise manner over 1,800 miles each year in search of rain-ripened grass," it said... The CEO noted that the vote would not have been possible without incredible explorers from across

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# US legislators, UN officials sit in village nutrition event

**By Guardian Reporter** 

A high-level delegation from the House of Representatives, the lower legislative chamber in the United States, the UN Foundation and the Eleanor Crook Foundation yesterday concluded a four-day mission in Tanzania.

Christine Musisi, the acting United Nations resident coordinator and country representative for the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), said in a statement at the weekend that the goal of this mission was to

The government has implemented a nutrition programme with a multisectoral framework, fielding village health and nutrition days (VHND) to address these issues gain insight into UN work in the country, focusing on biodiversity and nutrition spheres.

She expressed gratitude for the delegation's interest in Tanzania's development efforts, highly appreciating the interest of the US legislative chamber in choosing the work of the UN in Tanzania as a key aspect of their learning mission. The mission showed a keen interest in Tanzania's development efforts, with the

United Nations Foundation described as a charitable organization based in Washington,

D.C., supporting the United Nations and activities of key agencies, including the United Nations High Commission for Refugees UNHCR). Congressional members in the delegation were Sydney Kamlager-Dove, (California State Senate-37 Congressional district), Nannete Barba Diaz Barragan (California's 44th district), Emilia Strong Sykes (Ohio 13th district), Edward Espenette Case, (Hawaii's 1st district)

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## 'Serengeti is world's third best nature destination'

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the

world and dedicated conservators working diligently to preserve Serengeti's breathtaking beauty. "I profoundly thank both of you for your crucial role," he enthused. The global travellers' accolades not only raise the profile of Tanzania as top African tourism destination but also reinforce collective responsibility for its protection and sustainable conservation, he stated. "Let us remain committed to promoting responsible tourism, supporting local communities and spreading awareness about the importance of conserving Serengeti's biodiversity," he stated, urging devotion to the other 21 national parks. Chroniclers say the Serengeti National Park

Africa. It was established in 1952, home to the greatest wildlife spectacle on earth - the great migration of wildebeest and zebra. The resident population of lion, cheetah, elephant, giraffe and birds is also impressive, among other predators and prey species, with the park having a wide variety of accommodation available, from luxury lodges to mobile camps.

is undoubtedly the best-known wildlife

sanctuary in the world, unequalled for its natural beauty and scientific value, with the greatest concentration of plains game in

The park covers 5,700 sq miles, (14,763 sq km), where the CEO, earlier a chief park warden for the Serengeti says that the wildebeest migration has been taking place hundreds or thousands of years.

"The wildebeests' journey is an endless pilgrimage, a constant search for food and water. The only beginning is at the moment of birth and end when they die," he stated.

Chroniclers say the wildebeest and zebra form the star cast of a unique spectacle drawing tens of thousands of nature lovers, photographers, filmmakers and researchers to East Africa each year to witness one of the world's most awe-inspiring spectacles.

The vast plains of the Serengeti comprise 1.5m hectares of savannah, harbouring the unaltered migration of two million wildebeests plus hundreds of thousands of gazelles and zebras engaging in a 1,000-kilometrelong annual circular trek spanning Tanzania and Kenya, with more settled predators tracking them in spaced out zones all along the migratory route.

George Waitara, the TANAPA board chairman and retired army commander, said the award comes at an opportune moment, complementing efforts to spur the tourism industry and enhance its contribution to economic growth.

"TANAPA prize will go a long way in stimulating tourism, thus putting the country into a better position to achieve its five million visitors target by 2025," Waitara

There are expectations that Tanzania will attract five million tourists by 2025 leaving behind nearly \$6.6bn, with multiplier effects to "a critical mass of common folks in Tanzania, particularly women and youth."

### Beware imposters, PSSSF warns on members' dues

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son had asked him not to make any communication and leave the responsibility to him, to communicate with those people.

"But when he contacted them that he had already arrived at the office, they disconnected the call," the teacher narrated.

He urged PSSSF members, pensioners and the public at large to visit the pavilion, to widen their understanding on the various services provided by the fund.

They will deepen their understanding of members' contribution, benefits offered by the fund, while pensioners can verify themselves by the new biometric system, he stated.

Said Abdul Njaidi, the principal public relations officer, said the fund had set up a team of staff members to visit various booths to meet fund members for on spot education on its services.

The team will focus on the use of mobile phone or computer to access PSSSF services, he said, pointing at respective mobile phone and website based payment services.

The service enables members with limited time to visit offices, to access PSSSF services through mobile

phones or online. During the campaign the fund has noticed that some members only need some explanation to solve challenges they face concerning the services they want, he



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi and First Lady Mariam Mwinyi pictured yesterday shortly after landing at Zanzibar's Abeid Amani Karume International Airport by an Air Tanzania flight on return from China, where he attended the Third China-Africa Economic and Trade Expo. Photo: Zanzibar State House

# US legislators, UN officials sit in village nutrition event

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and Madeleine Dean (Pennsylvania's 4th district), while the Eleanor Crook Foundation sent Lesley Webet Mcnitt.

During their visit, the delegation engaged with various stakeholders, including the UN country team, government departments, NGOs, conservationists and nutrition experts, she

Through these interactions, they gained an understanding of how the UN supports government's efforts to address malnutrition and food security while promoting sustainable natural resource management and conservation initiatives.

They visited Tungamalenga village in Idodi ward of Iringa district, where they inspected a UN-backed nutrition program backed by local communities, in the company of Halima Dendego, the regional commissioner.

The RC provided an overview of nutrition challenges facing the region, despite that the region is ranked among Tanzania's breadbasket regions. The region struggles with malnutrition and HIV/AIDS, she stated.

"The government has implemented a nutrition programme with a multisectoral framework, fielding village health and nu-research efforts to find out trition days (VHND) to address why malnutrition was still high

The nutrition compact agreement links the President's Office (Regional Administration, and Local Governments) and other agencies, working on the national multi-sectoral nutrition action plan, with

these issues," she said.

a focus on data collection, she said She said international cooperation plays a crucial role in addressing nutrition-related issues, inviting the delegates,

UNF leaders and the representative from Eleanor Crook Foundation to support in the region despite being a breadbasket region.

The village health and nutrition day activities included nutritional screenings, health education, cooking demonstrations and agricultural interventions, the statement indicated.

At that event, the delegation engaged with local community members, religious leaders, healthcare professionals and programme beneficiaries to gain insights into successes and challenges faced in addressing malnutrition, it stated.

Stunting of under-five children decreased steadily from 48 per cent in the 1999 Tanzania Demographic Health Sur-

vey (TDHS) to 30 per cent in the 2022 baseline survey, with experts saying "malnutrition is still inadmissibly high in terms of absolute numbers probably due to population growth."

More than three million children under the age of five are stunted, with the data showing high geographical variations.

Nyabenyi TitoTipo, the head of the UN Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) country mission, said that examples seen in the village show the extent of UN support for the community to address nutrition from the health, food and agricultural transformation aspects.

Christine Musisi (L), acting UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Representative in Tanzania, has a word with Jonas Mkusa (R), the president of an association of members of communities living in areas bordering Ruaha National Park who have volunteered to help in taking care of wildlife there. It was shortly after the latter briefed the visiting delegation of members of the US Congress who have just concluded a four-day mission in Tanzania. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

### LATRA,TIRA hold talks to compensate bus passengers involved in road accidents

### By Guardian Correspondent

THE Land Transport Regulatory Authority (LATRA) has sais that it is in talks with the Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA) so that passengers involved in road accidents while travelling are compensated.

LATRA director general, Habibu Suluo made the remarks at the weekend at a function to launch the curricula for teaching workers in the transport sector and confirmation of bus drivers.

"We have talked to TIRA that people who are involved in road accidents in

this country do not get paid at all because all buses are fully insured.

"And that is why we insist on the use of online tickets that records passengers to the online system, hence in case of accidents, we know who were passengers who travelled in the bus involved.

"In that case, even this system to register and verify drivers simplifies the task of identifying them and assist them when in problems," Suluo said.

He added: "Bus transport regulations prohibits drivers to drive buses for more than eight hours continuously, the system we have now helps us to know the identity every driver in case of any problems,"

He said statistics show that many road accidents are caused by human errors and that the aim the procedure to register and verify drivers is to try to reduce road traffic accidents.

"In 2020 LATRA started registering drivers and in 2022 it created an electronic examination system for them and those who pass are officially certified, and in this first phase, 999 drivers have been certified, and the exercise continues,"

he added.

He called on drivers to continue registering themselves quickly before the window for doing so closes on July 31 this

For his part, Works and Transport Deputy Minister, Atupele Mwakibete said the country has been losing huge labour force including destruction of property and created permanent disabilities to many people.

He said the government is investing a lot of efforts towards the transport sector and will continue doing so as it carries people's destinies.





James Mlowe (R), Public Relations and Members' Education manager with the Public Service Social Security Fund (PSSSF), attends to member Osmund Xavery Hyera at the Fund's pavilion at the ongoing 47th edition of the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

### Tanzania still accepts asylum seekers, repatriating refugees

#### By Francis Kajubi

TANZANIA is hosting 11,400 new asylum seekers from the Democratic Republic of Congo and other countries with political tensions.

The asylum seekers were received between the period of March and June this year and are currently living in different refugee camps.

Speaking at an event to accept a donation of information, communication and technology equipment donated by the UN World Food Programme (WFP) held last Friday in Dar es Salaam, Sudi Mwakibasi, Director of Refugees Services Department in the Ministry of Home Affairs said in line with receiving new asylum seekers it has been repatriating Burundi's refugees to their native land on a monthly routine. According to him, since earlier 2017 to date about 146,000 refugees have been repatriated to their native countries.

"Almost 72 villages in Kigoma region have been home to refugees since 1972. Tanzania is hosting almost 265,000 refugees in Kigoma, Shinyanga, Tabora and Katavi regions camps," said Mwakibasi.

In this case, he asserted, in the current digital era the unit is collaborating with development partners in ensuring that all its operations are digitized. This equipment will really help us in our daily operations.

He commended WFP for playing a major role in distributing food staff in refugee camps regardless of the global crisis such as Covid-19 and the Russia-Ukraine war that has sparked to spiraling food prices.

WFP Country Director and Representative, Sarah Gordon-Gibson, said WFP has donated five computers and two printers. Worth 44m/-. According to her, the donation is part of the UN Agency collaboration with the Ministry of Home Affairs in serving the refugees with their host communities.

According to her, WFP is also looking at opportunities of having refugees and their host communities to shift from charcoal and firewood to clean energy sources.

"This is just to ensure that the environment is protected and communities are safeguarded from climate change implications," she

In April this year, WFP launched its five year Country Strategic Plan 2022/27 that among other aspects embraces integrated humanitarian-development approach by investing in development activities to build resilience of a greater number of vulnerable communities in Tanzanian such as refugees.

The plan has been developed based on an inclusive and thorough consultative process with both governments for Mainland and Zanzibar, communities, donors, UN agencies, NGOs, academia, International Financial Institutions, and the private sector.

Gibson said the plan is aligned with the government's Five-Year Development Plan for the Mainland, and the government of Zanzibar's Medium-Term Development Strategy; various sectoral strategies and plans; as well as the United Nations Sustainable Development Framework, 2022-2027.

### Elephants to migrate from Kenya to Mozambique through Tanzania

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame,

#### Morogoro

ELEPHANTS in the eastern Africa region will soon be able to migrate back-and-forth between Kenya and Mozambique through Tanzania, thanks to ongoing efforts aimed at restoring all important wildlife cor-

Already Tanzania is rebuilding the vital wild animal passage route linking Udzungwa Mountains and Nyerere National Park in the southern circuit, a corridor which is crucial for especially elephants' move-

According to Joseph Mwalugelo the wildlife corridor restoration manager for the Southern Tanzania Elephant Programme (STEP), Udzungwa-Selous-Nyerere landscape is home to the biggest meta population of jumbos.

Results from the census conducted by the Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) indicated that over 20,000 elephants are roaming in the southern circuit of Tanzania.

"As we link Nyerere and Ud-

connect the ecosystem which also includes the niasa special reserve of mozambique, to the western meta population mapped within Rungwa-Ruaha-Katavi landscape," Mwalugelo maintained.

The expert revealed that the programme will afterwards continue to find ways of linking both the Southern and western meta population of jumbos to the northern Serengeti-Ngorongoro-Maswa precinct, which also links the Maasai Mara National Reserve of Kenya.

Speaking to members of the zungwa parks, the aim is to later Journalist Environment Associa-

tion of Tanzania (JET) who visited the newly revived corridor in the Kilombero District of Morogoro, Mwalugelo added that, the aim is to crate linkage between the north and south wildlife precincts for free movement of animals, especially jumbos.

Which means in the near future, elephant migrations will be cutting across the three eastern African countries of Kenya, Tanzania and Mozambique.

The migration is expected to create a new phenomenon in ridor will be protected by electric both tourism and conservation fencing on either side, as well as

But for starters, the newly cleared Kilombero Elephant Corridor which measures around 12 kilometers long and up to 200 meters wide now officially links Udzungwa Mountains and Nyerere National Park downstream.

The corridor also included an underpass tunnel which allows elephants and other wildlife species to cross the rather busy Ifakara to Dar-es-salaam Road.

The first in the country, the cor-

surveillance cameras.

"Together with STEP and other stakeholders in wildlife conservation, we are striving to identify, restore and maintain wildlife corridors because these natural passageways are vital in addressing human-wildlife conflicts," stated Joseph Olila from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Olila is the coordinator, research and policy manager of the USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili, project and secretary of the Kilombero Elephant Corridor.

### **INVITATION OF PROPOSALS** FOR AUCTIONEERS AND DEBT COLLECTING AGENCIES SPECIALIZED IN BANKS

Exim Bank Tanzania Limited is one of the leading banks in providing financial services in 4 countries and the first Tanzanian bank to have branches outside of the country's borders. Since welcoming its first customers at the Samora branch in Dar es Salaam in 1997, Exim Bank has continued to grow and expand into regions and some districts nationwide. Despite that, it has remained at the forefront in providing excellent banking services here and abroad.

Exim Bank Tanzania Limited invites formal applications from auctioneers and debt collectors.

- 11 The scope and details of services include: Debt collection, auction management, providing reports on defaulters, sales promotion of assets, and carrying out any other required activities, in accordance with the laws of the United Republic of
- | 2 | All inquiries or questions regarding the applications should be submitted lectronically through adminprocure@eximbank.co.tz
- 13 Interested service providers must attach their proposals, evidence of at least five (5) years of experience in providing services to at least three (3) reputable organizations in the past.4.

All applications must be sent & received before **5:00pm** on Monday, the 10th of July 2023.













The Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC) is a membership organization working towards enhancing the security and protection of Human Rights Defenders (HRDs) in the country. It is registered and operates within the framework of Non-Governmental Organizations Act (NGO Act) 2002. THRDC long-term goals are to see a free and secure environment for human rights defenders in Tanzania and to ensure HRDs in our country are able to carry out their essential work free from harm and repression, in accordance with the UN Declaration on Human Rights Defenders of 1998.

THRDC organizational structure comprises of General Assembly, Board of Directors, and Secretariat. Article 9 of the THRDC Constitution of 2012 provides for the establishment of the Board of Directors to be comprised of nine (9) members based on the THRDC's stakeholders and thematic representation. According to the Constitution, the tenure for Board members is for a term of three (3) years subject to a renewal of two

THRDC recognizes the paramount importance of having a Board that possesses a deep understanding of the organization's beliefs, values mission, and vision. This understanding is crucial in ensuring that the Board effectively addresses key Coalition issues throughout the year while staying aligned with the core principles. In addition, THRDC firmly believes that in order to ensure the sustainability of its current performance in the NGO sector, the Board must devote significant time and strategic thoughts to the organization's long-term objectives. Thus, individuals who join THRDC's Board must demonstrate a genuine commitment, dedicating their time. energy, and unwavering effort to fulfil their responsibilities.

As the terms of our esteemed current Board members end, in accordance with the THRDC Constitution, we are enthusiastically searching for five (5) highly qualified individuals to join our team and fill these vacancies. We are actively seeking individuals who possess the requisite qualifications expertise, and unwavering passion to make a significant contribution to the growth and impact of our Coalition

### 2.0 Qualifications/Conditions

This is an extraordinary opportunity for an individual who is passionate about THRDC's mission and who has a track record of board leadership, therefore aspiring individuals must have the following qualifications

- Applicants should be mature, analytical, tolerant and of high moral
- Applicants must possess a minimum Degree level of education with specific field training and sound experience with management. Master's and PhD levels will be an added advantage. If the Applicant is from the member organization of THRDC, must
- have fully paid all contributions and fees owed to THRDC. If the Applicant belongs to a member organization of THRDC, they must have fulfilled all their obligations by fully paying all
- contributions and fees owed to THRDC. Applicants must have a background or be involved in any human
- rights work/ or a Human Rights Defender in a way. Applicants must belong and apply to represent any of the following thematic groups, pastoralists, minority rights, people with disabilities, women, child rights, social rights and accountability, natural resources and economic rights, political rights and human rights in human rights in general, legal aid providers and freedom of
- vii. For applicants working in an NGO, his/her NGO must have all audited financial documents for at least three years consecutively viii. For applicants working in an NGO, his/her NGO must have complied with all laws and regulations governing the NGO sector since its

### 3.0 Experience

- Applicants must have at least 5 years work experience in the field of human rights or a human rights defender
- Applicants must have at least 5 years of previous experience in NGO's operation in Tanzania

iii. Applicants must have a vast experience in NGO's dynamics and regimes in Tanzania.

### 4.0 Skills

Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition [THRDC]

+255 769 642 208 E-mail; info@thrdc.or.tz

- thinking and exceptional multi-tasking abilities.
- Demonstrate a curious mindset and possess the capacity to make meaningful contributions to the development of the NGO
- Possess excellent communication skills and the ability to deliver compelling public presentations. Exhibit a strong service-oriented approach, prioritizing the needs
- and goals of the Coalition and its beneficiaries. Excellent organizational and strong interpersonal skills Ability to engage in successful fundraising efforts, ensuring the
- long-term sustainability of the Coalition.

### 5.0 Duties:

- To attend all scheduled Board meetings in accordance with the Coalition's calendar and provide valuable guidance for the strategic governance of the organization.
- To actively participate in the formulation of policies as a crucial member of the Coalition's policymaking body. To develop effective strategies for the financing and financial
- management of the Coalition.
- To possess the authority to co-opt any individuals who possess specific expertise and are required for purposes.
- To appoint technical committees, assign clear terms of reference. and establish task forces to address specific objectives.
- To Stay well-informed about the organization by thoroughly reviewing minutes from Board meetings, financial statements, and other relevant materials. Fulfil legal, fiscal, and ethical responsibilities with utmost dedication.
- developments which may impact the organization and/or its programs and bring them to the attention of the Board.

To be aware of and notice community activities and legal/political

- viii. To assume responsibility for the recruitment and disciplinary actions pertaining to the National Coordinator position
- To approve and monitor the progress of major capital expenditures as defined in THRDC's financial manual.
- To develop comprehensive strategies and mobilize resources to ensure the long-term sustainability of the Coalition.
- To foster a culture of good working relationships and mutual respect at all times, actively encouraging cooperation and collaboration
- xii. To promote a positive and reputable image of the Coalition through
- consistent efforts and public representation. xiii. To uphold the highest standards of ethics and exemplary work
- performance, serving as a role model for others within the xiv. To recognize and value the contributions of staff members on an
- ongoing basis, fostering an environment of appreciation and xv. To Attend the annual Board retreat and other orientation meetings,
- actively engaging in important organizational activities and

### 6.0 Mode of application

Interested and qualified persons for the post must send their application letter accompanied by a two (2) page motivation letter explaining his/her work in the thematic area he/she is applying from, CV and education certificates(credentials) electronically to info@thrdc.or.tz by 14/07/2023.

Only successful applicants will be contacted. THRDC is an equal opportunity organization and does not discriminate based on gender, ethnicity, disability, age, religion or marital status.

For more information click: https://thrdc.or.tz/news-home/job-details/24 NATIONAL NEWS

### **Guardian**

### Mbeya trucks, bus operators complain over VTS gadgets

#### By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

TRUCKS and bus operators in the southern highland regions have complained over the vehicle tracking system (VTS) claiming that it increases opera-

They say the main point of complaint on tracking system monitored by Land Transport Regulatory Authority (LA-TRA) is the gadgets high cost, including monthly payment.

Buses and trucks owners from Mbeya, Njombe and Songwe regions aired their complaints at the weekend at their meeting with LATRA officials.

The meeting's aim was to listen to trucks and buses owners' views and their recommendations in order to strengthen the country's transport op-

Elisonguo Kelya, one of the bus owners said they buy the gadget at between 380.000/- and 400,000/- but also they are required to make a monthly payment of 20,000/-, the payments that increases their operation costs.

He also said in case the bus driver commits an offence on the use of the gadget, the penalty thereof goes to the bus owner, saving that is not just at all.

Christopher Mwambepo, a truck owners called on LATRA to sell to them the gadgets but without the 20,000/monthly payment thereon, saying it is a great financial burden to them.

"If possible, provide the gadgets to us

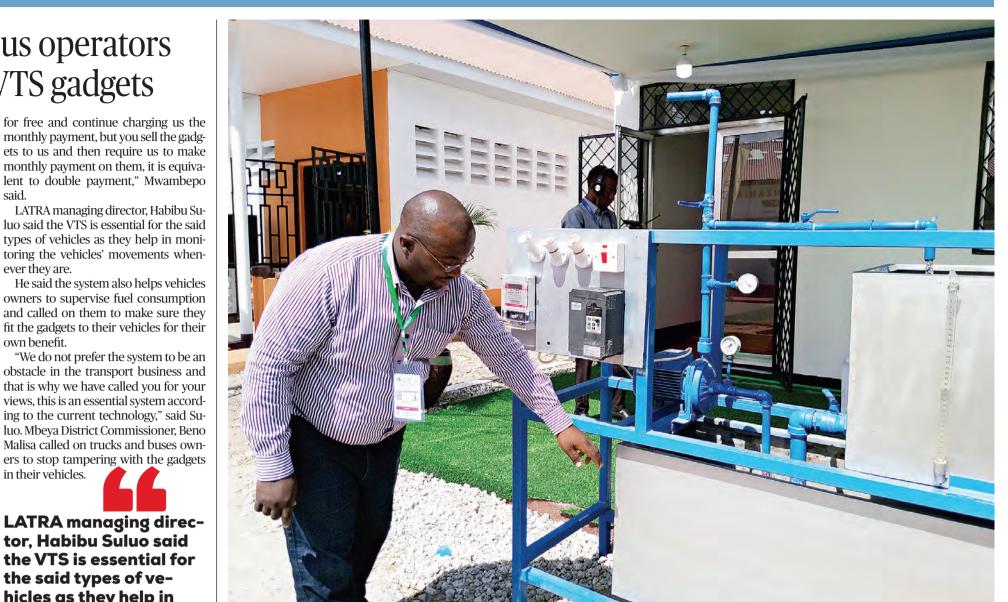
for free and continue charging us the monthly payment, but you sell the gadgets to us and then require us to make monthly payment on them, it is equiva-

LATRA managing director, Habibu Suluo said the VTS is essential for the said types of vehicles as they help in monitoring the vehicles' movements whenever they are.

He said the system also helps vehicles owners to supervise fuel consumption and called on them to make sure they fit the gadgets to their vehicles for their own benefit.

"We do not prefer the system to be an obstacle in the transport business and that is why we have called you for your views, this is an essential system according to the current technology," said Suluo. Mbeya District Commissioner, Beno Malisa called on trucks and buses owners to stop tampering with the gadgets in their vehicles.

LATRA managing director, Habibu Suluo said the VTS is essential for the said types of vehicles as they help in monitoring the vehicles' movements whenever they are



Dr Ombeni Mdee from the Engineering Department of the University of Dodoma (UDOM) pictured yesterday giving explanation on a water pump he said has been designed at the university and is especially economical in the use of electricity. It was at the UDOM pavilion at the ongoing 47th edition of the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair. Photo: Correspondent Christina Mwakangale

## TCRA sets up permanent pavilion at DITF grounds

#### **By Guardian Reporter**

THE Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) has successfully established a permanent pavilion at the Dar es Salaam International trade Fair (DITF) grounds making it easy for the authority to provide awareness to users of communication services.

The pavilion, located approximately 200 meters from the main entrance gate and adjacent to the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) building, stands in front of Kili- TRADE) to ensure the pavilion be- providers at the 47th Dar es Salaam 

Speaking at the newly erected pavilion, TCRA's Acting Head of Communication and Public Relations, Rolf Kibaja expressed gratitude for the support from stakeholders in the communications sector and emphasized dedication to fulfilling its mandate of regulating and overseeing communication services in the country.

He said that authority was currently in talks with Tanzania Trade Development Authority (TAN- ance to communication services

comes its permanent address at the exhibition grounds.

He said last year, during a tour of the trade fair grounds, TCRA's temporary pavilion caught the attention of visitors, leading to the decision to create a permanent structure.

Now, after diligent efforts, TCRA has unveiled its permanent pavilion, aiming to provide awareness education to users of communication services and regulatory guidInternational Trade Fair.

"We are delighted to present our stakeholders with this new permanent pavilion, this facility will serve as a hub for promoting awareness among communication services users and offering crucial regulatory guidance to our valued service providers," Kibaja said adding: "Our presence at this prominent event underscores our commitment to fostering a transparent and fair communication landscape in Tanzania.

Kibaja further explained that

the establishment of the permanent pavilion marks a significant milestone for TCRA, as it will now be able to provide a more structured and accessible platform for engagement with both consumers

and industry players. Through its participation in the trade fair, TCRA aims to educate the public about their rights as communication services users and to keep providers informed about regulatory matters and industry standards.

"In addition to our informative

role, the pavilion is also expected to facilitate networking opportunities for TCRA stakeholders, fostering collaboration and innovation within the sector. By positioning the pavilion strategically near the main entrance gate, TCRA aims to maximize its visibility and accessibility to trade fair attendees," he added.

He encouraged Tanzanians and guests to visit TCRA's pavilion and take advantage of the valuable information and guidance provided by the authority.

### President Mwinyi to help out Chinese investors who face investment hurdles

### By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali

Dr Mwinyi made the remarks during investors from various Chinese firms

He told Yuefeng Wang, chairman of

Liyu Group dealing in shoes manufacturing and electricity production, he said as for now energy is very much in need in the Isles due to its increasing industrial use.

Regarding shoe making, president Mwinyi advised the investor to look into the wide African market to sell their products.

Dr Mwinnyi also met and held discussions with Quang Chen, head of mainland based Tanzania Binjiang engaged in meat processing and told him that the meat market is huge only that he should adhere to proper procedures.

Mwinyi has said he will help investors who come across hurdles and other various challenges to enable them conduct their businesses in the coun-

his visit to China when he addressed who called on him for talks regarding investment opportunities in both Zanzibar and Tanzania mainland.

# **IN LOVING MEMORY OF**

**LATE CRISPIN S.E. MWANYIKA** 



Job 19:25-26 "For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God."

It is now 24 YEARS since the lord called you home on 2.7.1999; you are remembered and deeply missed by your loving wife Jane, children- Nancy, Geoffrey, Mary & David, In-laws, Grandchildren, Brothers & Sisters, Relatives & Friends. There are special people in our lives who never leave us, even after they are gone. Always in our hearts always loved till eternity

THERE WILL BE A REQUIEM MASS AT ST NICHOLAUS ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH, MTONGANI- KUNDUCHI BEACH ON SUNDAY 02.07.2023 AT 9.00AM.

Ecclesiastes 3:1-2 For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted

MAY THE ALMIGHTY GOD REST YOUR SOUL IN ETERNAL PEACE.

AMEN.



Muheza district livestock officer Omari Dibwa makes a pre-sale check of meat at a makeshift village 'abattoir yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Steven William

### Kyela District producing 33,000 for free quality oil palm seedlings

### By Guardian Correspondent, Kyela

KYELA District in Mbeya Region has produced more than 33,000 quality oil palm seedlings and distributed them for free to farmers in the district as part of the strategy to boost the crop's production.

The district also established the strategy to enhance farmers' incomes as well as addressing the country's edible oil shortage.

The seedlings were prepared and produced with the collaboration of the Naliendelke Centre of

Tanzania Agricultural Research District Council's incomes will Institute (TARI-Naliendele that has been providing production expertise. Speaking at the weekend at the event to distribute some of the seedlings to farmers, Acting Kyela District Executive Director, Kenneth Izirano said the prepared seedlings are sufficient to be planted to 674.2 acres of farms.

"The seedlings will be planted professionally and every acre will hold 50 seedlings, they are a type that start production early, hence we believe that both farmers' and novations as a source of revenue

grow," Izirano said.

For his part, the Chairman of Kyela District Council, Katule Kingamkono said the aim of the Council is to ensure that by 2025, 500,000 seedlings will be planted by farmers in their areas.

He said they are distributing the seedlings for free because in the past few years, oil palm cultivation was largely ignored by some farmers in the district, and added that the crop is among the district's inin the coming years.

Some farmers who received the seedlings said the modern seedlings will help then do away with poverty. Aden Kajela, one of the farmers said in the oil palm crop they get profit from many of its products, including edible oil and as raw material for soap making.

Distributing the seedlings to farmers, Kyela District Commissioner Josephine Manase directed the seedlings to also be distributed to public institutions including primary and secondary schools.

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#### **Guardian NEWS**



Mikumi National Park chief conservator Ignas Gara (R) has a word with Natural Resources and Tourism ministry staff who toured the park on Saturday, They were sponsored by Resilient Natural Resource Management for Tourism and Growth (REGROW), a project meant to strengthen the management of protected areas and promote nature-based tourism in southern Tanzania - known as the "Southern Circuit" - and contribute to the diversification of livelihoods in selected communities. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

### **Confucius Institute in Tanzania** celebrates its 10th anniversary

By Guardian Reporter

THE Confucius Institute at the University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania on Saturday celebrated its 10th anniversary.

Tanzanian government officials, Chinese diplomats, representatives from Confucius institutes and Chinese companies in the country attended a ceremony held in Dar es Salaam, the largest city in the East African country. They also took part in a symposium on Chinese education in Africa.

Kenneth Hosea, director of the Department of Higher Education in the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, commended the Confucius Institute at the University of Dar es Salaam for the accomplishments it has made in promoting mutual understanding of friendly cooperation between China and Tanzania.

On behalf of the minister, Hosea said the institute has been instrumental in offering cultural exchanges and Chinese language learning as an effective approach to the further development of China-Tanzania ties.

"The directors of the Confucius Institutes are working hard to ensure that Tanzanian youth learn the Chinese language so as to improve their competitiveness in both future career development and selfdevelopment," Hosea said.

Prof Bernadeta Killian, acting vice chancellor of the University of Dar es Salaam, said the university was resuming offering Bachelor of Arts with Education (Chinese and English) to students who will later teach the Chinese language in primary and secondary schools in Tanzania.

Chen Mingjian, the Chinese ambassador to Tanzania, said so far the Confucius Institute has trained nearly 50,000 Chinese learners in Tanzania, providing opportunities for students who want to learn Chinese. Chen said the Confucius Institute at the University of Dar es Salaam has also helped nearly 100 students to apply for scholarship, providing them with the opportunity to study in China.

During its 10 years in Tanzania, the institute has organized a total of 244 students to participate in Chinese summer camps for college and secondary school students, she said.

The Confucius Institute at the University of Dar es Salaam was established in 2013 under an agreement between the University of Dar es Salaam, the Chinese International Education Foundation and Zhejiang Normal University.

The vision of the Confucius Institute is to be one of the leading Chinese language training and testing centers, as well as one of the best Chinese cultural and academic exchange centers in Africa.

### DITF: Opportunity to learn about production of high quality goods

By Correspondent Christina Mwakangale

TANZANIANS should regard the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF), popularly known as Sabasaba, as an opportunity to learn and engage in the production of high quality products just like those from participating countries.

Latifa Khamis, director general of the Tanzania Trade Development

over the weekend when speaking at the ongoing DITF at Mwalimu Julius Nyerere Fair Grounds in Dar es Salaam during the celebration to mark Iran Day that aimed to advertise trade opportunities in Iran and Tanzania in the tourism, education,

by various participating countries in order to spur production and ac-

health and industrial sectors.

Authority (TanTrade) made the call are internationally accepted, and that is why they cross borders to be shown at the fair.

> She said Tanzania has had good diplomatic relations with Iran for more than 40 years, hence TanTrade is mobilizing Tanzanians to grab trade opportunities found in Iran.

"We are advertising Tanzania's She said that products exhibited products from our own factories cess to foreign markets.

"I call upon all Tanzanians to use the opportunities existing in Iran in order to increase traders' individual incomes and that of the nation in general," said the TanTrade boss.

She also said the Fair will be a place for bringing together various traders, boost investment in the industrial sector to attain high quality standards of products.

TanTrade Board Chairman, Ulingeta Mbamba said Iran has opportunities in tourism, education and agriculture hence Tanzania should sell its products including minerals to the Iranian market.

Iran's Ambassador to Tanzania, Hussein Alvandi Bahineh expressed his thanks to the government of Tanzania through TanTrade for having the opportunity and to par- Iran, said Amb, Bahineh.

ticipate in the celebration of Iran Day at the fair that has enabled to advertise his country's products in

"We appeal to Tanzanians to visit our pavilion at the Fair Grounds to see the difference, regarding our products of high international standards, as well as to learn about trade opportunities available in



Students at Kiriba Secondary School in Musoma Rural constituency busy with practicals in the chemistry laboratory at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspon-

### 400,000 children set to benefit from birth registration system

By Guardian Reporter

OVER 400,000 children under the age of five in Kagera Region are set to benefit from the gender responsive simplified birth registration system, a move that will see the group getting their birth certificates free of charge.

Implemented by the government through the Registration Insolvency and Trusteeship Agency (RITA) in collaboration with partners like UNICEF, Tigo and the Canadian government, the programme aims to reach all under-five children across the

Addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday, RITA chief executive officer. Frank Kanvusi said some 418,246 children are expected to be registered in Kagera, adding that the programme will be officiated by the Minister of Constitutional and Legal Affairs, Dr Damas Ndumbaro at Kagera's Mayunga Grounds tomorrow.

"The system makes birth registration more accessible to the community. Before this system was introduced, registration could only take place at the district headquarter town, now registration points are established at health facilities, which provide reproductive and child health services, and at the community ward executive offices in line with the government policy of decentralization through devolution," he said.

"The programme which aims at sending services near to citizens, will be available in all health centres offering maternal and child services in Kagera as well as ward executive offices, so I call upon all the residents to come out in bigger numbers.'

He added that preparations were all done and that there will be 523 registration centres each with not less than two welltrained officers capable of carrying out their duties efficiently.

Kanyusi said the programme would be implemented in two phases whereby the first phase will deal with the registration of unregistered children who have not been registered and do not have birth certificates and the second phase will deal with ensuring that there is a sophisticated registration system in place to register all the new-borns.

"The program will be implemented in two phases, the first phase will deal with the registration of children who have not been registered before and do not have birth certificates and the second phase will put sophisticated registration system in place to register all the new-borns, this service will be free of charge," Kanyusi said.

### Red Cross surgical team treats first patients in eastern Chad as rising number of wounded arrive from Sudan

A surgical team from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has deployed to eastern Chad to treat an influx of gunshot wound victims seeking safety and medical care after fleeing fighting in neighboring Sudan.

A surgeon, an anaesthetist, a ward nurse and an operating theatre nurse - operated on their first patients on Thursday. Working out of the University Hospital Centre in

Abéché the medical specialists are helping relieve pressure on medical facilities in Adré and Abéché that have struggled to cope with overwhelming needs. A second surgical team and an ICRC physiotherapist will also soon

Most healthcare facilities in Sudan have stopped operating due to a lack of electricity and running water, as well as dwindling medical and food supplies, forcing patients in need to seek care in a safer location.

"The Sudan crisis is spilling over borders,

and the resources in neighboring countries are overstretched," said Jerome Fontana, head of the ICRC delegation in N'Djamena. "Gunshot patients often require long and complex treatment, including orthopedic and reconstructive surgery. When they arrive in large numbers, in most cases accompanied by family members, the pressure on hospitals is immense."

Nearly 160,000 people, including more than 1,000 who were wounded in the ongoing violence, have fled the Darfur region of

The majority are women and children who become exhausted after days on the road. Red Cross branches in Ouaddai, Sila and Wadi Fira are supporting refugees, returnees and host communities, including by the building of shelters and water infrastructure in Ouaddai. The ICRC has been working with the Chad Red Cross Society to support families who lost contact with their loved ones. The ICRC has also been distributing essential household items and tents.

Since fighting broke out in Sudan on April 15, the ICRC and the Sudanese Red Crescent Society have been working to deliver surgical supplies to hospitals, help collect and identify mortal remains, and improve access to clean

In addition, the ICRC has maintained dialogue with all the parties to the conflict in Sudan to facilitate medical evacuations of wounded people and remind the parties of their obligations under the norms of international humanitarian law.



Some of the people aboard this Toyota Hiace were injured when it overturned following a front tyre burst while on its way from Msalala to Nyambula village in Ngogwa ward, Kahama municipality, yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Shaban Njia

# Karimjee Foundation partners with NGO to combat human trafficking

By Guardian Correspondent

KARIMJEE Foundation (KJF) has entered into a strategic partnership with WoteSawa non-governmental organization (NGO) to combat human trafficking and safeguard the rights and welfare of vulnerable children in the country.

Reports show that every year, thousands of men, women, and children fall into the hands of traffickers in their own countries and abroad.

Karimjee Jivanjee Foundation chairman Yusuf Karimjee in said that the collaboration with WoteSawa aims to safeguard the rights and welfare of vulnerable children in Tanzania, with a particular focus on child domestic labor.

"Our partnership with WoteSawa signifies a collective commitment to addressing the plight of child domestic workers in Tanzania," Karimjee in a statement availed to the media over the weekend.

He said the collaboration will also amplify the impact of both organizations in their shared mission to protect vulnerable children and empower them to reclaim their rights and futures.

Through its philanthropic initiatives, Karimjee Jivanjee Foundation has long championed educational development and empowerment in Tanzania.

By partnering with WoteSawa, Karimiee expounded, the foundation expands its scope to address the urgent issue of child domestic labor and human trafficking, extending its reach to those most in need of protection and support.

"WoteSawa's unwavering dedication and achievements in protecting the

rights of vulnerable children align closely with our foundation's core values," he asserted.

"We are honored to partner with WoteSawa in their vital mission to empower child domestic workers and combat human trafficking.

"Together, we can make a meaningful difference in the lives of these children and create a brighter future for them."

Karimjee Jivanjee Foundation is the philanthropic arm of the Karimjee Group, committed to creating a bright future for young Tanzanians through education and empowerment.

WoteSawa's founder and chief executive officer Angela Benedicto expressed her excitement over the partnership with the Karimjee Jivanjee Foundation.

"This collaboration will significantly enhance our efforts to uplift child domestic workers, provide them with necessary support, and fight against the scourge of human trafficking," she said.

"Together, we can create lasting change and build a society where every child is free from exploitation and has the opportunity to thrive."

WoteSawa's achievements speak volumes about its dedication and impact in the field, with the organization reported to have participated in the adoption of the Domestic Workers Convention, No. 189, in Geneva in 2011.

Founded in 2012 by Benedicto, a survivor of child domestic labor, WoteSawa strives to create a righteous and responsible society where domestic workers enjoy decent work, free from human trafficking and child labour.

## Transport firm spends 52.7m/- on construction of classrooms in Geita

By Guardian Correspondent, Geita

BLUE Coast transport firm based in Geita has provided 52.7m/- for the construction of classrooms in Mseto and Nyamalembo primary schools aimed at creating friendly teaching and learning environment for students.

At the event to hand over the classrooms to the schools, Jeremiah

money is part from its community social responsibility (CSR).

He said his firm believes that its achievements should go in tandem with its responsibilities to the community by participating in various social activities in Geita Region including education, health an d

The firm's director, Athanas Inyas

Musa, Blue Coast manager, said the said a conducive business environment created by the government is among the reasons for the business people, especially the indigenous to benefit from their investments.

> He said his form will continue providing assistance to the community and pledged to paint the walls of all classrooms at Nyamalembo primary school.

Josia Mombeki, headteacher of

Nyamalembo primary school of 1,000 pupils said the schools faces challenges regarding the 14 classrooms it has, necessitating for one classroom to accommodate 1000 pupils thereby making it hard for them to grasp what teachers teach

For his part, the headteacher of Mseto primary school, Nyimbona Matiti said the dilapidated classrooms at his school threatens the safety of both students and teachers as well as encouraging pupils' truancy.

The school was built more than 20 years ago and some classrooms for Std III, IV and V provide challenges to teachers due to dust.

Receiving the classrooms, Geita Regional Commissioner, Martine Shigella said the government will continue improving teaching and learning environment in schools, and that through the 'Boost programme,' more than 9.7bn/- has been provided for education projects in the region.

He also advised local councils to start building storeyed structures for schools instead of building many classrooms that use large



**Kilosa District** by-election returning officer Kisena Mabuba (L) helps **Magubike Ward** assistant election supervisor Juma Ngwele on Friday in pasting on a noticeboard nomination forms for councillorship candidates in Magubike Ward, Kilosa District. **Polling day is July** 13. Photo courtesy **National Electoral** Commission

#### Botswana signs new diamond sales deal with De Beers

### **GABORONE**

Co.

BOTSWANA and mining company De Beers have announced a new diamond sales deal.

The new deal, concluded over the weekend gives Botswana a bigger share of rough stones from their joint venture. Debswana, a joint venture between Anglo American unit De Beers and Botswana's government, sells 75% of its output to De Beers, with the balance taken up by stateowned Okavango Diamond

The new agreement covers a 10-year sales deal for Debswana rough diamond production through to 2033 and 25-year Debswana mining licences. In the run-up to Friday's deal, Botswana President Mokgweetsi Masisi, who is expected to seek re-election next year, had pushed De Beers for a bigger share of Debswana's output. In March, Botswana announced it would take a 24% stake in Belgian gem processing firm HB Antwerp in a move seen as designed to loosen De Beers' grip on the country's gems.



THE CENTRE FOR COUNSELLING, NUTRITION AND HEALTH CARE, (COUNSENUTH)

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FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION MANAGER - (1) POSITION

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The Centre for Counseling, Nutrition, and Health Care (COUNSENUTH) is a non-profit, non-governmental organization working in the area of public health and nutrition in Tanzania. The mission of COUNSENUTH is to improve quality of life of vulnerable groups through cost-effective, evidence-based, locally appropriate interventions. COUNSENUTH achieves this mission by building a multi-sectoral advocacy movement through active engagement of citizens, policy makers, and Government authorities at all levels.

**COUNSENUTH** is inviting applications to fill the position of FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION MANAGER which will be based in Dar es Salaam. COUNSENUTH is an Equal opportunity employer therefore women are highly encouraged to apply.

For full description of the post and full information please refer to our website www.counsenuth.or.tz

Deadline for receiving the applications is 9<sup>th</sup> July 2023. Thank you **Executive Director** 

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Please note that we will only consider applications received on-line through the link provided above. Applications received after the deadline will not be accepted. We reserve the right to accept or reject any application. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

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#### **EDITORIALS.OPINION**

# Guardia.com

MONDAY 3 JULY 2023

Taking A New Look **At The News ESTABLISHED IN 1995** 

### Taxing informal sector, **GDP** ratio score linked

EXPERTS have of late been pondering how to maximize economic growth first from governance of natural resources, and then from the viewpoint of artisan mining or mining sector taxes as a whole. What was noticeable about the more recent discussion was that it was conducted by tax experts rather than usual or mainstream non-governmental organisation. The discussion was focused on the link between formalisation, incentives and GDP ratio in taxation, with examples from developed countries and sub-Saharan Africa, doing better than ourselves

One presentation indicated that the average revenue collection for sub-Sahara African countries stands at 15.1percent of the Gross Domestic Product, compared to developed countries which collect 40-percent of GDP. It is widely acknowledged that Tanzania has a large informal sector, remaining the largest and most attractive in East Africa on the basis of the presenter.

Noticeably, he affirmed that our informal sector is bigger than Burundi in GDP ratio, despite that Tanzania has the second largest economy within the six-member East African Community (EAC). The participants did not unravel the secret thereof.

There are some, especially among radical opinion makers, who think that the problem is law enforcement and tax evasion, but they fail to grasp issues. The discussion was comparative in character so examples can also be picked on a comparative basis, from none other than credible local

When the prime minister met with striking traders at the Kariakoo international market zone, they said to release a container at the port of Mombasa costs \$40 while at the Dar es Salaam port the charge is \$240; it means we charge far more, get less.

Routine publicity or public relations, the sort bureaucracy prefers to provide as education, focuses on changing turnaround times for container-laden ships, or speed of clearance for importers. Tax incentives is something that at times comes up in presenting annual budget estimates, and hardly ever does that involve comparative data. The issue is why our neighbours charge less and definitely prosper or are comparable to ourselves while we charge a lot more.

That is how we arrive at the issue of the need to formalise this vast informal sector that the tax strategy workshop participants noted, elaborating that upon this formalisation measure we can then design policies that are friendly to business and attract investment. This would facilitate balancing investment thrust and voluntary tax compliance in the extractive sector, in what he asserted.

It is uncertain if the expert was convinced that the difference in tax collection ability is formalisation, as it isn't clear if this adds to voluntary compliance, etc.

There are contending views on what should be done to collect more taxes, what is at times known as widening the tax base.

Its most regular method is seeking out taxable elements in economic activity, for instance targeting mobile phone transactions, now being phased out. Targeting mobile phone transaction is part formalisation, as the state taxes because it has registered the person.

What the tax experts aren't saying is that we have a massive public sector which lowers ability to tax compared with other sub-Saharan states, and communal land ownership lowers GDP tax collection ratio in Africa, as it isn't bought and sold. Put the vast public sector into the market, and land into individual hands, to get taxes.

### Challenges faced by land-locked nations demand greater attention

AFRICA has 17 landlocked countries, including Africa's newest state, South Sudan. A majority of these 17 countries rank in the lower half of national performances. A massive, populous country with Africa's most advanced economy, South Africa sustains Lesotho and Swaziland by means of government income grants trade ties and security. If not for their Big Brother South Africa, these two micro-countries would have long ago descended to failed state sta-

Landlocked developing countries (LLDCs) need global support to turn around their social and economic fortunes to achieve sustainable development in line with the goals of the Vienna Programme of Action (VPoA).

A High-level Africa Regional Review of the Vienna Programme of Action for the Landlocked Developing Countries for the Decade 2014-2024 which ended in Gaborone, Botswana in May, this year concluded that African LLDCs should not be left behind in attaining sustainable development.

The transit countries need development partners, relevant UN agencies and other organisations. . They really need to join forces to ensure that no LLDCs are left behind as we strive towards a future that is inclusive, sustainable and prosperous for all in the next decade.

The two-day meeting held under the theme, "From Vienna to Kigali: towards a new decade of partnerships for a transformative Programme of Action for LLDCs' reviewed the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action in Africa. It discussed achievements, constraints, emerging challenges and opportunities for achieving sustainable development and SDGs and Agenda 2063

The meeting had shared available opportunities that should be leveraged by African LLDCs so they are not left behind in the march towards the SDGs and Agenda 2063. There are many commonalities among the LLDCs but more work needs to be done.

There was an agreement that in as much as the situation appears so dire there is no cause for despair, remarking that many times crises herald opportunities and a rethink in needed

We hope the ECA will continue to support African LLDCs with alternative means of financing because we know that Overseas Development Assistance and other forms of financing are drying up and our partners have challenges of their own and a means of implementation is key," said Ikome, noting that Africa's hosting of the 3rd UN Conference on LLDCs was a lifetime opportunity and an occasion for Africa to influence and shape outcomes to advance the interests of African LLDCs.

The regional review meeting adopted the Gaborone Outcome Document, which called for the acceleration of SDG implementation to take LLDCs out of prolonged crisis while committing to implementing action at the national, regional and global levels to accelerate progress on agreed policies, programmes and investments.

High Representative and Under-Secretary-General, Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing State, Rabab Fatima, commended the meeting for successfully articulating key priorities to inform the next Programme of Action in the Gaborone Outcome Document. She said LLDCs had made notable progress in airports, sea ports and railways but that more progress was needed in trade facilitation, structural economic transformation, export diversification and in improving connectivity.

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# Five ways to close Africa's investment gap

By Mahesh Kotecha

REMARKS at the Plenary Discussion on "Unlocking Capital to Deliver Prosperity for Africans" at the Annual General Meeting of the Afreximbank in Accra

Kotecha spoke on June 20,2023 in Accra at a plenary session of the Afreximbank's Annual General Meeting on "Unlocking Capital for Africa." The discussion was rich with speakers that included the CEOs of the Bank of Industry (Nigeria), the Central Bank of Tanzania, Ecobank Transnational Inc., and EXXAIR as well as the Deputy CEO of the EXIM Bank of India, the EVP of Afreximbank, Private Sector VP of the African Development Bank, Chief Economist of the West African Development Bank, and Head of Africa of the Agence Française de Développement (AFD).

While there is evidence that investments into Africa have risen over the years, the levels remain well below projected needs. So he offers five suggestions on how to close the gap.

First, there are investors who think the issue is not funding but a lack well-structured and bankable projects. Their concern is with weak project development and documentation. So one way forward is to unlock their capital by deploying the skills of Afreximbank and other development banks to propose bankable projects for private investment in Africa.

Second, while investors cite political and economic risks as a constraint, there is insufficient use of global capacity de-risk projects with guarantees. In fact, the 2022 Capital Adequacy Framework Report of the G-20 expert group recommends greater use of guarantees and insurance by MDBs. The Report also recommends an "originate to distribute model" under which development banks would continue to originate loans and sell down the loans to private sector investors to make room on their balance sheets for more loans. So Kotecha's second suggestion is to scale up the use of guarantees, insurance, and loan sales by MDBs so they can originate more loans.

Third, increasing capital flows to Africa requires reducing the real risks that are inherent in all crossborder investments. Over the years, there has been much progress in reducing real risks in Africa. Most recently, the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) seeks to broaden and unify a fragmented African market by bringing together the 55 countries of the African Union (AU) and eight (8) African Regional Economic Communities. At the national levels as well, many African countries have improved macroeconomic management. But more progress can and must be

A recent example of this is Nigeria where promising steps have been taken within weeks of inauguration by President Bola Tinubu. In rapid succession, he has removed petroleum subsidies, unified the exchange rate and is poised to appoint a new Governor of the central bank to reform a weak monetary and bank regulatory regime. The rating agencies and the markets have noticed.

So the third suggestion is to address the real risks of investing in Africa, reducing them slowly over time as the opportunities present themselves.

Fourth, one must acknowledge and address the perceptions of African risks. Despite issuance of African Eurobonds, the market confidence in African risks is fragile given political instability (e.g., Mali, Burkina Faso, Sudan, etc.), a lack of transparency, low levels of economic development, high levels of debt service compared to revenues, narrowly based economies, and limited fiscal buffers against shocks. It was thought twenty years ago that if an African country was rated, it would be compared by investors with other similarly rated countries (or projects) and capital markets access would increase. In fact, credit ratings helped foster an African Eurobond market where issuance has reached some \$300 billion. But new African Eurobonds are largely on hold as interest rates have risen and debt distress is spreading: from Zambia, Ethiopia and Chad to Ghana and perhaps even to Kenya. And widespread rating downgrades have inevitably led some to question whether African borrowers are fairly treated.

Some have gone so far as to propose an African rating agency as an alternative to the "big three". There already are rating agencies in such Malaysia and Nigeria. Local investors rely on ratings from such rating agencies. So African investors could also rely on African rating agencies. But the credibility of any new rating agency - especially one handing out higher ratings than others - will be discounted by investors until the new agency is perceived as credible and independent.

Rating agencies say their metrics are rooted in a long history of sovereign and corporate defaults spanning seventy plus years. They say African ratings are low because of such factors as low levels of economic development, relatively undiversified economies, limited financial flexibility, and high political risks. But rating agencies are also known to have erred from time to time. So they should be encouraged to recognize the real and rising African strengths and to understand such insufficiently documented positives as the informal economy, strong cross border trade among neighboring countries, and the global carbon transition benefits of Africa's vast natural resource endowments.

So Kotecha's fourth point is to undertake sustained efforts to "nudge along" the rating agencies towards higher African ratings. While such rating upgrades will take time, they are achievable if improvements are made on both real and perceived risks. We must promote strategies to address both. This requires understanding how ratings are done and developing effective rating upgrade strategies. It requires identifying real credit strengths that address the rating agency criteria and then helping correct their perceptions of risk. As a rating advisor of 25 years, Kotecha can say with confidence that this is eminently doable. The Fitch rating upgrades of the First Bank of Nigeria and Afreximbank

countries as China, Japan, India, both in 2022 -- show the way.

. Finally, there is widespread view that borrowers from the continent pay an African premium. This is true but there is some divergence of views on how big it is. Some econometric studies of spreads covering many years conclude that the premiums are of the order of 300 basis points. But Eurobond market participants say that such premia are a third or lower when liquidity risks are adjusted out and comparisons made rigorously based on like maturities and ratings. Moreover, the premia change over time. So Kotecha's final suggestion is to publicize a robustly constructed "market index" of African premia which could attract investors seeking to profit from the excess relative values African credits may offer. If successful, trading in the index -and the underlying issues -- could in principle help drive down via diversification and/or arbitrage any excess premia not justified by fundamental African risks.

Mahesh Kotecha, born in Uganda and a naturalized U.S. citizen, is President of Structured Credit International, which advises African supranationals, banks and governments. He is a member of the Bretton Woods Committee, International Advisory Panel of the East African Development Bank, Advisory Council of UN Capital Development Fund, Chatham House, and the Council on Foreign Relations, where he directed a Roundtable on Capital Flows to Sub-Saharan Africa, which recommended in 2002 that African governments seek sovereign ratings to reduce perceptions of risk and to attract capital, helping spawn African Eurobond markets.



# The cost of biomass use is higher than that of clean sources of energy

By Correspondent Restuta James

LMOST 90 percent of the population in Sub-Saharan Africa use fuelwood-based forms of energy. Mainly charcoal in cities and towns as well as firewood, crop residues and animal dung in rural areas, these sources of energy are dominant because they are easily available and cheap.

In Tanzania, the population of households using clean cooking energy stands at between 4.5 percent and eight percent, meaning over 90 percent use fuel-

Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment), Dr Seleman Jafo, is on record saying that over 46,960 hectares of forests, equivalent to 26 percent of Tanzania's landmass, are destroyed every year due to the felling of trees for firewood and char-

And statistics availed by the Ministry of Energy in Dar es Salaam last year showed that despite being largely considered to be cheaper options, charcoal, firewood and crop residues were having detrimental impacts on people's health, causing up to 33,000 deaths annually.

Fuelwood use is linked to a host of diseases. The adverse health effects associated with biomass fuel use include but not limited to low birth weight, cataracts, cardiovascular disease, asthma, tuberculosis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and lower respiratory

To reverse the situation, Tanzania early this year set January 31, 2025 as the deadline for the use of charcoal and firewood by government institutions. All institutions that serve not less than 100 people have been directed to stop using firewood and charcoal by January 31, 2024, while those serving 200 people upwards are scheduled to stop using such energy sources on January 31, 2025.

After the deadline, all government institutions, including hospitals, schools, military barracks and jails will have shifted to clean sources of energy such as liquefied natural gas, liquefied petroleum gas, electricity and bio-ethanol as a step towards attaining the UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 7 on clean and affordable energy.

To complement the government's initiatives, nongovernmental organizations and development partners have also chipped in with various projects. The European Union (EU) for instance, has set aside euros 17 million (approximately 47.6bn/-), to support those engaged in the production and distribution of clean

Imanuel Muro, Senior Finance Specialist at the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) said during the launch of Anzia Jikoni campaigns in Dar es Salaam recently that this programme covers issues concerning human and environmental health and community development as it ensures clean energy and heat that come from sources that reduce production of pollutants that exacerbate global warming.

He said that reduction of coking energy from dirty sources can be achieved by allowing inventions of modern stoves that use less energy without affecting cooking process, so that more households in rural and urban areas can accesses and see the importance of using new technologies in cooking instead of relying on

Muro who is also the CookFund Programme Manager added that Tanzanians have come up with technological reforms in the area by inventing alternative charcoal-like briquettes, improved charcoal, wood and gas stoves that use less energy as well as bioethanol for cooking and electric stoves that use less grid electricity.

He said there are environmentally friendly charcoal made out of plant leaves and wood known as the green charcoal as well as trees that can be grown in a shorter period of time which grown in abundance will automatically reduce the cutting of natural trees for charcoal and wood production.

"You can see that in addition to having environmentally-friendly charcoal, the new discovery has brought stoves that use energy efficiently. These stoves reduce the use of charcoal by 60 percent and their quality has been endorsed by the responsible authorities," he said.

"What we have to do now is to change our attitudes and use these clean energies so that we can save our health and our environment."

To change people's the attitude, UNCDF has launched a campaign to encourage the use of clean energy for cooking Anzia Jikoni (Start in the Kitchen) with the message that the next clean air in our land should start with the change in the kitchen.

"You cannot reduce the cutting of trees for firewood and charcoal without changing the cooking energy. The EU funding is aimed at the innovation of modern technology to obtain stoves and fuels that deal with clean energy. We provide subsidies to companies so that the end user can get the fuel and the stove at affordable prices." he said.

Muro said Anzia Jikoni campaign aims at raising public awareness on the importance of using modern cooking technologies that are healthier, environmental friendly which reduce the effects of climate change.

To start with, he said the new technologies can enable households that rely on firewood for cooking to continue using that energy in a small amount with improved stoves instead of depending on traditional stoves such as three stones that consume a lot of wood and also lose heat.

"You cannot tell a person in the village who gets free firewood from the bush to use grid electricity or buy LPG but a standard kitchen or an improved stove can convince them because the same help reduce the use of wood and at the same time food is cooked well on time," he said.

Victor Akim, the National Coordinator of the Energy and Environment Project of the United Nations Indus-



There are improved stoves that use less enery hence good for the environment and human health.

trial Development Organization (UNIDO), said that the use of energy goes hand in hand with stoves that use less energy.

"We encourage the use of stoves that reduce uneconomical energy consumption so that every household can get relief. This will help to deal with environmental impacts," he said.

Akim observed that UNIDO funds industries that produce energy-saving cookers and alternative energy for cooking. It also facilitates availability of the same in large quanti-

ties so that they can be accessible to many users all over the country.

Elizabeth Bigoye, Monitoring and Evaluation Officer at Cookfund project said that within three months a total of 3,373 new users had been reached with clean cooking energy in Dar es Salaam, Coast, Morogoro, Dodoma and Mwanza regions which take part in the programme which targets to reach 580,000 new households and generate several direct and indirect jobs.

Shukuru Meena, the inventor of a stove that in order to conserve heat during cooking.

uses less electricity, said that the standard stove cooks using steam pressure collected in the pot for cooking.

"It uses less energy to cook food in a short period of time and preserves nutrients thus saving time, money, human health as well as the environment. With it, you can cook beans with less than a unit of electricity," said Mee-

The energy-saving charcoal and wood of the traditional open cookers are made of clay liners and cement

Such technology is not expensive as the materials are cheap and locally available in many parts of Tanzania.

Through these projects, women in rural areas are supported to make a standard kitchen instead fire-the three stone cook-



Adverse health effects associated with biomass fuel use include low birth weight, cataracts, cardiovascular disease, asthma, tuberculosis, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and lower respiratory tract infections.

# Water harvesting boosts agriculture in Brazil's semiarid northeast

By Mario Osava

THE rainwater tanks are the best invention in the world for us," said Maria de Lourdes Feitosa, 46, who recalls the deadly droughts of the past in Brazil's semiarid Northeast region.

"There has been a reduction of many diseases" that came from the so-called "barreros", puddles and small ponds that are the result of the accumulation of water in muddy holes in the ground that people shared with animals, Feitosa, a farmer from a rural community in Afogados da Ingazeira, a municipality of 38,000 inhabit-

Feitosa owns a six-hectare farm and is less dependent on water than some of her neighbors because she produces agroecological cotton, which requires less water than horticultural and fruit crops.

Nearly 1.2 million tanks that collect 16,000 liters of potable rainwater from the roofs of homes now form part of the rural landscape of the semiarid ecoregion, an area that covers 1.1 million square kilometers and is home to 28 million of Brazil's 214 million people, which extends throughout the interior of the Northeast and into the northern fringe of Brazil's Southeast region.

The water tanks are a symbol of the transformation that the Northeast, the country's poorest region, has been undergoing since the beginning of this century. During the longest drought in its history, from 2011 to 2018, there was no repeat of previous tragedies of deaths, mass exodus of people to the south and the looting of businesses by desperate people, as seen in the 1980s and

According to the Articulação Semiárido Brasileiro (ASA), a network of 3,000 social organizations that created the program, adopted as public policy by the government in 2003, some 350,000 families are still in need of water tanks.

Another battle is to increase fourfold the more than 200,000 "technologies" for collecting water for production, or "second water", which already benefit family farming and are decisive for food security and poverty reduction in the region.

#### **Reusing household water**

Josaida Nunes da Silva, 38, and her husband Eronildes da Silva, 41, resort to reusing water from the bathroom and kitchen in their home, faced with shortages aggravated by the altitude of the hill they live on in Carnaiba, a municipality of 20,000 people bordering Afogados da

A complex of pipes carries the wastewater to the socalled "fat box" and then to the Upflow Anaerobic Sludge Blanket (UASB) reactor and a tank for "polishing", exposed to the sun, and another for the water ready for

This system filters contaminating components, such as fecal coliforms (bacteria), and prepares the water with fertilizers for irrigation of the fields and fruit trees. "We grow lettuce, onions, cilantro and other vegetables, as well as bananas, corn, cassava, papaya, guava, passion fruit and even dragon fruit," said Nunes.

Dragon fruit comes from the cactus family, of Mexican and Central American origin, and has recently become popular in Brazil.

The large size of the banana bunch is "proof" of the fertilizer's effectiveness, said Nunes' husband, who adds cow dung. "The treated water is a blessing. Besides providing us with water, it gives us good fertilizer," Nunes

Her husband Silva is also a bricklayer and has built many water tanks in the region. He also drives school children from the rural area in an old van and keeps fodder for his ten cows in hermetically sealed plastic bags.

"The drought hit us hard. We had to bring water from the 'barrero' on the plain, up the mountain in the ox cart. We bought a cow, when she was still a calf, for 2500 reais and had to sell it for 500 reais (104 dollars)," lamented

The couple owns 8.5 hectares of land, a large property in the region where most farms are only a few hectares in size, the result of the frequent divisions between heirs of the large families of the past. But since the terrain is mountainous and rocky, the cultivable area is limited.

Nunes and Silva have three children, although only the youngest, 17, still lives with them.

### **Coexisting with semiarid conditions**

The techniques that benefit family farmers so that they can "coexist with the semiarid conditions" and prosper have been disseminated in the municipalities of the Sertão de Pajeú by Diaconia, a social organization of Protestant churches.

Pajeú is the name of the river that crosses 17 municipalities, whose basin is home to 360,000 people. The



Eronildes da Silva proudly stands next to a bunch of bananas on his farm, whose large size is the result, he says, of the effective fertilizer of reusing waste water. In addition to farming, he drives a school bus and builds rainwater tanks in Afogados da Ingazeira, in Brazil's semiarid Northeast region. CREDIT: Mario Osava/IPS

mountains surrounding the territory include the headwaters of several streams and creeks, which dry up in the dry season, but ensure greater humidity compared to other areas of the semiarid Northeast.

Agroecology practices are one of the focuses of Diaconia, whose agricultural technician Adilson Viana has dedicated 20 of his 49 years to supporting farmers and who accompanied IPS on visits to families

involved in the program.

A tank that collects 52,000 liters of rainwater for production is the treasure of Joselita Ramos, 49, and her husband Aluisio Braz, 55, on their two-hectare farm, also located in Carnaiba.

The rainwater falls on a concrete terrace on the ground that is about 200 square meters in size and is slightly inclined to fill the water tank. Braz uses it to dry and thresh

string beans, which are typical of the Northeastern diet.

The couple grows fruit trees that Ramos uses to make pulp using mango, guava, acerola cherry (Malpighia emarginata) and a fruit native to the semiarid region, the umbu or Brazil plum (Spondias tuberosa), that comes from a small tree native to Northeast Brazil.

Ramos is taking a break from the activity "because it is not fruit sea-

son in the region and the energy to run the refrigerator is very expensive." Another difficulty is that the city government's payments for the pulp supplied to the schools have been delayed. "I only received a payment in November for sales from early last year," she complained.

To boost the production of grains, such as beans and corn, as well as cassava, Braz grows them on his father's four-hectare farm, about six kilometers from his own

#### **Agroecological productivity**

An exceptional case of entrepreneurial vocation and availability of water is that of Ivan Lopes, 43, who together with his brother grows fruit, including bananas, pineapple, mango, grapes, avocado, passion fruit and many more, on nine hectares of land.

Water is pumped from a lagoon on the property to four reservoirs located at the higher elevations, which make gravity irrigation possible. That is why electricity is one of the farm's biggest expenses. "I plan to install a solar power plant to save money," Lopes told IPS.

Honey is another product they make. "The last harvest totaled 40 liters," from dozens of hives distributed throughout the orchard. Sugarcane is grown for the sale of sugarcane juice in the cities.

The farm is also a kind of laboratory for the dissemination of organic tomato cultivation in greenhouses. "At the agroecological market in São José do Egito (a neighboring city of 34,000 people) people line up to buy my tomatoes, because they are known to be clean, pest-free and tasty," Lopes said.

Based on their experience, there are now 10 projects for tomato production in the Pajeú Agroecological As-

To achieve his high level of productivity, the farmer makes his own fertilizer from earthworm humus. The success he has experienced in farming prompted him to get rid of his 10 cows in order to focus on crops and beekeeping.



This system filters contaminating components, such as fecal coliforms (bacteria), and prepares the water with fertilizers for irrigation of the fields and fruit trees. "We grow lettuce, onions, cilantro and other vegetables, as well as bananas, corn, cassava,



This 16,000-litre concrete slab tank stores rainwater collected on the roof and uses pipes to provide drinking water for Josaída Nunes and Eronildes Silva, in the Sertão de Pajeú, in Brazil's semiarid Northeast. CREDIT: Mario Osava / IPS

IBA YA VIP

MONDAY
TIME PROGRAMME

05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAN

09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101

16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA

18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS HALI HALISI

18:00-18:10HRS HABARI

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME

FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME

05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME

22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI

SATURDAY 07:30-10:00HRS DK 90 DUNIANI

10:00-11:00HRS KADOGOO 11:00-13:00HRS BONGO HITS 13:00-13:0011K3 BONGO 11 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS ZAIDI YA

OYVAULMU 16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEVUMA 18:00-21:00HRS BUZUKI TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI

22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI

SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME 07:00-09:00HRS HABARI NA MATUKIO YA WIKI

09:00-11:00HRS THE SUNDAY 11:00-13:00HRS TOP 20 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CAPITAL MICHEZONI MICHEZONI 16:00-18:00HRS UKURASA WA MBELE 18:00-21:00HRS JIACHIE 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-01:00HRS LADHA LAINI

01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI

MCHAGANGANYIKO)

21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI

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THURSDAY

21:00-23:00HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI







### **Ambassador Fanti optimistic on EU-funded** programme's role to protect the environment

LEAN cooking solutions play a critical role in preventing forest degradation, reducing the impacts of climate change and minimizing health effects affecting families using traditional cooking solutions. In the long term it also helps to reduce the costs incurred by households in purchasing charcoal or wood at repeated intervals.

In many developing countries, governments take initiatives to move away from the use of charcoal and wood to more environment-friendly and healthier clean cooking solu-

However, for this to work effectively, more efforts are needed by engaging stakeholders such as the private sector and development partners, ranging from NGOs and international actors like the UNCDF.

To highlight this collective effort, the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) and the European Union in collaboration with the government of United Republic of Tanzania, introduced a CookFund program which was aims at diminishing the use of charcoal and wood in homes across Tanzania.

The programme is funded by the European Union (EU) and it focuses on the regions of Coast, Morogoro, Dar es Salaam, Mwanza and Dodoma.

The funding by the EU falls under the broader 'Integrated Approach to Sustainable Clean Cooking Solutions Programme in Tanzania' and the 11th European Development Fund (EDF). The program acts as a means to increase the share of population using sustainable clean cooking energy solutions in urban areas and thereafter achieve the goal of advancing women's economic empowerment and support local economic devel-

The Guardian has interviewed the Ambassador Manfredo Fanti, Head of the European Union Delegation

to Tanzania and to the East African Community (EAC) to discuss the role of the CookFund Programme in supporting this target and Tanzania's climate change commitment.

**QUESTION: In December 2021, UNCDF** launched the CookFund programme to roll out clean cooking solutions in Tanzania for climate change. As European Union, what results do you want to achieve through the CookFund programme?

**ANSWER:** There is the national policy of the government which is to mitigate and to adapt to the effects of climate change and which is very important for the government of Tanzania. European Union is supporting these government policies in the areas of climate change environment and clearly an important component of that is to avoid deforestation and to avoid non-sustainable use of natural resources. The clean cooking program is coming with these objectives in mind: to promote the use of more sustainable cooking, to increase availability of clean cooking technologies in the market informing the public t that they are not necessarily more expensive than traditional charcoal. There is also a very important component of public health to consider because we know very well that burning charcoal in a closed room is extremely harmful for the health of women and the children in particular.

#### Q: What lessons does the EU draw from what is currently happening in Tanzania?

**A:** I would like to insist on the change in the way we approach the cooperation as European Union, we really see the interest of working as a team with the European member

There are 11 in Tanzania. Some of them provide more finances, some provide less but all of them have a very strong European political agen-



Ambassador Manfredo Fanti, Head of the European Union Delegation to Tanzania and the East African Community (EAC).

da in particular with regard to climate change. All these ambassadors have the opportunity to bring together messages around green deals, reducing the consequences of green gas emissions and this is something that has really brought Europe as one. So, it is important to show that we speak with one voice. On particular issues relating to the situation in Tanzania, we try to align our actions around a number of programs: among others we have a program on green and smart cities that has started, we have another program that will start soon on blue economy. t these two programs are good examples of where the EU and the member states pull their efforts, bring their resources together to try to achieve certain goals. We all have slightly different specialties and it is way to bring the best of all of us and to make the sure that our overall contribution altogether is more than the sum of the individual contributions.

Q: With regards to the perception and response of the public and the Tanzanian government, when it comes to dealing with the agenda on climate change, what is your call to action to these stakeholders in the process especially now that we have CookFund bringing

in more funds to the country?

**A:** I think it is important to say that a country like Tanzania is currently not a big emitter of green gas emissions, and it can be sometimes perceived by African countries that we are imposing on them some constraints while they are not the main emitters.

However, I think it is good to present it in a different way and to say that there is a global situation now, and all of us have to address it. We have to act in a way that does not damage our planet more. There will be more and more opportunities to do business in this way and less and less for those who do business as usual, excessively polluting or consuming energy

So, the opportunity is now for African startups to really see the options in order to respond to this green transition at the same time develop their business, grow and bring more people so that it can really be seen as a virtuous cycle and a winwin situation.

Q: We are aware that these things do not happen in isolation and as much as this program is focused on making a better tomorrow for the country and many other countries you coop-

erate with, what is your working relationship with other key stakeholders in the country in achieving the goal you have just mentioned?

**A:** Clearly the main partner is the government - central and local level. But then we are also working a lot with the civil society, with the local NGOs engaged in environmental protection and sustainable economic activities. Then, for the implementation of our programs, very often we use the services of international development agencies, including UNCDF for the clean cooking fund.

So, now it's really a collective effort, in a spirit of partnership to work on these issues. We have many programs that are directly or indirectly addressing climate change in the very near future, we are starting a big one on blue economy for the whole coastal region where we will also among other things address the issue of deforestation.

Q: In a nutshell, this involves a lot of stakeholders from the citizen to the government. As EU, what is your commitment?

**A:** Our commitment is to help the people of the people of this country to improve the quality of their lives and to improve the conditions they live within their environment.

### African women seek to boost innovation and creativity in agribusiness

By Aimable Twahirwa, Kigali

ADELINE Umukunzi, a 28-year-old woman mushroom farmer in Musanze, a district located about 100 km north of the capital Kigali, said women have often been the unseen faces of agribusiness in Rwanda.

"Women have always played a vital role in agriculture, but behind the scenes. We are starting to see more and more female faces in agribusiness," Adeline said.

While she developed high potential and locally-adapted innovations in mushroom farming, the young cultivator was unaware of how much her produce was worth to the market. Little did she know that one local food company had purchased most of her produce to process mushroom-based biscuits and nuggets.

As part of Rwanda's agriculture transformation efforts to enhance agribusiness competitiveness, a growing number of women are now engaged in agribusiness, where many have been able to generate business benefits throughout the value chain.

Official estimates show that in Rwanda, more women than men are primarily engaged in agriculture, yet female farmers face more challenges in starting successful agribusinesses than their male counterparts.

Despite these challenges, the latest official trends show that African women are abandoning traditional ways of engaging in agribusiness and adopting intellectual property (IP) approach to transform food systems on the continent.

According to experts, adopting IP in agribusiness aims to protect goods or services produced in the sector. It mainly deals with trade secrets, described as an essential component for businesses to protect confidential information that provides them a competitive edge.

According to Olivier Kamana, Permanent Secretary in Rwanda's Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources, adopting IP rights allows innovators to generate good profits.

Kamana said that key women agripreneurs in Africa could develop commercially viable products, so there needs to be some IP protection to incentivize the inno-

In many African countries like Rwanda, where agriculture is the backbone of their national economy, experts stress the need to embrace talent, problem-solving ability, and innovation for women.

Official estimates by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) indicate that around 62 percent of women in Africa are involved in farming and do the bulk of the work to produce, process, and market food.

According to agriculture experts, business competitiveness in the regional intra-African trading space offered by the African Continental Free Trade Agreement requires agribusiness actors to operate more efficiently, which requires investments in new technologies, new ways of fertilizing and watering crops, and new ways of



Farmers winnow soya to remove the chaff in Kabarondo , Munaga sector, Kayonza District

connecting to the global market.

For Kamana, African women agripreneurs have access to the type of innovations they need to overcome the unique challenges they face.

During the first Africa Regional Intellectual Property (IP) Conference for Women in Agribusiness, which took place in Kigali in May 2023, delegates expressed the desire to promote innovations in women-led agribusinesses in Africa by helping them understand and use IP to bring their ideas

Bemanya Twebaze, Director General of the African Regional Intellectual Property Organization (ARIPO), is convinced that Intellectual property (IPR) can be a powerful tool in empowering women and guaranteeing that they benefit from their innovations and creations in the agricultural industry.

"Policymakers should encourage and facilitate IP rights for women in agriculture while providing legal and technical aid to maximize their prospects of prosperity," he

Agriculture scientists have made breakthroughs in identifying the actors that can be considered innovators to bring agricultural development and increase food production in Africa by examining how intellectual property rights could be largely promoted on the continent.

Estimates show that small farmers, with the majority of women, constitute Africa's most important and most capable innovators, yet this category of the workforce is still struggling to aggregate their produce to supply foreign markets.

Supporters of IPRs argue that though the exclusive monopoly on the invention could impact agriculture in Africa, farming communities across the continent still have difficulty innovating by incorporating new technologies or varieties coming from outside into their production systems.

Monday 3 July 2023

### **Guardian**

**FEATURE** 

# Women's savings in Zimbabwe struggle under weight of unstable currency

By Ignatius Banda

OR years, self-employed and unemployed women in Zimbabwe formed neighbourhood "clubs" where they pooled money together for everything from buying bulk groceries to be shared at the end of the year to meeting funeral expenses.

But as inflation renders the local currency virtually worthless, with, for example, the price of a loaf of bread reaching ZWD4,000, women rights advocates say this has thrown local saving initiatives into a mind-numbing tailspin.

In recent weeks, the local dollar has been on a frenzied free fall against the greenback, and in one week alone, the parallel market rate went from USD1:ZWD2,000 to anything between USD1:ZWD3,000 and ZWD4,000. Zimbabwe National Statistics Agency put Zimbabwe's annual inflation rates at triple digits, with inflation rising 175.8% in June from 86.5% the previous month.

"We cannot buy foreign currency on the street to keep our savings club operating. You can't plan anything with such an ever-changing exchange rate," said Juliet Mbewe, a Bulawayo homemaker who sells snacks, sweets and other small items on a roadside not far from her township home.

"It was better when the country was using the USD as the official currency," she said, referring to the period of the country's government of national unity between 2009 and 2013.

That period is widely credited with taming Zimbabwe's economic turmoil and also helped make savings possible for women such as Mbewe.

Women's savings clubs contributed monthly instalments of anything from as little as USD5, and from this pool, the club operated as an informal bank or microfinance lender where they issued loans at a small interest.

The accumulated savings were shared at the end of the year, while other such clubs bought groceries in bulk to be shared in time for Christmas.

And this was also a time when local banks encouraged

women's clubs to partner with registered financial institutions to incubate their savings and earn interest at the end of the year.

But with banks not being spared the decades-old eco-

nomic turmoil, which has seen even banks close shop, financial institutions that remain are not known to offer ordinary account holders interest on their savings.

However, the return of rampant inflation is making the

However, the return of rampant inflation is making the operation of women's savings clubs increasingly difficult, says Mavis Dube, who formerly led a group of women's clubs as their treasurer.

"It's no longer easy because of the unstable currency. It now means having to raise more local dollars in order to buy foreign currency," Dube said; as the authorities struggle to put breaks on a currency on free fall, these have been upended by inflation and an unsteady local currency.

For those who can afford that, the women are cushioning themselves from this by buying livestock which they say is guaranteed to store value.

International NGOs such as World Vision are assisting rural women navigate increasingly tough economic circumstances, supporting projects such as raising and selling poultry.

However, such projects have not been made available to more women in a country where self-help efforts face incredible odds as inflation gnaws into small enterprises.

While the Ministry of Women Affairs, Community, Small and Medium Enterprises Development has made efforts to encourage women's participation in the country's economic development agenda, it has struggled to keep up with the increasing number of women seeking assistance to start their own businesses.

The ministry recently launched what it says are "Women Empowerment Clubs" with the aim to assist women access funding, but concerns remain that the red tape involved in accessing the loans only enables a cycle of poverty for women.

Rights advocates say the high unemployment rate among women has meant that women have no access to the formal banking sector, where they access loans.

"Most banks and lending institutions require collateral for them to release loans which most women do not have. Profits from the informal sector are so meagre and only allow women to feed from hand to mouth," said Sithabile Dewa, executive director of the Women's Academy for Leadership and Excellence.

"In order to address these challenges, the government



Zimbabwe's 'bond notes' have in less than a month lost more than 50% in value against the US dollar and other major currencies. (Photo: Bishop Asare/EPA

must put in place laws and policies that protect women in small businesses, such as discouraging lending institutions from putting too much interest or demanding collateral on women, something they know they do not have," Dewa told

While women have attempt-

ed to keep up with the volatile exchange rate, it has exposed their vulnerability to poverty at a time when agencies such as UN Women lament that women's economic empowerment in Zimbabwe has been "impeded by their dominance in the informal sector and vulnerable employment."

While saving clubs served as a bulwark against such uncertainties, Dewa says contemporary economic circumstances have made it near impossible to run such schemes that hedged against poverty.

"The savings clubs are still there though they have been modernised to meet the changing times," Dewa said.

"The problems facing these clubs are hyper-inflation, an unstable and unpredictable economy. Those which are still viable are the ones being done using USD, but how many women have access to the foreign currency," she added.

For now, women such as

Mbewe and Dune continue to live hand to mouth, their ambitions to save for a rainy day effectively on

"It's harder now than ever, and the pain is that there is no sign this will end anytime soon," Mbewe said, the little she makes selling sweets barely enough to meet her daily needs.

IPS UN Bureau Report



Trailers loaded with goods from South Africa stand near Beitbridge in 2019. The Zimbabwean economy has deteriorated since then, with inflation soaring to 175%. (Photo: Waldo Swiegers/Bloomberg via Getty Images)



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# Guardian www.ippmedia.com

# BUSINESS



# **US** chicken producers ordered to face pricefixing cases

#### **CHICAGO**

A federal judge on Friday said Pilgrim's Pride, Sanderson Farms, Tyson Foods and several other companies must face private antitrust litigation accusing them of conspiring to inflate broiler chicken prices by reducing sup-

Restaurants, supermarkets, distributors and consumers have accused chicken producers of having conspired starting in 2008 to inflate prices, through tactics such as restricting production and sharing nonpublic data about supply and demand.

In a 90-page decision, US District Judge Thomas Durkin in Chicago said reasonable jurors could find it more likely than not that Pilgrim's Pride. Sanderson and Tyson conspired to fix

"There are numerous examples of supposed competitors regularly exchanging sensitive production data with each other," Durkin wrote. "A jury could find that such conduct is not the behavior of active competitors."

But the judge also narrowed the case

to cover alleged "anomalous decreases in broiler production" in 2008-2009 and 2011-2012.

Durkin dismissed claims relating to supply cuts in 2015-2016 and alleged manipulation of the Georgia Dock broiler price index, saying evidence of a conspiracy was "weak."

He also dismissed claims against other producers including Perdue, as well as against Agri Stats, whose reports about the industry allegedly let producers monitor each other's production and pricing activities.

Pilgrim's Pride, Sanderson and Tyson did not immediately respond to requests for comment after market

The companies have previously settled claims with some of the plaintiffs, including \$221.5 million of settlements announced by Tyson.

Pilgrim's Pride is owned mainly by

The case is In re Broiler Chicken Antitrust Litigation, US District Court, Northern District of Illinois, No. 16-

## Nokia, Apple agree long-term pact on patent licensing

### **HELSINKI**

Network infrastructure and 5G technology provider Nokia has signed a new long-term patent license agreement with Apple to replace the current deal between the two companies that is set to expire at the end of 2023.

The deal, which enables Apple to use the Finnish company's technology in its products, covers Nokia's inventions in 5G and other technologies. The terms of the agreement announced late Friday remain confidential.

Nokia expects to recognize revenue related to the agreement starting January 2024, and the company said the deal is consistent with its long-term outlook disclosed in the first quarter.

"The agreement reflects the strength of Nokia's patent portfolio, decades-

long investments in R&D, and contributions to cellular standards and other technologies," Nokia Technologies President Jenni Lukander said in

The previous license agreement between Apple and Nokia was announced in May 2017.

Nokia said its patent portfolio is built on more than €140 billion (\$153 billion) invested in research and development since 2000, and is composed of around 20,000 patent families, including over 5,500 patent families declared essential to 5G.

The Espoo, Finland -based Nokia is one of the world's main suppliers of 5G, the latest generation of broadband technology, along with Sweden's Ericsson, China's Huawei and South Korea's

# Agriculture minister and tobacco stakeholders to discuss payments



### By Guardian Correspondent,

**GRICULTURE** minister Hussein Bashe (pictured) has assured tobacco farmers that their challenge of delayed payments by the crop contractors will be solved soon.

Speaking in Tabora over the weekend, the minister said he will next week meet commercial banks, cooperative unions and the crop board in Dodoma to discuss ways to address the problem.

According to the minister, a total of 400bn/- has been paid to tobacco farmers, assuring that the remaining payment amounting 100bn/- will also be paid soon.

The minister stated that a total of 104,000 tonnes out of produced 120,000 tonnes of tobacco have been procured by contractors.

The minister admitted that some contractors have not paid

Earlier the tobacco board said

the delayed payments were due to

dollar shortages, although sources claim that there are some companies which are facing financial crunch.

The source from different Amcos told the Guardian yesterday that two out of seven tobacco procuring companies, failed to honour their contractual agreement obligations by paying farmers on

Laws and regulations on tobacco sub-sector require the authority, specifically the board, to ensure that the crop contractors have financial capabilities to pay farmers.

Two weeks ago, the Harare headquartered Voedsel was given seven days by the Tabora Regional Commissioner Dr Batilda Buriani to pay 20bn/- they owed to farmers in the region.

The Tobacco Board manager for western zone Albert Charles was quoted two weeks ago saying the board has removed the firm from market schedule, until they pay all outstanding debts it owes farmers.

But, the company regional manager Victor Matawa promised to start paying all the debt last week, after finalizing a financial arrangement with CRDB Bank.

"I don't know on what basis the company with questionable financial muscles was allowed to a point of being intervened by the Regional Commissioner," said a source.

"How come a tobacco contractor has failed to pay farmers for more than 40 days, while the President has recently directed that farmers must be paid within three days after the crop procurement," he said on the condition of anonymity.

He said this is happening when farmers have been motivated to increase crop productivity.

The source said many farmers are worried about the increased interest rates on input loans taken from commercial banks and how they are going to be compensated for the losses.

According to the source, CRDB Bank has already been given the company US\$1.9 million out of the required US\$9 million they owed by Tabora farmers.

Presenting the statistics on to-

bacco buying for this year, the minister of agriculture Hussein Bashe said the Zimbabwe based company has procured the crop valued US\$11 million from Tanzanian farmers.

In February this year, the company was flagged by their home country's growers association- the Zimbabwe Tobacco Growers Association over failure to pay farmers their 2022 dues.

George Seremwe, president of the Zimbabwe Tobacco Growers Association, was quoted in February this year by the country's media saying that farmers were being exploited by contractors under the guise of contract farming.

"The contractual agreements have led to growers being caught in debt traps," he was quoted as

"We have a situation where farmers have not been paid for tobacco that was delivered during the last marketing season, yet the Act is clear that the farmer must be paid within 48 hours," he said.

## Coffee board finds ways to boost local consumption

#### By Correspondent Valentine Oforo

THE Tanzania Coffee Board (TCB), is working to elevate the country's local coffee consumption from the currently 7 percent to at least 15 percent.

Despite topping the East and Central Africa (EAC) countries for harbouring many processing industries and value addition for the instant coffees, its a grim revelation that the country lags behind when it comes to coffee con-

"The impeccable coffee consumption record in the country is currently stands at between 5 to 7percent, the percentage low in comparison to the country's coffee growing status," informed the TCB's Director General (DG), Primus Kimaryo.

To attain the set ambitious vision, Kimaryo expressed that the stateowned coffee board was planning to open equipped coffee cafeterias at different popular universities and other middle class colleges across the country, " the TCB' boss said.

Together with that, he expressed the program will in tandem with a special strategy to sensitize and educating the local communities over the healthier- important of consuming coffee.

Kimaryo added, plans are also afoot to estab-



lish mobile coffee cafes at various places across the country in general focus to welcome more Tanzanians to use the beverage beans.

Currently, Japan the leading consumers of the Tanzania's coffee producers, with Tokyo reported to be importing nearly that 30 percent of the Tanzania's coffee.

In an impressive development, the Tanzania's coffee sector has successfully managed to thrive in a period of five years, with markets and the prices of the economic cash crop continues to stabilize.

The sector has now im-

proved coffee production improved from 66,837 tons to 82,491 tons, an estimated a 23.4 percent in the production of the tree

economic crop. Giving further successes, Kimaryo detailed that coffee seedlings production had also witnessed a satisfying upward trend, the vital development which seen enabled the farmers to scale up their production levels.

2019/2020 During season, he said production of the seedlings was at 7,059,836 whereby in 2020/21 the amount increased to 11, 388,474 seed-

"As part of good working cooperation between TCB and the seed Institutes from the public and private sector, during 2021/23 and 2022/23 seasons the production catapulted from 14,116,173 to 17,866,980 respectively, "Kimaryo said.

In recent years, he said the government, through the Ministry of Agriculture has worked to strengthen coffee markets systems and prices, the development which has resulted into an increase in the prices of the crop among the growers at the local markets from 1,300/- per

Kg from 2022/2022 season to 2,000/-.

Despite attained the encouraging development, Kimaryo however expressed that several handicaps were cripping the sector from growing at needed pace.

He said challenges as poor adoption of needed agronomic practices among most of the coffee growers as well as failure to apply proper fertilizers, among others.

"Severe effects of climate change are also affecting the smooth metamorphosis of the sector, but also, some of the farmers are maintaining oldest coffee plants in their farms, leading to poor yields," he noted.

To help contain the challenges, the DG said the Board, in cooperation with other stakeholders was planning to implement a series of helpful strategies.

"Plans are afoot to embark on a robust program for the production of more than 20million coffee seedlings to sartisfy farmers demand and enabling them to further expand their production scopes," he said.

Approximately, the demand for coffee seedlings in the country is between 50 and 60 million coffee seedlings per year, but the county's current capacity is to produce only 20 million coffee seedlings per

**BUSINESS NEWS** 

### **Guardian**

# Namtumbo District seeks funds to support conservation

By Correspondent Beatrice Phile-

NAMTUMBO District Council in Ruvuma Region is looking for donors to support the district to obtain funds for forest conservation to reduce unreserved forests that is not legally reserved and formalized within the village land and help people to benefit from forest resources.

Gravas Mwalyombo, Namtumbo District forest officer said this recently when speaking to journalists from different media outlets who visited the village to see the impact of the five-year project (2018-2022) which is dubbed 'Leading the Change'

The project is funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) through World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Tanzania and is being implemented by Tanzania Community Forest Conservation Network (MJUMITA), Mpingo Conservation and Development Initiative (MCDI) and Namtum-

Currently a total of 589,880 hectors of forest cover found within the village land in Namtumbo District is not legally reserved and formalized resulting into deforestation.

"We need more funds so that we can mobilize villagers to allocate special areas of village land forest reserve within their village land for Community Based Forest Management (CBFM) and later on generate income from selling timber to implement village development projects,"

So far a total of 52,716.88 hectares of forest cover has been allocated as a Village Land Forest Reserve (VLFR) for CBFM in five villages in Namtumbo District.

He named the villages as Kitanda, Mtelawamwahi, Milonji, Kilangalanga, Chengena and Masuguru village.

Elaborating on the impact of the Leading the Change project, he lauded MJUMITA and MCDI to teamed up in the district and train people on forest conservation and other issues.

The project has helped Kitanda village to obtain more than of 107m/, - in revenue generated from selling 369.362 cubic meters of standing trees species at Mtaungana forest reserve and later on invest it in education and health sector.

"As district we are very proud of them because from this income, the village has been able to build modern maternity building for expectant mothers worth 29m/-, build two houses for doctors worth 21m/-. Purchase one motorcycle worth 2.7m/for the Village Natural Resources Committee (VNRC)'s members," he said.

The Village Natural Resources Committee (VNRC) has been able to donate 3m/- to Lugongoro, Kitanda and Mkomanile Primary Schools to enable pupils obtain desks, learn in a conducive environment and help them to get best academic results.

This has been possible through the five-year project (2018-2022) which is dubbed 'Leading the Change' he said.

The implementation of the project has also changed people's mindsets and villagers were now volunteering to protect the village forest reserves they have within their village land and aware on how they can benefit from forest they have.

Also villagers are now knowledgeable on how to keep records for timber harvesting business, calculate the cubic meter volume of trees and have a mandate to harvest trees sustainably and sell them according to the Government Notice.

Kitanda village is now looking for customers who can purchase timber in their localities to enable them earn funds to implement development projects.

"Customer willing to purchase timber at Kitanda village, the village has 10 indigenous tree species that is suitable for timber harvesting at Mtaungana Village land Forest Re-

He named the tree species as Pterocarpus angolensis, Swartzia madagascariensis, Brachystegia spiciformis, Pericopsis angolensis and Brachystegia microphylla, Burkea Africana, Julbernardia globiflora, Parinari curatellifolia and Faurea sa-

Also every year more than 469,000 hectares of forest are cleared in Tanzania with most deforestation occurring on unreserved forests within the village land.

For her part, Stella Lwambano from Kitanda village lauded WWF-Tanzania, MJUMITA and MCDI for introducing the project in the village for forest conservation.

"We called on the government and other donors to help us to obtain delivery beds and water at the modern maternity building which has been built by the funds from the forest conservation project to help pregnant women to receive care here without having to travel 60km to Aga healthcare facility or elsewhere

to deliver their babies," She said

Kitanda village Natural Resources Committee (VNRC)'s treasurer, Ambrosia N'goma noted that in a bid to protect their forest resources at Mtaungana Forest Reserve they still need eight tents for VNRC's members to conduct patrol inside the forest reserve, training on good governance and financial management

For his part, Wilbert Mchulu, Kitanda Dispensary Health Facility-In Charge lauded MJUMITA, MCDI and Namtumbo District to help pregnant women in the village access modern maternity building something that was not the case in the past.

"Women are now happy for this healthcare facility, but what they need from the government is water and delivery beds, improving the maternity's ability to provide safe, sterile, and affordable childbirth to mothers," he said.

### **CFAO Motors launches** Winpart dealership in Morogoro, Iringa

**By Guardian Reporter** 

CFAO Motors has launched its Winpart dealership in Iringa and Morogoro, in partnership with reputable local

The launch events in Iringa and Morogoro were attended by representatives from CFAO Motors Tanzania, TENS, and Wheelers, and were aimed at introducing the Winpart product line to more people in the Tanzanian

Said Mohamed Sood, Wheelers managing director, one of the local partners based in Iringa, highlighted the need for quality spare parts in the region.

"Many customers are struggling to obtain original automotive spare parts when their cars break," he said. "So we decided to partner with CFAO Motors Tanzania who offers original automotive spare parts through Winpart," he said

Through the partnership with CFAO Motors Tanzania, Wheelers and other local companies will be able to access original spare parts directly from the manufacturers.

CFAO's Winpart is the only dealer in Tanzania that procures automotive parts directly from manufacturers, ensuring that customers receive genuine parts.

"We have installed the latest and modern equipment so that our services are provided timely and with superior quality products," the Managing Director of Wheelers added.

Erca Uisso, Marketing Coordinator at CFAO Motors Tanzania, emphasized the company's commitment to quality and credibility.



Francois Bompart, the CEO of CFAO Motors Tanzania (L), and Said Mohamed Sood (C), and Managing Director of Wheelerz, opens Winpart in Iringa recently. Photo by Guardian Correspondent

with TENS for many years. They are and ensure their cars are safe. known for their quality services and credibility in Morogoro and neighboring regions," she said.

TENS CEO, Peter Ngowi also expressed his satisfaction with the partnership, calling CFAO's Winpart "a new line of products" that will help supply customers

"We've been working in partnership with quality spare parts that last longer

"We are very happy with this partnership because CFAO Motors came owners, supplying customers with parts companies like TENS and Wheelers that have good quality which when fitted, ensures that customers have easy access can last longer and the car will be safe", to genuine parts.

The launch of CFAO's Winpart dealership in Iringa and Morogoro marks an important step towards providing quality spare parts to the Tanzanian up with a solution for ordinary car market, and the partnership with local

## China announces new PBOC party chief, eyeing for central bank governor change

### **BEIJING**

China named Pan Gongsheng as the central bank's new Communist Party chief, putting him in line to be the next governor.

The decision was made at a People's Bank of China meeting of top cadres on Saturday, the central bank said in a statement. Pan, 59, is a deputy governor at the central bank with extensive experience in commercial banking.

Pan replaces Guo Shuqing, who retired as party chief. Central bank Governor Yi Gang, who was Guo's deputy, also retired from his party role, according to the statement.

The Wall Street Journal earlier reported Pan will be named governor, citing unidentified people familiar with the matter. The central bank statement did not mention any next step for Pan after the party secretary appointment.

Becoming governor of the central bank requires an appointment by the state. Before Yi, Zhou Xiaochuan was both the PBOC's party secretary and governor.

Yi was appointed to a second term in March during the National People's Congress, the annual parliamentary gathering. Some analysts saw Yi, who had reached the official retirement age of 65 for ministerial-level officials, only staying for a short time to help oversee a transition after China set up a new regulator to strengthen oversight of ience of consumer spending and



its \$60 trillion financial system.

If confirmed, Pan would take office at a time when President Xi Jinping is looking for ways to strengthen an economy still struggling to recover from some of the world's strictest Covid-19 restrictions.

Calls for stimulus are growing as concerns mount over the resil-

renewed weakness in the property

Data on Friday showed manufacturing activity contracting again in June and other sectors failing to build momentum.

The central bank on Friday vowed to step up efforts to stabilize the yuan after it dropped toward the lowest level in 15 years in the

wake of the data. It also vowed to increase support for the economy more broadly, as domestic demand is still "not strong."

The PBOC has taken a moderate approach to monetary easing since the pandemic first erupted in 2020, refraining from cutting interest rates too much, and instead encouraging banks to lend more. It's

also made greater use of structural tools to funnel credit into targeted sectors of the economy like small businesses.

A change in the central bank's top leadership also comes ahead of a possible trip by US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen in early July. Details of her visit haven't been officially announced but people familiar with the scheduling said she plans to have the first high-level economic talks with her new Chinese counterpart.

Yellen has said she hopes to establish contact with "a new group of leaders" to minimise misunderstandings betwen the world's two largest economies.

Pan has held a deputy governor role at the central bank since 2012 and became the Administrator of the State Administration of Foreign Exchange in 2016, managing the country's \$3 trillion in foreign reserves.

Prior to joining the PBOC, he held positions at the Agricultural Bank of China Ltd. and the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China Ltd.

Pan holds a PhD in economics from the Renmin University of China, and has published dozens of papers and several books on banking, finance and the economy. His overseas experience includes postdoctoral research at Cambridge University and a research fellowship at Harvard University.

# US\$2bn gold struck at New Zealand's deepest mine

#### **AUCKLAND**

Gold has just been struck at New Zealand's deepest mine and the operators believe it could be worth \$2 billion.

The Snowy River Mine on the West Coast is near a historic mine that was also known for its riches.

Around 850 metres deep into the ground near Ikamatua on the West Coast is an abundance of quartz reef.

"This is the prize at the end of the mine if you like," said Snowy River Mine general manager Lincoln Smith.

A prize - because for each red marking. that's where the gold is.

It's the first time gold has been struck at Snowy River Mine, right on schedule.

"We were pretty confident it was there and we're happy to see it," Smith said.

That's because nearby Blackwater Mine has also produced gold before.

"Gold was discovered there in early 1900s and the mine ran from about 1906 to 1951," Smith said.

Up to 750 ounces of gold was mined back then and the now-abandoned Waiuta township was abuzz.

This time the birthday reef is being mined about 3km beneath the old Blackwater mine workings.

"We're pretty much picking up where the old-timers finished up," Smith said. And just at the right time, too.

"We're seeing record gold prices, way over \$3000 an ounce, which is historically high," Development West Coast CEO Heath Milne said.

"We think we got 700,000 ounces there. Three sevens are 21 - that's \$2.1 billion we got there," Smith said. That value is attracting highly skilled

workers to the area.

"They're not just going to dig up the gold and send it away, they're going to process it here, so there's a processing plant that's being consented here," Milne

Federation Mining is a major employer on the West Coast and 80 percent of its staff are local.

"We've spent nearly \$70 million getting to where we are now, we've got 60 employees on now. That will grow over the next 12 months or so to 150 people on site," Smith said.

With a forecast of 70,000 ounces a year, the darkened path to Snowy River Mine will be glittering for years to come.



They're not just going to dig up the gold and send it away, they're going to process it here, so there's a processing plant that's being consented here

# China-Africa expo strengthens trade links, brightens future

**NAIROBI** 

thiopian cof-Madagasessential Kenyan flowers and many other products from Africa are becoming increasingly popular among Chinese consumers in Changsha city, an important transportation hub in central China.

The third China-Africa Economic and Trade Expo which kicked off in the city on Thursday brought Chinese consumers products of high quality and low prices and has yielded win-win results. For African producers and traders looking for new export markets, the expo is a golden opportu-

Over the past two decades, China-Africa trade has been steadily increasing, hitting a record high of 282 billion US dollars in 2022. With the participation of about 1,500 exhibitors, the expo is expected to help China and Africa forge new cooperation and strengthen trade relations.

To help African countries revive their economies after the COVID-19 pandemic, China continues to expand imports of African goods. China is the second largest destination country of African agricultural products. In recent years, the average growth rate of African agricultural exports to China has reached 11.4 percent.

Among the agricultural products, avocado is an example demonstrating the vigorous development of trade between China and Africa. Since last

more than 3,000 tons of fresh avocados to China, bringing more income to over 3,200 farmers. Local officials in the East African country expect to increase the exports to 100,000 tons annually in the coming years.

At the 8th Ministerial Conference of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation in 2021, China announced the establishment of a "green channel" for African countries' agricultural products entering China. Since then, more than a dozen African countries have been given approval to export agricultural products, such as citrus from South Africa and sesame from Tanzania, to China.

Through the China International Import Expo, the China-Africa Economic and Trade Expo, online shopping festivals and other platforms, China has been helping African products enter Chinese and global markets.

Bordering Kenya in the north, Tanzania is the second largest wine producer in sub-Saharan Africa after South Africa.

"The fair will be an opportunity for us to have our wines showcased on an international level, and our company is looking forward to more sales to China," said Archard Kato, managing director of Alko Vintages Company, a Tanzanian wine company that participated in the exhibition in Changsha.

The expo creates great opportunities for the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), which deems China a "privileged" and "strategic" partner, Congolese External Trade Minister Jean-July, Kenya has exported Lucien Bussa Tongba told



Xinhua in a recent inter-

"The DRC government prioritizes the diversification of its economy, which would also be a key message that I would share with Chinese investors. It corresponds to our internal need, the world market's need and certainly the need of the Chinese investors," he said.

According to official statistics, China's new investment in the DRC reached 500 million dollars in 2022, and the trade volume between the two countries amounted to 21.8 billion dollars in the

has granted zero tariffs on about 97 percent of products from the DRC.

#### **VALUE-ADDED PROD-UCTS**

At the ongoing expo in Changsha, Chinese consumers could taste anchovies from Kenva for the first time. Locally known as "dagaa," the small fish caught in the Indian Ocean were processed, dried and packaged in a factory of Huawen Food (Kenya) Export Processing Zone Limited, a Chinese company based in Kenya's Kwale County.

Abdi Dura, a 30-yearsame year. So far, China old father of two, was

born in a fishing family in a village on the shores of the Indian Ocean. "It is an exciting moment to witness the maiden export of anchovies to the Chinese market," Dura said. "Now that we have secured a new market for the small fish, we expect our income to increase and look forward to purchasing new fishing gear to help improve the volumes of

Salim Mvurya, cabinet secretary for the Ministry of Mining, Blue Economy and Maritime Affairs of Kenya, said the inaugural shipment of anchovies sourced from local fisher-

our catch."

men to the Chinese market was "a historic moment for the country."

The blue economy will open new frontiers for Kenya-China cooperation, Mvurya said.

China has long prioritized poverty reduction and agricultural development in cooperation with African countries. Over the past years, China has sent agricultural experts to Africa and established more than 20 agricultural demonstration centers.

Chinese enterprises have established agricultural cooperative parks agro-processing plants in African coun-

tries, using advanced technology, equipment and experience to help them increase crop yields and establish an agricultural industry.

In February last year, several Chinese enterprises signed cooperation agreements on the construction of preliminary processing plants for rubber, palm oil, cotton and other agricultural products in Cote d'Ivoire and other West African coun-

Now two plants of a Chinese rubber processing factory have been put into operation in Cote d'Ivoire, one of the leading rubber producers in the world, with an annual capacity of approximately 260,000 tons, equivalent to a quarter of the country's rubber production.

Brou Bonaventure, resource supervisor of the Ivorian Interprofessional Fund for Agricultural Research and Advice, said that before the Chinese company came to Cote d'Ivoire, local farmers did not have distribution and transportation channels, and were stuck with large and costly amounts of overstock and had to sell raw materials at low prices. Things are becoming better as the Chinese factory has provided stable and reasonably priced shipping channels for the farmers.

More and more young people working in big cities are returning home, where agricultural production, such as rubber cultivation, brings them more income, Bonaventure said.

#### **CLOSER TRADE LINKS**

Over the years, the economic and trade cooperation between China and Africa has witnessed steady progress, with the implementation of a number of projects via platforms such as the Belt and Road Initiative and China-Africa Economic and Trade Expo. Their close trade links have yielded win-win results.

According to China's Ministry of Commerce, China has remained Africa's largest trading partner for 14 consecutive years. The two sides have constructed together and commissioned over 10,000 km of railways, nearly 100,000 km of highways, and an array of important infrastructure including airports, docks, bridges and power plants.

### EV car sales to reach **22m per year in 2025**

**JOHANESBURG** 

Electric vehicle (EV) adoption is set to soar in the coming years, with more than 100-million passenger EVs expected on the roads by 2026, and more than 700-million by

This is a significant increase from the 27-million units recorded at the beginning of this year.

This is according to research company BloombergNEF's (BNEF's) latest yearly long-term Electric Vehicle Outlook (EVO) report.

Electrification is now spreading quickly to all sectors of road transport, from rickshaws to heavy trucks, and is also picking up in emerging economies like India, Thailand and Indonesia.

As momentum grows, new economic opportunities are taking shape, notes the report.

The document also notes that EV sales are set to rise sharply.

In the Economic Transition Scenario - BNEF's base-case scenario which assumes no new policies are implemented - passenger EV sales will rise from 10.5-million units in 2022, to 22-million in 2025 (26% of sales), 42-million in 2030 (44% of sales) and 75-million in

2040 (75% of sales). Some countries will move much faster, including the Nordics, China, Germany, South Korea, France and the UK.

By 2030, there will be 244-million EVs on the road, rising to 731-million by 2040 (46% of the fleet).

The cumulative value of EV sales across all segments will hit \$8.8-trillion by 2030 and \$57-trillion by 2050 in BNEF's basecase Economic Transition Scenario.

"EVs and batteries are now a central part of many countries' industrial policy and competition to attract investment will increase in the coming years," says the EVO.

"Direct electrification via batteries is the most efficient, costeffective and commercially available route to fully decarbonising road transport," says BloombergNEF EV head Aleksandra O'Donovan.

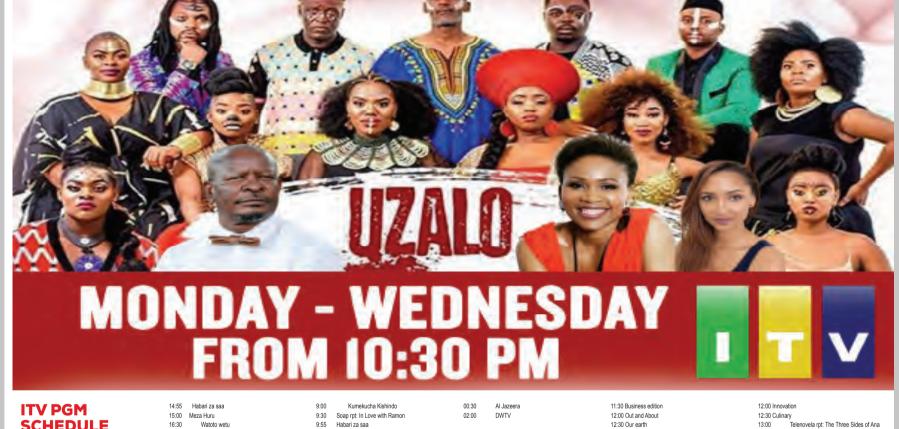
"Still, a stronger push is needed on areas like heavy trucking, charging infrastructure and raw material supply.'

The EVO report also found that oil demand from road transport was very near its peak.

The rise of EVs will lead to a peak in overall road fuel demand in 2027.

Demand in the US and Europe has already peaked, while demand in China is set to peak next

Sales of internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicles reached its apex in 2017 and are now in long-



SATURDAY 24 June

6:40 7:00 8:00

HABARI

Kumekucha

Al Jazeera

Watoto wetu

10:35 Mjue Zaidi rpt 11:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt

13:20 Art and Lifestyle

15:45 Igizo: Mizengwe

18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 ITV Top 10 rpt

21:15 Igizo: Slay Queer

21:40 Art and lifestyle

01:15 DWTV

10:00

15:30

19:30

19:30

12:50 Usafiri wako

11:50 Hawavumi lakini wam

13:50 Soap: In Love with Ramon rp

Jungu Kuu

20:00 Habari 21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Tatu Mzuka

ITV Top 10

Soap: Uzalo rpt

Uwanja wa Mazoez

Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt

Bongo Movie rpt: Tamasha la Michezo

Kipindi cha kikristo

Matukio ya wiki

Igizo: Slay Queen

Kipindi maalum: Biko

Igizo: Mizengwe

Bongo movie

Al jazeera

Mwangaza

Jiji Letu

HABARI

Kumekucha

Shika Bamba

Shamsham za Pwan

Shika Bamba 5

### **SCHEDULE**

10:00

12:30

12:55

17:00

18:45

20:00

Kipindi Maalum: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ Soap rpt: Uzalo Uwanja wa Mazoezi Soap: In Love with Ramon HABARI Habari HABARI Kipindi Maalum: NSSF Kumekucha Michezo 21:45 Chetu ni chetu Habari za saa Soap: Uzalo Kumekucha Kishindo Habari Music: The Base Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt 23:30 Habari za saa Watoto wetu 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 ITV Top Ten WEDNESDAY 21 June 11:55 Habari za saa Soap rpt: Uzale Uwanja wa Mazoezi Jungu Kuu Habari za saa 6:40 7:30 Mjue Zaidi HABARI Art and Lifestyle Kumekucha Michezo 13:55 Habari za saa Habari za saa Art and Lifestyle Kumekucha Kishindo Soan: In Love with Ramor Soap rpt: Slay Quee 14:55 Habari za saa Habari za saa Watoto wetu Jungu kuu rpt Habari za saa Watoto Wetu Music: The Base 11:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt 18:15 DW: Afrimaxx Habari za saa Kipindi Maalum: Brela Afya ya Jamii Soap: In Love with Ramon 12:30 Our Earth rpt Habari za saa Dakika 45 rpt 21:05 Dakika 22:00 Our Earth Dakika 45 13:55 Habari za saa Kipindi maalum: NSSF rpt Chetu ni chetu rpt 22:30 Soap: Uzalo Habari za saa Watoto Wetu 17:00 Music: The Base Igizo: Mizengwe Jarida la wanawake Uwanja wa Mazoezi Kipindi maalum: BOT Soap: In Love with Ramon HABARI

TUESDAY 20 June Kumekucha HABARI Kumekucha Michezo Kumekucha Kishindo Soap: In Love with Ramor 10:25 Jagina 10:55 Habari za saa Igizo: Mizengwe Habari za saa Al Jazeera Afya ya jamii

12:00 12:30 12:55 Habari za saa Ripoti maalum 13:35 Shikabamba 13:55 Habari za saa term decline. Igizo rpt: Slay Queen Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba

Watoto wetu

Jiji Letu

Music: The Base

20:00 Habari Aibu Yako Kipindi maalum: Watumishi Kipindi maalum: Tanesco Kipindi maalum: Pesa fasta Ripoti maalum 22:30 Soap: Uzalo

Al Jazeera DWTV THURSDAY 22 June Soap rpt: Uzalo Uwanja wa Mazoez HABARI Kumekucha Kumekucha Michezo

Habari za saa Watoto wetu Habari za saa Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera Jarida la wanawake rpt Habari za saa Kipindi maalum rpt: BOT

13:30 Kipindi maalum: Brela 13:55 Habari za saa Shamsham za pwani rpt Habari za saa 15:00 Meza huru 16:30 Watoto wetu Jiji Letu Usafiri Wako Soap: In Love with Ramon Habari Malumbano ya hoja 21:05

23:00

18:15

19:30

00:30 FRIDAY 23 June HABARI Kumekucha Michezo Habari za saa Kumekucha Kishindo Soap rpt: In Love with Ramor Habari za saa Watoto wetu 10:30 Usafiri Wako Habari za saa

11:20 Jungu kuu 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera Kipindi maalum rpt: Tanesco Habari za saa Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba rpt 13:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ DW: Afrimaxx rpt Meza huru: Watoto Wetu The Base (DJ Show

Kipindi maalum: Watumishi housing rpt

Jiji Letu **CAPITAL** Our Earth Kipindi maalum: Soka Bet Shamba lulu Mon 19 June Soap: In Love with Ramon Kipima Joto Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) The Base

12:30 Our earth Telenovela rpt: The Three Sides Of Ana 13:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:30 17:00 Dw News Africa rpt

19:00 19:30 Shamba lulu 20:00 20:45 21:30 The Monday Agenda Capital Prime News Tues 20 June

Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 07:00 09:00 Dw 11:00 Al Jazeera 11:30 Monday agenda rpt 12:15 Spots gazette Telenovela rpt: The Three Sides Of Ana 13:00 Culinary Delights Rpt

17:30 19:00 Innovation Décor Rpt 20:45 Telenovela: The Three Sides of Ana Wed 21 June Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)

09:00 Dw

11:00 Al Jazeera 11:30 Tomorrow Today rpt Dw News Africa rpt 12:30 Our Earth 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) Culinary delight rpt 17:00 Innovation rpt 19:30 Chetu ni chetu Monday Agenda Rpt
Telenovela: The Three Sides of Ana 21:30 Capital Prime News

22:00 22:45 Th 23:15 Al Jazeera 06:00 Al Jazeera Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio 11:00 Al Jazeera

14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:30 Business edition rpt In good shape Out & About Rpt 19;30 Eco@Africa 20:00 Our Earth Rpt 20:45 Telenovela: The Three Sides of Ana Capital Prime News 23:00 Al Jazeera Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 11:00 Al Jazeera 11:30 Capchat 12:30 Decor Telenovela rpt The Three Sides of Ana Club 101 (via Capital Radio) Dw News Africa rpt 16:30 The Monday Agenda rpt Meza huru 17:30 19:Out & About Rpt 20:15 Local Pgm: Business Edition Telenovela The Three Sides of Ana Capital Prime News Malumbano ya hoja rpi 00:00 Al Jazeera Sat 24 June Rev rpt Jagina rpt Culinary delight rpt Out n'about rpt Sports Gazette rpt 13:00 Business edition rpt Aljazeera ovela rpt The Three Sides of Ana Eco@Africa Capchat rpt 19:15 Mizengwe 10:30 The Decor 20:30 Tommorrow Today Out n' About Music Club 101 rpt 23:00 Capchat Rpt Sun 25 June Aljazeera In good shape Capchat rpt

12:00

Jagina rpt

Telenovela rpt: The Three Sides of Ana

## **Guardian**

# WORLD

# UN chief urges international aid in visit to gang-ravaged Haiti

**PORT-AU-PRINCE** 

UNITED Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, visiting Haiti's capital on Saturday, said international aid has not met the impoverished country's growing humanitarian needs, and urged more support for the Haitian police to fight gangs.

The visit was meant to spotlight the crises facing the Caribbean country as it struggles to combat violent gangs that have largely overrun the capital Portau-Prince, and Guterres made a plea for solidarity

"On the humanitarian front, the needs are increasing, but the international response is not," Guterres told a news conference after meeting with Prime Minister Ariel Henry.

The two discussed the importance of a security force to curb gang activity so Haiti can distribute humanitarian aid, expand the economy and develop stron-

ger political processes, he added. "We are in full agreement about the need for the international community,

ber countries to provide the necessary forces for the international community to come and support the Haitian police," Guterres said.

Elections also were a topic of discussion, he said. "We also discussed different steps that are being taken ... for credible elections to be able to take place."

Henry, who took power in 2021 days after the assassination of President Jovenel Moise, has repeatedly postponed elections, citing first an August 2021 earthquake that killed more than 2,000 people, and then gang violence.

He has pledged to leave office by Feb

Guterres in April said the insecurity in Port-au-Prince was comparable to that in countries in armed conflict, and that Haitians were facing one of the worst human rights crises in decades.

Last September, gangs worsened the humanitarian situation by blocking a fuel terminal for six weeks, halting most economic activity. The UN Security Council in October sanctioned Haiti's most powerful gangster, who was acthe (UN) Security Council and mem- cused of leading the blockade to protest

SHANXAY HAMKORLIK TASHKILOTIGA A'ZO DAVLATLAR



UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres speaks during a press conference in Port-au-Prince on Saturday.

government fuel subsidies cuts.

The United States and Canada have also imposed sanctions on Haitian political figures and business people.

No community spared from violence

Guterres told the Security Council in April that gangs have been tightening their grip around metropolitan Port-au-Prince, "where no commune is now spared from gang-related turf wars."

"In many violence-affected areas, economic activity remains completely paralyzed. At the same time, there has been an increase in the number of people leaving Haiti, both by sea and across the land border to the Dominican Republic," he said.

The UN refugee agency said some 73,500 people fled Haiti last year. The United Nations says 5.2 million - nearly half Haiti's population

year, but so far it is only 23 percent funded. Guterres has said the Haitian police estimate

there are seven major gang coalitions and around 200 affiliated groups. They have ambushed and attacked the security forces, while "other gang tactics include spreading terror by indiscriminately shooting at passengers on public transport and rape.'

Any foreign-led military rapid action force would not deploy as a UN mission, but would likely receive UN Security Council backing. The US has said it would seek a council resolution to show support for such an operation, but diplomats said that would only happen once a force was formed.

A UN political mission is currently deployed in Haiti.

UN peacekeepers were deployed to Haiti in 2004 after a rebellion led to the ouster and exile of then-President Jean-Bertrand Aristide. - need humanitarian assistance in 2023. It has Peacekeeping troops left in 2017 and were reappealed for \$720 million to deliver aid this placed by UN police, who departed in 2019.

### PM Modi's landmark visit: Celebrating 25th anniversary of India-France partnership

**NEW DELHI** 

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi will be the Guest of Honour for the national day celebrations of France this year. Bastille Day, observed on July 14 every year, is France's National Day. The day is marked by a special military parade at the Champs Elysees in



On May 5, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) made an announcement stating that French President Emmanuel Macron extended an invitation to Prime Minister Modi.

This visit holds the promise of enhancing the India-France Strategic Partnership by establishing ambitious objectives in areas such as strategic collaboration, cultural exchange, scientific advancements, academic pursuits, and economic cooperation.

India and France share a common vision of peace and security, especially in Europe and the Indo-Pacific, upholding the objectives and principles of the United Nations Charter.

The forthcoming visit is likely to see the launch of some common initiatives responding to the key challenges of the time, such as biodiversity loss, climate change, and the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

It provides an opportunity for India and France to reaffirm their commitment to multilateralism, including in the context of India's G20 Presidency.

India and France are celebrating the 25th anniversary of their Strategic Partnership this year. An Indian armed forces contingent will participate in the Bastille Day Parade alongside their French counterparts to mark this important milestone.

India has so far signed more than 35 strategic partnerships. But, the strategic partnership India signed with France in January 1998 was India's first ever.

A few months later, India conducted the Pokhran II nuclear tests. India carried out its nuclear tests within a few months. Not only did France refrain from imposing sanctions, but President Chirac himself sought to provide India with a respectable entry into the global nuclear framework.

The Prime Ministerial visit may be useful for India in the context of the Ukraine war, where Indian and European perceptions differ. The strengthening of the strategic partnership with France may reassure other EU nations that despite occasional tactical differences, a friendly relationship with India continues to be a useful investment.

France's lead within the European Union is likely to be more decisive than ever before. Since Brexit, France remains the only country in the European Union which is both a nuclear state and a Permanent Member of the Security Council of the United Nations.

France hosts the fourth-largest Indian diaspora in Europe, following the United Kingdom, Italy, and Germany. Despite the prevailing difficulties, France has earnestly endeavoured to attract Indian students and professionals. The two nations have established a bilateral agreement focused on migration and mobility cooperation, with the objective of facilitating circular migration that enables individuals to enhance their skills abroad and subsequently return to contribute to their home country.

### SCO summit expected to enhance regional cooperation, stability

**NEW DELHI** 

THE upcoming Shanghai Cooperation Organization summit to be held virtually on July 4 is expected to further strengthen cooperation and ensure regional stability in the region, analysts

Apart from Chinese President Xi Jinping, Russian President Vladimir Putin and Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif will be attending the SCO summit along with other Heads of State of the SCO. Indian PM Narendra Modi will host the 23rd summit for the first time since India became full member of the grouping in 2017.

All the SCO Member States -China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, and Uzbekistan, have been invited to attend the summit. In addition, Iran, Belarus, and Mongolia have been invited as Observer States. As per SCO tradition, Turkmenistan has also been invited as the guest of the Chair. The summit may address new membership issue, which is of interest to a number of countries.

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning, in a statement on Friday, said "in a world marked by change and disorder and fraught with increasing instability, uncertainties and unpredictable factors, regional countries as well as other members of the international community look to the SCO to play a bigger role in safeguarding regional security and promoting common development."

China's stake is high in the SCO and Xi's presence in the summit that it would chair the SCO sum-



This photo taken on Sept 16, 2022 shows President Xi Jinping (fourth, left) and other leaders of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization member countries posing for a group photo before attending the 22nd meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the SCO in Samarkand, Uzbekistan. (PHOTO / XINHUA)

the SCO region, said Professor Srikanth Kondapalli, dean of School of International Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University in New Delhi. Issues like counter terrorism, energy security, regional stability, ensuring stability in the Eurasian region and multipolarity are likely to be discussed during the summit, according to him.

Xi is scheduled to deliver a key speech at the SCO summit on July 4. From India's perspective, this will also be an occasion for Xi and Modi to share the same platform on international stage, said prof Swaran Singh, a professor of diplomacy and disarmament at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New

On May 30, India announced

is sending a signal for stability in mit virtually, not in person, as scheduled earlier.

> Modi, meanwhile, on Friday reiterated his call for dialogue and diplomacy to find a solution to the Ukraine conflict as he spoke to Russian President Vladimir Putin over phone, according to a press statement issued by the federal ministry of external affairs on

President Putin informed Modi about the recent developments in Russia. Both leaders agreed to remain in touch and continue to make efforts to further strengthen special and privileged strategic partnership between the two countries, the statement said.

"Particular attention is paid to interaction through the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the G20, in which India currently

holds the chairmanship, as well as in the BRICS format. In addition, Narendra Modi informed about his international contacts, including during his recent visit to Washington," Kremlin said in a statement.

On Friday Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif confirmed they will attend the virtual summit, along with the leaders of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.

Sharif's participation in the summit illustrates the high importance that Pakistan attaches to the SCO, which is an important forum for regional security and prosperity, and enhanced engagement with the region, the Pakistan foreign ministry said in a statement.

India on Tuesday inaugurated

an exquisitely designed New Delhi Hall at the SCO Secretariat in Beijing. The New Delhi Hall is conceived to be a mini-India, showcasing various facets of Indian culture, Indian external affairs minister, S Jaishankar said in his address while inaugurating the

So far India hosted a total of 134 meetings and events, including 14 ministerial-level meetings under its presidency of the grouping. Besides, there was a focus on common Buddhist heritage, with New Delhi hosting key meetings.

The SCO, which aims to promote economic, political, and military cooperation among its members, covers more than 30 per cent of the global GDP, 60 per cent of the Eurasian landmass, and 40 per cent of the world pop-Xinhua



**President Putin** informed Modi about the recent developments in Russia. Both leaders agreed to remain in touch and continue to make efforts to further strengthen special and privileged strategic partnership between the two countries

### **Medvedev raises specter of Poland** using nuclear weapons

**MOSCOW** 

THE potential deployment of nuclear weapons to Poland may prompt the country to use them. Russian Security Council Deputy Chairman Dmitry Medvedev told TASS.



Commenting on Poland's ambitions to take part in NA-TO's Nuclear Sharing program, he said, "The only danger arising from the request to deploy nuclear weapons to Poland is that such weapons will be used."

Earlier, Polish Prime Minister Morawiecki announced that Warsaw would like to join NATO's Nuclear Sharing program amid Russia's intentions to deploy tactical nuclear weapons to Belarus.

Speaking during an online press briefing on Friday, US National Security Council Strategic Communications Coordinator John Kirby said that he has absolutely nothing to say about this kind of negotiations. However, he underscored that the United States saw no Russian intentions to use nukes amid the Ukraine crisis.

On March 25, Russian President Vladimir Putin announced that, at Minsk's request, Moscow would deploy its tactical nuclear weapons in Belarus, similar to what the United States has long been doing on the territory of

Agencies

### Industrial internet creates new prospects for China's manufacturing industry

IN factory workshops, robots are precisely producing parts; on roads, autopilot vehicles are running to accumulate data under different traffic scenarios; on industrial cloud platforms, enterprises trade with each other idle production capacity and equipment.

In today's China, the industrial internet is promoting in-depth integration between the digital economy and the real economy, creating new prospects for industrial production.

In a pile driver factory of Chinese heavy equipment manufacturer Sany Group in Changping district, Beijing, there stood several machines that were dozens of meters

"These are rotary drilling rigs we manufactured. Each of them weighs nearly 100 tons and can drill to a depth of over 100 meters," said Yin Yanhu, head of the factory's production technique depart-

These giant devices were manufactured in a huge workshop, where various robots controlled by a few workers were busy working in the production line. neatly arranged. Different from traditional laborers, these workers were more like "taking care" of the robots, ensuring that those smart machines functioned properly.

Yin told People's Daily that machines were mostly manufactured by human labor in the past, and it took about a month to make a rotary drilling rig. At that time, there used to be over 1,000 workers in the factory, and the annual output was more than 3 billion yuan (\$414

"In 2019, the factory started the digital transformation. Now it takes only around a week to manufacture such a rotary drilling rig, and the annual output has jumped to more than 7 billion yuan," Yin said, adding that hundreds of workers have become versatile and turned

into engineers that can perform physical tasks and program.

The key to the factory's digital upgrading lies in a system developed based on the industrial internet platform Rootcloud. Yin called it the central controlling system of the factory, a "brain" for manufacturing.

To manufacture a rotary drilling rig, for example, the system can rapidly assign required tasks to each flexible production line, work island, equipment and worker. The whole workflow is digitally driven, from order generation to

delivery, Yin said. In the factory, machine parts

are welded, moved and assembled by robots. Rootcloud works nonstop to analyze the industrial data collected from over 36,000 sampling sites, so as to generate the optimal parameters for each procedure and machine model, and optimize the workflow to the maximum extent.

The factory was recognized by the World Economic Forum as a "lighthouse factory" in 2021.

According to statistics recently released at the 2023 Industrial Internet Conference, the scale of China's industrial internet industry has exceeded 1.2 trillion yuan. Besides, 240 influential industrial

internet platforms have been listed, including Rootcloud, serving more than 260,000 enterprises. Rootcloud is one of them.

Recently, Rootcloud unveiled three versions of its industrial internet operating system tailored for smart factories, digital enterprises and intelligent chains. As the core of the platform, the operating system, after seven years of application verification, is able to virtualize industrial equipment in an online space and provide a sound environment where enterprises develop and run their applications.

At present, the operating sys-

tem is providing industrial internet services for nearly 1,000 relevant enterprises.

Co-founder and CEO He Dongdong of Rootcloud said that data from traditional industrial information systems are distributed in a layered structure, and the transmission of data is completed in a bottom-up manner layer by layer.

However, he said, in digital factories built by the industrial internet operating system, data can be exchanged more frequently and efficiently, and the cost of developing industrial applications is lower.

People's Daily

### China's foreign relations law to take effect, its significance explained

CHINA'S milestone Law on Foreign Relations, adopted by the country's top legislature on Wednesday, will take effect on Saturday. An official of the Legislative Affairs Commission of the National People's Congress (NPC) Standing Committee answered key questions about the law in an interview with Xinhua.

The following is an excerpt from the interview.

#### Why did China formulate the law?

Of the 297 laws currently in effect in China, there are 52 foreign-affairs laws and more than 150 laws containing foreignaffairs clauses. But the legal system concerning foreign affairs still has some shortcomings. In particular, gaps exist in laws concerning safeguarding national sovereignty, security and development interests. Speeding up the building of the legal system concerning foreign affairs will help China more effectively deal with risks and challenges.

The law expounds China's stance in international exchanges, improves the institutions related to the country's foreign relations, and presents China's image as a responsible major country that champions peace, development, cooperation and mutual benefit via a law-based approach.

The law will help the rest of the world further know about, learn about, understand and trust China. It will provide a better legal instrument to guide China's efforts in developing foreign relations and facilitating

#### What are the main features?

The mainstay of the law is facilitating friendly exchanges and enhancing communication and cooperation. This is embodied in many stipulations of the law. For example, it says China calls for putting into action the Global Development Initiative, the Global Security Initiative and the Global Civilization Initiative.

It says China plays an active part in global environmental and climate governance, providing foreign aid, and carrying out international humanitarian cooperation and assistance.

Adhering to the policy of opening up is an important principle of the law. In its general principles, the law stipulates that China adheres to the fundamental policy of opening to the outside world and a strategy of opening up for mutual benefit.

Also, in terms of the goals and mission of conducting foreign relations, the law emphasizes that China is committed to advancing high-standard opening-

According to the law, China develops foreign trade, actively promotes and protects, in accordance with the law, inbound foreign investment, encourages external economic cooperation including outbound investment, and promotes high-quality development of the Belt and Road Initiative. It is also mentioned that China is committed to upholding the multilateral trading system, opposes unilateralism and protectionism, and works to build an open global economy. The law also focuses on safe-

international cooperation.



The closing meeting of the third session of the 14th NPC Standing Committee is held at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, capital of China, June 28, 2023.(Xinhua

guarding national sovereignty, security and development interests. It stipulates that China has the right to take, as called for, measures to counter or take restrictive measures against acts that endanger its sovereignty, national security and development interests in violation of international law or fundamental norms governing international relations.

It also stipulates that the state shall take measures as necessary in accordance with the law to protect the safety, security, and legitimate rights and interests of Chinese citizens and organizations overseas and safeguard China's overseas interests against any threat or infringement.

the spirit of the Constitution?

In areas such as the basic principles of foreign relations, functions and powers and the state's respect for and protection of human rights, the law further enriches and develops the institutional substance of the Constitution's provisions on foreign relations. By stipulating that "treaties and agreements that the State concludes or accedes to shall not contravene the Constitution," it sets clear the relationship between treaties and the Constitution with a legislative approach for the first time, which is of vital importance for upholding the authority, advancing the enforce-

The law also sets "building Chi-**How does the law embody** na into a great modern socialist country, realizing the great reju-

ment and enhancing the over-

sight of the Constitution.

venation of the Chinese nation. promoting world peace and development and building a community with a shared future for humanity" as a significant part of the purpose of the legislation.

As for human rights, the law makes it clear that China will unremittingly stick to its human rights path and make Chinese contributions and provide a Chinese approach to advancing the international cause of human

What does it say about laws and regulations in foreign-related fields?

The law says the implementation of the laws and regulations parties approved the draft law in foreign-related fields should be and called for its early formulastrengthened, but it is completely tion. different from certain countries

"long-arm jurisdiction" of their domestic laws.

Such "long-arm jurisdiction" is a showcase of hegemony, which China is a victim of and strongly opposes. To resolutely fight against such practices, China has thus enacted laws and regulations such as the Law on Countering Foreign Sanctions, rules on counteracting unjustified extraterritorial application of foreign legislation, and regulations on unreliable entity list, and has taken countermeasures against entities or individuals from certain countries in accordance with the law.

#### How was the law formulated?

A draft of the law went through the first reading at the top legislature in October

After that, the top legislature solicited opinions on the draft law from regional authorities, relevant departments of the central government, legislative outreach offices at primary levels, as well as certain higher education institutions and institutes of legislative affairs studies. From Dec. 30, 2022 to Jan. 28, 2023, the full text of the draft law was made public online to solicit public opinion. In addition, relevant legislative departments held meetings to collect suggestions from members of central government departments, experts and scholars. The results showed that all

### Biden slams Republicans on Supreme Court's decision to strike down student-loan forgiveness plan

**WASHINGTON** 

US President Joe Biden on Saturday (US local time) said "the hypocrisy of Republican elected officials is stunning."

The US President was talking about the Supreme Court's decision to strike down his student-loan forgiveness plan. The US Supreme Court dealt a blow to the Joe Biden administration's student loan forgiveness plan on Friday. The court rejected the program, which aimed to provide up to USD 20,000

court was 6-3 with Chief

ing for the supermajority. Republican-led states and conservatives chal-

lenging the Biden administration's program said that it amounts to an unthe COVID-19 pandemic.

US Secretary of Education rewrote the law. Roberts wrote that the Secretary's comprehensive debt cancellation plan cannot be fairly termed as a "waiver," according to CNN.

US President Joe Biden on Saturday (US local time) said: "The hypocrisy of Republican elected officials is stunning. They had

administration and the no problem with billions in pandemic-related business loans, including to their own businesses. But when it came to providing relief to millions of hardworking Americans, they did everything to stop it."

Biden on Friday said: "I believe that the Court's decision to strike down our student debt relief plan is wrong."

"My Administration's student debt relief plan would have been the lifeline tens of millions of hardworking Americans needed as they try to recover from a once-in-acentury pandemic.

Nearly 90 per cent of the relief from our plan would have gone to borrowers making less than UDD 75,000 a year, and

none of it would have gone to people making more than USD 125,000.

It would have been lifechanging for millions of Americans and their fami-

And it would have been good for economic growth, both in the shortand long-term," he said.

ANI

# Musk says Twitter will limit how many tweets users can read

TWITTER is limiting how many tweets per day various accounts can read, to discourage "extreme levels" of data scraping and system manipulation, Executive Chair Elon Musk said in a post on the social media platform on Saturday.

Verified accounts were initially limited to reading 6,000 posts a day, Musk (pictured) said, adding that unverified accounts will be limited to 600 posts a day with new unverified accounts limited to 300.

The temporary reading limitation was later increased to 10,000 posts per day for verified users, 1,000 posts per day for unverified and 500 posts per day for new unverified users, Musk said in a separate post without providing further details.

Previously, Twitter had announced it will require users to have an account on the social media platform to view tweets, a move that Musk on Friday called a "temporary emergency measure."

Musk had said that hundreds of organizations or more were scraping Twitter data "extremely aggressively", impacting user experience.

Musk had earlier expressed displeasure with artificial intelligence firms like OpenAI, the owner of Chat-GPT, for using Twitter's data to train their large language models.

Twitter was down for thousands of users on Saturday morning, according to outage tracking website Downdetector.com.

Nearly 7,500 users across the social media platform reported issues with accessing the app during the peak of the outage at around 11:17 AM ET.

The social media platform had previously taken a number of steps to win back advertisers who left Twitter under Musk's ownership and to boost subscription revenue by making verification check marks a part of the Twitter Blue programme. **Agencies** 



### France riots: Ministry says quieter overnight, 719 arrested

**PARIS** 

RIOTING across France was less intense overnight, as tens of thousands of police were deployed in cities across the country after the funeral of a teenager, whose shooting by police has sparked nationwide unrest, the interior ministry said yesterday.

The government poured 45,000 police onto the streets to try to keep a lid on potential trouble after the funeral of Nahel, a 17-year-old of Algerian and Moroccan parents, who was shot by a police officer during a traffic stop on Tuesday in the Paris suburb of Nanterre.

Since then rioters have torched cars and public transport and looted stores, but also targeted town halls, police stations and schools - buildings that represent the French state.

The interior ministry said 719 people were arrested on Saturday night, fewer than the 1,311 the previous night and 875 on Thursday night.

"Forty-five thousand police officers and thousands of firefighters have been mobilized to enforce order. Their action ... made for a quieter night," the ministry said on its Twitter account.

The biggest flashpoint overnight was Marseille, where police fired teargas and fought street battles with youths around the

in relief to millions of borlawful effort to forgive an estimated USD 430 billion rowers struggling with outstanding debt, CNN of federal student loan debt under the guise of reported The decision in the Chief Justice John Roberts noted that the Biden Justice John Roberts writ-



Burnt buses are seen at the Fort d'Aubervilliers bus terminal, in Aubervilliers, north of Paris, France, on Friday, Xinhua

city center late into the night.

### **Champs Elysees**

In Paris, police increased security at the city's landmark Champs Elysees avenue after a call on social media to gather there. The street, usually packed with tourists, was lined with security forces carrying out spot checks. Shop facades were boarded up to prevent potential damage and pillaging.

There were sporadic clashes in central Paris. Paris police said six public buildings were damaged and five officers wounded in the clashes overnight. Some 315 people were arrested in the city. In the greater Paris region, the home of the conservative mayor of L'Hay-les-Roses was ransacked, and his wife and children tar-

geted. The local prosecutor said an investigation into attempted murder has been opened. There was also unrest in the Mediterranean city of Nice and the

eastern city of Strasbourg. President Emmanuel Macron postponed a state visit to Germany shoot towards his chest.

that was due to begin on Sunday to handle the worst crisis for his leadership since the "Yellow Vest" protests paralyzed much of France in late 2018.

For Nahel's funeral, several hundred people lined up to enter Nanterre's grand mosque. Volunteers in yellow vests stood guard, while a few dozen bystanders watched from across the street.

The policeman whom prosecutors say acknowledged firing a lethal shot at Nahel is in preventive custody under formal investigation for voluntary homicide, equivalent to being charged under Anglo-Saxon jurisdictions.

His lawyer, Laurent-Franck Lienard, said his client had aimed at the driver's leg but was bumped when the car took off, causing him to Agencies

### TV BRICS hosts tour to Russia for media persons from BRICS, Africa

A MEDIA team from BRICS nations and Africa will be touring Russia shortly to cover leading events on the international

The event is being organised by the BRICS Media Association in cooperation with TV BRICS International Media Network and with grant support from the Gorchakov Fund.

Among the participants of the BRICS Global Media Tour, Russian Edition are top managers of media companies, and partners of TV BRICS from Brazil, India, China, South Africa, Zimbabwe and Mozambique. They represent various types of media: state and private TV stations, radio, and news agencies at national and regional lev-

The media tour programme consists of several tracks -- educational, business and cultural. Within the business track, meetings with the leadership of the Ministry of Communications and Digital Development and the National Association of TV and Radio Broadcasters, as well as the business dialogue at the Moscow office of TV BRICS are planned.

The educational track includes a series of conferences and expert sessions dedicated to the issues of journalism and media education, as well as multilateral cooperation between BRICS and Africa, which will take place at the Humanities Institute of Television and Radio Broadcasting - GITR named after MA Litovchin and the A Gorchakov Public Diplomacy Fund.

Victoria Karsleyeva, deputy executive director of the Gorchakov Fund, said, "Strengthening cooperation within BRICS is an important area of work for all member countries of the association.

Current developments show the need for closer information cooperation, and the increased interest in BRICS participation from different countries of the world only underscores the need for this vector of work".

Janna Tolstikova, CEO of TV BRICS said, "It is important to note that the media tour is conducted at an expert level.

Considering the composition of the delegates, we can expect an effective exchange of experience, active B2B communication, strengthening of existing and building of new business connections, planning of new joint media projects and taking practical decisions on further cooperation within the programme of the visit.

For TV BRICS, it is also an opportunity to 'evolve' with our partners, to show them Russia not through content prepared by our Russian editorial office, but offline, to draw attention to a constructive information agenda including business cooperation, partnership in science and technology, education and culture".

Russian Edition, involving visits to the main sights of Moscow and Kemerovo, as well as participation in a series of welcome events in the traditional Russian style, demonstrate the famous Russian hospitality.



Among the participants of the BRICS Global Media **Tour, Russian Edition** are top managers of media companies, and partners of TV BRICS from Brazil, India, China, South Africa, Zimbabwe and Mozambique. They represent various types of media: state and private TV stations, radio, and news agencies at national and regional levels

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### **Guardian**



Azania Bank Upanga SC's cricketer, Suraj Pala (L), celebrates with his teammates after the squad had dismissed an e-Parking-backed Aces player during the 2023 Petrofuel Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Caravans T20 Cup tournament game that took place recently. PHOTO: COURTESY OF CARAVANS CRICKET CLUB.

# **Petrofuel DC** Caravans T20 **Cup organizers** win plaudits

**By Guardian Reporter** 

THE Petrofuel Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Caravans T20 Cup tournament organizers, Caravans Cricket Club, have won praise for overseeing a successful hosting of this year's edition of the annual showdown.

Jumanne Murilo, the Special Zone Police Commander for Dar es Salaam that was the 2023 Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup tournament final's guest of honour, revealed he was very much impressed by its arrange-

The Police Commander also added that cricket has a great chance of bringing success to Tanzania internationally with its rapid growth in various regions, coupled with the hosting of the ICC U19 Cricket World Cup Africa Qualifier slated for next month in Dar es Salaam.

Azania Bank Upanga SC clinched this season's Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup title, defeating Aurobindo Aga Khan SC by a staggering 88-run margin in the final.

The exciting match took place at the esteemed Leaders Club ground in Dar es Salaam, marking the third consecutive final appearance for Aurobindo Aga Khan SC which was aiming to turn into one of the most successful teams in the competition's

Efforts by Aurobindo Aga Khan SC cricketers to hold sway in the clash and ultimately clinch silverware, unfortunately, ended in vain having suffered the loss to the spirited Azania Bank Upanga SC.

Azania Bank Upanga SC cricketers notched 180/6 in 20 overs when they went in to bat as Aurobindo Aga Khan SC had won the toss and elect-

The final results were a resounding victory for Azania Bank Upanga SC, as Aurobindo Aga Khan SC was, in response, dismissed for a mere 92 runs in 14.5 overs.

This loss marked Aurobindo Aga Khan SC's first defeat in this year's Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup and served as a reminder that the final is what truly matters in determining the ultimate champion.

According to Murilo, the national U-19 cricket team's good run in this year's ICC U-19 Cricket World Cup Africa Qualifier will inspire many other youngsters in the country to join the

Tanzania will host the ICC U19 Cricket World Cup Africa Qualifier, with the showdown's contenders battling for a ticket to play in the ICC U-19 Cricket World Cup.

Murilo was moreover delighted with the efforts that the Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA) has made in growing the game of cricket in the

Atif Salim, TCA Media Officer, said

this year's Petrofuel DC Caravans

T20 Cup was at its best, with clubs

competing at a very high level. The official noted that the inclusion of several foreign players that the clubs signed for the tournament, moreover, improved competitive-

Salim noted it was a great learning experience for the local players as well, given sharing dressing rooms with quality players is always benefi-

Individual awards were also presented to the best players of the Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup

Umar Shaikh of All Seasons Lions received the ASAS Emerging Player Award, recognizing his talent and potential.

Bom was awarded the Alliance Champion of Champions title. Augastin, who displayed consistent excellence throughout the tournament, was honoured with the Car & General Man of the Series award and went home with a brand new TVS Apache

The 2023 Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup concluded with an enthralling final, showcasing exceptional cricketing skills and the determination of the competing teams.

Azania Bank Upanga SC's dominant victory established their place in the annals of the prestigious tournament's history, while Aurobindo Aga Khan SC will have to regroup and strive for success in future editions.

This season's tournament penned a landmark achievement being the first tournament in the country to feature over 15 foreign players that played for various teams in the tournament.

The Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup is an annual T20-formatted cricket competition organized by Caravans Cricket Club.

Petrofuel is the title sponsor of the showdown. Other sponsors include Alliance Insurance, Colourflex, TATA Africa Holdings, ASAS, Rickshaw Travels, RAS Logistics, Pepsi, e-Parking, Remax, Flashnet, and Aurobindo.

Others are Azania Bank, Jiuzhou, All Season Hotel, General Petroleum, UMC International, Automark, Hisense, Oman Air, Ashton Media, Mo Assurance, Aucom & Harmonic, and Car & General.

Horizon Teleports, Aone Bottlers, Samsonite, Bank of India, Canara Bank, Euro Cables, VL Smart Solutions, Mobidoc, G1 Logistics, Delta Africa, The Works, and Tanzindia Assurance wind up the sponsors' list.

Alliance Caravans lifted the 2022 Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup tour nament's trophy following the outfit's four-wicket drubbing of Aurobindo Aga Khan SC in the final.

# Pastor Dominic: Night Gospel theatrics upsetting some familiar bits of wisdom

OME pastimes on late-night shows can turn out to be serious lifetime affairs, based on some recent experiences on a talk show at night, focusing on a preacher named Pastor Dominic.

He has a penchant for what literalists may term as bombastic presentation, not making out arguments but charged exhortation and then moving into action at

It is perception, the ability to see the conditions of those who phone in, thus being able to tell their whereabouts or problem that sells.

Were that people close to some elements in law enforcement, who often talk about the disruptive effects of witch-fingering by going to a medicine man when one falls sick and it resists medication, they would be taxed to stay with their views.

This was not a case of probability that there is a neighbour who wishes to harm the person, business or say a child, but one's mother who is sick, and the fellow has used up his savings to conduct treatment, to no avail.

As in all good theater, the story is an incomprehensible facet of life but, as they say, all's well that ends well.

A fellow has phoned the pastor on account of his business activity having failed and half a dozen transportation business and personal vehicles grounded, and the pastor could even finger this or that item on the yard, as if he was there.

So after explaining his situation a bit rapidly, that he was down and out, his wife had left him and was caring for his children and sick mother. the proper story now began.

The pastor directed his attention to where it was most unless there is an unexpected in-

guests organized by the church's Kibamba Kwa Mangi branch in the city recently. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT unexpected, on the mother, aftervention from somewhere, she firming that the mother knows why her son's businesses had collapsed.

This is where the theatrical part came from, and it was a sort of bullet scenario that did not involve too many words, except the 'parting shot' of the usual misgivings that such consultation ruins families as they are set upon one against another.

The pastor told the caller that the mother knows precisely why the businesses fail, adding that the old lady ought to be called from her room to explain it. She flatly denied it.

Thus, in her own words, she was unaware of what was causing the businesses to fail, not exactly in the know that this was a different kind of encounter.

It was not a counselling session but a rat trap, and the funny thing is that the trap was not laid by the pastor but by the lady, orchestrating her downfall, that is, just to provide a happy ending to the story. Happy for the listeners, to wit.

To be certain, it was not exactly all her fault, as she had been put into witching motions by her mother against her will as a young girl, but as a mother has an influence on her daughter was fully drawn into their web and habits.

Choir singers of the Seventh-Day Adventist Church located at Mbezi Luis in Dar es Salaam sing in a special service for

So after her son was now a successful businessman by routine standards, with half a dozen vehicles for his activities, the witching caught up with this end, as its habit is destruction, not success for those targeted. A spider's web or silk was around the successful fellow.

The method has two ends related in intention, one a dynamic of business collapse and another, the mother failing sick with partial paralysis on the leg and arm, thus the fellow using whatever he still had to treat his mother.

These two strands would naturally converge to ruin the fellow and when he was down and out, and then caught sight of the radio channel, decided to consult, and the result was well beyond his wildest imagination.

Often we think of ill-wishers as neighbours and at times even relatives but hardly do we put the mother in front as the pivotal suspect...

That is what the pastor saw and told the fellow to ask the mother to come over for a candid talk with the pastor, which she obliged but a note of defiance was written in her first re-

Total denial of any knowledge of why the fellow was failing, and rapid accusation of fomenting misunderstanding, until the lynchpin came, prepared not by either the pastor or some precautions of the young man.

It was a far simpler matter of picking up a routine use object like a plate and destroying it.

As the woman was accusing the pastor of fomenting discord, the younger fellow was bent on having the matter resolved, tired of losing his businesses and wife, and is told the mother knows all that is happening.

He fetched a plate under her bed, put water in a glass, and the pastor blessed it by pouring it on the plate. It rubbed out the dark inscriptions, occult energy ruining his business.

That inscription was intimately linked with the mother's psychic life, so as the water was poured on it, the occult force was dissolved and the mother's life energy with it.

As the pastor had predicted, once the water destroyed those inscriptions she would die.

All they needed to do was to rush her to the hospital for breathing problems and heart attack, and arrange the burial while the pastor cut the phone link to pick up other callers!



Multichoice Talent Factory Africa's Managing Director, Nwabisa Matyumza (sitting C), speaks to the media in Zanzibar last weekend about the program to empower youths in film production under Multichoice Talent Factory that aims to empower talented youths with necessary skills in creative industry (film making) in the Isles. Sitting (2nd R) is Zanzibar International Film Festival (ZIFF) Managing Director, Martin Muhando, and Tanzania Film Board (TIB)'s Executive Secretary, Kiango Kilonzo (R). PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

### Paralympic Committee counsels marathon organizers

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE Tanzania Paralympic Committee (TPC) has advised race organizers in the country to have separate events for athletes with disabilities.

Vincent Kaduma, TPC Secretary-General, said in Dar es Salaam last week it has become common nowadays that people are organizing races and inviting people with disabilities but there are no events for the latter.

The TPC official said in the past marathon organizers were having special categories for athletes with disabilities, which saw them compete against each

"I remember that Kilimanjaro Marathon used to have a category for athletes with disabilities, that was good and encouraging but today those categories are no longer there," the TPC leader noted.

"I think that is not healthy for athletes with disabilities and I'm asking the organizers of the coming Dodoma NBC Marathon to have a category for athletes with disabilities," the TPC boss stressed.

He advised local marathon organizers to seek advice from the committee on how to involve athletes with disabilities in running events.

Kaduma revealed it is the

committee's wish to see the athletes involved in many events given such a move will help them prepare for the coming Pan African Games, which will take place in Ghana, and the 2024 Paris Paralympics.

The TPC boss noted: "Nowadays it is becoming normal that people are organizing marathons and announce that the events will as well be involving athletes with disabilities."

"It's our wish to see our Para athletes compete as this will help them prepare for the next year's Paris Paralympics and this year's Pan African Games in Ghana but procedures must be followed... there must be special events for athletes with

disabilities, we simply must be involved," he said.

Meanwhile, Kaduma has described last month's three-day Paralympic leadership seminar, which took place at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam, as very successful.

The leadership seminar attracted 20 leaders from various national Para sports associations and was sponsored by the International Paralympic Committee (IPC).

The seminar was aimed at equipping and empowering leaders of the associations on how to competently run and manage their respective associations.

### **Cesc Fabregas retires** from playing to start coaching career

Cesc Fabregas has announced his retirement from playing football and will now take his first step into coaching at Serie B club Como.

Former Arsenal and Chelsea midfielder Fabregas has hung up his boots at the age of 36 and will now coach the Como B and youth teams.

In what will rank as one of the great modern-day careers, Fabregas made a total of 738 club appearances for Arsenal, Barcelona, Chelsea, Monaco and Como, and won 15 club and international trophies including Spain's first-ever World Cup - over almost

Fabregas became Arsenal's youngest-ever firstteam player, aged 16 and 177 days, when he made his debut for the club in October 2003.

He went on to make 303 appearances for the Gunners, during which time he won the FA Cup and was part of the team that finished as runners-up in the Champions League.

Fabregas returned to Barcelona, where he won La Liga and the Copa del Rey, before coming back to England to join Chelsea in 2014.

During five seasons at Stamford Bridge, Fabregas won two Premier League titles, the League Cup and

The Spaniard made 110 appearances for his country and won two European Championships and the 2010 World Cup, setting up the extra-time winner for Andreas Iniesta in the final.

Announcing his retirement, Fabregas said: "It is with great sadness that the time has come for me to hang up my playing boots.

"From my first days at Barca, Arsenal, Barca again, Chelsea, Monaco and Como, I will treasure them all.

"From lifting the World Cup, the Euros, to winning everything in England and Spain and nearly all the European trophies, it has been a journey that I'll never forget.

"All those who have helped me, my team-mates, coaches, directors, presidents, owners, fans and my agent. To all my family, from my parents and my sister to my wife and kids, I cherish your advice, mentorship and guidance. To my opponents who tried to knock me, thank you for making me stronger.

"It has already been more than worth it with all the great memories and friends that I have made

"I've also learnt 3 languages and became more compassionate and wiser along my travels.

"I lived experiences that I never thought in a million years I would even come close to."

Fabregas has played under some of the world's greatest and most successful coaches in Arsene Wenger, Pep Guardiola, Jose Mourinho and Antonio Conte, and he added: "It's not all sadness though as I'm now going to cross the white line and start coaching the B and Primavera teams of Como 1907. A club and a project I couldn't be more excited about. This charming football team won my heart from the first minute and came to me at the perfect time in my career. I will grab it with both hands.

"So after 20 incredible years full of sacrifice, dedication and joy, it's time to say thank you and goodbye to the beautiful game. I loved every minute."

THE TELEGRAPH

### **Venus Williams is back at** Wimbledon at age 43 and ready to play on Centre Court again

WIMBLEDON, England

ASKED two days before her 24th Wimbledon begins whether she's still excited to play tennis at this level, Venus Williams quickly answered: "It's so much fun.'

The next question Saturday was about being on tour without her younger sister, Serena, who wrapped up her career at last year's U.S. Open. The reply: "Not as much fun."

There is still a big-swinging, Grand Slam-winning member of the Williams family in women's tennis, and it's 43-year-old Venus, who recently returned to action after about five months away with a hamstring injury she called "a nightmare."

That followed a 2022 in which she participated in just four contests – all in August or September, meaning she missed the season's initial three Grand Slam tournaments, including Wimbledon - and a 2021 in which she accumulated only a dozen.

"I haven't played a lot of matches in the last few years, and not by choice. I wanted to be here and I couldn't," said the elder Williams, who will meet two-time major semifinalist Elina Svitolina of Ukraine at Centre Court on Monday, Day 1 at the All England Club. "So I just put my head down and put even more work in and got myself in a much better position – and that's life. And you've got to deal with life. And I've dealt with my life and, most of the time, I come out on top."

In tennis terms, that means reaching the No. 1 ranking, winning seven major singles titles, the most among active women - and five came at Wimbledon, the first in 2000, most recent in 2008 – and another 14 in women's doubles – all with her sibling. Away from the court, she learned to live with Sjögren's syndrome, an energy-sapping autoimmune disease that can cause joint pain; she announced her diagnosis in 2011. AP

# What Chelsea players can expect from a Pochettino preseason

HELSEA players may be in for a surprise they start to return for their first pre-season under head coach Mauricio Pochettino next week.

Pochettino work at Chelsea's Cobham training ground on Monday, with players returning from Tuesday, depending on the extent of the international football they have played since the Premier League finished in May.

At least all of Pochettino's first-team players should now fit into one changing-room the club, correctly, decided that clearing out the squad, rather than installing more lockers, was the wisest way to spend the majority of the off-season.

Those who have done their homework on Pochettino will be braced for the sort of preparation that Kyle Walker once described as being "horrible" when he was at Tottenham Hotspur and Raheem Sterling tried to make an early impression this week by posting pictures on social media of himself training alone.

Running, running and more running is what many of the Chelsea players will expect and yet, for the first fortnight, before the squad



Mauricio Pochettino's assistant, Jesus Perez (right), has spent the past month studying and analysing all the available data on Chelsea's players. Agencies

Pochettino's new players may clock up very few kilometres.

Pochettino's assistant, Jesus Perez, who is a fitness and conditioning specialist, and is described as being "a genius" by many of those who have worked with him, has spent the past month studying and analvsing all the available data on Chelsea's play-

Perez will have found that the numbers indicate that Chelsea are in no condition to be told to run before they can walk and he is likely to put the focus on building up players' strength over the first two weeks of pre-season.

That is not to say life will be easy at the beginning of the Pochettino era, but it may well be different to what players at his old clubs have fly to the United States warned of and the "hor-

for their pre-season tour, rible" running could come later, when Perez can be more confident it will not result in breakdown.

There will be recognition that too much too soon could result in a number of injuries and Pochettino and Perez are expected to tailor their approaches accordingly, perhaps mindful of the fact that the tour to the US is longer than would be ideal.

Chelsea's squad were plagued by fitness issues last season and Frank Lampard was shocked by the levels of the players he inherited when he took over as interim head coach, just as he was disappointed when one player was overheard questioning why they were being asked to do extra running.

Graham Potter took over a team who complained to him that last pre-season had been

one of the worst of their careers and that they had simply not prepared properly for the campaign. He also had from Chelsea's latest owners sacking a number of the club's longstanding and popular medical staff.

During the mid-season training camp in Abu Dhabi, Potter spent almost as much time reassuring staff they were not next in line for the sack as he did with the few players available to him on training and tactical work.

There was a sense inside the club that advice given by the medical department was influenced by paranoia over their own positions, with Chelsea losing at home to Southampton, a game the owners felt they should win with a second-string, after Potter was told that five of his first-team players risked significant injury if they started.

In Perez, Pochettino has somebody he trusts implicitly over player availability and the Spaniard considers personal circumstances, as well as physical condition, when making assessments on their ability to perform.

Perez will normally arrive at the training ground at 7.30am and, after having breakfast and meeting with Po-

chettino, will hold a 9am medical meeting in his office where plans for each player are discussed and adjusted to deal with the fall-out every day. Programmes are never made for the group, but for every individual. \*Pochettino to immediately start to cultivate a culture

building While fitness will be largely the responsibility of Perez, Pochettino must immediately start to cultivate a culture and those who have worked with the Argentine believe this is one of his biggest qualities.

Handshakes and hugs will quickly become commonplace Cobham and Pochettino likes to take a personal interest in each of his players and the members of staff within the club. Those who work in the training ground canteen are just as likely to be asked how their children are as bigmoney signings.

Anybody who shows disrespect to another member of staff can expect to be read the riot act by Pochettino, while the 51-year-old will demand high standards for his squad as well as from them and Chelsea had better hope he likes the hotels the club have booked for the tour.

During a pre-season trip to the United States with Tottenham, Pochettino and his team

staved in Nashville. which proved to be a highlight of the tour for staff members who were able to go out and enjoy themselves in the city.

But those who were privy to Pochettino's complaints regarding the building work that was going on nearby and some of the facilities remember it rather differently.

\*Boehly and Eghbali must tread the fine line between engagement and interference

Chelsea's co-controlling owners Todd Boehly and Behdad Eghbali made regular trips to Cobham to watch training last season and players were upset when Boehly addressed the squad in the dressingroom after a defeat to Brighton, when he labelled Chelsea's plight as "embarrassing."

There is a fine line between engagement and interference that Boehly and Eghbali will have to tread carefully, while what has previously been a desire to hold daily debriefs with their Chelsea coaches may need to be tempered.

Pochettino places huge importance on positive energy, something that has been sadly lacking at Chelsea for the past year and creating the right atmosphere will be key. The hard work starts here.

THE TELEGRAPH

### New Chelsea striker Nicolas Jackson's talent was honed on streets of Senegal

FOR the young Nicolas Jackson (pictured), there was to be no academy pathway and no schooling in the art of football. Growing up in southern Senegal, he did not even play for a professional club until he was 17. Chelsea's new centre-forward. firmed on Friday on an eight-year contract, instead learned the game in his own way, at his own pace, on the streets and avenues of Ziguin-

It is not unusual for an elite-level footballer's journey to begin on the to begin his new life in streets. But it is rare in the modern day for a player to remain there for so long, his talent unspotted and his gifts unnurtured, before making his breakthrough. Even as he approached adulthood, there was no expectation that he would someday become a star: his father, Jackson has said, wanted him to give up on football altogether.

Jackson, though, was far too "stubborn" (his words) for that. He was willing to believe in his dream, when others evidently did not, and he was also willing to work for it. Around the age of 16, Jackson chose to leave school – to the initial anger of his parents and dedicate himself

entirely to the sport. Chelsea co-sporting directors Laurence Stewart and Paul Winstanley are certainly glad that he did, saying: "We are excited to welcome Nicolas to Chelsea. He is a young



as he showcased for Villarreal last season. We believe he is ready for this next step in his career and look forward to him working with our new head coach, Mauricio Pochettino, and his Chelsea team-mates."

As he now prepares London, following his £34 million move to Stamford Bridge from Villarreal, Jackson and his family will surely look back on those days and reflect on the path he has taken. A fork in the road, a brave decision and then the relentless pursuit of a goal that few believed to be within reach.

This is not to say that Jackson has now achieved all that he wanted. He is still just 22, and this move to the Premier League represents only the latest step in a journey that has taken him from the concrete of Senegal to the fields of Cobham in the space of five wild years.

The initial through came when Jackson was spotted by Senegalese side Casa Sports, after he had excelled in a street tournament. Such competitions are designed to find raw talents, and Jackson stood out from the rest. player with big potential, After just two games for his new team, he had been called up by Senegal's under-20s. Within a year, he was trialling for

leading clubs in Europe.

Benfica were among the sides to take a close look at Jackson before he was offered the chance to train at Villarreal in the summer of 2019. According to a report in Spanish newspaper AS, his trial was watched by the club's president, Fernando Roig. After just a few minutes, Roig gave the order to his staff to sign Jackson on a permanent deal.

In those days, Jackson was more of a winger than a striker. Such was the quality of his dribbling, he had been dubbed the "Senega-

mates into play. He is quick across the ground and, at 6ft 2in tall, he is powerful in duels.

To adapt to a new country is not straightforward at any time, let alone during a pandemic, and it would be wrong to say Jackson has always found it easy in Spain. In an interview with Marca last year, he said his new coaches were initially "mad" at him because he struggled to eat the food at the club.

As he adjusted to a new culture, he had a loan spell with Mirandes in Spain's second division, and then spent a season with Villarreal's reserve team. Jackson was officially promoted into the first team by Unai Emery, now head coach at Aston Villa, in August last year.

Emery is one of the most astute coaches in Europe but even he cannot have expected Jack-

country. But over time he such pace last season. has learned to lead the The striker ended the with 12 goals in 26 appearances in La Liga. Only three players in the entire division (Karim Cristhian Benzema, Stuani and Robert Lewandowski) scored at a faster rate.

In the final few weeks of the season, Jackson was the best player in the league: he struck nine times in the last eight matches of the campaign and was named La Liga's player of the month for May. Across Europe's top-five leagues, he finished the season with the best goals-per-minute ratio, not including penalties, of any player aged 21 or younger.

The calls from bigger clubs were therefore inevitable for Villarreal, who had actually agreed to sell Jackson to Bournemouth in January before a hamstring injury scuppered the move. Upon the collapse of that

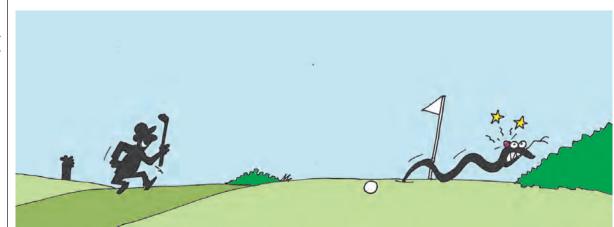
lese Neymar" in his own 🔝 son's rise to continue at 🔝 transfer, Villarreal manager Quique Setién said: "He has extraordinary line, to stretch defences campaign as a full Sen- potential. We are going and to bring his team- egal international and to boost him so that in the summer he is worth twice as much.'

> Amid competition from clubs in Germany and Italy, Chelsea have agreed to pay a little more than £30 million to make Jackson the first signing of the Pochettino era. The centre-forward position has been an ongoing problem for the club and. although Jackson is far from his peak, Chelsea's team of recruitment experts clearly believe he is capable of providing a long-term solution.

> Jackson's story unique, and his game has been moulded by those streets in Ziguinchor. The challenge for him now is to continue his growth in arguably the most difficult league in the world. It might seem a tough ask but Jackson has come this far in just a few years. Why would his journey stop now?

THE TELEGRAPH

GWIII by David Chikoko



# Guardian www.ippmedia.com

# Clubs get busy in transfer market as main window opens

**What Chelsea players** can expect from a Pochettino preseason

# Tanzania's beach soccer team wins bronze medal in 2023 BSAFCON

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA's national beach Soccer team has won a bronze medal in the just-ended Africa Beach Soccer Cup of Nations (BSAFCON) played in Hammamet,

The continental showpiece, which was part of this year's African Beach Games, took place from June 24-

After having been one of the featured sports in the inaugural 2019 edition held in Sal, Cape Verde, beach soccer returned to the competitive program in both men's and women's categories of this year's edition.

To claim the bronze medal, Tanzania's beach soccer team beat Libya 9-3 in the Group Stage encounter. Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC) Secretary-

General Filbert Bayi hailed the national beach soccer team's players for the victory. He said Morocco emerged as the 2023 BSAFCON

champion after beating Senegal 4-3 in post-match penalties of the final, which had ended 3-3 in normal "The national beach soccer team won the bronze

medal in the just-ended Africa Beach Soccer Cup of Nations, I'm happy with that achievement and we hope that the team will do well in other future

Before the 2023 BSAFCON, the national beach soccer team, coached by Boniface Pawasa, camped at Coco Beach grounds in Dar es Salaam.

The provisional team is made up of Shaban Kado (Ihefu SC), Adam Oseja (no club), and Ally Haji Juma (JKU, Zanzibar).

Others are Sadiki Salim (Green Warriors), Mtoro Nassoro (Msasani Champions), Ismail Adam (KMC FC), Suleiman Said (Zimamoto, Zanzibar), Abdulrahim Seif, and Yahya Haji (Immigration, Zanzibar).

Others are Juma Sultan and Jaruph Rajabu (no club), Goodluck Dickson (Friends Rangers), Stephano Wales (Mburahati), Salum Abdillah (Ilala FC), and Samson Baraka (Tanzania Prisons).

Recently, TOC's vice president, Henry Tandau, said Tanzania's beach soccer team is ranked eighth in Af-

In the inaugural 2019 edition of the BSAFCON held in Sal, Senegal emerged champions after beating Morocco in the final.

Nigeria claimed the bronze medal in the men's competition, while in the women's tournament, the hosts Cape Verde won the gold medal after defeating

Africa Beach Soccer Cup of Nations (BSAFCON) is the main championship for beach soccer in Africa.

The showdown is contested between senior men's national teams who are members of the Confederation of African Football (CAF).

It is the sport's beach version of the better-known Africa Cup of Nations in association football.

The winners of the championship are crowned continental champions, the tournament also acts as the qualification route for African nations to the upcoming edition of the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup.

Coinciding with the annual staging of the World Cup, the competition took place yearly until 2009, the World Cup then became biennial, and as its supplementary qualification event, the championship followed suit.

The championship was established in 2006 when FIFA made it a requirement for all confederations to begin holding qualification tournaments to determine the best national teams in their region.

For that matter, those who would proceed to represent their continent in the upcoming World Cup (previously, nations were simply invited to play without having to earn their place).

FIFA currently allocates Africa two berths at the World Cup and hence the top two teams (the winners and the runners-up) qualify for the World Cup finals.



IGOMA's Mashujaa FC's unlikely triumph over Mbeya City FC to earn the Premier League promotion ticket signalled the end of the 2022/23 campaign but the fun does not stop here, it is transfer window time!

The coming season's main transfer window- which officially began on July 1 – is a big deal for clubs, players, and

It is the chance for optimistic squad rebuilds, fresh opportunities for players, and revenue generation for clubs also looking to get rid of some dead (and potentially expensive) wood.

It is the only period when clubs can buy and sell players between themselves. They may agree to do this outside



the transfer window, but nothing can be actioned and player registrations cannot be submitted until the transfer window gets underway.

There are two windows each season, with the main one taking place between June-September once most leagues have concluded.

It usually lasts for three months, starting in mid-June and closing as early into the new season as pos-

That is usually the end of August, although dates vary. This time Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) announced the transfer window will close on August 31.

A second window usually lasts for one month between December-January and most clubs look to make only minor changes to their squads, either correcting any early season mistakes or replacing injured stars in this window.

Coaches appointed after gets more achievable.

the main transfer window closed could look to bring in their recruits, while players struggling at their current clubs may get opportu-

Come December-January, clubs will also know whether they are in a survival fight or have a shot at achieving something remarkable towards the top of the table.

nities elsewhere.

The one-month minitransfer window offers a chance to make their tar-

reactive window. When it comes to serious, long-term recruitment planning - or at least the idea of it – then June-September is often key for any clubs' strategic sign-

Several new signings have already been confirmed. Last week Azam FC confirmed the club's first signing of the main transfer window with the capture of Gambian winger Gibril Sillah from Raja Club Athletic of Morocco.

Experienced midfielder Erasto Nyoni's transfer from Simba SC to Namungo FC as a free agent was confirmed by both clubs.

Simba SC has reached an agreement with Cameroon's Coton Sport to sign defender, Che Malone Fondoh Junior, in a two-year deal.

Cleophace Midfielder Mkandala has finalized his free transfer from Azam FC to Kagera Sugar.

On the other side, clubs have announced contract extensions to valuable members of their squads, and Azam FC revealed seven confirmed renewals lead in that regard.

Daniel Amoah, Abdallah Kheri, Nathaniel Chilambo, Idris Mbombo, James Akaminko, Lusajo Mwaikenda, and Sospeter Bajana have all been tied down to new deals at the Chamazi outfit.

## Azam FC set to head to Tunisia for pre-season camp

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

AZAM FC will head to Tunisia for a pre-season camp in July. The club's players are currently on a break after finishing third in the 2022/23 Premier League, 19 points behind champions, Yanga, and 14 points shy of first runner-up Simba SC.

They reached the Azam Sports Federation Cup final after edging out Simba SC 2-1 in the semi-final but lost 1-0 to Yanga in the final to end up trophyless for a fourth season in a row.

Overall, Azam FC played 30 games in the 2022/23 Premier League campaign, winning 18 and losing seven- to qualify for the 2023/24 CAF Confeder-

Continental football and the newlyformed Community Shield Knockout Cup will add even more games to an already-packed schedule, which has seemingly motivated the club to head to Tunisia for the preparations of what seems to be a grueling upcoming campaign.

According to the club's spokesman Hasheem Ibwe, the players will report for pre-season tomorrow and immediately undergo medical checkups before beginning training in line with the standard six weeks of pre-season preparations that teams require to be ready for the new campaign.

The club will camp in Dar es Salaam until the weekend trip to Tunisia on Sunday where the outfit's footballers are expected to play several friendly games including one with African giants, Esperance de Tunis.



Players making Azam FC engage in warm-up session before locking horns with Simba SC in this season's Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) semi-final which took place at Nangwanda Sijaona Stadium, Mtwara in May. Azam FC garnered a 2-1 victory over Simba SC. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AZAM FC

settling for Tunisia, saying: "We are should take this approach." going to a country where there is a similarity in weather and perhaps a little of the landscape of the area where we come from, but it is also an environment that we are used to in the African competitions."

"In Tunisia, there are teams like Esperance with whom we have good relations. We are going to have a friendly match with them, and they are also preparing for next season," the official noted.

The official revealed: "It is easy to evaluate ourselves that we have lost this friendly match against Esperance, we made mistakes here and there and Ibwe revealed the decision behind if we go to the CAF competition we

"We believe that while we are in Tunisia, we will find many teams that are close to opponents that we will meet in the CAF Confederation Cup," Ibwe

"It will also provide us with a good challenge in preparation for our domestic competitions, the Azam Sports Federation Cup and Mainland Tanzania Premier League," Ibwe concluded.

In the 2023/24 Azam FC under head coach Youssouph Dabo will be eager to right the wrongs of the last campaign.

They want to get back to being a side with what it takes to not only compete for but win titles.

Fulfilling the motive requires Azam FC to add to the outfit's armoury, a process already started by the arrival of midfielder Feisal Salum from city rivals, Yanga, and Gambian winger Gibril Sillah from Moroccan giants Raja Club Athletic.

The squad rebuilding has already seen Bruce Kangwa, Aziz Kader, Kenneth Muguna, Rodgers Kola, and Cleophace Mkandala depart.

The club also parted ways with assistant coaches, Kalimangonga Ongala and Aggrey Morris, Spanish goalkeeping coach Dani Cadena and fitness coach Moadh Hiraoui as part of the club's technical bench restructuring.

### Fexibles by David Chikoko

