



### National Pg 4 Tanzania on track in technology



### National Pg 5 Airtel wins OSHA-2023 award



### National Pg 6 ZHC builds 72 residential houses



## Govt issues 4.65bn/- to shore up NARCO

By Guardian Correspondent, Kongwa

THE government has provided 4.65bn/- to the National Ranching Co. Ltd (NARCO) for improvement of its services including the purchase of heifers for boosting the number of calves.

Abdallah Ulega (pictured), the Livestock and Fisheries minister, made this observation when touring Kongwa Ranch in Dodoma Region over the weekend.

The minister launched five new tractors and viewed 1,000 cows purchased from different sources, to improve cattle breeding at ranches operating under NARCO.

He praised President Samia Suluhu Hassan for providing the funds to NARCO, saying the funds will enhance its ability to run commercially. The president intends to enhance the performance of NARCO by improving its infrastructures and cattle fattening facilities, he stated.

Improvements projected include strengthening business at the Kongwa Beef ranch and producing quality livestock feed. The ranches can produce cattle feed for local use and export markets in the region, he elaborated.

Meat exports have attained 12,000 tonnes at present, with projections for next

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## ACT lauds bipartisan team on Z'bar politics

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

LEADERS of the opposition Alliance for Change and Transparency (ACT-Wazalendo) have applauded Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi in forming a bipartisan team to work on issues related to democracy and political harmony in the Isles.

Salim Bimani, the party's Information and Publicity secretary, said in a statement yesterday that the party's steering committee in a recent meeting expressed satisfaction with initiating the process back in February.

Delegates in the team are drawn from the main political parties, with the president insisting that it starts work without delays. Initial steps to form such a team were taken after the past general election and little has been done, while the 2025 polls are already looming, he said.

It is the same period in which the Government of National Unity (GNU) has existed in Zanzibar, whereas to prepare for the 2025 polls a number of issues touching on electoral disorder are yet to be taken up, he asserted.

He alluded to expectations of major amendments to election laws and workings of the Zanzibar Electoral Commission

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# Samia restores annual pay rises, arrears being cleared

By Guardian Reporter



Workers from government and private sector institutions troop into Morogoro municipality's Jamhuri Stadium yesterday. It is there that May Day celebrations were held at national level, with President Samia Suluhu as chief guest. Photos: State House

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has assured civil servants that salaries will be raised and clearing of arrears will be finalised in the next financial year.

Addressing the nation on International Workers' Day rally in Morogoro yesterday, the president said annual salary increments had been restored, declining to cite any amounts for fear of provoking a price spiral.

Salary raises will done silently to limit the possibility of profit seekers to use visible change of earnings among civil servants to raise prices of various commodities, she said.

The government had approved a 23 percent salary increase to low-wage workers in the current financial year, but as amounts had not been budgeted for early enough, those with lifted earnings will start seeing the change in the next fiscal year, she stated.

The government was verifying various arrears claims for civil servants and most claims had already been paid, he said, directing Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa to oversee remittance of workers' health insurance funds to the government, and clearing verified claims for



President Samia Suluhu Hassan presents a certificate to Mose Melele for emerging Best Employee of the Year in the Prime Minister's Office. It was during yesterday's May Day celebrations in Morogoro municipality. Looking on are Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa and the Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Labour, Youth, Employment and Persons with Disabilities), Prof Joyce Ndalichako.

## RCs: Pay workers' arrears for workplace motivation

By Guardian Reporters

LOCAL government authorities (LGAs) across the country have been directed to pay employees their arrears and other statutory emoluments to elevate workplace motivation improve service delivery to the public.

Regional commissioners made similar calls at International Workers' Day rallies in respective regions, with John Mongella, RC for Arusha, giving seven days to Karatu, Longido and Arusha district councils to

It is high time that leaders ensure that retired workers are paid their dues on time

pay workers' arrears.

He said no reasons exit for district councils not to pay the stated arrears as the funds stem from internal revenue collections. He also directed the Ngorongoro district council to pay the best workers announced at a similar event last year.

At a commemoration held at the Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium, the RC said workers had discharged their duties and there is no reason for their not being paid on time.

"They are the ones working to collect

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He appealed for reforms in the labour department, citing a hostile environment due to shortage of tools and personnel to conduct its work

arrears within 90 days.

"We recognize the importance of civil servants and their contribution to the country's development," she remarked, saying this is geared at improving the working environment by raising wages, effecting promotions and re-categorization of positions, plus clearing pay arrears.

The premier and Finance minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba were tasked to meet with trade unions leaders to look into how taxes and levies can be reduced, to lighten the tax burden on the workforce generally.

Amplifying on economic policy, the president said that currently the government is making every effort to attract more investors to help the country achieve its growth objectives, widening job openings for youths in particular.

Hery Mkunda, the Trade Union Congress of Tanzania (TUCTA) secretary general, earlier said the unions support the government's efforts in economic diplomacy and investments.

He appealed for reforms in the labour department, citing a hostile environment due to shortage of tools and personnel to conduct its work.

He castigated the habit of some employers deducting money from employees for health insurance cover without submitting such funds to the designated organisations thus affecting access to quality healthcare services for employees.



## RCs: Pay workers' arrears for workplace motivation

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revenues, they deserve to be paid," he said, insisting that seven days are adequate to settle outstanding arrears. The priority should be to pay workers before the funds are directed to various projects, he emphasised.

The RC referred to complaints from the Trade Union Congress of Tanzania (TUCTA) that district authorities in Ngorongoro have not paid the best workers announced last MayDay, ordering payment for all the best workers for last year and this year/sm

"It is better not to announce best workers if you are not ready to pay," he said, insisting that this habit should not be repeated in Ngorongoro or other district councils.

Employers in the private sector must make sure that workers are paid in accordance with the minimum wage rates set by the government, he further stated, cautioning private sector employers blocking workers seeking to set up workers' councils and union branches.

It is their right to do so, and prohibiting trade union presence is a violation of the country's laws, he reminded managers.

Lotha Laizer, the regional TUCTA chairman, raised concern over delayed payment for workers at district internal revenue offices, citing Karatu district council. The council has not paid deserving workers for a long period, he said.

"Some employers in the private sector are not paying their workers in accordance with the set minimum wage rates. They are ignoring government directives," he told the RC.

Daud Kamwela, the regional TUCTA coordinator, appealed to the government to make sure that selected best workers are handed over their prizes on the day they are announced.

He complained that some retired private sector employees are denied services by the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF), urging the government to ensure special treatment for senior citizens, having served the nation at various capacities their entire working lives.

Adam Malima, the Mwanza RC,

said at a rally in Sengerema that workers need to adhere to ethical codes and show diligence at workplaces, to enhance efficiency and improve service delivery.

Workers must fulfill their obligations, he said, asking the private sector to improve earnings of their workers on account of complaints about performance decline among employees, fueled by low wages.

Zebedayo Athuman, the TUCTA regional secretary, said that increases in salaries have not deflected difficulties due to high living costs.

"Key commodities are now priced higher," he said, urging more efforts to see how the government can support the workers.

Rukwa RC Queen Sendiga for her part urged district executive directors (DEDs) to treating fairly all retirees, ending up with chronic infections treading for their benefits.

"It is high time that leaders ensure that retired workers are paid their dues on time," she declared, lamenting that many of them die early and many are humiliated in the streets. This is unfair considering that these people spent years serving the country, she stated.

RC Peter Serukamba in Singida directed the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) to show more energy in the fight against embezzlement, also hinting at the boil of sexual corruption at work places.



**Some employers in the private sector are not paying their workers in accordance with the set minimum wage rates. They are ignoring government directives**

## ACT lauds bipartisan team on Z'bar politics

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(ZEC), amending court functions and the criminal justice system in Zanzibar. These will be taken up before the coming general election, he declared.

Reforming the laws and ZEC functions will facilitate fair and free elections, the same being done for institutions handling Union government polls as well, he said.

ACT Wazalendo will provide the necessary cooperation to the team in ensuring it achieves its goals, namely strengthening democracy while fostering unity and peace, he emphasised.

The party central committee has mandated the party leader to make a close follow up on its decision to participate in the process, asking him to seek audience with President Mwinyi to set out in detail contested issues, for the interests of Zanzibar, he elaborated.

President Mwinyi said in a press conference over the weekend that he has formed a special team with delegates from the main political parties in Zanzibar—CCM and ACT Wazalendo.

The team is setting out to work on issues related to democracy and the political situation in the Isles, he specified.

## Nigeria suspending fuel subsidy removal

**ABUJA**

THE Nigerian government has decided to delay the removal of fuel subsidies, citing the need for further preparations and consultations with key stakeholders, including the incoming administration.

Nigeria's Minister of Finance, Budget, and National Planning, Zainab Ahmed, disclosed this to local media on Thursday after the valedictory Council meeting presided over by Vice President Yemi Osinbajo at the Council Chambers of the Presidential Villa, Abuja.

Ahmed said the Council agreed on the need for continued discussions on the issue adding that

the FG, together with states and representatives of the incoming administration, require more preparatory work.

She said, "Council agreed that the timing of the removal of fuel subsidy should not be now. But that we should continue with all of the preparatory works that need to be done and this preparatory has to be done in consultation with the states and other key stakeholders including representatives of the incoming administration.

This comes a few days after Nigeria's outgoing government recommended that the new administration of president-elect Bola Tinubu give public sector workers pay rises after removing



Jealous Chirove, a representative of the International Labour Organisation Director for the East Africa region, speaks at May Day celebrations held at national level in Morogoro municipality yesterday. He underlined the need for governments to amend labour laws and regulations while also revisiting employment contracts so as to make work terms and conditions more conducive. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

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year onwards pegged at upwards of 50,000, he told the audience.

As part of measures to revive NARCO, a cattle fattening project is billed to produce meats to a

required international market standards, he said.

With the funding, NARCO expects to raise the contribution of the livestock sector from seven percent of GDP to more than 10

percent by improving cattle breeds countrywide, he said.

The government plans to establish irrigation schemes for livestock pastures to enhance meat production capacity for local and

foreign markets.

"Since we can produce enough maize for our consumption and exports; it is possible to produce livestock pastures for export," he added.



National Ranching Company (NARCO) director general Prof Peter Msoffe (L) shows Livestock and Fisheries minister (R, foreground) some of the tractors the firm has bought for producing livestock feed. The minister was on a recent tour of Kongwa Ranch in Dodoma Region. Photo courtesy of Livestock and Fisheries ministry

a fuel subsidy in June, Labour Minister Chris Ngige said.

President Muhammadu Buhari, who steps down in May, had planned to remove the popular but costly subsidy in 2022 as part of fiscal and petroleum sector reforms but abandoned the plan because of fears of protests in the run-up to last month's election.

Previous Nigerian governments have promised to remove the fuel subsidy, which most economists say is an unsustainable drag on public finances, but have failed to do so because of fierce opposition from citizens.

Ahmed added that the FG will be working together with representatives of the states between now and June 2023.

*Council agreed that the timing of the removal of fuel subsidy should not be now. ..*

## Protests will begin at 6am, defiant Raila tells Ruto

**NAIROBI**

Azimio la Umoja One Kenya leader Raila Odinga has indicated that today's protests will begin at 6am, even as police outlawed the demonstrations citing possible violence. He also outlined a programme that will begin at Nairobi's Central Park and head into the city centre.

Speaking in Nairobi on Labour Day, Odinga told President William Ruto and the general public that the protests would be peaceful and that no property would be destroyed.

"Our demonstrators have been informed that tomorrow's protests will be peaceful. No one will carry any weapons," he said.

Odinga said they will present petitions at IEBC offices, the National Treasury and the Office of the President in the Nairobi CBD.

But in a media briefing the day before, senior police officers from Nairobi led by Adamson Bungei said the demonstrations have been banned because past ones, even though they were labelled peaceful, were marred by violence, looting and death.

"Previous demonstrations in the month of March 2023 conducted by the Azimio team were marred by violence as the demonstrators were armed with machetes, who attacked innocent members of the public who were going about their business, resulting in the destruction of property, attacks on members of the general public who were not demonstrating, stealing, looting and death of several Kenyans," Bungei said.

In his Labour Day speech today, President Ruto had also reiterated that the protests were illegal.

But Odinga, while justifying tomorrow's protests, said the President had failed to announce minimum wage increments for workers.

"This shows a lack of concern and seriousness on the part of the government," he charged.

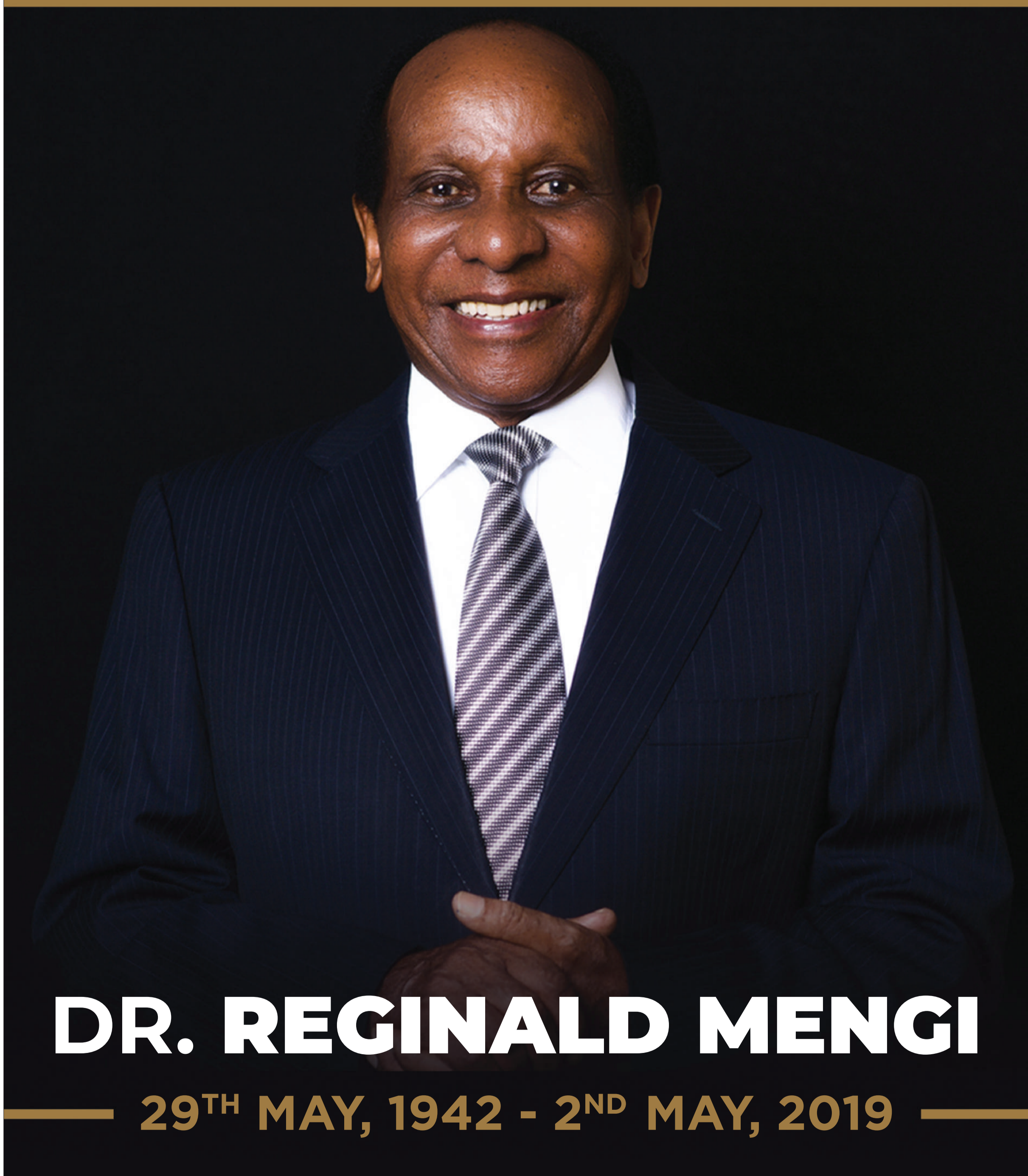
The Azimio leader also spoke on the recent Shakahola deaths, saying the government owes Kenyans an explanation for what happened. He criticised the move to form a judicial commission of enquiry to probe the mass deaths, saying President Ruto does not have powers to set up one.

"Such powers went with the 2010 Constitution. Only the Judicial Service Commission and Parliament, through a select committee, can do so," he said.

**AGENCIES**



# His Legacy Lives on



**DR. REGINALD MENGI**

— 29<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 1942 - 2<sup>ND</sup> MAY, 2019 —

## DC tells members of business community banks are invaluable

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

MBEYA Urban district commissioner Benno Malisa has called upon businessmen and residents of the region to take advantage of the economic empowerment opportunities brought by financial institutions in the region.

Malisa said it's high time for people in the region and neighboring regions to explore opportunities offered by the country's financial institutions including NBC Bank, noting that financial capital is an important driver of economic development, so the expansion of services offered by the lender at the city's busiest location will be more productive if only the residents make good use of the opportunity.

The DC also lauded the bank for its contribution in stimulating the economic transformation of the region through its products and services to various customers including investors in the business, agriculture and industry sectors.

"It's also encouraging to see that NBC Bank is focused on supporting business community by offering services and products that will help them to prosper. This kind of proactive approach can make a real difference to the success of businesses in the region, and it's good to see the bank taking responsibility for playing a positive role in the local community," DC Malisa said.

According to the DC, the region is currently experiencing a rapid economic change driven by the growth of the business, agriculture and industrial sectors, therefore the ongoing improvements in service offerings by financial

institutions, including NBC Bank, will have a great contribution to many stakeholders in the sectors.

Elibariki Masuke, bank's director of retail banking said that the bank which is 30 per cent owned by the government continues to support the government's mission to empower SMEs, farmers and other producers in various sectors of the economy by providing financial capital and affordable loans.

"We implement these efforts more easily due to the number of our branches located in various regions in the country. This new Mwanjelwa branch that we are opening today makes NBC Bank now have a total of two branches here in Mbeya region and thus making the total number of branches reach 52 across the country."

Masuke further noted that the bank is ready to serve all kinds of customers including government institutions, government employees, businessmen and students.

"At the same time, this branch also collects government revenue through the Government Electronic Payment Gateway (GePG) and taxes on behalf of the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA). Therefore, I kindly appeal to the citizens of Mbeya region and neighboring areas to make good use of this branch in order to bring about economic development," he said.

Being the third largest bank in the country with assets worth 1.52 trn/- and deposits worth 1.96trn/- and about 977 employees, NBC bank boasts a large service network that includes 48 branches, 180 ATM Machines, more than 9000 agencies while also it has invested more in mobile phones "NBC Kiganjani" and Internet services.



James Meitaron (R), NBC Bank's Corporate and Investment Banking director, Mbeya district commissioner Benno Malisa (2nd-R), NBC Director of Business Elvis Ndunguru (L), and NBC Board director Dr Kassim Hussein at the launch of NBC Connect held in Mbeya city at the weekend. The modern digital platform enables the safe provision of banking services "easily, safely, anytime and anywhere" using an internet-enabled mobile phone. Photo: Correspondent

## MSD, stakeholders discuss availability of medicines and medical equipment

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE Medical Stores Department (MSD) in the Central Zone has brought together its stakeholders and customers including senior doctors, pharmacists and district officials to discuss improvement of health services and availability of medicines and medical equipment across the country.

During the conference, stakeholders agreed to support efforts by President Samia Suluhu

Hassan to improve the health sector and ensuring that experts use their professional skills to provide appropriate health services to Tanzanians.

Speaking yesterday in Kondoa District, MSD Central Zone Manager, John Sipendi said their goal is to restore the joint meetings with stakeholders that provides chances to discuss challenges and chart ways to resolve them.

He said the meetings are important in sharing experience as

well as agreeing to work together in providing health services. He said the working session between MSD executives and stakeholders aims to discuss the improvement of health services and ensuring availability of essential drugs and medical equipment at health facilities.

"Recognizing the importance of cooperation between us and health stakeholders, we have jointly agreed to support the efforts by President Samia towards revolutionizing the health sector. Our intention is

to make sure services are offered appropriately," he added.

Dodoma Regional Administrative Secretary, Ally Gugu said they have discussed improvements in service and drug delivery as well as medical equipment.

He said they have realised that there are some challenges that need to be solved together, including budget allocation for health facilities whereas distribution should be in accordance with demand.

Dodoma Regional Medical Officer, Dr Best Magoma said they will ensure Tanzanians enjoy the fruits of a good work done by President Samia by fulfilling their responsibility by adhering to professionalism.

## Moshi-based school wins govt's praise for creativity

By Guardian Correspondent, Moshi

THE Moshi-based St Mary Goreti Secondary School has been lauded for its creativity, efforts in improving and maintaining the environment along with that of improving the health sector in the community.

The compliments were given over the weekend, by the Kilimanjaro Regional Commissioner (RC) Nurdin Babu in a statement read on his behalf by the Moshi District Commissioner (DC) Kisare Makori, during the launching of the school's fundraising campaign which is part of the school's 25th anniversary celebrations programmes slated for next year.

"In addition to the good work you are doing in providing education that has changed the lives of many people, reports also shows that you have made and continue to make many contributions in improving the environment and the health sector in the community; we must congratulate you for this," he said, adding, your efforts supports those of the government which are aimed at building a better society in terms of education and health.

He added: "These efforts must be emulated by other stakeholders due to the fact that education and good health are important for human beings who have the task of dealing with life's challenges every day."

Babu also praised religious institutions for the contributions they make in various sectors including education and health, which he said had contributed so many residents getting good and sustainable services through the institutions. "A good example is you from the St Mary Goreti school who have decided to set up a programme aimed at improving the environment by planting trees as part of your jubilee celebrations; You have taken this decision at the right time, especially considering the fact that environmental improvements are an important agenda that is currently being given top priority by the government," he said.

RC Babu appealed to various development stakeholders and citizens in general to give their sincere cooperation to the leadership of St

Mary Goreti Secondary School in order to make their celebration a success. "There are so many people out there including the alumni who I am sure upon hearing this will respond with contributions so we can together make this a success.

Sr Clementina Kachweka, school principal said that the 25th anniversary celebrations since the establishment of the school are expected to take place in September, next year.

"Towards the anniversary we expect to do a major renovation and that is exactly the reason for organizing and officially launching of this fund raising campaign so as to raise funds for the school's renovation activities", she said as she received the Tigo pay till number which is one of the ways that well wishers will use to channel their funds.

She added: "Also towards the jubilee celebrations, we have prepared various activities which the board and the school's management will conduct in collaboration with the members of the community as a whole, which include trees planting in water sources; the tree planting exercise will also be to support your (RC) office which has been at the forefront in taking care of the environment".

She mentioned other activities as those related to health whereby people will be mobilised to donate blood as well as a charity walk that will aim to raise funds for activities related to the celebrations.

"Our projection is to raise a total of 600m/- which will be used for the school's renovations programmes; we have already informed the parents of students studying in the school about our plans", she said, adding, we hope they will give us enough cooperation that will enable us achieve our goals.

She said the Tigo pay number is 7945925 and Account Number for CRDB Bank is 0152628700800 for those who would prefer depositing in the bank directly.

School board chairman, Eng. Theonis Bebwa, thanked the regional government for the cooperation it gives to the school from time to time, which he said has also contributed to the success of the school.



Moshi district commissioner Kisare Makori (2nd-R) looks on as St Mary Goreti Secondary School principal Sr Clementina Kachweka (R) receives at the weekend from Tigo sales manager for Kilimanjaro Region, Silas Mkyuyu (2nd-L), a Tigo pay number for use in channelling money realised from a fund-raiser for the school. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Tanzania on track in technology field, says Mwasaga

By Guardian Reporter

THE leader of the Tanzania delegation that visited Estonia recently to learn how technology has transformed that European country into a rich developed one said in Dar es Salaam yesterday that Tanzania is on track in the technology field and is doing quite well.

"After visiting Estonia to our astonishment and joy we learned that Tanzania fares pretty well in this field; we are second in East Africa, we are fifth in Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) and we are among the top ten in Africa," said Dr Nkundwe Mwasaga, CEO of the

Information and Communication Technologies Commission (ICTC), the leader of the delegation. The team visited Estonia for five days, starting April 17, 2023.

Dr Mwasaga said the 11-member delegation visited Estonia as part of Tanzania's strategy to learn from European countries how to transform Tanzania's economy into a competitive digital economy in the world. "We can only achieve that goal by learning from countries that have succeeded in technology. That was our cardinal aim in visiting Estonia."

He said Estonia is a small but very successful country, with a small population and without

natural resources. "It has risen to become a country with ten big world class companies with a combined value of over one billion US dollars," he said.

The delegation wanted to know how the private sector works with the public sector and the nature of the cooperation between the two. "We had a look at their foreign policy, the issues surrounding safety of internet and how our friends relate with other countries in issues of technology."

He said the delegation was told that because Estonia has no natural resources, it chose development and use of technology to be its strategic path

economic salvation because, they were told, one innovative Estonia can make a competitive product and capture the global market.

Dr Mwasaga said in implementing Tanzania's digital transformation strategy, the five key issues will now be, one, to give young people technological knowledge so that systems remain safe, two: systems are trustworthy, three: communication systems reach all people without distinction, four: building a digital national economy and five: ensure young people become innovative and develop a huge army of entrepreneurs who are fully engaged in technological entrepreneurship.



Prof Joyce Ndalichako (R), Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Labour, Youth, Employment and Persons with Disabilities), presents a certificate and award to Kilombero Sugar Company business affairs manager Bruno Daniel (L) at the World Day for Safety and Health at Work exhibitions held at national level in Morogoro municipality late last week. The firm won the Workplace Safety and Health award in the Sugar Manufacturing category. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Microfinance reiterates commitment to serving less fortunate in society

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

ASA Microfinance Tanzania Limited, a subsidiary of ASA International, one of the world's largest international microfinance institutions has reiterated the commitment to work with the government and other stakeholders in reaching the less fortunate members of the society.

The organization's Operations Manager, Mohamed Shahdowlah, made the statement here, noting that ASA Tanzania has been working with the government in supporting people with disabilities and women.

He noted that a lot of disabled and disadvantaged people are not receiving financial services due to the factor of income generating issues.

"We planned to give them alternative support by our corporate social responsibility (CSR) and as part our activity we are providing continued sustenance to the disabled and disadvantaged people in different regions," he said.

Shahdowlah was speaking here when he handed over some 50 cartons containing over 4800 pieces of sanitary towels, being part of the effort to reach the disadvantaged.

The ceremony was held during an event organized by the Special Seats MP, Sophia Mwakagenda (CHADEMA), through her organisation, She Can Foundation, aimed at empowering village girls and women.

The lawmaker thanked ASA Microfinance Tanzania Limited for the donation and continued support aimed at changing lives of the disabled and disadvantaged Tanzanians.

She noted that while the government was doing everything

possible to help the groups of people contributions from other stakeholders are also needed to speedily accomplish the goal.

"The government alone cannot reach every person in the country, thus the need for others stakeholders to supplement its efforts," she said calling on other organisations to emulate ASA Microfinance Tanzania Limited.

The Special Seats MP said the organisation is always in the forefront in the matter of supporting people with disabilities and women.

Earlier, Shahdowlah explained that the main objective of ASA Tanzania is to alleviate poverty through microfinance services to low-income earner women as its main slogan is "Create Hopes, Changing Fortunes".

It is empowering women by its microfinance services and bringing them to main financial flow who are totally excluded from any formal financial services.

He noted that up to March, 2023, the company's total number of branches reached 183 in some ten administrative regions of Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Morogoro, Tanga, Kilimanjaro, Arusha, Mwanza, Mbeya, Coast and Zanzibar.

He added that up to March, 2023, total number of active borrowers were 222,000, among them, 99 percent are women with outstanding loan of 143.37 bn/- only.

According to the manager, ASA Tanzania have plans to set up 200 branches and to disburse loan amounting 360 bn/- to 260,000 active borrowers in 2023, creating over 200 jobs to Tanzanians.

"Our strategic plan is to reach every corner of the country through setting up more than 500 branches and covering one million women in the next ten years," he noted.

## Campaigns for law society presidency start

By Correspondent James Kandoya

CANDIDATES vying for the presidency post in the Tanganyika Law Society (TLS) yesterday tailored their campaign messages to the legal fraternity with the goal of winning their votes.

Advocates of High Courts Harold Sungusia and Reginald Shirima expressed their commitment in the first day of their campaign debate organised by TLS in Dar es Salaam ahead of general election slated to be held in April 12th this month in Arusha.

Sungusia said there was no sound mobilization policy adding that if elected he intends to come with it to eliminate financial constraints.

"Our legal bar is not supposed to be as it is now, if elected I plan to come up with a policy to ensure there are plenty of financial sources to enable the bar to fulfill its duties," he said.

He said currently the bars face a number of challenges such as incompetence, laziness, business as usual, excuses and indulgence.

Sungusia said he also plans to sign Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with banks to enable its young lawyers to get soft loans.

Advocate Shirima said if elected, will ensure TLS remains a professional legal bar association and not otherwise for the benefit of all members.

He said once elected, he will

work hand on hand with the governing council to find new financial sources for the bar to meet its obligation. "Subscription is all related to the fact that there are not enough sources of finance. We need more new sources of funds to fiancé the management and day to day operation of our legal bar association," he said.

In the debate, the three candidates vying for vice president posts were advocates of High Court Aisha Sinda, Emmanuel Augustine and Revocatus Kuuli.

Currently, TLS was facing a number of challenges stemming from loopholes in exercising autonomy and preserving independence adding that

members' welfare and financial soundness is uncertain and lags in prioritizing the needs of members, it has been unsuccessful in mobilizing and diversifying sources of funding and undertaking selective engagement.

Moreover, a substantial number of members are unhappy with the state of affairs of their society and there are serious issues with regard to members welfare such as health insurance cover, prevalence of unemployment risk, lack of viable social protection structure for most practicing lawyers, insecurity of income due to undercutting, disrepute to advocates stamps and lack of proper supervision of notary public services.



EAST AFRICAN  
CRUDE OIL  
PIPELINE

### REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: PROVISION OF STATIONERY SERVICES - REFERENCE NO. 00000198

East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) LTD ("EACOP LTD") invites experienced and reputable companies to express their interest in providing stationery services to the (EACOP) project.

The EACOP Project involves the construction and operation of an underground and cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale, Hoima District in Uganda to the Chongoleani peninsula near Tanga in Tanzania. The length of the pipeline is 1,443 km, of which 296km will be in Uganda and 1,147 km in Tanzania.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES:

- Service provider to supply various office stationeries including paper, rulers, pens, envelopes, paper punching machines, and other office equipment as per the requirement and specifications made by EACOP Ltd.
- The supply or delivery of stationery items shall be made to EACOP Ltd office within 3 (Three) working days of purchase order.
- The service shall be offered to EACOP Ltd for a period of three years.
- The Contractor shall at all times maintain the highest standards required in all aspects including, inter alia, appropriate transportation and packaging of the stationery items, good quality stationery and delivery timelines.
- The Service Provider shall be responsible for replacement in case of breakages of any stationery items particularly before and during delivery.

#### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

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

- Business License.
- Appropriate licensing if any from relevant in-country authorities for the provision of the services.
- Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) and Tax Clearance Certificate for the latest year available.
- Registration or approved application for registration with the EWURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.
- Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017.
- Experience, performance, and capacity in delivering the Scope of Services outlined above at a large scale in Tanzania, in compliance with national and international standards.
- Profile of key contact personnel to be involved in the project including personal certifications as necessary and level of qualifications, and experience and capacity to deliver the required services.
- Financial capacity to deliver the services required including submission of financial accounts for the past three years.
- Evidence of a QHSE Management system, organization, and process in compliance with applicable Local and Industry standards for similar works.
- Proof of Anti-corruption, Anti-bribery, Compliance and Human Rights policies.

Companies which have the ability, capacity, and resources to implement the activities listed above should express their interest by sending together with the documents stated in the above section through an email to [procurement.tz@eacop.com](mailto:procurement.tz@eacop.com), (max. email size 20Mb) on or before 17:00 hours East African Time (EAT) on or before 15th May 2023. Email object shall be: 00000198\_Provision of Stationery Services. Statements of EOI should be no more than ten (10) to twenty (20) pages long. All Expression of Interests should be submitted in English Language.

**Note:** EACOP LTD will review and assess the documents provided by companies that have expressed interest in accordance with this EOI and conduct evaluations based on internal criteria to determine which companies will be included in the list of pre-qualified companies. Only the pre-qualified companies will receive, by signing a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), an invitation to bid as a continuation of the call for tender process. EACOP LTD reserves the right at its sole discretion to make the decision to select or reject a company and maintain its decision without having to give reasons to the company concerned.

### TANZANIA INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM RESERVES LTD (TIPER)



RFP No: TP/04/2023/NCB/CS/005

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) FOR PROVISION OF CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR VARIOUS CIVIL WORKS FOR DEPOT IMPROVEMENT

02 May, 2023

1. Tanzania International Petroleum Reserves Ltd (TIPER) is a hospitality storage facility for bulk fuel with its share divided equally between the Government of Tanzania and Oryx Energies SA (Based in Switzerland). The Company office is located at Kigamboni Industrial Area, Depot site-plot # 1, Dar es Salaam-Tanzania.
2. Tanzania International Petroleum Reserves Ltd has set aside funds for various civil works to improvement of depot facility.
3. TIPER invites, via National Competitive Bidding (NCB) experienced civil consultants for provision of Consultancy services on various civil works for depot improvement.
4. Interested and eligible bidders may request electronic copy of tender document through the following email: [tiper.procurement@tiper.co.tz](mailto:tiper.procurement@tiper.co.tz) by sending an application letter and copies of certifications from the Engineering Registration Board (ERB) or a similar certification. from Monday to Friday at 08:00AM to 4:00PM between 02 May 2023 to 15 May, 2023.
5. Interested bidders are highly encouraged to visit the site at TIPER, Kigamboni, Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania on **Tuesday, 09 May, 2023 at 0930** hours East Africa Time Zone where services will be provided with all information that may be necessary for preparing the proposal.
6. The Consultants are required to come with their own Personal Protective Equipment PPE's during the site visit. The minimum PPE requirement are steel toe safety boots, worker's helmet and cotton reflector vest / cotton over coat / cotton overall. Consultant who will not come with correct PPE's will not be allowed to conduct site visit.
7. Bidders must submit hardcopies of bids (one original and one copy) respectively, enclosed and sealed in a single plain envelope marked Tender No: **TP/04/2023/NCB/CS/005 FOR PROVISION OF CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR VARIOUS CIVIL WORKS FOR DEPOT IMPROVEMENT**. Softcopies **MUST** be submitted in a USB flash disk. All bid documents must be addressed and delivered to Tanzania International Petroleum Reserves Ltd, P.O. Box 2608, Kigamboni, Dar es Salaam.
8. The deadline for submission of proposals will be 4.00 p.m. local time Monday, 15 May, 2023.
9. Bids opening will be conducted in the presence of the TIPER tender committee only, formed by the company. There shall be NO public opening of bids.
10. Late bids, portion of bids, electronic bids will not be considered for evaluation irrespective of any circumstances.
11. TIPER reserves the right to accept or reject any tender and does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any bid.

THE SECRETARY, TENDER COMMITTEE,  
TANZANIA INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM RESERVES LIMITED (TIPER),  
P.O. BOX 2608, KIGAMBONI, DAR ES SALAAM.

# Ngara DC signs compensation schedules for Kabanga Nickel Project victims

By Guardian Correspondent, Ngara

NGARA District Commissioner, Col Mathias Kahabi has signed compensation schedules for Tembo Nickel's Kabanga Nickel Project, a landmark step that paves a way for final review and validation of the documents by the Government Chief Valuer to allow the company to make mandatory compensation to victims before commencement of the Project.

After signing the documents, Col Kahabi said he was very pleased to see the completion of the valuation process and that now there were only a few more steps left before those who are affected by the project (PAPs) are paid.

"This is a long awaited milestone by not only the project affected persons but also the whole Ngara community. We believe Tembo Nickel will have a significant contribution to our communities and to the economic growth of our nation as a whole once it starts the Kabanga Nickel operations. By signing these schedules today it signifies that we are getting ready to witness the commencement of the project through which people will get to see its fruits," he said.

He urged the victims who reach 1,300 to be patient while the Chief Government Valuer reviews the schedules for validation before they are compensated.

"The government's intention is to ensure that each affected person is compensated fairly before their land is acquired. We

also understand that nickel mining in Ngara will not only benefit those who are here but the whole country," he noted.

RSK contractor Resettlement Action Plan (RAP) consultant for Tembo Nickel, Basil Shio said before the reports were signed by the District Commissioner, several steps in the process were followed as is required by the law starting with disclosing the compensation schedules to the Project Affected Persons for their validation.

He added that before compensation is made all the Project Affected Persons will receive financial literacy training which will be followed by special bank accounts opening specifically joint accounts where required through which compensation payments will be done.

"We know that some people have bank accounts but we want to ensure that all the money compensated reaches the Project Affected Person. These are special accounts whereby the company will bear all the bank charges.

Project valuers began the Land and Asset surveys in July 2022. The project area was delineated and surveyed, all the affected communities were identified, and compensation schedules were developed and disclosed to the Project Affected Persons as per the law before sign-off by respective village and ward executives, district valuer and district land officer and thereafter the district commissioner.



Asha Hamis (R) from the Forum for International Cooperation has a word with youths who participated at a career fair the agency hosted in Dar es Salaam recently through the 'Ajira Kwa Vijana' project under the Employment and Skills for Development in Africa (E4D). The project has launched an online recruitment platform known 'Ajira, Taarifa na Mafunzo', meant chiefly to equip young people with various skills. Story on Page 7. Photo: Guardian Photographer

## Govt extends period of paying for Magomeni Kota houses

By Correspondent Christina Mwakangale

THE government has extended the contract agreement with the residents of Magomeni Kota in Dar es Salaam, from 15 years signed previously to 30 years on the condition of a tenant-buyer.

George Abel, Chairman of the residents in the 644 households, revealed this in Dar es Salaam during the weekend after receiving a letter from Tanzania Building Agency (TBA).

According to the letter, which was also seen by this paper and signed by the Chief Executive of TBA, Daud Kondoro, the sales period of the residential area of Magomeni Kota has been changed following requests from the residents.

The letter explained that instead of 15 years, tenants will now have 30 to purchase the houses.

"As previously stated, these payments will not be interest-bearing. In addition, it should be noted that the government has already removed some costs, it

did not include any profit; It did not include integrated areas such as elevators, corridors, stairs, car parking and garden or value of the land," he said.

The letter therefore stated, the costs of purchasing a one-bedroom house with a living room, kitchen, toilet, bathroom and laundry room will be sold at 48,522,913.00/- for a period of 30 years.

"A house with two bedrooms and a living room, kitchen, toilet, bathroom and a laundry room will be sold at 56,893,455/- for 30 years."

The letter further read that, with this measure, each household in Magomeni Kota, will be written a letter to inform them about the new procedure and they should confirm within 14 days.

The residents will then be given their 30-year contracts in the procedure of tenant-buyer.

In addition, it said that residents who are not yet ready to agree to a new contract, will also have to confirm it in writing within 14 days, so that they will be given five year contracts with conditions for free living.

## New joint venture enables varsity students to benefit from smartphone quizzes

By Guardian Reporter

INFINIX in collaboration with Vodacom Tanzania has launched a flagship device: Infinix Hot 30 sidelined with university students quiz challenge. Smartphone penetration is one of the catalysts for Vodacom's achievement of its vision to digitise Tanzania and to this point, the company is keen on providing high-quality and affordable smartphones to every Tanzanian. This is the motivation behind its partnership with Infinix to ensure that university students can be active participants in the digital society that the country is aggressively building.

Speaking to reporters at the launch, Vodacom's Executive Head of Sales and Distribution George Lugata said: "Vodacom has a rich heritage in advancing and increasing access to mobile technology. We now live in a world that is moving towards universal connectivity and smartphones aren't just luxury items; they are economic necessities. A smartphone allows people to communicate, socialise, and to experience the world around us like never before."

Lugata said that Vodacom, avidly believes that everyone deserves access to a quality smartphone whilst keeping in mind that not everyone can afford high-end smartphone prices. He further added that the company will offer complimentary 96GBs for 12 months to customers who purchase the device which will allow them to enjoy digital services offered by the supra network.

To nurture curiosity and knowledge sharing amongst university students, Vodacom in collaboration with Infinix will be chairing a knowledge quiz featuring four Dar es Salaam-based higher

learning institutions.

Lugata shared his excitement for the new chapter of affordable retail devices which the company unveiled to its customers and vows to continue delivering the very best experience on their supra network through the 'Zaidi ya Mtandao' campaign which reiterates the company's commitment to offering its customers value-adding products and services.

Eric Mkomoya, Infinix public relations manager said: "Infinix is a global success brand recognised around the world, today we are happy to announce Infinix Hot 30, the device which has raised the bar for a gaming experience in its price range with an impressive 8-core Helio G88 chip with two powerful ARM Cortex-A75 cores running at a maximum frequency of 2.0GHz, innovative memory expansion technology, allowing for a significant increase in memory from the original 8GB to 16GB. This results in faster startup times and the ability to accommodate more background applications, providing users with a seamless and efficient mobile experience."

Mkomoya detailed that Infinix Hot 30 stands out with its 33W fast charging technology and 5000mAh a marathon limit test of battery life is suggested, which involves testing the phone's battery life using popular apps like movies, games, and short videos, for the case for visual performance thanks to its 90Hz high refresh rate which provides an effortlessly smooth user experience.

The university quiz challenge will take place for four weeks where winners will walk away with Hot 30 devices. Moreover, students will be able to purchase the Infinix Hot 30 at a discounted price during the duration of the challenge at their campus.



Patrobas Katambi (2nd-R), Deputy Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Labour, Youth, Employment and Persons with Disabilities), exchanges ideas with Barrick Gold Tanzania staff at the firm's pavilion at the Occupational Health and Safety Authority (OSHA) exhibition in Morogoro municipality yesterday. Alongside being briefed on various technological gadgets the company employs in boosting workplace safety, he congratulated the firm for emerging Overall Winner at the exhibition. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## ZHC starts building 72 residential houses in Mombasa area

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE Zanzibar Housing Corporation (ZHC), has started building 72 residential houses in the Mombasa area for Mchinda Unguja to bring the people of Zanzibar better housing.

Mwanaisha Ali Said, ZHC director general unveiled this yesterday when speaking in a special interview with this paper in Zanzibar.

Mwanaisha said that the construction of the houses has started in March this year where ZHC has signed a construction contract with the contractor Simba

Developers Ltd. "So, the contractor has officially started work," she said.

According to her, the construction will cost 9.8bn/- upon its completion of which 3bn/- will come from the corporation and the other funds will come from the central Zanzibar government.

Mwanaisha said that ZHC has agreed with the contractor in a period of 15 months from March 2023 that the houses should be completed so that the organisation can sell the houses to various citizens who will need to buy them.

"Our goal is to sell the houses to

those in need. At this construction site we'll have 72 houses, so people should get ready to buy the proposed houses," she said, noting that the price of the houses will vary from one house to another as there will be three to two-bedroom houses and price will be set after the construction is completed.

Nuridin Hussein, Simba Developers Ltd general manager thanked the government for trusting his company and giving it the guarantee to build the houses. "I thank the government for building a trust in my company. I promise I'll work more efficiently and on time

as agreed with ZHC."

One of Zanzibar residents, Asha Ali Kombo, thanked the government for the decision to build the new house, noting that the move will help eliminate complaints to the ZHC.

A 48-year-old Omar Ali Issa, Rahaleo resident asked the Zanzibar government to set up a special plan to sell houses to low-income earners.

He explained that due to difference in financial muscle some people will not be able to pay a large amount of money together but they can do so in installments.

# Airtel scoops occupational safety, health award for the telcom sector

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

AIRTEL Tanzania has won an occupational safety and health (AOSH)-2023 award in the Telecom industry category during celebrations to mark the World Day for Safety and Health at Work on April 28 that was held nationally in Morogoro Region.

Themed: 'A safe and healthy working environment are a fundamental principle and right at work', the commemoration of the World Day for Safety and Health at Work is a part of National OSHA promotion and awareness creation activities that aims at encouraging both private and public workplaces throughout Tanzania to develop, implement and evaluate strategies that help achieve a healthier and safer working environment.

Receiving the awards on behalf of Airtel Tanzania, TSM for Morogoro Region, Isaack Kijuu said the recognition has demonstrated that Airtel Tanzania has invested in systems and programmes that embrace safety for both employees and stakeholders.

"We are very delighted to receive these awards because it is good feedback that Airtel Tanzania is fully complying with safety and health standards for its employees and stakeholders.

Kijuu added: "With the government's direction towards an industrialized economy, issues of safety and health at the workplace are unavoidable."

He said Airtel Tanzania will continue working together with the government to ensure that employees and stakeholders are adhering to occupational safety and health regulations at work along with their other activities.



Airtel Tanzania representative Isaack Kijuu displays the 'Occupational Safety and Health' (Telecom Industry category) award presented to the firm at the commemoration of World Day for Safety and Health at Work (April 28) held at national level in Morogoro municipality. Photo: Airtel Tanzania

# Youth project introduces online recruitment portal

By Guardian Reporter

AN online recruitment platform—Ajira, Taarifa na Mafunzo (ATM) has been launched to assist young Tanzanians in the blue sector with employment services.

The platform under the Ajira Kwa Vijana project will apart from sharing employment adverts to potential employees, offer various soft skills training to equip young people with skills needed in the labour market, assisting them with CV preparation and connecting them to employers.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam over the weekend after launching the ATM platform, Forum for International Cooperation (FIC) Programme Manager Erustus Oukoo said the platform supports linkage offices in technical education and vocation training in connecting their students to potential employers through direct access to the platform.

ATM was launched during a career fair hosted by FIC which is one of the key activities of the Ajira Kwa Vijana project under the Employment and Skills for Development in Africa (E4D).

The programme is supported by the Prime Minister Office of Labour, Youth, Employment and the Persons with Disability (PMO-LYED).

It is implemented in Tanzania by GIZ and jointly financed by BMZ, the European Union (EU), Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) and Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA).

Oukoo said: "Establishing job matching platforms and linkages to private sectors is one of the significant objectives that the project focuses on achieving. That is why the FIC, through the Ajira Kwa Vijana project, organised a career fair to link young people from the hospitality and manufacturing sectors with employers."

Oukoo said that for the last 18 months, many young people under the project from the blue sector have received technical and career development support through scholarships and soft skills training.

He said the project has also given them an infrequent opportunity to meet and learn from employers directly through career fairs that bring stakeholders from the hospitality sector together.

He added that as for now, the ATM platform has partners who have been taking part throughout the programme.

He named such partners as Masiwani Training and Rehabilitation Centre, Yombo Training and Rehabilitation Centre, National College of Tourism and VETA- Kipawa, which are connected to the platform.

"We have potential employers who have so far enrolled on the platform making it more interesting for the candidates as they get to apply for opportunities from large-scale employers," he said.

Commenting on the Ajira Kwa Vijana programme, Awadh Milasi-Project Manager GIZ said the project was launched in April last year and will come to end June this year.

"The Ajira Kwa Vijana Project aim was to strengthen the institutional and technical capacities of Tanzanian TVET institutions in Dar es Salaam, Tanga and Dodoma through training of instructors, curriculum development and review, establishing job matching platforms and linkages to the private sector, resource mobilisation, branding and marketing of institutions to attract more students," said Milasi.

Milasi added that the project has also been providing training courses, employment services and enterprise development support to 1000 socially and economically disadvantaged youth forced to drop out of formal education.

**THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA**  
**PRESIDENT'S OFFICE**  
**REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**  
**NGARA DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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**LOCAL AREA DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (LADP II)**

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**RE-ADVERTISEMENT**

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**Invitation for Bids**  
for  
**CONSTRUCTION OF BOUNDARY WALL AROUND RUSUMO HEALTH CENTRE AND REHABILITATION OF IT'S ACCESS ROAD (1KM) TO GRAVEL LEVEL AT NGARA DISTRICT**

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**Loan No./Credit No./ Grant No: 5296 – TA**

**Contract Title: Construction of boundary wall around Rusumo health centre and rehabilitation of it's access road (1km) to gravel level at Ngara District**

**Reference No: RW-NELSAP-LADPII TZ -314197-CW-RFB**

The United Republic of Tanzania has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Local Area Development Programme (LADP II), and intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for Construction of boundary wall around Rusumo health centre and rehabilitation of it's access road (1km) to gravel level at Ngara District.

The Ngara District Council now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders registered or capable of being registered as building and civil contractors for carrying out construction of boundary wall around Rusumo health centre and rehabilitation of it's access road (1km) to gravel level at Ngara District for the contract period of two (2) to (6) six months as indicated in the table below:

Tender No.	Tender Description	Location	Contractors class	Summary of Work
RW-NELSAP-LADPII TZ -314197-CW-RFB	Construction of perimeter wall around Rusumo health Centre and rehabilitation of its access road to gravel level (1KM).	Rusumo	Class (5) and above	Construction of brick perimeter wall (570.83M) and rehabilitation of access road (1KM) to gravel level.

Bidding will be conducted through the Competitive Bidding procedures as specified in the World Bank's guidelines Procurement of Goods, Works and Non-Consulting Services under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers, January 2011 and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the Procurement Guidelines. In addition, please refer to paragraphs 1.6 and 1.7 setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from Ngara District Council P.O BOX 30 Ngara, office of Secretary of Tender board, email [Ugavi@ngaradc.go.tz](mailto:Ugavi@ngaradc.go.tz) and inspect the bidding documents during office hours from **07:30am to 3:30pm Monday to Friday** except on public holidays at the address given below,

**Ngara District Council HQ,  
AFISA UGAVI (W) NGARA  
Room No. 1-H, Nearby conference Hall No.1G.**

A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested eligible bidders upon the submission of a written application to the address mentioned above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Tanzania shillings One hundred Fifty Thousand TSHS 150,000/=** Payment should be made to the bank account at Ngara District Council upon receipt of a Control number from the District Treasurer's office, then document will be collected by bidder from the office address mentioned on paragraph four above.

Bids in original plus three copies properly filled in and enclosed in plain envelope marked as per bidder's tender must be delivered to the following address:  
**Secretary of Tender Board,  
Ngara District Council,  
P.O Box 30 Ngara.**

at or before **10:00 hours on 01<sup>st</sup> June, 2023**. Electronic bidding will not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be publicly opened in the presence of the bidders' designated representatives and anyone who choose to attend at Ngara District Council, conference Hall No. 1G.

All bids must be accompanied by a "Bid-Securing Declaration," as appropriate and in format provided bidding document.

All Bids must be accompanied by a Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) and/or Sexual Harassment (SH) Declaration.

The address(es) referred to above is: -  
**Ngara District Council, Procurement Management Unit  
P.O BOX 30  
Ngara, Kagera, Tanzania  
Tel: 0282226016  
Fax: 0282226152  
E-mail: [ugavi@ngaradc.go.tz](mailto:ugavi@ngaradc.go.tz)**

Solomon O. Kimilike  
District Executive Director  
Ngara District Council

**MAUREL & PROM**  
E & P TANZANIA

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**PROVISION OF INFORMATION FOR SUPPLY OF SERVICES TO M&P EXPLORATION PRODUCTION TANZANIA LIMITED (Ref. No. MPEP/2023/TM/001)**

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- M&P Exploration Production Tanzania Ltd. (MPEP), an upstream producer of natural gas from the Mnazi Bay gas field in Mtwara region hereby invites potential suppliers to express their interest and provide information for the supply of the following services:
 

**Feasibility Study, Concept, Engineering, and Planning of Drilling Exploration Wells**

The work shall include but shall not be limited to:

  - Assist with the design and planning of the Tanzania exploration wells as requested by MPEP to verify fit-for-purpose well design not limited to: offset well review, casing design, trajectory planning, torque and drag modelling, hydraulics modelling etc. using Landmark software or similar.
  - Prepare detailed Regulatory Well Notifications.
  - Ensure a rig mobilisation plan, rig move plan, rig move meeting and associated risk assessment are prepared / conducted in a timely manner in advance of the rig mobilisation.
  - Prepare detailed Drilling Programme(s), incorporating key vendor programmes.
  - Conduct risk assessments and DWOPs to cover proposed drilling operations.
  - Prepare and maintain, as required by MPEP, such cost, time and resource plans (CTRs) at times and in formats agreed between the Parties.
  - Prepare detailed project Pre-Drill (cost) Estimate – PWCE.
  - Prepare detailed project Pre-Spud (cost) Estimate – FWCE (AFE).
  - Determine outstanding required tangibles, materials and third-party equipment, services, and personnel. Recommend and provide or facilitate solution(s) for required equipment, tangibles, materials, services, and personnel. Conduct procurement activity and prepare tender process to contract administration as required to support the Project.
  - Use MPEP cost-book to allow accurate on-going cost determination once the Project commences, and manage and maintain the cost-book, verify, and administer third party supplier invoices and payments as agreed with MPEP.
  - Prepare monthly Financial Forecasts in a format approved by MPEP.
  - Prepare High Level Risk Matrix.
  - Infrastructure requirements review.
  - Carry site survey and propose surface infrastructure design and costs such as platform, industrial water supply, etc in accordance with the HSSE and operational requirements.
  - Prepare and propose a project schedule.
  - Order long lead items.
  - HR & logistics management.
- This call for Request for Information (RFI) marks an open, transparent, and objective tender process. Detailed scope of work will be issued to qualified bidders upon demand.
- Potential suppliers must submit information to demonstrate their capability and competency. This must include but not limited to the following:
  - Proof of experience and technical capability in providing said services preferably in Oil & Gas industry. Experience with extended reach drilling is mandatory.
  - Proof of financial capability (with latest approved audited financial statements for the past 3 years) and current annual return.
  - International companies with ability to team up with local expertise in any form as per the Local Content Regulations, 2017.
  - Proof of registration with the local authorities in Tanzania or Country of Origin. This shall include but not limited to a company profile, certificate of registration with BRELA, Tax Authority certificates for Tax Identification Number and Value Added Tax, Valid Business License, Proof of registration with ERB (Engineers Registration Board), Regulatory license and permits (if applicable), Tax Clearance Certificate, etc.
- All correspondence regarding this enquiry shall be made in writing and communicated by e-mail to [procurement@tanzaniamp.co.tz](mailto:procurement@tanzaniamp.co.tz) not later than **May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023**.

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## Tanzania, Rwanda links augur well for the future

HIGHER levels of cooperation are being scaled in Tanzania-Rwanda relations, with the two day state visit by President Paul Kagame, reciprocating an earlier visit by President Samia Suluhu Hassan five months after taking over the august office. Relations entered a new sphere as local reforms make it easier for businessmen to expand operations, setting sight on the more distant future. It is a long term vision.

The two leaders affirmed at a joint press conference that they had agreed to work together in trade, transport, logistics and security, where obviously the key issues are the standard gauge railway and the situation in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). As the issue is multipronged and being worked upon by a whole array of regional and more distant countries, it wasn't the pillar of the discussions. More compact bilateral issues provided greater avenue to further strengthen ties.

Even with the greater part of discussions being directed at freight logistics and transportation, especially as to building the Mwanza-Isaka section of the standard gauge railway, the relatively minor issues provided some diplomatic possibilities.

It all has to do with that practical solutions can be figured out for the eastern DRC stand-off, and what nearby countries can do in that regard. All countries need a measure of goodwill in regard to what they do, or say, in solving their problems.

As it was pointed out in the joint press conference, there are areas where the two countries have not done much in the past decade in developing ties and bilateral cooperation. President Samia said there is need to revive the joint commission for cooperation,

which clearly resonates with the visiting leader's remark that the two countries are committed to furthering ties benefiting the people of both countries. Cross border investments are part of the bill, which requires greater reform push.

Even where no one expects a magic solution overnight, it is helpful that President Kagame hailed Tanzania and other East African countries for their role in seeking lasting peace in DRC. He saw Tanzania and Rwanda as generally stable, yet beset with intermittent conflicts in neighbouring states, which entangle other countries. The visiting leader was magnanimous that various countries play roles they think are helpful to reach lasting peace, but at times the peace is elusive. That really is the case as peace has to do not just with diplomacy or military force but social and political choices. There are directions that countries opt for, or large communities.

The two countries as well as the wider range of members states of the East African Community, as well as prospective applicants to the current regional integration framework need to opt for policies and regulatory systems that are friendly to cross border investments and even movement of people. Resettling takes resources to move to where there are opportunities. Movers bring new money and new avenues of engaging labour, not competing for diminishing arable land in ancestral areas.

In that way, plenty of the chaos would be diminished as investors cooperate, not fight. Tanzania and Rwanda are equally known to be reformist states, but unless they really get to be more open-handed, big hearted, a regional format for peace will still be lacking. Rwanda and DRC need to think on this parameter as it can work.

## We need action to ensure everyone has access to supply of clean and safe water

CRISES may be a centuries-old phenomenon, but so too is human resilience. The high number of road deaths and life-changing injuries in the global south is a crisis that affects millions of people every year. In 2018 alone - the year that the UN Road Safety Fund was established - 1.3 million people died on the world's roads, and another 50 million were injured or disabled. Tanzania has reached out to the world to establish a strong international mechanism in managing the global water crisis agenda which is spiraling out of control due to impacts of climate change, increased demand and polluted supplies.

The United Nations World Water Development Report of 2023 shows that 26 per cent of the estimated eight billion global population does not have access to safe drinking water and about 46 per cent of people lack access to safely managed sanitation services.

Water Minister Mr Jumaa Aweso issued the call in his address at the UN 2023 Water Conference where he attended on behalf of President Samia Suluhu Hassan from March 22-24 in New York. "It is critical that the world comes together to manage the water agenda; the value of water in life and economy; increase investment in the water area; international cooperation in water as well as the search for money for water," said Mr Aweso.

The minister's idea was in line to UN's Secretary General António Guterres official opening address in which, he referred to water as a human right and a common development denominator in

shaping a better future.

"Despite the fact that water is the ecosystem and biodiversity that enrich the world, water is in deep trouble," said Guterres, noting that people are draining humanity's lifeblood through vampiric overconsumption and unsustainable use, and evaporating it through global heating.

According to him, nearly three out of four natural disasters are linked to water and one in four people live without safely managed water services or clean drinking water.

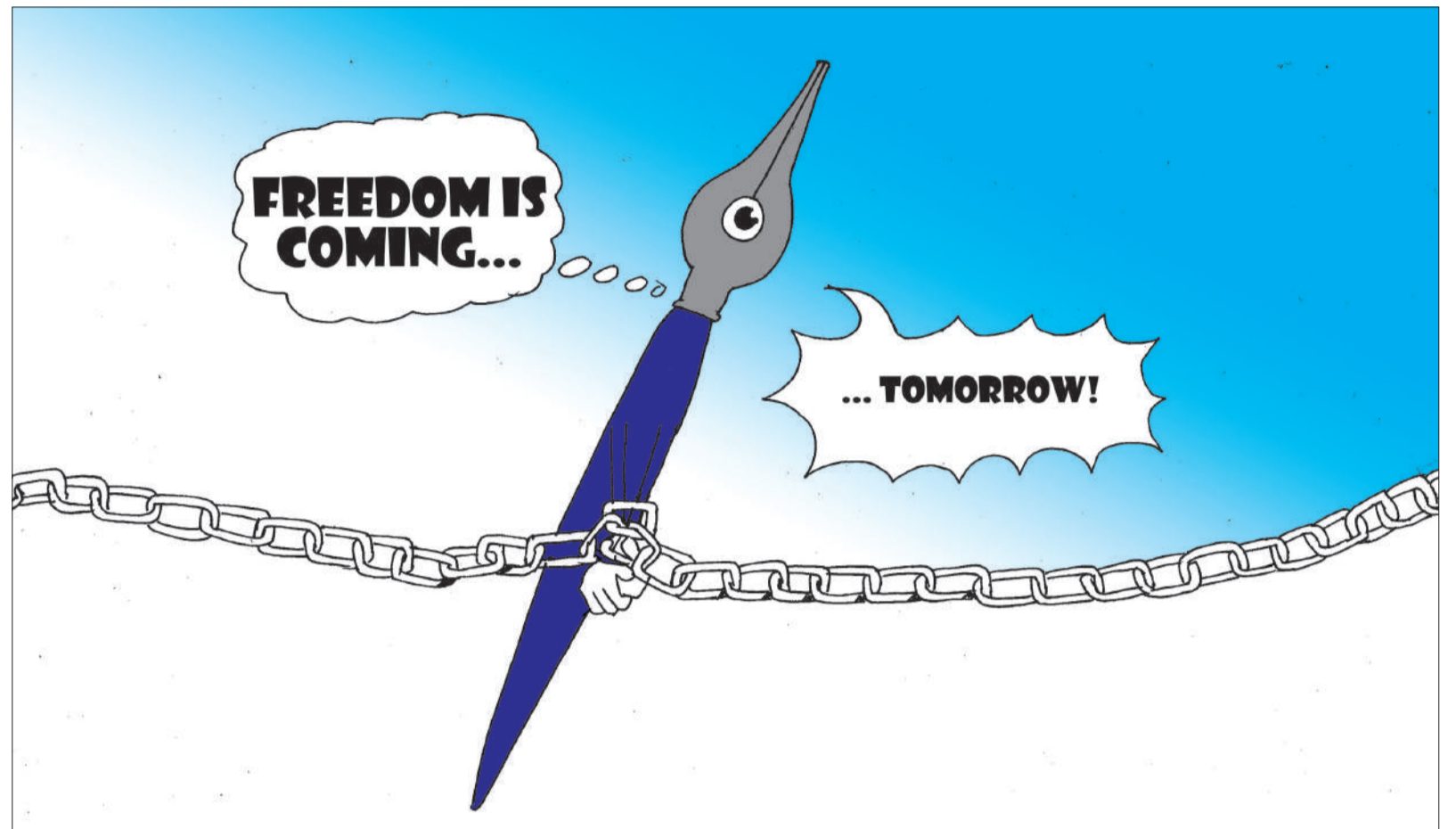
Thus, encouraged member states to massively invest in water and sanitation systems, focus on resilience, finding new ways to recycle and conserve water and to address climate change.

"We need action to ensure everyone has access to clean and safe water supplies. Everyone can be part of the solution," said the UN Secretary General urging Member States to join and implement the UN Water Convention.

In the meeting, Tanzania placed weight on two agendas which include the implementation of the Water Sector Development Program III that requires a budget of 6.47 billion US dollars within the period 2022-2025.

Tanzania puts focus on the investment agenda in the water sector in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through the Tanzania Water Investment Programme (2023-2030).

The programme, which is still under construction, is in the final stages of being launched in May this year as it is estimated to have a budget of more than 25 billion US dollars.



## Nigeria: Let's calm down and stand together

By Ehi Braimah

WE can stand together, even if we stay apart. Let us remain united, in spite of our political differences.

Are you still trying to understand why we should not have a dog in their fight? Don't be fooled, politicians wine and dine together when their interests align. There are no permanent friends or enemies in the game... It is better for us to remain as a "team," because, "together, everyone achieves more." We also do not have any other country to call our own.

When the general elections begin to divide us in ways we have never seen before, it is because there's so much at stake for political actors and it was not surprising that the 2023 elections turned out to be most consequential in recent history, as predicted. But we do not have to burn down the country because we disagree with the outcomes - both at the state and national levels.

Since 1999, we have been experimenting with our "nascent" democracy, which has now survived for 24 years. The expectation is that we would improve with every election cycle, in spite of the antics of desperate politicians who are generally bad losers.

Has our democracy matured? I don't think so. Moreover, the presidential system of government is too expensive. We should look for a home-grown model that would meet our requirements.

The main problem with the 2023 electoral exercise in February and March was that the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) made a promise it could not keep. The electoral umpire said it was fully ready for the voting exercise and assured everyone that the use of technology would ensure transparent conduct from the accreditation of voters to uploading the results in real time, and the announcements that would follow.

Most commentators are quick to tell you that their problem with the general elections is not the outcome, but the process that led to the outcome. Apart from complaining about an alleged flawed process, they also believe strongly that INEC officials were compromised.

It is for INEC to defend its operations (planning, implementation, outcome and evaluation) and explain what really happened. But we can stretch the argument further by asking this question: In how many polling units out of 176,606 units nationwide were there anomalies and what is the statistical significance?

Now that there are several election cases in court by the opposition challenging the victory

of the President-elect, Asiwaju Bola Ahmed Tinubu, we must be patient and await the verdict of their Lordships.

In the gubernatorial elections, some results are also being contested by those who lost. We must allow the rule of law to prevail as civilised people, as the disputants seek redress through legal and constitutional means; we cannot afford to take the laws into our hands.

All aggrieved individuals and groups - under any guise - should shun violent protests and subversive activities. This is my plea, no matter the degree of provocation from any quarters. Sometimes, we do not get the results we want or expect, resulting in a mismatch of expectation and reality. It is a fact of life. Isn't that what we call disappointment?

Unfortunately, the false narratives being propagated in the social media are toxic and unhelpful. Fake news, hate speeches and ethnic baiting will damage the moral fabric of society and threaten our unity. It is a dangerous game.

The caution by the Department of State Services (DSS) on the alleged plot to form an interim government by the bad losers in our midst, in order to derail the transition to a new administration that would be headed by President-elect Bola Ahmed Tinubu on 29 May, should therefore be taken seriously.

Nigeria is the biggest democracy in Africa and we have a duty to lead all the countries in the continent from the front.

We must understand that when the rain begins, it will fall on everyone; where the person comes from would be immaterial. Tribe or religion will not matter, and we don't need the kind of rain fall that we shall regret afterwards. I agree that we should seek reconciliation anchored on truth, justice and fairness, but it does not mean that we should cut our nose to spite our face.

In 2015, former President Goodluck Jonathan conceded victory to President Muhammadu Buhari before the final vote tally was released. Winning the election, Jonathan told a bewildered nation, was not worth the blood of any Nigerian. He immediately congratulated Buhari at the time and he was celebrated around the world for being magnanimous in defeat.

Maybe it has not occurred to you but the elections under reference were highly competitive, largely because the dominant parties, the All Progressives Congress (APC) and the People's Democratic Party (PDP), faced an unusual challenge from Labour Party (LP) and its presidential candidate, Peter Obi.

The challenge, as it turned out, is good for our democracy and it created major electoral upsets. For example, incumbent governors in Nigeria are not used to losing elections into the Senate, their "retirement home."

But this time, five sitting governors lost their senatorial bids. This should count for something as we make incremental progress with every election. Democracy is about making choices freely and making our votes count.

It gladdened my heart to note that Samuel Ortom, the Benue State governor who lost his senatorial election as a PDP candidate, has withdrawn his petition challenging the APC candidate who beat him. This is good news and sweet music to my ears. Politics should not always be a do-or-die affair.

Indeed, the time has come for us to build a culture whereby losers congratulate their opponents who secured victory at the polls. In every contest, only one person can be declared the winner.

In 2015, former President Goodluck Jonathan conceded victory to President Muhammadu Buhari before the final vote tally was released. Winning the election, Jonathan told a bewildered nation, was not worth the blood of any Nigerian. He immediately congratulated Buhari at the time and he was celebrated around the world for being magnanimous in defeat.

Governor Okezie Ikpeazu of Abia State and member of PDP served two terms and lost his senatorial bid. His former Chief of Staff and anointed PDP governorship candidate, Okechukwu Ahiwe, lost to the Labour Party candidate, Alex Otti.

You know what happened? In spite of the controversial nature of the election, in view of the delayed results from Obingwa local council that created anxious moments, Ikpeazu, an ally of Nyesom Wike, governor of Rivers State, congratulated Otti, the governor-elect of Abia State. This should be the new tone in our politics: no more politics of bitterness.

I watched Bishop Sunday Onuoha, governorship candidate of the Africa Democratic Congress (ADC) in Abia State announce on Arise News' The Morning Show that the opposition parties are ready to work with Alex Otti. This development promotes the spirit of "give and take", which is good for our politics.

What was remarkable about the Abia State gubernatorial polls was that the integrity of the ballot was upheld, despite all the alleged attempts by the state-controlled PDP to win it at all cost for Ahiwe, the nominee of the sitting governor.

The returning officer in that election, Professor Nnennaya Oti, vice chancellor of the Federal University of Technology, Owerri (FUTO), was praised for ensuring that the will of the people of Abia State prevailed. She was subsequently received in a rousing welcome by her students for her "five-star" performance.

The expectation is that all returning officers should follow her example and defend our democracy. No matter the temptation of cash inducement, cyber bullying or threats, which are the stock-in-trade of desperate politicians and their agents, all INEC officials are required to live above board.

"Standing together by staying apart" was the campaign slogan of TD Trust Bank in Canada when public places began to re-open in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. The message was clear: We are customers of the same bank but we must stay alive to fight COVID-19 together.

To be honest, this can only be in theory. In practice, it would be difficult for presiding officers in all the polling units to play by the rules. Some INEC representatives have biases because of their political affiliations. Clearly, this is a conflict of interest scenario which must be avoided going forward.

In Oyo State, the APC gubernatorial candidate, Teslim Folarin, lost to the incumbent, Seyi Makinde of the PDP, another Wike ally. Folarin congratulated Makinde. Again, this is the new direction our politics should follow.

We can stand together, even if we stay apart. Let us remain united, in spite of our political differences. "Standing together by staying apart" was the campaign slogan of TD Trust Bank in Canada when public places began to re-open in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic. The message was clear: We are customers of the same bank but we must stay alive to fight COVID-19 together.

I know husbands and wives who live under the same roof but voted for different political parties.

It didn't stop them from saying to each other, "Honey, I love you", after casting their votes, followed by the "love-of-my-life" kiss. Isn't that a good thing? Politics should not tear down our homes, neither should we allow politicians to use us.

Are you still trying to understand why we should not have a dog in their fight? Don't be fooled, politicians wine and dine together when their interests align. There are no permanent friends or enemies in the game. It is better for us to remain as a "team," because, "together, everyone achieves more." We also do not have any other country to call our own.



# Stopping Sudan's descent into full-blown civil war

By Alan Boswell

**F**IGHTING in cities across Sudan has left hundreds dead and trapped untold numbers at home in severe danger. If not halted, the conflict could become a devastating civil war. Local and outside actors should demand a humanitarian ceasefire, especially around Eid al-Fitr, followed by talks.

The nightmare scenario that many feared in Sudan is unfolding. In cities and towns across the country, including the capital Khartoum, the Sudanese army, led by General Abdelfattah al-Burhan, and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF), under the command of Mohamed "Hemedti" Hamdan Dagalo, are fighting pitched battles.

Millions of civilians are caught in the crossfire and fast running out of basic necessities. The combat could quickly slide into a sustained war that risks rippling through the country's restive peripheries into its neighbours. Acting in concert, Sudanese, African, Gulf Arab, Western and other actors – some of whom have close ties to Burhan and Hemedti – should demand that the belligerents, both of whom believe they can attain their goals on the battlefield, agree to a ceasefire.

The impending Eid al-Fitr celebration marking the end of the holy month of Ramadan – one of the most important days on the calendar for Sudanese Muslims – is a compelling opportunity for the army and paramilitary leaders to call a halt to the war, give beleaguered civilians a respite and allow mediators to fly into Khartoum to jump-start talks.

Fighting broke out on 15 April, after days of escalating armed manoeuvres by the rivalrous forces. Tensions had run high for days amid a dispute related to demands from the army that the RSF dissolve, with its members to be integrated into regular military ranks. It is unclear who fired the first shot, but both sides had clearly prepared for battle.

Clashes erupted first in Khartoum, spreading rapidly to major towns to the north, south, east and west. Since then, the momentum has swung back and forth, with the two sides issuing conflicting claims to be in control of key institutions. What is unambiguous is the human toll.

According to the World Health Organisation, more than 290 civilians are dead, countless others are stuck in their homes in baking 40-degree Celsius heat without electricity or (sometimes) water, hospitals have run out of supplies and aid agencies have suspended operations. Widespread looting means that food is also growing scarce. The number of deaths is likely much larger than is known.

Bashir fragmented the security forces into competing centres of power so that none could unseat him.

The roots of this severe and mounting crisis lie in the late years of former President Omar al-Bashir's disastrous 30-year reign. Distrustful of the army, traditionally Sudan's strongest institution and one with a history of staging coups, Bashir fragmented the security forces into competing centres of power, so that none could unseat him.

The paramilitary RSF, in particular, grew from a brutal counter-insurgency militia in Darfur into something like a praetorian guard for Bashir. The outsider status of Hemedti, the RSF leader, served as a check on challenges to the former president from the riverine centre, whose elites have ruled the country since independence in 1956.

Hemedti rose from humble beginnings in Darfur near the Sudan-Chad border to become an agile, canny operator, expanding into gold mining and mercenary activity, all while building a political base at home and forging ties abroad.

Thus, when Sudan's popular uprising ousted Bashir in 2019, the army and RSF needed to collaborate in seizing power. The protests – an awe-inspiring, millions-strong movement – toppled Bashir in a matter of months but then struggled to also sweep away his generals. Hemedti became Burhan's number two, first in a Transitional Military Council, and then as deputy chair of a Sovereign Council, after the generals agreed to a power-sharing deal with the country's civilian opposition, which had been protesting the military takeover for months after Bashir's downfall.

The Burhan-Hemedti partnership was shaky from the start, as Crisis Group warned it would probably be. It grew increasingly unstable as military rule persisted, especially as Hemedti's power and ambitions grew along with his paramilitary force, which expanded across the country.

The rivalry showed even more signs of strain after Burhan and Hemedti deposed the civilian government in an October 2021 coup. The coup backfired, doing little to assert military authority, and Hemedti started to distance himself from Burhan, whom he saw as increasingly linked to Bashir-era Islamists.

Meanwhile, the listless economy, whose woes were a major cause of the 2019 uprising, tipped further into sclerosis, exacerbating social unrest as Sudanese continued to press for restoration of civilian government. Increasingly, the RSF leader tried to align himself with the public's demands, even presenting himself as an unlikely reformer. He cultivated an unofficial partnership with members of Khartoum's civilian elite, who were negotiating in fits and starts with the military to bring the above demands to fruition.

Subsequently, Hemedti's rift with Burhan grew wider still. In courting the civilian elites, Hemedti exploited the fact that many of them – much as they distrust the RSF – view the army as their historical enemy, a redoubt of Bashir sympathisers including Islamists who had staffed the former president's bureaucracy.

In December 2022, a framework agreement promising to restore civilian rule accentuated their rivalry. While Burhan signed the deal only under heavy external pressure, Hemedti championed it, due to clauses he saw as giving him autonomy from Burhan and the army.

The agreement recognised the RSF as a regular entity



This image grab taken from AFPTV video footage on April 28, 2023, shows an aerial view of black smoke rising over Khartoum. (AFPTV / AFP)

affiliated with the armed forces but placed it under the direct command of a civilian head of state, rather than the army chief, during a transition period.

The deal also required the RSF to integrate into the army but left the timetable open to negotiation. This arrangement only deepened the distrust between Sudan's two military overlords.

Tensions escalated in February and early March, following intense competition between the army and RSF to recruit new members across Sudan and particularly in Darfur, Hemedti's stronghold. Rumours that the army was re-establishing a border guard historically tied to Hemedti's long-time rival, Musa Hilal, head of a tribal militia that had helped suppress the Darfur revolt in the 2000s, further intensified the animosity between the regular army and its paramilitary foe. Burhan's proposal to dissolve the Sovereign Council and form a new military council also heightened frictions, as it implied that Burhan could strip Hemedti of his formal political position as deputy chair.

After an alarming military build-up in the capital, Burhan and Hemedti reached a deal to de-escalate the situation on 11 March. Hemedti agreed to withdraw forces from greater Khartoum, and the two military leaders agreed to form a new joint security committee.

The hostilities have pushed the country toward the full-blown civil war Sudanese have dreaded for years.

But the final negotiations to form a new civilian government soon put the country back in the pressure cooker, as the parties missed the early April deadline.

Talks about security-sector reform, one of five sticky issues put off for further discussion in December, dragged on, postponing the entire process. While most of the negotiations pitted the civilian elite against the military as a whole, the wrangling over security arrangements pitted Burhan and Hemedti against each other. In particular, the two disagreed over the timetable for merging the RSF into the army and the leadership structure of an integrated force. The civilians and Hemedti rallied around a proposal for a ten-year integration period.

Burhan and the army demanded a two-year timetable, unwilling to give the RSF a decade in which to continue extending its influence and entrenching its autonomy outside the army's supervision. Amid mounting mutual suspicion, Hemedti reportedly accused Burhan of renegeing on

deals on integration schedules and the chain of command under pressure from other army generals.

More generally, it is clear that Burhan faced stiffening resistance inside the army to the December framework agreement as tensions with Hemedti spiked.

Both sides started to ready themselves for a possible armed confrontation. They continued to recruit new members and mobilised large numbers of troops in strategic areas, including in Khartoum. On 13 April, a sizeable contingent of RSF soldiers redeployed near an air base in the northern town of Meroe, where Egyptian air force personnel were also stationed. The army publicly accused the RSF of unauthorised movements and gave it an ultimatum to stand down.

Emergency mediation inside and outside Sudan tried to calm the situation, with a trio of prominent ex-rebel leaders meeting with the two sides in Khartoum, together with efforts by the UN and the Quad, a bloc composed of the U.S., the UK, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. Fighting began anyway two days later.

The hostilities between the army and RSF have pushed the country toward the full-blown civil war Sudanese have dreaded for years. Because both sides are positioned in major urban bases across the country, fighting broke out nearly simultaneously all over the map, most prominently in Khartoum and Darfur. Although Sudan is no stranger to internal conflict, sustained urban warfare in Khartoum is unprecedented.

Millions there are trapped in a burgeoning humanitarian disaster. While the Sudanese air force bombs the capital, civilians hunker down inside their homes without electricity amid sweltering temperatures. Many lack water as well.

Residents have covered social media with reports of shops and homes being ransacked for supplies, with most pointing fingers at the RSF, who appear to be trying to overcome their aerial disadvantage by fanning out into residential neighbourhoods. The picture may be just as grim in other parts of the country, where information is harder to come by.

With neither Burhan nor Hemedti appearing ready to back down, the situation could get much worse. A prolonged conflict will be ruinous for Sudan. Some analysts expect the army to prevail in Khartoum, its home turf, but that outcome is by no means assured.

Even if the army eventually does secure the capital, and Hemedti retreats to Darfur, a civil war could well follow, with potentially desta-

bilising impact in neighbouring Chad, the Central African Republic, Libya and South Sudan, which are all already scarred by conflict to varying degrees.

Further, Sudan is riddled with countless other armed groups and communal militias, any or all of which could throw in its lot with Burhan or Hemedti, turning a two-sided war into a much more complex free-for-all, especially in the country's peripheral areas.

Since neither main actor seems willing to discuss an end to the fighting, the best way to keep peace on the table is for all other parties, inside and outside Sudan, to remain united in rejecting the war. Sudanese actors, including political parties and the resistance committees that have comprised the backbone of opposition to military rule from the 2019 uprising onward but also the above-mentioned armed groups and tribal leaders, have shown impressive resolve in rejecting the conflict and calling for a ceasefire.

They should all keep refusing to pick sides, to illustrate the belligerents' isolation and the public's horror at the lurch into all-out urban combat. As soon as possible in the emergency conditions, they should form an official united front, an anti-war alliance that would be all the more powerful because many of its constituent elements are otherwise at odds.

A lasting settlement will include very difficult talks (...) on the thorniest issues so far: handing over power to civilians and integrating the RSF into the national army.

Regional players, particularly neighbouring countries including Egypt, Chad, Ethiopia, South Sudan and Eritrea, should likewise avoid supporting either of Sudan's warring parties. Were any of these countries to get involved backing one or the other, the risk of spillover would grow, especially as the conflict might directly involve ethnic groups whose homelands straddle their borders with Sudan. Instead, they should try to convince Burhan and Hemedti to resolve their differences through dialogue.

The UN, African Union (AU) and Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), a regional bloc in the Horn of Africa, should respond with the utmost urgency, despite the many challenges. The UN has been trying to broker a ceasefire on the ground, thus far to no avail. Once it is safe to do so, IGAD and the AU should work together to dispatch emergency high-level delegations to mediate between the two sides.

IGAD has lined up a delegation including the presidents of Kenya, South Sudan and Djibouti. The AU Commission chairperson should also travel to Khartoum, as planned, to try bringing the two sides to the negotiating table. The UN should support these missions alongside its own work to calm the fighting. All three should closely coordinate, as part of their existing trilateral partnership, so that their efforts do not wind up at cross-purposes.

Agencies



A boy waits to enter the customs at the Beijing Capital International Airport on April 29, 2023 with his family. They are among the Chinese nationals evacuated from Sudan. (PHOTO / XINHUA)

# Democracy and dividends of diversity

By Dakuku Peterside



**W**E must learn from Britain, Ireland, the USA, and other Western democracies that have found ways of gaining from their diversities.

Although enshrined in our constitution, our diversity is under constant threat, and various non-state actors ply multiple strategies and tactics to divide us. The new government must tackle this anomaly and restore hope in our society. Nigerians must be free to live, work, vote and be voted for in any part of Nigeria. Every Nigerian who is qualified to vote must be entitled to his/her choice. This administration must enthrone merit, high-quality standards, and good leadership to kick-start our growth as a nation.

Multiculturalism in England, Ireland and Scotland has produced new leaders of Asian origins. This ideal is being celebrated worldwide as progress and a symbol of a more fantastic future, where the emphasis will be placed more on unity in diversity than discrimination, as was characteristic of the old era. The power of this new development is not lost on many people. Rishi Sunak, a Hindu whose parents are of South Asian background but who migrated to the UK from Africa, became the first British Prime Minister of a minority ethnic background; Sadiq Khan, a Muslim and son of a Pakistani immigrant, is the Mayor of London; Humza Yousaf, also of South Asian heritage is the First Minister of Scotland. These three are the most powerful and influential leaders in the United Kingdom. In Ireland, Leo Varadkar, the current Taoiseach and leader of the Irish government in Dublin, has Indian heritage. The dominance of Asians in the British and Irish political establishment is very evident and a signpost of the importance of an ethnic-blind approach to politics that recognises and rewards capacity, character, and competence over racial identity.

It is a significant advancement that people elected these leaders in a way that

suggests racial and ethnic impediments are insignificant.

This new political ideal has seen the rise of South Asia as the world's leading incubator of human capital, especially in great Western power blocs in Europe and the USA (Vice President Kamala Harris is of South Asian heritage). What does this new wave of rise in the presence of people of Asia background in the highest corridors of power in Britain and the USA mean for Nigeria? Apart from just celebrating these successes, what lessons can Nigeria draw from them?

These events underscore the importance of human capital development in the struggle for power in a modern democracy that is defined, not by just numbers alone but merit. All these leaders are products of excellent education. Current leaders are like CEOs of great companies, and increasingly electorates are demanding that their leaders have the requisite skills, abilities, and competence to lead them. A significant prerequisite is excellent education and professional experience. These leaders are highly educated and have proven competence.

Many Nigerians are relocating abroad in search of green pastures. Nigerians have gained a strong reputation for their quest for knowledge and doggedness in working to achieve their dreams in the various countries they travel to. Universities and colleges in Western countries have many Nigerians, who are pursuing higher education to better their lots in their host communities. Today, millions of Nigerians are living abroad, with the most prominent communities being the United Kingdom (500,000 to 3,000,000) and the United States (600,000 to 1,000,000). Other countries that follow closely are South Africa, Gambia, and Canada.

Nigerians in the diaspora must put great emphasis on the education of their children. Education is still the most excellent tool for social and political upliftment.

We are seeing great rewards abroad, where most Nigerian diasporans are dominating

the medical and financial management sectors. These gains will soon translate to political advantage, especially in countries where children of these first-generation migrants, born as citizens there, may go into politics and compete favourably with the locals. One day, we may get a leader of a Western democracy with a Nigerian heritage.

... recently, some of the progress we have made as a nation regarding ethnic harmony have eroded. Ironically, we now negate our natural internal diversity by resurrecting ethnic divisions. We are all willing to celebrate Scotland, Ireland and England's successes, but we are going the opposite path in our country and expect an egalitarian society. The last election unnecessarily brought untold divisions, crass nepotism and ethnicity to the fore.

It is a new world. Societies are becoming more diverse, and developed countries are consciously courting diversity through the liberalisation of immigration. Canada, for example, is working to welcome 1.5 million immigrants by 2025, to strengthen its economy. The USA has a long history of welcoming immigrants from all parts of the world. Germany will have received 13 million immigrants by 2023. Australia and Switzerland have very liberal im-

migration policies to attract the best talents from all over the world.

Diversity and plurality have their advantages in a democracy and development. Nigeria is one of the most internally diverse and plural states in Africa. With over 200 million people from over 300 ethnic groups and languages, Nigeria has a rich socio-cultural heritage to benefit from. This is an advantage, although we focus largely on the negatives. A diverse democracy explores the benefits of all groups and taps into the best. It is a game of numbers but centres on a merit-based system that rewards hard work and productivity above other considerations. Plurality allows the search for and getting the best among many to lead society. This creates an egalitarian society with equality in diversity, where all talents and skills are deployed for the good of all.

A diverse democracy like ours should explore the benefits of all groups and tap into the best. The dividends of democracy are evident when we harvest the best from our diversity, and the benefits accrue to everybody. At least, this was the hope of our founding fathers, who accepted democracy as the best form of government for a diverse Nigerian state. This hope is still flickering, and often we see its light shine

bright when Nigerians come together as one in international sports and other engagements, irrespective of the various ethnic nationalities that make it up.

However, recently, some of the progress we have made as a nation regarding ethnic harmony have eroded. Ironically, we now negate our natural internal diversity by resurrecting ethnic divisions. We are all willing to celebrate Scotland, Ireland and England's successes, but we are going the opposite path in our country and expect an egalitarian society. The last election unnecessarily brought untold divisions, crass nepotism and ethnicity to the fore. Instead of focusing on the merits of voting competent, knowledgeable, and skilful leaders, ethnic bigotry became commonplace.

Fortunately, in White-dominated Western democracies, people of minority ethnic origins are becoming leaders on the basis of their competence and abilities, but in Nigeria we are still hung up on the issue of the ethnicity of our leaders. We are allowing primordial ethnic sentiments and rivalries to becloud our senses of judgement. It does not matter the ethnicity of a leader, as much as that leader has what it takes to bring positive societal development. Even if a leader comes from an ethnic group with a minor

population in the country, it does not matter, especially if such leader is visionary and transformational. That is what Nigeria needs. When will we get to a merit-based society where anyone can succeed in Nigeria through hard work, determination, and the power of ideas?

We must learn from Britain, Ireland, the USA, and other Western democracies that have found ways of gaining from their diversities. These countries court the best, attract them, and harness their incredible talents for development. We must create an enabling environment that rewards meritocracy, not mediocrity that is mainly based on ethnicism. We must eschew all forms of division and celebrate everything that brings us together as one big Nigerian family.

The ethnic tension as a fallout of the last election was not necessary, and it beggars belief that at this point in the Nigerian experiment, we are still bogged down by crass nepotism when the world, as seen in the Western democracies, has moved on, and is actively encouraging and celebrating diversity and the gains it brings. Instead of focusing on utilising our diversity to our more significant advantage, we are busy preaching the gospel of ethnic superiority. This is a recipe for disaster. Nigeria will

never achieve its potential if we continue this way.

We must learn from Britain, Ireland, the USA, and other Western democracies that have found ways of gaining from their diversities. These countries court the best, attract them, and harness their incredible talents for development. We must create an enabling environment that rewards meritocracy, not mediocrity that is mainly based on ethnicism. We must eschew all forms of division and celebrate everything that brings us together as one big Nigerian family. The marginalisation of any group based on ethnic or religious sentiments is a cankerworm that will destroy the fabric of our society.

Diversity management for optimum national benefit has emerged as a critical urgent task for the new government. President-elect Bola Ahmed Tinubu and VP-elect Kashim Shettima have shown that they understand diversity management at different times. In their previous roles as governors, they led inclusive governments that harnessed the potential of all within their states to develop them. They have enviable records of identifying talents and people with capacity, irrespective of which part of the country they come from, which ethnicity they are or their religious sentiments, to work with them to improve the lives of Nigerians living in their states. In their personal lives, they have shown that they are not ethnic bigots but champions of egalitarianism in Nigeria.

Their winning sent a clear message that your ethnicity, religion, and faith are not barriers to leading the country we call home. I implore the incoming new administration to pay attention to reinforcing our multiculturalism and pluralism. Although enshrined in our constitution, our diversity is under constant threat, and various non-state actors ply multiple strategies and tactics to divide us. The new government must tackle this anomaly and restore hope in our society. Nigerians must be free to live, work, vote and be voted for in any part of Nigeria.

## Kenya's refugee transit centre overstretched amid new wave of arrivals

NAIROBI

**L**OOKING frail, thirsty and hungry, Abumukisa Twesenge alighted from a minivan that had transported him from Malaba Town, located at the Kenya-Uganda border.

Twesenge, 52, is among hundreds of refugees who recently arrived at the transit center in Kenya's western town of Kitale on Thursday evening from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Uganda.

The Congolese man has been living with his family of six at Rwamwanja Refugee Settlement in Kamwenge District in southwestern Uganda since he fled the war in his motherland seven years ago. With insufficient money,

Twesenge and his fellow refugees could not buy food on the way. He claimed that life at the refugee camp had become unbearable due to a lack of food, drugs, and other necessities.

"There is no food, my children are not going to school,

and there is no money to buy drugs," Twesenge told Xinhua at a makeshift shelter while waiting to be transported to the sprawling Kakuma Refugee Camp located in Kenya's northern county of Turkana.

The former gold miner said he was forced to flee Uganda to escape starvation. "Me and my family were on the verge of succumbing to extreme hunger, and we decided to come to Kenya hoping to get assistance," Twesenge said.

Amid heavy downfall, about 200 families were received

by officials of the Kenya Red Cross Society at the temporary shelter. Njabu Dido, 39, is a native of Ituri Province in the DRC who fled fighting at his ancestral village in the early days of April accompanied by his wife and five children.

After a long journey, the family landed in western Tanzania, where he was accommodated by well-wishers and engaged in casual work in order to get money to facilitate his travel to Kenya.

"We stayed for two weeks working on local farms before

I raised money to travel to Kenya through Uganda. It has been a frustrating journey, but I am happy we have finally arrived in Kenya safely," Dido said.

Janerose Veve, 63, narrated how she and her husband, Fratasoa Dirokia, cheated death narrowly when armed attackers ambushed their home in eastern DRC and killed her two children.

Veve said surviving members of her family fled to western Uganda, where a life of drudgery took a toll on them

until they found solace at the temporary refugee camp in northern Kenya.

Nsadiyumua Nestor, a Burundian aged 30 and a father of three, fled his native country in 2014 due to civil strife. He, together with his wife and children, landed in southwestern Uganda and later relocated to northern Kenya in search of a better life.

According to Kenya Red Cross Society County Coordinator Ruth Miningwo, at least 8,468 refugees have been received at the Kitale transit

center in western Kenya since January. Miningwo said the majority of the refugees are from the DRC and Burundi, and a few are from Rwanda, Uganda and South Sudan.

"We are receiving between 600 and 800 refugees weekly, and since January we have had over 8000 arrivals. Women and children form 60 percent of the families," said Miningwo, adding that the transit center has the capacity to hold about 200 people while the new waves of arrivals have overstretched it.

**CAPITAL RADIO**

**RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI**

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

# Use of mercury in gold mining puts artisanal miners at serious health risks, specialists caution

By Guardian Correspondent, Geita

EIGHTY percent of small-scale miners have been using mercury to easily extract gold but their impacts are worrying, not only in the environment but in livestock and people's health.

Medical doctors have warned about the use of the chemical and call for efforts to control the use of mercury by small-scale miners as the chemicals had great adverse impacts.

Dr Kambi Buteta, a surgeon and emergency unit at the Shinyanga Regional Referral Hospital said mercury can affect the digestive system as well as affect the respiratory system.

He also said that, if consumed, mercury makes someone lose the ability to sense, think and feel as well as affect kidney, liver and can cause body paralysis, poor vision, hearing and even death.

According to him, due to its nature, it can be transferred from animals or from plants that dissolve it in the soil to humans.

"Using mercury near people's settlements is very risky, the chemical has a lot of impacts to the environment, animals and humans, this can even lead to children with disabilities," Dr Buteta said.

The National Action Plan to reduce usage of mercury for small-scale miners from the Vice President's Office-Union and Environment shows that miners have been using a total of 13.2 to 24.4 tonnes of mercury every year in their activities.

The action plan named regions that lead on the use of the chemical as Mbeya, Mara, Shinyanga and Geita.

Mihambo Mtegeta, Nyang'wale district environment officer also says many mining sites of small-scale miners use mercury and these are very near people's settlements which are dangerous.

He said some mining sites in Nyang'wale have been flowing hazardous water to farms, people's settlements and water sources.

"In January, this year there were livestock that died after drinking water that was polluted by mercury chemicals," he added.



One of the gold miners Cosmas Stephano extracts gold using mercury

Makamba Mussa, secretary of Igalula mine, says small-scale miners have been using mercury chemicals to get gold. The chemical is sold at low price compared to others such as due to cyanide chemical.

He said 50 litres of mercury is sold at 70,000/- but the 50 litre of cyanide is sold at 600,000/- something which pushes small-scale miners to use the one which is cheaper.

"We have been visiting the mines, educating miners on how to avoid the effects of using mercury chemicals as well as warning them from flowing into people's settlements as well as planting trees that absorb the poison," Mussa said.

Hoja Shikome, manager for Stamico Gold Mining Operative Society said: "We have been so careful when using mercury in our activities, we always ensure that the chemicals do not flow to people's settlements."

He said in the areas where they conduct gold refining, they have been constructing them well by putting cement so as to control the chemical water from flowing to unintended areas.

Cosmas Stephano, one of the gold miners, said they will continue implementing their activities with due diligence to ensure that the health of others are protected.

Joyce Masala said that many people have been seeing mercury chemicals as

a normal thing because its impacts take a long to appear in the human body.

She wanted the government to make robust efforts to control the activities that use much mercury thus affecting the environment, people and animal health. Acting mining officer for Geita Region, Martini Shija said there are a total of 2000 mineral refining sites for small-scale miners that use mercury chemicals to catch gold.

He said last year, Minister for Minerals, Dotto Biteko issued directives that all refining sites should be near people's areas so as to rescue the environment and people as well.

"In Geita, we are currently working on strategies to remove all gold refin-

ing near people's settlements and they will be sent to the designated areas, we will be so strict on this especially when issuing licenses," he explained.

Geita Regional Commissioner, Cornel Magembe said 70 percent of residents in the region are engaging in mining activities calling on miners to adhere to the laws which include protecting the environment.

He said that before providing a licence to a miner, he must have an environmental management plan which needs to be implemented effectively.

Dr Rugemeza Nshala, executive director of Lawyers Environmental Action Team (LEAT) said the use of mercury is not good and should be entertained because it carries a number of toxic effects on people and animals.

He called on the government to take immediate action to control use of the toxic chemical, directing miners to shift to other alternative technologies.

He cited countries that conduct mining in safer ways as Ghana, Vietnam and counties in America and Asia where small-scale miners can learn from them.

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), mercury is a naturally occurring element that is found in air, water, and soil. Exposure to mercury, even in small amounts, may cause serious health problems and is a threat to the development of the child in-utero and early in life.

Mercury has toxic effects on the nervous, digestive, and immune systems, as well as on the lungs, kidneys, skin, and eyes. Mercury is considered by the WHO to be one of the top ten chemicals or groups of chemicals of major public health concern.

# Achieving system-level change through philanthropic approach amidst global shifts

By Evans Okinyi

EVERY day we encounter a world with too many crises and inequalities, armed with too little time and too few resources. We are bombarded with universal changes occurring everywhere, our abilities to create a better world remain challenged. These global happenings reverberate and transform our interior landscapes as well, leaving us with no choice but to evolve our goals and values as a reflex in response. What we know philanthropy to be, and what we expect philanthropy to do, may be very different by the time our great grandchildren become our age.

23 years into the 21st century, and we can now clearly see the impacts of Y2K, its emerging technological infrastructure; the interoperability of human transactions, the globalization of human reach, the shifts in power, blurring of boundaries, the blending of categories brought about by interconnectivity, and the increased demand for co-creation and collaboration. We have embraced and integrated innovative tools - and toys - and now those tools are re-defining the future, changing our world and us. These changes, and others, affect the motivation to give, the giving infrastructure, and the areas and issues to which we direct philanthropy.

The new decade started with a tectonic reckoning brought about by an explosive global pandemic that exposed the deepened fractures of global inequalities. Racial and gender justice movements that were also a tipping point followed. Within the same period, climate change showed its hand with an unprecedented number of trillion-dollar natural disasters throughout the world, while financial crises, changes in power structures and political instability continued to wreak global havoc. The Ukraine - Russia war came upon us and brought about even more

unprecedented geopolitical configurations that affected the food systems - amongst other systems - coupled with the ongoing demographic, economic, and political shift in focus from West to East. These events affected every part of society—including how we give.

In addition, how are we, the givers, changing? It stands true that the mentioned variables affect our ability to give; what informs our giving, our motivations to give, the worldview supporting that motivation, the resources we have available to give, the extent of our networks, and the connections we can leverage to mobilize resources to various movements and causes.

With interconnectedness, where do we begin? Is there an obvious point from which to start? Looking back we can see that the global shifts and changes brought with them a collective awakening both to the complexity, scale and profundity of the issues we now face, and to the extent to which there is a dire need to outstrip the mechanistic approaches that were of a previous affinity amongst philanthropists. As a result, philanthropists have been compelled to revisit and revise some long-standing practices that have kept philanthropy from delivering on its full promise to people and communities.

Given the global macro-level parallels and need for micro-level action, it is high time that givers apply a systems change lens to their work. So what are the unique opportunities for philanthropists to catalyze action on a systems level? Here are five promising focus areas:

### Leveraging our agile capabilities:

Philanthropists in particular remain better placed to undertake systems work. The givers have freedom that bears agility and enables quick decision making about the role they wish to adopt in relation to current systems. Unlike other actors, givers can



make independent choices about the parts of a system they consider relevant to their purpose. By investing in those parts, they can retain their freedom. The philanthropic ability to respond to change flexibly is important and needs to be done in conjunction with investment in long-term solutions that address systemic change.

### Adapting to different theories of change:

Philanthropists are well endowed and can adopt and adapt to needful approaches of working in a system, like building consensus, reframing arguments, fostering innovation and disruption, amplifying unheard voices, creating institutions, growing grassroots, and most pertinent, investing capital. No one else enjoys this combination of maneuverability and meaningful resources.

Advocating for policy

change as a key part of systems change.

One of the main drivers of system change is public policy. Broad philanthropic engagement in the public policy arena is still a somewhat new development in the history of philanthropy, but as givers work harder to trace and address root causes of social ills, engaging in policy change becomes a key part of developing an effective systems change strategy based on evidence-based interventions that have a keen grasp of the local context.

### Transformative giving:

Philanthropic innovations are shaping solutions to some of society's most pressing problems. There is a rise in using tools of creativity, science for art and art for science sake. We see more cross-fertilization between complementary visions by blending philanthropic categories. There also

is evidence of shifting trends on-the ground in resource mobilization area, from old models to new models like: from the old model of candidating, recipients submitting extensive applications; to the new mode of philanthropists not waiting for applications but sending smart allies and AI to discover relevant causes and projects. From the old model of targeted distribution of funds to specific projects with subsequent evaluation of immediate, localized impacts to the new model of scattering micro-donations in order to seed potential for positive change. We are changing the norms, practices, and channels of resourcing for more impact.

### Local giving:

There now exists a bigger emphasis of community philanthropy and cohesion to improve community well-being. For action to happen

on a macro-level it has to set far-reaching roots on a micro-level so that its impact can make a resonant change. It also has to include the community within the giving context and to mobilize resources from them.

### Challenging the siloes:

We can no longer ignore the interconnectedness of various dynamics and stakeholders. We are currently acutely aware that creating change requires sustained support. Different players in the sector are challenging the siloes by extending their philanthropic reach through aggressively looking for vision allies internationally as well as domestically, prioritizing cross border knowledge exchange, and broadening their perspectives on giving whilst influencing the enabling environment to amplify impact.

Our changing giving space calls for a collaborative recon-

naissance of the world we live in today but also provides opportunities for philanthropy to address issues through sustainable innovations that have a positive global and local impact.

More than ever before, action for change now has to be collaborative. Givers have to influence communities, society, and the world at large, mobilize capital from diverse sources, and improve collaboration—all of which would make a significant impact on the world's challenges. I call on development partners, corporations, multilateral, bilateral and policymakers to come together and commit to furthering the cause of development through giving and innovation.

Evans Okinyi is the CEO of the East Africa Philanthropy Network

# What's behind Canada's unmarked graves?

OTTAWA

IN late May 2021, remains of 215 Indigenous children were found in Canada, stripping away the nation's hypocritical facade and stunning the world.

Nearly two years after the 215 suspected unmarked graves of Indigenous children (the actual number was later revised to 200) were identified at the former Kamloops Indian Residential School in British Columbia, thousands of burials were continuously found at former Indian residential school sites across the country. Recently, another 171 "plausible burials" were uncovered at the site of the former St. Mary's Indian Residential School in northern Ontario.

As of January 2023, over 2,400 potential unmarked graves had been found. As the records from many residential schools are sparse or incomplete, the actual number of Indigenous children's deaths may be far higher, which means that the facts could be more cruel than one could imagine, although the dark history of the Indian residential school system in the country is an open secret. Experts believe that behind the "appalling" residential schools system are structures of colonialism, human rights abuses, systematic oppression and discrimination. All these are continuously challenging Canada.

Canadian playwright and actress Jani Lauzon thought the establishment of the residential schools was related to gaining free labor from students who went to those schools. "Canada was created on the backs of free labor which is another reason for the residential schools.

Those kids were free domestic service and free agricultural service. The agricultural industry in Canada was created and possible on the backs of students who went to those schools," said Lauzon.

"That's just the tip of the iceberg in terms of the stories and the atrocities that happened." Born as a Metis girl, Lauzon knew all about discrimination as a child. Metis are the descendants of native residents and early white settlers in North America.

"I can't say that the Metis experience is much different than the First Nations' experience, because we have mixed ancestors. I didn't grow up on reserve. I actually didn't grow up knowing very much about my indigenous ancestry at all," said Lauzon.

For centuries, Metis were targets of systematic discrimination and oppression together with First Nations and Inuit people in Canada. "It was later on in doing a lot of work around genealogy and sitting in the Archives in Ottawa trying to find answers to these things that I felt so strongly connected to," she said.

Lauzon said t she found about how indigenous people were treated was very traumatizing. "It still breaks my heart that there are so many people in this country who have no idea what happened, who have not educated themselves, who have not taken the time to better understand the circumstances," she said.

She wants her audience to ponder on the dark pages of Canada's history. Over 150,000 First Nations, Metis and



People from the Mosakahiken Cree Nation hug in front of a memorial at the former Kamloops Indian Residential School in Kamloops, B.C., on June 23. AFP

Inuit children were separated from their families and forced to attend government-funded schools between the 1870s and 1997.

In 2015, a Truth and Reconciliation Commission appointed by the Canadian government concluded that children were physically and sexually abused and died in the schools.

While it has documented at least 4,100 deaths, the commission said the real numbers may never be fully known.

Dr. Tricia Logan, the interim academic director of the Indian Residential School History and Dialogue Centre at the University of British Columbia, stressed that for over 100 years and until even now, native residents including First Nations, Inuit and Metis face systematic oppression and discrimination, and Indian residential schools are just a part of that colonial system.

Survivors, their families and communities constantly require Indian hospitals, day schools, day scholars, and other kinds of institutions that were very closely affiliated with residential schools to be included in the research, especially where it involves student diseases, deaths and abuses, she said.

"We are trying to look at residential schools and the history of them in a much broader scope for all of Canada," said Dr. Logan, adding that they are also investigating how colonialism and its structures, like residential schools, child welfare system, Indian hospitals, day schools, were related to missing and murdered indigenous women and girls, and "how the effects and the ongoing impacts of colonialism carry on today."

The residential schools are not isolated or a system on their own, but well connected to other structures of colonialism, like day schools and Indian hospitals, and today's child welfare system, she added.

Dr. Logan worried that many relevant documents are still unavailable to researchers and First Nations, as many historical records are decaying rapidly and need to be digitized as soon as possible.

"There's a great deal of urgency" because researchers need to align the investigations and the work of individual communities, ground-penetrating radar research, archaeological research and community- and survivor-led research, she said.

"That level of urgency is to match the records with each one of those different sites and investigations."

They also need to assure digitization and proper care of the records and see how to make them accessible to the com-

munities depending on levels of privacy and restrictions, she added.

Kisha Supernant, director of the Institute of Prairie and Indigenous Archaeology at the University of Alberta, said the international community should continue to keep an eye on the Indian residential school investigation.

"To have the ugly history of Canada shared across the globe has spurred more action on this issue than if the news had primarily been focused on nationally. It has also led to an increase in the pace of investigations," said Supernant, who was appointed to the National Advisory Committee on Missing Children and Unmarked Graves. Supernant said that the rise in reporting of investigations for unmarked graves is due to several factors.

"First, many of the announcements since May 2021 are the result of years of work undertaken by the First Nations that they had not previously made public. For example, investigations had been underway at the Brandon Industrial School in Manitoba since 2012 and at the Kuper Island Residential School in British Columbia since 2014," said the scholar.

"Second, many Indigenous communities had wanted to undertake this work but lacked access to funding to conduct the investigations. Funding is now available, so many are beginning their searches now," she said.

"Finally, there is a lot more public awareness and support for the First Nations in this difficult work, so the announcements of unmarked graves receive a lot of media attention," Supernant added.

Supernant called for more support to the First Nations. "There are challenges they face in terms of access to records, training in the various techniques, and management and safeguarding of data," she said.

She believed that the legacy of residential schools and the genocide against Indigenous peoples are at the root of so many challenges that Indigenous peoples face, as the trauma of genocide continues to impact their communities. "There is also enduring structural racism in Canadian society, from the justice system to health care to education. All of this needs to be addressed in order for Indigenous communities to have healthy, vibrant futures," she said.

Calli Tzay, UN Special Rapporteur on the rights of Indigenous Peoples, said at the end of a 10-day official visit to Can-

ada last month that the testimonies of survivors of Canada's residential school system were appalling and that many existing challenges remain unaddressed in this country, including business decision-making without Indigenous Peoples.

Tzay cited the Coastal GasLink Pipeline and the Trans Mountain Pipeline projects to illustrate how activities of business corporations further contribute to human rights violations and abuses of Indigenous Peoples in provinces across Canada, including the criminalisation of human rights defenders.

"In many cases projects are developed without engaging in good faith consultations with Indigenous Peoples whose rights and interests are impacted, and without their consent," the UN expert said.

"International human rights law entails a duty on the part of the State not only to refrain from violating human rights, but to exercise due diligence to prevent and protect individuals from abuse committed by non-State actors, such as business enterprises, including outside their territories," he said.

Tzay said intergenerational trauma caused by residential schools and structural racial discrimination have led to a number of present-day human rights violations and abuses, including the current crisis concerning missing and murdered Indigenous women and girls.

It is estimated that Indigenous women and girls are 12 times more likely to be murdered or go missing than other women in Canada. The special rapporteur also expressed concern that Indigenous peoples have continued to be over-represented in the criminal justice system.

"The situation of Indigenous women and gender diverse peoples is even more devastating as they represent half of the federal prison population," Tzay said.

"Indigenous peoples are often victims of racial profiling, arbitrary and discriminatory arrests, and disproportionate use of force by law enforcement personnel."

"The negative legacies of residential schools are also reflected in the child welfare system today.

Despite comprising 7.7 percent of the Canadian population, over 53 percent of children in care are indigenous, up to 90 percent in some provinces," he said.

The final full report on the rights of Indigenous peoples is expected to come out in September. **Xinhua**

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China modernisation sustaining global development - experts

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## WEF REPORT:

# Quarter of jobs expected to change in next five years

By Guardian Reporter

**T**HE Future of Jobs Report 2023 by the World Economic Forum (WEF) suggests that almost a quarter of jobs (23 percent) are expected to change in the next five years.

Employers anticipate 69 million new jobs to be created and 83 million eliminated among the 673 million jobs corresponding to the dataset, a net decrease of 14 million jobs, or 2 percent of the current employment.

The Future of Jobs Survey brings together the perspective of 803 companies - collectively employing more than 11.3 million workers - in 27 industry clusters and 45 economies from all world regions.

Macrotrends, including the green transition, ESG standards and localization of supply chains, are the leading drivers of job growth, with economic challenges including high inflation, slower economic growth and supply shortages posing the greatest threat.

Advancing technology adoption and increasing digitization will cause significant labour market churn, with an overall net positive in job creation, according to the report.

"For people around the world, the past three years have been filled with upheaval and uncertainty for their lives and livelihoods, with COVID-19, geopolitical and economic shifts, and the rapid advancement of AI and other technologies now risks adding more uncertainty," said Saadia Zahidi, Managing Director, World Economic Forum.

"The good news is that there is a clear way forward to ensure resilience. Governments and businesses must invest in supporting the shift to the jobs of the future through the education, reskilling and social support structures that can ensure individuals are at the heart of the future of work."

While technology continues to pose both challenges and opportunities to labour markets, employers expect most technologies to contribute positively to

job creation.

The fastest growing roles are being driven by technology and digitalization.

Big data ranks at the top among technologies seen to create jobs, with 65 percent of survey respondents expecting job growth in related roles.

The employment of data analysts and scientists, big data specialists, AI machine learning specialists and cybersecurity professionals is expected to grow on average by 30 percent by 2027.

Training workers to utilize AI and big data will be prioritized by 42 percent of surveyed companies in the next five years, ranking behind analytical thinking (48 percent) and creative thinking (43 percent) in importance.

Digital commerce will lead to the largest absolute gains in jobs as approximately 2 million new digitally enabled roles are expected, such as e-commerce specialists, digital transformation specialists, and digital marketing and strategy specialists.

At the same time, the fastest declining roles are also being driven by technology and digitalization, with clerical or secretarial roles including bank tellers, cashiers and data entry clerks expected to decline fastest.

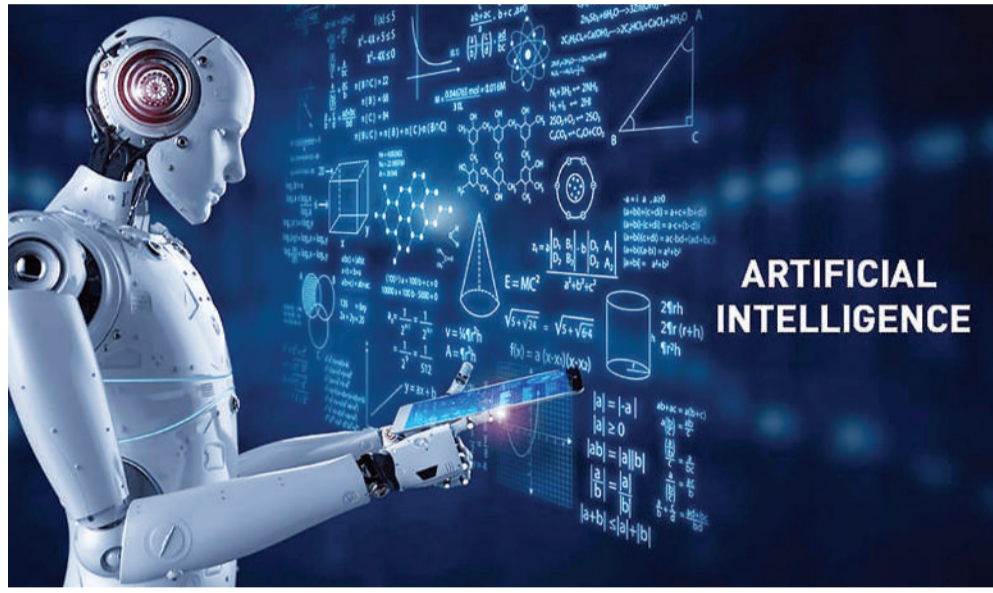
The Future of Jobs Report 2023 suggests that tasks are seen as no more automated now than they were three years ago when the report was last published.

About a third of tasks (34 percent) are currently automated, just 1 percent above the 2020 figure.

Surveyed companies also revised down their expectations for further automation, to 42 percent of tasks by 2027, compared to 2020 estimates of 47 percent of tasks by 2025.

But while expectations of the displacement of physical and manual work by machines has decreased, reasoning, communicating and coordinating - all traits with a comparative advantage for humans - are expected to be more automatable in the future.

Artificial intelligence, a key driver of potential algorithmic displacement, is



Training workers to use Artificial Intelligence and big data will be prioritised by 42 percent of surveyed companies in the next five years

expected to be adopted by nearly 75 percent of surveyed companies and is expected to lead to high churn - with 50 percent of organizations expecting it to create job growth and 25 percent expecting it to create job losses.

Investment in the green transition and climate-change mitigation, as well as increasing consumer awareness of sustainability issues are driving industry transformation and opening new opportunities in the labour market.

The strongest net job-creation effects are expected to be driven by investments that facilitate the green transition of businesses, with more than half of respondents expecting it.

As countries seek more renewable energy sources, roles including renewable energy engineers and solar energy installation and systems engineers will be in high demand.

Investment will also drive growth in more generalist sustainability roles, such as sustainability specialists and environmental protection professionals, which are expected to grow by 33 percent and 34 percent respectively, translating to growth of approximately 1 million jobs.

However, the largest absolute gains in jobs will come from education and agriculture.

The report finds that jobs in the education industry are expected to grow by about 10 percent, leading to 3 million additional jobs for vocational education teachers and university and

higher education teachers.

Jobs for agricultural professionals, especially agricultural equipment operators, graders and sorters, are expected to see a 15 percent-30 percent increase, leading to an additional 4 million jobs.

A Recruit Holdings company finds that while demand for social jobs such as those in health and education have grown faster during the pandemic, these job openings are harder to fill than others.

"At Recruit, we believe we must continue to embrace AI and technology to help job seekers and employers as we navigate near-term macroeconomic headwinds and long-term labour market challenges," said Hisayuki "Deko" Idekoba, President, CEO and Representative Director of the Board of Recruit Holdings.

"We expect a labour shortage to remain for many years ahead, across many sectors and particularly as the population ages. Therefore, it is essential that we identify new ways to simplify the hiring process to support a thriving economy and society where everyone can prosper together."

Companies report that skills gaps and an inability to attract talent are the key barriers to transformation, showing a clear need for training and reskilling across industries.

Six in 10 workers will require training before

2027 but only half of employees are seen to have access to adequate training opportunities today.

At the same time, the report estimates that, on average, 44 percent of an individual worker's skills will need to be updated.

The gap between workers' skills and future business needs puts the onus on companies and governments to enable learning and reskilling opportunities.

Government funding for skills training would help connect talent to employment, according to 45 percent of businesses surveyed.

For example, while there is continued growth in green jobs in the past four years, as indicated by additional research conducted by LinkedIn for this year's report, reskilling and up-skilling towards green skills is not keeping pace.

"The sustained growth of green jobs is really great news, particularly for job seekers who are facing upheaval in the labour market," said Sue Duke, Head of Global Public Policy, LinkedIn.

"But LinkedIn's data is clear that while there's strong demand for talent with green skills, people are not developing green skills at anywhere near a fast enough rate to meet climate targets. There is an opportunity for everyone to help turn this around. Governments must champion the green skills agenda and businesses can and must do more to equip their employees with the skills needed to deliver genuine environmental change."

In response to the cost-of-living crisis, 36 percent of companies recognize that offering higher wages could help them attract talent.

Yet, companies are planning to mix both investment and displacement to make their workforces more productive and cost-effective. Four in five surveyed companies plan to invest in learning and training on the job as well as automating processes in the next five years.

Two thirds of companies expect to see a return on investment on skills training within a year of the investment, whether in the form of enhanced cross-role mobility, increased worker satisfaction or improved worker productivity.

## CRDB Bank records 133bn/- profit in Q1

By Guardian Reporter

CRDB Bank, the Tanzania's leading bank in terms of assets has reported solid financial performance during the first quarter of this year by posting a gross profit of 133bn/-, representing an annual increase of 3.1 percent.

The impressive growth was driven by a strong net interest income of 192bn/-, a 9.7 percent increase from the previous year.

Abdulmajid Nsekela, CRDB Bank Group CEO expressed his delight with the performance saying that it demonstrates the Bank's continued strength and a good momentum in implementing its new medium-term strategy 2023-2027.

"The bank intends to maintain this momentum by investing in growth opportunities within the regional investment landscape and leveraging its capabilities to invest in key markets and sectors to potentially bolster this growth," he said.

The Bank's non-interest income for the quarter was 106bn/-, up 3 percent from 103bn/- recorded in the first quarter of 2022, driven by increased transactions on digital channels including SimBanking, Internet banking, and CRDB Wakalas.

Nsekela acknowledged the Bank's ongoing investment in technology, focusing on digitizing customer journeys and upgrading its core banking system to offer a superior customer experience characterized by hyper-personaliza-

tion and relevance.

Nsekela also expressed confidence in the Bank's future, building on the impressive strides made over the last five years.

He believes that the new medium-term strategy presents a unique opportunity to transform the business in a manner that could benefit the Bank's customers and shareholders and revolutionize economies.

In recognition of the Bank's excellence in SME financing, CRDB Bank was awarded the Best Bank in SME in Tanzania by Global Finance during the quarter.

On his side, Frederick Nshakanabo, the Bank's Chief Financial Officer, highlighted the Bank's credit automation strategy that has helped to strengthen the Bank's loan portfolio and quality.

The Bank's Non-Performing Loans (NPL) stands at 2.8 percent, below the industry standard of 3.5 percent.

Gross loans and advances were at 7.2trn/-, reflecting a 4.6 percent increase compared to 6.9trn/- recorded on December 31, 2022.

"CRDB Bank is committed to providing a superior customer experience characterized by hyper-personalization and relevance. The Bank has invested heavily in technology to digitize customer journeys and upgrade its core banking system to achieve this goal," he said.

Furthermore, the Bank has focused on strengthening its balance sheet to



Abdulmajid Nsekela, CRDB Bank Group CEO & MD

continue supporting its customers through market cycles.

The Bank's total assets grew by 9.3 percent from 11.69trn/- in December 2022 to 11.96trn/- in March 2023, and customer deposits stood at 8.3trn/-, an increase of 1.3 percent compared to 8.2trn/- in December 2022.

Meanwhile, On April 28, the CRDB Bank board announced the proposed dividend of 45/- per share for 2022 which will be paid on June 5th, 2023.

The banks share price, which is currently trading cum-dividend, closed at 540/- during the last trading day of last week, with the market capitalization of 1.41trn/-.

During last week, the bank was second top mover by recording a turnover of 250.99mn/- following the transaction of 466,899 traded at a price ranging from 520/- to 540/- per share in 44 deals.

## W.Bank promising to launch robust, transparent business climate ranking

WASHINGTON

THE World Bank yesterday announced a new methodology for assessing the business climate in up to 180 countries after embarrassing revelations of data irregularities and favoritism toward China forced it to cancel the "Doing Business" rankings two years ago.

The bank said a pilot edition of the new replacement annual series called "Business Ready" would be published in the spring of 2024, covering an initial group of 54 economies in Asia, Latin America, Europe, the Middle East and Sub-Saharan Africa.

Subsequent reports adding more countries will follow in the next two years as the bank refines its methodology and ramps up the new flagship project, which aims to help countries attract investment and boost jobs and productivity to accelerate development.

The bank scrapped Doing Business in September 2021, citing internal audits and an independent probe that found senior World Bank leaders had pressured staff to alter data to favor China, and cited data irregularities that also boosted rankings of other countries, including Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Azerbaijan.

"Business Ready improves upon and replaces the World Bank Group's earlier Doing Business project. It reflects a more balanced and transparent approach toward evaluating a country's business and investment climate," the bank said in a statement. World Bank Chief Economist Indermit Gill said the new approach enabled "a fuller and sharper measure of the investment climate of countries - something that is badly needed in a global economy in the midst of a generalized slowdown."

"Business Ready" was shaped by recommendations from World Bank experts, governments, the private sector, and civil society groups, and includes for the first time worker rights, as defined by the International Labor Organization, while acknowledging that regulation can also have positive aspects. "The main thing that went wrong was the data integrity of Doing Business was compromised," Norman Loayza, director of the World Bank's Indicators Group, which leads the project, told Reuters. "The main point for us is that we need to ensure data integrity and we have a very comprehensive approach to do that."

## FIGHTING CORRUPTION:

## How to hold public funds embezzlers accountable

By Correspondent Daniel Semberya

THE government has been advised to continue un-locking its revenue potentials by promoting voluntary tax compliance and payment if it really wants to realize the target set out in the FYDP III on tax revenue as a percentage of GDP of 14.4 percent in the year 2025/26.

The advice was said over the weekend in Dar es Salaam by Former CAG Ludovick Utouh currently the Executive Director at Wajibu Institute of Public Accountability, during Policy Forum's Breakfast debate that focused on "The CAG's Report 2021/22: What should be done to improve accountability in the country?"

He further urged that Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) should adopt a service delivery approach in tax collection which is in line with its Clients' Service Charter.

Retired CAG further suggested that in the preparation of the Fiscal Forecast, the Ministry of Finance and Planning should include all relevant fiscal indicators considered in government decisions about taxation and submit the same to the Parliament for scrutiny purposes as recommended in the WAJIBU's the Country's Annual State of Financial Accountability Reports [CASFAR] 2022 and Public Expenditure and Financial Accountability [PEFA].

In order to address Red flags of corruption and fraudulent issues, Utouh has urged the government to enact a Fraud Act for holding accountable any person implicated with fraudulent practices. Religious institutions emphasize ethical and integrity behaviour to the society.

All Management Letters of Public Entities to be made public documents; the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) report which is submitted to the President on or before 31st of March, as it is with the CAG reports, should be presented to Parliament and once tabled should be made public.

With regards to the

Country's financial reporting framework, former CAG has said that in the spirit of the government embracing technology in its operations and its determination to transform itself into an e-government, WAJIBU is strongly advocating for the reduction in the country's financial reporting timeframe from the current nine months to six months.

This will avail more time to the Parliamentary Oversight Committees to scrutinise the CAG reports, which will be an input to the country's next year's budget preparations.

Such reduction in reporting time will augment well with the World Bank's PEFA Assessment requirement and WAJIBU's CASFAR 2022 recommendation.

Despite the Government initiatives of improving the public financial management system in the country including revenue mobilisation, among other things, there are significant challenges related to transparency and accountability in financial management among public officials in the country.

Major challenges are non-compliance with public sector regulatory frameworks which results in misuse, corruption and embezzlement of public funds.

Talking on the audit opinions, Utouh said that quality of Audit opinions in both ministries, departments agencies [MDAs] and local government authority (LGAs) and public authority and other bodies [PA&OBs] has greatly improved (96.3%, 96.2% and 92.5%) respectively have been issued with unqualified audit opinions.

This is an indication that overall there is a substantial improvement in the quality of financial statements and reports prepared in the public sector over the years, for example compliance to the international accounting standards (IPSAs/IFRSs) which are the basis for the preparation of financial statements in the public sector.

In spite of the improvement in audit opinions, there is



Former CAG Ludovick Utouh currently the Executive Director at Wajibu Institute of Public Accountability, during Policy Forum's Breakfast Debate over the weekend in Dar es Salaam. Photo by Daniel Semberya.

rampant embezzlement of public resources which is a result of public officers flaunting with impunity procedures of payments and procurement.

On the implementation of Audit Recommendations, the CAG's reports for 2020/21 have vividly reconfirmed the low rate implementation of the CAG/PAC and LAC recommendations.

"We are seeing a low implementation rate of as low as 5 percent of fully implemented recommendations in MDAs, 36.3 percent of fully implemented recommendations for LGAs and 34.5 percent of fully implemented recommendations for PA&OB."

This low rate of implementation of audit recommendations could be one of the reasons for the continuous embezzlement by public officers of the county's public resources.

With regards to the revenue management, Utouh has commended TRA saying that the trend shows that in the year 2021/22 the government collected beyond budgeted amounts. This can be a result of promoting voluntary tax payment and the use of diplomatic approach to obtain more concessional loans.

There is a significant shift in percentages of the actual total collections to the approved national budget in the five years. This indicates the national budget is prepared out of unrealistic revenue projections and assumptions and there is a possibility of existence of untapped potential for revenue collection.

Analysis of tax collection reports from TRA shows that most of the tax is collected from Large Taxpayers and Customs and Excise.

On Tax - to - GDP ratio, among the East African Countries, Tanzania scored poorly, only 13.4 percent; Burundi 13.0 percent; Uganda 14.2 percent, Kenya 15.4 percent and Rwanda scored 15.6 percent. All these

scores are below Sub-Saharan Africa 16.5 percent; and the OECD member countries, which is 34.0 percent.

"Research from the IMF and World Bank indicates that tax-to-GDP ratios lower than 15% are insufficient to finance the most basic state functions."

Commenting on the Expenditure Management, he said that in spite of the increase of revenue collection for the year 2021/22, still there are existing challenges on how the money has been spent due to the large number of questionable Expenditures specifically in the following areas: Procurement and fruitless (Nugatory) expenditure.

Also, he said in spite of the increase in revenue collection for the year 2021/22, still there are existing challenges on how money has been spent due to a large number of questionable expenditures specifically in the following areas: A total of Tsh 1,194.06 billion has been questioned by CAG in relation to procurement; and fruitless (Nugatory) expenditures Tsh 434.94 billion.

For his part, Policy Forum's Executive Director, Semkai Kilongo, who was one of the discussants during the debate has concurred with former CAG by urging the government to take stern measures to officials who have been using their positions to steal public funds for their own benefits, starting with embezzlers at the grassroots rather than punishing only directors, executive directors and politicians.

Makumba Mwemezi, Policy Analyst Program Manager - Research and Policy at HakiElimu has also called upon appointing authorities to take immediate measures and hold accountable officials embezzling public resources.

Advocate Fortunata Kitokesya has also urged the government to take stern measures against public funds embezzlers as per CAG report.

## Extension services stimulate agriculture productivity, nutrition in Mbozi District

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

THE increased access to agricultural extension services has resulted into increasing productivity and access to nutrition to smallholder farmers in Mbozi district, Songwe region.

Farmers say this has bought positive changes to their lives as they have also adopted agro-ecological farming practice, which has also increased the production of nutritious foods.

Ajenikisa Kayange, a mother of three and a member of Mbozi District Council Women Platform from Hasamba village explained that this has also resulted into fighting against malnutrition and stunting among children.

Before the interventions, malnutrition and stunting rates were very high at Hasamba village.

"I never imaged that one day I will be able to use extension officers and I am glad to see that malnutrition trend is being gradually declined," said Kayange.

She said it wasn't an easy for her to transform his life from being a smallholder farmer to an activist whereby now she is visiting different villages to educate local communities to start utilizing agricultural extension services.

Through the knowledge and skills gained from MIICO, an organization based in Songwe Region and ActionAid Tanzania, Kayange is now educating farmers in other villages on agro-ecological farming.

A total 1,047 women out 9,922 in the project area namely Iyula, Itaka, Zelezeta, Idiwili and Hasamba villages are now accessing agricultural extension services.

Before MIICO and ActionAid Tanzania intervention, women thought extension services are for men only, as women have to pay for services.

She said Agro-ecological practice has increase maize, groundnut and beans productivity through improved soil fertility.

Gloria Mndile, the project programme officer, said this has been possible through 'Strengthening Social Accountability and Oversight Capacity for Rights-based Public Resources Management in Health and Agriculture in Southern Africa (PSA) implemented by ActionAid with funding from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

"We chose to focus on smallholder women farmers because they have been marginalized when it comes to access to extension services," she said.

A study conducted as part of the project found that there were challenges in the areas of food security, reproductive health, malnutrition and high rates of HIV/AIDS.

She said women were also trained on how to make traditional pesticides and fertilizers using indigenous species of plants to improve soil fertility and prevent pests that destroy crops.

According to Mndile, a total of 52 women groups have been mobilized from the five villages including formation of five women farmers' forum at village level with a total of 150 members with each group comprising of 30 women.

Beneficiaries of the project have also established Village Community Banks (VICOBA) which enable members to access financial services and start small businesses.

The Monitoring, Learning and Evaluation Officer for the project Jane Charles said through the knowledge gained from MIICO, beneficiaries have been able to identify priorities in their localities through which they can access quality extension services for the FY 2021/2022.

She said the seven priorities that were raised by women in all five villages have been submitted to Mbozi District Council for further action and feedback.

The priorities include budget allocation for extension services, agriculture sector as per guidelines, soil testing, and budget for agro-ecological demonstration farms to enable smallholder farmers to learn alternative production methods for food crops which are friendly to environment.

The SDC's National Project Manager, Samwely Mkwatwa said Swiss Agency donated \$800,000 (over 1.6bn/-) to ActionAid Tanzania to implement Phase II of the project that will be completed in 2023.

In Phase I, the agency donated \$500,000 in 2016 for the implementation of public resources management in health and agriculture in Southern Africa.

The funds have trained and equipped the smallholder women farmers with knowledge and skills in agro-ecology farming hence weaning them from artificial inputs modern farming.

Hazelu B Hamlet Chairman, Hobadia Simwenga, said the training has changed fortunes of women not only in the hamlet but Hasamba village as a whole.



Ajenikisa Kayange, speaking in one of the village meeting

CURRENT NEWS

## Mwanga Hakika Bank launches modern branch in Arusha

By Guardian Reporter

MWANGA Hakika Bank (MHB) has launched a state-of-the-art branch in Arusha, as a strategy to increase its footprints across the country.

Located at Central Plaza Building, Sokoine Road, Near Clock Tower in Arusha, the new branch brings the total number of NHB branches across the country to seven. Other branches are located in Dar es Salaam, Moshi, Dodoma, Mwanga and Same.

Speaking during the opening ceremony, the Bank Managing Director, Jagjit Singh, said the move aimed at ensuring easy accessibility of the bank's services to the customers in Arusha.

"This branch aims at bringing convenience to our customers as it is located at the city center offering easy accessibility. It has state-of-the-art features including the Select Banking Lounge that will serve affluent clients, modern facilities, bureau de change, etc. This is all to ensure that our customers are enjoying the banking experience while visiting the branch," he said.

The managing director noted that the new branch seeks to tap into the vibrant economic activity in Arusha town, which is best known for tourism and its related services.

"The new branch is part of our strategy for turning around the bank and setting it on the growth

path. In this regard, we are reinvigorating our physical presence. All this is geared towards ensuring that we consistently deliver an unmatched experience to our customers through bespoke financial solutions," he added.

Speaking also during the launching event, the Minister for Finance and Planning Dr Mwigulu Nchemba commended the bank's commitment and support to infrastructure projects and SME development.

"I would like to acknowledge efforts the bank is putting in place to implement the Financial Inclusion Framework and the National Economic Empowerment Policy in practice," he said.



Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba (R) cuts ribbon to launch open Mwanga Hakika Bank modern branch in Arusha city. Left is Chairman of the bank's Board of Directors Ridhiwan Mringo. Photo by Guardian Correspondent

# ESG fund downgrades in Europe look set to reverse

LONDON

JUST months after swaths of downgrades of “sustainable” investment funds in Europe, the industry is braced for mass upgrades, analysts say, risking a new wave of green-washing accusations.

The reclassification from “light green” Article 8 funds to their “darker green” Article 9 counterparts is expected as a result of a clarification issued by the European Commission in April.

Some of the funds that will move up will be among those that were only recently downgraded under the EU’s Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR) classifications.

More than 300 Article 9 funds were downgraded to Article 8 in the fourth quarter of 2022, with a combined assets under management of €170bn, according to Morningstar data. And the trend continued into 2023, with €99bn of ESG funds downgraded to Article 8 in the first month of the year.

“Investors will now have to do more due diligence to understand the methodologies used. Investors may also be confused by the flip-flopping we’re likely to see over fund classification,” said Hortense Bioy, global director of sustainability research at data provider Morningstar.

The forecast confusion is due to contradictory messaging from the EU. Guidance issued last summer led fund managers to conclude that they would be held to minimum standards under the SFDR disclosure rules, but the clarification recommends a discretionary approach allowing fund managers to define by themselves what they mean by sustainable, or environmental, social and governance standards.

The flip-flopping is expected to start at the beginning of this month, according to Emil Stigsgaard Fuglsang, co-founder of Matter, an ESG consultancy and data provider.

“There have already been indications from the market that the recent Q&A [clarification] from the European Commission will usher in a wave of reclassifications from ETFs employing passive strategies tracking Paris-aligned and climate-transition benchmarks,” Fuglsang explained.

Fuglsang believes the new guidance from the Commission will actually add to existing confusion highlighted in research that has just been published by Matter, which calls on regulators to acknowledge different sustainability objectives.

Matter examined the 20 largest Article 9 exchange traded funds, the 20 largest Article 8 ETFs that had just been downgraded from being Article 9, and the 20 largest pre-existing Article 8 ETFs.

It found that the newly downgraded and pre-existing Article 8 ETFs had similar environmental impacts, which means that last year’s re-rating might have served to ease investor confusion over what they were buying if a fund was classified as Article 8.

However, it also found that the Article 9 funds, with their more specialised solutions-focused approach, risked dis-

appointing investors. Specifically, Article 9 ETFs performed worse on average on the majority of EU Principle Adverse Impacts disclosures – which require reporting of negative effects on sustainability. Similarly, Article 9 ETFs expose investors to greater levels of UN sustainable development goal misalignment than their counterparts.

It is uncertain how many funds will move back up, but Bioy noted that, due to investor appetite for the more virtuous sounding “darker green” category, there were commercial incentives.

That could add to the problems highlighted in the Matter research, which found that three different approaches dominated the sustainable ETF landscape – broad ESG, Paris-aligned (committed to the transition to net zero) and thematic (such as clean energy).

“The combination of muddied waters between funds employing different approaches to sustainability, along with a largely discretionary approach to what can be considered ‘sustainable investments’, means that SFDR remains limited in terms of the clarity it offers, and will remain vulnerable to the same accusations of greenwashing that have faced it to date,” the report says.

“There is a need for a middle ground which accounts for and delineates between the diverse routes necessary to reach a sustainable future.”



# China modernisation sustains global development – experts

ADDIS ABABA

CHINA is pursuing a model of modernization that has not been seen before, characterized by a huge population and common prosperity for all in sync with material and cultural-ethical progress, and envisioning ultimate peaceful and sustainable development for mankind, an Ethiopian expert has said.

China’s approach to modernization and high-quality development embedded with a scientific foundation and in harmony with nature offers far-reaching impetus to global development in a more sustainable and peaceful manner, Melaku Muluaem, senior international relations and diplomacy researcher at the Ethiopian Institute of Strategic Affairs, said in a recent interview with Xinhua.

“China took different initiatives (to achieve its aspirations), including the Global Security Initiative and the Global Development Initiative. The Belt and Road Initiative is also essential, and many countries are benefiting from projects under it,” Muluaem said.

Muluaem said the international community, particularly African countries and the rest of the developing world, can tap China’s successful experience in its path toward modernization in a way that assures peaceful development as well as harmony between humans and nature, and alleviates absolute poverty.

“China has already shown that it can manage common prosperity for its huge population. It works to make development more sustainable and realize peaceful development, or to develop

in partnership with other countries rather than to prosper at the expense of other countries. China is also working to bring about peace for the world at large,” he said.

The expert added that China’s successes in its modernization drive are mainly attributed to its well-tailored development approaches across all dimensions.

“To develop with this huge population is not an easy task. It needs a lot of activities to be done – to expand education, to expand innovation, to expand peace in the region and the world at large,” the expert said.

“Africa can learn a lot from China. One of the plans is peaceful development, and Africa needs peace to develop. The other one is harmony between nature and humans, which is also important for Africa,” he added.

Meanwhile, the Turkish economist from TEPAV, an Ankara-based think tank, said that China’s modernization has changed the global political and economic landscape, and provides inspiration for other nations, especially developing ones, including Türkiye.

“China had an impressive performance in terms of growth, job creation, and structural transformation in the last 40 years,” he stressed.

Sak pointed out that China has utilized the global environment for driving growth by opening up and getting more and more foreign direct investments in the context of a long-term plan by using all those means that globalization is providing.

“I think that China has achieved an impressive transformation process,” Sak said.

Over the past several decades, China has been modernizing a country home to 1.4 billion people or one-fifth of the global population, to become the world’s second-largest economy, said Sak, who also hailed the high-quality development of the Chinese economy through the deepening of opening-up.

“The planned modernization of China is a great success...as a result of this transformation process China has become a higher middle-income country,” Sak stressed.

By going on this path, Sak noted, China has created an environment that is harmonious and sustainable between the state and its citizens.

“The Chinese modernization is an experiment that has produced results perfectly, continuously over the years,” he said, praising the country for pushing forward for the well-being of its citizens.

“When I went to China about 10 years ago, I saw a developing country that has solved all of its infrastructure problems in such a short span of time. It was very impressive,” he said.

“Now what we are seeing in this whole region are Chinese investments, and now China is a country that is investing more outside of China,” Sak said.

China has learned how to produce many things, and now it is producing these things in other countries by making direct foreign investments in other countries, including Türkiye, he said.

The expert said that Chinese modernization provides a source of inspiration for the world, noting that it is important for different countries to pursue their own development paths with their own features



When I went to China about 10 years ago, I saw a developing country that has solved all of its infrastructure problems in such a short span of time. It was very impressive

# Subway shuts more stores ahead of \$10 billion sale

NEW YORK

SUBWAY, which is exploring a potential \$10 billion sale, further shrank last year in the United States as franchisees closed 2.7 percent of the brand’s sandwich shops, squeezing its royalties and fees.

The chain shed another net 571 locations in 2022 after even steeper closings in previous years in the United States, its largest global market, according to the latest disclosure document it provides to franchisees who are interested in buying locations.

Subway has closed thousands of US locations in recent years due to over-expansion, outdated operations and decor, stale menus and \$5 footlong deals that eroded franchisees’ profits.

Its 2021 turnaround plan under Chief Executive John Chidsey included a refreshed menu and splashy advertising campaign with A-list celebrities. But such plans can take several years to succeed, said restaurant consultant John Gordon.

Continued closings can also hurt public perception, said franchisee advisor Robert Edwards.

“That’s baggage that they’ll be hard pressed to step away from,” Edwards said.

“We have spent the past two years optimizing our footprint by using a strategic, data-driven approach to ensure restaurants are in the right location, image and format,” Subway said in a statement. “This includes opening new locations, with quality remaining a top priority, relocating restaurants to maximize guest traffic and closing locations when needed.”

There is a silver lining: the pace of closings slowed last year, according to the document, dated April 25 and seen by Reuters. Subway franchisees closed more than 1,000 net US locations in 2021 and 1,609 in 2020.

At the end of 2022, Subway had 20,576 shops in the United States. That is a sharp decline from 2016, when it had 26,772. It has roughly 37,000 total locations globally.

“The slowdown in closures is a result of the progress we have made to get back to smart growth, which will boost franchisee profitability and protect our position in the market,” Subway said.

“In 2023, our goal is to increase new openings across North America by approximately 35 percent compared to 2022.”



# US dollar gains against other major currencies

WASHINGTON

THE US dollar edged higher in early holiday-impacted European trade Monday, at the start of a week that includes policy-setting meetings from the Federal Reserve and the European Central Bank, as well as the monthly US jobs report.

At 02:05 ET (06:05 GMT), the dollar index, which tracks the greenback against a basket of six other currencies, traded 0.2 percent higher at 101.570.

The week’s highlight will be the conclusion of the latest meeting of the Federal Open Market Committee, which is expected to increase the benchmark lending rate target by another 25 basis points on Wednesday – the 10th consecutive increase going back to March of last year.

However, this could prove to be the end of the Fed’s tightening cycle as last week’s first-quarter growth figures pointed to an economy that’s slowing quite rapidly.

Additionally, the end of the week sees the release of the monthly US jobs report, which is expected to show the economy added 180,000 jobs. While still a solid number it would mark a third consecutive month of moderating jobs growth.

With the European Central Bank and the Bank of England expected to be more aggressive than the Fed in coming months, speculators boosted their net bearish position on the greenback against major peers to the most since June 2021, data from the Commodity Futures Trading Commission showed late last week.

The European Central Bank also meets this week, on Thursday, with the policymakers also expected to sanction another rate hike, although the size of the increase remains in doubt.

Tuesday’s data on euro zone consumer price inflation could be the deciding factor, with underlying price pressures likely to remain uncomfortably high, pointing towards a rate hike of 50 basis points.

However, if bank lending data shows credit conditions have tightened substantially, the case for a smaller rate hike would be bolstered.

“The ECB’s dilemma will be between sticky core inflation that calls for more rate hikes, and recent events in the banking sector that call for gradualism,” said analysts at Morgan Stanley, in a note.



VIEW FROM THE TOP

## WORLD

## Navy completes its mission to evacuate Chinese from Sudan

KHARTOUM

THE Chinese navy has completed evacuating Chinese people from conflict-torn Sudan, with 940 Chinese citizens departing from the area from Wednesday to Saturday in two groups, according to the Defence Ministry.

At the request of some countries, China also evacuated a total of 231 foreign residents together with Chinese nationals.

With the help of Chinese embassies and consulates in relevant countries, those people were transferred from Port Sudan to the port of Jeddah in Saudi Arabia by CNS Nanning and CNS Weishan Lake, Tan Kefei, a spokesman for the Ministry of National Defense, said late on Saturday.

"The Chinese military will always be the guardian of the people and a staunch force in safeguarding national sovereignty, security and development interests, and serving the building of a community with a shared future for mankind," he said.

On Saturday morning, CNS Nanning and CNS Weishan Lake, which carried 493 evacuees from Sudan – 272 Chinese citizens and 221 foreign nationals – arrived at the port of Jeddah, successfully completing the second group of personnel evacuation. The first group of 678 evacuees, 668 Chinese and 10 foreigners, were evacuated by the same two ships on Thursday, according to

the Chinese military.

Pakistani Ambassador to China Moin ul Haque on Sunday expressed appreciation to China for helping more than 200 Pakistani nationals evacuate from Sudan.

During a meeting with Liu Jinsong, director-general of the Department of Asian Affairs of the Foreign Ministry, Haque said that China's assistance demonstrated once again how strong Pakistan-China friendship is.

Liu said that as China tried its best to ensure that Chinese nationals were evacuated from Sudan in a safe manner, it also helped some people from other friendly countries including Pakistan to leave the African country, which demonstrated the iron-clad friendship between China and Pakistan as well as its responsibility as a major country.

At 10 am on Saturday Beijing time, the first temporary flight to pick up evacuated Chinese citizens from Jeddah arrived at Beijing Capital International Airport, carrying about 340 evacuated Chinese, according to official data.

Ma Dongpeng, 35, was evacuated along with his wife and two daughters. "When I got off the ship, I was very excited to hear the familiar song My People, My Country and see Chinese compatriots greet us at the port," he was quoted by People's Daily as saying. "I could not hold back my tears while seeing the Chinese national flag fly high."

Ma said his family haven't been back



People of different nationalities evacuated from Sudan by the People's Liberation Army Navy arrive at Jeddah Islamic Port, Saudi Arabia, on April 29, 2023. (PHOTO / XINHUA)

to China for five years, and his 5-year-old daughter has been growing up in Sudan. Thanks to the efficient coordination and help of the Chinese government, they could finally go home at such a difficult time.

"We feel the warmth and strength of China's five-star red flag and feel the strength of the motherland. We are so proud!"

As the security situation in the African country continued to deteriorate in recent days, the Chinese Foreign Ministry and diplomatic missions in Sudan and neighboring countries have worked hard to create conditions for the safe evacuation of Chinese citizens in Sudan to border ports or neighboring countries in an orderly and safe manner, according to the ministry.

So far, most Chinese citizens have been safely evacuated. The Chinese embassy in Sudan will provide all necessary assistance to the small number of Chinese citizens still in the country, according to the ministry.

With the assistance of the Chinese consulate-general in Jeddah, Wang Peng, a young man from Hunan province, successfully completed the procedures for entering Saudi Arabia on Saturday.

Wang had worked with his colleagues in

Sudan for many years, but did not expect to encounter an armed conflict. "After the armed conflict broke out, everyone immediately hid in the basement, and we could still hear the sound of whistling missiles," he recalled.

Thanks to the great efforts of local embassy staff, the journey of around 800 kilometers was smooth from the Sudanese capital of Khartoum to the port where he boarded a Chinese ship.

"During the 14-hour journey, we passed through multiple conflict zones and over a dozen checkpoints, but everything went smoothly. This could not have been achieved without the advance coordination and arrangements by the staff of the embassy," he was quoted as saying by People's Daily.

Netizens at home and abroad also took to social media platforms to praise China's timely and orderly evacuation measures.

Many praised China for giving priority to protecting the lives of its own citizens. "The motherland will never abandon any of its compatriots under any circumstances," said a post on Weibo which received tens of thousands of likes.

Agencies

## US urged to stop abusing WTO forum to attack Hong Kong

HONG KONG

THE Hong Kong Special Administrative Region government on Saturday strongly objected to remarks by the United States on Hong Kong situation at a meeting of the dispute settlement body (DSB) of the World Trade Organization the previous day.

Saying that the US comments "completely ignored and distorted the facts", the SAR government urged Washington to stop abusing the forum to attack Hong Kong.

A WTO panel established under the DSB clearly ruled on Dec 21, 2022 that the origin marking requirement imposed by the US on products from Hong Kong is discriminatory and inconsistent with WTO rules, recommending the US to bring the measure into conformity, a spokesman for the HKSAR government said in a statement.

"By repeatedly making distorted and self-serving political assertions at DSB meetings in connection with the panel ruling, the US is under-

mining the integrity of the rules-based multilateral trading system embodied by the WTO," reads the statement.

The origin marking requirement imposed by the US requires all products exported from Hong Kong to the US may no longer be marked as originating in "Hong Kong" but must be marked to indicate "China".

Pointing out that Hong Kong has called upon the US to respect the ruling and withdraw immediately its erroneous origin marking requirement, the spokesman said: "Yet the US has decided to appeal on the Panel's report to the appellate body, an appeal mechanism that it has crippled since end-2019 by continuously blocking the appointments of members to the body, disrupting all WTO members from having their cases heard and adjudicated under the well-established mechanism."

Terming it as "a hypocritical and arrogant act", the SAR government said the appellate body is still



This photo taken on April 2, 2019 shows the logo of the World Trade Organization (WTO) on the main gate of the WTO headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. (PHOTO / XINHUA)

non-functional to date. "Instead of unblocking appointments to the appellate body, the US' attempt to

keep bringing up the case to the DSB and criticizing the specific panel rulings show no respect to

the panel, the panelists and WTO rules."

While WTO members are entitled to respond before a panel and lodge appeals, there is an intelligible difference between lodging genuine appeals against substantive rulings and furthering ulterior, political motives in the guise of resolving a trade dispute, it pointed out.

"As to the US' smearing of the current state of affairs in Hong Kong at the meeting, the HKSAR government strongly refutes the absurd and unfounded remarks leveled against the Hong Kong National Security Law (NSL) by the US," the spokesman said, stressing that Hong Kong is a society underpinned by the rule of law.

Hong Kong is a society underpinned by the rule of law and has always adhered to the principle that laws must be obeyed and law-breakers be held accountable, and this is well recognized by the international community, added the spokesman.

Agencies

## Australia to reveal huge budget rebound, pledge restraint

SYDNEY

AUSTRALIA'S Labor government is set to reveal a vast improvement in the budget bottom line next week as its coffers bulge with tax windfalls, yet the outlook will be a sober one as fiscal challenges loom large.

Treasurer Jim Chalmers has spent weeks using "restraint" and "responsible" to describe his second budget since coming to power in May last year.

There will be some money to offset cost of living pressures, particularly on energy prices, and perhaps a long-delayed rise in unemployment benefits. Chalmers has flagged more support for renewable projects and a ramp up in defense spending.

Yet, he is well aware that too much fiscal largesse could stoke inflation just when the Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) has aggressively lifted interest rates to fight it.

Instead, the aim is to bank any budget sav-

ings, and there are plenty to go around. High prices for Australia's commodity exports have delivered a windfall from mining profits, while job gains boosted income tax and lowered welfare payments.

As recently as October, Chalmers had forecast a deficit of almost A\$37 billion (\$24.47 billion) for the year to end June 2023. Now, analysts expect it to be closer to A\$5 billion.

Indeed, the running 12 month total is actually in surplus, a big deal for a budget that has not

been in the black since 2008.

The previous Liberal National government had "Back in Black" mugs made in 2019 when it came within a whisker of a surplus, only for emergency pandemic spending to blow a record-breaking hole in the accounts.

Any surplus would be fleeting, however, given resource prices are well off their peaks and the domestic economy is slowing in the face of decade-high interest rates.

Agencies

## US top diplomat discusses with Azerbaijan's leader importance of reopening Lachin Corridor

WASHINGTON

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken held a telephone conversation late on Sunday with President of Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev discussing the importance of reopening of the Lachin Corridor for commercial and private vehicles, US Department of State Spokesperson Matthew Miller said in a statement.

"Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken (pictured) spoke with Azerbaijan's President Ilham Aliyev today to underscore the importance of Azerbaijan-Armenia peace discussions and pledged continued US support," the statement reads. "Secretary Blinken shared his belief that peace was possible."

"He also expressed the United States' deep concern that Azerbaijan's establishment of a checkpoint on the Lachin Corridor undermines efforts to establish confidence in the peace process, and emphasized the importance of reopening the Lachin Corridor to commercial and private vehicles as soon as possible," the statement added.

Azerbaijan's presidential press office said in a statement later that "President Ilham Aliyev noted [that] Azerbaijan supports the peace agenda and that Azerbaijan had been the initiator of starting peace treaty talks and normalization of relations with Armenia."

"With respect to setting up the 'Lachin' checkpoint on the Azerbaijan-Armenia border, President Ilham Aliyev said that the checkpoint had been set up in accordance with Azerbaijan's sovereign rights and all international rules," the statement from the Azerbaijani president's press office reads.

"The Azerbaijani President underlined that the aim was to ensure control rather than restrict movement as passage is already allowed through the checkpoint," the statement added.

French Foreign Minister Catherine Colonna stated last Friday after a meeting with her Armenian counterpart Ararat Mirzoyan that Azerbaijan's deployment of a checkpoint in the Lachin Corridor violates the agreements that Yerevan and Baku currently have in place.

Armenian Foreign Minister Mirzoyan stated on April 28 that Yerevan had no plans to hold talks with Baku about unblocking the Lachin Corridor, since this issue was settled under the trilateral statement of November 9, 2020.

The situation in Nagorno-Karabakh escalated on September 27, 2020. On November 9, 2020, Russian President Vladimir Putin, Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev and Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan signed a joint statement on the full cessation of hostilities. The sides stopped at their positions at that moment, a number of districts went under Baku's control, and Russian peacekeepers were deployed at the contact line and at the Lachin Corridor.

Lachin Corridor

On December 12, 2022, a group of Azerbaijani activists claiming to be environmentalists blocked the Lachin Corridor, the only road connecting Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh and the place where Russian peacekeepers are temporarily stationed.

Baku stated that blocking the road was not the goal of the protest and civilian vehicles could freely move in both directions. However, Yerevan slammed the activity as a provocation by the Azerbaijani authorities aimed at creating a humanitarian disaster in the unrecognized Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh.

Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan pointed out that Nagorno-Karabakh was facing food shortages due to the blocking of the corridor. On December 14, Armenia requested that the European Court of Human Rights compel Azerbaijan to unblock the Lachin Corridor. **Agencies**

## Putin to discuss tourism sector development with cabinet members, says Kremlin

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin will hold a meeting with members of the government in a videoconference format on Tuesday, the press service of the Kremlin reported on Monday.

"The issues of development of the tourism sector will be the main subject. Reports will be delivered by Deputy Prime Minister D.N. Chernyshenko, Economic Development Minister M.G. Reshetnikov, Transport Minister V.G. Savelyev, Minister of Natural Resources and Environment A.A. Kozlov," the report said.

Moreover, a number of relevant current issues will be considered. Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov said earlier that Putin would also raise the issue of reconstruction of facilities after the fire in the Sverdlovsk Region's settlement of Sosva during the meeting with the cabinet. **Agencies**

## China's sincere hope to promote security, stability in Middle East

SAUDI Arabia and Iran, since making great achievements in their talks in Beijing, have made new strides in improving bilateral relations in accordance with the identified roadmap and timetable laid out in their Beijing agreement.

On April 6, the foreign ministers of the two countries met in Beijing and signed a joint statement, with which the two countries announced the resumption of diplomatic relations with immediate effect.

It turned a new page in Saudi Arabia-Iran relations and encouraged goodwill for reconciliation between nations in the Middle East. It has provided an important example for countries to re-

solve conflicts through dialogues and consultation, and a successful practice for implementing the China-proposed Global Security Initiative (GSI) and building a community with a shared future for mankind.

Their resumption of diplomatic relations has been broadly welcomed by Middle East countries and the international community.

As a reliable mediator with good faith, China has earnestly fulfilled its duties in hosting the talks. It has won the full trust of both Saudi Arabia and Iran, and has been highly appreciated by countries and peoples of the region.

The world has entered a new period of

turbulence and transformation. Hotspot issues keep flaring up and the prevailing trend of peace and development is facing serious challenges.

The Middle East sees a variety of regional hotspot issues with complex conflicts. China, working with countries in the Middle East to practice the GSI and promoting the resumption of Saudi Arabia-Iran diplomatic ties, has demonstrated its sense of responsibility and brought good news to the world in turmoil.

The Beijing talks between Saudi Arabia and Iran fully proved that mutual respect, dialogue and consultation are the fundamental solution to resolve disputes. Facts have shown time and again

that war and sanctions only create more conflicts and turbulence, and only mutual understanding and accommodation lead the way to inclusive solutions.

No matter how complex the issues are or how thorny the challenges may be, the international community, especially influential major countries, should steadfastly facilitate talks for peace, play good offices and mediate in light of the needs and will of the countries concerned, and support relevant parties to build trust, settle disputes and promote security through dialogue in accordance with the principle of mutual respect.

The Beijing talks fully demonstrated that independence, solidarity and coop-

eration are the only ways to safeguard the common interests of developing countries.

Some external major powers have long been engaged in acts to stoke conflicts, create divisions and divide and rule in the Middle East, which has created turbulence in the region and suffering of the people.

Many developing countries in the world share similar experiences with countries in the Middle East. There is no so-called "vacuum" in international politics, and developing countries have the will and ability to take the initiative for their peace and development.

Facing external interference, devel-

oping countries should further uphold independence, solidarity and cooperation, as well as promote peace through unity, pursue stability through self-reliance, and achieve development through cooperation.

The Beijing talks fully proved that only by upholding the vision of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security can universal security and common security be achieved.

Humanity is an indivisible security community. Be it in the Middle East or other regions, the path to security is never a one-way road, but a lane that comes in two directions featuring mutual understanding. **People's Daily**



# How Chinese pharma helps Mali build drug manufacturing capability

BAMAKO

THE pharmaceutical manufacturing industry in Mali had long been lagging behind, with the drug market predominantly monopolized by expensive imported drugs, leaving the Malian people in urgent need of medical care and resources. However, this situation has been reversed through a collaboration with a Chinese drug-maker.

Back in 2013, Humanwell Pharmaceuticals headquartered in China and the China-Africa Development Fund invested 350 million yuan (50 million U.S. dollars) in Mali's capital and largest city Bamako to establish a local branch, Humanwell Africa Pharmaceutical.

Two years later, the company built a state-of-the-art factory in Bamako to manufacture drugs locally, as part of its participation in the Belt and Road cooperation.

The project is the first localized drug factory in Mali, and a modern pharmaceutical factory in West Africa with quite high construction standards.

Pascal Dao, who has been working for Humanwell for eight years,

inspects workshops every day to ensure production safety. Working hard to improve his work skills and learn Chinese, Dao has become a middle manager.

"What Humanwell brings us is not only a stable income and a dignified life, but more importantly, the hope," he said.

Humanwell Africa Pharmaceutical has hired nearly 200 local employees like Pascal, and provided them with industrial and management training.

Former Malian President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita appreciated this project for benefitting the people of Mali, and helping Mali produce drugs independently.

"Humanwell put an end to the history that Mali couldn't make medicine, and will benefit Malians," Keita once said. "After years of hard work, we have not only ensured the accessibility of medicines (in Mali), but also ensured the sustainability of the enterprise by creating economic and social benefits," said Li Wensheng, general manager of Humanwell Africa Pharmaceutical, adding that the factory's operation, including its construction and production, is in full compliance with relevant Chinese standards.



People line up to register before receiving the COVID-19 vaccine in Bamako, Mali, on March 31, 2021. (Photo by Habib Kouyate/Xinhua)

"Now our drugs are sold to all Francophone countries in West Africa, with sales covering the mainstream drug market in the region," Li said.

"The current localization ratio of the factory has reached 95 percent, and 100 percent localization has been achieved for production positions and grassroots management positions.

Therefore, the medicines are genuinely 'made in Mali,'" he said.

The factory, a major player in Mali's drug manufacturing sector, has also injected momentum to the development of industrial chains.

"The surroundings of our factory used to be a wasteland, but now many factories have been established here."

Li said, adding that the growing demand for upstream and downstream products has driven local industrialization.

"We hope to provide more quality and affordable medicines for the local people, and safeguard the health of people in West Africa," he added.

Xinhua

# UN sends relief chief to Sudan over dire humanitarian crisis

UNITED NATIONS

IN light of the rapidly deteriorating humanitarian crisis in Sudan, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres is sending the world body's Emergency Relief Coordinator Martin Griffiths to the region "immediately," a UN spokesman said on Sunday.

The scale and speed of what is unfolding is unprecedented in Sudan, Stephane Dujarric, spokesman for Guterres, said in a statement.

He added that the United Nations is "extremely concerned" by the immediate as well as long-term impact on all people in Sudan and the broader region.

"We once again urge all parties to the conflict to protect civilians and civilian infrastructure, allow safe passage for civilians fleeing areas of hostilities, respect humanitarian workers and assets, facilitate relief operations, and respect medical personnel, transport and facilities," said Dujarric.

More than 500 people have been killed and over 4,000 others wounded since clashes erupted on April 15 between the Sudanese army and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces, according to the Sudanese Health Ministry.

In a statement issued ahead of his trip to the region, Griffiths, also the UN under-secretary-general for humanitarian affairs, said that two weeks since clashes erupted, the humanitarian situation is "reaching breaking point."

Goods essential for people's survival are becoming scarce in the hardest-hit urban centers, especially Khartoum, and families are struggling to access water, food, fuel and other critical commodities, he said.

He warned that access to urgent health care, including for those injured in the violence, is severely constrained, raising the risk of preventable deaths.

Griffiths said he is heading to the region to explore how to bring immediate relief to the millions of people "whose lives have turned upside down overnight." "However, the obvious solution to this crisis is to stop the fighting," said the UN relief chief.

Xinhua

# KCNA: Yoon's US visit 'a dangerous trip for nuclear war' Philippines' Marcos to forge stronger ties with US during visit

SEOUL

REPUBLIC of Korea President Yoon Suk-yeol's latest US trip was "the most hostile, aggressive and provocative, dangerous trip for a nuclear war," the state news agency of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea said on Sunday.

In a commentary, the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) voiced harsh criticism and a stern warning, lashing all out at the documents and rhetoric coming out of the recent US-ROK summit talks in Washington.

The commentary began by putting the Washington Declaration, a signature document on upgrading "extended deterrence" against the DPRK, in its crosshairs, reprimanding it as "a typical product of the heinous hostile policy towards the DPRK,"

designed to make "a nuclear war against the DPRK a fait accompli."

"There is no precedent that they (US and ROK) designated the DPRK as a target for a nuclear attack publicly to the world and nakedly stated regular and sustained deployment of strategic nuclear assets to the Korean Peninsula," it added.

The commentary then blasted the ROK leader, saying his "treacherous and submissive acts to the US" are turning the ROK into "a US arsenal and advanced base for a nuclear war and hurting the security and interests of not only the Korean Peninsula but also the region."

ROK and the United States issued the Washington Declaration on Wednesday, which announced the establishment of a new Nuclear Consultative Group and the upcoming visit



of a US nuclear ballistic missile submarine to ROK for the purpose of strengthening the so-called "extended deterrence."

WASHINGTON

PHILIPPINE President Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos Jr said his meeting with US President Joe Biden on Monday was essential in advancing his country's national interest and strengthening the "very important alliance" between Manila and Washington.

Before leaving for his four-day official visit to Washington, Marcos said on Sunday he would convey to Biden his determination to forge "an even stronger relationship" with the United States to "address the concerns of our times," including issues related to the economy.

"During this visit, we will reaffirm our commitment to fostering our long standing alliance as an instrument of peace and as catalyst of development in the Asia Pacific region, and for that matter for the rest of



the world," said Marcos, the son of the late strongman whom Washington helped flee into exile in Hawaii during a 1986 'people power' uprising.

Marcos' official visit to Washington is the first by a Philippine president in more than 10

years.

A senior US administration official said that as part of moves to boost commercial ties, US Commerce Secretary Gina Raimondo would lead a presidential business delegation to the Philippines.

# 5G technology unleashes new potential of modern tourism

"I just played a live action role-playing (LARP) game in the Miao village to experience the culture of the Miao ethnic group. It was so fun," said a woman surnamed Zhao while visiting Xijiang Qianhu Miao Village, a tourist site that displays an epic about the development of the Miao ethnic group in southwest China's Guizhou province.

The LARP game, launched by the tourist site, presents the ancient and traditional Miao legends through modern technologies such as 5G and mixed reality (MR), and enables tourists to see virtual sceneries and treasures in the physical world with a pair of MR goggles.

According to Luo Longbao, head of the marketing department of the company that manages the tourist site, the Xijiang Qianhu Miao Village has built a 5G platform that offers various types of services.

"On the intelligent platform, tourists can not only check the real-time map of the village, but also search for parking space, introduction to scenic spots and recommended routes," Luo told People's Daily, adding that the platform offers tourists with whole-process services.

As new information technologies are more and more employed in the culture and tourism industry, 5G intelligent tourism scenarios are emerging across China, such as 5G smart tour guide, 5G virtual reality and augmented reality tourism programs, online sightseeing and livestream tourism. These scenarios are providing tourists with richer and newer experiences.

Intelligent upgrading of tourist sites and resorts makes tours more interesting and convenient for tourists. It also leads to more efficient and smarter management of scenic areas.

Thanks to the application of 5G, internet of things (IoT) and other technologies, facilities in Kuanzhai Alley, an ancient street left over from the Qing Dynasty (1644-1911) in Chengdu, southwest China's Sichuan province, have grown smarter.

For instance, infrared sensors are installed in public toilets to see whether they are occupied and to estimate daily foot traffic, which makes the distribution of sanitation workers more reasonable. The tourist site has built a street lamp control system that captures the status of each street lamp and identifies whether there are damaged street lamps. Besides, the trash cans in Kuanzhai Alley, assisted by IoT technology, would immediately inform relevant staff members once they are full.

The application of 5G, IoT, big data, cloud computing, artificial intelligence, block chain, ultra-high-definition video and digital twin technologies, as well as the building of 5G intelligent tourism real-time monitoring and emergency response platforms, can effectively strengthen the tourism industry's capability in monitoring, risk control, regulation and



A technician maintains intelligent tourism equipment in a scenic spot in Bijie, southwest China's Guizhou province. (People's Daily Online/Han Xianpu)

emergency response, and better the management of 5G intelligent tourism.

Xin Hongye, deputy director of the information center of the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, told People's Daily that the intelligent upgrading of the tourism industry calls for organic integration of technologies and the industry, so that technologies can practically solve the pain points in the development of the industry.

Popular tourist sites are always confronted with poor network connection during peak seasons as there are too many visitors, which seriously affects visitors' experience.

"Poor network connection used to be the biggest headache for tourist sites," said Shen Kaijun, deputy general manager of a tourism company in Bijie, Guizhou province. According to him, it is the construction of 5G intelligent tourism platforms that has helped scenic spots achieve full network coverage of 5G and wifi, attract more tourists and gain higher recognition.

Professor Li Xinjian with the School of

Tourism Sciences, Beijing International Studies University, told People's Daily that the digitalization helps upgrade traditional tourist sites and represents an inexorable trend of digital economy contributing to the high-quality development of the tourism industry.

Building digital tourist sites not only helps better protect and display cultural relics and improve tourist sites' capability in operation and emergency response, but also further facilitates tourists and improve their satisfaction. It is indispensable to the modernization of tourist sites.

People's Daily

**Intelligent upgrading of tourist sites and resorts makes tours more interesting and convenient for tourists. It also leads to more efficient and smarter**

# Airtel Africa, UNICEF reaffirm commitment to accelerate access to quality education across Africa

KAMPALA

GROUP CEO of Airtel Africa, Segun Ogunsanya has reaffirmed the joint commitment by Airtel Africa and UNICEF to accelerate access to quality education to millions of children in Africa, through digital learning.

Ogunsanya, who was speaking during a visit to Kitende Secondary School, Entebbe, one of the schools connected to the internet by the mobile telecommunications operator, stated that "Airtel Africa is cognizant of the great value education contributes to our nations across the continent, which is why we are very deliberate in promoting education and empowering our people."

"Airtel Africa will continue to support the shared efforts of the Government of Uganda, by identifying and collaborating with strategic partners like UNICEF to transform the way our children learn. We commit to do this in Uganda and across the 13 other countries where Airtel Africa operates," Ogunsanya pledged.

While commending the government of Uganda for showing a high level of commitment to the digitization of education, Ogunsanya also recognized the pivotal role being played by UNICEF in supporting African children. He charged the students to take good advantage of the resources through the partnership between Airtel Africa and UNICEF to further their academic pursuits in order to

realize their dreams in life.

Also speaking on the occasion, the state minister for Primary Education, Dr. Moriku Kaducu, acknowledged the positive contribution by Airtel Uganda and UNICEF in the transformation of educational opportunities for children. She pledged the government to support the partnership in the form of a conducive policy framework and continuous engagements to drive down the tax rates on end-user devices and data for educational purposes.

The UNICEF Representative to Uganda, Dr. Munir Safeldin, explained that "through the Kolibri digital learning platform, the partnership will reach 54,000 students with USSD/SMS-based content optimized for mobile. Currently, Kolibri is available in over 100 secondary schools with computer labs and 15 youth-friendly ICT centers in refugee settlements. An estimated 16,000 learners and 350 teachers in secondary schools have interacted with the Kolibri initiative. More than 1,080 adolescents and 200 trained volunteers are involved in the out-of-school Kolibri initiative implementation. To date over 7,500 registered users with over 200,000 content interactions."

Airtel Africa and UNICEF launched the \$57m 5-year partnership in 2021, to accelerate the roll-out of digital learning for children by connecting schools to the internet and ensuring free access to learning platforms in Uganda and other Airtel Operating Countries, to ensure that every child reaches their full potential.

In Uganda, 100 schools will be connected in the first 2 years, with the objective of reaching 54,750 students and teachers in primary and secondary schools across the country, with a particular focus on rural schools in the West Nile and Karamoja regions.

Agencies



Airtel Africa Group Chief Executive Officer, Segun Ogunsanya, State Minister for Primary Education, Uganda, Dr. Moriku Kaducu and UNICEF Representative to Uganda, Dr. Munir Safeldin at Kitende Secondary School in Wakiso, Uganda.

# SPORT



Some KCB Bank Tanzania employees pose for a photo after completion of the Run 4 Autism Tanzania Marathon at Green Grounds, Oysterbay in Dar es Salaam last weekend. KCB Bank Tanzania partnered with Lukiza Autism Foundation to coordinate the event to promote inclusivity and support for people with autism. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

## Dar junior athletes get off to good start in 2023 CAA Junior Championships

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA's junior athletes have started well in the ongoing Confederation of African Athletics (CAA) African Junior Athletics Championships that are held in Ndola, Zambia.

Muhidin Masunzu, delegation leader, said eight athletes were in action on Saturday and seven managed to qualify for the semi-finals.

He mentioned the seven runners who qualified for the semi-finals as Mpaji Lukindo who posted 49.8 in the 400m category, and Alex Sezario clocked 11.4 in the 100m race of U-18 Boys.

In the Boys U-20 100m race, Said Ali clocked 11.4, Benedict Mathias recorded 11.2, and skipper Gasis Gesasa posted 11.12.

In the Girls U-18 100m category, Nasra Abdallah and Bertha Enerst clocked 12.5 and 12.74 respectively.

Masunzu said he was delighted Tanzania junior athletics squads' performance in the championships, adding the draw for other events will be made later.

The official noted: "It's good that we have started well and I'm sure (they will) win the gold medal in this year's championships, out of the eight athletes who competed for the country, Siwema Julius is the only one to have failed to qualify for the semi-finals on Saturday."

"It would not be easy but I'm sure we will do well," he said.

Tanzania's national junior sides are made up of 15 athletes. The national junior teams' head coach Alfredo Shahanga said he is optimistic that the junior athletes will do well in the championships which got underway in Ndola Saturday bringing together more than 50 African countries.

Shahanga said earlier that all athletes are in good shape ahead of the championships.

"We are ready for the championships, I'm sure we will bring medals home, my confidence comes from the fact that we have trained well," he said.

The national junior teams' captain Gasis Gesasa also echoed Shahanga's remarks, saying they are well prepared for the championships he described as a platform to showcase their talent.

"We are ready to fight for the country, the CAA African Junior Championships are a platform for us to show our talents," he said.

National Sports Council of Tanzania (NSC) official, Charles Maguzu, during a function for handing over the national flag to the teams in Dar es Salaam a day back, challenged the junior athletes to work hard to bring pride to the country.

The NSC official, representing Secretary-General Neema Msitha in the function, said the

country expects a lot from the athletes.

"We expect a lot from you, we want medals and I'm confident you will bring the medals, go there and fly the country's flag high," he said.

The government has provided the national junior athletics squads with jerseys and other necessities.

The athletes have been accompanied by head coach Alfredo Shahanga, his assistant Asha Abdallah, team doctor Cosmas Kapinga, and team manager Aman Ngoka.

The 2023 CAA African Junior Athletics Championships have been slated to take place in Ndola, from April 29-May 3.

National junior athletics teams' head coach, Shahanga, said he is confident of witnessing the runners achieve good results in Zambia.

"I can assure you that we will do well, I have said so because all athletes are in high spirits, the environment in the camp was superb, we had some trials with Filbert Bayi Foundation's athletes and my athletes did well," he said.

The 15 athletes are camping at Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC) in Dar es Salaam.

They are Said Ali who will compete in 100m and 200m races in U-18 and U-20, Alex Sezario (U-20's 100m), and Nicodemus Joseph will battle it out in U-18's 1500m and 5000m races.

Gasis Gesasa will represent Tanzania in U-20 Boys' 100m and 200m races and Elia Clement will compete in U-20's 100m race.

The other U-20 competitor making the squad is Benedict Martius that will feature in the 200m race, while Hafidh Talib is to compete in U-20's discus.

In Boys U-18, Mpaji Gipson will take part in the long jump and Samir Sururu will put his skills to show in the shot put.

In Girls U-20's javelin, Mwanaamini Mkyau will be the country's envoy, whereas Brethe Everist and Salma Charles will compete in the category's 200m and 800m races respectively.

Nasra Abdallah will compete in U-18 Girls 100m and 200m races, and compatriot Siwema Julius will feature in the category's 100m race.

The 15 athletes were selected in the trials organized by AT in Dar es Salaam recently, with more than 100 junior athletes from across the country putting their skills to show in the showdown.

Initially, AT was set to use this season's East and Central Africa Junior Athletics Championships (EAAR), held in the city recently, to select junior athletes that will represent the country in the CAA Junior Athletics Championships.

However, there was no local athlete to have managed to meet the qualifying time for the continental showpiece.

A total of 50 African nations are expected to enter athletes in CAA Junior Athletics Championships.

## SPORTS

## Pundits build the case for veteran players to be seconded to schools

By Correspondent John Kimbuta

REFLECTIONS that were being gathered from veterans of city rivals Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, and Simba SC ahead of their low-key epic encounter at the Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium, Arusha seemed to focus on at least one point.

That youths in primary and secondary schools need to be coached to nurture their talents rather than forage for themselves and then local authorities organize competitions from which federation bigwigs seek out talent.

It was to call time on an interminable talent search and switch to a nurturing of talents by acknowledged role models, early.

One way to look at the issue is at the psychological level, to figure out if we ever had a proper debate in the past as to how to bring up youths' talent in schools, so that clubs, youth tournaments, and eventually the various national team categories.

The mere fact that it is hard to recall the last time there was a debate underlines the fact that we have traditionally felt at ease with relying on the natural growth of talent and then harvesting it in school contests, etc. It seemed altogether sufficient.

The issue is whether there is a new situation such that the matter is now being raised for a debate, but the reflections appear to be coming from a different direction, namely the use of veteran talents or abilities upon retiring from the game.

The pundits were themselves reflecting on their younger days, the sort of schoolmates who emerged as role models, and how they compared with such individuals in schools, etc.

Veterans slated for the Arusha encounter were being interviewed, and also hoping to create an impression on the young, etc.

This way, the consensus began to emerge that the veterans need to have a more appreciable role among the youths, not necessarily by undergoing coaching training as they are not seeking to run clubs.

All they need is some training in the psychology of the sport, and how to work with young people, which is admittedly a sort of profession but it can also be done piecemeal in an amateurish fashion when there are no resources for the 'big deal'.

Some institutions could perhaps afford regularly paid soccer instructors, or sports



Dar e Salaam junior soccer players feature in training in the city recently. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

as a whole, others could just volunteer.

Volunteering is not strange in various professions, as it is only a lower level of formally accepted involvement in the sport or other occupation, but institutions involved are expected to pull up their socks for regular motivation allowances.

Thus when openings come up at a later stage it is such volunteers who are considered first, but there could be other avenues to consider, for instance, sponsors being solicited for motivational allowances to the group, etc.

It can be done if everyone plays their part, but if the public authorities don't act, it can fail.

In a sense, they can be included as teachers, not out of sufficient basic training though they can be exposed to portions of a certificate course or a diploma level depending on their earlier school background.

It is a matter of seeking to animate the skills in the mind of the youngster, where they can make an effort at imitating, the sort of gestures with the ball they need to get used to, etc.

Having someone to look to for such guidance can make all the difference.

There is a clip in the betting series and sporty drinks where some youths shout at a veteran (definitely well past his playing days), saying 'Widodo, can you teach us?' which ought to be a mind teaser for those looking at this frequently aired spot.

The lesson is clear, that youngsters look upon veterans, 'elders', with a sporting CV that can be aired in a classroom, and the pupils or students know what to expect.

At that stage, the singular point of orientation is how to keep the ball, and what to do with it.

This was the lesson that some of us learned, not from a veteran when we tried to learn the basics of soccer in secondary school but by reading books on the history of the sport.

A veteran player of the 1950s, legendary Alfredo di

Stefano of Argentina, and Real Madrid fame was asked what was most important for youth to learn to become a good player.

He did not spend time thinking about the issue, answering as if he half expected the question, do anything you want with the ball.

When a youth has that quality, the rest follows more or less easily, as techniques of play depend on positions on the pitch, as well as combination techniques the coach prefers, etc.

Plenty is required to make one a good player, like steady physical fitness also needs to be cultivated when one is young, and often falls victim to insufficient diets in families and lack of school feeding.

All this leads to poorer physical ability at a higher level of play, but cultivating talent by exposure to this or that professional whom the youthful mind sees to imitate makes a big difference.

## Boxers aim for improved show in 2023 IBA World Boxing Championships



JKT squad's boxer, Abuu Said (R), connects a punch on Kigoma's Adolf Emmanuel as the boxers faced each other in a past Open Boxing Championship that took place in Dar es Salaam. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SUPERBOXINGCOACH.BLOGSPOT.COM

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

OPEN Boxing Federation Of Tanzania (OBFT) has disclosed it is geared for improved performance by the country's pugilists in the International Boxing Association (IBA) World Boxing Championship which started in Uzbekistan yesterday.

Four boxers, Yusuph Changarawe, Kassim Mbundwike, Alex Isendi, and Alex Sulwa that are led by coach Samwel Kapungu are representing Tanzania in the two-week IBA Men's Championships.

Speaking from Tashkent, Uzbekistan, the leader of the delegation who is also OBFT president Lukelo Wililo said the local boxers are ready for the showdown.

He said he is confident of witnessing the performers grabbing medals as the four have trained well and are ready for the championships.

"We are ready for the IBA Men's World Championships which get underway tomorrow (yesterday) to May 14,"

Wililo stated.

"Three of our boxers competed in the last edition of Commonwealth Games and two of them, Mbundwike and Changarawe, won bronze medals in the Games, it is one of the reasons we are confident of winning medals in these championships," he said.

To reach the 2022 Commonwealth Games semi-finals, Mbundwike defeated Faustino Marion AH Tong of Samoa Island, whereas Changarawe beat Arthur Langelier of St Lucia via Referee Stop Contest (RSC).

In the semi-finals, Mbundwike suffered a loss to Mozambican Tiago Muxanga, whereas Changarawe lost to Sean Lazzarini of Scotland.

More than 600 boxers from 104 countries are expected to battle it out in IBA Men's Championships.

Boxers grabbing gold medals are set to be presented with US dollars 200,000 while silver and bronze medalists will each walk away with 100,000 and 50,000 US dollars respectively.

“

I can assure you that we will do well, I have said so because all athletes are in high spirits, the environment in the camp was superb, we had some trials with Filbert Bayi Foundation's athletes and my athletes did well

## Man City back on top as Newcastle, Man Utd press top-four claims

LONDON

ERLING Haaland scored his 50th goal of the season on Sunday as Manchester City beat Fulham to return to the Premier League summit, with Newcastle and Manchester United winning to close in on a top-four finish.

Liverpool maintained their unlikely pursuit of a Champions League place by beating Tottenham 4-3 in a thriller but Southampton and Leeds are staring into the abyss.

City's 2-1 win at Craven Cottage left Pep Guardiola's men a point clear of long-time leaders Arsenal, with a game in hand.

The defending champions, chasing their fifth Premier League title in six seasons, were ahead in the third minute when Haaland scored from the penalty spot after Julian Alvarez was fouled.

Haaland's 34th Premier League goal of the season equals the competition record held by Andy Cole and Alan Shearer -- set in the days of 42-game campaigns.

The Norwegian is the first player to reach a half-century of goals across all competitions in a single English top-flight season since 1931.

"Before Winston Churchill was Prime Minister? Wow. Sounds a long time ago. Congratulations to Erling," said City boss Guardiola.

Fulham equalised in the 15th minute through Carlos Vinicius but Alvarez restored City's lead nine minutes before half-time.

Treble-chasing City, on top for the first time in 10 weeks, have won their past eight league games and are unbeaten in their past 18 matches in all competitions.

They are red-hot favourites to retain their title, taking full advantage of Arsenal's stumbles -- the Gunners are winless in their past four matches.

Arsenal host struggling Chelsea on Tuesday, with City at home to West Ham the following day.

"It's important but on Tuesday Arsenal will play," said Guardiola. "Important is the West Ham game, it's a game in hand. After that we'll be more real."

- Wilson double -

Callum Wilson came off the bench to score twice as third-placed Newcastle fought back to beat Southampton 3-1 and edge their opponents towards relegation.

The England forward was left out of Eddie Howe's starting lineup despite scoring twice at Everton in midweek but produced the

perfect response.

He cancelled out Stuart Armstrong's first-half opener and then helped himself to a second after Theo Walcott's own goal had given the Magpies the lead.

The win keeps Newcastle two points ahead of Manchester United but Southampton are anchored at the foot of the table, six points from safety with just four games to play.

Erik ten Hag's Manchester United edged in-form Aston Villa 1-0, courtesy of a first-half goal from Bruno Fernandes.

"We look from game to game and next we have Brighton so we need to work hard again," Ten Hag told the BBC.

"We need to show passion again and not worry about the table. We are totally in control (in the race for the top four). It's all about us and it's in our hands."

The match came just two days after Sheik Jassim Bin Hamad Al Thani and Jim Ratcliffe submitted their third, and what are expected to be final, offers to buy United from unpopular American owners the Glazers.

Other parties are interested in minority investment, and it was reported that Joel and Avram Glazer could remain stakeholders under one deal being proposed by British billionaire Ratcliffe.

A group of United fans marched to Old Trafford on Sunday in protest against the Glazers, with a giant banner reading "Full Sale Only".

### - Seven goals at Anfield -

In the later kick-off, Liverpool hit managerless Tottenham with a three-goal blitz in the first 15 minutes but the visitors stormed back and Richarlison scored an improbable equaliser in the 93rd minute.

Just when it seemed that Spurs had grabbed a dramatic point Diogo Jota won the game, leaving the Reds in fifth spot, seven points behind fourth-placed Manchester United having played a game more.

"We got away with it thank to Diogo Jota -- it makes it spectacular and everybody goes home buzzing," Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp told Sky.

Colombia midfielder Jefferson Lerma scored twice in four first-half minutes as Bournemouth moved 10 points clear of the relegation zone with a 4-1 home win over Leeds, who remain in deep trouble.

AFP

## Referee files criminal complaint after penalty threats

BERLIN

THE referee who admitted to making a mistake in Borussia Dortmund's 1-1 draw at Bochum has filed a criminal complaint due to threats against himself and his family.

German media reported Sascha Stegemann, who refereed the draw which saw Dortmund fall behind Bayern Munich in the Bundesliga title race, was even under police protection.

Speaking on German TV on Sunday, Stegemann, who on Saturday admitted his mistake after reviewing the footage of the incident, said he felt lodging the complaint was necessary.

"I have a great understanding for the emotions on Friday night" Stegemann told TV show Doppelpass.

"But my family and I were threatened very specifically. I have seen (these threats) myself and have filed a criminal complaint accordingly."

Stegemann said he was considering "whether it makes sense to take a break".

"A lot of negative things have come my way and I still have to process them."

In Friday's key moment, Dortmund forward Karim Adeyemi was brought down in the

box by Bochum defender Danilo Soares midway through the second half with the scores locked.

However, Stegemann waived play on and declined to use VAR to review the contact.

On Saturday, the German FA issued a statement saying "the TV pictures prove" the incident was "a foul and a penalty."

Stegemann then did an interview with German tabloid Bild saying he was "really annoyed" and "feels crappy", admitting he realised he made a mistake on watching the footage.

Bild reported that Stegemann was accompanied to the TV studios on Sunday by several police officers, some of whom can be seen in the background.

Dortmund CEO Hans-Joachim Watzke issued a statement saying "threats and hostility would not be tolerated", after German media reported Stegemann was under police protection.

Dortmund manager Edin Terzic said after the match the decision was a "key moment" in the draw, which may deny his side a chance to win their first title in 11 years.

Bayern won on Sunday against last-placed Hertha Berlin to reclaim the lead atop the table, as they push for their 11th consecutive Bundesliga title.

AFP

# South African strugglers Marumo defy odds in CAF Cup

JOHANNESBURG

CASH-STRAPPED South African Premiership strugglers Marumo Gallants eliminated expensively-assembled Egyptian club Pyramids from the CAF Confederation Cup on Sunday.

Celimpilo Ngema scored on 39 minutes to give the home team a 1-0 home win and a shock 2-1 aggregate victory in the quarter-final.

Marumo are just two points above the relegation zone in the domestic league with three rounds remaining having won only five of 27 matches.

But a team composed almost entirely of rejects from other top-flight clubs have excelled in the second-tier African competition, winning eight and drawing one of 12 matches this season.

Even South African football followers dismissed the chances of Marumo making the semi-finals after being paired with 2020 Confederation Cup runners-up Pyramids.

But Gallants took a first-leg lead in Cairo last Sunday before conceding a late penalty from which former Premier League winger Ramadan Sobhi levelled.

The second-leg winner came when an attempted Pyramids clearance rebounded off a teammate to Ngema, who slammed the ball past goalkeeper Ahmed el Shenawy from close range.

South African Fagrie Lakay wasted a great chance to equalise for the Egyptian outfit soon after half-time, but he blazed wide with only Zimbabwean goalkeeper Washington Arubi to beat.

Marumo came under intense pressure in the closing stages, but held firm and the woodwork denied them a second goal in added time.

The South Africans now face Tanzanian outfit Young Africans for a place in the final with the first



Letsie Koapeng of Marumo Gallants is challenged by Ibrahim Bati Toure of Pyramids FC during their CAF Confederation Cup 2022/23 match at the Royal Bafokeng Stadium, Rustenburg on the 30 April 2023. (Agencies)

leg in Dar es Salaam on May 13 and the return match on May 20.

### - Young Africans create history -

Young Africans were held 0-0 at home by Rivers United of Nigeria, but won 2-0 on aggregate thanks to a brace from Congolese Kalala Mayele in west Africa last weekend.

The return match was temporarily halted during the first half due to a power outage at the national stadium.

South African clubs Orlando Pirates and SuperSport United have reached three Confederation Cup finals between them, but lost them all.

Young Africans, popularly known as Yanga, are the first Tanzanian side to reach the semi-finals in the African equivalent of the UEFA Europa League.

Former African champions ASEC Mimosas of the Ivory Coast scored in added time at the end of each half to defeat US Monastir of Tunisia 2-0 and qualify on aggregate by the same scoreline.

Franck Zouzou broke the deadlock in Bouake with his first goal of the African campaign and Pacome Zouzou sealed success with his third in the Confederation Cup this season.

FAR Rabat, considered the strongest title contenders after an impressive run to the knockout stage, bowed out despite beating USM Alger of Algeria 3-2 in the Moroccan capital.

USM advanced 4-3 on aggregate to a last-four showdown with ASEC after building a two-goal first-leg advantage over the 2005 Confederation Cup winners.

Algerian Oussama Chita conceded an eighth-minute own goal to offer FAR hope, but Saadi Radouani equalised just four minutes later.

Cape Verde international Diney Borges gave FAR a 2-1 lead on the night after 60 minutes only for USM to level again, through Khaled Boussellou 12 minutes from time.

Moroccan Mohamed Hrimat converted a penalty deep in added time to give the military club a hollow victory.

## Jurgen Klopp asks what referee Paul Tierney has against Liverpool

By Mike McGrath



Referee Paul Tierney talks to Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp - Reuters

as his challenge on Skipp warranted a red card.

"I would like an explanation and a reason why it wasn't," said Mason. "I can understand referees and officials on the pitch missing it even though my feeling was an instant red card because when your foot is studs showing and you're five and a half feet off the ground and make contact with a player's head and draw blood, and there is a gash, I think it ticks all the boxes."

"Probably more so with an experienced referee in the VAR room, you want him to help the official on the pitch at that moment. Listen, it's decided the game because that player on the pitch shouldn't have been on there at the end decided the game. I'm pretty sure most football people's opinions will probably feel the same."

Klopp's response to Mason was that "I really think Ryan has other things to worry about". The Spurs interim manager will have to look at why his team conceded early goals again, with three goals coming in a quarter of an hour.

Kane led the fightback with a goal and he looked devastated at the defeat, saying he would be committed to "every place I am" when asked about whether he was committed to getting Spurs back towards the Champions League places. "I live in the moment and to give 110% every day and every place I am," he said.

"We have conceded virtually in the first minute of the last three matches. It is up to us to go out and, in these moments you cannot do

what we did at the end. A point, you take that into the final four games but the feeling is gut-wrenching to end in defeat and it is hard to take.

"The table doesn't lie, where we are doesn't lie. We have fantastic players and fantastic moments but overall as a team we are not playing well enough collectively. We need to find a way to start games where we are not under the cosh straight away. We deserve where we are, we have four games and this is going to be hard to take but we have to look at it back."

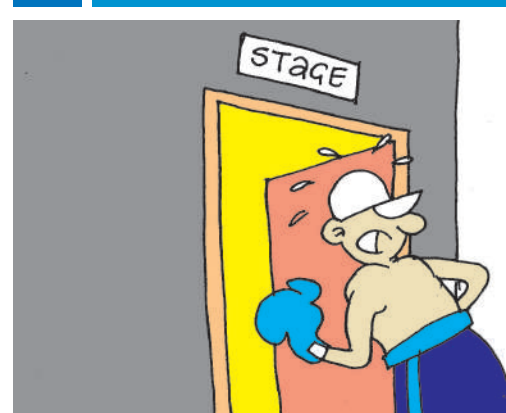
Klopp says his hamstring injury while celebrating will take days to recover from. "So fair punishment for behaving not the right away," he said. "That's it. I will have pain for a few days, Mr Tierney not. I will be ready to do what I always do and the celebrations if we have something to celebrate will be much calmer."

A statement from the referees' body, the Professional Game Match Officials Limited, said: "PGMOL is aware of the comments made by Jurgen Klopp after his side's fixture with Tottenham Hotspur."

Match officials in the Premier League are recorded in all games via a communications system and having fully reviewed the audio of referee Paul Tierney from today's fixture, we can confirm he acted in a professional manner throughout including when issuing the caution to the Liverpool manager so, therefore, we strongly refute any suggestion that Tierney's actions were improper."

THE TELEGRAPH

Gwiji by David Chikoko



You KNOW WHERE THE SWITCHES ARE, RIGHT?



# SPORT

South African strugglers  
Marumo defy odds in CAF Cup

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Tanzania's Simba SC midfielder, Mzamiru Yassin (2nd R), dribbles past Morocco's Wydad Athletic Club midfielders, Yahya Jabrane (2nd L), and Zouhair El Moutaraji when the two outfits took on each other in a 2022/23 CAF Champions League last-eight return leg clash at Mohammed V Stadium in Casablanca last weekend. Wydad Athletic Club recorded a 4-3 victory in the penalty shootout. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

## Simba SC, Yanga rake billions in successful CAF inter-club tourneys campaigns

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA'S outfits, Simba SC and Yanga can tell people that football is a lucrative sport when winning trophies and competing in big tournaments.

The two are now benefiting from being among the elite teams in Africa, thanks to their participation in the 2022/23 CAF Champions League and the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup.

CAF Champions League and CAF Confederation Cup prize money naturally increase with every round a team progresses in the tournament.

The initial lucrative achievement comes about upon qualification for the Group Stage. For making it past the Group Stage, the two clubs earn a combined total of USD 1.1 million (approximately 2.6bn/-).

Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) will be paid 5% of the two club's earnings which, at this stage, stands at USD50 000 (approximately 117m/-).

Of that total, Simba SC will have USD 650 000 (approximately 1.5bn/-) while Yanga will account for USD 450 000 (approximately 1.1bn/-).

If a club progresses from the Group Stage then additional prize money accumulates each round, meaning the deeper a club goes into the tournament, the more money it will make.

Simba SC advanced to the quarter-finals for the third time after finishing second in this season's CAF Champions League Group C behind Moroccan giants Raja Casablanca.

A 7-0 mauling of Guinea's Horoya Athletic Club and a double over Uganda's Vipers SC ensured Simba SC finished with nine points to confirm a place in the last eight with one game to spare before being knocked out by defending champions Wydad Athletic Club.

Yanga qualified for the semi-finals of the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup, beating Nigeria's Rivers United on a 2-0 aggregate.

In the first leg between the two clubs which took place at Godswill Akpabio International Stadium, Uyo on April 23, Yanga walloped Rivers United 2-0 and the rematch, which took place in Dar es Salaam on Sunday, ended in a 0-0 draw.

The Tanzanian side is set to lock horns with South Africa's Marumo Gallants in the semi-finals.

If Yanga secures progression to the CAF Confederation Cup final, the club will be guaranteed to earn at least USD 625 000, while winning the tournament's top honour will net the outfit almost USD 1.25 million in prize money.

Being CAF Confederation Cup champions provides Yanga with the opportunity to play the CAF Super Cup match against CAF Champions League winners, a chance which comes with USD100 000 (approximately 235m/-) prize money.

In addition, Yanga still has a chance to win the 2022/23 NBC Premier League title and this season's Azam Sports Federation Cup.

Nasreddine Nabi-coached Yanga which won the Community Shield at the start of the season, needs six more points to retain their NBC Premier League crown which will net them another 500m/-.

Yanga, as is the case with Simba SC, are in this season's Azam Sports Federation Cup semi-finals, if the former go all the way to defend their title, a further 50m/- will be added to their coffers.

## MREFA calls on fanatics to support Mbeya City FC

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

MBEYA Regional Football Association (MREFA) leadership has asked soccer fans in the region to turn out in large numbers for Premier League team Mbeya City FC's last two home matches, which will take place at the Sokoine Stadium.

Sadick Jumbo, MREFA Chairman, conceded that the situation is not stable for Mbeya City FC, which is participating in the 2022/23 NBC Premier League, as it is on the verge of being relegated.

So far, the team sits 13th after collecting 27 points, the club's remaining games will see it play against Geita Gold FC (away), and later host Yanga and Kinondoni Municipal Council FC at home before awaiting its fate.

The MREFA leadership made it clear that it is determined to ensure that the club does not get relegated, including coming up with incentives for the players.

"We need our fans to come out in big numbers to support our team in big numbers, in these crucial games having them in the stands will mean solidarity in a quest to survive in the top flight for next season," Jumbo pointed out.

"We first need to ensure Mbeya City FC wins the game against Geita Gold FC and then the home matches against Yanga and Kinondoni Municipal Council FC, we are not letting any Mbeya team go down at our expense," the official noted. "We are confident about the technical bench's competence and awareness of the players especially in times like these," Jumbo insisted.

The official said: "We don't want to consecutively lose our regional teams to the Championship League, last season Mbeya Kwanza FC was relegated... this season we have to make sure we find various kinds of motivation to make sure Mbeya City FC survives."

The Mbeya Municipal Council-owned team has been staring at relegation, as it is within the relegation/promotion playoff positions.

Mbeya City FC will have relief on paper as Polisi Tanzania and Ruvu Shooting will face tough fixtures with both having to take on Simba SC, Azam FC, and Singida Big Stars seeking to survive relegation.

The next match against Geita Gold FC will issue insight on either relegation survival or playoffs spot guarantee for Mbeya City FC.

Mbeya has three teams in the NBC Premier League, Tanzania Prisons, Ihefu SC, and Mbeya City FC.

So far two squads are guaranteed to remain in the top flight next season, while Mbeya City FC is understood to be still fighting for survival.

## Yanga head coach reveals conservative tactics in draw with Rivers United



Tanzania's Yanga attacker, Fiston Mayele (R), races past Nigeria's Rivers United defender, Ngweni Ndasi, in a 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup quarterfinal rematch that took place at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Sunday. The clubs were locked to a 0-0 draw. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA'S Yanga head coach Nasreddine Nabi has revealed reasons behind his conservative tactics as the club was held to a goalless draw by Nigeria's Rivers United in Dar es Salaam on Sunday evening.

The Tanzanian champions encountered a determined Nigerian club in the return leg of the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup quarterfinal tie at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium but held on to their first-leg advantage to progress to the semi-finals of the continental showpiece.

The first leg in Uyo, Nigeria on April 23 had ended with a 2-0 victory in favour of Yanga, putting Rivers United in a difficult position as they traveled to Tanzania

to try and turn things around.

Rivers United had vowed to turn the table on Yanga here in Dar es Salaam.

Speaking to the press after the game, Nabi explained Yanga had to be conservative as he knew the Nigerians were going to risk everything since they had nothing to lose.

The coach noted: "Rivers United had nothing to lose, so it was always going to be a difficult game and that's why I changed the squad, opting to play with two full-backs who are more defensive."

"And so I benched Djuma Shaban and Joyce Lomalisa, I also opted for two defensive midfielders to help in recoveries and tracking so that we would be able to defend well," the gaffer stated.

"We created two chances in the first half but unfortunately we could not score. In the second half we created three chances but we couldn't score too. We wanted to win but were unable to do so, it is football," the gaffer revealed.

"In the first leg, we scored two goals and today we had the opportunity to score five goals but we didn't. If we had opened up in the first half, maybe we would have allowed them to score one goal that would have motivated them to get a second," he insisted.

"We deliberately kept it tight, these are the kind of games you have to be cautious and calm. It can happen, you win the first leg away only for the game to change in the second leg at home," the coach noted.

Despite the draw, Yanga is delighted to have made it to the semi-finals and will now face Marumo Gallants of South Africa in the semi-finals next week.

Yanga will host the first leg in Dar es Salaam on May 10 with the return leg scheduled for a week later in South Africa.

The other semi-finals will involve Algeria's USM Alger and Ivorian giants ASEC Mimosas.

The final is set to revert to the home and away format and will be played on June 4 and June 11.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko



**TO NIGHT @ 9:00**

**MJADALA**

**EATV TUESDAY**

11:00 DADAZ  
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA  
13:00 Mpera Mpera  
13:30 Kali Za Wana  
13:55 Dondoo Za Michezo  
14:00 ESPORTS (r)  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 Mpera Mpera  
15:55 Dondoo Za Michezo  
16:00 Hot Spot  
16:30 Zote Kuntu  
17:00 SELEKT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 Kali Za Wana  
18:30 #HASHTAG  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
20:00 DADAZ (r)  
21:00 MJADALA  
21:30 Zote Kuntu  
23:00 Kurasa  
23:05 Club Bongers

**MJADALA** is a program that brings together stakeholders and the executive elite to discuss timely, national development issues.

The program targets an audience that is aware of current developmental challenges and opportunities and is keen to share, engage and participate in the shapping process.

**eastafrica RADIO**

06:00 Supa Breakfast  
10:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

**88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM**