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Guardian BUSINESS

DSE records 2bn/- weekly shares turnover with locals' dominance

Setting up new mines remains a formidable struggle, says report

Gen Z favours 2-way dialogue with brands, new study shows

IRDP to construct 6 billion/- academic block

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PM leads in first US bilateral business forum



World Contraception Day 2024 (Sept 26) panel discussion on: "A choice for all, freedom to plan, power to choose are fundamental rights" in progress in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Right is Dr Katanta Lazarus, Adolescents Sexual and Reproductive Health and Safeguarding manager with Management and Development for Health (MDH), a public health organisation that focuses primarily on public health service, education and research in Tanzania. Photo: Correspondent Mary Kadoke

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has extensively profiled the country's numerous opportunities that can entice any American company to invest in Tanzania. Launch the Tanzania-US business and investment forum on Thursday in New York, he set the case for Tanzania as an ideal destination for businesses, not easy to overlook on the continental stage.

a fair tax system, making it an appealing destination for foreign investments, he said. He pointed at the long-standing ties between the two countries extend across half a century and beyond, asserting that for more than two decades, average economic growth rates hovered close to 7 percent, with a low inflation rate averaging 3.8 percent up to December 2023. "The IMF estimates that at this growth rate, Tanzania will have the largest economy in East Africa by 2028, he said, emphasizing that the country's business environment is predictable, transparent and safeguarded against asset nationalisation.

Other factors include a modern communication networks, a diverse economy, good governance, and

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EJAT 2023: IPP has five journos in awards list

By Guardian Reporter

IPP Media this weekend shone at the Excellence in Journalism Awards Tanzania (EJAT) 2023, with five of its journalists emerging prize winners at a ceremony held in Dar es Salaam. Sanula Athanas was declared winner in education reporting in the open category, while Halfan Chusi won in the investigative reporting category while fellow Nipashe reporter Christina Mwakangale secured second place in the environmental and water sources protection reporting category. Simon Rogers and Benjamin Mzingo from ITV were awarded in the television category for human rights and good governance reporting. Gracing the awards, Deputy Speaker Mussa Azzan Zungu encouraged journalists to stick to professionalism and accuracy to help mitigate conflicts and promote peace in society. "Journalism is more than a machete; if a pen is misused, it can undermine the

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CRDB Bank in \$320m loan for Tanzania, Burundi SMEs

NEW YORK

CRDB Bank, a leading commercial bank in Tanzania, has signed a groundbreaking \$320m agreement with the USAID-based Development Finance Corporation (DFC) and Citibank Corp. to strengthen its ability to provide loans to small businesses in Tanzania

and Burundi.

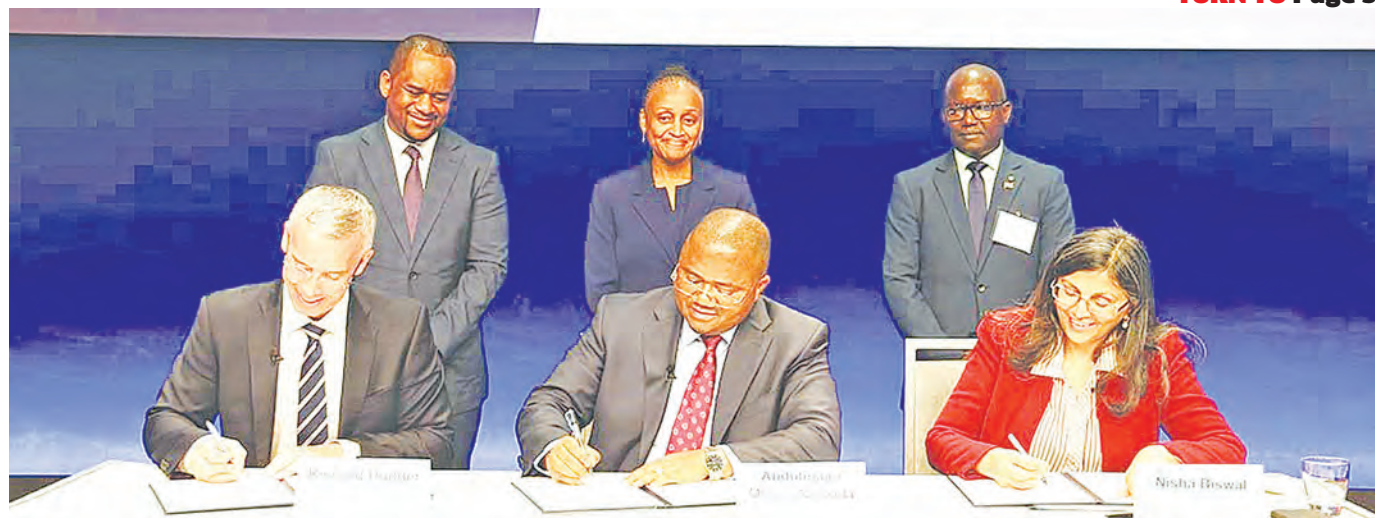
Abdulmajid Nsekela, CRDB Bank Group CEO said at the signing ceremony that the loan will expand access to finance for women- and youth-led micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs) in the two countries, empowering entrepreneurs to innovate and drive sustainable growth.

"We are confident that this funding will not only fuel business expansion but also serve as a catalyst for gender equality, providing women entrepreneurs with the support they need to thrive and contribute to inclusive economic development," he stated, in the company of Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa, and Prof.

Kitila Mkumbo, the Planning and Investment minister.

The funds will significantly bolster CRDB Bank Group's efforts in fostering inclusive economic growth in the region, as part of its five-year strategic plan aimed at enhancing support for entrepreneurs, the CEO affirmed.

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CRDB Bank Group CEO and managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela (C); Nisha Biswal, Deputy CEO of the US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) (R); and Richard Hodder, Citi's Managing Director and Global Head of Export and Agency Finance, sign a USD 320 million loan agreement to support over 4,500 small businesses in Tanzania and Burundi during a ceremony held at the Citibank headquarters in New York on Thursday. Looking on are senior CRDB Bank, DFC and Citibank officials. More photos on Page 5. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

SPORTS

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Prizes spark competitive surge in NBC Premier League

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Fountain Gate striker Mwalimu aims to extend goal-scoring streak in NBC Premier League



Zanzibar renews oil, gas appeals for Pemba blocks

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

INTERNATIONAL oil and gas companies and various stakeholders positively responded for the first round of Zanzibar block allocations where bids were invited last March, the government has

declared.

Othman Shabani, the Blue Economy and Fisheries minister, unveiled this move at a media briefing on the bidding process here over the weekend, urging international oil and gas companies to participate in this round, where

acceptance of bid proposals ends on December 16.

Promoting the blocks, Zanzibar has participated in three international oil and gas sector conferences, respectively in Britain, Norway and the United States.

The eight blocks available will

be promoted from the first round in two international conferences scheduled for October and November in South Africa to attract investors, he affirmed.

Invitation for onshore oil and natural gas blocks followed the completion of an assessment on

the area formerly known as the Pemba block, returned to the government from AK Gas following expiration of its license.

It has since been divided into

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Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute staff led by executive director Dr Peter Kisenge participate in a World Heart Day (Sept 29) anniversary walk in Dar es Salaam at the weekend as part of an ongoing campaign on the combating of non-communicable diseases. The walk coincided with two-day heart disease screening residents of the city. Photo courtesy of JKCI

Price instability driving consumers away from Zimbabwe chain stores

HARARE

CHAIN stores have traditionally been the preferred choice for shopping, but informal stores are becoming popular among cost-aware Zimbabweans as the new gold-backed currency, the Zimbabwe Gold (ZiG), continues to depreciate against the US dollar.

Zimbabwe has a multi-currency system mainly dominated by the US dollar, and according to the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe (RBZ), the central bank, around 80 percent of transactions are conducted in the greenback.

While supermarkets are mandated to use the official exchange rate, informal stores, known as tuck shops, typically operate outside regulatory frameworks, which enable them to conduct business exclusively in the stable and more predictable US dollar and dodge taxes, thereby making their prices more favorable to consumers.

To cushion themselves from incurring losses by trading in the local currency, supermarkets have resorted to increasing their prices both in ZiG and US dollars.

This drives consumers to informal markets, where traders offer lower prices.

In the central business district of Harare, the capital of Zimbabwe, some formal businesses have since closed shop and their place has been taken over by small retail outlets that reject or limit the use of the ZiG.

"The situation is clearly untenable and will lead to company closures if authorities do not intervene with policy measures to protect the formal retail sector," the Retailers Association of Zimbabwe, which comprises major retailers in the country, recently said.

On Friday, the ZiG was officially trading at 24.4 units to the dollar following its devaluation by the RBZ from around 14 ZiG units per dollar. On the parallel market, however, 1 US dollar fetched as much as 30 ZiG units.

Due to their use of the prevailing official exchange rate, supermarkets handle the bulk of their transactions in ZiG as it becomes cheaper for people to first exchange US dollars for ZiG at the parallel market before buying in supermarkets.

At the tuck shops, the use of ZiG is mostly limited to settling small changes below 1 US dollar, which is the smallest US dollar denomination in circulation in Zimbabwe.

Unlike in formal shops where

shoppers pick items from shelves themselves, at the tuck shops customers stay behind a counter and are served by an attendant who picks their selected items at the back of the store.

Open-air markets are also grabbing a share of the retail market. In downtown Harare, pedestrians negotiate their way on pavements occupied by traders selling all kinds of items including food, clothes and skincare products.

"Two liters of orange juice which costs around 4.50 US dollars at the tuck shops, but costs over 6.50 US dollars at formal supermarkets. It's cost effective to just buy all groceries at the tuck shops," said Harare resident Precise Jere, adding that she now only buys at informal markets due to their lower prices.

In addition, the mother of two said she mostly uses ZiG when paying for government-related services such as settling bills.

Zimbabwe has a history of currency turbulence. The country abandoned its currency, the Zimbabwean dollar, in 2009 and adopted a basket of foreign currencies dominated by the US dollar following a record hyperinflation that wiped out people's savings.

The country reintroduced another currency in 2019, but it rapidly lost value, which led to the introduction of the ZiG this year.

Officials say the new currency is being sabotaged. On Thursday, the Zimbabwe Revenue Authority (ZIMRA), the body responsible for collecting taxes and other revenue streams for the government, warned businesses evading taxes and rejecting the local currency.

"The authority is encouraging all corporate citizens and individuals to come forward and report any malpractice, particularly in relation to businesses that may be refusing to trade in local currency or those that purport to have out-of-service Point of Sale machines just as a means to force payments of goods or services in USD cash," said ZIMRA in a statement.

Obert Nyuke, secretary for security for the War Veterans' League in the Harare Province, urged businesses to support the local currency.

"When ZiG was introduced we expected price stability. These people are sabotaging our currency, and we are appealing to the Reserve Bank Financial Intelligence Unit to monitor what is happening on the ground," he said.

EJAT 2023: Five IPP jourros in awards list

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peace of a nation. Journalists should concentrate on the truth, especially in today's technologically advanced world," the veteran legislator noted.

He also urged media stakeholders to table to the government legal provisions that infringe on aspirations of the industry, for review, asserting that the legislature is ready to create an enabling environment for journalists to perform their duties effectively.

"The government is respon-

sive, and Parliament will act fairly to meet the needs of the public, as journalists are part of this process," he said, praising journalists who met the criteria for the awards after passing through a panel of judges led by prominent activist and ex-Daily News staff member Halima Sharif.

The chairperson for the EJAT 2023 panel noted several challenges encountered during analysis of the 1,135 submissions, particularly regarding press conferences as sources.

"Many of the submissions

were based on press conferences. Among the criteria we considered were those with accurate and specific sources. It is essential for reports to be based on reliable sources," she stated.

Ernest Sungura, the Media Council of Tanzania (MCI) executive secretary who chaired the awards organising committee, announced an increase in submitted works for 2023, reaching 1,135 compared to 893 for EJAT 2022, 606 in 2021 and 396 in 2020. City journalists led this

time with 290 entries, followed by Arusha with 81, Mwanza with 74, Iringa with 72 and Mtwara with 49 submissions, whereas Pemba North had 36, Pemba South 43 and Zanzibar Urban West had 290 submissions.

Of the 72 journalists participating in the competition, 45 were men and 27 were women, just over a third of all entries at 37.5 percent. The nominees included 25 from print media, 14 from television, 13 from online media and 20 from radio, the key organiser affirmed.



Tanzania Revenue Authority officials in Morogoro Region pictured at the weekend providing tax payment services to traders from a camp the agency has set up at Morogoro municipality's Chief Kingalu Main Market. Photo: Correspondent Ashton Balaigwa.

PM leads in first US bilateral business forum

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This allows investors to repatriate profits after paying taxes, he specified, pointing at the country's strategic location, sharing borders with eight countries, offering excellent business opportunities, with potential of a regional trade hub.

He similarly noted that Tanzania has a domestic market of over 62m people and can access mar-

kets of more than 500m people through regional communities such as the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) and the East African Community (EAC).

Tanzania's population is significantly made up of young people, providing ample labour supported by investments in education, he stated, pointing out that a number of US firms are working in

areas operated by the Export Processing Zones Authority (EPZA).

They are operating Tanchoice Ltd, Kibidula Farm Ltd, Africado Ltd, Full Cocoa Ltd and Next Gen Solawazi Ltd, having a combined investment of \$31.51m which created 866 jobs, the premier affirmed.

"These companies export products valued at \$28.6m annually, primarily to North America, Eu-

rope, the Middle East and South Africa. They have invested in processing meat, avocados and cocoa, as well as solar power generation," he explained.

The minister had earlier stated that the government is committed to foster an enabling environment attracting investors and strengthen economic relations worldwide, including the United States

Zanzibar renewing oil, gas appeals for Pemba blocks

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two blocks: Z1 covering 6,572 square kilometers, and Z2 covering 6,242 square kilometers, he said, affirming that these blocks are now open for investment.

International oil and natural gas exploration plus extraction companies were invited to submit proposals to initiate discussions with the government, eventually signing contracts for either of the two blocks, he said.

Designating the blocks through negotiations aligns with the government's strategic vision to attract investment in oil and natural gas activities, with expectation to develop these resources sustainably, he asserted.

He defended the negotiation method as aligned with the Zanzibar Development Vision 2050, along with Article 175 of the CCM Election Manifesto for 2020-2025, the Zanzibar Development Plan (ZADEP 2021-2026) and the Blue Economy

Policy set out in 2022.

All these guidelines prefigure exploration of oil and natural gas in Zanzibar in collaboration with international oil and gas companies, he said, urging global firms to show up for an opportunity to invest in the sector.

This investment environment is attractive and Zanzibar has a strong record of stability and good governance, the minister asserted, stressing that the Zanzibar authorities are ready to collaborate with all investors for mutual benefits.

He set out an update on the first round of offshore block allocations launched on March 20, stretching to eight, noting that after the launch, the government conducted a major campaign to promote these blocks.

This is essential to attract international oil and gas companies to participate in the round, while addressing challenges faced by companies in preparing proposals for the round, he added.

Finance minister directs all public entities to embrace e-procurement

By Correspondent James Kandoya

FINANCE Minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba has directed public institutions across the country to comply with procurement law by using the National e-Procurement System (NeST) to ensure value for money in government expenditure.

He issued the directive in Dar es Salaam at the weekend when receiving annual performance evaluation report from the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA).

Dr Nchemba said that NeST system which began in July 2023 has significantly improved transparency and accountability within procuring entities.

He said that the system aligns with the government directives to the Ministry of Finance to effectively oversee spending, especially in project implementation.

"We must embrace the system to enhance transparency and accountability, transforming internal control systems of our entities," he said.

The minister called on PPRA to increase awareness efforts regarding NeST system to prevent misunderstanding among stakeholders, urging strict actions against those who resist its implementation.

Dr Nchemba also instructed the authority to ensure compliance with regulations requiring procuring entities to allocate 30 percent of their budgets for special groups, including women, the elderly, youth, and people with disabilities.

He expressed the importance of leveraging

opportunities provided by the new public procurement law to support local products, individuals, and companies, thereby strengthening the domestic economy and enhancing taxpayer capabilities.

Dr Leonada Mwangi, Chairperson of the PPRA Board of Directors, said the submission of the report complies with the Public Procurement Act of 2023 which mandates submission within three months of the financial year's end.

She also outlined six achievements and challenges faced by the authority, noting that out of 999,671 public entities, only 53,886 have installed NeST system.

She warned non-compliant entities, saying that the authority will take action against them as stipulated by the PPRA Act of 2023.

Mwangi said that some public entities have not allocated the required 30 percent of their budgets for special groups.

"We shall ensure that action against those opposing NeST system is enforced in their entities. We promise to work professionally."

In the 2023/24 financial year, PPRA has trained 8,904 participants from 2,020 procuring entities on NeST system, including 643 participants from 420 entities, 393 members of parliament, 190 individuals from special groups, 26 regional administrative secretaries, and 166 through on-line training.

Other activities undertaken by PPRA include conducting investigations in 16 institutions, various project audits and ensuring compliance with procurement regulations.



Mama Maria Nyerere, Father of the Nation Mwalimu Nyerere's widow, has a word with members of the Twende Butiama 2024 delegation who called on her at her Dar es Salaam residence at the weekend ahead of their impending journey from Dar es Salaam to Butiama (Mwalimu's birthplace - in Mara Region). From-L: Twende Butiama Tour founder Gabriel Landa, Gertrude Mongella and Vodacom Tanzania Foundation director Zuweina Farah. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Govt wants more players in donkey protection initiative

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government has called for concerted efforts by stakeholders, including private sector players to enhance protection of donkeys in the country, saying the animal risks extension if not well safeguarded.

Speaking during a national level dissemination workshop in Dodoma at the weekend, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Prof Riziki Semdoe, said the government has put in place various measures to protect the country's re-

maining donkeys.

The meeting organized by Inades Formation Tanzania, the organization that implements donkey welfare project in the country with funding from Brooke East Africa.

Prof Semdoe said the government banned slaughter of donkeys for meat and trade in the country since 1st October, 2022 as their populations saw sharp decreases.

In a statement read on his behalf, the PS said Tanzania hosted the first Pan-African Donkey Conference in Dar es Salaam where delegates draft-

ed an urgent declaration to propose to the African Union.

Dubbed 'Dar es Salaam Declaration on Donkeys in Africa Now and in the Future' it recommends a 15-year ban on slaughter of donkeys for their meat and skin across the continent.

The declaration also pushes for further policies, strategies, programmes and legislation to help protect donkeys on both a national and regional level.

He added that the ministry has also declared donkey as one of the animals not for human consumption. "Private sector stakeholders in collaboration

with the government and international organizations as well as civil society organizations working on donkey welfare seek to ensure the trade for donkey meat and skin is stopped" he said.

He added that the government and private sector will continue providing public education and awareness on the importance of protecting the working animal and end the illegal trade on the animal's skin and meat.

Prof Mdoe thanked Inades Formation Tanzania and Brooke East Africa for the commitment and support to improve donkey welfare in Tanzania.

Mbarwa Kivuyo, Inades Formation Tanzania managing director noted that the meeting was to share with other stakeholders findings from some three reports on donkey welfare.

He termed them as report on assessment of the status of donkey trade post ban declaration in Tanzania, the current academic curriculum for diploma and certificate in health in Tanzania if it addresses welfare of donkeys. The other assessment is on Tanzania animal welfare policy and legal framework review and analysis, especially on donkey slaughter and

hides trade.

Samuel Theini, Brooke East Africa Advocacy and External Affairs Officer, argued that Tanzania is on the forefront in the struggle to improve donkey welfare across the continent.

He cited the country's determination to conduct the animal's census and the decision to impose ban on its trade and slaughters as some positive moves.

"Brook East Africa is proud to be associated with Tanzanian government and other stakeholders working to improve donkey welfare," he said.

PRESS RELEASE

GGML Gives 200,000,000/= to Sponsor the 7th Mining Technology Exhibition in Geita.

Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML) reinforces its commitment to innovation and community advancement by sponsoring the 7th Mining Technology Exhibition with an endowment of 200,000,000/= (Two Hundred Million Tanzanian Shillings). Held annually in Geita, the expo which is scheduled to take place from 02nd to 13th October 2024 is a hub for Tanzanian businesses across sectors, providing an opportunity for GGML to spotlight its latest technological innovation, adherence to local content and community investment through Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).

The exhibition is a collaborative effort between the Office of the Geita Regional Commissioner and Tanzania Trade Development Authority (TANTRADE) taking place at the External Processing Zones Authority (EPZA) in Geita, a facility

that was also constructed by GGML through its comprehensive Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives.

Gilbert Mworira, GGML's Senior Manager - Sustainability, shared insights into their involvement in the expo stating, "GGML has seven consecutive years into this collaboration and remains enthused to share mining equipment expertise. Our support transcends monetary provisions to fostering stronger connections with the Local Government Authorities, enterprises, small-scale miners and the local community at large," remarked Mworira.

In accordance with its long-standing objective of sustainable growth, GGML ardently backs the Tanzania's Government Vision 2025. This blueprint aspires for mining to contribute to a minimum of 10

percent of Tanzania's GDP.

The grand opening of the 7th Geita Mining and Technology Exhibition will witness the esteemed presence of Hon. Doto Mashaka Biteko (PM), the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Energy, on 05th October 2024. Capping off the event on 13th October 2024 will be H.E. Dr. Samia Suluhu Hassan, the President of the United Republic of Tanzania.

Since its genesis in 2000, GGML has unwaveringly championed the well-being and development of its host community. From health and education to infrastructure and livelihoods projects, each year, the company commits funds and resources in its enduring CSR endeavors to continue enriching the Geita community and Tanzania at large.





Sardine and tomato vendors based at Bukumi village on the Musoma Rural constituency shores of Lake Victoria in an eager wait for customers, as captured at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

New WFP representative to Tanzania hands credentials

By Guardian Reporter

THE United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) has welcomed Ronald Tran Ba Huy as its new representative to Tanzania.

The new representative officially presented his credentials to the government on Thursday last week, with Dennis Londo, deputy minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, receiving the documents.

During the occasion, the new country representative expressed WFP's enthusiasm to intensify collaboration to further boost the country's potential to become a regional hub for food production and logistics.

He said WFP is committed to supporting the government in ensuring that the most vulnerable communities have access to nutritious food, empowering smallholder farmers and investing in climate adaptation and emergency preparedness.

Tran Ba Huy's journey with WFP began in 2016 when he served as the Country Director and Representative in Haiti.

There, he managed the emergency response to Hurricane Matthew and assisted the government in developing the National SDG Strategy for Food Security and Nutrition.

In 2019, he was appointed Deputy Director of Research, Assessment, and Monitoring Division at WFP Headquarters in Rome, where he played a key role in developing the organisation's Strategic Plan for 2022-2026.

NBS evaluating impact of second TASAF social safety net initiative

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) is conducting impact evaluation survey on the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF)'s Productive Social Safety Net (PSSN)-II head of its completion in 2025.

The exercise that commenced on 17th of this month is being undertaken in 14 survey regions of Dodoma, Mtwara, Lindi, Singida, Ruvuma, Iringa, Morogoro, Tabora, Rukwa, Katavi,

Mwanza, Shinyanga, Dar es Salaam and Coast, with the aim of establishing its impact.

Speaking during a visit to witness the ongoing survey at Majeleko and Msanga wards in Chamwino District, Chief Statistician Dr Albina Chuwa noted that the aim of the exercise is to establish the status of households that were enrolled in PSSN.

"The outcome of the impact evaluation survey will help decision makers on what to improve on in the next

phase of PSSN," she said, adding that it is the government's intention to improve people's lives through the programme.

Dr Chuwa explained that to reduce extreme poverty and break its inter-generational transmission, the PSSN, which is based on integrated interventions targeted to the poorest households: a labour-intensive public works (PW) programme and conditional cash transfers (CCTs).

The specific objective of PSSN,

which is implemented by TASAF, is to increase income and consumption and improve the ability to cope with shocks among vulnerable populations, while enhancing and protecting the human capital of their children.

She added that through PSSN II, the government has reached 1.4 million households with six million people at wards, village and shehias throughout the country.

According to her, TASAF beneficiaries in Chamwino District are 8,754 whereby 209 are in Majeleko wards,

other 82 in Majeleko village while some 254 people are in Msanga ward and Kawawa village has 144 beneficiaries.

Statistics show that from 2000 to August, 2024, the government supported 1,500,000 households, equivalent to 6,960,000 people through PSSN.

"Out of these households, 394,500, equivalent to 1,893,600 people have graduated from the programme" said Dr Chua, adding that Between July, 2021 and June,

2024, a total of 945.5bn/- was disbursed to the beneficiaries.

She called on leaders of households involved in the survey and beneficiaries to cooperate by giving the right response based on the questions asked as such data help the government make good decisions.

On the other hand, she appealed to leaders at grassroots levels to explain to residents the importance of statistics for they also shape development activities.



FARU
GRAPHITE CORPORATION

FARU GRAPHITE CORPORATION - VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT PROCUREMENT SUPERINTENDENT (LOCAL CONTENT) (PV002)

Background

Faru Graphite Corporation (**Faru** or the **Company**) is developing the world-class Mahenge Graphite Project (**Project**) located in the Ulanga district. Faru is committed to delivering the Project safely, sustainably, and in accordance with all local content regulations.

About the Role:

Location: Dar es Salaam, Faru Branch Office

Engagement: Full-Time (Monday to Friday); 12-month Fixed-Term Contract.

Responsibilities:

- Responsible for facilitating local purchases from suppliers/vendors in accordance with Faru's procurement standards and Tanzanian legislation.
- Liaise with the Tanzanian Mining Commission to facilitate the procurement process. Manage and monitor the process of invitation, quotation, and selection of suppliers in accordance with Mining Local Content regulations.
- Participate in the evaluation of submissions in accordance with Faru's commercial and technical requirements.
- Ensure complete procurement process is correctly documented for internal and external audits.
- Conduct reviews and negotiations with suppliers' quotations to ensure Faru is quoted the most competitive price.
- Build and maintain an internal database of suitable local suppliers/vendors based on pre-determined criteria.
- Monitor and maintain inventories in liaison with heads of department and internal stakeholders where applicable.
- Evaluate and monitor contracts with suppliers/vendors to ensure that they comply with the terms and conditions of the contract and determine any need for changes if necessary.

Required Qualifications, Skills, and Experience:

- Bachelor's degree in Procurement Management, Logistics and Supply, Supply Chain Management, or any related field.
- Certified Procurement and Supply Professional (CPSP) holder
- 10+ years of procurement experience in a mining company in Tanzania
- Extensive knowledge of Tanzanian Mining Local Content regulations
- Experience working with the Tanzanian Mining Commission procurement process
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills in Kiswahili and English

Application Process:

Applicants are to submit a CV and cover letter to recruitment@farugraphitecorp.co.tz no later than 04 October 2024 at 11:59 pm EST. Please address the email subject line as follows: 'PV002: Surname, Given Name'

Faru Graphite Corporation Limited

Branch Address
Diamante Building, 3rd Floor, Wing A, 22 Chole Road, Dar es Salaam,
Tanzania

Registered Office Address
Plot No. 799, Block B, Mahenge Urban Area, Ulanga District, Morogoro,
Tanzania

P. O. Box 11, Mahenge-Ulanga, Tanzania
Email: info@farugraphitecorp.co.tz



ACT-Wazalendo Secretary General Ado Shaibu addresses a rally at Buchosa in Sengerema District on Saturday while on an ongoing tour aimed at strengthening the opposition party. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Envoy sees steady growth in Tanzania-Indonesia ties

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

INDONESIAN Ambassador to Tanzania Tri Yogo Jatmiko has said that partnership between Tanzania and Indonesia has grown steadily for the past six decades, thanks to mutual respect and shared values.

The envoy made the remarks in Dar es Salaam at the weekend during celebrations to mark 60 years of diplomatic relations between Tanzania and Indonesia alongside Indonesia's 79th Independence Day.

The event was attended by Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation Dennis Londo as well as high-ranking Tanzanian officials and Dr Ahamada El Badaoui Mohamed, Ambassador of the Union of the Comoros and Dean of the Diplomatic Corps of Tanzania.

Jatmiko said: "As we celebrate our 79th Independence Day, we also look forward to the future with optimism, committed to furthering development

in both nations."

He mentioned the historic milestones like the Bandung Spirit from the 1955 Asia-Africa Conference which laid the foundation for unity among developing nations.

He also pointed out the strengthening of relations through recent high-level visits between Tanzania and Indonesia, including President Joko Widodo's visit to Tanzania last year and visits by President Samia Suluhu Hassan and President Hussein Ali Mwinyi to Indonesia this year. The visits have deepened cooperation in key sectors such as energy, health, tourism and agriculture.

During the event, Ambassador Jatmiko launched Kiswahili edition of President Joko Widodo's book Mewujudkan Mimpi Indonesia (Ametimiza Ndoto za Indonesia) and the Bahasa Indonesia edition of President Julius Nyerere's book Uongozi Wetu Na Hatima Ya Tanzania (Kepemimpinan Kami dan Takdir Tanzania). The books cel-

brate the shared vision of leadership between the two nations. The editions were presented to Londo as a symbol of strong and enduring bond between Indonesia and Tanzania in honour of 60 years of diplomatic relations.

Londo emphasized the meaningful ties between Indonesia and Tanzania, underscoring collaboration in key areas such as trade, agriculture and education. The event also showcased cultural links between the two countries with a vibrant performance by Tanzanian artists of traditional Indonesian dance Ratoh Jaroe from Aceh, symbolizing the unity and shared spirit between the two nations.

Going forward, both countries reaffirmed their commitment to deepening cooperation in sustainable development, green energy and digital technology. Plans to establish the first Joint Commission on Bilateral Cooperation in 2025 marks an important step towards addressing regional and global challenges together.

CRDB Bank to get \$320m loan for Tz, Burundi SMEs

From page 1

Alongside innovative financing products, the bank, through its subsidiary CRDB Bank Foundation, has placed strong emphasis on capacity building for young and female entrepreneurs through financial literacy and entrepreneurship training, he elaborated.

"This partnership with DFC and Citi will further catalyze these efforts," he asserted, pointing out that the project targets more than 4,500 small businesses in Tanzania, where at least \$60m will support women-owned or women-led small businesses eligible for DFC's 2X Women's Initiative.

"This will help to address unique economic challenges women face globally, where upwards of \$25m will also go to supporting small businesses in Burundi, he specified, expressing gratitude to all stakeholders involved in enabling the deal to be reached.

He cited the crucial role played by the two governments in fostering an enabling environment for such partnerships, as pivotal in attracting international investment, which is vital in advancing the bank's development agenda.

Nisha Biswal, the DFC deputy CEO, emphasized the corporation's commitment, affirming its commitment to Tanzania's economic growth, focusing on investments that create the most significant impact on communities.

"This loan will support on-lending to thousands of small businesses that are essential for economic progress across the country," he stated, reiterating DFC's commitment to expanding its relationship in Tanzania.

It expects to strengthen existing partnerships and explore new opportunities for cooperation, advancing economic security across the region and throughout Africa, he said.

"This loan builds on DFC's extensive past work with CRDB Bank alongside USAID/Tanzania to support Tanzanian small businesses and Tanzanians," he said, citing a \$20m guaranty to support lending to small businesses with a focus on providing education services and working in informal sectors.

There is also a \$4m guaranty to expand access to finance for women and youth borrowers in the health sector, he said, stressing that Africa is a priority for DFC's investments.

He said that the continent represents DFC's largest regional portfolio, currently having more than \$11bn in exposure in countries across the continent, he stated, seconded by

Citibank (T) chief country officer and banking head Geoffrey Mchangila.

"Citi is actively working to execute our social finance agenda through innovative partnerships like this. Our goal is to help create real economic value in Tanzania by driving financial inclusion through the empowerment of small businesses by meeting financial needs that are currently unmet," he stated.

"This transaction is part of our \$1trn commitment to sustainable finance by 2030, strategically focused on expanding access to employment, finance, basic infrastructure and services to low-income communities in emerging markets," he declared.

With the future dependent on the empowerment of women and youth, CRDB Bank is leading the charge in Tanzania, creating opportunities that fuel the country's economic growth.

As one of the country's leading financial institution, the bank is not only driving financial inclusion but also playing a critical role in empowering micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), especially those owned by women and youth, he further noted, projecting that the facility will "enable them to thrive and become key drivers of Tanzania's economic recovery."

With a footprint in Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), the bank is also positioning Tanzanian MSMEs to tap into new regional opportunities through the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), he pointed out.

"By connecting local businesses to a market of over 1.3bn consumers across Africa, CRDB Bank is unlocking vast economic potential for Tanzanian entrepreneurs, to become regional powerhouses.

"In the past five years, CRDB Bank has provided over 4trn/- in financing to the MSME segment across various sectors, with a special focus on women-owned enterprises through its dedicated CRDB Malkia proposition.

"This initiative has not only expanded access to capital for women entrepreneurs but also enabled them to grow their businesses and contribute to Tanzania's economic development," the bank executive assessed.



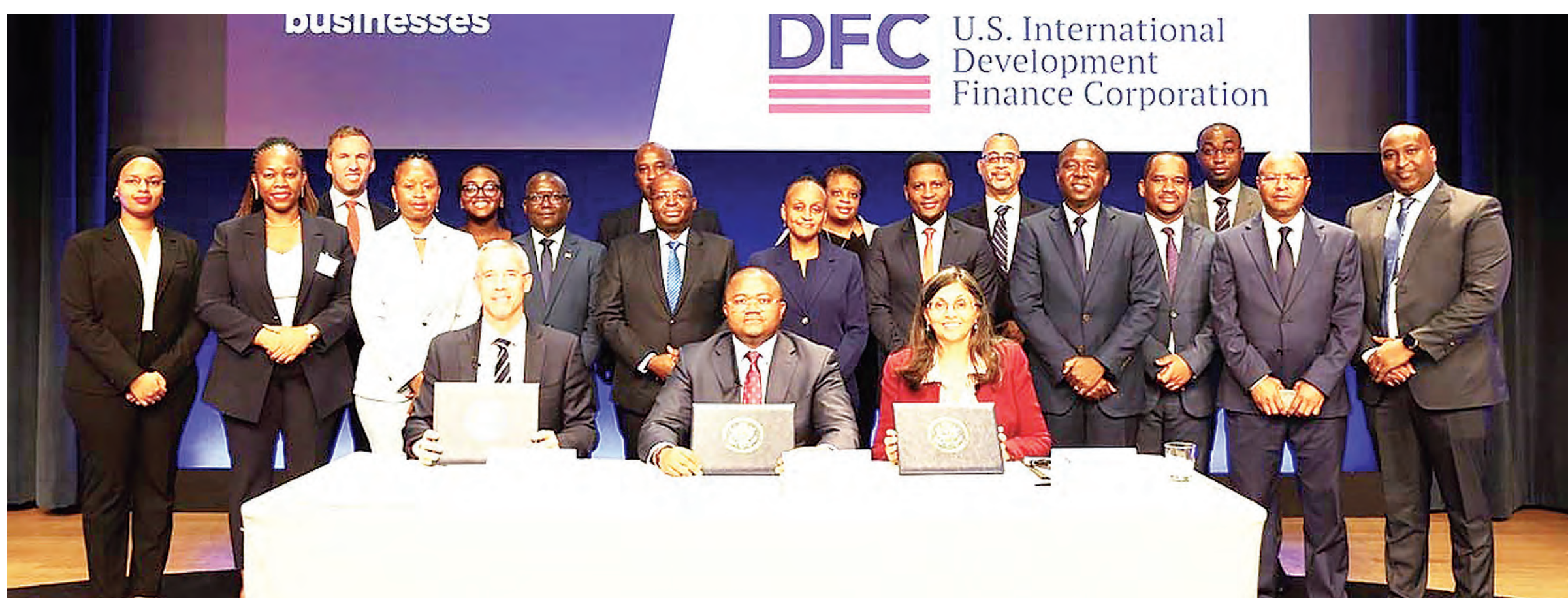
Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa delivers address at the US\$320 million loan agreement signing ceremony in New York.



DFC deputy CEO Nisha Biswal (R) makes remarks at the US\$320 million loan agreement signing ceremony in New York on the sidelines of the ongoing 79th Session of the United Nations General Assembly.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa (C, standing) and the Minister of State in the President's Office Planning and Investment, Prof Kitila Mkumbo (3rd-L, standing), and senior officials of CRDB Bank, the US International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) and Citibank witness Thursday's signing at Citibank's headquarters in New York of a US\$320 million loan agreement aimed at supporting over 4,500 small businesses in Tanzania and Burundi. The agreement was signed by CRDB Bank Group CEO and managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela (C), DFC deputy CEO Nisha Biswal (R), and Citibank's managing director and Global Head of Export and Agency Finance, Richard Hodder. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



CRDB Bank Group CEO and MD Abdulmajid Nsekela (C), DFC deputy CEO Nisha Biswal (R) and Citibank's MD and Global Head of Export and Agency Finance, Richard Hodder, pose for a photo with senior officials of CRDB Bank and DFC shortly after the signing of the US\$320 million loan agreement.

Govt, stakeholders saluted for women's empowerment effort

By Guardian Correspondent, Kibaha

THE government and development stakeholders have been lauded for implementing various programmes aimed at empowering women to take up leadership roles.

This came out at the weekend at the climax of a six-day training held at Mwalimu Nyerere Leadership School in Kibaha District, Coast Region.

The training involved female leaders from public institutions and private organizations as well as local government representatives.

Naomi Mpemba, Assistant Director of Europe and America Department in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation acknowledged the efforts in encouraging women to actively participate in driving the country's development agenda.

"We thank the trainers and the government and its partners for various programmes that enhance women's capabilities at various leadership levels," she said.

"This training has provided us with significant knowledge, skills and experience in leadership and human resource management, preparing us for future responsibilities and enabling us to implement directives that promote national and community development."

Kabula Igambwa, acting head of Mwalimu Nyerere Leadership School, said that the training covered a wide range of topics, including patriotism, national interests, security, history and liberation movements, enhancing strategic thinking and leadership principles.

She also highlighted the focus on improving personal leadership skills, people and institutional skills, fostering inclusive institutional cultures and strengthening capacities for sourcing financial resources and managing institutional projects efficiently. "The training also offered the opportunity to develop strategic institutional leadership skills, conflict resolution and decision-making, preparing participants for senior leadership roles," Igambwa said.



NICOL Investment Plc shareholders flip through documents at the firm's annual general meeting held in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Photo by Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Education stakeholders to congregate in Dar to detect challenges, offer solutions

By Getrude Mbago

OVER 300 education stakeholders and experts from within and outside Tanzania are scheduled to convene in Dar es Salaam in November to devise effective solutions to challenges facing the sector.

This is through the 4th International Quality Education Conference (IQEC), organised by Tanzania Education Network (TEN/MET) and its partners.

Addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam over the weekend, Martha Makala, TEN/MET National Coordinator, said the conference will uncover trends in education and learn unique perspectives in enhancing

education system transformation in addressing the future of education in Africa, context, challenges and opportunities.

Themed 'Fostering Resilient Education Systems for Sustainable Development in Africa', the forum is scheduled from November 12 to 14 with discussion to ensure that education systems effectively respond to current challenges and withstand changes driven by technological advancements, thereby ensuring sustainable and enduring development across the continent.

Makala acknowledged that Tanzanian government has made significant progress in enhancing provision of secure and conducive

learning environments for pre-primary, primary and secondary school pupils through implementation of various initiatives to ensure that every child in Tanzania has equitable access to quality basic education.

Countries set to participate in the conference include Zimbabwe, Zambia, South Sudan, Lesotho, South Africa, Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda.

She outlined several topics to be discussed, including strategies to strengthen resilient educational systems for sustainable development in Africa, improving access to quality education for all and building educational frameworks that

tackle current challenges.

Other discussions will include the role of technology in enhancing educational systems, developing 21st-century teaching and learning methodologies and sharing experiences from within and outside Tanzania regarding initiatives and successes in the education sector.

Additionally, the agenda will cover dissemination of research findings on various education studies, innovative financing approaches in education—both international and local perspectives—and showcase efforts of education stakeholders through implementation of various initiatives and creative projects that bolster education systems.

Wilberforce Meena, education technical advisor at HakiElimu said following time to time technological changes, it is important to conduct regular assessments and improvements in education curricula, policies and laws.

He said that investing in technology in education sector is important, including revamping classrooms with technology and flexible designs to foster interactive learning experiences.

Makoye Japhet, Christian Social Services Commission (CSSC) Director of Education Services noted that improvement in education sector is an endless process.

"The ongoing changes in science and technology, along with cultural

shifts, have a significant impact on education trends. This is why we continue to meet and seek solutions that can effectively address the emerging challenges in today's world," he said.

The conference has been organised in collaboration with various institutions, including Campaign for Female Education (CAMFED), Msichana Initiative, CSSC, Pestalozzi Children Foundation, Shule Direct, Plan International, Save the Children, UWEZO Tanzania, African Child Projects, HakiElimu, Policy Forum, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Aga Khan Foundation, Flaviana Matata Foundation and Tai Tanzania.



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Wishes to invite sealed bids for its annual tenders for supply of various goods and services required.

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Email: godwin.chambala@hyatt.com
At Hyatt Regency Dar es Salaam – The Kilimanjaro,
Kivukoni front, Dar es Salaam

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All our existing service providers are required to participate alongside prospective service providers in order to be reviewed and considered.

The tender duration is 30 days and closes on the 31ST October 2024 at 5 P.M.

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1. Dairy Items	11. General supplies.
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5. Wines	15. Fumigation Services
6. Spirits and Tobacco	16. Internet Services
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Hyatt Regency Dar Es Salaam -The Kilimanjaro and Park Hyatt Zanzibar reserves the right to accept or reject the lowest or any bid in whole or in part.

The Nature Conservancy

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Nature Conservancy's (TNC) mission is to protect the lands and waters upon which all life depends. In Tanzania, TNC collaborates with various stakeholders to promote sustainable community development through sustainable and equitable management and use of fisheries resources and freshwater biodiversity protection.

In Nkasi District, United Republic of Tanzania, working with Nkasi District and respective village governments, the Lake Tanganyika Program has established 10 Beach Management Units (BMUs) across 10 villages, which are organized into three CFMAs in Kirando, Kipili, and Mkinga wards. These BMUs are tasked with enforcing fisheries regulations and policies in their areas as mandated by the Director of Fisheries under the Fisheries Act. The CFMAs are intended to provide supervisory support to the BMUs and advisory assistance to the village councils to which the BMUs are accountable.

Despite the establishment of Centre Coordination Committees (CCC) for these CFMAs, they are not yet fully operational. Additionally, while the BMUs are functioning, their performance requires enhancement to meet the conservation targets outlined in their respective work and management plans.

The Lake Tanganyika Program seeks to engage a competent contractor to support the operationalization and capacity building of the three CFMA Centre coordination committees and to conduct a thorough assessment of the performance of the 10 BMUs. Special emphasis will be placed on developing operational strategies and practical modalities that transform CFMAs into local Community-led organizations capable of providing technical guidance and leadership to BMUs in sustainable fisheries co-management and freshwater biodiversity protection.

Interested and qualified vendors are encouraged to contact TNC for the complete Request for proposal at procurement.lake@tnc.org.

Please note that each vendor is invited to submit a quote for only one of the three proposed sites, and we encourage vendors to select the site that best aligns with their capabilities and resources.

Note: The deadline for proposal submissions is set for October 21, 2024, at 10:00 AM EAT.

Call: Entice more males into family planning for initiative to bear fruit

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

HEALTH stakeholders have been urged to initiate friendly male family planning methods so as to increase their awareness and engagement in the process.

Dr Katanta Lazarus, Management and Development for Health (MDH) Adolescents Sexual and Reproductive Health (ASRH) and Safeguarding manager, underscored the need in Dar es Salaam at the weekend during World Contraception Day (WCD) Panel discussion dubbed 'A choice for all, freedom to plan, power to choose.'

He said men's health status and behaviour can affect women's health and reproductive health hence involving them with friendly family planning increases their awareness, acceptance and support to their partners' needs, choices and rights.

"Statistics show men's limited involvement due to perceived side effects of female contraceptive methods that disrupt sexual activity and perceptions that reproductive health was a female concern. Its high time family planning stakeholders thought of raising awareness to men who are seen to rarely

take part in the process," he said.

He further said that MDH, which is funded by the US President's Emergency Fund for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) through the US Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (US CDC), ensures that those enrolled in HIV care and treatment services are also aware and taking part in the process.

Dr Charles Mngale, a gynaecologist working with MDH, said the commemoration aimed at giving the community the right information on family planning that can only be obtained from experts in the field. He further explained that experts provided information on contraception, pregnancy risk factors, prenatal care, nutrition and postpartum recovery.

"One of the challenges has been the misleading claim family planning causes cancer. One thing the society should know is that family planning reduces high risks of getting cancer," he said.

Warren Bright, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Tanzania communications manager, said in collaboration with the Ministry of Health, they lead global efforts to ensure all individuals can access and use affordable, quality repro-

ductive health supplies whenever they need them.

According to him, this will mean fewer unintended pregnancies and hence abortions, less maternal mortality, healthier families and healthier economies even in the poorest countries.

"UNFPA provides targeted support to governments and civil society organisation to strengthen their supply chain management systems so that supplies reach users wherever and whenever they are needed," he said.

"Although concentrated on reproductive health, UNFPA supplies support is making a big impact on national supply chain systems in general. Support through this Programme has helped countries to better understand and visualise their particular bottlenecks and ways of addressing them."

The Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey and Malaria Indicator Survey (2022 TDHS-MIS) reports show that Tanzania has made good progress in family planning over the past three decades with 31 percent of married women of reproductive age using modern methods of contraception which is one percent decline from 2015-2016 survey.



Abdulmalik George (R), a veterinarian with the Tanzania Animal Protection Organisation, pictured in Kahama town at the weekend vaccinating a dog against worms, rabies and other diseases in implementation of a drive run free of charge in collaboration with the town council. Photo: Correspondent Shaban Njia

Othman: To transform Pemba requires visionary leadership, good governance

By Guardian Reporter, Pemba

ACT- WAZALENDU Vice Chairman and Zanzibar First Vice President Othman Masoud Othman has suggested the need for having visionary leadership and good governance which are essential for development of Pemba Island.

Othman made the suggestion here yesterday when addressing thousands of party members at a public rally held at Konde Police football grounds at Konge Constituency in Micheweni District, Pemba North Region.

He highlighted the persistent issues in Micheweni, despite its abundant resources, comparing with other island nations like the Maldives, stating that it is so astonishing to see that a district like Micheweni remain underdeveloped when it has a lot of resources.

"We can only escape this quagmire by doing things differently. We can't expect the same old solutions from the same people. We must return to the basics and respect the electorate who determine their own governance and aspirations," he said.

Othman further pointed out that those who gain power through electoral manipulation cannot be held accountable as they are not genuinely chosen by the people.

Party Vice Chairman Ismail Jussa termed the ruling party' CCM's 2020 promises to "unlock" Pemba as "mere illusions."

"Who locked Pemba?" he asked, noting that the ruling party has been in power for 60 years yet continues to make the same unfulfilled promises, asserting that Pemba's fertile soil and favourable climate should be enough to realize its potential.

"Rhetoric from politicians without action will lead to nothing," he added, arguing that critical infrastructure such as a seaport and an international airport are necessary for the island's growth.

"We want to see international flights landing in Pemba and large ships docking here; that's the only way we can help the island and its residents achieve their dreams," he said.

Residents get community water point, cattle trough

By Guardian Correspondent, Kibaha

IN a step towards securing sustainable water access for local communities and the environment, WWF Tanzania and Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL) have handed over solar-powered water system infrastructure which includes a borehole, livestock trough and domestic water point in Kibaha District, Coast Region.

During the same event at the weekend, the two partners also launched a pilot of restoration projects under Bankable Nature Solutions model to promote long-term water security and ecosystem protection.

The handover ceremony, held at Minazimikinda Village was officiated by Kibaha District Commissioner Nickson Simon who praised the collaboration between TBL and WWF.

He emphasized the importance of partnerships in tackling the country's water challenges, particularly in fast-urbanising centres in various regions.

"Water is a critical resource for growth of our communities and the economy. This partnership demonstrates the power of collaboration in addressing water scarcity. The efforts of TBL and WWF Tanzania to improve water security, particularly in Dar es Salaam and its neighbouring areas are commendable and a crucial step towards ensuring sustainable access to clean water for all," he said.

The newly installed solar-powered water system will provide water to surrounding communities, supporting both households and livestock in the area. The infrastructure addresses immediate water scarcity concerns and integrates environmentally-friendly technology to ensure sustainable usage over time.

The Bankable Nature Solutions approach leverages natural resources sustainably, turning environmental conservation efforts into financially viable projects that deliver benefits to both the economy and communities. Through the initiative, TBL and WWF Tanzania aim to create a replicable model that can be adopted across the country to address water scarcity and boost environmental conservation.



ADVERTISEMENT

Air Tanzania Company Limited (ATCL) is expanding its network to meet the strategic business needs which focus on sustaining the recorded achievements and remain an airline of choice that meets and exceeds customers' expectations in line of its mission of provision of reliable, safe, and high-quality services. Therefore, applications are invited from qualified Tanzanians to fill the following positions: -

1. POSITION: SALES AND MARKETING OFFICER II (MARKETING) - (1 POST)

1.1 KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- i. Develop and implement localized marketing campaigns to meet specific market trends and consumer needs.
- ii. Manage regional advertising efforts, including media buys and partnerships with local channels.
- iii. Collaborate with sales teams to create and execute region-specific promotions.
- iv. Report on the effectiveness and outcomes of market-specific marketing activities.
- v. Build and manage partnerships with local and global entities, including hotels, car rental companies, tourism boards, and more.
- vi. Secure and manage sponsorship deals with sports teams, events, and other institutions to boost brand visibility.
- vii. Plan and execute event marketing initiatives, ensuring Air Tanzania's presence at relevant regional events.
- viii. Manage event sponsorship deals, including sporting events, conferences, and public promotions.
- ix. Ensure consistent brand visibility and representation at all sponsored events and partnerships.
- x. Drive brand recognition through collaboration with stakeholders and by leveraging marketing opportunities at local and global levels.

1.2 MINIMUM ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS AND WORK EXPERIENCE:

- i. Must have a Bachelor's Degree in any field.
- ii. Must hold one of the following certificates: Air Transport Management, Air Ticketing, Air Cargo, Dangerous Goods, Ground Handling, or equivalent qualifications from a recognized Aviation institution.
- iii. Proficiency in computer applications.

2. TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

Ten (10) years contract for Tanzanian and with attractive remuneration and fringe benefits as per ATCL Salary Structure and Incentive Scheme.

3. GENERAL CONDITION FOR APPLICANTS:

- i. All applications must be sent through ATCL Recruitment Portal by using the following address: <https://recruitment.atcl.co.tz> and NOT otherwise. This address can also be found at Air Tanzania website.
- ii. Interested applicants must upload a dully signed letter for consideration of the application. The letter should be addressed to Managing Director & CEO, Air Tanzania Company Limited, P.O. Box 543, Dar es Salaam.
- iii. An updated curriculum vitae (CV),
- iv. Certified copies of all certificates (including secondary school, birth certificates), other relevant certificates, Applicants who have studied outside Tanzania should have their certificates approved by relevant authorities Tanzania Commission for University (TCU) or National Examination Council- NECTA)
- v. Name and address of at least two reputable referees;
- vi. Applicant's reliable contact address, email address and telephone number.
- vii. Only shortlisted candidates will be informed on a date for interview
- viii. Women are encouraged to apply.
- ix. Misrepresentation of qualifications or any other information on application shall warrant legal consequences.
- x. Applicants should reach the undersigned within 14 days from the first date of this announcement.

Mitigating food access gaps in areas close to wildlife sanctuaries relevant

FINDINGS from research work at a university in the US say that lack of food, not money, is the primary driver of poaching in Tanzania's Mkomazi National Park.

A doctoral student led the survey, based on a study covering 267 household heads in villages bordering the park to understand the factors leading to illegal activities in the park.

The findings were not surprising but there are suggestions for sustainable solutions balancing conservation and local needs.

This is something observable at a distance, but it takes a fully structured scientific study to make the necessary precision on the issues concerned, particularly as to the extent to which community needs impinge on conservation.

The authors say the study sheds light on the complex relationship in human livelihoods and wildlife conservation in East Africa and is likely to be applicable elsewhere.

In the survey, the researchers picked a range of needs and sought responses specifically to each, namely, food security, financial security and educational security. Each may lead to poaching.

The background is that the park, established in 1951, covers more than 1,200 square miles (3,100 square kilometres) of protected habitat for otherwise endangered wildlife, including elephants, lions, buffalo and rhinoceroses.

The study said that the gazettement of the park displaced large numbers of people, creating tension between conservation efforts and local communities' needs.

That looks somewhat curious as the zone is rather sparsely populated, with urban settlements along the main roads as well as densely populated cool mountain areas. The parks were being

created from wild zones teeming with animals.

The research findings challenge common assumptions about the motivation for poaching, with a study supervisor and assistant professor saying that residents of the zone has relied on the animals for generations on end.

That too has its limitations as it is largely an assumption, while 'area histories' in the 1960s before they were largely discontinued showed that most ethnic groups are migrants in their areas.

The authors say locals relied on the nearby wild zone for supply of the likes of meat, traditional medicines, firewood, fish and timber and were then simply cut out.

Looking at the history of how the country arrived at independence, moving thousands of people out of an area to create a national park was sort of unlikely as late as 1959 where even the paper date of independence had already been agreed.

Many will recall the placard that Mwalimu JK Nyerere was brandishing in the old city of Dar es Salaam upon returning from Lancaster House apparently in 1958 as brief and clear, on 'Complete Independence, 1961.'

Where parks were created and there were native people, dual usage structures were formulated - and this facilitated population increase, just as still applies to date.

Even if one discounts the presumed infringement on traditional rights by gazettement of the zone as a national park, it remains true that people near the area find it much easier to hunt in the park than to buy meat.

The taste of some penal provisions was painfully experienced a few months ago when a widowed mother was sentenced to imprisonment for being found in possession of antelope meat or something of the sort.

Compilation of FAO atlas on fighting tsetse flies in Africa takes 31 years...

THERE is no doubt that efforts to control and eliminate animal trypanosomiasis depend heavily on sound evidence of the way the disease is scattered, the main breeding grounds, etc.

Reports from the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) indicate that the last continental maps of tsetse distribution in Africa were developed more than half a century ago. Piecemeal national maps are halting, while no Africa-wide map of the prevalence of the disease has been generated.

The idea that the UN agency has now just completed a tsetse continent map as the first significant step in filling the data gaps is a telling illustration of how much Africa isn't in control of key factors determining the continent's development decisions. It also leads to taking another look at just what is the way out of this situation, as the FAO initiative is largely a resuscitation of sorts of pre-independence pan-territorial efforts linked to wider strategies for taming such threats.

Independence disconnected these drives at a wider level, while enveloping chaos is leading to their being intimidated again even if in the absence of usable structures.

It is reported that FAO data on tsetse distribution are based on 669 scientific papers spanning 31 years (from 1990 to 2020), combining geo-location data with entomological fieldwork (research on the presence of such insects), along with stationary traps and fly rounds using mobile devices. The latter is obviously a latter-day addition helping to cover gaps of detail without more substantial

research outlays, given the numbers of areas needing to be covered. And many will likely be restive, as trusting local agencies at times brings about false data.

For a good number of African countries the holding of a national population census is a tricky issue, as provinces, regions or counties vie for higher population rankings so as to elevate their requisite entitlement in federal or national government funding.

Holding prevalence surveys at the national level carries similar risks, on account of either for faulty mapping or anticipatory accusations that this or that was not the case.

It took a whole three decades up to 1991 for the issue to return to the table and just about as long for the compilation of the data to be done.

The data are admittedly comprehensive, with 7,386 sites across Africa analysed and confirming the presence of the disease in 34 countries.

The more notable - and surprising - finding was the lack of tsetse fly data for Burundi, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Somalia even when the disease is believed to be there and causing sleeping sickness in humans.

While the summary report said little about Tanzania, the record here is likely to be far better than in most African countries - with no presence of cattle in various districts, especially in Lindi and Mtwara regions, while herders have since moved in by the hundreds. In sum, the ability to control tsetse flies could safely be given as clear biometric evidence of good governance providing invaluable lessons.

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Easing Africa's debt burdens: Here's fresh approach, based on an old idea

PRETORIA

THE statistics are stark: 54 governments, of which 25 are African, are spending at least 10% of their revenues on servicing their debts; 48 countries, home to 3.3 billion people, are spending more on debt service than on health or education.

Among them, 23 African countries are spending more on debt service than on health or education. While the international community stands by, these countries are servicing their debts and defaulting on their development goals.

The Group of 20's current approach for dealing with the debts of low income countries is the Common Framework.

It requires the debtor to first discuss its problems with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and obtain its assessment of how much debt relief it needs. Then it must negotiate with its official creditors - international organisations, governments and government agencies - over how much debt relief they will provide. Only then can the debtor reach an agreement - on comparable terms to the official creditors - with its commercial creditors.

Unfortunately, this process has been sub-optimal. One reason is that it works too slowly to meet the urgent needs of distressed borrowers. As a result, it condemns debtor countries to financial limbo. The resulting uncertainty is not in anyone's interest. For example, Zambia has been working through the G20's cumbersome process for more than three and a half years and has not yet finalised agreements with all its creditors. The need for a new approach is overwhelmingly evident. Although the current crisis has not yet become the "systemic" threat it was in the 1980s when multiple countries defaulted on their debt, it is a "silent" sovereign debt crisis.

We propose a two-part approach that would improve the situation of sovereign debtors and their creditors. This proposal is based on the lessons we have learned from our work on the legal and economic aspects of developing country debt, particularly African debt.

First, we suggest that official creditors and the IMF create a strategic buyer of "last resort" that can purchase the bonds of debt distressed countries and refinance them on better terms. Second, we recommend that all parties involved in sovereign debt restructurings adopt a set of principles that they can use to guide the debtor and its creditors in reaching an optimal agreement and monitoring its imple-

mentation.

The current approach fails to deal effectively and fairly with both the concerns of the creditors and all the debtor's legal obligations and responsibilities. Our proposed solution would offer debtors debt relief that does not undermine their ability to meet their other legal obligations and responsibilities, while also accommodating private creditors' preference for cash payments.

Our proposal is not risk-free. And buybacks are not appropriate for all debtors. Nevertheless, it offers a principled and feasible approach to dealing with a silent debt crisis that threatens to undermine international efforts to address global challenges such as climate, poverty and inequality.

It uses the IMF's existing resources to meet both the bondholders' preferences for immediate cash and the developing countries' need to reduce their debt burdens in a transparent and principled way.

It also helps the international community avoid a widespread default on debt and development.

Bondholders are a major problem

Foreign bondholders, who are the major creditors of many developing countries, have proven to be particularly challenging in providing substantive debt relief in a timely manner. In theory, they should be more flexible than official creditors.

Developing countries have been paying bondholders a premium to compensate them for providing financing to borrowers that are perceived to be risky. As a result, bondholders have already received larger payouts than official creditors. Therefore, they should be better placed than official creditors to assist the debtor in the restructuring processes.

However, despite having received large returns from defaulted bonds, bondholders have remained obstinate in debt restructurings. Our proposal seeks to overcome this hurdle in a way that is fair to debtors, creditors and their respective stakeholders.

How it would work

First, the official creditors and the IMF should create and fund a strategic buyer "of last resort" who can purchase distressed (and expensive) debt at a discount from bondholders. The buyer, now the creditor of the country in distress, can repackage the debt and sell

it to the debtor country on more manageable terms.

The net result is that the bondholders receive cash for their bonds, while the debtor country benefits from substantial debt relief. In addition, the debtor and its remaining official creditors benefit from a simplified debt restructuring process.

This concept has precedent. In 1989, as part of the Highly Indebted Poor Countries Initiative, the international community's effort to deal with the then existing debt burdens of poor countries, the World Bank Group established the Debt Reduction Facility, which helped eligible governments repurchase their external commercial debts at deep discounts. It completed 25 transactions which helped erase approximately US\$10.3 billion in debt principal and over US\$3.5 billion in interest arrears.

Some individual countries have also bought back their own debt. In 2009, Ecuador repurchased 93% of its defaulted debt at a deep discount. This enabled the government to reduce its debt stock by 27% and promote economic growth in subsequent years.

Unfortunately, the countries currently in debt distress lack sufficient foreign reserves to pursue such a strategy. Hence, they need to find a "friendly" buyer of last resort.

The IMF is well positioned to play this role. It has the mandate to support countries during financial crises.

It also has the resources to fund such a facility. It can use a mix of its own resources, including its gold reserves, and donor funding, such as a portion of the US\$100 billion in Special Drawing Rights (SDR), the IMF's own reserve currency, which rich economies committed to reallocate for development purposes.

Such a facility, for example, would have enabled Kenya to refinance its debts at the SDR interest rate, currently at 3.75% per year, rather than at the 10.375% rate it paid in the financial markets.

It is noteworthy that the 47 low-income countries identified as in need of debt relief have just US\$60 billion in outstanding debts owed to bondholders. Our proposed buyer of last resort would help reduce the burden of these countries to manageable levels.

Second, we propose that both debtors and creditors should commit to the following set of shared principles, based on internationally

accepted norms and standards for debt restructurings.

Guiding principles

1. Guiding norms: Sovereign debt restructurings should be guided by six norms: credibility, responsibility, good faith, optimality, inclusiveness and effectiveness.

Optimality means that the negotiating parties should aim to achieve an outcome that, considering the circumstances in which the parties are negotiating and their respective rights, obligations and responsibilities, offers each of them the best possible mix of economic, financial, environmental, social, human rights and governance benefits.

2. Transparency: All parties should have access to the information that they need to make informed decisions.

3. Due diligence: The sovereign debtor and its creditors should each undertake appropriate due diligence before concluding a sovereign debt restructuring process.

4. Optimal outcome assessment: The parties should publicly disclose why they expect their restructuring agreement to result in an optimal outcome.

5. Monitoring: There should be credible mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of the restructuring agreement.

6. Inter-creditor comparability: All creditors should make a comparable contribution to the restructuring of debt.

7. Fair burden sharing: The burden of the restructuring should be fairly allocated between the negotiating parties.

8. Maintaining market access: The process should be designed to facilitate future market access for the borrower at affordable rates.

The G20's current efforts to address the silent debt crisis are failing. They are contributing to the likely failure of low-income countries in Africa and the rest of the global south to offer all their residents the possibility of leading lives of dignity and opportunity.

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By Correspondent Francis Godwin, Iringa

Ruaha National Park: Celebrating 60 years of southern tourism goldmine

LOCATED in southern Tanzania, Ruaha National Park is one of the largest and most significant national parks in the African continent. Its history is deeply connected to Tanzania's conservation efforts and the development of wildlife protection.

The park was officially established in 1964. The government has been prioritising wildlife conservation as part of its national development strategy, and Ruaha is one of the symbols of this commitment.

Ruaha National Park expanded its borders to protect a broader range of ecosystems and wildlife habitats. In 2008, the Usangu Game Reserve, which included the Usangu wetlands, was annexed to Ruaha, making it the largest national park in Tanzania and one of the largest in Africa.

Its expansion was significant for both conservation and the local communities since it is a home to one of the largest populations of elephants in Africa, as well as large herds of buffalo, lions, and a variety of bird species. The Usangu Wetlands, now part of the park, are crucial for the region's water supply and biodiversity.

The park is a key player in ecotourism, offering visitors unique experiences such as game drives, bird watching, and walking safaris. It is a major water catchment area, with the Great Ruaha River playing a vital role in Tanzania's agriculture and hydroelectric power production.

Ruaha National Park will celebrate its 60th anniversary from October 1st to 7th 2024. The event will mark a milestone in the country's history of wildlife preservation and sustainable tourism.

This milestone offers a chance to reflect on conservation achievements, the importance of natural resources, and economic opportunities the country's tourism sector offers.

Dr Pindi Chana, Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism is expected to grace the event and launch a number of new services including hot air balloon tours, to enhance visitor experiences.

Tourism is crucial to Tanzania's economy because it fuels growth, creates jobs, supports conservation, enhances infrastructure, and promotes cultural heritage, making it a cornerstone of the country's development.

Tourism is among the key drivers of the country's economy, contributing approximately 17 percent of the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). It is the largest foreign exchange earner as the influx of international tourists provides a steady flow of foreign currency.

Tourism creates jobs for a large portion of the population, directly employing hundreds of thousands of Tanzanians. Jobs range from tour guides, hotel staff, and park rangers. For communities, especially those near major tourist attractions like Serengeti, Kilimanjaro, and Zanzibar, tourism is a primary source of income.



Ruaha National Park chief conservator Godwell Ole Meng'ataki

For decades, the northern regions of Tanzania have capitalized on tourism, with generations embracing and promoting it. Improved infrastructure has fuelled this growth. However, the southern highland, especially Iringa Region where the Ruaha National Park is located, is now becoming a key destination for local and foreign tourists.

The event will also engage traditional and religious leaders in discussions about conservation efforts. Ruaha National Park plays a crucial role in Iringa's economy, offering jobs in tourism and supporting local businesses. The introduction of hot air balloon tours

is anticipated to attract both international and domestic tourists, boosting employment and small businesses.

Infrastructure upgrades are underway, including the 104-kilometer road from Iringa to Msembe and the near-completion of Iringa Airport. These improvements will reduce travel time

and increase the park's accessibility.

The celebrations also emphasize community involvement, particularly with local families and people with disabilities. Children and youth will participate in educational programs to foster conservation awareness.

Ruaha National Park is not only a local economic engine but also a national one. The park draws international visitors, generating substantial revenue through entrance fees, accommodation, and other services. It is renowned for its vast wildlife population, including elephants, buffaloes, and lions, making it a top destination for tourists.

Tourism has spurred national infrastructure improvements, including roads, airports, and facilities within the park, enhancing visitor services and revenue. Beyond tourism, Ruaha's river system supports the Mtera Dam, which supplies crucial electricity to Tanzania. Preserving the river is essential for both environmental and economic reasons.

President Samia Suluhu Hassan's promotion of Tanzania's tourism through the documentary *The Royal Tour* has brought global attention to Ruaha National Park and other attractions, increasing tourist numbers. Domestically, the film has encouraged Tanzanians to explore their country's beauty, boosting local tourism.

The park's chief conservator, Godwell Ole Meng'ataki, said the celebrations will include tours of various groups such as people with disabilities, religious leaders, traditional elders, and other distinguished guests.

"We have also invited various stakeholders in the tourism sector, including scholars, tourism experts, investors, conservationists and the local community to attend a special symposium which is held as part of the celebrations," he said.

The symposium aims to discuss the challenges and opportunities in the tourism sector, while also introducing the new hot air balloon tourism product that is anticipated to become a key attraction for visitors.

Overcoming stigma: Association empowering infertile women financially

By Beatrice Philemon

THERE is still stigma against those who suffer infertility, and women are the ones mainly blamed. In most African countries women are often valued based on their ability to bear children. Infertile women may face stigma, discrimination, and marginalization, which can affect their self-esteem and social standing.

Economic empowerment helps reduce the reliance on traditional roles and demonstrates that a woman's worth is not tied to her fertility. When infertile women are economically independent, they gain more respect, status in their communities.

Financial independence offers women the freedom to make their own choices, control their finances, and support themselves.

A 2023 World Health Organization (WHO) report reveals that about 17.5 percent of the global adult population—roughly 1 in 6 people experience infertility. The statistics underscores the urgent need for increased access to affordable and high-quality fertility care.

The Association of Infertility Tanzania has introduced a special lending program to help infertile women secure capital loans to start businesses. The initiative aims to improve livelihoods, reduce stigma, and empower women to support themselves and their families.

Kassimu Pazzi, the Association's Deputy Secretary, told *The Guardian* that their efforts are dedicated to tackle the challenges faced by infertile women in the community.

"We introduced this lending programme after we observed that infertile women experience severe social stigma, with little to no support from their communities," Pazzi explained, noting that most of them face difficult circumstances, having been abandoned by their husbands, left with no resources following divorce, or even arrested and imprisoned for child theft.

Some women are physically abused, suffering broken jaws and ribs, while others have tragically lost their lives or endured inhumane treatment, such as being forced to carry a dog on their backs as if it was a child.

He said they have so far managed to form 10 groups comprising 50 members from different parts of Dar es Salaam Region although the association has 469 members from Dodoma, Singida, Mwanza and Morogoro regions.

Group members receive capital from the association along with training in entrepreneurship, financial management, business operations, and human rights. The association provides funds amounting to 1.2m/- per group of five members.

Pazzi praised the Merck Foundation for its support of US \$5,000 which has enabled the association to provide capital loans to a number of infertile women, thus



The Association of Infertility Tanzania has supported members of Faraja women group in Temeke District, Dar es Salaam Region to establish a maize flour milling project. Photo: Beatrice Philemon.

helping them improve their livelihoods through establishment of small businesses like poultry farming, grain trading, and maize flour milling.

He however stressed the need for further funding as demand remains high, appealing to the community to treat infertile women with dignity and respect.

Infertile women suffer from anxiety, depression, loneliness, and low self-esteem due to societal discrimination, he added.

According to Pazzi, 90 percent of babies stolen from homes and hospitals are taken by infertile women hoping to satisfy the expectations of their husbands and families.

Pazzi said the association has made various efforts to assist women who are imprisoned due to child theft, noting they are in talks with the Regional Prison Office in Dar es Salaam and the German government to see how they can meet imprisoned women convicted of baby theft. He said the meeting would help authorities to understand the root causes of their actions, thus coming up with solutions.

In addition, the association has submitted a letter to the Tanzanian Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRAGG), advocating for the rights of infertile women and men.

CHRAGG has agreed to work with the association and conduct a nationwide survey on rights violations related to infertility, he said.

Pazzi also called on donors to support both women and men in obtaining medical tests to confirm infertility, as the costs of procedures like In-Vitro Fertilization (IVF) are prohibitively expensive for many of them, most of whom come from low-income families.

Infertility, defined as the inability to conceive after 12 months of regular unprotected intercourse, can cause significant emotional distress, stigma, and financial hardship. Despite the scale of the problem, infertility treatments, including IVF, remain underfunded and inaccessible, with many people paying out of pocket for fertility care. This situation is especially dire in poorer countries, where people often spend a larger portion of their income on fertility treatments than in wealthier countries, exacerbating their financial difficulties.

Dr Bernadetha Rushahu, a Lecturer and professional counsellor from the University of Dar es Salaam, emphasized the need for communities to stop harmful traditional practices that violate human rights, such as forcing women to carry dogs as if they were children.

She advises infertile men and women to visit hospitals for fertility testing and counselling as well as adopting healthy lifestyles through balanced diets and appropriate medical care.

Communities must also be educated on causes and effects of infertility, and the dangers of stigmatization, a move which will help to improve people's understanding of infertility issues and ultimately break the stigma of infertility.

By Correspondent Constantine Akitanda

Tanzania energy summit: Can \$190 billion resolve Africa's electrification dilemma?

IN January 2025, Tanzania will host one of Africa's most significant energy summits, an event that aims to raise \$190 billion to electrify 300 million people across the continent by 2030.

While the ambition behind the summit is commendable, it prompts critical questions about whether such large-scale funding can truly solve the continent's complex energy issues.

The event also sheds light on Tanzania's energy challenges and its place within the broader African context.

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa (pictured) announced Tanzania's selection as the host nation during a meeting organised by the Global Energy Alliance for People and Planet (GEAPP) in New York.

The summit, co-organised by major players such as the World Bank, African Development Bank (AfDB), and African Union, aims to gather global stakeholders to address Africa's persistent energy poverty.

While Tanzania has made significant progress in rural electrification, this moment also presents an opportunity to scrutinize the effectiveness of such summits and the structural problems they intend to tackle.

Tanzania's energy sector has attracted international attention for its efforts in expanding rural electrification, largely due to an aggressive government strategy to bring electricity to all villages by 2030.

According to official figures, rural electrification has improved significantly in recent years, but progress remains uneven, while some areas have benefitted, others continue to lag behind, often facing challenges such as poor infrastructure and bureaucracy.

The upcoming summit will shine a spotlight on Tanzania's energy progress, yet it is crucial to question whether the nation's experience can serve as a replicable model for the rest of Africa.

Tanzania's efforts have been supported by international institutions like the World Bank, but the country's energy sector still struggles with aging infrastructure, a growing population, and increasing energy demands.

"While Tanzania has made notable gains, it faces similar hurdles as many African countries, over-reliance on external funding, slow grid expansion, and the challenge of balancing traditional energy sources with the push for cleaner alternatives," says energy expert Dr. Hamisi Ng'wandu.

He adds, "Relying on summits to bring in billions of dollars in investment doesn't always translate into rapid or equitable electrification."

At the centre of the 2025 summit is the ambitious target to raise \$190 billion to accelerate electrification across Africa.

This figure, while staggering, begs the question of whether money alone can resolve the deep-rooted issues in Africa's energy infrastructure.

Sub-Saharan Africa is home to over 600 million peo-



ple without access to electricity, a problem exacerbated by outdated grids, lack of political will, and institutional corruption.

There's little doubt that financing is a crucial element in solving Africa's energy crisis, but it is not the only factor.

Critics argue that without addressing governance issues, poor policy frameworks, and inefficient energy markets, additional funding will do little more than provide a temporary fix.

"Africa's energy poverty problem is not just a matter of funding, structural inefficiencies in how energy is generated, transmitted, and distributed are significant barriers," says Rachel Kahinga, a policy analyst focused on African energy markets. "Simply pouring billions into the sector without first addressing these foundational issues is unlikely to yield the desired outcomes."

As the host of the summit, Tanzania will be thrust into the spotlight for its policies on rural electrification and its efforts to transition to clean energy.

However, Tanzania, like many African nations, faces a dilemma: how to balance the urgent need for electrification with the longer-term goal of sustainability.

The global push for clean energy solutions, supported by institutions like the AfDB and the World Bank, often comes into conflict with the economic realities in many African countries, where fossil fuels remain the cheapest

and most reliable energy source.

Tanzania has made strides in incorporating renewable energy sources, particularly solar and hydropower, into its energy mix. Yet the majority of its population, particularly in rural areas, still relies on traditional biomass like firewood and charcoal for cooking.

This reliance not only contributes to deforestation but also poses serious health risks, especially for women and children, the question remains, can Tanzania afford to transition to clean energy without undermining its developmental needs?

AfDB President Akinwumi Adesina has repeatedly stressed the importance of clean energy solutions for Africa, pointing out that 900 million African women still lack access to safe cooking energy.

"If we fail to transition from biomass fuels, we are condemning millions to continued poverty and health risks," he said at the GEAPP meeting. But critics argue that the transition to clean energy needs to be pragmatic, especially in countries like Tanzania where traditional energy sources remain deeply entrenched in everyday life.

One of the underlying issues with large-scale funding initiatives like the \$190 billion target is that they often overlook the political economy of energy access.

Energy distribution in many African countries is a highly politicized issue, with access to electricity often

tied to political patronage, corruption, and the influence of powerful energy companies.

Tanzania is no exception, while the government has made progress in expanding the grid, the benefits of electrification have not been felt equally across all regions.

Tanzania's efforts to electrify rural areas have also faced significant hurdles, including bureaucratic delays and mismanagement of funds.

According to a 2023 report by the World Bank, while electrification rates have improved, over 40 percent of the population still lacks reliable access to electricity.

The report emphasizes the need for better governance and transparency in the energy sector if universal electrification is to be achieved by 2030.

Moreover, energy policies often fail to take into account the broader socio-economic disparities within Tanzania, where wealthier urban areas tend to benefit more from energy investments than poorer, rural regions.

This imbalance highlights the critical need for a more equitable distribution of energy resources, something that the 2025 summit will need to address if it is to be truly successful.

The 2025 energy summit offers Tanzania and the broader African continent an opportunity to reflect on the root causes of energy poverty and propose long-term, sustainable solutions.

However, the question remains, will this summit lead to tangible, equitable progress, or will it be another well-intentioned event that fails to address the structural issues hampering Africa's energy sector?

For Tanzania, the summit is an opportunity to not only secure much-needed investment but also to take a leadership role in shaping Africa's energy future.

But this leadership must come with a clear commitment to governance reform, a realistic approach to clean energy, and a genuine focus on equitable access to energy for all citizens.

As the world looks to Tanzania in 2025, the country must prove that its energy policies can be more than just ambitious plans on paper.

Achieving universal access to electricity by 2030 is not impossible, but it will require more than financial pledges.

It will demand structural reforms, transparency, and a commitment to ensuring that no one is left behind in the march toward a more electrified and sustainable future.

Tanzania drops in 2024 global innovation ranking

By Telesphor Magobe

TANZANIA has dropped seven places in this year's Global Innovation Index (GII 2024) as it is ranked 120th out of the 133 surveyed economies, compared to last year's 113th out of the 132 surveyed economies worldwide.

It is also ranked 33rd out of the 51 surveyed economies in lower-middle income group ranking and 17th out of the 39 surveyed economies in sub-Saharan Africa. The GII 2024 was launched in Geneva on September 26, 2024.

Each surveyed economy was measured in seven categories, namely 1) institutions, 2) human capital and research, 3) infrastructure, 4) market sophistication, 5) business sophistication, 6) knowledge and technology outputs and 7) creative outputs. Each category is divided into several sub-categories and it is in some of these sub-categories under each of the seven categories Tanzania has performed well. In the labour productivity growth subcategory under the knowledge and technology outputs category, Tanzania is ranked 26th out of the 129 surveyed economies,

in the business environment subcategory under the institutions category (33rd out of the 79 surveyed economies) and in the policy stability for doing business subcategory (41st out of the 79 surveyed economies) and in the university-industry (research & development) R&D collaboration subcategory under the subcategory of innovation linkages subcategory of business sophistication category (40th out of 118 surveyed economies).

Others include the state of cluster development subcategory under the innovation linkages subcategory (under the business sophistication category) Tanzania is ranked 41st out of the 118 surveyed economies, in the global corporate R&D investors subcategory under the human capital and research category Tanzania is ranked 41st out of the 132 surveyed economies, in the high tech imports subcategory under the knowledge absorption subcategory of business sophistication category (49th out of 118 economies) and in the unicorn (startup) valuation subcategory under the knowledge and technology outputs category Tanzania is ranked 49th out of the 149 surveyed economies. Other subcategories in which Tanzania has performed well under

the business sophistication category include the loans from microfinance institutions subcategory under the market sophistication category Tanzania is ranked 55th out of the 120 surveyed economies, in the innovation linkages subcategory (under the business sophistication category) Tanzania is ranked 58th out of the 118 surveyed economies.

In 2022, it was ranked 103rd out of the 132 surveyed countries worldwide and in 2021, it was ranked 90th out of the 132 surveyed countries worldwide. The following are global leaders in innovation in 2024. In Latin America and the Caribbean: Brazil (1), Chile (2) and Mexico (3); in Northern America: United States (1) & Canada (2); in sub-Saharan Africa: South Africa (1), Botswana (2) and Senegal (3); in Europe: Switzerland (1), Sweden (2) and United Kingdom (3). Others are in Northern Africa and Western Asia: Israel (1), United Arab Emirates (2) and Türkiye (3); in Central and Southern Asia: India (1), Islamic Republic of Iran (2) and Kazakhstan (3) and in South East Asia, East Asia, and Oceania: Singapore (1), Republic of Korea (2) and China (3). Top three innovation economies

by income group are the following - high-income economies: Switzerland (1), Sweden (2) and United States (3); Upper middle-income: China (1), Malaysia (2) and Türkiye (3); Lower middle-income: India (1), Viet Nam (2) and Philippines (3), and Low-income: Rwanda (1), Togo (2) and Uganda (3). Türkiye and Uganda are new entrants into the top three in 2024.

This year's theme is "Unlocking the Promise of Social Entrepreneurship". The ranking is meant to encourage surveyed economies to improve in categories and subcategories in which they have underperformed so that they may perform better in future rankings.

"GII helps to create an environment in which innovation factors are subject to continual evaluation. It provides a key tool for decision-makers and a rich database of detailed metrics, offering a convenient source of information for refining innovation policies. Measuring innovation outputs and their impact remains a challenging task, hence great emphasis is placed on measuring the climate and infrastructure for innovation and assessing related outcomes."

Innovation is defined as "a new or improved product or process (or combination thereof) that differs significantly from the unit's previous products or processes and that has been made available to potential users (product) or brought into use by the unit (process)" (OECD and Eurostat, 2018).

GII 2024 suggests that for many years, governments across the world have successfully used the GII to improve their economies' innovation performance and shape evidence-based innovation policies.

According to GII 2024, a survey conducted by World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) in 2024 shows that 77 percent of WIPO member states use GII to improve innovation ecosystems and metrics (up by about 20 percent in comparison to 2022, with 91 out of 118 responding member states using GII), as well as it being a benchmark for national innovation policies or economic strategies across all world regions. Tanzania is one of the 193 member states of WIPO since 1983. WIPO leads the development of a balanced and effective global intellectual property ecosystem to promote innovation and

creativity for a better and more sustainable future.

Besides global innovation performance ranking, GII 2024 identifies top science (S&T) clusters in Africa. In addition to Cairo, which has been highlighted as a GII S&T top 100 ranking cluster, Johannesburg (South Africa), Cape Town (South Africa), Tunis (Tunisia) and Alexandria (Egypt) comprise the top 5 S&T clusters within Africa.

Egypt has the most clusters (11, with Cairo leading), followed by South Africa (8, with Johannesburg leading), Morocco (5, with Rabat leading), Nigeria (4, with Ibadan leading), Tunisia (4, Tunis leading), Ethiopia (2, with Addis Ababa leading), Ghana (2, with Accra leading), Kenya (1, with Nairobi leading), followed by Algeria (1, Algiers), Benin (1, Cotonou), Burkina Faso (1, Ouagadougou), Cameroon (1, Yaoundé), Congo (1, Kinshasa-Brazzaville), Côte d'Ivoire (1, Abidjan), the Democratic Republic of Congo (1, Kinshasa-Brazzaville), Malawi (1, Blantyre), Senegal (1, Dakar), Sudan (1, Khartoum), Uganda (1, Kampala), the United Republic of Tanzania (1, Dar es Salaam), Zambia (1, Lusaka) and Zimbabwe (1, Harare) with each one cluster.

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 ALIVEYUMA 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



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Abortion Day: Stakeholders call for collective voices for change

By Guardian Reporter

As the world marks International Safe Abortion Day on September 28th, Women's Global Network for Reproductive Rights Africa (WGNRR Africa) and its partners have called for collective voices for change so as the nation to get the access to rights on safe abortion for women and girls.

WGNRR Africa and its partners met in Dar es Salaam and discuss issues related to the promotion of safe, legal, and accessible abortion services and the advocacy for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and the day carries profound significance in the ongoing struggle for women's rights and the pursuit of gender equality.

"This year, we are also highlighting how we can collect our voices for change because unsafe abortion is preventable. This September 28, we celebrate diverse young people and how they are fearlessly taking and creating spaces and employing innovative advocacy strategies to champion safe abortion rights and reproductive justice," the Regional Director of WGNRR Africa, Nondo Ejano said.

He pointed out that International Safe Abortion (September 28) is deeply rooted in the global movement dedicated to advancing women's reproductive rights and promoting gender equality.

"It primarily champions the cause of reproductive rights, with a specific focus on the right to safe

and legal abortion. This emphasis underscores the utmost importance of empowering women with control over their bodies, choices, and futures," he said.

He noted: "This Day plays a vital role in raising awareness. It serves as a powerful educational tool on a global scale, shedding light on the alarming prevalence of unsafe abortions and the severe consequences they entail. It also emphasizes the urgent necessity of ensuring universal access to safe abortion services."

He also pointed out that in this year, WGNRR Africa, in alignment with the call to action, has chosen to unite with its partners in commemorating this day by coming together as this year's theme, "Collective voices for change: Advocating safe and legal abortion and reproduction Justice in Tanzania." The objective is to harness collective strength and amplify advocacy efforts. He noted that while Tanzania is a signatory to the Maputo Protocol, it has not adopted legislation that would allow abortion in cases of pregnancy from rape, incest, or risk of harm to the mental and physical health of the mother.

He further said: "The law guiding abortion health care says it is only done to save the life of a mother and not otherwise. But according to a study conducted by the Guttmacher Institute and partners, Tanzania's abortion rate was 36 per 1,000 women who aged 15-49 and the majority of abortions were unsafe with nearly 67,000 women



WGNRR Africa Regional Director Nondo Ejano

being treated in health facilities for post abortion care."

Therefore, we need safe abortion services for girls and women who got pregnancies due to rape, sexual violence and assaults from their fathers, uncles, brothers, neph-

ews and other blood relatives against their will," he said, noting that the collective commitments from stakeholders are needed to support the government's efforts which can help to avoid both human and financial costs of unsafe abortion in the country.

Peter Majanjala, Legal Consultant and An advocate of the High Court said: "As we are commemorating the international safe abortion day, we are now in court challenging for Articles 150 to 152 of the penal code prohibits unlawful abortion, while Article 230 permits abortion to preserve the life of the mother."

He further said that under the Tanzanian penal code, health practitioners who perform illegal abortions may receive sentences of up to 14 years in prison, while those who procure abortions for themselves may be sentenced to up to seven years in prison.

Some of the participants have also urged the country to ensure that all women and girls, regardless of their backgrounds, have access to safe abortion care.

"We are calling Tanzania to make sure that all women and girls, are accessing to safe abortion care after rape and other actions that made them pregnancy," Neema Haule said.

Other participants said that there is a need for the community to have collectively strategies so as to enhance solidarity in advocating for improved abortion services.

"The government must also see possibility of protecting the reproductive rights of women by authorising medical abortion in cases of sexual assault, rape, and incest, and where the continued pregnancy endangers the mental and physical health of the pregnant woman or the life of the woman," Dora John from Dar es Salaam urged.

During the one-day event, the participants have gained a deeper understanding of the history of September 28 and partners have shared experience on working on abortion under restrictive legal environment. The participants have got time to enhance understanding of Sept 28 among participants and create solidarity in the campaign for expanding safe abortion access. Partners shared their experience on working on abortion under the restrictive environment.

The event attended by participants who included SRHR Allies, Health and Legal professionals, survivors of unsafe abortion, CSOs, media personnel and Youths champions.

Dar school gets computers to empower students get access to digital technology

By Guardian Reporter

As part of complementing the government's efforts to advance education for girls in Tanzania, Barrick Gold has donated 15 modern computers to enhance the computer lab at Barbro Johansson Model Girls' Secondary School in Dar es Salaam.

Handing over the donation in the city on Saturday during the school's 22nd Form Four graduation ceremony, Georgia Mutagahywa, Barrick's Corporate Communications and Country Liaison Manager said that the goal is to enable students to access education through modern digital technology.

She stated that the miner will continue supporting the efforts of the government and other stakeholders to ensure Tanzanian youth receive quality education, as the company believes that quality education is a powerful tool for national development.

"The assistance we've provided to this school, as well as to other schools across the country, is based on our strong belief that if we empower a girl child, she will succeed. We believe in the potential of girls and are fulfilling our role in giving them access to quality education by removing as many barriers as we can and providing them with tools to help them progress in their studies," she added.

She also encouraged young girls to work hard in their studies, build confidence, and aspire to follow in the footsteps of women who are making significant achievements to ensure they fulfill their future dreams after completing their education.



Chairperson of the Joha Trust and Founder of Barbro Johansson Girls' Schools, Prof. Anna Tibajuka, speaks at the 22nd Form Four graduation ceremony. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

The donation was received by the students, parents, and the founder and chairperson of the Joha Trust, which manages Barbro Johansson Girls' Schools in Tanzania, Prof. Anna Tibajuka, who expressed her gratitude for the efforts made by Barrick and Twiga to support the improvement of the education sector in Tanzania.

Prof Tibajuka called on Tanzanian parents and various institutions to invest in children's education to prepare Tanzanian youth to become professionals and handle the rapid changes occurring worldwide.

"The journey of a girl child is filled with many challenges, but with proper guidance, girls will succeed. Girls are encouraged to believe in themselves, trust their dreams, and dare to seek advice and guidance from those who have successfully traveled the same path."

The school's headteacher, Jospina Leonidas, thanked Barrick for the support and stated that the school's achievements have been growing steadily, fulfilling the dream of becoming one of the top girls' schools in the country.

Kikaro Secondary School welcomes donation of education materials

By Guardian Correspondent, Chalinze

STANBIC Bank Tanzania has expressed its commitment towards advancing quality education, one of the key Corporate Social Investment (CSI) pillars by donating critical resources to Kikaro Secondary School in Chalinze District Council, Bagamoyo District, Coast Region.

The bank has renovated 12 classrooms and donated 100 desks, 100 chairs, 100 tree seedlings and 4 Simtanks at a handover ceremony, held recently at the school and graced by the Bagamoyo District Commissioner, Shaibu Ndemanga.

Education is at the core of the bank's CSI efforts, and this project resonates with Stanbic's goal of enhancing educational opportunities and empowering communities in underserved areas.

"This initiative also aligns with the vision of Tanzania's founding father, Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, whose legacy emphasized the importance of education in national development. Through such projects, the bank honours his belief that education is a key pillar for the country's future," said Omary Mtiga, bank's head of personal and private banking.

He highlighted that this donation is part of the bank's broader efforts to support the communities it operates in.

"By investing in education, we're investing in the future of our country. The renovation of classrooms and provision of essential furniture, water tanks and planting of trees, reflect our commitment to improving the learning environment for students at Kikaro Secondary School as well as our commitment to achieving critical Sustainable Development Goals," he said.

In addition to the Kikaro Secondary School initiative, Stanbic Bank continues to engage in various community projects. The bank has led other significant CSI projects, such as the construction of classrooms, the provision of essential school supplies, and women's empowerment programmes.

"These efforts showcase bank's dedication to creating long-lasting and sustainable development within the communities it serves," Mtiga told the gathering that involved government officials including the District Executive Director, Ramadan Possi, Local Education officials, students and staff from the school and bank's staff.



Bagamoyo, district commissioner Shaibu Ndemanga (2nd-L), receives one of the desks from Stanbic Bank's head of personal and private banking, Omary Mtiga, for Kikaro Secondary School in Chalinze District recently as part of the bank's community development plan. The bank donated 100 desks, renovated 12 classrooms, provided four water tanks, and planted trees worth 30m/-. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

BUSINESS



Setting up new mines remains a formidable struggle, says report

TORONTO

A new survey of mining leaders by KPMG in Canada finds an industry confronted by stringent compliance and regulatory demands, pressures related to community and environmental matters, and concerns about access to capital at a time when the world's transition to clean energy depends on the secure and sustainable supply of critical minerals.

"The outlook for growth is strong, yet the risks and opportunities that lie ahead for the mining industry have never been broader or more diverse," says Heather Cheeseman, a partner and the national mining leader for KPMG in Canada.

"The consensus among mining leaders is that their ability to develop new mines is becoming an almost insurmountable uphill struggle. Access to capital isn't the only barrier. Permitting remains as live an issue as ever, with the length of time and effort required to secure permits showing little sign of improving."

The International Energy Agency (IEA) warned earlier this year that unless more investment is made in projects such as new mines and recycling, there will be a shortfall in critical metals and mineral supplies. According to the IEA, the world's projected supply of lithium will meet only 50 percent of global demand by 2035 and copper resources will meet only 70 percent of demand.

Despite the apparent challenges with developing and operating mines, nearly 80 percent of mining executives are optimistic about the industry's five-year growth prospects, up sharply from 62 percent in KPMG's last global survey in 2022, the report says.

"The Canadian government's support for the critical minerals exploration and development is likely driving confidence among Canadian mining leaders, while its increasingly protectionist stance on foreign takeovers garners a mixed reaction," says Katherine Wetmore, a partner and GTA mining leader for KPMG in Canada. "But, while the overall picture is one of confidence, the reality is mining companies are grappling with so many different issues, with the top two risks being community relations and social licence to operate and commodity prices."

Community relations and social licence to operate are regarded as important near-term and long-term risks to operations, the report finds. Access to capital, permitting risk, and geopolitical uncertainty round out the top five.

Nearly half (46 percent) of mining leaders said mergers and acquisitions (M&A) are critical strategies for their growth, although they are increasingly looking to establish strategic alliances, joint ventures, and partnerships to tap into new technologies, innovative ways of working and expert skillsets, the report says.

"The industry's focus on securing resources for technology and renewable energy is anticipated to drive continued M&A activity in the near future," says Wetmore. "In fact, copper and lithium accounted for over 70 percent of critical mineral deals by volume last year."

The new report is based on a survey of 100 mining executives worldwide, primarily in Canada, and includes operators, exploration and development companies, mining service providers, and mine finance companies with a market capitalization of between \$100-million and more than \$10-billion.

DSE records 2bn/- weekly shares turnover with locals' dominance

By Guardian Reporter

The Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) recorded a turnover of 2bn/- last week, with local investors dominating trading activity, as the market approaches the close of the third quarter.

Market reports indicate that foreign investors returned to the market, engaging in both buying and selling, primarily on the Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL) counter.

Shares worth 275m/- were traded through the block trade pre-arranged market board.

On Monday, the DSE recorded a turnover of 922m/- from 425,394 shares traded across 305 deals.

This included 100,000 shares on the NMB counter and 33,366 shares on the Tanzania Cigarette Company (TCC) counter, both transacted through block trades.

CRDB Bank was the top mover, with 278,664 shares traded at an average price of 650/- per share in 217 deals.

Tuesday saw a turnover of 446.7m/- from 254,238 shares traded in 309 deals, including 50,200 TBL shares transacted via block trades.

Foreign investors dominated the TBL counter, accounting for 61 percent of the total value of shares traded.

34.18	+6.04	+3.01	9	98.17	76	55.69	516.06	4	17.5
158.04	-1.35	-4.57	45	12.08	9	178.95	98.17	62	45.9
887.32	-7.02	-3.72	87	86.53	6	432.16	12.06	62	38.9
873.54	+9.03	+3.96	114	13.19	3	175.95	86.53	98	49.2
773.54	+14.28	+2.54	98	18.76	2	58.92	15.11	73	43.2
552.09	-11.32	-2.13	252	54.32	73	99.16	15.11	73	43.2
401.76	+9.45	+1.96	86	98.65	8	371.18	98.79	18	18.1
215.68	+8.35	+3.32	15	8.43	15	458.04	5.07	21	11.6
			24	3.76	19	387.32	32.87	19	3.7
					7	673.51	17.95	21	61.2

CRDB Bank once again led the market, with 184,487 shares valued at 120m/- traded at prices ranging between 640/- and 660/- per share in 209 deals.

On Wednesday, the market recorded a turnover of 284.5m/- from 179,941 shares traded in 311 deals.

Foreign investors purchased shares worth 60.5m/- from local investors.

Thursday followed with a turnover of 142.99m/- from 215,206 shares traded in 301 deals, with foreign investors buying shares worth 11m/-.

The week ended on Friday with a turnover of 214.86m/- from 323,515 shares traded across 308 deals. Foreign investors purchased shares valued at 10.7m/-.

As the quarter nears its close, the DSE has recorded a total

turnover of 30.7m/-, surpassing the 30.6m/- registered during the same period last year.

Foreign investors have so far purchased shares worth 2.3bn/-, representing 7.58 percent of the total value of shares bought.

This marks an increase from the 936.8m/- purchased in the third quarter of last year.

Foreign investors have sold shares valued at 7.1bn/-, accounting for 23.18 percent of the total value of shares sold. This is a decline from the 14.6bn/- in shares sold during the same period last year.

The total market capitalization rose to 17.7trn/- at the end of last week, up from 14.8trn/- recorded a year ago. This growth is attributed to an increase in both cross-listed and locally listed shares. Meanwhile, the domestic

market capitalization expanded to 12.1trn/- from 11.3trn/- over the same period.

The performance in Q3, 2024 suggests a resilient market with growth in both local and cross-listed counters, although foreign participation is yet to fully recover compared to previous years.

Analysts say the outlook for the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) in October 2024 is expected to be influenced by several key factors, both domestic and global

Foreign investor participation As foreign investor activity showed signs of recovery in Q3 2024, this trend is expected to continue into October.

With improving global market conditions and Tanzania's stable economic outlook, more foreign funds might be drawn to the DSE, especially in high-performing counters like TBL and CRDB Bank.

Impact of global economic trends

The global economic environment, including interest rate decisions by major central banks and commodity price fluctuations, could impact foreign investor confidence.

A strong US dollar or tighter global liquidity could reduce foreign inflows, while easing conditions would boost foreign participation.

Gen Z favours 2-way dialogue with brands, new study shows

By Guardian Correspondent

New research from global communication platform Infobip reveals that younger generations, especially Gen Z, prefer engaging in two-way conversations with brands, a trend that is particularly relevant as Black Friday approaches.

According to the Generational Messaging Trends Report, 65 percent of consumers under 27 prefer dialogue-based interactions with businesses, while 83 percent expect personalized treatment.

The study shows that at least 86 percent of all generations desire targeted and relevant communications.

This highlights the need for retailers to adopt a tailored approach for different age groups, especially during the holiday shopping season, which kicks off with Black Friday.

Black Friday marks the beginning of the Christmas shopping rush, presenting retailers with opportunities to boost sales and enhance brand visibility.

According to Bain & Company, a 5 percent increase in customer retention can lead to a 25 percent



Ivan Ostojić, Chief Business Officer, Infobip

rise in profits.

However, navigating a successful omnichannel strategy that caters to diverse generational preferences can be challenging. For example, Baby Boomers tend to resist repetitive messaging, while Millennials are more comfortable using newer technologies like chatbots to make purchases.

Generation X prefers receiving updates about products and services, illustrating how varied communication preferences are across generations.

"Consumers from all generations want brands to engage with them in a conversational and

friendly manner, which in turn fosters loyalty. However, brands need to get their communication strategies right," said Ivan Ostojić, Chief Business Officer at Infobip. He added that Infobip has published a playbook to help retailers and e-commerce companies tailor their approaches to each generation this shopping season.

The research shows that Gen Z and Millennials favor creativity in business communication, gravitating toward messages that are engaging, humorous, and entertaining. Meanwhile, Generation X and Baby Boomers prefer more straightforward and personalized messages, and they are less tolerant of repetitive content.

Chat apps are particularly popular among Baby Boomers, with 68 percent using them, compared to 57 percent of Gen X. This trend may be attributed to older generations having more time to connect with family and friends via free messaging services that include pictures and videos.

Younger consumers, on the other hand, naturally extend their use of chat apps to brand interactions. Millennials lead the way, with 60 percent preferring to communi-

cate with brands via chat apps, followed by Gen Z at 53 percent. In comparison, only 28 percent of Baby Boomers and 25 percent of Gen X prefer this method.

Social media is another crucial channel for engaging younger audiences. Platforms like TikTok and YouTube dominate the time and attention of younger generations, and brands targeting teens are increasingly creating content on these platforms.

Surprisingly, 30 percent of Gen Z and younger Millennials also listed voice communication as a preferred channel for connecting with friends and family.

In Africa, where the population skews younger, understanding these communication preferences is even more critical.

Kenya, for example, has approximately 18.4 million Gen Zers, accounting for 33.4 percent of the population. Similarly, Uganda and Tanzania have youthful populations, with more than 70 percent of their citizens under 30.

As these young consumers increasingly drive economic growth, brands must adapt their communication strategies to effectively engage with them.

IRDP to construct 6 billion/- academic block

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

The Institute of Rural Development Planning (IRDP) has signed a significant contract with D.F Ministry & Co (1974) Limited to construct an eco-friendly academic block at its main campus in Miyuji, Dodoma. The new structure, which is expected to cost 6bn/-, will accommodate over 1,700 students once completed.

Funding for this project is provided by the Higher Education for Economic Transformation (HEET) Project, a five-year initiative under the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology, implemented with support from the World Bank.

The project's goal is to improve Tanzania's higher education sector by enhancing

infrastructure and learning environments.

Speaking during the contract signing ceremony, IRDP Rector Prof. Hozen Mayaya emphasized that the new state-of-the-art building would enhance the digitalization of the teaching and learning process at the institute.

The three-story academic block will feature several key departments aimed at improving the institution's educational quality.

Prof. Mayaya detailed that the ground floor would house two conference halls capable of seating 602 students, along with five ICT offices for staff.

The first floor will include two studio rooms for 702 students and 22 pit latrines, while the second floor will contain one large studio room for 399



IRDP Rector Prof. Hozen Mayaya (L), and Director of D.F Ministry & Co (1974) Limited, Bhavesh Mistry (center), sign the contract for the construction of the eco-friendly academic block at IRDP's main campus at Miyuji, Dodoma. Photo: Correspondent Valentine Oforo

students and an ICT lab for 88 students.

The third floor will provide 19 offices for 78 faculty members, along with cafeterias and restrooms.

"The project aims to en-

hance the institute's training capabilities by expanding teaching facilities and increasing the student capacity at our academic blocks," said Prof. Mayaya.

The rector also revealed

plans for a new hostel at the campus, which will accommodate 400 students. This will be in addition to the current capacity of 644 students, which falls short of the 949 students enrolled.

Prof. Mayaya praised the Tanzanian government for its continued financial support, which has enabled the implementation of various development projects at both the Miyuji and Mwanza campuses. Recent accomplishments include the construction of three hostels for 600 students, two academic blocks for 1,774 students, and additional modern hostels and lecture theatres.

IRDP's Deputy Rector, Prof. Provident Dimoso, highlighted that the institute is also working on five development projects using internally generated funds (IGF). These include the construction of an administration block, a mini-library, and a cafeteria at their Kitumba training center in Mwanza, as well as land compensation for future develop-

ment projects in both Mwanza and Dodoma.

Prof. Dimoso expressed gratitude for the government's support in realizing these projects, which are designed to expand student accommodations and staff offices. He also noted improvements in IRDP's library services, with access to various online resources such as EBSCOHOST, AGORA, and TEAL.

The HEET project's main objective is to boost enrollment and improve the quality and labor market relevance of degree programs at 18 public universities and institutions. It also aims to modernize teaching and research infrastructure and train university faculty and administrators to the highest standards.

Women's involvement in conservation vital for sustainability

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

Women's active involvement in forest conservation and management is crucial for ensuring the long-term sustainability and success of restoration efforts.

Their participation enhances governance, protects the rights of both women and men in conservation activities, and promotes better forest regeneration and canopy growth.

At the 24th Annual General Meeting of the Tanzania Community Forest Conservation Network (MJUMITA), held in the Morogoro Region, Vedastus Manyama, Secretary of the Diongoya Ward Land Council, urged village leaders and stakeholders involved in forest conservation to incorporate gender equality into all aspects of their activities.

"Integrating gender equality into Community-Based Forest Manage-

ment is essential because women are disproportionately affected when forests are damaged, and water sources dry up," Manyama explained.

He encouraged stakeholders to focus on educating women about forest conservation. "If women are educated, they will take care of forests and water sources in their communities, preventing damage."

Manyama pointed out that when forests disappear and water sources deplete, it is primarily women who bear the burden of traveling long distances to find water and firewood for their households.

He emphasized that women play a significant role in improving governance, noting their reliability. "When women conduct patrols and discover illegal activities in the forest, they are more likely to report it truthfully to village leadership or the Village Natural Resources Commit-

tee (VNRC) than men."

Additionally, Manyama praised women's ability to manage funds generated from forest resources, saying they are often more responsible with money than men. He believes that involving women in forest management can lead to more effective conservation outcomes.

"Communities that have a higher number of women in their forest committees tend to have better forest conditions," Manyama stated. "Those with all-women committees have shown remarkable forest regeneration and canopy growth."

In Diongoya Ward, women are already at the forefront, frequently reporting deforestation in both government and community forests. Unfortunately, Manyama mentioned that their efforts are often undermined by a lack of response from forestry officers, who may have ties

with those involved in forest destruction.

Furthermore, some village executive officers are complicit in deforestation, making the work of conservation particularly challenging in Mvomero District.

Despite these challenges, women are actively participating in village meetings, where they address deforestation issues within government forests. Manyama commended the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG) for its efforts in training villagers on entrepreneurship, beekeeping, tree planting, agroforestry, and good governance.

Through the training provided by TFCG, 500 groups have been formed, comprising members from Turiani and Mvomero districts. These groups are engaged in beekeeping, vegetable farming, and even restaurant businesses.

This progress is part of the 'Add-

ing Value to the Arc' project, implemented by TFCG, MJUMITA, the Tanzania Forest Service, and the Mvomero District Council from 2013 to 2017.

The European Union-funded project operates in 31 villages within Mvomero District, Morogoro Region.

Its primary goal is to alleviate poverty and improve the economic resilience of marginalized rural communities, with a specific focus on participatory forest management and sustainable economic development around the South Nguru Mountains.

Shaban Hamisi, a gender expert from MJUMITA, emphasized the importance of gender equality in forest conservation.

He called on village leaders and stakeholders to ensure that gender equality is integrated into Community-Based Forest Management, as it helps reduce discrimination and

promotes equitable natural resource management.

"Gender equality not only improves governance by fostering inclusive decision-making but also ensures that the rights of both women and men are respected in conservation efforts," Hamisi stated. He also highlighted that women, as primary users of natural resources like water, fruits, and firewood, play a critical role in ensuring the effectiveness of conservation policies.

He concluded by noting that gender equality is essential for policy effectiveness and passing on conservation knowledge to future generations.

However, challenges remain, as women often lack education on forest conservation, face gender-based violence, and are burdened by traditional roles that prevent them from fully participating in decision-making processes.

Beekeepers equipped with commercial skills

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo

MM SMARTFARM, a youth-led agribusiness institution, recently conducted a comprehensive, practical-based workshop aimed at equipping bee farmers and stakeholders with essential skills in commercial beekeeping.

The workshop took place over three days in the Kagera region and attracted at least 17 participants from various areas across the country, including Biharamulo, Mwanza, Kigoma, Moshi, Kyerwa, Bukoba, and Dar es Salaam.

During the workshop, Mbelwa Petro, an apiculture expert from Shamba la Nyuki Biharamulo, emphasized the importance of providing participants with a practical understanding of how to initiate and manage commercial beekeeping projects.

"This training focuses on equipping participants with essential skills for harvesting bee venom, collected pollens, propolis, bee soup, honey, beeswax, and royal jelly, ensuring compliance with both local and inter-

national market standards," he explained.

Petro also noted that the training aimed to connect participants with potential markets for their bee products, both domestically and internationally.

The workshop covered a range of vital apiculture topics, including bee biology, the development of diverse beehives, and the establishment and monitoring of apiaries. Additional topics included bee harvesting, processing, packaging, and marketing.

"We have also trained them in the professional processing and packaging of various honey-related products, such as wax, glue, bee milk, soup, and venom," he added.

Overall, Petro expressed optimism that the training would equip participants with the skills and knowledge needed to enhance production and productivity in the apiculture sector.

"We believe the beneficiaries will apply the knowledge and skills they have acquired to assist their peers in their respective areas," he said.

Regarding MM SMARTFARM, Petro highlighted its mission to improve the eco-economic well-being of communities in Tanzania through sustainable beekeeping projects.

Founded as a social enterprise known as Shamba la Nyuki Biharamulo in 2018 in Biharamulo District, Kagera Region, the farm was officially registered in 2022 under the Business Registration and Licensing Agency (BRELA) and Tanzania Forest Services (TFS).

"The farm has been a leader in harvesting and selling seven bee products: honey, beeswax, propolis, bee soup, pollen, royal jelly, and bee venom," he noted. "Our goal is to promote beekeeping among youth and women by providing education through training sessions, workshops, and outreach programs."

Furthermore, the initiative aims to create opportunities for young people by facilitating value addition and marketing for their bee products.

Tanzania ranks 14th globally and 2nd in Africa for beekeeping, with much of its honey and beeswax exported to Germany,



The training is meant to connect participants with potential markets for their bee products, both domestically and internationally. PHOTO: Valentine Oforo

France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Oman, the USA, Japan, Botswana, Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Somalia, and neighboring Kenya.

The country boasts approximately 48.1 million hectares of

forest, making up 54 percent of its total area. This includes 465 hectares of government-reserved forests, which encompass 24 tree plantations, 23 natural conservation areas, and 20 beekeeping reserves.

Contractor seeking to hand over NIT's new buildings

By Correspondent Prosper Makene

The Chinese firm CRJE (East Africa) Limited has announced that the ongoing construction project at the National Institute of Transport (NIT), valued at 10.8bn/-, is expected to be officially handed over to the Institute in November this year.

The contracting firm is constructing two buildings at NIT as part of the Eastern Africa Skills for Transformation and Regional Integration Project (EASTRIP), which is funded by the World Bank.

This initiative aims to support the Institute's Regional Flagship TVET Center of Excellence in Aviation and Transport Operations (COEATO).

Speaking during an interview at the construction site in Dar es Salaam yesterday, CRJE (East Africa) Limited Site Agent Dai Yanwei stated, "We are working at an accelerated pace, day and night, to ensure that the project is completed by November. We are in the final stages of installing doors, windows, and other finishes."

In November 2022, NIT entered into a one-year agreement with CRJE (East Africa) Ltd to construct two buildings on the Institute's main campus in Mabibo, Dar es Salaam.

"We were expected to finish this project one year after the signing, but we faced challenges after the commencement. Heavy rains in 2023 and delayed payments interrupted the completion timeline stipulated in the contract," Yanwei explained.

However, company has been operating in Tanzania for 50 years since its establishment in 1969 to undertake the Great Uhuru Railway-TAZARA project with over 5,000 employees in East Africa.

While expanding its business, the company strives to benefit local communities and foster positive relations between China and Tanzania.

Over the past 50 years, the company has completed a total of 3 million square meters of various engineering projects in Tanzania, including over 30 landmark projects such as the Nyerere Bridge, the New Parliamentary Debating Chamber, the Dodoma Convention Center, the University of Dodoma campus, Rita Tower, Uhuru Heights, and the Mwalimu Nyerere Foundation Square.

The company has set construction speed records in East Africa, completing one typical floor within six days and finishing the design and construction of the Dodoma Convention Center in just seven months, which has contributed to the "Dodoma Speed" phenomenon in Tanzania.

CRJE (East Africa) Ltd has market presence primarily in Tanzania while expanding into Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, South Sudan, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Mozambique, Ethiopia, and Malaysia.



NICOL shareholders approve 3.2bn/- dividend payout

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

NICOL Investment PLC (NICOL) has announced a dividend payout of 3.2bn/-, set to be distributed to its shareholders starting November 1st this year. This decision was made during the company's 10th Annual General Meeting (AGM), held over the weekend.

Shareholders approved a dividend of 53/- per share, which will be paid to those listed in the shareholders' register as of October 19th, 2024.

Speaking after the AGM, NICOL's Chief Executive Officer, Erasto Ngamilaga, revealed that the company posted an after-tax profit of 6.8bn/- for the 2023 financial year, marking a 15 percent increase compared to the 5.9bn/- earned in the previous year. He attributed the growth to the company's sound financial management.

"The company continues to perform well each year, with profits on the rise. We will keep increasing the dividend annually as our mission is to enhance value for the company's shareholders," Ngamilaga said.

He also emphasized that despite the company's financial obligations, the board remains committed to its policy of annual dividend growth.

Additionally, Ngamilaga noted the rise in NICOL's share price on the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE), which reached 800 shillings per share by June this year.

He expressed optimism that the upward trend would continue, with the share price potentially climbing to 2,200/- in the coming years.



NICOL Investment Plc Board Chairperson, Dr Gideon Kaunda (C) speaks at the 10th shareholders annual general meeting held over the weekend in Dar es Salaam. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

He further mentioned that the board had thoroughly reviewed the company's current dividend policy. The review was aimed at aligning the policy with NICOL's financial strategies, and the board proposed setting the maximum dividend payout at 50 percent of the company's annual profits.

"These amendments are designed to ensure we maintain a competitive advantage for shareholders while preserving funds for future investments, strengthening the company's long-term value, and maintaining financial stability," Ngamilaga explained.

Dr. Gideon Kaunda, Chairperson of the NICOL Board, hailed the success of

the AGM, which saw the participation of more than 800 shareholders.

He noted the substantial profits generated by NICOL, largely due to the company's significant investments through its subsidiaries.

"Given the current financial climate, the real value of our shareholders' investments, along with the market value, continues to increase. Our shareholders should take pride in having made the right investment decision," Dr. Kaunda remarked.

He highlighted NICOL's core investment assets, which have improved by over 21 percent compared to the previous year. Dr. Kaunda affirmed that NICOL

would continue to seek new investment opportunities while enhancing operational efficiency and adapting to changing market conditions.

"Our forward-looking strategy is driven by a commitment to innovation, the strategic use of technology, and expanding our market presence both locally, regionally, and internationally," Dr. Kaunda added.

He expressed confidence that NICOL, with its strong foundation, experienced board leadership, and dedicated management team, is well-positioned to navigate global economic challenges and capitalize on upcoming development opportunities.

WORLD

Meeting Trump, Zelensky says Ukraine counts on US support

NEW YORK

UKRAINIAN President Volodymyr Zelensky's request for a meeting with former US President Donald Trump materialized on Friday, during which he said Kyiv counts on US support to defeat Russia regardless of who wins in the Nov 5 presidential election.

"It's very important to share, to share all the plan, all our steps, how we can strengthen Ukraine," Zelensky said while standing next to Trump in New York.

"And of course, we have to decide it

now, because after November, we don't know who is, only Americans decide who will be the president, but we understand that till November, we can't stop (Russian President Vladimir) Putin. We have to do it.

"We will try on the battlefield with our heroic soldiers. But we understand that after November, we have to decide, and we hope that the strengths of the United States will be very strong, and we count on it. That's why I decided to meet with both candidates," he said.

Trump, for his part, said the conflict



US President Joe Biden (R) listens as Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky speaks during their meeting in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington on Thursday. AP



Accompanied by US Vice President Kamala Harris, Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky waves from the balcony of the Eisenhower Executive Office Building on the White House complex in Washington on Thursday. AP



Republican presidential nominee former US President Donald Trump meets with Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky at Trump Tower in New York on Friday. AP

between Ukraine and Russia, which has been going on for more than two years now, has to end. "At some point, it has to end," he added.

The Trump-Zelensky meeting, which was held at Trump Tower in New York and confirmed by Trump only one day prior - making Zelensky to change his itinerary and stay for an extra day in the US - came on the heel of the Ukrainian leader's respective meetings Thursday with President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris, who's also the Democratic presidential nominee running against Trump.

Both Biden and Harris vowed continued US support for Ukraine.

Ahead of his meeting at the White House with Zelensky, Biden announced additional military assistance worth a total of \$7.9 billion. He directed the Department of Defense to allocate all of its remaining security assistance funding that has been appropriated for Ukraine by the end of his presidential term in January.

Harris, while meeting Zelensky, grasped the opportunity to slash Trump for the latter's criticism over what he said was Zelensky's lack of willingness to negotiate a peace deal with the Russians.

"In candor, I share with you, Mr

President, there are some in my country who would instead force Ukraine to give up large parts of its sovereign territory, who would demand that Ukraine accept neutrality, and would require Ukraine to forego security relationships with other nations," Harris said in remarks alongside Zelensky on Thursday, in what appeared to be a veiled reference to Trump.

During a speech at a campaign rally in Mint Hill, North Carolina, on Wednesday, Trump gave what was his most explicit criticism of Zelensky's handling of Ukraine's conflict with Russia.

"Those cities are gone, they're gone, and we continue to give billions of dollars to a man who refused to make a deal, Zelensky. There was no deal that he could have made that wouldn't have been better than the situation you have right now. You have a country that has been obliterated, not possible to be rebuilt," Trump said.

At Thursday's press conference in the Trump Tower lobby, the former president was asked whether Ukraine will have to give up any of its sovereign territory in order to reach a deal with Russia that brings an end to the conflict.

"We'll see what happens," Trump said in response.

Remarks about preparations for war with Russia mirror West's position, says Kremlin spokesman

MOSCOW

THE Kremlin sees Western statements about preparations for a war with Russia as an official position, Russian Presidential Spokesman Dmitry Peskov told TV reporter Pavel Zarubin.

Western officials have recently made statements about the possibility of an armed conflict with Russia. In particular, Germany has developed an operational plan for a war with Russia; NATO Military Committee Chair Admiral Rob Bauer said that a conflict was highly likely, while Chief of the General Staff of the Estonian Defense Forces Major General Vahur Karus even highlighted Tallinn's readiness to conduct a pre-emptive strike.

"Official statements need to be taken into account, especially when they are made at such a high level, even at the highest level," Peskov noted. "We certainly assess the approaches of the

other party - our partners or our opponents and adversaries - based on these official statements," he added.

"This mirrors their position," the Kremlin spokesman concluded.



Ugandan president commissions Chinese-built mega hydropower project

KARUMA

UGANDAN President Yoweri Museveni has commissioned the Chinese-built 600-megawatt Karuma Hydropower Station and the Karuma Interconnection Project in the midwestern Ugandan district of Kiryandongo.

A special ceremony was held Thursday to mark the occasion, which was also attended by Uganda's Vice President Jessica Alupo, ministers, senior officials, and de-

velopment partners among others. Museveni thanked China for financing the construction of the hydropower project, noting that access to adequate and affordable electricity is one of the key factors that can fast-track his country's economy.

"I am very grateful that our Chinese friends came in, they said not only can we do it technically (construction), but we can co-fund it. That is how we have been able to build this wonderful facility," the president said.

The president hailed China for its announcement at the 2024 Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation in Beijing early this month, where the Asian country gave all the least developed countries it has diplomatic relations with, including 33 countries in Africa, zero-tariff treatment for 100 percent tariff lines.

Museveni said China by opening up its market would benefit African countries. The hydropower project, constructed both on the surface and underground

River Nile, the world's longest river, was jointly financed by the Export-Import Bank (EXIM) of China and the Ugandan government. The project, believed to be Uganda's largest of the kind, cost 1.7 billion U.S. dollars.

Ugandan Minister of Energy and Mineral Development Ruth Nankabirwa said the project would be a vital part of Uganda's electricity infrastructure to supply power to different parts of the country and the region. **Xinhua**

China aims for smooth travel during National Day holiday

BEIJING

CHINA is making multi-pronged efforts to ensure safe and smooth trips for passengers during the upcoming National Day holiday, the Ministry of Transport said on Friday.

In the country, the annual National Day holiday is marked by mass family reunions and a surge in travel. This year, the country's transport sector is expected to handle over 1.9 billion passenger trips nationwide during the week-

long holiday starting on Oct. 1, said Vice Minister Li Yang during a press conference.

This translates to a daily average of 277 million passenger trips during the holiday, a 19.4 percent increase compared to the same period in 2019, according to Li.

Specifically, Li noted that over 80 percent of these trips are expected to be made by private vehicles, while also anticipating a rising demand for mid- and long-distance travel.

Since 2012, China has waived tolls for passenger

cars during major holidays, including the Spring Festival, the Tomb-Sweeping Day, the Labor Day and the National Day.

The policy has significantly stimulated demand for holiday road trips. This policy will remain effective during this year's National Day holiday to enhance passengers' travel experience, Li said, adding that efforts will also be made to improve facilities and services at highway rest areas. For instance, transport authorities nationwide are accelerating

the installation of charging facilities to accommodate the country's growing number of new-energy vehicles.

A case in point is the southwest province of Sichuan, where 98.3 percent of highway rest areas had been equipped with charging poles as of August 2024, providing an overall capacity of 190,000 kilowatts.

Given the length of the holiday, cross-regional travel is expected to be prevalent during the period, with pop-

ular destinations including Beijing, Shanxi, Sichuan and Xinjiang, Li said. Fueled by the recent blockbuster video game "Black Myth: Wukong," north China's Shanxi has seen a phenomenal travel boom as it is home to many of the stunning locations featured in the game.

Highway travel routes encompassing many of these locations, including ancient temples, towers and pagodas, have gone viral online.

To ensure safe and smooth road transport, the local trans-

port department has overhauled roads and transport facilities around popular tourist spots to eliminate safety risks.

It has also worked with traffic bureaus to create contingency plans in case of congestion.

At the national level, Li said that the transport ministry has provided targeted instructions for local departments nationwide on developing strategies to maximize transport capacity ahead of the tourist influx.

In terms of public trans-

port, efforts are underway to further streamline the ticket purchasing process, especially for the elderly and foreign passengers, Li added.

China's passenger transport has been robust since the beginning of this year, with nearly 44 billion passenger trips recorded during the first eight months.

The figure marked a 6.1 percent increase from the same period last year, according to data from the transport ministry.

Xinhua

UN chief urges G77 to seek financial, climate, technological justice

UNITED NATIONS

UNITED Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Friday called for financial, climate and technological justice while addressing the Annual Meeting of Group of 77 (G77) and China as part of the ongoing 79th session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA).

"Our world is on a knife's edge. Climate chaos is worsening. Conflicts are raging. Human rights are floundering. Inequality and injustice are eroding trust and undermining the social contract of societies. The rights of women and girls are being snuffed out. Entire economies are drowning in debt. The digital divide is fast becoming a gaping chasm. And the Sustainable Development Goals are hanging by a thread," he said.

The G77 and China have been "the engine driving progress to eradicate poverty, to fight inequalities, to root out injustices in our post-colonial world," he said, adding that "you have been shining a spotlight on the need for fundamental reforms of the multilateral system."

"For 60 years - year in and year out - the G77 plus China has been on the front lines for fairness, equality, justice and solidarity," he noted.

Across a very full agenda, the G77 and China are crucial to building a more just, inclusive and prosperous world, according to the secretary-general.

"The G77 was vital in the adoption of the conclusions of the Summit of the Future but its implementation will not be easy. There will be a lot of resistance. The G77 must be an engine to make sure that what we have achieved in the summit will be translated in effective realities to the benefit of developing countries," he added.

In June, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jian told a regular news briefing that China always firmly stands with the G77 in safeguarding international fairness and justice, and in defending and expanding the common interest of developing countries and countries around the world.

Established in 1964, the G77 is the largest intergovernmental organization of developing countries in the United Nations. Its name is derived from 77 founding members, but its membership has grown significantly to 134.

Denmark backs Morocco's autonomy plan for Sahara

NEW YORK

DENMARK has joined a long list of influential countries to back Morocco's autonomy plan as a final solution to the Sahara issue.

Denmark said the autonomy proposal submitted by Morocco in 2007 is a "serious and credible contribution to the ongoing UN efforts."

This came in a joint statement following talks in New York between Moroccan and Danish foreign ministers, Nasser Bourita and Larse Lokke Rasmussen.

The autonomy plan is a "good basis for an agreed solution between the parties," the Danish foreign minister said.

The two ministers backed UN envoy Steffan De Mistura and the UN process aiming to find a peaceful and mutually acceptable solution in line with Security Council resolutions.

Denmark is the second Nordic country to openly back the autonomy plan after a similar move this summer by Finland.

Support for Morocco's territorial integrity and the autonomy plan is gaining traction following Paris support for Rabat's sovereignty over the Sahara territory this summer.

The US has already expressed its full recognition of Morocco's sovereignty over the territory together with Israel, Arab monarchies, and a growing group of African countries. Influential countries in the EU like Spain and Germany support the autonomy plan as a mutually acceptable solution to a conflict that has long lasted.

In its address this week at the United Nations General Assembly convening in New York, Morocco has reiterated its firm attachment to a lasting political solution based exclusively on the autonomy plan, saying "no political process is possible outside the framework of the round tables defined by the UN, with the full participation of Algeria, nor any solution outside the framework of the Moroccan autonomy initiative, or any serious political process without the return of the armed militias to the ceasefire" as demanded by the Security Council.

Morocco's statement comes amid a growing international support for its sovereignty over its Sahara and for its autonomy initiative put on the negotiating table, sending a clear message to the other parties to the conflict that time has come to move towards a political solution on this basis, through the round table process and in accordance with Security Council resolutions. **Agencies**

Xi chairs CPC leadership meeting to analyse economic situation, arrange for economic work

BEIJING

THE Political Bureau of Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee held a meeting on September 26 to analyze and discuss the current economic situation and make plans for future economic work. Xi Jinping, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, presided over the meeting.

It was noted at the meeting that since the beginning of this year, the CPC Central Committee with Comrade Xi Jinping (pictured) at its core has led the people of all ethnic groups in tackling difficulties and challenges calmly, intensifying macroeconomic regulation, focusing on deepening reform and opening up, expanding domestic demand, and optimizing economic structure.

As a result, the overall economic operation has been generally stable, with progress being made and the overall situation stable.

New quality productive forces have been steadily advanced, solid work done to secure people's livelihood, efforts made in preventing and defusing risks in key areas, high-quality development solidly promoted, and overall social stability maintained.

It was pointed out at the meeting that the fundamentals and favorable conditions of China's economy, such as a broad market, strong economic resilience, and great potential, remain unchanged.

At the same time, there are some new developments and problems in the current economic performance. It is imperative to calmly and objectively look at the current economic situation in an overall perspective, face up to difficulties, have greater confidence, and strengthen our sense of responsibility and urgency in doing a good job in economic work.

It is also imperative to focus efforts on key areas, take a proactive



approach, effectively implement existing policies, intensify the introduction of new policies, make policy measures even more targeted and effective, and strive to fulfill the annual economic and social development goals and tasks.

The need was emphasized at the meeting to increase the intensity of countercyclical adjustments in fiscal and monetary policies, ensure necessary fiscal expenditures, and do solid work to make sure that people's basic living needs are met, salaries are paid, and governments function smoothly at the primary level.

It is necessary to issue and put to good use ultra long-term special treasury bonds and special local government bonds, and better leverage government investment to drive de-

velopment.

The reserve requirement ratio should be lowered, and so should interest rates in a powerful manner. Efforts should be made to reverse the downturn of and stabilize the real estate market, strictly control the increase of new commodity housing projects, optimize the existing stock, and improve the quality.

Greater efforts should be made to provide loans for projects on the "white list" and support the efforts to make good use of idle land resources.

The need was also stressed at the meeting to respond to public concerns by adjusting policies restricting housing purchases, lowering interest rates on existing housing loans, and promptly improving policies related to land, fiscal and tax matters, and finance to promote

the establishment of a new model for real estate development.

Efforts should be made to boost the capital market, vigorously guide medium- and long-term funds into the stock market, and clear the hurdles for funds from social insurance, insurance, and wealth management into the stock market as well.

Mergers and restructuring of listed companies should be supported, and reform of publicly-offered funds should be steadily advanced. Policies should be studied and introduced to protect the interests of small and medium investors.

Furthermore, the need was noted at the meeting to assist enterprises in overcoming difficulties and to further regularize the way laws are enforced and supervision conducted over enterprises.

It is essential to formulate a private sector promotion law to foster a favorable environment for the development of the non-public sector.

It is imperative to integrate the efforts to boost consumption and improve people's wellbeing, enable the low- and middle-income groups to earn more and optimize the consumption structure.

New forms of business for consumption should be cultivated. It is essential to support and regulate private entities' involvement in the development of elderly care and childcare industries, and speed up refining the policies for boosting birth rate.

Efforts should be intensified to attract and secure investment, speed up reform measures such as allowing foreign investment access to the manufacturing sector, and further optimize a world-class business environment that is market-oriented, law-based and internationalized.

It was stressed at the meeting that people's basic living needs must be met. Priority should be given to the employ-

ment for fresh college graduates, migrant workers, those lifted out of poverty, and zero-employment families.

Aid should be strengthened for employment-challenged groups such as the older adults, persons with disabilities, and those who have been unemployed for a long time.

It was also emphasized that the assistance should be strengthened for low-income earners. Efforts should be made to ensure the adequate supplies and stabilize the prices of essential goods such as food, water, electricity, gas, and heating.

Moreover, it is important to effectively promote agricultural production, show enough concern for increasing the income of rural residents, do a good job in agricultural work in autumn and winter, and thus safeguard national food security.

All regions and departments were required to earnestly implement the CPC Central Committee's decisions and arrangements, get down to work, unite as one, and stimulate as much as possible the whole society's enthusiasm, initiative, and creativity in advancing high-quality development so as to promote sound and steady economic growth, according to the meeting.

CPC members and officials were urged to take on responsibility and pursue innovation, and hone their capabilities and make achievement through overcoming difficulties and challenges.

It is essential to set right benchmarks for selection and appointment of officials, and apply "three distinctions" to throw weight behind those who proactively take on responsibilities and those who do their work earnestly.

It is also imperative to support economic powerhouse provinces to play leading and pillar roles in propelling the country's economic development. Other matters were also discussed at the meeting.

Xinhua

Ukraine shrinks each time talks with Russia are disrupted – Lavrov

UNITED NATIONS

UKRAINE shrinks every time proposed talks with Russia are upset, Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov told a news conference following his participation in the high-level week of the 79th session of the UN General Assembly.

"Each time an agreement Russia always goes for is detailed, Ukraine shrinks," he said, citing Ukraine's refusal to implement the Minsk agreements and Kiev's disruption of the negotiations in 2022 as an example.

Lavrov recalled how Ukraine's chief delegate to the talks with Russia in 2022, David Arahmiya, said that then British Prime Minister Boris Johnson had come to Kiev and advised Ukraine to go on fighting.

"If Ukraine continues along the same path, if it continues to use some gimmicks again in order to buy time, it will not succeed," Lavrov emphasized.

Ukraine has "forever undermined" its legitimacy, at least as long as the current regime is in power.

"I very much hope that our Chinese and Brazilian

friends and all those who have joined this group of 'friends of peace' will fully take into account the manners and ways of the current Ukrainian leadership and its endless attempts to lure everyone by deception on their very quick and shifting sand," Lavrov pointed out.

Lavrov also noted that Russia is glad to see any initiatives concerning the Ukrainian settlement, including the one proposed by former US President Donald Trump, provided they will help eliminate the root causes of the crisis.

"Trump said some time ago that he would need 24 hours. Now the wording is different," Lavrov recalled. "We will welcome any initiatives that will bring about the desired result."

"And there can be only one result - a settlement of this problem on the basis of eliminating the root causes of the Ukrainian crisis," Lavrov stated.

Among these root causes the Russian foreign minister singled out the threat to Russia's security from the West, which has been dragging Ukraine into its military bloc, while "security is essential not as some abstract term, but as a basic human need." Another root cause of the conflict, he stated, was discrimination against the Russian-speaking population, including through laws banning the use of the Russian language and even the canonical Orthodox Church.

"If Mr. Trump succeeds in overturning these laws we are talking about, it will be a stride forward," Lavrov said. "It's the easiest thing to do - just hold a vote."

"Our position is crystal clear: we need to



eliminate the root causes [of the conflict]. Everyone knows what they are," Lavrov said.

The minister recalled the Ukrainian presidential decree that prohibits negotiations with Russia.

"[President Vladimir] Zelensky's decree prohibiting negotiations with Russia is still in force there, so I am not even going to speculate on how they are going to sort things out," Lavrov said.

China, Brazil's peace plan

Lavrov said he had asked China and Bra-

zil about the contents of their peace initiatives on Ukraine.

"My colleagues and I discussed their plans. I asked them about practical aspects of their initiative, because the five- or six-point Chinese-Brazilian plan has correct ideas, such as calls for peace, for justice, for compliance with the international law. No one objects to that, but no one has spoken on how exactly they are planning to achieve peace. All I know is that this matter is only at the stage of consideration," Lavrov said at a news conference to sum up the results of his participation in the High-Level Week of the 79th UN General Assembly.

China and Brazil have not yet drafted their plan on resolving the crisis in Ukraine, they only made declarations of intention, Lavrov added.

"I saw no action plan in the document. I only saw a declaration of intention," he said.

Earlier, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi announced at a meeting with Celso Amorim, chief advisor to the Brazilian president, that China, Brazil and other countries of the Global South were creating a platform to facilitate a peaceful solution to the Ukraine crisis.

Ukrainian President Vladimir Zelensky criticized the plan, calling it "destructive." The Russian Foreign Ministry's spokeswoman, Maria Zakharova, replied that Zelensky was not in a position to criticize it, because it was the West who is making all decisions for Kiev.

Agencies

Hezbollah confirms leader Nasrallah killed in Israeli airstrikes on Beirut's southern suburbs

BEIRUT/GAZA

HEZBOLLAH confirmed on Saturday that its leader Sayyed Hassan Nasrallah was killed in the Israeli airstrikes targeting the militant group's command headquarters a day earlier in Dahieh, Beirut's southern suburbs.

In a statement, the group mourned Nasrallah, describing him as "a great martyr" and "a heroic, bold, brave, wise, insightful, and faithful leader" for nearly 30 years, who lately led in "the battle for Palestine, Gaza, and the oppressed Palestinian people."

"Shortly after Hezbollah confirmed Nasrallah's death, Hamas issued a statement offering its "sincere condolences, sympathy, and solidarity to the brotherly Lebanese people" and its "brothers in Hezbollah and the Islamic Resistance in Lebanon."

"It also condemned the Israeli airstrikes on Dahieh as "a cowardly terrorist act, a massacre and a heinous crime" that proves once again Israel's "bloodiness and brutality."

Hamas held Israel fully responsible for "this heinous crime and its serious repercussions on the security and stability of the region," and condemned the U.S. administration's "continued support" for Israel.

On Friday evening, Israeli warplanes launched airstrikes on Hezbollah's main headquarters in Dahieh, which, according to a statement by the Israel Defense Forces earlier on Saturday, killed Nasrallah and some other commanders of the armed group.

The raids flattened several residential buildings, resulting in at least six deaths, 91 injuries, and significant infrastructure damage in the neighborhood, according to Lebanon's MTV TV channel.

Israel has intensified its airstrikes across Lebanon since Monday, marking the most extensive Israeli military action in the country since 2006.

This marks the latest escalation of the ongoing clashes that began on Oct. 8, 2023, when Hezbollah started launching rockets at Israel in solidarity with Hamas in the Gaza Strip, prompting Israel's retaliatory artillery fire and airstrikes in southeastern Lebanon.



It also condemned the Israeli airstrikes on Dahieh as "a cowardly terrorist act, a massacre and a heinous crime"

UN releases 10 mln USD emergency humanitarian funds for Lebanon aid

UNITED NATIONS

THE acting UN relief chief on Friday allocated 10 million U.S. dollars in emergency funding for the humanitarian situation in Lebanon, which the local UN coordinator described as catastrophic.

The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said Israeli air strikes continued to affect civilians and civilian infrastructure on the fifth consecutive day of the large-scale military escalation.

The world body's humanitarian coordinator in Lebanon, Imran Riza, called the destruction nothing short of catastrophic, with the surge

in violence extending to previously unaffected areas, causing widespread destruction. "We are witnessing the deadliest period in Lebanon in a generation, and many express their fear that this is just the beginning," Riza said.

He said that in less than a week, at least 700 lives have been lost, thousands have been injured, and nearly 120,000 people have been displaced, with the numbers continuing to rise. Since the beginning of the conflict on Oct. 7, 2023, more than 1,500 civilians have been killed, and over 200,000 people have been forced to flee their homes. "The United Nations and partners are closely co-

ordinating with the Lebanese Government to support the response efforts," OCHA said.

"We are delivering food, mattresses, hygiene kits, and emergency medical supplies," Riza said that critical funding gaps persist in the areas of shelter repair, food, fuel and coordination, among others.

Humanitarian organizations are assessing the amount of funding required to address the increasing number of displaced people and the rising humanitarian needs.

UN Acting Emergency Relief Coordinator Joyce Msuya allocated the 10 million U.S. dollars from the world body's

Central Emergency Response Fund.

The office said the funds are in addition to the 10 million dollars released from the Lebanon Humanitarian fund earlier in the week. In Gaza, OCHA warned that displaced people live in abysmal conditions, which could further deteriorate in the upcoming cold and rainy winter weather.

The United Nations and humanitarian partners recently conducted assessments -- Sept. 19 and 22 -- in two collective shelters in Deir al Balah and Khan Younis. "At both sites, displaced communities live in overcrowded shelters and lack cleaning

supplies, hygiene kits, sanitary pads and diapers, as well as clothes and infant formula for babies," OCHA said.

The office said the first site was a school turned into a shelter by the UN relief agency known as UNRWA in the Al Bureij refugee camp in Deir al Balah. It was hosting more than 3,500 Gazans.

"Our teams found people were crammed into classrooms and worn-out tents, with an average of 80 to 100 people per classroom and 40 people per tent," OCHA said.

"Access to clean water and health care is extremely limited. Most residents are eating only one meal per day, with some people going the entire

day without eating."

The office said the second site was a makeshift camp in Abasan in eastern Khan Younis, hosting 2,500 people, including nearly 1,000 school-aged children.

"The site is in a flood-prone area, adjacent to a site where garbage is being dumped," OCHA said. "There are no medical facilities and there is no food support at this site, except for occasional hot meals provided by a charity organization."

The office said humanitarian aid movements in Gaza face significant access constraints. "Nearly 90 percent of coordinated humanitarian movements between north-

ern and southern Gaza so far in September have been either denied or impeded," OCHA said.

In the West Bank, the office said the number of internal movement obstacles deployed by Israeli forces increased by more than 20 percent since June 2023.

Since the Oct. 7 attacks on Israel, OCHA said Israeli authorities in the West Bank also imposed movement restrictions, marked by the deployment or maintenance of hundreds of movement obstacles and a general closure that affects Palestinian permit-holders and bars them from accessing East Jerusalem and Israel.



Cyril Brown of Tanzania Toyota in action during the opening of the Airtel Golf Tournament in Arusha yesterday. The event which will be taking place monthly, is a partnership between Airtel Tanzania and Arusha Gymkhana golf club. Photo: Correspondent

Dar golfers set for 2024 CDF Trophy tourney

By Correspondent Japheth Kazenga

GOLFERS from various parts of Tanzania have again been presented with an opportunity to put their skills to show, given they would feature in the 2024 Chief of Defence Forces (CDF) Trophy tournament.

Dar es Salaam's Lugalo Golf Club would, from Friday to Sunday, be a place to go for golf lovers as the showdown would take place at the club's course.

Michael Luwongo, Lugalo Golf Club's Chairman, said the club chose to slightly push the showdown back as most of the people supervising it, who are also members of the Tanzania People's Defense Force (TPDF), had been involved in the celebration of 60 years of the force's operation in the country.

Luwongo stated: "It is a continuation of the celebration of the TPDF inception, which normally takes place on September 1."

The Lugalo Golf Club's Chairman stated that the CDF, Jacob Mkunda, who is also the competition's patron, will be the guest of honour in the closing ceremony.

"I should say it is a big tournament, given the patron has every day been keen on improving it... he wants to see to it that the CDF Trophy showdown turns into the biggest golf tournament domestically," Luwongo noted.

He said Lugalo Golf Club has prepared well for the tournament, pointing out the course is in great shape and golfers will enjoy taking part in the showdown.

Luwongo added that the tournament's closing ceremony would be one of its kind, given, among other aspects, the prizes set aside for the winners are unique.

According to Luwongo, this year's CDF Trophy tournament champion would walk away with a cash prize offered by the main sponsor, NMB Bank.

Luwongo said the 2024 CDF Trophy tournament would involve golfers in all categories, ranging from amateurs to professionals.

Lugalo Golf Club's captain, Japhet Masai, who moreover represented the Tanzania Golf Union (TGU) president Gilman Kasiga, said the main event - which would run for three days - would bring together Division A golfers.

According to him, the Division A golfers would play alongside professional golfers, noting that each group of two Division A golfers would also include one professional golfer.

Masai stressed the tournament hosts have gone for such an approach to improve the status of the showdown.

With the CDF Trophy tournament having been placed in the world ranking, he added, the main event's top five winners would secure a place in the world records so they could battle for

world rankings.

Masai pointed out there would further be a Subsidiary category comprising golfers with handicaps.

According to him, the category would witness golfers in divisions A, B, C, Seniors, and Ladies playing for two days. Junior category golfers will play on the last day.

Masai said about 130 amateur golfers have lined up for the tournament, and asked other golfers to register for it.

William Kadiva, representing one of the tournament co-sponsors, Toyota Tanzania, revealed that his company would award a golfer who will achieve a rare feat, known as hole-in-one, in this season's CDF Trophy showdown.

Kadiva, the firm's general manager, expressed appreciation for Lugalo Golf Club's readiness to cooperate with the firm to facilitate the successful hosting of the showdown.

Kadiva said Toyota Tanzania would hand over a brand new car to the golfer that would execute the hole-in-one at hole number nine of the course.

He was optimistic the prize would boost competitiveness in this season's showdown.

According to the official, golf is a game bringing together people from all walks of life and Toyota Tanzania, in this case, is honoured to contribute to organizing the competition.

Gertrude Mallya, NMB Bank's Head of Private Banking - whose bank sponsors the 2024 CDF Trophy showdown - lauded the army-owned golf outfit for developing the sport in the country.

"NMB Bank has been working closely with Lugalo Golf Club for a long time and we have kept on being the biggest stakeholders in the event for seven years," Gertrude pointed out.

The bank official stated her institution has been seeing to it that it firmly cooperates with Lugalo Golf Club to professionally organize the three-day showdown.

Gertrude appreciated the tournament co-sponsors willingness to join forces with the bank and see to it the competition is a success.

She said she is optimistic the brand-new car would turn this season's showdown into a highly competitive affair.

"This tournament has been taking place annually and our bank has been cooperating with Lugalo Golf Club via sponsoring the showdown...the institution has dished out over 200m/- to sponsor this important tournament," Gertrude added.

"On behalf of NMB Bank, I duly congratulate the TPDF for promoting the various sports, particularly golf," she noted.

Gertrude revealed that the bank has resorted to, this year, offering 35m/- to sponsor the CDF Trophy tournament, having acknowledged the showdown's importance to society.

Lina PG Tour sparks golf renaissance at historic Moshi Gymkhana Club

By Guardian Correspondent

THE presence of the Lina PG Tour golf tournament at the Moshi Gymkhana Club golf course has helped revive the sport and improve the grounds, which had previously deteriorated due to the lack of tournaments for many years.

It has been noted that the golf course, which initially lacked grass, turned green the day after the Lina PG Tour tournament began, ahead of Friday, September 27, 2024, as the tournament entered its second day.

This was revealed by the tournament director of the Lina PG Tour, Yasmin Chali, when speaking to reporters, where he said that he believes the presence of this tournament at Moshi Club is a great blessing because it is the course where Lina Nkya, who was a pioneer in the development of women's golf in the country, first started playing.

She said the tournament is being held to bring together golf players with the aim of honouring Lina Nkya, who was a player in the national women's golf team.



Golfers during the Lina PG Tour in Moshi Gymkhana Club golf course.

en's golf team.

"I can't believe what I'm seeing today, it's like the grass suddenly grew, and the course has turned green now. The course is very attractive compared to the first day we started this tournament," she said.

According to Yasmin, the Moshi Gymkhana golf course was in a neglected or almost dead state because there had

not been any major tournaments for many years.

"The presence of the Lina PG Tour here has revived both the course and the game of golf, and this tournament, unlike in the past, has even attracted players from Kenya," she explained.

The first round of the tournament took place at the TPC course in February, this year,

where the first winners were Nuru Mollel in the professional golf category and Ally Isanzu in the amateur golf category.

The Morogoro Gymkhana golf course was the venue for the second round of the Lina Tour, where Hassan Kadio emerged as the winner in the professional golf category and Isanzu once again won the amateur golf category.

Things were different in Arusha, where the third round of the Lina Tour was played. Nuru Mollel won again in the professional golf category, but the amateur golf winner was Jay Nathwani from Arusha.

The fourth round of the Lina PG Tour is being held in Moshi after three successful rounds at the TPC, Morogoro Gymkhana, and Arusha Gymkhana clubs.

What's unusual at the Moshi course is the presence of many winners who were not seen in the previous three rounds.

Among the surprising names in the fourth round is Karim Ismail, who scored 75 strokes, and Jumanne Mbunda, who scored 76 strokes, ahead of Isanzu, who had won the first two rounds by five strokes.

Cyclists now embark on Twende Butiama Tour to honour Mwalimu Nyerere's legacy

By Guardian Correspondent

THE Twende Butiama cycling trip kicked off yesterday in Dar es Salaam, with participants embarking on an 11-day, 1,846-kilometer journey to Butiama in honour of the late Mwalimu Julius Nyerere's legacy.

On Saturday, cyclists gathered at Mwalimu Nyerere's residence, where they received blessings from his widow, Mama Maria Nyerere, before beginning the ride. The event attracted both local and international participants from Kenya, Rwanda, Congo, Malawi, Zambia, and Burundi.

Returning as the main partner for this year's event is Vodacom Tanzania, with additional support from Stanbic Bank Tanzania, YUNA, Kuunda, ABC Impact, and DarVelo Cycling.

At the flag-off ceremony, Vodacom Tanzania's External Affairs and Vodacom Tanzania Foundation Director, Zuweina Farah, emphasized the importance of the initiative.

"We believe in creating last-

ing social impact by empowering people and protecting the planet. Last year, our partnership with Twende Butiama resulted in the planting of 6,000 trees, donating 610 desks to 13 primary schools, and providing free medical care to over 3,200 people across three regions. This year, we have more support, and I am confident we will do even more to improve lives and honour Mwalimu's legacy," she said.

The cycling tour is not just a journey across Northern Tanzania but also a mission-driven event focusing on education, environmental protection, and inclusive healthcare.

This year's tour aims to deliver several impactful results, including the donation of 1,500 desks to schools, the planting of 50,000 trees with corresponding environmental education, and free medical camps in 12 regions. Through a third-party partner, communities will receive access to consultations, screenings, and treatments.

Twende Butiama Cycling Tour was founded in 2018 by cycling enthusiasts led by Gabriel Landa. The initiative has grown steadily, making a positive impact on countless Tanzanian lives.

Speaking before the cyclists set off, Landa said: "This tour is about more than just cycling; it's about giving back to our communities and carrying forward the values Mwalimu instilled in us. With every kilometer we ride, we honour his commitment to improving education, health, and the environment. It's an adventure, yes, but also a call to action for a better Tanzania."

What began as a small philanthropic initiative has evolved into a national platform for uniting diverse partners with a shared mission of social progress. In addition to distributing school supplies, planting trees, and offering free healthcare services to thousands, this year's edition of Twende Butiama will also feature the recently launched digi-truck, pro-

viding free digital skills training in partnership with Huawei and Vodacom Tanzania.

Stanbic Bank's Sustainability Manager, Annette Nkini, highlighted the bank's dedication to supporting initiatives that drive sustainable development.

"At Stanbic, we are dedicated to supporting initiatives that drive sustainable development. Twende Butiama resonates with this and presents an opportunity to create lasting change by uplifting communities, fostering environmental responsibility, and ensuring that everyone has access to critical health services."

Over the past five years, the Twende Butiama cycling tours have made tangible contributions to Tanzanian society, from improving school infrastructure to promoting environmental sustainability.

As the cyclists make their way to Butiama, they continue to honour Nyerere's legacy, inspire future generations, and foster a spirit of national unity and pride.

Fountain Gate striker Mwalimu aims to extend goal-scoring streak in NBC Premier League

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

FOUNTAIN Gate FC striker Selemeni Mwalimu has expressed his determination to continue his impressive goal-scoring form in the Tanzanian Mainland Premier League, following a strong start to the season.

The forward has already netted four goals in six matches, making him the league's joint top scorer alongside his teammate Edgar William.

Mwalimu (pictured) credits his success to consistent performances throughout the campaign.

"My current form gives me the motivation to keep working hard and scoring more goals. When you score goals at the start of the league, it is important to keep the momentum throughout the season," he said.

"I'm determined to keep scoring goals and helping my team succeed. My current form gives me the confidence to achieve



great things."

Mwalimu's latest goal came during Fountain Gate's 3-1 victory over Kagera Sugar, further solidifying his reputation as one of the league's most feared attackers.

As last season's Zanzibar Premier League (ZPL) top scorer, he has set his sights on replicating that success in the more competitive Mainland Premier

League.

After leaving KVZ of Zanzibar, where he scored 20 goals and provided seven assists in 27 matches, Mwalimu joined Fountain Gate this season, bringing with him a formidable goal-scoring record. He acknowledges the heightened competition in the Mainland Premier League but remains undeterred.

"While it was a great achievement to be the top scorer in the ZPL, it won't be easy to replicate that success in the Mainland Premier League. The competition is tougher, and the teams are stronger," Mwalimu said.

Despite the challenges, he remains optimistic and motivated.

"I'm a striker, and my goal is to score goals. The Mainland Premier League is tough, but I'm ready to face the challenge and prove myself," he added.

Fountain Gate head coach Mohamed Muya has praised Mwalimu for his performance,

describing him as one of the best local talents in the Tanzania Premier League.

Muya emphasized the striker's discipline and tactical awareness, which have been critical to his success.

"Football has become a more tactical sport, where coaches' instructions play a crucial role in team success. While players need to follow these instructions, they should also be allowed to express their individual brilliance to help the team thrive," said Muya.

"Mwalimu has been exceptional in this regard. He's not only scored goals but has also maintained excellent positioning and discipline on the field."

Fountain Gate have made a strong start to the season, collecting 13 points from their first six matches, with four wins, one draw, and one loss.

Their next match is against Tanzania Prisons tomorrow at Sokoine Stadium in Mbeya.

Guardiola tiring of a very tough question: How to replace the irreplaceable Rodri?

NEWCASTLE, England

HOW do you replace the irreplaceable?

Pep Guardiola is already tired of that question.

The Manchester City manager began his quest to find the solution to the season-long absence of influential central midfielder Rodri in the 1-1 draw at Newcastle in the English Premier League on Saturday.

It was the first league game since Rodri was ruled out until next season because of ACL damage and Guardiola fielded Rico Lewis – a full back playing out of position – and Mateo Kovacic in central midfield at St. James' Park, with Bernardo Silva coming off the wing to help out in the middle late in the game.

All three performed well, according to Guardiola, but they won't be able to replicate Rodri, the Spain international who is a contender to win the Ballon d'Or for 2024 next month.

"Guys, I'm going to tell you – I know you're going to ask me all the time – of course you're going to miss Rodri, his physicality, his presence. I know," said Guardiola, who described his fellow Spaniard as "irreplaceable" this week.

"But he's not there. So I'm judging Kovacic and Rico and Bernardo after, and the wingers with Jack (Grealish) and how we have played. And it was exceptional, so it's simple."

Guardiola is used to innovating his tactics and he has a job on his hands in the coming months to devise a plan to cover for Rodri, who is so important in conducting City's attacking play and protecting the defense.

Ilkay Gundogan is another option as the holding midfielder, while Kevin De Bruyne can also play deeper, though he is out injured at the moment along with winger Oscar Bobb and defender Nathan Ake.

"I would love Rodri to be here and Oscar Bobb be here and Kevin be here and Ake be here. I would love it," Guardiola said. "But it is what it is."

Palmer nets 4 first-half goals, Haaland kept scoreless and Liverpool goes top of the Premier League

By STEVE DOUGLAS

CHelsea knew it was getting a talented player by signing Cole Palmer from Manchester City last year. But maybe not this good.

Palmer created some history on Saturday when he became the first player to score four goals in the first half of an English Premier League match. His flurry of strikes came in Chelsea's 4-2 win over Brighton that further strengthened the belief that the London team will be a force this season after spending more than \$1 billion on players over the past two years.

Palmer was one of the club's expensive signings – he cost at least 40 million pounds (\$50.7 million) – but that looks a bargain now. His 22 league goals last season was second only to Man City's Erling Haaland and also included a four-goal haul against Everton, and he is already up to six goals in this campaign in just six games.

Palmer is also a regular in England's squad, scoring the team's goal in the 2-1 loss to Spain in



Newcastle United's Anthony Gordon shoots to score the equalizing goal from a penalty spot during the Premier League match between Newcastle and Manchester City, at St James' Park, Newcastle upon Tyne, England, Saturday Sept. 28, 2024. (AP)

the European Championship final in July.

How City could have done with having Palmer a few hours earlier on Saturday, when the champion drew at Newcastle 1-1 to drop points for the second straight weekend. Haaland was kept scoreless in a league game for the first time this season and stayed on 10 goals. Defender Josko Gvardiol netted for City instead.

Arsenal took advantage of its big rival's slip-up by beating Leicester 4-2 thanks to two stoppage-time goals – an own-goal and a close-range finish by Kai Havertz – to join City on 14 points.

Both were a point behind the new leader, Liverpool, which beat Wolverhampton 2-1 thanks to a 61st-minute winner by Mohamed Salah from the penalty spot.

Brentford became the first Premier League team to score inside the first minute in three straight games, but couldn't hold on following Bryan Mbeumo's strike after 37 seconds and drew with West Ham 1-1.

Everton gained its first win of the season in beating Crystal Palace 2-1 thanks to two goals by Dwight McNeil and Fulham won at Nottingham Forest 1-0, with

Mexico striker Raul Jimenez scoring in a third straight game.

*Missing Rodri

It was City's first league match since influential midfielder Rodri was ruled out for the season with an ACL injury sustained in the 2-2 draw against Arsenal last weekend and the champions were far from their fluid best without the Ballon d'Or contender.

Haaland barely got a chance at St. James' Park, so couldn't tie the record of City great Sergio Aguero in scoring in each of his first six games of a Premier League season.

Gvardiol was a fre-

quent scorer late last season in his forays forward and put City ahead in the 35th minute, collecting Jack Grealish's inside pass before cutting inside onto his weaker right foot and shooting low into the corner.

Anthony Gordon converted a penalty for Newcastle's equalizer in the 58th after the England winger – playing as the central striker in the absence of the injured Alexander Isak – was tripped by City goalkeeper Ederson Moraes after running through on goal.

*Late show

Arsenal's players were left dejected by conceding a stoppage-time equalizer at City last weekend.

Six days later, they were celebrating late goals after Leicester, a promoted team without a win so far, threatened to pull off an unlikely draw at Emirates Stadium from two goals down.

Gabriel Martinelli and Trossard scored for Arsenal in the first half, only for the Gunners' usually obdurate defense to surprisingly let in two goals by Leicester right back

James Justin. Justin's second was a stunning volley with the outside of his right foot that went in off the far post.

Arsenal went back in front in the fourth minute of stoppage time when Leandro Trossard volleyed a deep corner by Bukayo Saka toward goal, though it needed a deflection off Wilfred Ndidi to find a way into the net. Havertz bundled in the fourth in the ninth minute of added-on time.

*Liverpool on top

A league-high fifth win for Liverpool didn't come easy, even though Arne Slot's team was playing against the last-placed Wolves at Molineux.

It needed Salah to convert a penalty after a foul by Nelson Semedo on former Wolves player Diogo Jota, who was jeered throughout by the home fans.

Jota provided the pinpoint cross that was headed in by Ibrahima Konate for the opener in first-half stoppage time. A mistake by Konate allowed Rayan Ait-Nouri in for Wolves' equalizer in the 56th.

AP

Stalemate between Bayern and Leverkusen, St Pauli enjoys first Bundesliga win in 13 years

BERLIN

HONORS even after Bayern Munich dominated defending champion Bayer Leverkusen in a 1-1 draw in the Bundesliga on Saturday.

The Bavarian powerhouse's inability to find a winning goal ended its six-game winning start to the season across all competitions.

But Vincent Kompany's team will take more from the draw than counterpart Xabi Alonso's Leverkusen, which has lost its aura of superiority since completing last season unbeaten to end Bayern's 11-year reign as champion.

"It was only a draw, but the manner of it was very impressive," Bayern director of sport Max Eberl said.

Leverkusen won their last meeting 3-0 in February, while the sides drew 2-2 in Alonso's first visit to Munich as Leverkusen coach.

"The goal was to stay compact and allow little," Leverkusen midfielder Granit Xhaka said, referring to Bayern's big-scoring wins to start the season. "You can do more with the ball and everyone knows that we can do more."

Bayern dominated the opening half-hour, but Robert Andrich scored. The combative Leverkusen midfielder volleyed Xhaka's cut back from a corner to send the ball inside the left post.

It was the first time Bayern fell behind in a game since Kompany took over as coach.

Andrich was booked the next minute for a tackle on Harry Kane, who would go on to finish the game with no shots at goal – an anomaly.

Aleksandar Pavlovi deservedly equalized in the 39th with a brilliant strike from outside the penalty area.

Also in the first half, Bayern supporters in the south end of the stadium held banners criticizing their club for the players' grey jerseys instead of the usual red and white. They accused club management of simulating local pride.

After the break, Serge Gnabry hit the post, then the crossbar in the closest Bayern went to scoring again.

St. Pauli's wait ends

Elias Saad scored twice and set up another goal as Hamburg-based cult club St. Pauli claimed its first Bundesliga win for 13 years by 3-0 in Freiburg on Saturday.

Saad opened the scoring early, set up the next goal, then sealed the win when he surged past four Freiburg players on a counterattack in the 73rd minute, shortly after the home side had a goal ruled out through VAR for offside.

St. Pauli secured promotion as the second-division champion last season, returning to the top division for the first time since its relegation in 2011. It's still known for its supporters' left-wing stance and the pirate skull-and-crossbones emblem that was popularized by fans who identified as punks.

Arsenal and Man City's heated rivalry has just reached a new level of tension

By Miguel Delaney

MIKEL Arteta eventually felt he had to speak, specifically in order to quieten things down. You couldn't have a clearer indication of how the Manchester City-Arsenal tensions had reached a peak, after all, than Pep Guardiola himself willingly bringing up the "115 charges". Some City officials had previously bristled at the media or anyone else mentioning the prospect of the club being punished, and yet here was their most important football figure putting it front and centre of the week's biggest story.

That showed how affected Guardiola had been by Arteta's admittedly open-ended comments from Tuesday. The Arsenal manager had spoken about how he has "all the information" on City, having worked at the club for almost four years. Arteta was actually talking about gamesmanship given all the criticism of his own team over "dark arts", but the way it was said could have easily been portrayed as talking about the hearing. Guardiola evidently felt that way.

This was also why Arteta took the opportunity to indeed make clear what he meant, and cool those tensions a bit.

Arsenal initially didn't want to say anything, out of concern that this all might escalate further. There had actually been some satisfaction within the club at City's response to last week, and even a feeling the champions were "rattled". Some Arsenal players spoke of winning the "psychologi-



Mikel Arteta

Pep Guardiola

cal war", with the latter word coming up a lot in that time. Gabriel used that description, and Guardiola willingly accepted the terms. That made Arsenal's fixture against Leicester City a crucial battle to be won after City dropped points at Newcastle United.

A problem was the information war alongside it all. Arteta's comments apart, Arsenal had initially sought to keep their counsel. That meant the week had been dominated by talk of their dark arts, which was then followed by camera footage being leaked of executive vice-chairman Tim Lewis not shaking hands with City counterparts after the 2-2 draw. While the explanation was that he wanted to console his players, some in the room say it was because Lewis had been irritated by how he was greeted when he arrived at the Etihad. The executive is known to have been one of the most vocal figures in the Premier League about the problems of state ownership, and that has played its part in tensions deepening between both clubs.

Those tensions hadn't reached the managers' offices, however, at least

"dark arts" – and that is something he wants his own team to develop.

It was quite a peace offering, that is worth laying out.

"I can repeat it very clear, I love Pep. I've admired him since I was 10 years old," he began. "I respect him profoundly, I am so grateful for everything he did for me and continues to do for me and I consider him a friend. I love and respect all of the staff there because I worked with them for four years and when I said that I know them, I meant I know how hard they work."

"I haven't seen a human being work as hard as Pep and the coaches and everybody in that football club is consistently winning and the reason they are there is because they continue to maintain that hunger. This is exactly what I've learned and what I mean so it cannot be anymore clear than that."

"If you want to I can repeat it but if someone wants to damage the relationship that's not in my hands but that feeling is profound, he knows it, the staff knows it because I still maintain with them today, with the board, with the ownership, with everyone. In sport there has to be a will to win, they have it and I have it."

"We have it for sure because we haven't won it but they have it even if they have won it more than anybody else here. We have to learn and it has to be inspiring for us and it is for me, this is what

I mean.

"It's remarkable what they have achieved because they have that willing mentality, hopefully that is clear."

And yet within those very words was also precisely the reason why it's impossible for more tension not to develop. That, as Arteta said, is football. That's also why both the 2-2 draw at City and this weekend's games felt like it was March rather than September. The tension is that high.

Arteta had earlier spoken about how he would rather have this kind of interaction rather than encouragement, because it proves there is proper competition. Many previous managers have got wise to how Guardiola usually praises you most when his team easily beats you. He can go cool when there's more friction.

"I prefer this reaction much more than someone clapping my back after the game and saying: 'Well done, you guys are in the right direction,'" Arteta stated. "This is why I do what I do."

Some at Arsenal had already noted how City figures had gone from that kind of comment – which some took as "patronising" – to nothing like it at all.

For now, it's difficult to see how anyone at City can take issue with Arteta's latest words. That was why he spoke.

THE INDEPENDENT

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Palmer nets 4 first-half goals, Haaland kept scoreless and Liverpool goes top of the Premier League

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Prizes spark competitive surge in NBC Premier League



NBC Bank's Zanzibar Branch Business Development Manager, Obedy Ngavatula (R), handing over the 'Man of the Match' award to Simba SC goalkeeper, Moussa Camara, who was announced the 'Man of the Match' during the recent 'Mzizima Derby' between Azam FC and Simba SC at the New Amaan Complex Stadium in Zanzibar. Simba SC emerged victorious with a 2-0 win. Photo: Correspondent

Ken Gold's winless run continues after 1-1 draw with Tabora United

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

KEN Gold Football Club managed to secure their first point of the NBC Premier League season following a 1-1 draw against Tabora United at the Sokoine Stadium in Mbeya. Despite taking an early lead, the newly promoted team couldn't hold on and were forced to settle for a draw.

This result ends Ken Gold's run of five consecutive defeats, marking a small but important step forward in their challenging debut season. Their previous losses came against Singida Black Stars (3-1), Fountain Gate (2-1), Kagera Sugar (2-1), KMC (1-0), and reigning champions Young Africans SC (1-0).

As a result, Ken Gold remain at the bottom of the table with one point after six matches.

Ken Gold began the match with a solid performance, eventually breaking the deadlock just before halftime. Their early goal raised hopes of a long-awaited victory, but Tabora United remained a consistent threat, especially through their star forward Yacouba Sogne, who was a key player in their attack. However, Ken Gold's defense held strong, withstanding pressure throughout the first half.

Tabora United, however, came back stronger in the second half. Coach Francis Kimanzi made a crucial substitution at halftime, bringing on striker Heritier Makambo for midfielder Abdalah Seseme. This tactical switch injected fresh energy into the Tabora attack, and the team grew in confidence as the game progressed.

The visitors' persistence paid off in the 82nd minute when Andy Bikoko found the equalizer, taking advantage of a defensive lapse from Ken Gold. His well-placed header silenced the home crowd and secured a valuable point for Tabora United, who now sit at eight points after six matches.

Ken Gold head coach Jumanne Chale was both reflective and hopeful in his post-match remarks.

"The mistakes from our defenders cost us again, allowing the opponent to score a free header," he said. "But considering the fatigue from our difficult game against Young Africans, I can't be too disappointed. This point is the beginning of our journey towards victory."

Chale acknowledged the toll the team's recent schedule had taken on his players, but he remains optimistic that they can turn things around.

"We will correct our mistakes and prepare for our next match against JKT Tanzania. We haven't given up yet," he added.

Tabora United's coach, Francis Kimanzi, was pleased with his team's resilience and tactical adjustment.

"After we conceded the goal, I saw that our midfield was not as effective, so I decided to replace Seseme with Makambo to boost our attack," Kimanzi explained. "The substitution worked, and we were able to equalize. One point away from home is not a bad result, especially considering the circumstances."

Kimanzi emphasized his team's preparation for their next match, an away fixture against Dodoma Jiji.

"Now, we will turn our focus to our upcoming away game against Dodoma Jiji. We will prepare well and aim for another positive result," he concluded.

Ken Gold's upcoming schedule is crucial as they aim to climb off the bottom of the table. They will face JKT Tanzania at home on October 4 before traveling to Mashujaa FC. Following those matches, they will have a tough away game against Azam FC, followed by a home clash with Dodoma Jiji and another away fixture against Tanzania Prisons.

Tabora United, on the other hand, will face Dodoma Jiji FC in their next away match before traveling to play JKT Tanzania. They will then take on league giants Young Africans before returning home to face Pamba Jiji FC and Mashujaa FC.

As the NBC Premier League season continues, both teams will be eager to improve their performances and climb the table, with Ken Gold looking to secure their first win and Tabora United aiming for more consistency in their campaign.

By Guardian Correspondent

THE NBC Premier League, Tanzania's top football championship, has experienced a significant boost in competitiveness and player morale thanks to a series of prizes introduced by the league's primary sponsor, the National Bank of Commerce (NBC).

Stakeholders across the board - including fans, football officials, and players - have praised the positive impact these prizes have had on the league. In addition to the traditional awards for the best player and best coach of the month, new prizes for top performers in each match have spurred a greater drive for excellence among players.

"The main intention is to ensure that these prizes bring the intended benefits, which is to increase the morale of the players and coaches, thereby enhancing competition," explained Almasi Kasongo, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Tanzania Mainland Premier League Board.

In an interview with local media over the weekend, Kasongo emphasized that the Tanzania Football Federation's (TFF) Prizes Committee is diligent in selecting truly deserving winners. The aim is to ensure that the awards fuel healthy competition across the league.

The bank's officials, who are present at league matches to award the prizes, expressed satisfaction with the elevated level of competition in the

league, attributing this rise directly to the introduction of these rewards.

During the recent 'Mzizima Derby' between Azam FC and Simba SC at the New Amaan Complex Stadium in Zanzibar, NBC's Zanzibar Branch Manager, Abdul Karim Mkila, lauded the response from players and fans alike. He noted that the bank is looking to further enhance its involvement, including developing more specific banking services for sports stakeholders in the country.

"It is a pleasure and an honour for us to see that players and coaches

who receive these prizes enjoy and take pride in them," Mkila said as he presented Simba SC midfielder Jean Charles Ahoua with a trophy and a one million Tanzanian shillings award for being named the Best Player of the Month for August.

The ceremony also saw Lameck Nyambaya, Chairperson of the Dar es Salaam Regional Football Association (DRFA), present Simba SC's head coach Fadlu Davids with a trophy and a one million Tanzanian shillings award for winning the Best Coach of the Month accolade.

The enthusiasm for the awards has been apparent on social media, with players like Simba SC goalkeeper Moussa Camara, named 'Man of the Match' in the Mzizima Derby, sharing their excitement over receiving the prizes.

As the NBC Premier League continues to draw larger audiences across Tanzania, Mkila indicated that the bank is committed to further innovation, which will not only boost the league's appeal but also enhance financial services for those involved in Tanzanian football.

CECAFA secures additional slot for 2025 African Nations Championship

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

IT is now official that the Council for East and Central Africa Football Associations (CECAFA) zone will receive an additional slot for the 2025 African Nations Championship (CHAN).

This development increases the total number of qualifying teams from the CECAFA region to 19, a decision made by the Confederation of African Football (CAF).

This expansion is partly due to the automatic qualification granted to the three host na-

tions from the CECAFA zone - Kenya, Uganda, and Tanzania.

The tournament, scheduled to take place between February 1 and 28, 2025, will see these three nations enter directly as hosts.

CAF's decision to allocate an additional slot ensures that the CECAFA region will have ample representation in the final tournament.

In addition to the host nations, the team achieving the best result in the CECAFA qualifiers will also advance to the final championship.

The CHAN qualifiers will of-

ficially begin during the weekend of October 25-27, and November 1-3, 2024. The second round will take place between December 20-22 and December 25-27, 2024.

CAF's online portal stated: "In addition to the automatic qualification as hosts, the team achieving the best result in the CECAFA Qualifiers will also advance to the final tournament."

Other regional qualifying zones, including WAFU A, WAFU B, UNAF, UNIFFAC, and COSAFA, will each contribute three teams to the

tournament. CAF is expected to confirm host stadiums and training venues in due course. However, early indications suggest that Kenya's Kasarani Annex, Police Sacco Stadium, and Ulinzi Sports Complex are being considered as potential training venues, with Nyayo Stadium likely to host group stage matches.

In Uganda, the Nelson Mandela National Stadium (Namboole) has been proposed as a primary venue, while Tanzania will utilize the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Last year, CAF significantly increased the prize money for the CHAN finals in Algeria, which was won by Senegal.

The prize money for the winning team was raised by 60 percent, with Senegal pocketing \$2 million (Tsh 5.46 billion), compared to the \$1.25 million (Tsh 3.41 billion) awarded in previous editions.

With the 2025 edition fast approaching, the CECAFA zone is gearing up for a highly competitive and exciting tournament as the host nations look to showcase their talents on home soil.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

