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National Pg 3 MPs fault Treasury for funds delay



National Pg 4 10bn/- set aside for ATCL terminal benefits



Features Pg 9 Default on adverts' payment 'killing' media



Prime Minister Kassim Mjaliwa exchanges greetings with Denmark's Ambassador to Tanzania, Mette Nørgaard Dissing-Spandet, in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: PMO

Preserving 8m ha forest land key in Tanzania, Dubai carbon cut accord

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

BLUE Carbon, an energy firm in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the Tanzania Forest Services Agency (TFS) yesterday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for collaboration in promoting sustainable forest management practices and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Blue Carbon chairman Sheikh Ahmed Dalmook Al Maktoum, a member of the Dubai royal family, earlier met with President Samia Suluhu Hassan, as a follow up to path-breaking investment discussions when the president visited the Emirates early last year.

The partnership will focus on supporting government efforts to enhance conservation benefits on forest resources covering eight million hectares in the first phase, officials said.

This includes 56,000 hectares of mangroves whose carbon credits fall under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, a legally binding international treaty on climate change adopted by 196 state parties at the climate change conference in Paris (COP 21).

It was adopted on 12 December 2015 and entered into force on 4th November 2016, with the purpose of limiting global warming to well below 2.0 and preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius, compared to pre-industrial levels.

To achieve this long-term temperature goal, countries aim to reach global peaking of greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible to achieve a climate neutral world by mid-century.

Experts say the Paris Agreement is a landmark in the multilateral climate

change process as a binding agreement bringing all nations into a common cause to undertake ambitious efforts to combat climate change and adapt to its effects.

Commenting on the visit, Sheikh Ahmed expressed satisfaction with signing this MoU, noting that the collaboration represents an important step towards promoting sustainable forest management practices and taming climate change effects.

He said the Tanzanian government recognises the importance of preserving its forest resources and reducing greenhouse gas emissions, thus working with Blue Carbon will help it to achieve these goals.

The partnership will also provide opportunities for local communities to participate in carbon offset projects, thus promoting sustainable economic growth and improving livelihoods.

"The signing of the MoU is a clear demonstration of Blue Carbon's commitment to promoting nature-based solutions to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change, demonstrating the company's efforts to assist in transitioning to low carbon development," he explained.

Blue Carbon was formed to create environmental assets, nature-based solutions and register carbon removal projects under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. The firm serves as an enabler of blue and green economy operational frameworks which deploys nature-based solutions in the context of decarbonization using the latest technology and green economy principles, a company brochure affirms.

Land rent defaulters, just three months left

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

LAND rent defaulters have an extended grace period of three months, with land officers directed to have desk officers seven days a week until April 30 to receive payments.

Dr Angelina Mabula, the Lands, Housing

and Human Settlements minister, said at a news conference here yesterday that the grace period extension arose from requests by several defaulters failing to meet the December 31 2022 deadline, citing several challenges.

Whoever fails to pay the relevant tax arrears within the specified time will

face legal action as there will be no further extension, she said, citing prior acceptance by President Samia Suluhu Hassan for the defaulters' plea.

"The president agreed to their plea and now they have more time to comply with the demand, failing to which invites legal

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Deep sea fishing to uplift consumption

By Guardian Reporter

THE average consumption of fish in Tanzania is expected to rise from 8.5 kilogrammes to 10.5kg per person annually with investment mobilising more efforts in deep sea fishing, an expert has stated.

Prof Mohamed Sheikh, the head of research, training and extension services in the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries made this observation in Dar es Salaam yesterday at an event for launching fish sales, the first consignment weighing 60 tonnes.

The consumption level is anticipated to rise with greater investment in the fishery sector, with considerable funds being directed to deep sea fishing by obtaining

improved fishing equipment.

Noting that 8.5kg was the world average level for 1961, he said that with regard to Zanzibar the level attained is 22kg per person annually.

Suleiman Masoud Makame, the Blue Economy minister for Zanzibar who officiated at the ceremony, said that the government was mobilising for ships to be registered in Tanzania as an uplift for the blue economy, asking investors in the sector to adhere to their contract agreements.

He said the blue economy was moving up, as there are many things taking place, including teaching sailors about fishing. "We face challenges as we do not have enough seamen for the fishing profession but efforts are now underway to increase their number," he said.

Dr Emmanuel Sweke, the Deep Sea Fishing Authority (DSFA) director general, said contracts executed with international fishing vessels are beneficial to the country, on the basis of agreements reached, noting that the stock of fish was brought up by MV Pacific operated by the Pemba Tuna firm.

In order to fish in deep sea there are conditions to be observed, including

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MPs: Merge operations of major empowerment funds

By Francis Kajubi, Dodoma

THE GOVERNMENT needs to urgently merge economic empowerment schemes to ease the monitoring of public funds, a parliamentary committee has demanded.

Naghenjwa Kaboyoka (pictured) (Special Seats-Opposition) chairperson of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) of the National Assembly said in a report that this need arises from observations of

the Controller and Auditor General (CAG) special performance audit for 2017/18 to 2020/21.

The audit, covering Dodoma and Dar es Salaam economic empowerment schemes, found out that the Agriculture Input Trust Fund had non-performing loans amounting to 20.1bn/-, equal to 72 percent of the disbursed loans pegged at 27.8bn/-, the committee noted.

The Kilimo Kwanza Fund had dormant

loans amounting to 27.6bn/- or 80 per cent of the total disbursed loans pegged at 34.2bn/-, while the 2020/21 CAG report shows that loan applications for 227bn/- sought from commercial banks did not bear a Bank of Tanzania (BoT) guarantee as per the regulations.

The Tanzania Agriculture Development Bank (TADB) in its smallholder credit guarantee scheme issued over 50bn/- as guaranteed loans to 71 smallholders farmers, flouting the relevant terms and conditions, the committee noted.

The committee's report on its work during the February 2022 to January 2023 period said it noticed that during the four years in review, there was inadequate coordination in establishment and operations of government funds and programs (GFPs), she said.

She similarly noted that Tanzania has by far the highest rate of financial exclusion when compared to key East African Community (EAC) member states, which the committee explained as resulting from shortfalls in administering economic empowerment funds (EEF).

The PAC report affirms that financial exclusion in the formal financial sector stands at 28 per cent compared to Kenya's 18 per cent, Uganda (14 per cent), and Rwanda (11 per cent), with this high rate of exclusion reflected in low access to affordable credit.

This can be translated into 17m adults as per the preliminary results of the 2022 population and housing census, on whose

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The US Under Secretary of Commerce for International Trade, Marisa Lago (L), receives a souvenir picture of Mount Kilimanjaro from Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba (C) and Industries, Trade and Investment minister Dr Ashatu Kijaji shortly after talks in Dodoma city yesterday. The US official is in Tanzania in continuation of efforts to strengthen US-Africa commercial links. Photo: Finance ministry

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZBS board told to control import, production of substandard goods

Omar Said Shaaban, Zanzibar minister for Trade and Industrial Development, has directed the Zanzibar Bureau of Standards (ZBS) board of directors to control import of substandard products so as to strengthen internal quality goods production.

Speaking here on Monday at the launch of the board at ZBS offices, Shaaban called on board members including the management to make sure they collaborate to finalise responsibilities in the ZBS task force plan including the construction of laboratories offices in Pemba.

He warned traders who have been importing substandard or fake products in the Island to stop immediately as the government will not hesitate to revoke their licences. "The government is not prepared

to see its citizens continue to consume expired food products, so we will continue taking stern measures to ensure that we fight this challenge and keep our people safe, I want the ZBS board to work on this area seriously," he said.

He commended the board appointed for the second term for completing the modern laboratory and offices.

"I do not expect to see any tug-of-war between the board and the management but I would like to see you continue working together for better achievements in the coming days," he said.

He called on ZBS Board members who hail from government

institutions to understand that they are part of ZBS hence they should assist to solve challenges facing the bureau.

He noted that the bureau was finalising procedures to secure a standards emblem issued by the International Organisation for Standardization (ISO) to add value to the bureau.

ZBS board chairperson, Khadija Saleh Abdalla said they have mobilised to oversee the bureau's responsibilities including finalising the preparations for the work plan and the construction of the laboratory at Chamanangwe, Pemba.

She other areas to be supervised

by the Board as include the construction of an area for vehicles inspections and increase the number of entrepreneurs to be reached by the Bureau to be given the quality standards labels for the goods they produce.

ZBS director general, Yusuph Majid Nassor said during the board's last term, ZBS was able to build offices and laboratories in various parts including the ongoing construction in Pemba.

He said that in building institutional capacity and introducing it to society, ZBS aims to develop discussion platforms with various groups including journalists through their institutions.



TIB Development Bank acting managing director Lilian Mbassy (seated, L) and National Water Fund CEO Haji Nandule pictured in Dodoma city on Monday signing an agreement on the management of the Credit Disbursement Window for Water Project Implementers in Tanzania. Witnesses include Water minister Jumaa Aweso (in tie, standing) and Water deputy minister Maryprisca Mahundi (L). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Speaker Ackson formulates sectorial permanent parliamentary committees

By Francis Kajubi, Dodoma

NATIONAL Assembly Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson has reformulated the previous nine sectorial permanent parliamentary committees into 11 new ones.

The changes come after some additional amendments of Regulation No. 8 of the Parliamentary Permanent Regulations June 2020 Edition adopted last week.

Reading the changes yesterday in the National Assembly on behalf of the Speaker, Parliament

Chairperson David Kihenzile said that following the regulatory changes, the sectorial committees have increased to eleven from the previous nine.

Kihenzile mentioned the committees as: the Legal, Administration and Constitution Committee, the Industry, Trade, Agriculture and Livestock Committee, the Foreign Affairs, Defence and National Service Committee, and the Local Government Authorities and Regional Administration Committee.

Other committees include the Social welfare and Community Development Committee, Water and Environment Committee, the Education, Culture and Sports Committee, the Land, Natural Resources and Tourism Committee, the Health and HIV/AIDS Committee, the Infrastructure Committee and the Energy and Minerals Committee.

Kihenzile said that in consideration of the National Assembly Regulation 135 (7) which puts a limitation of legislators' membership to

parliamentary committees that lasts for ten consecutive parliamentary meetings. He said all parliamentarians are required to file new applications for appointments.

"Following the changes, members of parliament are required to fill application forms for applying to be appointed in the sectorial committees of the Permanent Parliamentary Committees. All legislators are supposed to fill the forms in a space of 24 hours and submit them," said Kihenzile.

Land rent defaulters, just three months left

FROM PAGE 1

measures," she said, recalling that last July, the government offered to waive the payment of interest on rent and fees if tenants paid within the grace period.

To date, 90.9bn/- has been collected, equivalent to 75 percent of the targeted collection of 121bn/-, while revenue for 2022/23 rose by 33.9bn/- compared to the same period in 2021/2022.

A total of 6,211 defaulters benefited from the grace period, delivering 11.9bn/-, an amount the government believes will help stabilise needs of individuals and institutions which made use of the grace period, she said.

Still, up to 73 institutions and state agencies owe the government 63.6m/- in land rent arrears, she said, urging concerned organizations to pay their rents within the period of extension.

Late last year, the ministry was on the verge of taking legal measures on land rent defaulters after an earlier grace period elapsed.

Dennis Masami, head of the tax department in the ministry, said at a press conference that upon the end of the grace period, the government

will take rightful legal actions.

The law states that land occupants are required to pay annual fees within six months of the particular financial year, failure of which attracts interest on the payments.

"The grace period ran from July 2022 to the end of December, where at least 10,000 defaulters responded by paying their debts. That increased the monthly payment from within 10bn/- per month to 15bn/- at the end of 2022.

"After the expiry of the grace period, the next course of action will be to repossess plots of land and sell their property to refund the money," the director had specified.

Prior to the grace some 3,400 hearings were brought up in court, where 90 percent were deliberated upon, with over two million people included in the land rent demand.

Compliance in paying land rents and fees had increased to within 60 percent of expectations, he said, while the Dodoma Regional Land Officer, Latare Shoo, said that over 150,000 are registered but mostly default, vowing to put to effect any subsequent government directives in that regard.

MPs: Merge operations of major empowerment funds

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basis the country's population stood at 61.7m late August, the chairperson noted.

The more excluded economic groups are petty traders, food vendors and temporary workers in scores of factories, while the prevalence of non-performing loans and funds not being delivered to the right beneficiaries explains the level of financial exclusion, she stated.

The National Economic Empowerment Council (NEEC) report for fiscal 2019/20 showed that 13 public empowerment fund schemes out of 52 such schemes had low operating capital, showed inefficiency and poor staff

operational skills, she said.

The CAG report for 2020/21 shows that SELF Microfinance failed to recover 27m/- it disbursed to borrowers in 2017, with 126.9m/- recovered out of 1.1bn/- issued in loans, she further observed.

Anatropia Theonest (Special Seats-Opposition) urged parliamentarians to come up with a bold resolution that will lead to taking legal measures against swindlers of public funds in economic empowerment schemes.

The National Economic Empowerment Act No. 16, 2014 was meant to facilitate the provision of financial services to low income earners and small scale financial institutions, she recalled.

Deep sea fishing to uplift consumption

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a \$70,000 annual licence levy, training local employees in fishing along with grooming ship captains and engineers. They are also supposed to land about 100 tons of fish per year, part of which will be directed at the local market, he said.

Fishing involves targeting particular types of fish targeted,

but may also catch other types at different fishing locations, he said. The large tonnage was of an unexpected catch, he elaborated.

So far four such licences have been issued he said, noting that catching "sewa" fish could enable selling a kilogram of fish at 2,000/- to 2,500/-, he added.

Photo on Page 7

Mwanza police holding four for stealing SGR properties

By Guardian Reporter, Mwanza

POLICE in Mwanza Region have detained four people for allegedly stealing various construction materials from the Standard Gauge Railways (SGR) project including 850 litres of diesel.

This was disclosed here at the weekend by Mwanza Regional Police Commander Wilbroad Mutafungwa at a press briefing.

Mutafungwa said the four were arrested during a special police operation that started January 11.

He added that the operation nabbed Wilbert Constantine (30), resident of Mantare village in Magu District while in possession of 55 20-litre plastic containers of diesel hidden in a shed at his house.

He added that in the said shed they also found three empty drums, plastic hoses for decanting fuel and three fuel funnels.

RPC Mutafungwa further added that two days previously at Mantare Village, Kwimba District, police conducted an operation from which

16 plastic containers containing 320 litres of diesel were seized from a farm.

He added that the police were holding Pascal Abdallah (20), a Salawi resident, Shinyanga District for transporting 190 litres of diesel, while another suspect fled, abandoning 200 litres of diesel.

Another Mantare resident, Mihambo Elias was arrested after being found with 10 empty plastic containers in his shop in the house belonging to one Warwa Charles.

RPC Mutafungwa said the police operation also nabbed Stephano Jacob (35), Salawi resident in Shinyanga District after he was named as the owner of the goods found with Pascal Abdallah.

He said the operation was still going on in all areas surrounding the SGR project.

He appealed to the public in the project areas to report to the police any person stealing various materials belonging to the SGR project.



Ephraim Mafuru, Kilombero Sugar Company Limited's head of corporate affairs, briefs journalists at the Dar es Salaam Port earlier this week shortly after the arrival of factory equipment meant for the firm's expansion project set for completion next year. Left is TSK Tanzania's Inland Logistics manager Mei Shirin Bomassy. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA coalition against female genital mutilation (TCAFGM) has called on the government to come up with a special anti-violence legislation so as to reinforce efforts on the fight against all form of abuse.

In their statement to commemorate the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation issued yesterday in Dar es Salaam, the members raised concern that if strong legal efforts will not be taken, majority of children will continue to fall into the harmful practices.

Addressing a news conference, coordinator of the coalition, Getrude Dyabene said FGM was still prevalent in the country despite years of campaigning and several programmes implemented by the government and stakeholders.

She said that the government is implanting a national strategy aimed at ending FGM but the issue need more strong laws which will directly make the implementers including some traditional leaders (ngaribas) and parents taken to court and punished.

"We are calling for the formulation and passing a law against female genital mutilation, amendments to Law of the Child Act, Penal Code in order to increase penalties on

Coalition calls for special anti-violence legislation

genital mutilation offences," she said.

She said the Coalition recommends for the "In the first recommendation, we also advise the improvements to the law by having provisions in criminalising parents and traditional leaders who involve themselves in the practice," said Getrude.

She mentioned the second recommendation that calls for high ranking officials to openly emerge and support the ongoing efforts in the eradication of acts of FGM.

"We call upon the government through sectoral ministries to allocate a budget for the implementation of the 2021-24 National Plan for the Eradication of FGM," she said.

She said the coalition is calling on the government to implement in deeds the Zonal Five Nation Task Plan on cross-border FGM practices while the fifth recommendation calls on the government to fully manage the law so that people conducting FGM should be arrested and dealt with according to the country's laws.

"We also advise the government to maintain collaboration with

NGOs and international friendly institutions so that together we can eradicate FGM and child abuse in general," she added.

TCAFGM also advised the community to unite in admonishing FGM including reporting the incidents and providing testimony in order to make the war against FGM a success.

Getrude, who is also a Senior Officer from the Legal and Human rights Centre (LHRC) overseeing issues of Gender, Women and People with Disabilities said the Coalition's also calls stakeholders to increase efforts in their reaching the communities conducting the practice and provide education for them to change.

She named some members of the Coalition as including Children Dignity Forum (CDF), LHRC, World Vision Tanzania (WVT), Msichana Initiative, Hope for Girls and Women, GAESO and C-SEMA.

Others are Tanzania Women's Lawyers Association (TAWLA), Tanzania Media Women's Association (TAMWA), Sauti ya Jamii Kipunguni, Women in Law and Development Africa (WILDAF) and Himiza Development Group.

MPs fault Treasury for funds delay

By Francis Kajubi, Dodoma

PARLIAMENTARIANS have urged the treasury to increase the Tanzania National Parks Authority's (TANAPA) operational budget and timely payment of funds for execution of infrastructure development projects in the country's 22 national parks.

In their contributions after the Public Investment Committee (PIC) had earlier yesterday presented January 2023 report in the National Assembly, legislators blamed the treasury for delaying the funds and issuing insufficient amounts of money to the authority contrary to the required amounts.

Augustine Vuma, Kasulu Rural legislator who also doubles as the PIC Committee member said that Tanapa requires 120bn/- for infrastructure development projects and other tourism attraction projects within the country's national parks but not more than a half of the required money has been issued so far in the current fiscal year.

"Tanapa also needs 222bn/- for recurrent expenditure. If we really want the tourism sector to continue earning the country more foreign currencies then the treasury should increase Tanapa's budget and issue the ceded funds on time," said Vuma.

Vuma asserted that Tanapa is one of the strategic government institutions for tourism. It is the guardian of the national parks and the country's tourism sector in general therefore the treasury should play its roles carefully with it.

Geoffrey Mwambe, Masasi legislator said that on top of urgent disbursement of development funds in national parks, the government has not set proper strategies for promoting tourism attractions at the district and region levels.

"There is poor coordination of tourism related activities between the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism and institutions from other ministries with roles related to tourism," said Mwambe.

Mwambe argued that Tanzania has more tourism attractions than Brazil but has been attracting a maximum of 1.5million tourists a year due to poor promotion of the tourism destinations.

Presenting the report earlier, the Committee's chairperson Jerry Silaa said that Tanapa is currently regulating 22 national parks that covers a total of 104,578 kilometers square. The national parks have increased from 16 in 2019 to 57,107 kilometers square.

The six new national parks include Burigi-Chato, Ibanda-Kyerwa, Rumanyika-Karagwe, River Ugalla, Kigosi national park and Nyerere national park.

The new parks form a total of 47,471 kilometers square which is equivalent to 45.4 percent of all national parks under Tanapa. National parks under Tanapa form 11.6 percent of the country's land.

"Regardless the good intention by the government of increasing the number of national parks, there is a deficit of funds for execution of development projects. The current funds disbursed to Tanapa are almost the same regardless of the increase of national parks," said Silaa.

Silaa said relocation of Tanapa's revenue has posed more challenges to the authority. The parliament had passed the Finance Act No. 8, of June 2020 that required Tanapa's revenues to be collected by the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) and deposited to the treasury account.

"In this case, funds disbursement for development and operational activities relies on decisions reached at the treasury thus posing delay in execution of the authority's projects;

The Committee recommends that the treasury remits Tanapa's funds on time and should be disbursing the whole amount that the authority asks," said Silaa.

He said the Committee also suggested the involvement of the private sector in infrastructure development projects in the national parks.

"The government should now embrace the public-private partnership (PPP) model in implementation of Tanapa projects," he said.

During inspections, the Committee had learnt that in 2017 tourism revenues had topped \$2.56billion contributing 17.5 percent of the national income.

It further learnt that through the National Development Plan 2015/16-2020/21 the government had targeted to boost revenues from foreign tourists destined to the country to \$3.6billion (8.4trillion/-) as

of 2021 but as of 2020 only 1.6trn/- was collected by the government is equivalent to 19 of the targeted collections by 2021.



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Only candidates who are shortlisted will be contacted.

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Grab opportunities in livestock, fishing sectors, Mashimba challenges youths

By Guardian Correspondent

LIVESTOCK and Fisheries Minister Mashimba Ndaki has listed opportunities in the two sectors and called on the country's youth to grab them to enhance their families' incomes and that of the nation in general.

In an interview with this paper on Monday, Ndaki named the opportunities as commercial fishing and fish farming saying that these are the areas that are highly paying if youth will invest efforts on them.

He said the ministry is currently implementing the Samia and Profitable Fishing (Samia na Ufugaji wa Tija -SAUTI) programme that aims to empower the youth with better livestock keeping and fishing practices for self-employment.

"This programme was initiated by President Samia Suluhu Hassan herself and gave us directives thereon which we have begun implementing, already we have 240 youth in eight breeding centres learning livestock keeping in practice," he said.

He added: "We have given 10 cows to each youth to keep for three months after which he sells them and buys others and sells them again within the same period."

Ndaki said after the practical training, the youth have been connected to Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TADB) whereby after a period of one year they can start commercial livestock keeping.

"And when he leaves us, he will take away the money from which he had been trading with the 10 original cows, so he will have capital to start own business," he added.

He explained that in the coming FY 2023/24 under SAUTI, the Ministry plans to provide training

to more youth and that this is the five-year transformation plan for the Ministry that started during FY 2021/22.

On milk products, Ndaki said the government has begun to build milk collection centres countrywide and that for this Financial Year more than 20 centres have been established.

He said the centres have been established in some districts of Southern Highlands Regions (Mbeya, Njombe and Iringa), Eastern regions (Dar es Salaam, Tanga, Kilimanjaro and Arusha) and few other areas in the Lake Zone regions where there are commercial dairy cattle keepers.

In regard to the fishing sector, the Minister said the government has fish farming projects in lake blocks and dams constructed on dry land

"Right now we have 200 youth placed in 14 private centres and two belonging to the government. We want to embark on the construction of blocks and we expect 1,888 beneficiaries, many of whom are youth," he said.

He said the fishing sector is undergoing transformation under the special 15-year plan beginning FY 2021/22 with the aim of creating direct employment as well as part time employment.



And when he leaves us, he will take away the money from which he had been trading with the 10 original cows, so he will have capital to start own business

Government now calls upon financial institutions to fund bankable projects in councils

By Correspondent Michael

Sikapundwa, Morogoro

THE government has called upon public and private financial institutions to fund projects in various councils to reduce dependency on central government's subsidies.

Deputy permanent secretary in the president's office, Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG), Dr Grace Magembe made a call over the weekend here when closing capacity building session to over 50 regional secretariat economists, municipal and district planners.

The ten-day training was sponsored by United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and facilitated by the Institute of Rural Development Planning (IRD) with PO-RALG's cooperation, commenced on 25th January to February 3, this year.

Magembe said councils must have sustainable bankable projects as training has already set the establishment of special purpose vehicles (SPV) insisted financial institutions loan them since training is based on creating big projects which pay on time.

"The government sets the same training for 184 councils in the country because thirteen councils are few. This is an effective approach to increase councils' revenue and improves lives of people," she revealed.

She congratulated Mtwara Municipal council for the estimated initial investment costs which target the construction of pre-and primary English medium schools worth 1.5bn/-. "This is a very good idea because our country insists and puts efforts to ensure that children receives quality education where both languages English and

Kiswahili applies. It is better for our children to access academic services in all languages," she noted.

Prof Innocent Zilihona said the aim of training came after a study which showed project planning is one of the major challenges to most of the councils in the country, a situation that hinder them to access bankable projects.

"Training included concept notes and business plan writing, presentation of concept notes from 13 Local Government Authorities (LGA), finalisations of concept notes, pre-feasibility study data gathering, study report writing, project financial analysis," he said.

He said trainees from 13 councils have already scheduled estimated initial investment costs to various projects worth 192, 902, 106,995.3/-.

Dar es Salaam city planning officer, Mpossi Gwakisa said city council targets to innovate car parking, banking service at Ilala market for the effective revenue collection since poor working environment is a challenge.

"The project will be completed within 18 months, we are struggling for funds. We target to provide standard services to over 4000 residents," he explained.

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)'s representative Emmanuel Nnko called upon the government for the implementation of projects not leave it on paper.

Councils participated in the training are Arusha city council, Bumbuli District council, Dar es Salaam city council, Kahama Municipal council, Korogwe district council, Mele District council, Mlimba District council, Mtwara Municipal council, Njombe Town council, Nzega Town council, Ruangwa District council, Songea Municipal council and Tunduma Town council.



Former Dar es Salaam Regional Sheikh Alhad Mussa Salum (R) shares a light moment with the incoming acting regional Sheikh Walid Alhad Omar (C) in the city yesterday moments after the former handed over the office to the latter. Left is Tanzania Muslim Council of Tanzania (Bakwata) secretary general Alhaj Nuhu Jabir Mruma. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Govt sets aside 10bn/- for paying terminal benefits of former Air Tanzania employees

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has said it has allocated 10bn/- in Financial Year 2022/23 to pay terminal benefits to former workers of Air Tanzania Company Limited (ATCL) who were yet to be paid before its revival in 2016.

Atupele Mwakibete, Deputy Minister for Works and Transport revealed this in Parliament in Dodoma yesterday when responding to a supplementary

question posed by special seats MP, Angelina Malembeka (CCM) who wanted to know about the government's plans in averting the creation of new ATCL debts and also how many indigenous pilots the airline has.

Answering the question, the deputy minister said since 2016 all workers have been paid accordingly, hence there is no new debt.

In regard to pilots, he said Tanzania has 106 pilots, 11 of whom are women.

"These women pilots fly all types of planes in the country and out of the 106 pilots, only one is not Tanzanian," he said.

In her original question, the MP wanted to know when ATCL retirees will be paid their benefits.

Responding to the question, Mwakibete said before the start of efforts to revive ATCL in September 2016, ATCL was being faced with operation challenges for lack of capital, worn out planes, failing to pay its contractors' debts

and for failing to remit workers' contributions to social security funds.

He added that after 2016, ATCL has been contributing workers' contributions to the social security funds. "By abiding to the verification conducted, ATCL debts amount to 4.8bn/- for not remitting workers' contribution to social security funds, and the money to pay that debt has been allocated in the 2022/23 budget, hence the debt will now be paid."



Josiane Sadaka (L, seated), CEO of UAE-based entity Blue Carbon LLC, signs an MoU with Prof Dos Santos Silayo, Conservation Commissioner of the Tanzania's Forest Services Agency (a wing of the Natural Resources Tourism ministry) in Dodoma city on Monday. The idea is to promote sustainable forest management practices and reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Tanzania. Witnessing the event are Natural Resources and Tourism minister Dr Pindi Chana (2nd-R, standing); Dr Selemani Jafu (R, standing), Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment); Mohammed Ibrahim Abdullah Ahmed Al Bahri, Chargé d'affaires at the UAE Embassy in Tanzania; and Blue Economy chairman Sheikh Ahmed Dalmook Al Maktoum, a member of the Dubai Royal Family. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

AKO Tanzania to spend 840m/- renovating old primary schools in Kilimanjaro Region

By Guardian Correspondent, Moshi

MORE than 840m/- has been set aside by AKO Tanzania Community Support for sponsoring the construction of new projects and refurbishing of infrastructures in the education sector in Hai and Moshi districts, Kilimanjaro Region.

Two new projects to be implemented in Hai District will cost 250m/- while those for Moshi Rural District will cost 590m/-.

AKO Tanzania Community Support Director, Hilda Kimathi revealed this here yesterday saying for Hai District new construction projects will involve an inclusive

school for children with disabilities at Kibaoni Primary School that will cost 100m/-.

She said another project will be implemented at Darajani Primary School where two classrooms, pit latrines for students and teachers and teachers' offices will be built at a cost of 150m/-.

Meanwhile, Uchau Primary School will see the construction of classrooms, teachers' offices at a cost of 240m/-.

"Among reasons that has pushed AKO Tanzania Community Support to implement these projects includes worn out infrastructures at the schools as well as lack of friendly

infrastructures at our schools, the issues that have been contributing to the drop of education standards in the country.

"Many government schools are threatened by decrepit infrastructures and that is why we have decided to support government's own efforts," she said.

She said other projects being implemented by AKO Tanzania Community Support in Moshi Rural District includes those for refurbishing infrastructures of three worn out primary schools that threaten students' safety.

These projects will cost AKO Tanzania Community Support

350m/- and involve Sungu, Kibosho and Singachini Primary Schools.

According to Hilda, AKO Tanzania Community Support is implementing the refurbishment of Sungu Primary school for 100m/-, Kibosho Primary School for 50m/- and Singachini Primary School for 200m/-.

The Chairman of AKO Tanzania Community Support Hans Simmer said his organisation concentrates in working together with the community, refurbishing primary schools with worn out infrastructures in order to improve both teaching and learning environment in the region.



Special Seats legislator Ritha Kabati asks a question in the National Assembly in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Dry spells in Mkinga district affect execution of 4bn/- water projects under World Vision (T)

By Correspondent, George Sembony, Tanga

DRY spell that hit several villages of Mkinga District in Tanga Region for the past two years has affected the implementation of the 4bn/- Water Security Project under World Vision Tanzania (WVT).

According to World Vision, the project has failed to achieve all the intended goals due to prolonged dry spell and insufficient rains that affected farming activities as part of the project's goal to improve nutrition in the villages.

Riho Kotoku, project coordinator for World Vision Japan, the project has been implemented in six villages targeting 8,924 beneficiaries in six villages in the district since January 2020. It aimed to improve the nutrition status of children in the targeted area by increasing access to food as well as clean and safe water.

Funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA) through World Vision Japan (WVJ), the project was officially handed over last weekend at a ceremony held at the Mkinga Programme offices and attended by the Ambassador of Japan to Tanzania, Yasushi Misawa.

Kotoku however said that the project has supported over 7000 villagers to get clean and safe water. "The project was able to reduce the time spent in fetching water from one to two hours to just 10 to 15 minutes, as well as improve children's nutrition status from 20 percent to 50 percent," Kotoku said.

The project has also supported a total of 30 farmers groups with best farming practices skills.

"Drought has brought a significant impact on farming activities such

as fish and potato farming, with only a few farmers in some areas able to harvest some water in ponds/water pans for small scale irrigation and fish farming activities in Mwakikoya, Parungu Kaseru and Manza villages," she said.

The project closely engaged the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (RUWASA) in Mkinga and the Mkinga District Council to achieve expected goals during the implementation period (2020-2023).

James Anditi, director of WVT said the organisation intends to invest heavily in women and children ensuring their proper development.

The Japanese Ambassador was impressed by reports that the initiative had reduced the time and distance required to access water, something which has brought relief to women who were spending much time seeking for the precious liquid.

"I am sure that Tanzania will become a strong country economically in the next 30 years with several efforts that are being undertaken towards the goal," he stated.

He however emphasized on the importance for the country to supervise and ensure that the next generation believes in self-reliance.

The District Commissioner, Maulid Surumbu directed the Rural Water and Sanitation Agency (RUWASA) to make efforts and find alternative water sources so as to overcome the effects of climate change.

Surumbu urged RUWASA to continuously monitor the water infrastructures installed in the villages as part of the project to ensure that people continue to have access to water.

Govt offers 14bn/- for building 11 secondary schools, 12 health centres in Ruvuma Region

By Guardian Correspondent, Ruvuma

THE government has provided more than 14bn/- for the construction of 11 new secondary schools and 12 health centres in Ruvuma Region.

Ruvuma Regional Commissioner, Col. Laban Thomas revealed this recently, saying the government has built the new schools in the region's eight districts at a cost of 7.7bn/-.

the region's girls secondary school being built at Migelele area, Lwinda Ward in Namtumbo District at a cost of 4bn/-," said Col Thomas.

However, he said the region has been able to construct 792 classrooms for both primary and secondary schools, including desks and other furniture at a cost of 14.9bn/-.

According to Col. Thomas, the region has been able to construct five dormitories for both primary

and secondary schools costing 640m/- and that the region received a total of 400m/- for completing 23 laboratories for secondary schools from the central government.

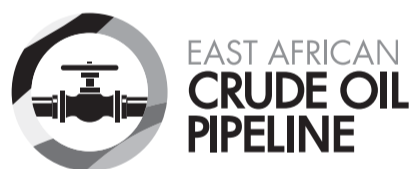
Regarding the health and community development sectors, the RC said Ruvuma Region has built 12 health centres costing more than 7.8bn/- from the central government.

He added that the region has also built nine quarters for health workers at a cost of 856m/- as well as

constructing three buildings for the Emergency Medical Department (EMD) at a cost of 900m/-.

He added that the region was continuing with the construction of five district hospitals for Nyasa, Mbinga, Madaba and Songea districts at a cost of 3.4bn/-.

He added that the government is also implementing the construction of Ruvuma Regional Referral Hospital Phase I at Mwingemshindo area in Songea Municipality at a cost of 2.7bn/-.



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: PROVISION OF LEGAL SERVICES IN TANZANIA REFERENCE NO. 00000068

East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Ltd, an Oil and Gas company, invites experienced and reputable companies or organizations to express their interest in the provision of Legal Services in Tanzania to the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) project.

The EACOP project involves the construction and operation of a buried, cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil from the Lake Albert area in Uganda to the eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale in Hoima District, Uganda to Chongoleani, Tanga Region, in Tanzania. The length of the pipeline is 1,443 km, of which 1,147 km will be in Tanzania.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES

East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Ltd has entered into various agreements with the two governments i.e Tanzania and Uganda, including a Host Government Agreement (HGA) for the implementation of the Project in both countries. The HGA defines the agreed commercial and legal frame within which to operate. EACOP is in the process of employing contractors and service providers both internationally and locally to provide various services for the construction of the pipeline, in addition to undertaking day-to-day activities of the Company and interfacing with the government, regulatory authorities, contractors, and service providers. EACOP is also seeking well experienced law firms and legal consultants to provide advisory services on adhoc basis in the following areas of practice, among others:

- General Legal Advisory services including land
- Tax
- Litigation
- Criminal
- Labour and Immigration

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- Companies or organizations expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:
- Proof of registration with relevant authorities, including Business License and Practicing Certificates for leading team members.
 - Proof of experience of providing similar services to related projects or companies, including recommendation letters from three current clients.
 - Proposed experience and qualified personnel.
 - Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) and Tax Clearance Certificate for the latest year available.
 - Proof of registration or an approved application for registration with the EWURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest.
 - Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017.
 - Proof of Anti-corruption, Anti-bribery, Compliance and Human Rights policies.

Companies with the ability to implement the activities listed above should express their interest by sending the documents stated above to procurement.tz@eacop.com, (max. email size 20Mb) on, or before 17:00 hours East African Time (EAT) on 21st February 2023. Email subject should be: 00000068 (EOI-reference number mentioned in the header). Statements of EOI should be between 10-20 pages long. All Expression of Interests should be submitted in English Language.

Note: The EACOP project will review and assess the documents provided by the interested companies to derive a list of prequalified companies. Only prequalified companies will receive, subject to signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), invitation to submit bids in furtherance of the call for tender process.

217267301



Notice of Funding Opportunity

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Dar es Salaam is soliciting applications for multiple Notice of Funding Opportunities (NOFO):



GH-23-0022: Sustain and Accelerate a Comprehensive HIV Response in the United Republic of Tanzania under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)

GH-23-0023: Strengthening the Quality, Accessibility, and Sustainability of the National Health Laboratory System (NHLS) in the United Republic of Tanzania under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR)



Application Deadline: March 24, 2023
Interested applicants should visit www.grants.gov for details on how to apply.

Financial constraints hinder completion of 14 Kyela dispensary projects, officials say

By Guardian Correspondent, Kyela

KYELA District in Mbeya Region has failed to complete 14 structures for dispensary projects built by people's efforts in various villages due to lack of funds.

In the circumstances, the district's councillors have appealed for the central government assistance in completing the projects.

Speaking at the councillors meeting for endorsing the 2023/24 budget, the councillors claimed if they use internal funds for the projects, it will take a long time for their completion.

Tumaini Mwakatika, Special seats councillor said the budget allocated by the council for 2023/24 shows that many such areas for dispensary projects initiated by the people cannot be completed due to lack of funds.

She said if they cannot be completed in time, it will create a state of despair in conducting development activities.

"The people offered themselves to construct the structures believing that the government will take over in finishing them, as the government has repeatedly been saying, but if it will leave them as they are, the people's efforts will be lost for nothing," Tumaini said.

Meanwhile, Kyela District Council

Chairman, Katule Kingamkono said the Council has 14 abandoned buildings for dispensaries whose construction was made through people's efforts, and now they were waiting for the government to complete them.

He said more than 1bn/- is needed to complete the buildings, but his council has no financial ability to source the money within the one-year budget period.

Acting Kyela District Executive Director Kenneth Izirano said in the 2023/14 Budget allocation endorsed recently by the councillors, funds have been set aside to complete six out of the 14 structures.

He said the request by the councillors to the central government to assist sounds as it is a fact that the council has no financial ability to complete them using internal revenues in one budget year.

He said for the entire structures to complete them need funds to be allocated for three years consecutively.

According to the dispensary construction policy, people are required to build structures for the dispensary after which the council steps in to complete them for the people to start receiving health services.

RC to extension officers: Work more diligently to make agricultural sector serve the country better

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

DODOMA regional commissioner (RC), Rosemary Senyamule has urged extension officers in the region to ensure that they work hard to bring about changes in the agricultural sector that will enable the development and economic growth of individuals and the region generally.

She said that if the agricultural sector does not grow, Dodoma dwellers will never be able to get rid of poverty as 80 per cent of them depend on agriculture as an activity to promote the economy.

"Dodoma region is poor economically when you look at the national statistics and even at individuals' level of income; we have a responsibility to help our farmers to increase productivity and output," she said recently.

Senyamule noted that there are lots of opportunities from agricultural and livestock sector, but the region has no proper plans to work productively.

She also instructed district extension officers to prepare and present work plans and strategies on how to implement agricultural activities that will focus on food security, economic development and employment opportunities.

"I need to see your work plan explaining on how you will carry out productive agricultural activities in your districts. Don't solely depend on the ministry's strategy, use your creativity to create yours and ensure they contain priority crops such as sorghum, sunflower and grapes," said Senyamule.

She also asked them to ensure they have demonstration farms, so as citizens can learn through examples and with the reality so as to influence them to practice what they see.

RC Senyamule has instructed all schools in Dodoma to plant sorghum in their school farms and has asked extension officers to advise and instruct farmers in their areas to plant sorghum as the rainy season comes to its end.

On her side the Dodoma Regional Administrative Secretary (RAS)

Fatuma Mganga said that the region must put emphasis on agricultural sector as in other sectors like in education.

The World Food Organisation (WFP) Project Manager, Abiud Gamba said that Dodoma has great opportunities of increasing its income through sorghum production due to its favourable climate and availability of reliable market from Tanzania Breweries Ltd (TBL) and Sudan.

He said that Sudan alone needs 200,000 tonnes of sorghum per year but the sorghum produced in Dodoma does not even reach 10 per cent of that demand.

He noted that for the year 2021, only 46,988 tonnes were produced in Dodoma that did not even reach a quarter of 200,000 tonnes that Sudan demands.

Among those tonnes, Kongwa produced 11,667 tonnes, Bahi 4,892, Chamwino 5,686, Chemba O, Kondoa 2,951 and Mpwapwa 21,796.

"Sorghum is a crop that if it is taken seriously will help raise the income of the people and the Dodoma region in general, for example in 2018 the price were 200 to 250/- per kilogramme but until now a kilogramme of sorghum is sold for 500 to 550/- per kilogramme.

"We have conducted research on sorghum, it is a crop that can do well in the climate of Dodoma region, there are enough and quality seeds produced with Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) but we also have 19 farmers who produce quality sorghum seeds," he added.



Don't solely depend on the ministry's strategy, use your creativity to create yours and ensure they contain priority crops such as sorghum, sunflower and grapes



Nzega district commissioner Naitapwaki Lemeya Tukai holds a baby during a tour of the maternity ward of a Bukene health centre on Sunday (Feb 5) in marking CCM's 46th anniversary. Left is Bukene constituency legislator Selemani Jumanne Zedi. Photo: Correspondent Mary Margwe

Govt presents 230 motorcycles to Mwanza's extension officers

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

THE government has handed over 230 motorcycles to extension officers in all municipal councils in Mwanza to enable them to reach out to farmers and improve agriculture.

The move is expected to improve agriculture and facilitate training of modern farming techniques for improved food security in the country.

Speaking during the handover

ceremony, Mwanza acting Regional Commissioner Martin Shigela called upon the officers to work on ensuring that agriculture is improved to make it a business.

Shigela said the government has continued to improve the agriculture sector by improving the working conditions for extension officers to improve food security in the region and the country at large.

"We should stop practicing agriculture through business as

usual but put in place our plans like what we need, how much we need to invest and what we expect to get," he said.

The Regional Administrative Secretary for Mwanza, Balandya Elikana urged the officers to reach out to farmers and address their challenges affecting them to ensure there is food security in the region.

He said the region has 269 extension officers who serve in the eight municipal councils in the

region saying earlier there are 30 motorcycles which were distributed increasing to 260.

One of the officers from Ilemela in Mwanza said the mode of transport donated will help them reach out to farmers and increase harvests hence food security. "We have been promising each other and at times fail to implement them and end up conducting our operations in offices, this mode of transport given will help us visit farmers," he said.



Getrude Dyabene (facing camera), a programme officer with the Gender and Children Unit at the Legal and Human Rights Centre, pictured at a meeting with journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday presenting her agency's recommendations primarily focusing on the war on female genital mutilation. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

Over 1,000 eGA stakeholders to meet in Arusha this week

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

OVER 1,000 e-government stakeholders expect to meet in Arusha to put in place various strategies for strengthening e-government aimed at having the correct and safe use of Information and Communication Technology in public institutions.

The remarks were made here yesterday on the Third Task Force meeting, e-Government Authority (eGA) where Director General, Benedict Ndomba said the

meeting will take place beginning February 8 to 10 this year and will be opened by the minister of state in the President's Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance) Jenista Mhagama.

Ndomba said the stakeholders hail from various public institutions including accounting officers, board members, heads of ICT units, ICT officers, planning officers, financial officers and all officers using the government ICT system.

"The slogan for the Third

eGovernment Task Force Meeting is "Inclusive ICT Systems for Better Service Provision to the Public", whose aim is to strengthen work performance in the institutions as well as providing better service to the public," he said.

He named some of eGA achievements as including the adherence to policies, laws and eGovernment guidelines by public institutions.

"Others are refinement to the construction of government network systems both institutional

and sectoral in order to improve service delivery to the public and improving and widening the scopes for the management of inclusive eGovernment infrastructures," he added.

He said the Authority has mobilised itself to have in place its direction for the eGovernment in coming years by implementing robust strategies to enable the eGovernment to have one place from where all network services will be sourced from.

"The ability to use new emerging technologies, including those for cryptocurrency, and financial technologies in order to improve management ability in public institutions and service provision to the public," Ndomba said.



Suleiman Masoud Makame, Zanzibar's Blue Economy and Fisheries minister, pictured at Dar es Salaam's fish market yesterday symbolically leading the sale of 650 tonnes of bonito fish from caught by a fishing crew aboard MV Pacific Star. Photo: Correspondent Beatrice Moses

Mbeya municipal sets aside 87.5bn/- for development projects in 2023/24

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

MBEYA Municipal Council is set to spend 87.5bn/- in the 2023/24 financial year to implement various development projects.

The head of the planning and coordination department for Mbeya city revealed this yesterday when presenting budget estimates for the city in the year 2023/24.

He said the budget has increased by 1bn/- compared to the previous year saying this was due to the increase in an English medium primary school in the city.

He said the municipal council's priorities include improvement of the health sector, education, market infrastructure and ensuring that social services are improved.

"The money will be generated from internal revenues 19.23bn/-

and a 1.022bn/- subsidy from the central government for salaries," he said.

According to him, 55.57 percent of the funds are meant for development breaking down as 7.4bn/- for education, 3.11bn/- and 1.21bn/- from contributions.

Mayor for Mbeya city Sheikh Dor Mohammed Issa called upon ward councilors to work with experts to ensure the budget set aside is realized.

He said one of the priorities is to ensure social services are delivered but also improve Mbeya's status by looking to suit its name as a city.

Mbeya District Commissioner Beno Malisa advised the municipal council to administer the implementation of the budget so that the people in the area are

served. Malisa called upon the officials in the city to make sure the 10-percent stipulated in the law to loan special groups such as women, youth and the disabled is set aside to improve people's livelihoods.

He also called upon the officials to ensure 60 percent of the money collected from wananchi are taken back to the general public to improve their livelihood.

The DC said it was also important that officials took time to take care of the environment through tree planting.

The acting Executive Director for Mbeya city council advocate Triphonia Kisiga said the municipal council is going to implement the projects using funds from internal revenues and subsidies from the government.

Stakeholders challenge ICT students to provide solutions through innovation

By Correspondent Joseph

Mchekadona

UNIQUE academy has challenged Information Communication Technology (ICT) students to leverage on the power of technological innovation to provide solutions that could help the country to expedite its achievement goals.

The statement was made last Saturday by an official from the academy Govind Sreekumar, at the graduation ceremony for students who participated in the ICT talent search programme conducted by the facility to secondary school students.

Sreekumar said the programme helps secondary school students to get knowledge and skills in Cyber Security and Graphic Designing programmes and expertised them

to get self-employment for those interested in employment.

He said students were also equipped with knowledge on how to safely use their electronic devices and avoid interference from hackers.

"In modern days, ICT is crucial in all areas of life. We Unique Academy are happy that we are contributing to the development of ICT in the country. It is our hope that you will expand upon what you have learned to support and accelerate government efforts to leverage the power of technology to improve wellbeing," he said.

The function was attended by many people including various school principals and they appreciated the changeover in their student's interest and talent after attending the courses.

They also commented that the students' interest to learn computer

studies has always been there but the only thing they were lacking is to know where to get quality education which was difficult.

Principal of Academic International Secondary School, Shyama Santoch said: "I am happy about the programme as it will improve the quality of youth in Tanzania and I wanted Unique Academy to teach more similar high profile ICT courses which are high in demand internationally to make Tanzania compete internationally in ICT."

One of the parents, Gasper Cordoso hailed Unique Academy for the programme which he said is vital in everyday life of human beings.

Unique academy has been conducting the ICT talent search for the past three years where more than 100 students from across the country have benefited.

EAC re-launches Nyerere Centre for Peace Research in bid to enhance peace, security

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African Community (EAC) has re-launched the Nyerere Centre for Peace Research as part of the Community's commitment to enhance peace and security, good governance and joint common foreign policy pursuits in order to promote regional integration and development.

The research centre is set to support the EAC in undertaking timely, relevant and empirical research on peace and security issues in the region hence ensuring that policy decisions adopted at EAC level are consistent with other international legal instruments.

In remarks read on her behalf by Arusha Regional Commissioner, John Mongella, the Minister of Foreign and East African Cooperation, Dr Stergomena Tax, described the Nyerere Peace Research Centre as a laudable initiative that comes at a time when the community was expanding amidst an urgent need to put in place viable peace and sustainable conflict-resolutions mechanisms.

Dr Tax urged the EAC to put in place measures to ensure the future sustainability of the centre by partner states through effective engagement of academic and research institutions and other stakeholders in the region.

"Well-coordinated independent research, open dialogue, and actionable ideas on peace and security issues are critical ingredients in informing the decision-making process by policymakers and leaders in the region," said Dr Tax.

The minister said that focused capacity building and nurturing of academic resources in the region would create a pool of thinkers with a deeper understanding of the status of regional peace and

security, adding that peace and security were the prerequisites for regional development and integration.

"We must therefore be intentional in building capacities to secure an environment that is stable and peaceful for enhanced human security," said Dr Tax.

Dr Tax described Mwalimu Nyerere as a peacemaker, peace-builder and peace enforcer who attained independence for his country without bloodshed.

"Nyerere believed that peace and freedom must co-exist, that independence for Tanzania was not enough if other countries in Africa were not free and at peace," she said.

Dr Tax said that Mwalimu Nyerere was instrumental in the formation of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and its Liberation Committee that had its headquarters in Dar es Salaam, adding that Nyerere provided moral, political and where necessary, training and material support to freedom fighters in the frontline states.

"This resulted in the liberation of many colonies in Africa through negotiations rather than bloodshed," the minister said, adding: "For Mwalimu Nyerere, Pan-Africanism was indispensable for a peaceful and stable Africa."

Speaking at the event held at the EAC Secretariat, EAC Secretary General, Dr Peter Mathuki said that Mwalimu Nyerere stood for peaceful and united Africa and that the community was committed his dream for peace through the revival of the Centre.

"This Centre will be a Resource Centre where scholars and East Africans interested in security and peace research and studies will formulate policies, establish think tanks, share information and become agents that embrace ideals

of peaceful coexistence," he said.

He said the centre that has been revived after a 10-year hiatus is the result of a partnership between EAC and the Arcadia University, USA, and the American Graduate School, Paris, France.

The centre's research programme is further directed towards determining the causes of conflict, how to address certain conflicts and even the role of gender in conflict prevention and management.



Further, Dr Mathuki added that the centre would work with development partners to create programmes to provide opportunities for the youth in the region including scholarships and fellowships for research on peace and security.

Prof Warren Haffar of Arcadia University said that the revival of the Nyerere Centre for Peace Research reaffirms the importance of peace building as the best way to attain peace and sustainable development globally.

Prof Haffar said that there were serious consequences for humanity whenever dialogue was replaced by war as the preferred solution to disputes among groups and societies.

The don said that the centre would bring together scholars and students to work together for the attainment of the EAC vision of a peaceful and prosperous region.

Also present at the event were the Judge President of the East African Court of Justice, Justice Nestor Kayobera; the Counsel to the Community, Dr Anthony Kafumbe; Hon Makongoro Nyerere, Son of the Late Mwalimu Nyerere; Chair/CEO of the Nyerere Foundation, Joseph Butiku; Heads of EAC Institutions, members of the diplomatic community, development partners and academics from various universities in East Africa.

REQUEST FOR TENDER

North Mara Gold Mine, a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is ultimately owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania requests the submission of Tenders from reputable, experienced, certified, and qualified parties to provide the following service:

Earthworks: (a) Construction of Storm Water Culvert – Gena Site, (b) Waste Rock PAF Dump Construction – Gena site, Waste Rock NAF Dump Construction – Gena site, Ore Pad Construction – Gena site

Pre-qualification Criteria

No.	Reference no.	Description of work	Pre-qualification Criteria
1	NM004/2023/A	Construction of Storm Water Culvert – Gena Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Applicant should submit company profile with proven experience in civil construction works. ii. Information required includes a list of relevant projects undertaken in the last 3 years. For each project provide: description and relevance to this tendered project, and cost and duration of project. iii. Applicant should submit list and specifications of equipment, including facilities and intellectual property. iv. Applicants should submit organizational structure and list of experienced personnel. v. Method statement for key construction works. vi. Construction management strategy. vii. Local Content Regulations compliance. viii. HSE policy. ix. CRB registration, Class 3 contractor and above. x. Applicant should provide proof to its statements as necessary, regarding its financial stability, engineering capabilities and documents complying with Tanzanian laws and Regulations.
2	NM004/2023/B	Waste Rock NAF Dump Extension – Rama site, Waste Rock PAF Dump Construction – Gena site, Waste Rock NAF Dump Construction – Gena site, Ore Pad Construction – Gena site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Applicant should submit company profile with proven experience in bulk earthworks works and construction of dumps. ii. Information required to include a list of relevant projects undertaken in the last 3 years. For each project provide: description and relevance to this tendered project, and cost and duration of project. iii. Applicant to submit list and specifications of equipment, including facilities and intellectual property. iv. Applicant should submit organizational structure and list of experienced personnel. v. Method statement for key construction works. vi. Construction management strategy. vii. Local Content Regulations compliance. viii. HSE policy. ix. CRB registration, Class 4 contractor and above. x. Applicant should provide proof to its statements as necessary, regarding its financial stability, engineering capabilities and documents complying with Tanzanian laws and Regulations

Expression of interest

If your company meets the pre-qualification criteria and would like to be considered to receive the invitation to tender (ITT), an expression of interest (EOI) including your company profile and evidence of compliance with pre-qualification criteria may be submitted to nm.proposal@barrick.com

Applicants must quote the tender description(s) and the respective reference no.(s) in the subject line of the email.

NB: The Company reserves the right to invite any other supplier(s) who did not submit an EOI through this advertisement.

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

Key Dates

- Last date to submit EOI **13 February 2023**

North Mara Gold Mine Limited

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Success is only option for humankind
in global fight against climate change

AFRICAN forests span over 21 to 23 per cent of the continent's total land mass. However, forest endowments vary across the different regions and countries of Africa, with far higher proportions in the continent's central and southern regions. Forestry has tremendous potential to contribute to the green economy and increase household as well as state revenues in African countries. It further pinpoints that the realisation of these opportunities depends on the governance of the forest industry, the ways in which forests are managed, the need for increased local value addition to primary forest products, and the need to promote intra-African trade in forest products. Africans are highly dependent on forests for household nutrition, health, energy needs, income generation and employment. This understanding should give development workers the opportunity to look at food security, household wellbeing and income generation needs, income generation and employment.

Forestry is the science and craft of creating, managing, planting, using, conserving and repairing forests and woodlands for associated resources for human and environmental benefits. Forestry is practiced in plantations and natural stands. The science of forestry has elements that belong to the biological, physical, social, political and managerial sciences. Forest management play essential role of creation and modification of habitats and affect ecosystem services provisioning.

Modern forestry generally embraces a broad range of concerns, in what is known as multiple-use management, including: the provision of timber, fuel wood, wildlife habitat, natural water quality management, recreation, landscape and

community protection, employment, aesthetically appealing landscapes, biodiversity management, watershed management, erosion control, and preserving forests as 'sinks' for atmospheric carbon dioxide.

Forest ecosystems have come to be seen as the most important component of the biosphere, and forestry has emerged as a vital applied science, craft, and technology. A practitioner of forestry is known as a forester.

Worldwide, an estimated 880 million people spend part of their time collecting fuel wood or producing charcoal, many of them women. Human populations tend to be low in areas of low-income countries with high forest cover and high forest biodiversity, but poverty rates in these areas tend to be high. Some 252 million people living in forests and savannahs have incomes of less than US\$1.25 per day.

The African Development Bank (AfDB) has approved US\$20million investment for African Forestry Fund. Currently forestry is being impacted by population growth and urbanisation as well as the increased demand for wood-based products. Each year roughly 100 million cubic metres of round wood is used for fuel or industrial use - building materials furniture, infrastructure - in Africa.

The project will mostly focus on the Eastern and Southern Africa region - which contains most of the continent's forest resources - and aims to rehabilitate existing plantations to increase productivity by converting silvicultural assets into high-value assets, reduce the processing of high-margin wood products as well as reducing the use of wood waste for power generation. All of this will be managed by Criterion African Partners (CAP) an investment company that specialises in forestry based in Africa.

It isn't just districts that hinder the 2019
investments blueprint's implementation

HOW far the government a range of stakeholders are prepared to into altering regulatory and other structures so that the country creates a much better investment environment is a complicated matter. A parliamentary committee which dwelt on the issue was explaining early in the week that at least 40 laws and regulations out of 88 law edicts impeding the 2019 blueprint for vastly improving the business and investment environment have been resolved. That obviously was heartening but as it also shows, we still have a long way to go.

MPs generally agreed that the Tanzania Investment Act passed last year was making the country more attractive in the eyes of foreign and local investors, but opinions were less positive on district council bylaws which one MP said were a thorn in the flesh for local investors as councillors endorse discouraging bylaws. In response, the government acknowledged that bylaws are a hindrance in the implementation of the blueprint. As with the MP, the deputy minister sorting out the matter also pointed fingers at district councils, outlining initiatives being taken by investment policy authorities to level the playground.

For one thing, the dialogue method that the ministry is proposing on the matter is a bit unrealistic, that of formed a unit to examine the bylaws at issue and make recommendations on how the blueprint can be made to work in district councils. The deputy minister said the unit needs to work hand in hand with councils to avoid bringing up bylaws contradicting the Development Vision 2025. Activists like councillors want more corporate social responsibility funds.

Some observations on the matter were surprising, for instance when the MP of a Dar constituency asked the minister to submit the blueprint to

the legislature for a thorough review to identify major setbacks facing its being put to action. That was the same as saying that the document was not put to the legislature in the first place, and thus issues come up as how far it engaged the government, legally. Can funds, legislative action, proceed from a document strange to MPs?

More pointedly, an MP observed that Tanzania is ranked 141 out of 190 countries globally, close to the bottom quarter for the quality of its environment for doing business. This ranking could not have arisen from impediments at the local government level but from broader economy, which the MPs did not dwell upon, as it is precisely the things we cherish as national values that often hinder upright business activity, in favour of rapidly yielding speculation. District level regulations are only auxiliary impediments but the problem is located far higher.

In like manner, MPs recalled that Vice President Dr Philip Mpango has in the past month expressed worries on the snail's pace in implementing the blueprint. That may as well be the case for a number of provisions including local levies and taxes, but what of taking Tanzania from 140 placing to say 70th or 80th slot far up the ladder? This is something out of reach for the ministry's unit on the blueprint and may not even have been targeted by the VP as it will involve opening up state dominated sectors to stock exchange based public firms.

A few in top leadership appear to have inclinations towards this end, but the proposal to bring back the Planning Commission appears bent on excluding precisely such policy direction. Only by pursuing inclinations shown for instance in President Samia Suluhu Hassan's meetings with investors in the Dubai Expo early last year and the commitments agreed can our global ranking be improved.



US should act, not pay lip service to fight against terror in Mozambique

By Albert Rudatsimburwa

ON Friday, January 27, the Voice Of America (VOA) published a story: "US Calls for Redoubled Efforts to Fight Insurgents in Mozambique's Cabo Delgado," in which the US Ambassador to the UN, Linda Thomas-Greenfield, reportedly said that greater efforts are needed in Mozambique to push back insurgents who are spreading south from the northern province of Cabo Delgado.

Funded by the US Congress, the VOA is part of the U.S. Agency for Global Media, the government agency that oversees all non-military, U.S. international broadcasting. Amb. Thomas-Greenfield was in Mozambique on Friday as she made a three-nation tour of Africa. Addressing a media briefing at the end of her two-day visit in Mozambique, the VOA report noted, Thomas-Greenfield said "the United States is willing to work with Mozambique in the United Nations Security Council."

Early this month, the article highlighted, Mozambique took its one-year non-permanent seat on the Security Council. The VOA report notes that Mozambique took its one-year non-permanent seat on the Security Council at a time when the armed insurgency in Cabo Delgado province, in the north of the country, remains the main security challenge, with some attacks claimed by the extremist group Islamic State.

And then Thomas-Greenfield is quoted, saying: "We have to redouble

By Jomo Kwame Sundaram

FEW policymakers ever claim credit for causing stagnation and recessions. Yet, they do so all the time, justifying their actions by some supposedly higher purpose.

Now, that higher purpose is checking inflation as if it is the worst option for people today. Many supposed economists make up tall tales that inflation causes economic contraction which ordinary mortals do not know or understand.

Since early 2022, like many others in the world, Americans have been preoccupied with inflation. But official US data show inflation has been slowing since mid-2022.

Recent trends since mid-2022 are clear. Inflation is no longer accelerating, but slowing. And for most economists, only accelerating inflation gives cause for concern.

Annualized inflation since has only been slightly above the official, but nonetheless arbitrary 2% inflation target of most Western central banks.

At its peak, the brief inflationary surge, in the second quarter of last year, undoubtedly reached the "highest (price) levels since the early 1980s" because of the way it is measured.

our efforts to push back on terrorist actions.

"The activities are terrorizing ordinary citizens such as the citizens of Cabo Delgado, and we are working closely with the government to address those issues."

Video

The VOA also released a very short video - under the title "US Envoy Reiterates Commitment to Mozambique's Anti-terrorism Efforts" - of the press conference in Maputo in which the former US Assistant Secretary of State for Africa told reporters that "to address terrorism, you have to have a multifaceted approach."

"It's not just the security side, but it's also dealing with the issues that ordinary people are faced with every single day. We are providing training and equipment for the police, but we are also supporting the humanitarian needs of people who have been impacted by the terrorists," said Thomas-Greenfield.

And then she went on talking about how her country is the "largest donor to humanitarian programmes in Mozambique," adding that much of that is now focused on Cabo Delgado.

But she was not convincing when it comes to her government's commitment, and will, to help Mozambique battle the terrorists in Cabo Delgado.

Considering what Rwanda, a country with meagre resources, has done to help, Thomas-Greenfield was not being 100% honest. At the request with the Mozambican government,

US policies slowing world economy

After decades of 'financialization', the public and politicians unwittingly support moneyed interests who want to minimize inflation to make the most of their financial assets.

Russia's aggression against Ukraine began last February, with retaliatory sanctions following suit. Both have disrupted supplies, especially of fuel and food. The inflation spike in the four months after the Russian invasion was mainly due to 'supply shocks'.

Price increases were triggered by the war and retaliatory sanctions, especially for fuel, food and fertilizer. Although no longer accelerating, prices remain higher than a year before. To be sure, price pressures had been building up with other supply disruptions. Also, demand has been changing with the new Cold War against China, the Covid-19 pandemic and 'recovery', and credit tightening in the last year.

There is little evidence of any more major accelerating factors. There is no 'wage-price spiral' as prices have recently been rising more than wages despite government efforts ensuring full employment since the 2008 global financial crisis.

Kigali first deployed 1,000 military and police officers to Cabo Delgado, where Islamic State-linked insurgents had wreaked havoc since 2017. The first 1,000 Rwandan troops - picked from the country's best - arrived on July 9, 2021. In only three weeks, they had cleared insurgents from key areas of Cabo Delgado, and followed up with mop up operations to fully secure most other areas under their control.

On top of fighting terrorists, Rwandan Security Forces are supporting in resettlement of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), and normalcy is returning in areas under their control.

Since 2017, terrorist attacks had killed over 4,000 civilians and displaced tens of thousands. Rwandan troops rescued hundreds of civilians from the hands of the terrorists and established good working relations with the Southern African Development Community mission in Mozambique (SAMIM) and the host nation.

Today, the Rwandan force has grown to over 2,500 well trained soldiers and police officers. Kigali and Maputo are determined to pursue the terrorists in other areas where they relocated to.

End November 2022, the European Union approved €20 million (approx. Rwf22.7 billion) in assistance for the operations of Rwandan troops in Cabo Delgado. The EU package added to the assistance of €89 million for the Mozambican army in conjunction with the EU Training Mission

US policies slowing world economy

Despite difficulties due to inflation, tens of millions of Americans are better off than before, e.g., with the ten million jobs created in the last two years. Under Biden, wages for poorly paid workers have risen faster than consumer prices.

Higher borrowing costs have also weakened the lot of working people everywhere. Such adverse consequences would be much less likely if the public better understood recent price increases, available policy options and their consequences.

With the notable exception of the Bank of Japan, most other major central banks have been playing 'catch-up' with the US Federal Reserve interest rate hikes. To be sure, inflation has already been falling for many reasons, largely unrelated to them.

But higher borrowing costs have reduced spending, for both consumption and investment. This has hastened economic slowdown worldwide following more than a decade of largely lackluster growth since the 2008 global financial crisis.

Ill-advised earlier policies now limit what governments can do in response. With the Fed sharply raising interest rates over the last year, developing

Mozambique and €15 million for the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Mission.

Before then, Rwanda's operations in Cabo Delgado were fully and single handedly funded by the Rwandan budget.

In March 2021, the US labelled the insurgents as Isis-Mozambique and "global terrorists".

Even though the US refused to release its evidence, Secretary of State Antony Blinken on July 14, 2021 stressed that the main US interest in Mozambique was "countering Isis". On April 4, 2022 the US named Mozambique as one of five countries under the Global Fragility Act, which would involve substantially increased US involvement in Mozambique.

Washington continues to imply, albeit so vaguely, that it wants to support the war against the terrorists in Cabo Delgado but really does nothing.

While in Maputo, Thomas-Greenfield was especially vague when she said: "We have to redouble our efforts to push back on terrorist actions."

The US claims to be in favour of helping, but so far all that is coming from them is lip service. They should be walking the talk - redouble, or even triple, their support towards fighting the terrorist.

Otherwise, all their current talk is just lip service and, the Permanent Representative of the United States to the United Nations has no grounds to make the statements she made while in Maputo, to others.

US policies slowing world economy

country central banks have been trying, typically in vain, to stem capital outflows to the US and other 'safe havens' raising interest rates.

Having opened their capital accounts following foreign advice, developing country central banks always offer higher raise interest rates, hoping more capital will flow in rather than out.

Interestingly, conservative US economists Milton Friedman and Ben Bernanke have shown the Fed has worsened past US downturns by raising interest rates, instead of supporting enterprises in their time of need.

Four decades ago, increased servicing costs triggered government debt crises in Latin America and Africa, condemning them to 'lost decades'. Policy conditions were then imposed by the International Monetary Fund and World Bank for access to emergency loans.

Economic globalization policies at the turn of the century are being significantly reversed, with devastating consequences for developing countries after they opened their economies to foreign trade and investment.

Vaccine hesitancy derails global efforts to eradicate diseases, prevent deaths



cinces are among the greatest advances in global health and development.

According to studies, over two centuries, vaccines have safely reduced the scourge of diseases like polio, measles, smallpox and COVID-19, helping children grow up healthy and happy. They save more than five lives every minute -preventing up to three million deaths a year, according to research.

According to experts, thanks to immunization or vaccination efforts worldwide, children are able to walk, play, dance and learn. Today, vaccines are estimated to be one of the most cost-effective means of advancing global welfare.

Studies have proved that despite these longstanding benefits, low immunization levels persist. Some 20 million children miss out on life-saving vaccines annually. According to some studies, the most poor and marginalized children -often most in need of vaccines -continue to be the least likely to get them.

In 2019, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared vaccine hesitancy to be one of the top threats to public health. While vaccine hesitancy is as old as vaccination itself, studies have proved that jabs are the easiest way out of pandemics.

Vaccines are products that are usually given in childhood to protect against serious, often deadly diseases. By stimulating our bodies' natural defenses, they prepare our bodies to fight

the disease faster and more effectively. Yet, some people choose the gospel of praying away diseases instead of science.

Experts say that Vaccines help our immune systems fight infections more effectively by sparking response to specific diseases. Then if the virus or bacteria ever invades our body in the future, our immune system will already know how to fight it.

Our children are far more likely to be hurt by a vaccine-preventable disease than by a vaccine. Experts always say that all vaccines go through rigorous safety testing, including clinical trials, before they are approved for the public. Countries only register and distribute vaccines that meet rigorous quality and safety standards.

Children are exposed to hundreds of germs every day. Many parents worry that multiple vaccines may overload a child's immune system. In fact, studies have proved that a common cold or sore throat will put a greater burden on your child's immune system than a vaccine. Studies have also proved that although diseases may be eliminated in certain countries or regions, our increasingly interconnected world means that these diseases could spread from areas where they are still present.

So, according to experts, one of the best ways you can protect your child is to follow the recommended vaccine schedule in your country. Anytime you delay a vaccine, you're increasing your child's vulnerability to disease.

THE COVID-19 pandemic recently reminded the world that there is another pandemic that needs to be tackled—vaccine hesitancy. It has been there since the early jabs were developed and rolled out and it is still with us.

Misperceptions of COVID-19 vaccine safety, efficacy, risks and mistrust in institutions responsible for vaccination campaigns were reported as factors that contributed to vaccine hesitancy.

And don't get it twisted; it is not a problem in developing countries alone, even some developed countries face the problem. A study conducted and published amid the pandemic in 2021 by the United State National Center for Biotechnology Information found that vaccine acceptance among the general public and healthcare workers have a decisive role in the successful control of diseases.

Survey studies on COVID-19 vaccine acceptance rates were found

from 33 different countries whereby among adults representing the general public, the highest COVID-19 vaccine acceptance rates were found in Ecuador (97.0 per cent), Malaysia (94.3 per cent), Indonesia (93.3 per cent) and China (91.3 per cent).

However, the lowest COVID-19 vaccine acceptance rates were found in Kuwait (23.6 per cent), Jordan (28.4 per cent), Italy (53.7 per cent), Russia (54.9 per cent), Poland (56.3 per cent), US (56.9 per cent) and France (58.9 per cent).

Only eight surveys among healthcare workers (doctors and nurses) were found, with vaccine acceptance rates ranging from 27.7 per cent in the Democratic Republic of Congo to 78.1 per cent in Israel.

This is the reality despite the fact that vaccines are the world's safest method to protect children from life threatening diseases and save adults from preventable deaths during pandemics. Vac-

Pressing Issues
With
Chaitra Chatterjee

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Default on timely payments for adverts threatening to strangle the media

By Godfrey Lutego

TANZANIA'S media landscape is set for transformation into a self-regulated one, thanks to a new Media Law Bill to be tabled in the National Assembly in Dodoma soon as confirmed recently by Minister for Information, ICT and Communications Nape Nnauye.

As the public waits for Members of Parliament to debate the bill and pass or reject it, the question that remains is whether the adverts issue will be considered as recommended by the Tanzania Editors' Forum (TEF).

In its proposed amendments to laws related to the media in Tanzania, TEF asked the government to allow penalties to advertisers, mostly government agencies, who do not honour their payment obligations in time, arguing that the accrued adverts bills suffocate the media economically.

To understand the intricacies on the adverts issue, its benefits and the challenges that goes with it, one has to know what is the media, why do the media namely newspapers, television, social media and so on need adverts to survive and what happens if the ads are not sustainable or unpaid for.

Journalism, a media business, is defined as a process of collecting, analyzing and disseminating information in the public interest, with a strong social responsibility towards the public, good governance and democracy.

That is why journos are bound to follow the highest ethical standards namely accuracy, balance, impartiality and truthfulness, independent of any commercial or political interests.

So far, there is a debate whether journalism is a trade, a profession or business. Some scholars argue that it's both a profession and business because out of it, media outlets get revenues from adverts. Others see it as pure professional.

Media in Tanzania, like in other countries badly need adverts to sustain their incomes and use 40 per cent or even more spaces for adverts and the rest for news content.

However, much as the media needs adverts, they have not been forthcoming due to a small budget by clients namely government, private sector, binding contracts between strong media with huge circulation or big audience at the expense

of weaker ones. COVID-19 pandemic, Russian vs Ukraine war and late or non-payment of accrued bills or theft of revenues collected.

It is out of that context that TEF is demanding for a change in the trend to allow Tanzania media get more revenues from adverts, paid in time with clients placing big orders. Contrary to that, the public will continue to suffer from news blues as print, electronic and social media alike will die if not close down temporarily due to fiscal constraints.

Studies show that mainstream media need at least two to four pages of adverts costing two to three million shillings per page to sustain its overhead costs such as vendors and salaries. So far, the media leading in adverts is Daily News, a government newspaper followed by private media with big circulations while the rest go limping in oblivion.

As the MPs debate the new media bill that replaces the MSA, 2016, it will be good for them to highly consider the fate of the media and the role they play in public. MPS should debate the bill knowing that although the media is a business started with a noble call to inform, educate and entertain, once it is in the market, the government has a stake.

This is why, all along, worldwide, governments have been curtailing media freedom to defend their interests because it is through the media that the public access information, good or bad, which favors or damages the government politically, socially and economically hence monitored.

In 2011, a Sudan government offered the media free printing with a condition that they publish government development projects. The privately-owned media, though had financial set back, refused the offer only to be realized later that they were owned by people who had political inclination with oppositions.

The case in Tanzania is contrary since the ruling CCM has its own media outlets. Also, there are privately-owned outlets that are aligned to opposition parties such as Chadema.

But when it comes to the adverts cry, the party-owned or aligned media are not spared too. Under the TEF umbrella, all wish that bold steps are taken to rescue the media industry's adverts woes.

And the good side of the story is President Samia Suluhu Hassan has said she is



Information, Communications and Information Technology minister Nape Nnauye

fully committed to press freedom and the state of the media economy at large and that is why she instructed Minister Nnauye to form a task force to review the welfare of journalists and their economy.

Now, it is up to the MPS to complement efforts by President Samia to improve the state of the media by appreciating the fact that they play a big role in disseminating information to

the public which otherwise would be an obligation of the government.

MPs should debate the bill and agree with a TEF proposal to penalize governments agencies who default on adverts bills or allow the media charged accrued interest as it is done by the government in other services like land rate.

It is up to MPs to come up with a viable,

long-term solution to media adverts woes by reducing fees on electronic gadgets used by journalists like computers, cell phones, TV sets, printing papers or machines so that even when there are no enough adverts to cover overhead costs, media can offset some of the costs and sustain their businesses and play their noble duty to inform.

NGOs launch campaign for torture-free UN trade treaty

By Thalif Deen

HINTING at “Western hypocrisy”, a senior UN official once told a group of reporters, perhaps half-jokingly: “When you go on one of those sight-seeing tours in Europe, they will show you their palaces and castles – but never their medieval prisons or torture chambers.”

The world’s torturers, according to Western nations, were mostly in countries such as Iraq, Afghanistan, Syria and in authoritarian regimes of the Middle East – with a notoriety for whip lashes, blind folds, leg irons, electric shock devices and public hangings.

In more recent years, torture and water-boarding were common forms of punishment in US-run Guantanamo Bay, in the Abu Ghraib prison in US-occupied Iraq and at the Bagram American air base in Afghanistan.

And in the heart of Amsterdam are a “Torture Museum” and a “Museum of Medieval Torture Instruments” displaying some of the equipment of a bygone era.

Last month, the London-based Amnesty International led a coalition of over 30 civil society organizations (CSOs) calling for a treaty to control the trade in tools of torture used to suppress peaceful protests and abuse detainees around the world.

Dr Simon Adams, President and CEO of the Center for Victims of Torture, the largest international organization that treats survivors and advocates for an end to torture worldwide, told IPS it’s sickening and outrageous that even though torture is illegal everywhere, at all times, and in all circumstances, more than 500 companies from 58 countries are still manufacturing, marketing and selling goods used in torture on the world market.

“It’s time to strictly regulate goods that are deliberately misused by some security forces to commit torture, and to impose a global ban on goods that have no use other than torture.”

“We need to outlaw this immoral trade in unspeakable human suffering. The UN General Assembly is our global parliament, and international law obligates states to help prevent torture”.

So, the General Assembly should immediately move towards the adoption of a Torture-Free Trade Treaty and prohibit people and companies from profiting from torture,” he noted.

In the declaration signed in London January 20, the civil rights organizations (CSOs) launched a campaign calling for a treaty to prohibit the manufacture and trade in inherently abusive equipment such as spiked batons and body-worn electric shock devices, as well as the introduction of human rights-based

controls on the trade in more standard law enforcement equipment, such as pepper spray, rubber bullets and handcuffs.

These items are often used to commit acts of torture or other ill-treatment, which are categorically prohibited under international law, the coalition said.

Asked whether such a treaty should originate at the United Nations, Verity Coyle, Amnesty International’s Law & Policy adviser, told IPS: “Yes, Amnesty International around the world is campaigning for a Torture-Free Trade Treaty through our Flagship Campaign – Protect the Protest.”

When the Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) report was published on 30 May 2022, Amnesty published this PR response.

She said the 193-member UN General Assembly (UNGA) is the logical forum given 2019 resolution, including the GGE report recommendations.

The Alliance for Torture-Free Trade (60+ members) is coordinated by the EU, Argentina and Mongolia.

In June 2022, Amnesty was invited to present its analysis of the GGEs report to a meeting of the Alliance “and we continue to hold regular meetings with the EU in particular in anticipation of resolution being brought forward requesting a negotiating mandate”.

Civil Society in Latin America, Coyle pointed out, is speaking regularly to Argentina about the process.

“Our Sections around the world are about to embark on a series of lobby meetings in capitals”, said Coyle, who sits on the global Steering Committee of the Campaign to Stop Killer Robots, of which Amnesty International is a member.

In September 2017, the EU, Argentina and Mongolia launched the Alliance for Torture-Free Trade at the margins of the UN General Assembly in New York.

The Alliance currently comprises over 60 states from all regions of the world pledging to “act together to further prevent, restrict and end trade” in goods used for torture, other ill-treatment and the death penalty.

In June 2019, the UN General Assembly adopted Resolution A/73/L.94, Towards torture-free trade, initiating a process for “examining the feasibility, scope and parameters for possible common international standards” for regulating international trade in this area.

The first stage in this UN process resulted in the July 2020 publication of a UN Secretary General’s study of member states’ positions, which found that the majority of respondent states supported international standards, with most believing these should



Torture Museum, Amsterdam. File photo

be through a “legally binding instrument establishing measures to control and restrict trade in goods used for capital punishment, torture or other forms of ill-treatment”.

Meanwhile, the UN Special Rapporteur on “the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism”, Fionnuala Ní Aoláin, is undertaking a “technical visit” to the United States.

Between 6 and 14 February, she will visit Washington D.C. and subsequently the detention facility at the U.S. Naval Station Guantánamo Bay, Cuba.

Over the course of the subsequent three-month period, Ní Aoláin will also carry out a series of interviews with individuals in the United States and abroad, on a voluntary basis, including victims and families of victims of the 11 September 2001 terrorist attacks and former detainees in countries of resettlement/repatriation.

The visit takes place in accordance with the Terms of Reference for Country Visits by Special Procedures Mandate Holders.

Besides Amnesty International, the CSOs campaigning for the treaty include American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), Article 36, Asia Alliance Against Torture, Association for the Prevention of Torture

(APT), Harvard Law School’s International Human Rights Clinic, International Commission of Jurists, International Rehabilitation Council for Torture Victims, The Philippine Alliance of Human Rights Advocates and the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom (WILPF), among others.

Coyle of Amnesty International also pointed out that equipment, such as tear gas, rubber bullets, batons and restraints, have been used to intimidate, repress and punish protesters, human rights defenders and others, during the policing of demonstrations and in places of detention, in all regions, in recent years.

“Thousands of protesters have sustained eye injuries resulting from the reckless use of rubber bullets, while others have been hit by tear gas grenades, doused in excessive amounts of chemical irritants, beaten with batons, or forced into stress positions by restraints”.

Despite this, there are currently no global human rights-related controls on the trade in law enforcement equipment. However, the UN General Assembly now has a historic opportunity to vote to begin negotiations on a treaty, she declared.

IPS UN Bureau Report

Pact protecting environmentalists suffers threats in Mexico

By Emilio Godoy

IN the municipality of Papantla, in the southeastern Mexican state of Veracruz, the non-governmental Regional Coordinator of Solidarity Action in Defense of the Huasteca-Totonacapan Territory (Corason) works with local communities on empowering organizations, advocacy capacity in policies and litigation strategies.

“This participation with organizations that work at the national level and have the capacity to influence not only the legal field is important,” Corason coordinator Alejandra Jiménez told IPS from Papantla. “They are able to bring injunctions, and this is how they have managed to block mining projects, for example.”

She was referring to the collaboration between locally-based civil society organizations and others of national scope.

Since its creation in 2015, Corason has supported local organizations in their

fight against the extraction of shale gas through hydraulic fracturing or fracking, a highly polluting technique that uses large volumes of water and chemicals, in Veracruz and Puebla, as well as mining and hydroelectric plants in Puebla.

Cases like this abound in Mexico, as they do throughout Latin America, a particularly dangerous region for environmentalists.

Activists agreed on the challenges involved in enforcing the Regional Agreement on Access to Information, Public Participation and Justice in Environmental Matters in Latin America and the Caribbean, known as the Escazú Agreement, seen as a tool to mitigate dangers faced by human rights defenders in environmental matters.

A case that has been in the hands of Mexico’s Supreme Court since August 2021 is currently addressing the power of organizations to express their disagreement with environmental decisions and will outline the future of en-

vironmental activism in this Latin American country of some 130 million people, and of the enforcement of the Escazú Agreement.

The origin of the case lies in two opposing rulings by Mexican courts in 2019 and 2020, in which one recognized the power of organizations and the other rejected that power. As a result, the case went to the Supreme Court, which must reach a decision to settle the contradiction.

In August 2022 and again on Jan. 25 this year, the Supreme Court postponed its own verdict, which poses a legal threat to the megaprojects promoted by the government of President Andrés Manuel López Obrador, a staunch defender of the country’s oil industry.

Gustavo Ampugnani, general director of Greenpeace Mexico, said the case was an alert to the Escazú Agreement, and that it should not represent a setback for the defense of the environment.

“The significance lies in the risks involved in a wrong

decision by the Supreme Court on how to resolve this existing contradiction. If the Court decides that the legal creation of an environmental organization is not enough and that other elements are required, it would limit citizen participation and access to justice,” he told IPS.

Environmentalists are waiting for their Godot in the form of the novel agreement, to which Brazil and Costa Rica do not yet belong, to improve their protection.

The treaty, in force since April 2021 and which takes its name from the Costa Rican city where it was signed, guarantees access to environmental information and justice, as well as public participation in environmental decision-making. It thus protects environmentalists and defenders of local land.

Mexico’s foreign ministry, which represented this country in negotiating the agreement, has identified a legislative route to reform laws that make its application possible and promote

the integration of a multisectoral group with that same purpose.

Escazú has been undermined in Mexico by López Obrador’s constant attacks against defenders of the environment, whom he calls “pseudo-environmentalists” and “conservatives” for criticizing his policies, which they describe as anti-environmental and extractivist.

For this reason, a group of organizations and activists requested in a letter to the foreign ministry, released on Feb. 2, details of the progress in the creation of inter-institutional roundtables, selection of indicators, creation of protection mechanisms, and training of officials, including courts, while demanding transparency, inclusion and equity in the process.

High risk

In 2021, there were 200 murders of environmentalists around the world, a slight decrease from 227 the previous year, according to a report by the London-based non-governmental organiza-

tion Global Witness.

Latin America led these crimes, accounting for 157 of the killings, with a slight decline from 165 the previous year. Mexico topped the list with 54 murders, compared to 30 in 2020. Colombia ranked second despite the drop in cases: 33, down from 65 in 2020, followed by Brazil (26 vs. 20), Honduras (eight vs. 17) and Nicaragua (13 vs. 12).

The attacks targeted people involved in opposition to logging, mining, large-scale agribusiness and dams, and more than 40 percent of the victims were indigenous people.

In Mexico there are currently some 600 ongoing environmental conflicts without a solution from the government, according to estimates by the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources.

The most recent case was the Jan. 15 disappearance of lawyer Ricardo Lagunes and indigenous activist Antonio Díaz, an opponent of mining

in the western state of Michoacán, which the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights has demanded be urgently clarified.

One year after it came into force, the Escazú Agreement is facing major challenges, especially in countries such as Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Nicaragua, where environmentalists face particular risks.

Olimpia Castillo, coordinator of the non-governmental organization Communication and Environmental Education, said the context sends out a warning.

“It is a very interesting round, because article 10 (of the agreement) refers to highlighting the participation of the organizations. That article could be violated, which would mean a major limitation. These are things that as a country we are going to have to face up to,” the activist, who participated in the negotiation of the agreement as a representative of civil society, told IPS.

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 UMJUAVVO 16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEVUMA 18:00-21:00HRS BUZUKI TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:00-09:00HRS HABARI NA MATUKIO YA WIKI 09:00-11:00HRS THE SUNDAY 11:00-13:00HRS TOP 20 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CAPITAL MICHEZONI 16:00-18:00HRS UKURASA WA MBELE 18:00-21:00HRS JIACHE 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-01:00HRS LADHA LAINI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

WHO comes up with new road map on breast cancer

By Guardian Reporter

THE World Health Organisation (WHO) has released a new global breast cancer initiative framework that provides a roadmap to attain the targets to save 2.5 million lives from breast cancer by 2040.

The new framework recommends countries to implement the three pillars of health promotion for early detection, timely diagnosis and comprehensive management of breast cancer to reach the targets.

There are more than 2.3 million cases of breast cancer that occur each year, which make it the most common cancer among adults.

In 95 per cent of countries, breast cancer is the first or second leading cause of female cancer deaths. Yet, survival from breast cancer is widely inequitable between and within countries; nearly 80 per cent of deaths from breast and cervical cancer occur in low- and middle-income countries.

Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of WHO said: "Countries with weaker health systems are least able to manage the increasing burden of breast cancer. It places a tremendous strain on individuals, families, communities, health systems, and economies, so it must be a priority for ministries of health and governments everywhere."

He said: "We have the tools and the know-how to prevent breast cancer and save lives.

WHO is supporting more than 70 countries, particularly low- and middle-income countries, to detect breast cancer earlier, diagnose it faster, treat it better and give everyone with breast cancer the hope of a cancer-free future."

Dr Bente Mikkelsen, WHO Director for Non-communicable Diseases said: "Countries need to ensure that this framework engages and integrates into primary health care. This effort would not only support health promotion, but also empower women to seek and receive health care throughout the life cycle. With effective and sustainable primary health care, we can really see a pathway to universal health coverage."

Cancer in women, including breast cancer, leaves a devastating impact for the next generation. A 2020 study by the International Agency for Research on Cancer suggests that with an estimated 4.4 million women dying of cancer in 2020, nearly 1 million children were orphaned by cancer, 25% of which were due to breast cancer.

Children who lose their mothers to cancer experience health and educational disadvantages throughout their lives, triggering generational, chronic social disruption and financial harm in many cases.

The newly published framework leverages proven strategies to design country-specific, resource-appropriate, health systems for the delivery of breast-cancer care in low- and middle-income settings. It outlines three pillars of action with specific key performance indicators:



Zanzibar Industries Development and Trade minister Omar Said Shaaban (2nd L), stresses a point during the launching of Zanzibar Bureau of Standards Board of directors yesterday. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

lines three pillars of action with specific key performance indicators:

Countries are urged to accelerate implementation of WHO's global breast cancer initiative to avert not only millions of avoidable female cancer deaths but also the associated, intergenerational

consequences of these deaths.

In 2017, the World Health Assembly passed the resolution cancer prevention and control in the context of an integrated approach. Since 2018, WHO has developed integrated initiatives in women's and children's cancers, calling also for

the elimination of cervical cancer and a doubling of childhood cancer survival.

WHO calls on governments, development partners, industries and individuals to take their part to close the care gap and end the generational harms of cancer.

Stakeholders call for robust strategies to help improve access to better housing

By Getrude Mbago

HOUSING stakeholders have called on the government to prioritise strategies to facilitate construction of more quality and affordable housing which also include coming up with a strong policy to help reduce costs of building materials as well as land formalisation.

Speaking during the stakeholders meeting to disseminate initial findings on the challenges of the urban housing sector held in Dar es Salaam recently.

The event was part of the ongoing study conducted by the Centre for Community Initiative (CCI) under the global

project dubbed: African Cities Research Consortium (ACRC), a major six-year investment by the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) to fund new, operationally-relevant research to address intractable development challenges in African cities.

Prof Alphonse Kyessi, a researcher said over 50 per cent residents in Dar es Salaam are tenants as planned land for housing is largely unaffordable to the low income people.

He noted that Tanzania has one of the fastest growing economies in the world, however many families still struggle to access adequate

and affordable housing.

"Housing is a fundamental basic human need, it is a key driver for economic growth and development - a poverty indicator; Housing investment creates jobs through construction and infrastructure and services installation," he noted.

He said due to challenges in planning, high cost of land as well as building materials, leave many people in informal settlements where over 70 per cent of residents in Dar es Salaam are living in unplanned housing areas which are mostly environmentally poor and facing a lot of challenges including lack of water due to poor systems, access

to quality health and education services as well as poor sewerage systems.

Prof Kyessi further urged the National Housing Corporation to also come up with projects to improve people's houses in streets and not focusing only on constructing new ones. Dr Tatu Limumba, also one of the researchers, said the country should also adopt social housing principles by issuing subsidies so as to facilitate access to better housing.

"In our preliminary time of the study we have found that the majority of Dar es Salaam residents are still living in poor settlements which most of them do not have qual-

ity toilets thus being at risk of diseases and other challenges, all these need robust and coordinated efforts to address," she said.

Happiness George from Haki Ardhi hinted on the note that if the government is really mulled to improve access to better housing, it needs to come up with policies that will facilitate availability of building materials at affordable prices.

Jonas Halimoja, Uzuri street chairman in Manzese ward, Ubungu District said local government leaders do not have power to prevent informal construction of houses or buildings, something which stimulates the increase

of slums in the city.

Seleman Mohamed, chairman, Hananasi Street in Kinondoni District advised the government to hire land planning officers in wards so as to facilitate easy issuance of services to people.

Dr Tim Ndezi, CCI executive director said that inclusive, affordable and adequate housing is the key to sustainable transformation of cities and communities, fighting poverty and other risks.

"We are conducting the study to find out the drivers of the challenge and later come up with solutions which will be adopted by the government as well as stakeholders to help improve ac-

cess to better housing in the country," he said.

He said that urban poor struggle with issues of poor housing and threats of forced eviction. The population struggles very hard to access surveyed plots and when available they are sold at high prices, something which had led them to settle in unplanned and substandard settlements.

Globally, approximately 1.6 billion people live in inadequate housing and one billion reside in slums and informal settlements. The communities are over-crowded, and families living there have no adequate water, sanitation or regular income.

RUWASA urged to take serious action against water contractors

By Guardian Correspondent, Singida

SINGIDA regional commissioner, Peter Serukamba, has directed managers for the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (RUWASA) in the region to take serious action against water contractors who delay in implementing water projects.

He made the directive yesterday when witnessing the signing ceremony of six contracts for water projects to cost 7.562bn/- to be constructed in 2022/23 which is expected to serve about 77,767 people.

"I want to see value for money, because I have witnessed that contracts which are done under force account are cheaper from those done under this criteria," he said.

He said the government was not ready to see a contractor who is paid 30 per cent of the costs vanishes and is seen taking other projects adding that the law will take its course.

"Now I direct (you) managers when you see a contractor delaying in implementing a project take action do not hesitate until things go wrong," he said.

RUWASA manager in Singida, Lucas Said, said the region was given 15.591bn/- in the 2022/23 financial year for water projects to serve at least 239,798 people which upon completion will increase availability of water from 62 per cent in rural areas to 70 per cent by June 2023.

The projects will be constructed at Kintinu, Lusilile, Rift Valley phase two in Manyoni, Malanja village water project, Mpentu, Ikungi, Nkingi and Mughungwa located in Singida district council.

He said the project will upon completion, increase availability of water to 5.5-per cent and that among the projects, there are those projects which will be funded by the National Water Fund (NWF) with the remaining projects being funded by the Pay for Results system.



A bicycle overloads bags of charcoal along Kilwa road at Mkuranga district in Coast region recently. The charcoal mostly used in domestic consumption instead of natural gas which is expensive to the low income persons. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

PBZ records remarkable performance in two years, earning 34bn/- net profit

By Guardian Reporter

THE People's Bank of Zanzibar Limited (PBZ) has recorded an impressive performance in the last two years putting it on the 6th position among the most profitable commercial banks in Tanzania.

According to the latest financial report, the bank has doubled its net profit last year owing to the lender's steady growth plan.

The bank registered a net profit of 34.15bn/- in 2022, a whopping increase from 17.07bn/- in 2021.

Anwar Saleh, bank's head of Finance said: "During the year 2022, we focused on efficiency in implementing the bank's strategies. As a result, customers' deposits rose by 40 percent while the loan and financing portfolio increased by 34 percent."

Saleh said that the bank also registered an improvement in the quality of bank assets resulting in remarkable growth in profit.

"Both funded (interest) and non-funded (non-interest) income streams rose significantly," he said.

While the net interest income

reached 72.05bn/- in 2022 from 57.83bn/- in 2021, the non-interest income surged to 33.2bn/- from 25.48bn/-.

"PBZ officially joined the group of first-tier lenders in Tanzania in 2022 after its assets rose by 41 percent to reach 1.42trn/- from 996.37bn/- in 2021," he stated.

Its ratio of Non-Performing Loans (NPLs) to total gross loans stood at 2.77 percent by December 2022.

PBZ came into existence on June 30, 1966 in accordance with the Zanzibar companies Decree (Cap 153). PBZ is 100 percent owned by the Zanzibar gov-

ernment and its primary function of the bank is to carry on the business of commercial banking in all its branches and departments. It has a branch and service centres network of twenty-eight branches in Zanzibar and Tanzania Mainland as at June 2022. Eight out of those branches provide Islamic Banking products. The bank provides services to both corporate and retail customers.

PBZ is offering various products and services to customers such as current accounts, time deposits accounts and savings.

Road to ending FGM must be paved in partnership with men, boys

By Mohamed Fall and Lydia Zigomo

MANY women who have endured female genital mutilation (FGM) face severe complications in childbirth.

Sister Eunice Moraa from the Congregation of Franciscan Sisters in Kenya is only too aware of the toll FGM exacts: "It is a big problem in the community I serve. We see many complications, including excessive bleeding, and uterine and vaginal prolapse (when the organs drop out of their normal position). Many women hide this for years, even when they can't sit or walk properly."

As if childbirth is not challenging enough, it defies belief that communities should choose to add a litany of complications to women's reproductive lot in life, by inflicting on them a practice that is entirely unnecessary - and a downright violation of a woman's rights.

When we committed to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, we agreed to end FGM, a harmful practice that continues to threaten the health and well-being of millions of girls and women today. Only seven years remain for that noble vision to be realised - and while much progress has been made, it is clear that much more needs to be done.

Over the past 20 years, FGM has declined by one-quarter in the 31 countries with national data. According to the most recent Kenya Demographic and Health Survey (2014), the national prevalence of FGM stands at 21%, compared with 27% in 2008/9 and 32% in 2003. Moreover, in countries with a high prevalence of FGM, the proportion of girls and women who oppose FGM has doubled, the data indi-

cate.

What is disturbing, however, is that this progress is not universal. In too many countries, FGM remains as common today as it was three decades ago.

Today, as we mark the International Day of Zero Tolerance for FGM, we note and commend the hard-won successes, but we must also underline the relative failures - and remain steadfast in our refusal to give up the fight for every woman and girl to enjoy their right to bodily autonomy and good health.

As FGM is rooted in gender inequality and power imbalances, eradicating the practice requires changing the cultural and social norms that increase the risk of harm to women and engaging robustly with men in societies with high prevalence of the harmful practice. This means addressing child marriage and all other forms of violence, including physical, sexual and psychological violence occurring within families, institutions and our communities.

In recent years, there has been an increase in cross-border FGM, a growing trend in which girls are taken across national borders to be cut so as to avoid legal penalties at home. This is being fuelled by shared cultural beliefs among communities close to borders.

Religious leaders hold the key. In addition, strong cultural, religious and moral norms have been identified as influencing the continuation of FGM, which is seen to elevate women's status in the community and their acceptance by men. Religious leaders, elders and other cultural gatekeepers - largely men, in this region - hold the key to the abandonment of FGM by entire communities.



Priscilla Nangurai, founder of Nanana Winbridge Education Centre, with some of 58 rescued girls at the school in Kajjado, Kenya, on 1 March 2017. Photo: EPA / Daniel Irungu

Men have a significant role to play in bringing change within the communities, as they hold sway over the direction of cultural beliefs and social norms. In addition, if boys continue to be raised in the expectation that they will marry girls who have been cut, this serves to consistently reinforce the practice. It is imperative that we strengthen partnerships with men and boys.

Undoubtedly, one of the most important allies for ending FGM in the East and southern Africa region are religious institutions. In recognition of this, UNFPA and Unicef, in partnership with the African Council of Religious Leaders - Religions for Peace (ACRL-RfP), have engaged prominent faith leaders

in campaigns to end child marriage and FGM, and expanded the roll-out of the global Faith for Positive Change for Children, Families and Communities initiative.

In 2022, this initiative trained faith leaders in six countries - Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, South Sudan, Zambia and Zimbabwe - on using the Mind and Heart Dialogue methodology to engage faith-based communities in discussions on challenging topics, such as FGM and child marriage. This successful methodology, which uses experiential learning to challenge unbalanced power relations and structures, led to a resounding 130 senior religious leaders signing a pledge to support campaigns to end FGM and child marriage, in-

cluding among cross-border communities.

The UNFPA and Unicef Joint Programme on the Elimination of FGM, launched in 2008, aims to shift social norms in affected communities, while working with governments to put in place viable national response systems. The programme will continue to promote collaboration with faith-based leaders, particularly in cross-border communities, to strengthen the faith-engagement approach to leverage the influence of these critical stakeholders to support the cause. As we continue to seek new, innovative solutions, we urge all men and boys to join us in the fight to achieve our global goal of ending FGM, for once and for all. DM/GC

Mohamed Fall is Unicef Regional Director, East and southern Africa, and Lydia Zigomo is UNFPA Regional Director, East and southern Africa.

Ocean of weapons between Iran and Yemen enabling arms smuggling to Somalia

By David Willima and Tshgefotso Johanna Ramachela

ON 6 January, United States (US) command forces intercepted a dhow in international waters between Iran to Yemen carrying over 2,000 AK-47 assault rifles. Shipments of thousands of illicit weapons from the Iran-Yemen arms trade are reportedly transported via maritime routes to Somalia. There they are sold to the violent extremist groups Islamic State in Somalia and al-Shabaab.

The weapons smuggling network allegedly extends to al-Shabaab-linked armed groups in Kenya, Ethiopia and Mozambique - threatening security in an already volatile region. It violates United Nations (UN) and European Union (EU) sanctions and the

renewed UN Security Council arms embargo on Somalia. The illegal arms trade also undermines gains from the decline of piracy in the region.

The Horn of Africa has great economic, geopolitical and security value to Africa and the world. It is near key waterways vital to international trade. The Bab-el-Mandeb Strait connects the Mediterranean and the Red Sea with the Gulf of Aden and the Arabian Sea in the Indian Ocean. Oil and natural gas exports from the Persian Gulf transit Bab-el-Mandeb and the Strait of Hormuz en route to the Suez Canal.

Somalia has the longest coastline on the African continent, but its maritime borders are porous and affected by insecurity on land. Weapons smuggling and trafficking of drugs and other goods are

relatively common here. However, the proliferation of Iranian weapons bound for Yemen that end up in Somalia shows the transnational nature of maritime crime in the Horn.

Maritime crime has spread because of inadequate monitoring, patrolling and enforcement capabilities by the region's navies. This, coupled with internal conflicts and the war in Yemen, has exacerbated regional instability, threatening the international oil trade and energy security.

With their vested economic and security interests, major powers such as the US, China and Saudi Arabia have stepped into this maritime security vacuum and lead efforts to patrol these waters. Over the past few years, US naval forces have sporadically intercepted arms shipments bound for Somalia.

But Africa should not transfer its maritime security role to external actors. States in the Horn must take charge. The policies exist that enable them to do so despite implementation challenges.

Regional initiatives such as the Djibouti Code of Conduct (through its Jeddah Amendment) already list illegal activities at sea, including arms smuggling, as a significant threat. War-torn Yemen adds to the security risks. However, states have been slow to implement the code, and the amendments are not legally binding.

Proactive joint action by Horn countries is possible through the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (Igad) Task Force on the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden, established for maritime security cooperation.

The African Union (AU) Peace and Security Council (PSC) is doubling-down on efforts to stop arms trafficking, and maritime security is a vital step in its Silencing the Guns programme. These strategies must however be linked and aligned with national and regional maritime policies - a task that requires setting up a maritime advisory group in the AU Commission.

Another challenge is the diverging aspirations of African and Gulf countries in securing the waters of the Gulf of Aden. Several maritime task forces in the area have overlapping memberships, and African interests in these initiatives have not been clearly articulated.

Without effective African-led operations, foreign navies with military facilities in Djibouti could step in to tackle smuggling at sea. Despite the drop in piracy off Somalia's coast, the EU's decision to extend Operation Atalanta - its military exercise in the Horn - shows its commitment to security beyond piracy.

Three practical steps could secure the region's maritime domain. First, expand the mandate of plans such as the Contact Group on Piracy off the Coast of Somalia to include other maritime crimes, such as arms smuggling.

Second, align regional instruments such as the Nairobi Protocol for Prevention, Control and Reduction of Small Arms and Light Weapons in the Great Lakes Region, the Horn of Africa and the Bordering States with the AU's Silencing the Guns initiative. This would help achieve Target 16.4 of the UN 2030 Sustainable

Development Goals on reducing illicit arms flows. Better alignment would enable the pooling of resources and joint accountability for action.

Finally, maritime activities could foster political and security cooperation that the Horn desperately needs. The Igad task force comprises both littoral and non-littoral states. With a shared vision, the AU and Igad could steer multilateral engagements to the benefit of maritime security governance in the region. An East African maritime task force could combat arms trafficking and secure the Horn's vast maritime domain.

Left unchecked, weapons smuggling to Somalia will continue to threaten regional peace and prosperity. Securing the maritime domain in the Gulf of Aden will require all hands on deck. DM



RADIO One

RATIBA YA VIPINDI

JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00 AM HALLI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:03 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS AKIKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALLI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM 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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One




Danish Ambassador impressed by CRDB Bank's performance

By Guardian Reporter

THE Danish Ambassador to Tanzania Mette Nørgaard Balozi Dissing-Spandet has said she is being impressed by CRDB Bank's good financial performances during 2022, hoping the trend to continue in future.

The ambassador said this when meeting the bank's managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela to discuss the strategic cooperation between the Denmark International Development Agency (Danida) and CRDB Bank.

"There is no such a good time to discuss the historical cooperation when the largest bank in Tanzania recorded the highest profit last year," she said.

"The bank broke its own profit record set in 2021, after attaining a post-tax profit of 353bn/- in 2022, higher than the targets of 268bn/- set in 2021."

The cooperation between Danida and CRDB Bank is historical and its root came through diplomatic relationship between Tanzania and Denmark.

When CRDB Bank was known as Cooperative and Rural Development Bank, it passed through difficult moment by facing financial challenges, before the government requested Danida through the Denmark Investment Fund (DIF) to inject the rescuing capital.

The entrance of DIF as strategic investor resulted into rebranding of the

bank to CRDB Bank, before being listed at the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) some years later.

DIF started with 247,014 shares in 2002 which increased to 548,067,648 shares in 2021, holding 21 percent of the bank total shares.

Dividends for DIF and the government of Tanzania have also increased to 19.7bn/- in 2021 from 247mn/- in 2002.

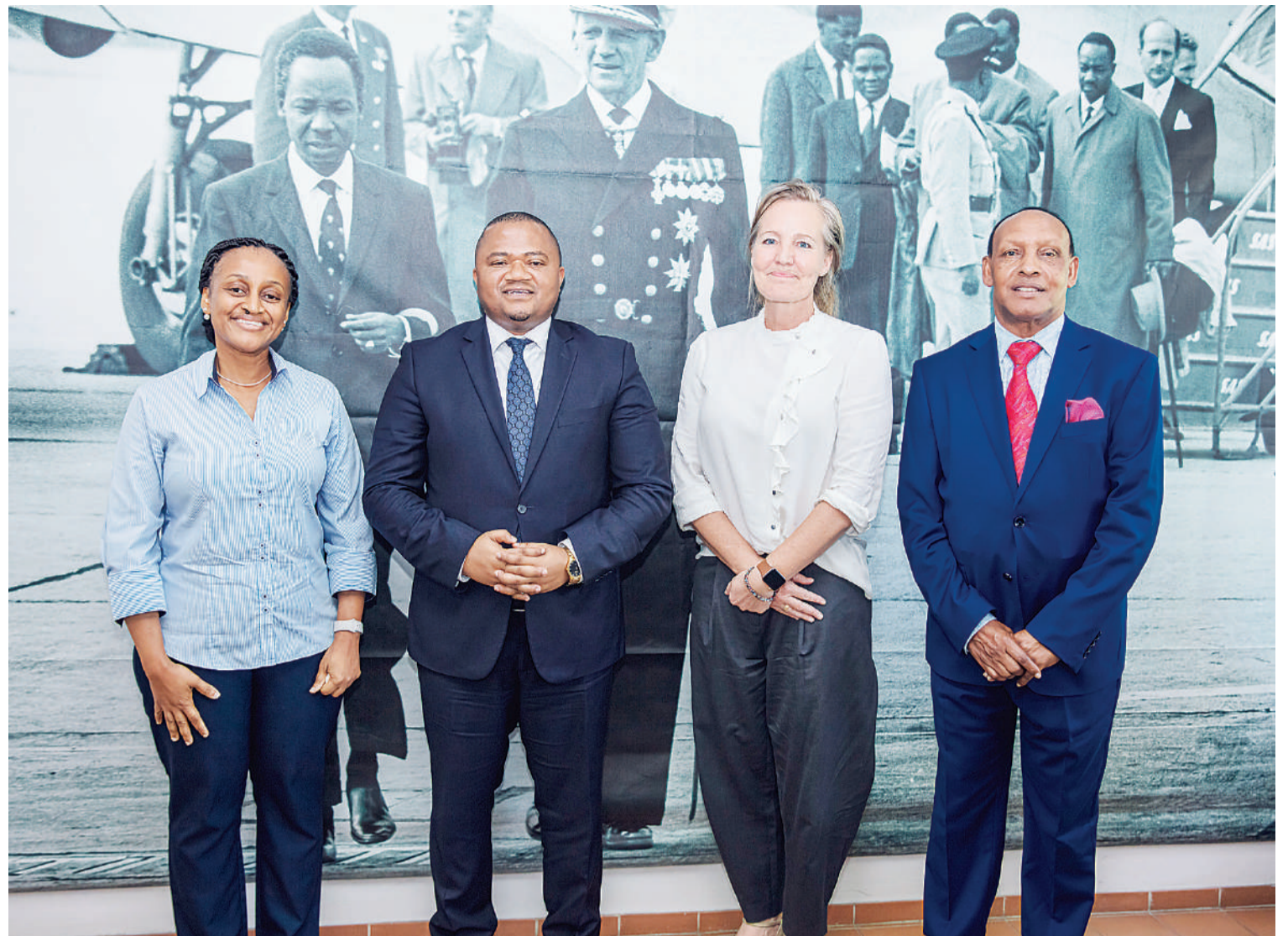
The attained net profit resulted into the growth of non-interest income streams, which increased by 13 percent to 400bn/- last year from 354bn/- during the previous year, according to Abdulmajid Nsekela, the bank's managing director.

Nsekela explained that the historical earning of the non-interest income resulted into increased financial transactions, specifically those related to digital channels.

"Danida and the government of Tanzania remain proud to be shareholders of the bank, which is performing well, because they are assured of increased amount of dividends," he said.

"The cooperation between Danida, the government of Tanzania and CRDB Bank has been meaningful to enabling the bank to continue to record impressive performances each year by recording profits," Nsekela said.

The Danish government has extended its cooperation with CRDB Bank



Denmark's Ambassador to Tanzania Mette Nørgaard Dissing-Spandet (2nd R) poses in a photo with CRDB Bank board chairman Dr Ally Laay (R), board vice chairperson Prof Neema Mori (L) and the CRDB Bank CEO and managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela (2nd L) when they paid a visit at her office in Dar es Salaam to discuss the Danida investments in the bank and implementation of the bank's new five-years strategic plan (2023-2028). Photo by Guardian

and its Investment Fund for Developing Countries (IFU), by investing on the bank subsidiary in the Democratic Republic of Congo (CRDB Congo).

Apart from supporting the bank, Danida has also been the main founding institutions of Health Benefit Fund (HBF) in 1999, by injecting DKK60 million and has been contributing to the fund consecutively.

Through its contribution to the fund, which is benefiting both in mainland and Zanzibar,

Danida has been using its investment income from the bank in supporting in improvement of health, specifically reproductive health for women and girls.

In an effort to continue supporting the improvement of health services in Tanzania, Danida has been allocation part of the dividends earned from its investment in CRDB Bank for the purpose.

Tanzania has been benefiting from Danish development grants through Danida espe-

cially in health, economy, research and entrepreneurship. In the 2022/2023 financial year, minister of health Ummu Mwalimu said HBF stakeholders have agreed to contribute 98.1bn/- to support the improvement of health services delivery in Tanzania.

"We would like to see that funds coming into the country for the purpose of supporting health services are injected through HBF for quick impacts because we have seen greater achievements," the minister said.

Climate risk insurance still low in Africa, study shows

By Guardian Reporter

DESPITE increasing climate threats in Africa, demand for climate risk insurance is still low on the continent.

This is due to the high prices of insurance premiums, insurers' inability to offer attractive products, and consumers' unawareness of the existing solutions.

In mid-2022, Faber Consulting and the African Insurance Organization published the 2022 edition of the report "African Insurance Pulse." The report was focused on the impact of climate change on the African insurance sector and was based "on interviews with senior executives from insurers, reinsurers, and brokers operating in Africa."

According to nine out of ten executives interviewed, in recent years, Africa has recorded an increase in the frequency of climate disasters.

The executives identified four dominant risks on the continent. They are namely cyclones (especially in Mauritius, Madagascar, and Mozambique), floods (especially in West and East Africa), forest fires (North



Africa has recorded an increase in the frequency of climate disasters. File photo

Africa mainly), and hailstorms (in Southern Africa).

Eight out of ten respondents observed an increase in the severity of these ex-

treme events, including tropical storms and flooding.

The reasons cited to explain the increase in flooding include increasing

urbanization that reduces soils' capacity to absorb rainfall with the impervious surfaces such as roads and sidewalks as well as the numerous houses built.

In addition, large African cities are often built on the banks of rivers or near the coastline, exacerbating the problem.

When interviewed about the main weather hazards their markets are exposed to, respondents cited floods (100 percent), droughts (84.6 percent), heavy rains (73 percent), and tropical cyclones (57 percent).

Concerning the demand for insurance covering extreme weather events, they all responded that the demand was not "very high".

Nevertheless, 40 percent of them said demand for coverage against extreme weather events is relatively high from large commercial and industrial companies and in markets where climate risk insurance is mandatory.

Demand from individuals (36 percent of responses) and SMEs (24 percent) is relatively low due to a combination of factors that include affordability, unawareness about the existing products, and accessibility.

Affordability is the most commonly cited limiting factor, but it is not the only reason for the low demand. Indeed people are often unaware

of existing solutions, do not have access to them, or are overwhelmed by the complexity of some products.

Another striking factor is insurers' inability to develop attractive and relevant products.

The study reveals that the average African consumer is very price sensitive and therefore has limited willingness to pay for climate risk insurance.

Only one out of ten executives of companies operating in the African insurance sector say that individual customers are able and willing to pay for climate change coverage.

The executives interviewed also indicate that 57 percent of commercial clients (companies) are able and willing to pay for climate risk protection, noting, however, that the price sensitivity varies greatly between multinationals and SMEs.

Regarding the cost of weather risk coverage, 60.8 percent of respondents say that rates have increased over the past three years, 30.4 percent say they have remained stable and 8.7 percent say they have decreased.

Most of the respondents explained that the premiums prices increased by less than 10 percent. In South Africa and Kenya however, the premiums increased by 20 percent or more.

Tanzanian schools to benefit from AGRA-led nutrition programme

By Guardian Correspondent

TANZANIAN schoolchildren are expected to benefit from a new partnership between Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), government and Rockefeller Foundation to tackle nutrition deficiency by providing biofortified foods to 1.2 million schoolchildren.

According to the statement issued by AGRA yesterday, other countries which will benefit from the school feeding programme include Kenya and Malawi.

Over the next three years, the partnership will work with governments in the three countries to provide iron-rich beans and Vitamin-A's maize to the schoolchildren.

It aims to support the govern-

ments to progress towards the Sustainable Development Goal on zero hunger, anchored on good nutrition through home-grown school feeding programs.

The program will strengthen production of biofortified crops and improve access to these foods through school feeding programs and other institutional markets in these countries.

In Kenya, where 37 percent of children are either stunted or underweight, AGRA has already supported plant breeders and seed companies to release five high-iron and zinc-rich bean varieties.

The new varieties have been well received by farmers and consumers due to high yields, resistance to environmental and pest challenges, and appealing sensory and culinary

qualities.

Speaking during the launch of the partnership in Nairobi, AGRA Kenya Country Head, John Macharia said: "The need for highly nutritious food is more urgent now than ever before. Better nutrition is essential to attaining Sustainable Development Goals."

Globally, over 2 million people suffer from extreme micronutrient deficiency, yet these micro elements are easily accessible by choice of the right seed to grow. Investment in nutrition returns \$9 to the economy for every \$1 spent, he said.

The Rockefeller Foundation's Food Initiative representative, Ms Betty Kibaara said: "By broadening school feeding programs and prioritizing access to highly nutritious food, the

health of these children will be improved and bring about wider transformations in the food system. Through this partnership, we are dedicated to bringing an end to hunger and micronutrient deficiency, enhancing food systems, and sustaining livelihoods."

The program, a partnership between AGRA, HarvestPlus and the Governments will complement institutional procurement efforts in Kenya, strengthening the ecosystem for sustainable delivery of biofortified crops to school feeding programs and improving the nutrition and productivity of children in these countries.

Founded in 2006, AGRA, is an African-led African-based organization that seeks to catalyse Agriculture Transformation in



Kenyan schoolchildren enjoy meal at school.

Africa. AGRA is focused on putting smallholder farmers at the centre of the continent's growing economy by transforming agriculture from a solitary struggle to survive into farming as a

business that thrives.

As the sector that employs the majority of Africa's people, nearly all of them small-scale farmers, AGRA recognizes that developing smallholder agriculture

into a productive, efficient, and sustainable system is essential to ensuring food security, lifting millions out of poverty, and driving equitable growth across the continent.

Boeing to cut about 2,000 white-collar jobs

WASHINGTON

BOEING Co expects to cut about 2,000 white-collar jobs this year in finance and human resources through a combination of attrition and layoffs, the US planemaker confirmed

Monday.

Last month, the Arlington, Virginia-based company announced it would hire 10,000 workers in 2023 after hiring 15,000 people in 2022, but said some support positions would be cut.

The company confirmed a Seattle Times report Monday it expects "about 2,000 reductions this year primarily in finance and HR through a combination of attrition and layoffs."

Boeing also confirmed it is outsourcing about one

third of those jobs to Tata Consulting Services in India.

Boeing shares closed up 0.4% to \$206.81 and were up 0.5% in after hours trading.

Boeing said Monday it will "continue to simplify

our corporate structure." Last month, Boeing said it will "lower staffing within some support functions" - a move meant to enable it to better align resources to support current products and technology development.

Last year, Boeing said it planned to cut about 150 finance jobs in the United States to simplify its corporate structure and focus more resources into manufacturing and product development.

Last month, the Arlington, Virginia-based company announced it would hire 10,000 workers in 2023 after hiring

CRDB helps share index for Tanzania register a high note

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA Share Index (TSI) gained by 4.94 points on Monday, after closing at 3,990.04 points, compared with 3,985.10 points during last week's close.

The increase resulted the increase of CRDB Bank Plc share increases by 1.23 percent to 410/- on Monday this week, from 405/- recorded during the end of last week.

The Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) market report shows that the share price increase pushed the bank's market capitalization up to 1.07trn/- from 1.05trn/- respectively.

The largest bank, in terms of assets recorded a turnover of 114.8mn/- on Monday, following the trading of 278,519 shares at price between 405/- and 415/- in 40 deals, out total market turnover of 183.9mn/-.

The bank's share price increase also pushed the domes-

tic market capitalisation up to 10.55trn/-, from 10.53trn/- respectively.

During last year, CRDB Group Plc recorded basic earnings per share amounting to 134.5/- compared with 102.7/- recorded in 2021, while the company earnings per share grew to 127/- last year compared with 99.4/- in 2021.

According to the market report, the bank had 523,773 outstanding bids on Monday, the highest in the market, which indicates the most demanded stocks, compared with 115,120 outstanding offers.

The appreciation of CRDB Bank share price also led into an increase of Banks, Finance & Investment Index (BI) to 3,708.49 points on Monday close from 3,692.10 points recorded on Friday last week.

The market report shows, all shares index (DSE) also closed the opening day of the week green, following the apprecia-



CRDB Bank's share price increases pushed up the domestic market capitalisation to 10.55trn/-

tion of both CRDB Bank and East African Breweries Limited (EABL), amid depreciation of Jubilee Holdings Limited (JHL) share price.

DSEI closed the opening day of the week 1.90 points high at 1,919.99 points, compared with 1918.09 points during the closing day of last

week.

EABL share price closed the day 0.61 percent up at 3,280/- higher than 3,260/- recorded on Friday last week.

Top loser was JHL, which its share price decreased by 5.11 percent to 3,340/- on Monday compared with 3,520/- recorded on Friday's close.

Bankruptcy applications decline to five-year low in Kenya

NAIROBI

BANKRUPTCY applications in Kenya have dropped to a five-year low, indicating the reduced reliance on the process as a debt resolution mechanism.

Data from the Office of the Official Receiver, a department of the Business Registration Services, shows that 16 bankruptcy applications were filed during the fiscal year ended June 2022, down from 21 in the previous period, as the country pulled through the Covid-19 economic melt-

down.

Voluntary bankruptcy applications by debt-distressed individuals dropped to 11 from 21 while filings initiated through creditors' petitions shot up to five from zero in the previous period.

Bankruptcy filings have been on a steep decline over the years despite rising debts and sustained seizures and auctions of distressed properties, exacerbated most recently by the Covid-19 crisis.

But the drop in bankruptcy applications can be traced to the introduction of the 2015

Kenyan Insolvency Act which significantly shifted the focus towards the restoration of troubled firms to profitability.

"Introduction of the Act in Kenya in 2015 marked a paradigm shift in Kenya, from the previous requirement of insolvent companies to be wound up for the benefit of creditors, to the current requirement that insolvent companies first be administered in a bid to steer them back to profitability and the handover of control back to the directors of such companies," CMS Law states in a note.

"Only where an insolvent company is deemed irredeemable should the liquidation be employed as a last resort."

The legislative change nearly eight years ago explains why beleaguered firms including ARM Cement, Deacons, Nakumatt and most recently retailer Tuskys and Uchumi have remained going concerns despite having fallen into deep crises.

The introduction of qualifications for insolvency practitioners, including liquidators, administrators and bankruptcy trustees, has equally made it

difficult for people and firms to file for bankruptcy as a means of evading debt payments.

As such, bankruptcy applications have sharply fallen from highs of between 300-500 a year before 2015.

Administration, voluntary or otherwise has been preferred to bankruptcy where a debtor enters an agreement with his or her creditors to settle debts in a specified period and manner. Uchumi, for instance, has relied on a company voluntary agreement to keep creditors, including suppliers and bankers, off its back while Cytonn

investments initially chose a similar path to manage liabilities owed to investors in its Cytonn High Yield Solutions and Cytonn Real Estate Project Notes before the court ordered their liquidation following a vicious fight.

The data also show that the number of companies under voluntary liquidation in the 2021/22 fiscal year stood at 11, exceeding bankruptcy order applications by creditors' petitions and a rise from five in the previous year.

The number of companies under administration likewise

grew to 20 from six in the same period.

Restrictions imposed on bankrupt individuals have also proved to be a deterrent to the filing of similar applications.

A bankrupt individual cannot, for instance, enter into, carry on or take part in the management or control of any business, be employed by a relative of the bankrupt or be employed by a company, trust, trustee, or incorporated body that is owned, managed or controlled by a relative of the bankrupt.

UK energy company BP's profits double to \$27.7bn

LONDON

BRITISH energy firm BP reported record annual earnings on Tuesday, fueling demands that the U.K. government boost taxes for companies benefiting from the high price of oil and natural gas after Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

London-based BP said underlying replacement cost profit, which excludes one-time items and fluctuations in the value of inventories, jumped to \$27.7 billion in 2022 from \$12.8 billion a year earlier. That beat the \$26.8 billion BP earned in 2008, when tensions in Iran and Nigeria pushed world oil prices to a record of more than \$147 a barrel.

BP also increased its quarterly dividend by 10% and announced plans to buy back an additional \$2.75 billion of stock from shareholders.

But the good news for BP shareholders is likely to be tempered by the public fallout, particularly in its home country. High oil and gas prices have hit Britain hard, with double-digit inflation fueling a wave of public sector strikes, soaring food bank use and demands that politicians expand a windfall tax on energy companies to help pay for public services.

Ed Miliband, the opposition Labour Party's spokesman on climate issues, called on the U.K. government to bring forward a "proper" windfall profits tax on energy companies.

"It's yet another day of enormous profits at an energy giant, the windfalls of war, coming out of the pockets of the British people, Miliband said.

Similar censure was directed at London-based Shell last week, when it said annual earnings doubled to a record \$39.9 billion last year.

Bumper profits for energy companies around the world have sparked demands that the fossil fuel industry do more to offset high energy bills even as they cut climate-damaging carbon emissions. U.S.-based Exxon Mobil posted record earnings of \$55.7 billion last week.

Last year, Britain approved a 25% windfall profit tax on earnings from oil and gas produced in the U.K., with the levy increasing to 35% in 2023. But opposition leaders have criticized the government for allowing energy companies to reduce the tax by investing in the U.K.

BP said it took a charge of more than \$1.8 billion last year to cover the new U.K. tax. The company also took charges of \$25.5 billion as the result of its deci-



A logo BP is seen at a gas station in London

sion to exit its investments in Russia after the invasion of Ukraine.

After including one-time items and fluctuations in the value of inventories, BP posted a net loss of \$2.49 billion for 2022, compared with net income of \$7.57 billion the previous year. BP on Tuesday said it would boost investment in renewable energy, hydrogen and electric vehicle charging as well as its oil and gas businesses, plowing an additional \$8 billion into the two segments through 2030.

"The investments will push oil and gas production to about 2 million barrels of oil equivalent a day in 2030. While the new target is 25% lower than in 2019, BP previously planned to cut production by 40%.

"We will prioritize projects where we can deliver quickly, at low cost, using our existing infrastructure, allowing us to minimize additional emissions and maximize both value and our contribution to energy security and affordability," chief executive Bernard Looney said in a statement.

Adani group shares rally after \$113bn market wipeout

BENGALURU

ADANI group shares surged yesterday, a day after it moved to prepay some loans, in a relief rally for the Indian conglomerate that lost more than \$113 billion in market value in two weeks since a US short-seller's critical report was published.

The group, led by billionaire Gautam Adani, said on Monday it is pre-paying \$1.1 billion of loans on shares ahead of their maturity in 2024 due to recent market

volatility.

Separately, JPMorgan said the group companies were still eligible for inclusion in the bank's bond indexes.

Those two factors were having a positive impact on stocks, said Anita Gandhi, director at Arihant Capital Markets.

"Also aiding the rise is the sharp correction in the group stocks, which have made them attractive," she said.

Indian bourse National Stock Exchange of India (NSE) revised on Monday the maxi-

mum daily permissible limit for price moves for Adani Green Energy Ltd and Adani Transmission Ltd to 5% from 10%, according to data on its website.

The group's flagship company, Adani Enterprises Ltd, jumped 20 percent on Tuesday morning, while Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone gained 8.9 percent.

Shares of Adani Green Energy rose 2.7 percent, and Adani Transmission and Adani Wilmar added 5 percent each. Adani Total Gas Ltd,



The the Adani Group logo is seen on the facade of one of the firm's buildings on the outskirts of Ahmedabad

however, fell 5 percent and Adani Power shed 3 percent.

Many Adani group companies are reporting quarterly results

this week, with Adani Ports and Adani Green set to report later in the day.

Though the stocks were staging a recovery, the cumulative losses of Adani group's seven listed companies still stand at \$105 billion since Hindenburg Research's report on Jan. 24 that alleged it engaged in stock manipulation and use of tax havens. It also said the group had unsustainable debt.

Adani group has denied the allegations, saying it complies with all laws and has made necessary disclosures over time.

Adani has a total notional value of \$7.7 billion in the JPMorgan's CEMBI and JACI indexes, the bank said in a note on Monday.

Besides CEMBI and JACI, Adani's dollar bonds remain eligible to be part of JPMorgan's ESG Global Corporate Index (JESG), an integrated environmental, social, and governance corporate benchmark covering investment grade and high-yield markets.

Saudi Arabia to hike oil prices for next month

RIYADH

SAUDI Arabia signaled it's optimistic about oil demand by unexpectedly raising prices for customers in its main market of Asia, while also lifting those for Europe and the US.

The moves came despite crude futures having fallen about 5%, as rising interest rates weigh on consumption and counter optimism about a rebound in China following the ending of coronavirus lockdowns.

State-controlled Saudi Aramco increased most official selling prices for crude that will be shipped to Asia in March. The company's flagship Arab Light grade was lifted to \$2 a barrel above the regional benchmark, 20 cents more than the price for this month.

It's the first increase for the grade since September and goes against a Bloomberg survey of traders and refiners, which predicted a cut of 20 cents.

"The OSP decision suggests the Saudis see good demand in Asia," Bob McNally, president of Rapidan Energy Group and a former White House official, told Bloomberg Television. It's likely that China will be "back in business in the second quarter."

The kingdom raised all prices for European buyers by \$2 a barrel, and most of those for the US by 30 cents.

Many OPEC members have sounded bullish about China – perhaps the single-biggest factor determining oil-price moves this year

– in recent days.

The group's secretary-general, Haitham al-Ghais, said he was more upbeat on China. And the head of Kuwait's state energy company said to Bloomberg that consumption in the world's biggest crude importer was already on the rise and that it's "not a dead-cat bounce."

Goldman Sachs Group Inc., citing low stockpiles and spare capacity among producers, sees Brent rising from \$80 a barrel to back above \$100 in the third quarter as China fully reopens its economy. Morgan Stanley has a similar forecast.

Still, Saudi Arabia's energy minister, Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman, on Saturday said the kingdom will be cautious about raising oil production.

"I will believe it when I see it and then take action," Prince Abdulaziz said, referring to higher oil demand globally.

Saudi Arabia is the world's biggest oil exporter. It sells about 60% of its crude shipments to Asia under long-term contracts, pricing for which is reviewed each month. China, Japan, South Korea and India are the biggest buyers.

Its moves tend to be closely followed by other Persian Gulf producers such as Iraq and Kuwait.

Meanwhile, oil prices rose for a second straight session on Tuesday, driven by optimism about recovering demand in China, and concerns over supply shortages following the shutdown of a major export terminal after an earthquake in Turkey.

Brent crude futures were up \$1.74,



Saudi Arabia's Aramco oil refinery plant

or 2.15 percent, to \$82.73 per barrel by 0804 GMT, while West Texas Intermediate US crude futures rose

\$1.70, or 2.29 percent, to \$75.81 per barrel.

"Crude prices are rising on expect-

tations that China's recovery will take hold and on supply outages from the earthquake that devas-

tated Turkey," said Edward Moya, analyst at OANDA.

The International Energy Agency (IEA) expects half of this year's global oil demand growth to come from China, the agency's chief said on Sunday, adding that jet fuel demand was surging.

Saudi Arabia, the world's top oil exporter, raised prices for its flagship crude for Asian buyers for the first time in six months amid expectations of demand recovery, especially from China.

Operations at Turkey's 1 million barrel per day (bpd) oil export terminal in Ceyhan were halted after a major earthquake hit the region. The BTC terminal, which exports Azeri crude oil to international markets, will be closed on Feb. 6-8.

Daniel Hynes, senior commodity strategist at ANZ bank in Sydney, also pointed to the shutdown of the 535,000-bpd Phase 1 part of the Johan Sverdrup oilfield in Norway's area of the North Sea as a major driver of prices.

The oil markets will watch US Federal Reserve chair Jerome Powell's speech on Wednesday, analysts said. Interest rate hikes typically strengthen the dollar, which could make crude more expensive for non-US buyers.

"The rebound in oil prices is more like a cautious move ahead of Fed Powell's speech tomorrow, when the Fed chairman may provide more clues on the future rate hike path," said Tina Teng, an analyst at CMC Markets.

Carlsberg warns price hikes could hit beer sales in 2023

COPENHAGEN

DANISH brewer Carlsberg warned yesterday that a possible slowdown of beer consumption in Europe because of increased prices could dent profit growth this year.

The world's third-biggest brewer also said it is buying out its partner in India and is seeking an option with the buyer of its Russian business to re-enter that market at some point in future.

Carlsberg expects organic operating profit this year to change by between minus 5 percent and plus 5 percent, compared with 12 percent growth last year.

"2023 will be another challenging year," Chief Executive Cees 't Hart said in a statement.

"While beer historically has been a resilient consumer category, the higher prices in combination with generally high inflation may have a negative impact on beer consumption in some of our markets, particularly in Europe," he said.

Brewers have raised beer prices in response to rising energy and raw material costs. Carlsberg said its revenue per litre of beer sold grew 9 percent last year, and that it would have to raise prices by a "high single-digit" percentage this year to cover rising costs.

This echoes comments by Nestle's CEO last week about plans to raise prices of its food products further this year to offset higher production costs that it has yet to fully pass on to consumers.

Carlsberg, the Western brewer most exposed to Russia, said last year it expected a writedown of about 9.9 billion Danish crowns (\$1.43 billion) after announcing a sale of its business in the country as a consequence of Moscow's invasion of Ukraine.

The company expects to have found a buyer and signed an agreement by June, although finalising the deal depends on the Russian authorities, Hart said. Carlsberg is seeking an option with the buyer to buy back the Russian business in future.

"We are exiting Russia for now, but we don't exclude the option ... of coming back," Hart said. "I can't see us coming back in the first 10 years, and many things will need to change before we would consider going back to Russia."

"Obviously, it would be good for my successor to have such an option in the future once the political situation has changed dramatically," Hart said.

Carlsberg also said it expects to exercise an option this year to buy out its partner in India and Nepal for \$744 million.

The buyout would follow a win against its Nepal-based partner Khetan Group in June in an arbitration case in which Khetan had been seeking financial relief related to a long-standing dispute.

The tribunal had awarded Carlsberg the right to call Khetan's shares in the joint venture, which controls around 17 percent of the Indian beer market. On Monday, Khetan issued a formal put notice to sell its share in the joint venture.

Shares in Carlsberg plummeted when Russia launched its invasion of Ukraine in February last year but have since risen about 27 percent. They were trading 1.4 percent lower at 0833 GMT yesterday.



MONDAY - WEDNESDAY FROM 10:30 PM



ITV PGM SCHEDULE		CAPITAL	
WEDNESDAY 8 Feb		Wed 08 Feb	
5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	13:00 Kipindi maalum rpt: BOT	06:00 Al Jazeera	20:15 Local Pgm: Business Edition
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	13:30 Kipindi maalum rpt: Brela	07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)	20:45 Telenovela The Three Sides of Ana
6:00 HABARI	13:45 Shamsam za pwani rpt	09:00 Club 101 rpt	21:30 Capital Prime News
6:40 Kumekucha	13:55 Habari za saa	11:00 Al Jazeera	22:00 Malumbano ya hoja rpt
7:30 HABARI	14:00 Shamsam za pwani rpt	11:30 T	00:00 Al Jazeera
8:00 Kumekucha Michozo	14:55 Habari za saa	12:00 omorrow Today rpt	Sat 11 Feb
8:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza huru	12:30 Dw News Africa rpt	08:00 Al Jazeera
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	16:30 Watoto wetu	12:50 Innovention rpt	09:00 Rev rpt
9:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon	17:00 The Base	13:00 Our Earth	09:30 Jagina rpt
9:55 Habari za saa	18:00 Jiji Letu	13:30 Telenovela rpt: The Three Sides of Ana	10:00 Culinary delight rpt
10:00 Watoto wetu	18:15 Mapishi	14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)	10:30 Innovation rpt
10:25 Kipindi maalum rpt: TMDA rpt	18:30 Kipindi maalum : TMDA	14:30 Business Edition Rpt	11:00 Out n'about rpt
10:55 Habari za saa	19:00 Soap: In Love with Ramon	15:00 Culinary delight rpt	11:30 Sports Gazette rpt
11:00 Music: The Base rpt	19:30 Usafiri Wako	15:30 Innovention rpt	12:00 Shamba Lulu rpt
11:55 Habari za saa	20:00 Habari	16:00 The Decor	12:30 Business edition rpt
12:00 Al Jazeera	21:05 Malumbano ya hoja	16:30 Innovation rpt	13:00 Business edition rpt
12:30 Bundesliga na DW rpt	23:00 Habari	17:00 Meza huru	13:30 Al Jazeera
12:55 Habari za saa	23:30 Music: The Base	17:30 Sports Gazette	14:30 Telenovela rpt: The Three Sides of Ana
13:00 Dakika 45 rpt	00:30 Al Jazeera	18:30 Chetu ni chetu	17:15 EcoAfrica
13:55 Habari za saa	02:00 DWTV	20:00 Monday Agenda Rpt	17:45 Bundesliga kick off
14:00 Kipindi maalum: NSFF rpt	FRIDAY 10 Feb	20:45 Telenovela: The Three Sides of Ana	18:15 Capchat rpt
14:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	21:30 Capital Prime News	19:15 Mzengwe
14:55 Habari za saa	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	22:00 Dakika 45	19:30 The Decor
15:00 Meza huru	6:00 HABARI	22:45 The Decor	20:00 Rpt: Maalum
16:30 Watoto Wetu	6:40 Kumekucha	23:15 Al Jazeera	20:30 Tomorrow Today
17:00 Music: The Base	7:00 Habari	Thurs 09 Feb	21:00 Out n'about rpt
18:00 Jiji Letu	7:30 Kumekucha Michozo	06:00 Al Jazeera	21:30 Music Club 101 rpt
18:15 Igizo: Mzengwe rpt	8:55 Habari za saa	07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)	23:00 Capchat rpt
18:30 Jarda la wanawake	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	09:00 Club 101 rpt	01:00 Al Jazeera
19:00 Kipindi maalum: BOT	9:55 Habari za saa	11:00 Al Jazeera	Sun 12 Feb
19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon	10:00 Watoto wetu	12:00 Innovention	08:00 Al Jazeera
20:00 Habari	10:30 Usafiri Wako	12:30 Culinary	09:00 In good shape
21:05 Abu Yako	10:55 Habari za saa	13:00 Telenovela rpt: The Three Sides of Ana	10:00 Capchat rpt
21:10 Kipindi maalum: Tanesco	11:00 Music: The Base rpt	14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)	11:00 Sports Gazette rpt
21:40 Kipindi maalum: Pesa Fasta	11:55 Habari za saa	16:00 Tomorrow Today	11:30 Dw
22:00 Rpt: maalum	12:00 Al Jazeera	16:30 Business edition rpt	12:00 Jagina rpt
22:30 Soap: Uzalo	12:30 Kipindi maalum rpt: Tanesco	17:00 In good shape	12:30 Bundesliga Kick Off rpt
23:00 Habari	12:55 Habari za saa	17:30 Meza huru	13:00 In good shape rpt
23:30 Music: The Base	13:00 Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba rpt	18:00 Out & About Rpt	13:30 Dw
00:30 Al Jazeera	13:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ	18:30 EcoAfrica	15:15 Abu yako
02:00 DWTV	13:55 Habari za saa	20:00 Our Earth Rpt	15:30 Rev rpt
THURSDAY 9 Feb	14:00 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ	20:45 Telenovela: The Three Sides of Ana	16:00 Dakika 45 rpt
5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	14:30 DW: Afrinax rpt	21:30 Capital Prime News	16:45 Mzengwe rpt
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	15:00 Meza Huru:	22:00 Capchat rpt	17:00 The Decor rpt
6:00 HABARI	16:30 Watoto Wetu	23:00 Al Jazeera	17:30 Meza huru
6:40 Kumekucha	17:00 The Base (DJ Show)	Frid 10 Feb	19:00 EcoAfrica
7:30 HABARI	17:30 Kisim	06:00 Al Jazeera	19:30 Cookery pgm: Culinary Delights
8:00 Kumekucha Michozo	18:00 Jiji Letu	07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)	20:00 Jagina
8:55 Habari za saa	18:15 Jagina	09:00 Club 101 rpt	20:30 Out & About rpt
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	19:00 Shamba lulu	11:00 Al Jazeera	21:00 Dw News Africa
9:30 Soap rpt: In Love with Ramon	19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon	11:30 Capchat	21:30 Capchat live
9:55 Habari za saa	20:00 Habari	11:30 Decor	22:15 Telenovela rpt: The Three Sides of Ana
10:00 Watoto wetu	21:05 Kipima Joto	12:00 Telenovela rpt: The Three Sides of Ana	00:00 Al Jazeera
10:30 Shamba lulu	23:00 Habari	13:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)	
10:55 Habari za saa	23:30 Music: The Base rpt	16:00 Dw News Africa rpt	
11:00 Music: The Base rpt	00:30 Al Jazeera	16:30 The Monday Agenda rpt	
11:55 Habari za saa	02:00 DWTV	17:00 Meza huru	
12:00 Al Jazeera	SATURDAY 11 Feb	18:00 Rev	
12:30 Jarda la wanawake rpt	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	19:00 Out & About Rpt	
12:55 Habari za saa	6:00 HABARI	20:00 Abu Yako	

WORLD

UN chief calls for actions to change course before meltdown occurs

UNITED NATIONS

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Monday called on countries to take decisive action to change course before it is too late to prevent a global meltdown from occurring.

While presenting his priorities for the year to the UN General Assembly, Guterres appealed for urgent action to achieve peace, economic rights and development, climate action, respect for diversity, and inclusive societies – both today and for generations to come.

The Ukraine crisis, the climate emergency, rising nuclear threats and the undermining of global norms and institutions have pushed the world closer to annihilation.

Stressing the need for “a course correction,” the UN chief said taking action should be guided by the UN Charter, the organization’s founding document, and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The secretary-general called for a holistic view of the peace continuum that identifies root causes of conflict and focuses on prevention, mediation, reconciliation, peacebuilding and greater participation of women and young people.

With poverty and hunger rising, developing countries drowning in debt, and social safety nets frayed, among other signs, the top UN official called for radical transformation of the global financial architecture.

The world must unite now to mobilize



UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres

resources, said Guterres, so that developing economies have the liquidity to invest in education, universal healthcare, pandemic preparedness, decent work and social protection.

Countries are hurtling past the 1.5-degree limit on global temperature rise, therefore focus must be on the urgent priorities of cutting greenhouse gas emissions and achieving climate justice.

He said global emissions must be halved this decade, including through “far more ambitious action” in shifting from fossil fuels to renewable energy, especially in the G20 group of top industrialized nations.

In respect to diversity and the universality of cultural rights, Guterres underlined the UN’s commitment to protecting cultural rights and diversity.

“We will call for action from everyone with influence on the spread of mis- and disinformation on the internet – governments, regulators, policymakers, technology companies, the media, civil society,” he said.

Guterres also pledged to “double down” on support for measures towards greater gender equality, including quotas to close gaps in women’s representation in elections, corporate boardrooms and peace negotiations.

Israeli forces kill Palestinian teen in West Bank gunfight

RAMALLAH

ISRAELI forces killed a 17-year-old Palestinian yesterday during a raid in the occupied West Bank, the Palestinian health ministry said, and the army described him as a gunman who had fired on troops.

Hamzeh al-Ashkar was shot in the face by soldiers who raided the northern city of Nablus at around dawn, the ministry said.

“He was armed and was firing on the (Israeli) forces,” a military spokesperson said when asked about the incident.

The Den of Lions, a group of Nablus fighters with loose factional affiliations, said some of its members exchanged fire with Israeli forces who had “stormed a housing area”.

The group said the killed teenager was from the Askar refugee camp near Nablus but did not claim him as a member.

Also early yesterday, Israeli forces arrested at least 18 Palestinians in the northern West Bank town of Burqin near Jenin, the Palestinian Prisoners Club advocacy group said.

The operations come during a time of heightened tensions that have drawn fears of a further escalation in violence.

On Jan 27, a Palestinian gunman killed seven people near a synagogue in East Jerusalem, in which 10 Palestinians, including eight gunmen, were killed.

The Palestinian health ministry said at least 42 Palestinians, civilians and militants, have been killed by Israeli forces and settlers since Jan 1.

Israel says the raids are a security measure targeting suspected militants. Palestinians consider the raids a form of collective punishment and say they are fighting against decades of Israeli occupation.

The violence has prompted calls for calm on both sides from the United States and international organizations including the United Nations.



Palestinian protesters burn tyres to block a road leading into Jericho in the occupied West Bank, on Monday, following a raid in town by Israeli forces. (PHOTO / AFP)

US four-star general’s war speculation sparks criticism

WASHINGTON

RECENT comments by a four-star general of the US Air Force that the United States and China will fight a war in 2025 over Taiwan have been criticized as groundless speculation.

Mike Minihan, commander of the Air Mobility Command (AMC), said in a memo sent to his subordinates that his “guts” told him that the United States and China “will fight in 2025,” basing on self-claimed scenarios.

Minihan’s comments triggered criticism from both military experts and public commentators in the United States.

Responding to the comments by Minihan, who leads the Air Force’s responsibility for transporting soldiers and weapons onto battlefields and refueling US military aircraft mid-air, the US Defense Department said in a statement that the general’s assertions “are not representative of the department’s view on China.”

“There’s no reason for the bilat-

eral relationship - the most consequential bilateral relationship in the world - to sort of erupt into some kind of conflict,” said John Kirby, the National Security Council’s coordinator for strategic communication, when asked to comment on the matter.

Even the direct recipients of Minihan’s memo found it astonishingly ridiculous. US military news portal Military.com quoted pilots and officers within the AMC as saying that predictions and corresponding directions contained in the memo are unrealistic and “inappropriate.”

“Some of my airmen are going to get scared when they read this memo,” one of the officers said.

Anti-war activist and podcast host Jimmy Dore said in an appearance on Fox News that the United States’ enemy is not China, but rather “the military industrial complex fleecing this country to the tunes of hundreds of billions and trillions of dollars.”

Dore said what’s actually running the United States is a “war ma-



This undated file photo shows the Chinese National Flag and the US National Flag. (PHOTO / XINHUA)

chine” that “can not be stopped,” leaving the American people who cheer for war with no idea whatsoever about their country’s foreign policy.

“What is worse, they have no idea that they don’t have any idea what is happening with the foreign policy.”

Anti-war activist and podcast host Jimmy Dore said in an appearance on Fox News that the United States’ enemy is not China, but rather

“the military industrial complex fleecing this country to the tunes of hundreds of billions and trillions of dollars”

“Americans have no idea how corrupt our government is. They think our government is just regular corrupt ... that’s not (the case) - the whole thing is corrupt,” Dore said.

Having plunged the Middle East into constant war over the past 20 years, the United States, Dore said,

is “doing a proxy war in Ukraine” that both itself and its allies admitted has been provoked by the West.

“Now we’re trying to sabre-rattle this with China, and (those in the industrial-military complex) are ‘predicting a war,’” Dore said. “Again, China won’t invade us. China is not our enemy.”

“I remain skeptical,” said George Friedman, founder and chairman of Geopolitical Futures. “The Pentagon has distanced itself from the general’s remarks,” he said.

Minihan was also criticized by Jude Blanchette, the Freeman Chair in China Studies at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, a Washington think tank.

The general’s prediction - together with similar speculations by other high-ranking US military officials indicating “various years” in which a US-China war would break out - “comes across as undermining the credibility of our statements and our assessments on precisely the relationship where your words matter,” Blanchette said.

Xinhua

Congo blames rebels for UN peacekeeper death, protests go on

GOMA

CONGO’S government on Monday blamed M23 rebels for an attack on a helicopter that killed a United Nations peacekeeper, as hundreds in the eastern city of Goma demonstrated over spiralling insecurity in the region.

Militia violence has racked Democratic Republic of Congo’s vast mineral-rich east for two decades despite local and regional military interventions and UN peacekeeping efforts.

A helicopter operated by the peacekeeping force MONUSCO came under fire on Sunday after taking off from the city of Beni. A South African peacekeeper was killed and another one wounded.

Neither South Africa nor MONUSCO said who might be responsible, nor what kind of weapon was used to target the helicopter or what caused the casualties.

The Kinshasa government blamed the M23 in a statement on Monday. The group,

which launched a major offensive last year, denied the accusation.

With around 18,200 personnel, MONUSCO has been deployed in eastern Congo since taking over from a previous UN operation in 2010. Its mandate includes supporting the Congolese government’s effort to stabilise the region.

But it has been the target of several sometimes violent protests against insecurity that have broken out in and around Goma over the past year. Demonstrators accuse MONUSCO and a regional force set up in April last year of not doing enough to protect civilians and end bloodshed.

Hundreds took to the streets again on Monday, denouncing M23 advances which threaten Goma, despite a deal brokered in November under which the rebels agreed to a truce and to withdraw from recently seized territory.

In a separate incident on Monday, armed men suspected to be from a local Mai-mai militia killed a ranger and wounded two



In this file photo dated Apr 2, 2022, Pakistani UN peacekeepers from United Nations Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo carry the remains of their comrades during a memorial service in Goma, eastern Congo. File photo

others in Virunga National Park, the park said in a statement. Virunga, a sanctuary for endangered mountain gorillas around 300 kilometres north of Goma, is caught in the middle of militias fighting for control over land and natural resources.

More than 200 rangers have been killed in past attacks that were frequently blamed on various rebel groups.

The park warned that such attacks, which waned in 2022, had become more frequent again in recent months. **Agencies**

Chinese sci-fi film industry to embrace brighter future

THE Chinese sci-fi blockbuster “The Wandering Earth II”, which hit the cinema during the Chinese New Year holiday, presented a feast of science and technology to the audience - blue-fire-blowing earth engines, a quantum computer that knows everything, a space elevator rising up to the sky...

Sci-fi movies and dramas became sensational in China over recent years. Apart from “The Wandering Earth II,” sci-fi comedy “Moon Man” and the television series “Three-Body” also sparked wide responses across the country.

In 2020, the China Film Administration (CFA) and the China Association for Science and Technology (CAST) jointly released a guideline on promoting the development of sci-fi films. The

guideline lists 10 policies and measures to better support and guide the production, screening, special effects and talent training for sci-fi movies.

Later, the two departments led the establishment of a consulting organization for sci-tech movie-making, which invites academicians, experts and outstanding sci-tech workers in aerospace, astronomy and physics. The expert group provides professional opinions and technical support for scriptwriting and filming, so as to make Chinese sci-fi movies more charming and logical from a scientific standpoint.

In the process of creating “The

Wandering Earth II”, director Guo Fan placed a lot of emphasis on the authenticity and integrity of the scientific theories and practices presented in the film. Many scientists from the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) served as scientific consultants for the movie to help improve its worldview and visual performance.

Wang Yuanzhuo, a researcher with the CAS Institute of Computing Technology, was a consultant for the movie who laid a scientific conceptual foundation for the super artificial intelligence in the movie.

“A good sci-fi work must be rooted in realistic scientific cognition,” Wang

said, adding that a believable and complete worldview should be designed in the movie that gives the audience the impression that it may actually happen.

According to Yang Lei, director of the TV series “Three-body,” the creation team spent more than three months interviewing scientists in such fields as radio astronomy, astrophysics, nanotechnology, and particle collision.

A commentator said professional advice from scientists is like a pair of wings for sci-fi movies and dramas, making them more realistic.

Chinese sci-fi movies and dramas

were once made at low cost, with simple conception and limited influence.

After “The Wandering Earth II” hit the cinema, Guo said he became more confident in shooting blockbusters at a high industrial level.

The confidence came from the development of China’s aerospace technology, the improvement of the manufacturing industry and the application of new technologies in recent years, which have brought new technical methods for the creation and production of sci-fi movies and dramas.

“The Wandering Earth” learned from foreign teams in the making of many special props, but over 95 per-

cent of the props in “The Wandering Earth II” were made by Chinese teams, Guo said.

“Our progress was based on the technological development of China,” he remarked.

Sci-fi movies and dramas are not scientific documentaries. The imagination serves for better storylines.

Guo told People’s Daily that he hopes “The Wandering Earth II” to showcase Chinese people’s aspiration for and adherence to “solidarity.”

“This movie, as a sci-fi work, conveys the value of the Chinese people. Chinese sci-fi movies should start with the Chinese culture and tell Chinese stories with modern technologies,” Guo said.

People’s Daily

Russian rescuers to leave for Syria to help it after powerful earthquake – Kremlin

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin has offered Russia's assistance to Syria after Monday's devastating earthquake, the Kremlin press service said after Putin's phone call with his Syrian counterpart, Bashar Assad.

"Putin expressed sincere condolences over the consequences of the earthquake in northern Syria resulting in numerous human casualties and offered assistance to the Syrian side," it said.

"Bashar Assad accepted this offer with gratitude and Russian emergency ministry's rescuers will leave for Syria within hours," it said.

Earlier, Putin sent telegrams of condolences to Assad and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

A powerful earthquake rocked Turkey's southeastern Kahramanmaraş province early on Monday. According to the latest reports, more than 1,000 people have been killed in Turkey and more than 400 in neighboring Syria.

Thousands have been injured. Initially, the earthquake's magnitude was assessed at 7.4 but later Turkey's emergency authorities said that its magnitude was 7.7.

According to Turkish seismologists, it was one of the most devastating earthquakes in the region in recent years. Many countries, including Russia, have offered assistance to Ankara and Damascus. Russia's emergency ministry said it is ready to send two Il-76 planes with rescuers.

Kenya ramps up efforts to curb HIV infections among youth

NAIROBI

KENYAN Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua said on Monday that the government is ramping up efforts to contain the rising new HIV infections among adolescents and young adults.

Gachagua, who received Joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS) Executive Director Winnie Byanyima in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi, said the government has roped in local administrators, lawmakers and other interest groups in fighting triple threats facing adolescents and teenagers.

The "triple threats" are HIV infections, adolescent pregnancies, and sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) among adolescents and young adults.

According to the National Syndemic Diseases Control Council (former National AIDS Control Council) report of 2022, at least 52 percent of the 29,380 new infections were among adolescents and young adults aged 15-29.

A majority of these cases are girls and young women. Female genital mutilation (FGM), SGBV, and teenage pregnancies have been singled out as threats predisposing girls in Kenya and globally to HIV/AIDS, according to the report. Gachagua attributed the high number of infections in 2021 to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Due to the closure of schools, he said, the children were at home, making them more vulnerable to sexual exploitation, FGM, and forced marriage, which have been linked to the rise of infections.

"Primary education is free in Kenya. We have a challenge in slum areas, but we will ensure all children are in school," he said in a statement issued after the meeting.

Gachagua said the government's vision is to remove all barriers impeding access to education and economic empowerment through an integrated government approach.

Against the backdrop of reducing global funding to countries in various programs, Byanyima considered Kenya a priority in accessing more resources to curb the rising cases among adolescents, teenagers, and mother-to-child transmission.

She called on the government to bring all the 1.4 million people living with HIV/AIDS under antiretroviral therapy (ART).

Currently, 1.2 million people living with HIV/AIDS are under ARTs, while 200,000 others – mostly children – are not, according to government statistics. Byanyima said the most cost-effective and sustainable way is to establish local pharmaceuticals to produce medical products, adding that "we need to manufacture the drugs here (locally)."

"We will work with you on that." Although new HIV infections remain high, they have significantly reduced over the years.

In 2013, Kenya recorded about 278 people newly infected with HIV per day, according to the statistics. This number has declined to approximately 95 cases per day.

The annual cases of mother-to-child transmission have dropped in half from about 12,940 to 5,160 cases between 2013 and 2022.

UN chief calls for urgent action to eliminate female genital mutilation

UNITED NATIONS

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called on Monday for urgent action to end female genital mutilation.

"Some 4.2 million girls are at risk of being subjected to this act of gender-based violence during 2023 alone. We need urgent investments and action to reach the Sustainable Development Goals target of eliminating female genital mutilation by 2030," Guterres said in a message on the International Day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation, which is observed annually on Feb. 6.

The top UN official termed female genital mutilation as "an abhorrent violation of fundamental human rights that causes lifelong damage to the physical and mental health of women and girls." "It is one of the most vicious manifestations of the patriarchy that permeates our world," he said.

Why was the Türkiye-Syria earthquake so bad?

LONDON

THE magnitude 7.8 earthquake that struck Türkiye and Syria on Monday is likely to be one of the deadliest this decade, seismologists said, with a more than 100 km rupture between the Anatolian and Arabian plates.

Here is what scientists said happened beneath the earth's surface and what to expect in the aftermath:

Where did the earthquake originate?

The epicenter was about 26 km east of the Turkish city of Nurdagi at a depth of about 18 km on the East Anatolian Fault. The quake radiated towards the northeast, bringing devastation to central Türkiye and Syria.

During the 20th century, the East Anatolian Fault yielded little major seismic activity. "If we were going simply by (major) earthquakes that were recorded by seismometers, it would look more or less blank," said Roger Musson, an honorary research associate at the British Geological Survey.

Only three earthquakes have registered above 6.0 on the Richter Scale since 1970 in the area, according to the US Geological Survey. But in 1822, a 7.0 quake hit the region, killing an estimated 20,000 people.

How bad was this earthquake?

On average, there are fewer than 20 quakes over 7.0 magnitude in any year, making Monday's event severe.

Compared with the 6.2 earthquake that hit central Italy in 2016 and killed some 300 people, the Türkiye-Syria earthquake released 250 times as much energy, according to Joanna Faure Walker, head of the



Rescue workers and volunteers pull out a survivor from the rubble in Diyarbakir, Türkiye on Monday, 2023. AFP

University College London Institute for Risk and Disaster Reduction.

Only two of the deadliest earthquakes from 2013 to 2022 were of the same magnitude as Monday's quake.

Why was it so severe?

The East Anatolian Fault is a strike-slip fault. In those, solid rock plates are pushing up against each other across a vertical fault line, building stress until one finally slips in a horizontal motion, releasing a tremen-



Rescuers search for victims and survivors amidst the rubble of a building that collapsed in Adana on Monday, after a 7.8-magnitude earthquake struck the country's south-east. (PHOTO / AFP)

RCEP contributes to global trade, investment growth in past year

JAN. 1 this year marked the first anniversary of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP). Over the past year, China advanced high-quality implementation of this world's largest trade deal and the policy dividends of the deal kept releasing, which effectively promoted regional economic integration.

In a smart workshop of Zhejiang Caiy Vacuum Container Co., Ltd. in east China's Zhejiang province, thermal cups were rolling off the production line and ready to be shipped to European and Asian markets. Last year, the company's exports exceeded \$100 million.

"In early 2022, we got the first RCEP certificate of origin in Zhejiang province, and the tariff rate for our thermal cups to be exported to Japan was reduced to 3.2 percent from 3.9 percent. It saved us over 200,000 yuan (\$29,498) last year," said Gu Lili, manager of the company's foreign trade department.

According to Gu, the rate has been further lowered to 2.8 percent this year, which makes the company's products more competitive.

"We are confident in further expanding our exports," she said.

The reduced cost brought about by lowering tariffs is the most direct benefit of the RCEP for enterprises. According to the trade pact, more than 90 percent of merchandise trade among members that have approved the agreement will eventually be subject to zero tariffs. Those include immediate cutting of tariffs to zero and cutting of tariffs to zero gradually in 10 years. This has significantly boosted the will for trade in the region.

In recent years, China has seen an increase in the number of fruits imported from ASEAN countries. Since the RCEP took effect, agricultural trade between its members has become closer and more frequent. A large number of fruits, such as bananas from Myanmar, longans from Cambodia, and durians from Vietnam, are entering the Chinese market and enriching the choices of Chinese consumers.

Yuan Bo, associate director of the institute of Asian Studies under the Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation, told People's Daily that RCEP tariff cuts and trade facilitation measures have



The first direct export shipment under the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership starts at the Damaiyu port, Yuhuan, Taizhou, east China's Zhejiang province, June 6, 2022. (Photo by Duan Junli/People's Daily Online)

brought tangible benefits to enterprises, and RCEP members now stand as an important market for Chinese enterprises and an important source of imports from China.

According to the General Administration of Customs, China's trade with the other 14 RCEP member countries reached 12.95 trillion yuan last year, up 7.5 percent and accounting for 30.8 percent of its total foreign trade.

The country achieved double-digit trade growth with eight RCEP members. In particular, that with Indonesia, Singapore, Myanmar, Cambodia, and Laos was over 20 percent.

Experts believe that RCEP members enjoy high economic complementarity, and the region features complete capital, technological, and labor factors.

Thanks to the accumulation of origin, facilitation of customs procedures and trade, as well as negative list-led investment liberalization, RCEP members have further lowered market access for commodities, services, and investment. It promotes the free flow of economic factors in the region and strengthens the division of labor and cooperation among members, thus making industrial and supply chains more reasonable.

The favorable policies under the RCEP framework have constantly enhanced industrial cooperation and increased direct investment between RCEP member countries. Last year, China's

imports and exports of intermediate products to other RCEP member countries reached 8.7 trillion yuan, an 8.5 percent increase, accounting for 67.2 percent of China's total imports and exports with other RCEP member countries in the same period.

It's noteworthy that the implementation of the RCEP has brought fiercer market competition to some Chinese enterprises. To promote high-quality implementation of the RCEP, China must build its international competitiveness.

"Though the RCEP has been in effect for only around a year, it has done a good job in facilitating trade, integrating industrial chains, making regional development more attractive, and benefiting small- and medium-sized enterprises and citizens with development results," said Gu Qingyang, associate professor with the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, Nanyang Technological University.

He believes that China plays an important role in the RCEP, and the country's robust economic growth in the future will create broader room of development for the trade deal.

It is believed that as RCEP members further fulfill their promises to open up under the trade pact, the potential for regional economy and trade will be further activated and thus contribute more to global economic and trade recovery.

People's Daily

Rushdie says 'very difficult' to write after stabbing

NEW YORK

BRITISH author Salman Rushdie has said he finds it "very difficult" to write after being stabbed in New York last year, in his first interview since the attack.

Rushdie (pictured) told the New Yorker, in an article published Monday, that the stabbing on stage at an event had left him with mental scars.

"There is such a thing as PTSD you know," the 75-year-old said.

"I've found it very, very difficult to write. I sit down to write, and nothing happens. I write, but it's a combination of blankness and junk, stuff that I write and that I delete the next day. I'm not out of that forest yet, really," Rushdie added.

The award-winning novelist was attacked as he was about to speak at a conference in Chautauqua in upstate New York, near Lake Erie, on August 12.

Rushdie, a naturalized American who has lived in New York for 20 years, lost sight in one eye and the use of one hand, his agent said in October.

The author told journalist David Remnick that he was not able to type very well because of a lack of feeling in some fingertips.

"As you can see, the big injuries are healed, essentially. I have feeling in my thumb and index finger

dous amount of strain that can trigger an earthquake.

The San Andreas Fault in California is perhaps the world's most famous strike-slip fault, with scientists warning that a catastrophic quake is long overdue.

The initial rupture for the Türkiye-Syria earthquake kicked off at a relatively shallow depth.

"The shaking at the ground surface will have been more severe than for a deeper earthquake of the same magnitude at source," David Rothery, a planetary geoscientist at the Open University in Britain, said.

What kind of aftershocks can be expected?

Eleven minutes after the initial quake, the region was hit by a 6.7-magnitude aftershock. A 7.5-magnitude quake came hours later, followed by another 6.0 spasm in the afternoon.

"What we are seeing now is the activity is spreading to neighbouring faults," said Musson. "We expect seismicity to continue for a while."

After the deadly 1822 event, aftershocks carried on into the following year.

What might the final death toll be?

Earthquakes of similar magnitudes in populated areas have killed thousands of people. Nepal's 7.8-magnitude earthquake in 2015 claimed nearly 9,000 lives.

"It's not going to be good," said Musson. "It will be in the thousands, and could be in the tens of thousands."

Cold winter weather, he added, means that people trapped under rubble have less chance at survival.

and in the bottom half of the palm. I'm doing a lot of hand therapy, and I'm told that I'm doing very well," Rushdie said.

"I've been better. But, considering what happened, I'm not so bad," he added.

Rushdie lived in hiding for years after Iran's first supreme leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini ordered his killing for what he deemed the blasphemous nature of "The Satanic Verses," published in 1988.

The author was asked whether he thought it had been a mistake to let his guard down in recent decades. "I'm asking myself that question, and I don't know the answer to it," Rushdie said.

"Three-quarters of my life as a writer has happened since the fatwa. In a way, you can't regret your life," he added.

Hadi Matar, a 24-year-old from New Jersey with roots in Lebanon, was arrested immediately after the attack and subsequently pleaded not guilty to the charges.

"I blame him," said Rushdie, when asked who he thought was responsible.

The article was published ahead of the US release Tuesday of Rushdie's newest novel, "Victory City."

It is about a 14th-century woman who defies a patriarchal world to rule a city and was written before the attack. **Agencies**



SPORT



Dar es Salaam youths take part in soccer at Magomeni Kota ground on Sunday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Dar athletics experts set to attend course

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

ATHLETICS Tanzania (AT) says plans are underway to organize a course for various experts in the game and collect their data for easy access.

Jackson Ndaweka, AT acting secretary-general, said the course will among others bring together all athletics experts from across the country, and share their knowledge while AT will collect their information.

Ndaweka said the country has many qualified athletics experts but they are not utilized as the association does not have their information.

He called upon the athletics experts to submit their updated Curriculum Vitae (CV) to secretaries of their respective regional athletics committees.

Ndaweka pointed out: "The country has many qualified athletics experts but AT is not making use of them, we want to ensure they contribute to the development of the sport in the country."

"Soon we will organize a course which will be like a get-together, we want to have their full information so that we can start using them," the AT official said.

Ndaweka also disclosed that his association will organize a basic course for various experts in athletics to have many qualified experts in

the sport.

Athletics in Tanzania, as is the case with many African countries, only depends on athletics tacticians who always double as managers and operate in other fields.

However many developed countries have athletics experts in nutrition, athletes' performance, environment, talent development, stress reduction, psychotherapy development, vision, sports psychology, fitness, psychometrics, sports business, and management among others.

Meanwhile, AT president Silas Isangi has described this year as eventful and called upon regions to start preparations for the coming local and international events.

Isangi revealed: "Our regions must be ready, we have a lot of activities this year, firstly we will have a World Cross-Country showdown slated for February 18, and the team is expected to depart on February 14."

The AT leader added: "In March we will host the EAAR U-18 and U-20, our athletes will also compete in All Africa Games which will be held in Ghana in July."

"There will also be Commonwealth Youth Games in Trinidad and Tobago in August and World Athletics showpiece in Budapest, Hungary," he said.

NBC Bank lauds Premier League achievement

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

MAINLAND Tanzania Premier League's main sponsor NBC Bank has reacted positively to the news that the country's top-tier league is sitting fifth in Africa and 39th in the world's ranking for well-organized leagues.

The bank pointed out that it is an encouraging development.

Recently, the International Federation of Football History and Statistics (IFFHS) released the latest rankings of the best leagues in Africa and the world with the Premier League rated as one of the top five in Africa.

The NBC Bank's Head of Communication, Godwin Semunyu, hailed all Tanzanians for making the achievement possible while calling for more action to scale up the ladder.

"This is the continuation of what we believe that football is a good source of employment and, through this industry, we can build a strong economy aside from embracing it as a form of entertainment," he said.

Semunyu moreover reiterated that they will continue to provide Premier League monthly awards to the best coach, player, and manager of the month to increase competitiveness.

According to the IFFHS rankings, Egypt occupies first place in Africa and 13th in the world while Algeria is second in Africa and 20th in the world.

Morocco is ranked third on the continent and 24th in the world, Sudan is fourth in Africa and 33rd in the world whereas Tanzania is sitting fifth in Africa and 39th in the world.

South Africa is ranked sixth in Africa and

52nd in the world, Angola is in seventh spot in Africa and 60th in the world, Tunisia is sitting eighth in Africa and 68 on the globe, Nigeria sits ninth in Africa and 77th in the world, and Zambia occupies 10th spot in Africa and 79th in the world.

Tanzania has for that matter dominated the entire Southern Africa by having a strong league, a position that is a positive for the country's football.

“

This is the continuation of what we believe that football is a good source of employment and, through this industry, we can build a strong economy aside from embracing it as a form of entertainment

SPORTS

NSC dismayed by false information about national wheelchair tennis team's trip



National Sports Council (NSC) Secretary-General, Neema Msitha.

By Guardian Correspondent

NATIONAL Sports Council (NSC) has expressed sadness over the information spread by a sports stakeholder Hamad Abdallah Komboza that the national wheelchair tennis team has failed to travel to Nigeria to participate in BNP Paribas World Cup Africa qualifiers.

Neema Msitha, NSC Secretary-General, said that the information was not true and claimed that the team had left yesterday evening for the showdown.

"The council has been disappointed by the information issued by Komboza that our national wheelchair tennis team has failed to travel to Nigeria. I ask Tanzanians to stop spreading such information that is not true and today evening our team is expected to travel," Neema pointed out.

The official said that Tanzanians should realize that Komboza does not have any

position at the Tanzania Tennis Association (TTA) and he does not know any procedure that is going on within the association.

Neema said that the NSC will, as a result, not turn a blind eye to such acts and will instead take stern measures so that it becomes a lesson for other sports stakeholders in the country with similar behaviours that mislead the public.

In another development, the Tanzania Wushu Association (TWA) election is expected to take place in Dar es Salaam on February 25.

Najaha Bakari, NSC Public Relations Officer, said that the deadline for taking forms to contest for leadership positions in the body is February 20, adding the interview for contestants will be held on February 24.

The NSC official mentioned the positions contested for as chairman, vice chairman, secretary-general, assistant secretary, treasurer, assistant treasurer, planning officer, assistant planning officer, and the head of the technical bench.

"The NSC encourages sports associations to hold elections to develop, the goal is to see sports make

progress," the official said.

Najaha stated that some of the criteria for contestants are they should not have committed any criminal offense, insisting they need a candidate who is a Tanzanian.

Kapipi, who seeks re-election for the TWA secretary position, said he wants to take make sure the association achieves success.

The contestant noted he is happy to see a large number of contestants have come forward to take forms to contest for leadership.

Bongo Flava musician bridges gap between artistry and global luxury

By Guardian Correspondent

TANZANIA's recording artist and celebrity Juma Mussa, alias 'Juma Jux', recently embarked on a journey to Paris for an exclusive, luxurious, and immersive experience with Hennessy.

The visit, organized by the world's leading cognac brand, was a unique opportunity for the musician to see the origins of Hennessy and experience the brand's rich history and heritage.

Hennessy disclosed in a statement that his visit to Paris provided him with a valuable opportunity to broaden his horizons and gain new insights into the world of luxury and premium brands.

The statement noted: "This experience is highly beneficial for artists in Tanzania, as it can inspire new creative ideas and help them elevate their art and brand."

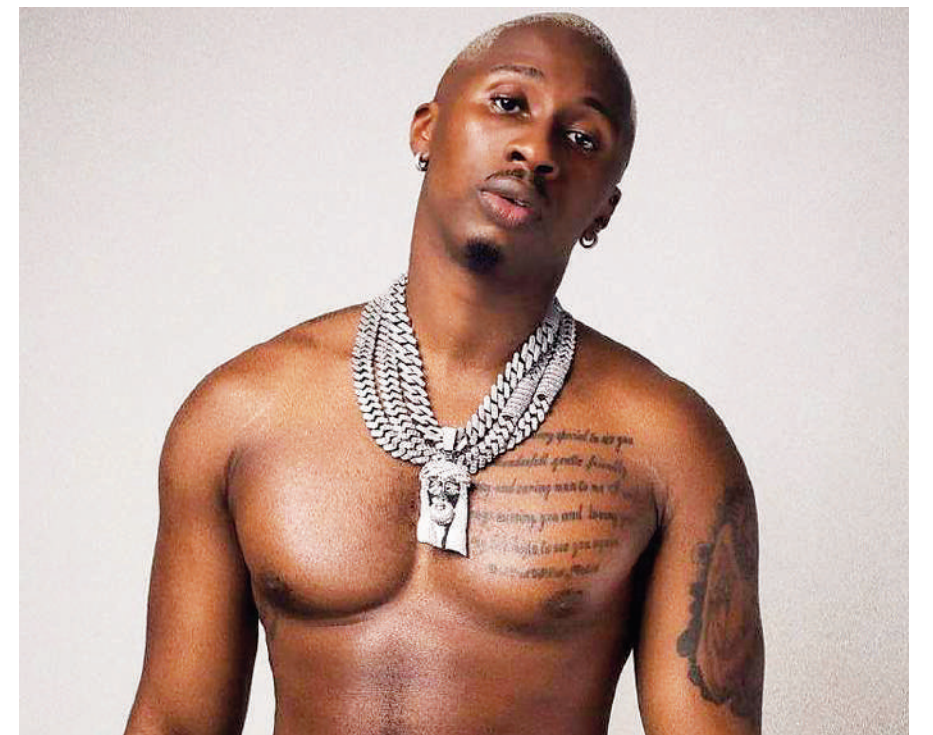
Juma expressed his excitement about the trip, saying: "I am thrilled to be visiting Paris and learning about the Hennessy brand. This experience has the potential to be life-changing for me as an artist, and I am eager to bring my newfound knowledge and inspiration back to Tanzania."

The firm noted that the itinerary for Juma's trip was carefully crafted to offer a complete and immersive experience of the Hennessy brand.

According to Hennessy, the journey started with a visit to the Chateau Bagnolet, the distillery, and the cellar, where Juma saw the production process of Hennessy and learn about the rich history of cognac making.

The singer revealed: "I have always loved the Hennessy brand, and this recent trip to the Maison Hennessy has further elevated my respect for the brand."

"The attention to detail and craftsmanship that goes back over 250 years that, to this day, goes into every



bottle of Hennessy is truly awe-inspiring," the visibly impressed Juma noted.

The trip though was not just about the Hennessy product only, it was also about basketball as Juma was treated to a visit to Treviso court, the oldest known basketball court in Paris.

He said: "I'm a huge fan of basketball and it was a dream come true to visit the oldest basketball court in Paris."

"The energy and excitement of the game were palpable, and I was thrilled to be a part of it."

"Being able to combine my love for basketball with my appreciation for Hennessy made this trip even more special."

The climax of Juma's visit was a thrilling basketball match between the Chicago Bulls and the Detroit Pistons, which further emphasized the partnership

between Hennessy and the NBA League.

For Juma, this trip was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, and he was grateful for the experience.

He said: "I will never forget this amazing journey... the elegance and sophistication of the Hennessy brand truly exceeded my expectations, and I am grateful to the brand for making this trip possible."

Hennessy, the firm's officials said, hopes to inspire and support artists in Tanzania as part of its ongoing commitment to promoting and supporting the arts.

Juma's visit, they noted, is just one of the many initiatives that Hennessy has undertaken to help artists reach their full potential and achieve their dreams.

The brand is dedicated to providing support to artists around the world and is proud to be a part of the cultural fabric of communities globally.

Club World Cup opportunity gives Madrid respite from domestic woes

MADRID

REAL Madrid head to Morocco in search of their fifth Club World Cup trophy, a welcome distraction from crisis talk after falling eight points behind rivals Barcelona in La Liga on Sunday.

Carlo Ancelotti's side were beaten 1-0 at Real Mallorca in a frustrating game which dented their bid to retain the Spanish league title, but they can earn their second piece of silverware of the season this week.

Madrid lifted the European Super Cup in August, beating German side Eintracht Frankfurt, but were damaged by defeat against rivals Barcelona in the Spanish Super Cup final in January.

The record four-time Club World Cup champions face Egyptian side Al Ahly, runners-up in the African Champions League, on Wednesday in the second semi-final.

In the first, on Tuesday, Brazil's Flamengo, 2022 Copa Libertadores winners, play Saudi Arabian side Al-Hilal, holders of the Asian Champions League trophy.

Real Madrid won a La Liga and Champions League double last season but have struggled to hit the same heights this year.

French striker Karim Benzema, the current Ballon d'Or holder, has been set back by frequent injuries and is a doubt for the semi-final, while several other squad members have also been sidelined.

The latest is goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois, not fit to face Al Ahly after a thigh problem, but holding onto a faint hope of return for a prospective final on Saturday.

Ferland Mendy, Eder Militao, Eden Hazard and Lucas Vazquez are set to miss the tournament entirely.

Ukrainian goalkeeper Andriy Lunin stepped in for Courtois against Mallorca and said the team had to focus on their new challenge in Morocco. "It's Real Madrid and we always come back," said Lunin.

"We've got the Club World Cup coming up and we have to be ready for it.

"We can't spend too much time thinking about defeat. We have to study our mistakes and move on."

Madrid will also be happy to escape for a few days to get away from the circus around winger Vinicius Junior.

The Brazilian forward feels targeted by opponents, fouled 10 times against Mallorca, and involved in a

confrontation with defender Antonio Raullo.

Vinicius has also been the victim of racist abuse on multiple occasions this season from opposition supporters, including during Madrid's defeat last weekend, a matter being investigated by La Liga.

In Rabat, where Los Blancos face Al Ahly, Madrid will relish playing in front of an audience more interested in enjoying Vinicius' quality rather than haranguing the 22-year-old.

"This affects La Liga but now we have to think about the Club World Cup," said Ancelotti on Sunday.

"We're going with a lot of hope, with difficulties too, but we will manage it in the best way we can."

- Packed schedule -

Despite a refreshing change of scenery, the extra matches are a double-edged sword for Madrid.

Ancelotti has complained about Madrid's intense calendar, blaming tiredness for some of his team's injury issues.

"We won't throw away a competition, because this club does not throw away competitions," Ancelotti said last week.

"We are excited to play and the players like it, but there's a limit for everything and I think that right now, with this calendar, we're going over it."

As well as winning in 2014, during Ancelotti's first spell in charge, Madrid also lifted the trophy in 2016, 2017, and 2018.

Madrid also won three Intercontinental Cups in 1960, 1998 and 2002 - a match between European and South American champions, which merged with the Club World Cup in 2005.

Egyptian Premier League leaders Al Ahly have won the African Champions League a record 10 times, while Madrid have lifted the European equivalent a record 14 times.

Al Ahly beat MLS side Seattle Sounders 1-0 on Saturday to reach the semi-finals, thanks to Mohamed 'Alsha' Magdy's late strike, after thrashing Auckland City 3-0 on February 1 in the first round.

Despite going unbeaten since August 27, Al Ahly remain underdogs against European juggernauts Madrid.

During their seven previous appearances at the tournament, the only time Al Ahly have faced a European side was in 2020, when they lost 2-0 to Bayern Munich.

AFP

Messi and PSG face potentially season-defining week

PARIS

A FRENCH Cup trip to bitter rivals Marseille on Wednesday is the start of seven days that could define this season for Paris Saint-Germain, with a Champions League showdown against Bayern Munich approaching.

The Bundesliga giants visit the French capital for the first leg of their Champions League last-16 tie next Tuesday, but there will be no easy build-up to that game for PSG.

Marseille await them in the bear pit of the Velodrome for a French Cup last-16 tie as the Parisians aim to reclaim a trophy they missed out on last season after winning it six times in the previous seven years.

Then they go to in-form Monaco on Saturday. A match that could be one of the biggest obstacles remaining to their title bid in Ligue 1. They are eight points clear of nearest rivals Marseille and Lens at the top of the table.

PSG have an excellent Cup record against Marseille, winning 10 of the 11 past encounters between the clubs, including two finals in the last two decades.

Yet while Marseille will have a hostile crowd in their favour with 65,000 fans behind them on Wednesday, PSG's domestic superiority has been questioned in recent weeks.

Christophe Galtier's team won just one of their first four league matches in 2023 before getting the better of Montpellier and Toulouse in recent days.

They needed a fine Lionel Messi

strike to win 2-1 against the latter on Saturday after losing Kylian Mbappe to a thigh injury that will keep him out of the Bayern first leg too.

Mbappe has risen above Messi and Neymar to become comfortably PSG's most important player. His absence at such a key stage of the season is a hammer blow.

Marco Verratti's return from suspension will at least provide a huge boost in midfield, but PSG's defence has also appeared vulnerable of late and a Marseille attack led by Alexis Sanchez could exploit their weaknesses.

- 'Play for Leo' -

Neymar is back in training after a minor muscle injury but Galtier is in no doubt that, without Mbappe, the main man is Messi.

"I ask the team to play for Leo and to do the work for him," the coach said.

"We need to free him up from doing certain tasks. His teammates are going to have to put in twice as much effort when it comes to winning the ball back and in terms of movement so he can play the kind of passes in tight spaces that are so rare in football these days."

Marseille, who also host PSG in the league later this month, had gone 10 games unbeaten before losing 3-1 at home to Nice on Sunday.

It was a disappointing night for Igor Tudor's team, with Vitorinha, the Portuguese striker signed from Braga for 32 million euros (\$34.3m) before the January transfer deadline, substituted at half-time on his

The punishments Manchester City could face for their 115 Premier League rule breaches

By TOM MORGAN

MANCHESTER City are facing the biggest financial scandal in the Premier League's history after being hit with more than 100 alleged breaches of regulations.

Here are the key questions around a bombshell case that threatens the sporting giant's top tier future:

What punishments could City face?

Premier League rules effectively reserve the right to strip City of titles, hit them with points deductions and potentially even expel them from the competition.

Charges levelled at the club are unprecedented and the competition handbook gives the league enough wriggle room to decide on any proportionate punishment. Category W.51 in the league's rules detail how breaches can lead to the commission making any "such other order as it thinks fit".

Murray Rosen KC will now pick the independent panel hearing the claims, having been appointed chair of the Premier League's first Judicial Panel in 2020.

The rest of the independent panel is yet to be decided on and the entire process is likely to take months. Uefa had pursued a narrower case against City before banning the club from the Champions League in February 2020. On that occasion, the club was able to overturn the ban via the sporting appeal courts.

This time, however, experts say the charges are more severe. Stefan Borson, a lawyer and former financial adviser to Man City, says the case includes the "strongest allegations imaginable" of financial doping. "Alarmist or not, the sheer extent of the PL charges are at a level that IF found proven, must lead to relegation," he tweeted.

Expulsion rather than retrospectively taking trophies is seen as more likely because the latter would be an immensely challenging punishment to administer.

But as far as the Premier League is concerned, we are in uncharted territory. Points deductions have been few and far since Middlesbrough became an early recipient, suffering a controversial relegation in 1996-97 with a three-point deduction for "illegally postponing" a fixture. The closest precedent to City's case is perhaps Juventus, who were recently deducted 15 points following an investigation into their past transfer dealings.

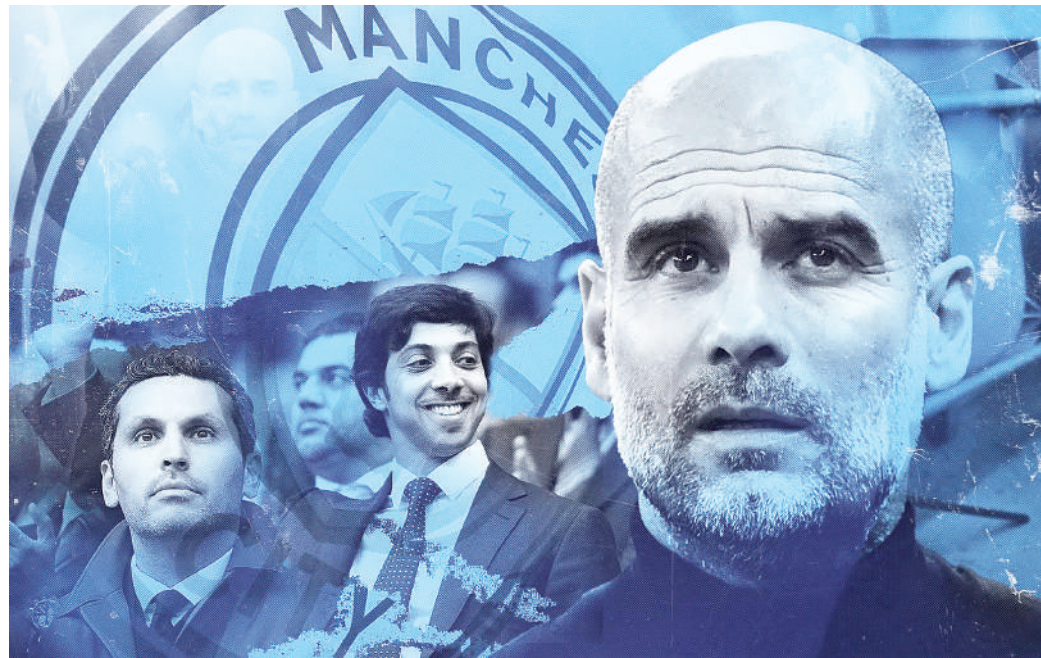
Stephen Taylor Heath, head of sports law at JMW Solicitors, says, as it stands, that it is "impossible to predict the sanction but there may be an initial hearing on whether the charges are upheld and then a further hearing on a possible sanction.

"Any penalty must be within the panel's powers set out in section W.51 but should also be proportionate, while any appeal may relate to findings in relation to the allegations and/or the punishment," he added. "Equally the timing of any penalty - if there is one - would be crucial as a points deduction could have vastly different outcomes if retrospective over the relevant period or future seasons."

What have City been charged with by the Premier League and how does this differ with the Uefa investigation?

Both the Premier League and Uefa investigations into financial doping came after the Football Leaks scandal - but the English top tier's probe is more extensive in its scope. The catalogue of new charges cover 14 seasons from 2009-10 to the current campaign. It is a wider timescale to Der Spiegel's claims in November 2018, partly due to City's apparent lack of co-operation with the ensuing investigations. City breached rules requiring them to provide "accurate financial information that gives a true and fair view of the club's financial position", the league says in its chargesheet.

As well as breaching Uefa Financial Fair Play regulations from



2013-14 to 2017-18, the club is accused of breaking rules on Premier League profitability and sustainability from 2015-16 to 2017-18.

There is a clear crossover, however, with the allegations outlined by Der Spiegel five years ago, however. The documents, allegedly obtained by illegal email hacks, alleged £59.5 million that was supposed to have come from City's principal sponsor, Etihad Airways, was paid directly to the club by the Abu Dhabi United Group. Der Spiegel also alleged that City set up a secret scheme called "Project Longbow", which effectively hid about £40million in payments to players, after the club had agreed a 20 million euro fine as a settlement for FFP breaches. Among other potential breaches of Uefa rules, Der Spiegel published emails from 2010, reportedly from board member Simon Pearce communicating with colleagues, in which it is claimed he discusses a £15million deal with partner Aabar.

From the Premier League's perspective, there is understood to have been intense attention paid to player and managerial contracts. Der Spiegel had alleged Roberto Mancini, the City manager between 2009 and 2013, received secret payments through a shadow contract via a consultancy arrangement with the Abu Dhabi-based club Al Jazira.

Is the timing of the investigation's findings significant?

Both City and Kieran Maguire, a lecturer in football finance at Liverpool University, say there was a clear political advantage for the Premier League to announce the conclusion of the investigation in the same week that the Government was due to announce its white paper on football regulation. Whitehall sources confirmed to Telegraph Sport that the paper is now due to be published in a fortnight or so. But it had been previously expected this week.

"The Premier League is putting this out as part of their attempt to ensure that an independent regulator doesn't go ahead," Maguire told Telegraph Sport. "But in my view, the opposite is true. The fact that it's taken them four years of investigation to make charges. That shows they don't have the capacity, they don't have the skill sets to regulate their own. And therefore it'd be better if there was an independent regulator."

Insiders at the club also feel it is part of a strategy by the Premier League to show they are capable of adequate governance. "This is tactical," one source said. Eyebrows were also raised at City that the club were not given any prior notification

of the charges. It is understood that Ferran Soriano, the City chief executive, was first informed of the news as it was about to go live on the Premier League's website.

"Manchester City FC is surprised by the issuing of these alleged breaches of the Premier League Rules, particularly given the extensive engagement and vast amount of detailed materials that the EPL has been provided with," City said in a statement.

Who is the Arsenal-supporting selector of the Premier League's independent panel?

An independent panel assessing the Premier League's 115 charges against Manchester City will be selected by an Arsenal season-ticket holder. Murray Rosen KC, who is also a keen cricket fan and MCC member, was appointed as chair of the English top tier's first judicial panel in 2020. His role in the City case has yet to be confirmed but he will play a key role in the coming weeks in picking an independent commission assessing the biggest financial scandal in the league's history.

A source insisted it has yet to be decided whether he could chair the panel but he is one of the country's leading figures in sports resolutions. He will play a crucial role in the process in the upcoming weeks at least as the panel is finalised. A 2019 profile of Rosen by the law firm Herbert Smith Freehills details how he is a regular on the terraces of the Emirates watching City's title rivals Arsenal. "When not working on sports, culture and commercial disputes, he likes little more than to watch (he is an Arsenal season ticket holder) - and occasionally to participate, real tennis and table tennis being particular favourites," the article adds.

The rest of the independent panel is yet to be decided on and the entire process is likely to take months. Murray has had a lengthy career in sports resolutions as well as the courts, having become a QC aged 39 in 1993. In 2016, began working "exclusively as an arbitrator and mediator, with a focus on resolving disputes rather than fighting them", his profile adds.

"My reputation at the Bar was as a somewhat aggressive and certainly tenacious advocate," he has previously said. "Now that I no longer have to represent disputants, I have tried to adapt those skills to a more obviously constructive end - finding solutions, preferably by agreement. It seems to be working and, frankly, it is what all disputes lawyers should be contributing to, at least later in their careers."

His profile adds: "His arbitration work includes domestic disputes for Sport Resolutions, a body that

he originally helped to set up, and numerous football cases, both disciplinary and commercial, as well as disputes in motorsport, cricket (he is a longstanding MCC member) and almost all others, including even the martial arts."

On Monday, the Premier League referred City to the independent commission which Rosen is expected to head. Alleged rule breaches stem back to 2009. City are also accused of not co-operating since the investigation started in December 2018.

City said they were "surprised" by the charges and are supported by a "body of irrefutable evidence". The commission can impose punishments ranging from a fine and points deduction to expulsion from the Premier League.

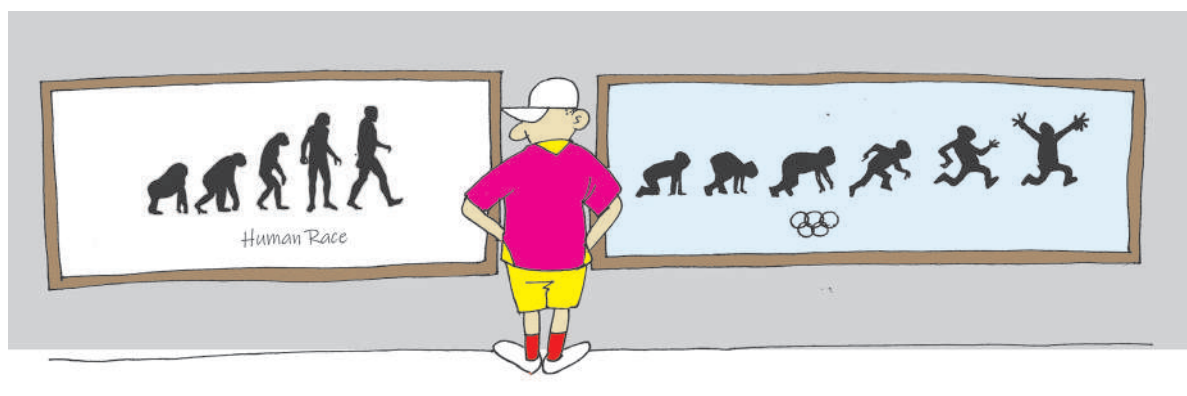
Will City appeal again?

There is no mention of an appeal yet from City's lawyers as the club is still hoping to escape any serious punishments. It is likely the next process could take months to conclude as both the club and the league fight their case before a new panel. City previously fought their Champions League ban from Uefa via the Court of Arbitration for Sport in Switzerland. Despite watering down the punishment in 2020, the appeal court concluded the club should be "severely reproached" for showing "blatant disregard" to financial fair play investigators.

However, under Premier League rules, the club will not be able to appeal any sanction via Cas as the European court is not recognised by the clubs. Instead, the club would have to pursue options via London law courts. For now, however, they are only commenting on their upcoming fight to clear their name via the independent panel. "The club welcomes the review of this matter by an independent Commission, to impartially consider the comprehensive body of irrefutable evidence that exists in support of its position," City said. "As such we look forward to this matter being put to rest once and for all."

Leading sports lawyers explained how the case against City cannot be appealed to Cas as "the rules of the Premier League constitute a contract between the Premier League and the clubs". "This means that all clubs have accepted such rules, including Manchester City," said Gregory Ioannidis. "Uefa rules allow for appeals to Cas against decisions rendered by Uefa. The PL rules do not allow for such appeals unless there is a specific agreement to the contrary between the parties. That's the difference in procedure."

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

The punishments Manchester City could face for their 115 Premier League rule breaches

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



National Bank of Commerce (NBC) Managing Director, Theobald Sabi (3rd L), and other stakeholders of the NBC Dodoma International Marathon participate in this season's race launch in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Others are the Ocean Road Cancer Institute (ORCI)'s Director Crispin Kahesa (R), Athletics Tanzania (AT) Chairman William Kallaghe (2nd R), NBC Bank Director of Retail Banking Elibariki Masuke (3rd R), NBC Bank's Head of Compliance Sarah Laiser (2nd L), and EFM Radio and TVE Head of Operations Dennis Ssebo (L). PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

2023's NBC Dodoma International Marathon set for July

By Guardian Correspondent

THE National Bank of Commerce (NBC) has unveiled the fourth season of the NBC Dodoma International Marathon which is expected to take place at Jamhuri Stadium in Dodoma on July 23.

The institution has moreover expressed pride in the great success brought about by the race, including collecting more than 500m/- to support the fight against cervical cancer facing women in Tanzania.

The race's launch was held in Dar es Salaam yesterday and was attended by various athletics stakeholders in the country.

The stakeholders include Athletics Tanzania (AT) Chairman William Kallaghe, Director of the Ocean Road Cancer Institute (ORCI) Crispin Kahesa, NBC Bank staff led by the bank's Managing Director Theobald Sabi, and media.

Sabi said NBC Bank has, through the coordination of the race in the past three years, managed to collect more than 500m/- which have been handed over to the Ocean Road Cancer Foundation to fund cancer testing and treatment for women.

The NBC Bank Managing Director revealed: "I am happy to inform you that the report our colleagues at Ocean Road Cancer Institute have given us shows that the money collected through this race has enabled the testing of more than 20,473 women."

"Out of the total, 1,330 women were diagnosed with cervical cancer and are undergoing treatment and 98 nurses have received training to care for cancer patients...this is a significant feat and something we should be proud of," Sabi said.

The NBC Bank Managing Director congratulated the marathon's participants and stakeholders for the success.

Sabi further revealed that apart from such successes, the race has succeeded in supporting the government's efforts to promote local tourism and open up economic opportunities, especially in Dodoma which is hosting the race.

The NBC Bank boss noted: "Last year more than 7,000 visitors arrived in Dodoma for this race, they needed food, accommodation, clothing, drinks, and transport."

"We believe the residents of Dodoma benefited from the economic opportunities and will continue to be proud of this race," he said.

Sabi urged athletics enthusiasts and the sport's stakeholders in the country to start preparing early for the international race.

According to Sabi, the race's goal is, as usual, contributing to the health sector, especially the fight against cervical cancer facing women and other areas that will be mentioned in the next few days.

Kahesa said: "NBC Bank has become a major player in the fight against cervical cancer. Statistics show that out of the 40,000 cases of cancer in Tanzania, 26,000 are cervical cancer."

The ORCI Director noted: "Cancer treatment is also expensive, as the patient has to spend between 10m/- to 40m/- in cancer treatment."

Kahesa stated: "With these statistics released today, it is clear that the NBC Dodoma International Marathon is very helpful in improving the health and lives of Tanzanians and relieves them of the major responsibility of treatment because when women are tested early and detected with cancer cells, they are given initial treatment to prevent the spread of this cancer."

The AT boss, Kallaghe, said: "NBC Dodoma International Marathon is one of the popular races organized in high standard and has a great contribution in promoting this sport in Tanzania."

The leader revealed: "We have witnessed the NBC Dodoma International Marathon's organizers are one of the stakeholders that present big prizes to the winners to boost enthusiasm and awareness of this sport in the country."

"I am told that last year the NBC Dodoma International Marathon attracted more than 60 professional athletes from various countries."

Yanga jet out to Tunisia for 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup Group Stage opener



Yanga. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

RECORD Tanzanian champions Young Africans SC on Tuesday afternoon left the country for Tunisia where they will kick start their 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup Group Stage campaign.

Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, are lined up to play against Tunisia's US Monastir at the Stade Olympique de Radès on Sunday from 7 pm.

The club's Information and communication officer, Ali Kamwe, said that the traveling squad has 25 players and nine technical bench members.

The club's head coach Nasreddine Nabi was part of the advanced party that traveled earlier to Tunisia.

The official said: "The team will travel to Dubai in the afternoon, we will arrive at 9:50 pm. They will rest there tonight and then tomorrow at 8:40 a.m. and the traveling contingent will leave Dubai for Tunis for the game."

"The contingent will leave with 25 players including goalkeeper Aboutwalib Mshery, who is not

going to Tunisia as part of the game but for treatment because he has to undergo surgery," the official revealed.

After dropping from the 2022/23 CAF Champions League with a 2-1 aggregate defeat in a tie against Al Hilal of Sudan, Yanga managed to see off Club Africain of Tunisia in the CAF Confederation Cup Additional Second Preliminary Round to qualify for the showdown's group stage for the first time since 2018.

In a draw for the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup that was held in December 2022 in Cairo, Egypt Yanga was pooled in Group D with DR Congo's TP Mazembe, US Monastir, and AS Real Bamako of Mali.

This is the third time Yanga is competing in the CAF Confederation Cup Group Stage.

Having failed to progress to the knockout stage in all of their previous campaigns, the NBC Premier League champions are determined to go further in the competition this time round.

In the group stage, each group will be played on a home-and-away round-robin basis. The winners and runners-up of each group will advance to the quarter-finals of the knockout stage.

After the encounter against US Mo-

nastir, the Yanga squad will fly back to Dar es Salaam to prepare for their second outing in the CAF Confederation Cup against TP Mazembe.

Yanga's tie against TP Mazembe is arranged for February 19, five days before the former's next Premier League game against Kinondoni Municipal Council FC.

Traveling party:

Goalkeepers: Djigui Diarra, Metacha Mnata, Erick Johola, and Aboutwalib MShery.

Defenders: Bakari Mwamnyeto, Dickson Job, Ibrahim Abdullah, Djuma Shaban, Kibwana Shomari, Mutambala Lomalisa, Mamadou Doubia, David Bryson.

Midfielders: Khalid Aucho, Yannick Bangala, Zawadi Mauya, Mudathir Yahya, Salum Abubakar, Farid Mussa, Dickson Ambundo, Jesus Moloko, and Kisinda Tuisila.

Forwards: Stephane Aziz Ki, Clement Mziza, Kennedy Musonda, and Fiston Mayele.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



Information Communication Technology vital in sports- call

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadoma

DAR ES SALAAM-based Information Communication Technology (ICT) Higher Learning Institution, Unique Academy, has said the program's students can use their knowledge to provide solutions that could help Tanzania expedite its goals in sports and other key areas of ICT, agriculture, health, and digital traded services.

Sudhakaran Dhanapal, Unique Academy's Director, said so in Dar es Salaam recently. The Director pointed out well trained ICT students can develop technologies that have an impact on communities.

In sports, ICT has brought a revolution to training and teaching methodologies of the sector and physical education as it improves accessibility and expands the digital environment to the field of sports and physical education.

According to the institution's boss, ICT makes it possible to bring the science of sports to the ground and is also helping to connect physical activities with mental activities.

Some of the ICT innovations which are vital in sports and physical education are GPS, wearable sensors, video cameras, Goal Line Technology (GLT), match analyst software, Video Assistant Refereeing (VAR) Goal Ref System, Electric Performance and Tracking System (EPTS) Hawk-Eye which is mostly used in tennis and cricket. The director issued his comments when Unique Academy introduced ICT short course targeting Form Four leavers.

Dhanapal said the course aims to increase digital literacy in the country and ensure students get part-time employment while pursuing studies in higher learning institutions as is the case with their counterparts in other developed countries.

The Unique Academy Director said the age at which many youths complete secondary education is a critical stage and keeping the graduates idle causes many challenges.

According to Dhanapal, the course will help the students learn with fun while acquiring knowledge and skills which can help them to be employed or self-employed or help them to support themselves while in Higher Secondary studies.

He said ICT have the greatest impact in all life sectors as in agriculture farmers can use it to increase their earnings by supporting productivity and commercialization, in health, ICT will improve health outcomes by ensuring that patients are correctly diagnosed and treated.

"We are one of the stakeholders in the ICT sector, this coming April we will start ICT long and short courses for form four leavers, we hope that our students will expand upon what they will learn to support and accelerate government efforts to leverage the power of ICT to improve wellbeing, to create new sources of wealth, and to accelerate economic diversification.

He added that Unique Academy is a market-demand-based institution and not a syllabus-demand institution.

Unique Academy Student Mentor and Job Expert, Govind Sreekumar, said: "During the short ICT courses the students will learn among other things, Artificial Intelligence (AI), data science, cloud computing, data analyst, business analysis, graphic design, coding, and databases and how these technologies can be used to bring solutions that can have a big impact on challenges the world is facing."

TO NIGHT @ 9:00

EATV WEDNESDAY

11:00 DADAZ
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA
13:00 MIA DOLA (I)
13:30 Movie
13:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
14:00 Movie
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Mpera Mpera
15:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
16:00 Hot Spot
16:30 Zote Kuntu
17:00 SSELECT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 Kati Za Wana
18:30 #HASHTAG
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (I)
21:00 UJENZI
21:30 Mta Week Movie
23:00 KURASA
23:05 Club Bangers

UJENZI provides information and ideas on residential construction, interior decor and residential appliance markets values. The show aims to enhance residential construction. It provides free expert advice, news and commentary.

eastafrica RADIO
06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

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