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President Samia Suluhu Hassan and her visiting Mozambican counterpart, Filipe Jacinto Nyusi, look on at State House in Dar es Salaam yesterday as Health minister Umyy Mwalimu (R) and Mozambique's Foreign Affairs and Cooperation deputy minister, Manuel José Gonçalves, sign an agreement on bilateral cooperation in health issues. Photo: State House

Samia, Nyusi talks focus on boosting trade, customs point

The incoming leader has chosen Tanzania as the first country to make a state visit upon taking office later this year, as he considers Tanzania as his second home due to shared heritage

By Correspondent Mary Kadoko

TANZANIA and Mozambique have joined forces to strengthen collaboration in trade and investment, President Samia Suluhu Hassan has declared.

Addressing a point press conference at the State House in Dar es Salaam yesterday, she said the ground-breaking development was part of agreements reached in talks with the visiting Mozambican President Filipe Nyusi.

Seeking to foster the dynamic for mutual growth and prosperity, the president underscored the need for revamping business relations between the two countries that have stagnated for years.

The two sides will build customs centres for monitoring trade at border areas,

she said, noting that more investments are needed, citing an initiative to boost the Mtambaswala border crossing this side of the border.

Trade between Tanzania and Mozambique reached \$57.8m last year and toward mid this year trade stood at \$20.1m, implying a declining tendency, she said, hinting that informal transactions at the customs point is likely to be a contributing factor.

"Tanzania has two investors from Mozambique that have provided 650 jobs while Mozambique has 16 investors from this side, a situation that needs to be positively scaled up, she said.

Cashew nut production is a pivotal area for collaboration as it has the potential for shared success, while it faces the challenge

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TAHA, city enter spices, herbs MoU

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE spice industry in Tanga Region is geared for a bright future after the Tanga City Council and the Tanzania Horticultural Association (TAHA) entered a transformative agreement to commercialise the industry.

TAHA CEO Dr Jacqueline Mkindi signed the memorandum of understanding (MoU), here yesterday with Dr Frederick Sagamiko, the Tanga City Council executive director, outlining the partnership framework.

The council will facilitate TAHA support farmers and other stakeholders in the regional horticultural value chains, enhancing the production, processing and marketing of their crops.

This initiative is a platform for value addition, knowledge facilitation on the latest horticultural technologies and practices, connecting them to domestic, regional and international markets, the city director noted.

To start with, the council and TAHA

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Muhimbili lines up in vitro fertilisation by September

By Correspondent Christina Mwakangale

IN-vitro fertilisation (IVF) services will start being offered at the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) with intent of popularising it and bringing smiles to couples that struggle to get children due to infertility.

Dr Sabria Rashid, an obstetrician and gynaecologist at MNH said at the hospital's pavilion at the 48th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF) yesterday, citing the cost for such services as 20m/-.

Experts say that infertility is a disease of

“If couples spend years without conceiving, they start to spot that there is a challenge somewhere”

the male or female reproductive system defined by the failure to achieve a pregnancy after 12 months or more of regular conjugal relationships.

She said that the launch of IVF services will support many people who are unable to seek the services outside the country, citing projected demand as very high while medical centres providing the service are few.

Some infertile couples have been at the MNH "so once operations begin we will contact some to start with," she said, noting

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'Districts must have census results in expenditure plans'

The census is a vital tool for policy makers, economists, planning officers and various stakeholders involved in policy formulation, planning and monitoring project implementation and development as a whole

By Guardian Reporter

LOCAL government authorities need to use results of the 2022 Population and Housing Census as reference points in budgetary decision making and planning of development projects.

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa issued this instruction when opening a training session on the use of the census results to local government activities, involving leaders of Liwale, Nachingwea and Ruangwa districts in Lindi Region in the municipality yesterday.

Distributing census results should be a long-term agenda in council meetings, he stated, urging leaders to lead the way, to sit down and brainstorm on how the results of the national exercise can be used to transform people's lives and promote investment.

Urging leaders to take note of the fact that a lot of money was spent on the exercise, he said that the region has various investment attractions, so leaders need to market the region.

Residents of the region similarly need to work on linking their houses with the

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Simba confirm acquisition of Ugandan striker Steven Mukwala

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Epic penalties drama for Ronaldo ends with Portugal beating Slovenia in a Euro 2024 shootout



Muhimbili lines up in vitro fertilisation by September

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that infertility challenges do only affect women but men as well, "and the public need to know this very well."

Experts distinguish between original and subsequent infertility, those who have had one or more children and those who never had pregnancy.

"If couples spend years without conceiving, they start to spot that there is a challenge somewhere," she said, intimating that environmental aspects add to the problems, "as people are looking for education first and then children."

"You can find people at middle age also struggling to get children, despite that even young people experience this challenge at present than was the case earlier," she stated.

"There is a physiological problem where couples think that soon after getting married pregnancy will follow suit, thus after some months family members start to pressurize the couple," she specified, underlining that this difficulty also needs

awareness programmes.

The hospital will also provide services for those who want to store embryos for various situations in life and later come for IVF, the medic affirmed.

World Health Organisation (WHO) data indicates that infertility affects millions of people and has an impact on their families and communities. Estimates suggest that one in six people of reproductive age worldwide stand to experience infertility.

The availability, access and quality of interventions to address infertility remain a challenge in most countries as diagnosis and treatment of infertility is not prioritized in development policies.

Reproductive health strategies are rarely covered through public health financing, while trained personnel, equipment and infrastructure are lacking for IVF facilities, apart from high treatment costs. This situation poses major barriers even for countries that are actively addressing the needs of people with infertility, a WHO write-up adds.

'Districts must have census results in expenditure plans'

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post-code system and ensure that they protect its infrastructure, he said, tasking each local leader to work on sensitising people in their area of representation.

Hamad Hassan Chande, the Treasury deputy minister, said that Tanzania was a role model for conducting a digital census, appealing to executive officers at different levels to properly utilise the census results to plan for development.

This includes preparing, monitoring and evaluation tools in each instance, to which Anne Makinda, the census commissioner said that the 2022 exercise set to identify the number of people, buildings and affixing residential addresses.

Census statistics enable the government to plan and implement development strategies effectively, she said, while Dr Albina Chuwa, the statistician general, had earlier said that out of 61.7m people who were counted, Lindi had 1,194,028 people or roughly 1.2m people.

TRC receives EMUs, locomotives for SGR

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE Tanzania Railway Corporation (TRC) has received the second consignment of two sets of Electric Multiple Units (EMUs) and eight electric locomotives from South Korea.

One set of EMUs consists of eight passenger carriages and two engines on both sides (does not require separate engines).

Jamila Mbarouk, TRC Head of Communication unit said in a statement yesterday that the government through the firm procured 10 sets of EMU manufactured by Hyundai Rotem of South Korea.

Jamila said that the two sets make a total number of three sets arrived so far adding that the first set arrived in April this year and was under test drive.

She said that so far, TRC has received a total of 65 passenger coaches, 17 electric locomotives, and three sets of EMUs.

"The arrival of rolling stocks will be in phases and upon arrival will undergo a test drive to meet the required criteria as per the Land Transport Regulatory Authority (LATRA)," she said.

Jamila said that the initial operations services from Dar es Salaam to Morogoro are still going, adding that the official flag-off from Dar es Salaam to Dodoma region will be later this month.

On Monday, TRC announced that the new express train services from Dar es Salaam to Morogoro will start on July 5, this year.

The statement noted that the express trains will be taking off from Dar es Salaam at 6:00 am and 7:10

Kilwa District led with 297,676 people, followed by Nachingwea District with 233,655 people. Ruangwa had 185,573 people counted and Liwale showed 136,505 people, she said.

Nachingwea ward led by having 18,343 people followed by Mbeke-nyera ward with 16,531 people, Nandagala ward fielding 7,391 persons while Makanjiro ward showed 4,002 people, all for Ruangwa District.

Nachingwea District had 74,738 households, Kilwa showed 72,152 households, Ruangwa next with 60,931 households, Lindi municipality yielding 52,809 units and Mtama 50,708 households counted, while Liwale was least with 35,897 households.

The census is a vital tool for policy makers, economists, planning officers and various stakeholders involved in policy formulation, planning and monitoring project implementation and development as a whole, she added.

pm and from Morogoro at 6:20 am and 7:30 pm. "We have increased our routes due to alarming demand and with these introductions, there will be eight trips in a day with 14 wagons," said part of the statement.

Two months ago, Tanzania conducted the inaugural test run of a train on its Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) between Dar es Salaam and its capital Dodoma.

The first journey was flagged off by Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa followed by the initial operation of services from Dar es Salaam to Morogoro on July 14 this year.

The inaugural service also saw the government assuring Tanzanians that the 627km line would open by July 2024, with 65 of the 89 passenger carriages ordered for the services already delivered.

Masanja Kadogosa, TRC Director General said: "We are very much waiting for the cargo carriages because that is where there are more economic benefits and opportunities."



We have increased our routes due to alarming demand and with these introductions, there will be eight trips in a day with 14 wagons



Thirty Tanzanian police officers pose for a souvenir photo in Dar es Salaam on Monday with Manoj Verma (C, in blue tie), Chargé d'affaires at the Indian High Commission in Tanzania. It was shortly after attending an orientation session pending their departure to India for capacity building training in Investigation of Poisoning Cases at India's National Forensic Sciences University in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. Others include Indian High Commission Consul Head J S N Murty (in pink tie), Tanzania Police Chief of Terrorism and Transnational Organised Crime, DCP Jackson Nyambabe (4th-R), and Superintendent of the Tanzania Police Forensics Department, Lilian Warioba (3rd-R). Photo courtesy of Indian High Commission

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of price setting by international markets, in which case there is a need to set local prices helpful for farmers as well as traders, she said.

The blue economy is another sphere where the two countries are well positioned to engage in business with neighbouring countries and Africa in general, an issue that will be taken up with upcoming Prelimo presidential candidate Daniel Chapho.

The incoming leader has chosen Tanzania as the first country to make a state visit upon taking of

Samia, Nyusi talks focus on boosting trade, customs point

office later this year, as he considers Tanzania as his second home due to shared heritage.

President Nyusi recalled Tanzania's role in the country's journey to independence, insisting on the need to boost our ties given spacious investment potential with land, energy sources, rivers and people. "What is needed is to see

ways on how we will utilize the resources," he said.

The visit and upcoming visit of the presidential candidate provide an opportunity for the two countries to find ways on improving cashew nut production, a vital crop that can extract more benefits for the two countries, he emphasised.

He praised the role of units of the

Tanzania People's Defence Forces (TPDF) engaged in fostering peace and security in Mozambique, asserting that Africans should be at the forefront of solving their own problems.

The Mozambican leader was expected to officiate at the 48th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF) today in the city.



The Guardian newspaper managing editor Wallace Mauggo pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday having a quick word with Grade One pupils from the city's Genesis Schools (Oysterbay and Kisota Kigamboni campuses), led by their teachers. The delegation was on a study tour of The Guardian Ltd (TGL), publishers of The Guardian and its Kiswahili sister publication, Nipashe. Left is TGL Printing Press manager Balasubramanian Venkatchalam, followed by Human Resources manager Haika Lekey. Photo: Frank Monyo

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will set up a horticultural common use facility (HCUF) in the city, with the city authorities pledging to allocate at least five acres of land in the Pingoni Industrial area for the HCUF unit.

It will also harbour related activities, as a 100 acre commercial model farm is also on the cards, with the designated area feasible for future expansion of the project, he stated.

A sustainable supply of water and electricity will be assured, with the council intending to manage the construction of the HCUF unit efficiently, as the city council sees the agreement as historic.

It has the potential to transform the spice industry and generate significant employment opportunities for women, youth and the disabled, he said, pointing at the visible, inherent competitive advantages.

TAHA, city enter spices, herbs MoU

Many Tanga residents have a longstanding tradition of spice cultivation, so it is an opportune moment to leverage this indigenous knowledge and commercialize the industry, he stated, elaborating that a common processing facility to prepare spices for external markets will be set up.

Rehema Mhina, the deputy mayor, praised the partnership, predicting a transformative impact on the spice industry, given its potential for job creation, particularly for women and youth.

She expressed the council's commitment to supporting the groups with soft loans from the statutory 10 percent allocations, with the CEO acclaiming the pact as enabling TAHA to "bring its extensive

experience and professional qualifications to the table for the establishment and operationalization of the HCUF in Tanga City."

"TAHA will oversee the entire system, ensuring effective management of the HCUF," she emphasised, citing provision of guidance on vital arrangements to maximize the benefits of the facility for farmers, processors, and other stakeholders.

TAHA is administering a \$24m food conservation project fund granted by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), set to use it to enhance post-harvest loss management and spice value addition.

The range of interventions include cutting-edge technology

deployment and compliance with environmental standards, part of a wider quest to address effects of climate change, she said.

TAHA will deploy agronomists to assist spice growers in improving cultivation practices for higher yields to guide farmers in production and market access, she elaborated, commending the council for selecting TAHA as a key partner in enhancing the local horticulture industry.

TAHA was ready to drive significant advancements in the spice industry as this work is aligned with its core mission, with Tanga's favourable climate for spices and herbs enabling experts to harness this potential to benefit the local economy, the CEO added.



Dr Lisa Rusibamayila (gesturing) from Muhimbili National Hospital briefs a visitor at the hospital's pavilion at the ongoing 48th edition of the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Christina Mwakangale

Youth in Dar to forge new global consensus on SDGs

By Henry Mwangonde

YOUTH are meeting in Dar es Salaam under the United Nations (UN) Tanzania for consultations on the Development Vision 2050 which has been linked to the Summit of the Future - a youth gathering for young people to network and forge a new global consensus on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in September.

Speaking at the event Mark Bryan Schreiner the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA's) Country Representative said the summit represents an opportunity to shape challenging issues to the global sphere such as technological changes and climate change among others.

"Youth engagement helps align SDGs with global progress as well as how to tackle emerging challenges, the UN has managed to link the discussions with Tanzania's development agenda," he said.

He said the discussions will facilitate strategic planning of the document and the participation of the youth who are the majority of the population helps to make everyone aware of the stages reached in development processes. In his speech, Director of Multilateral Cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation Ambassador Noel Kaganda said there is a need for participation of the youth in development plans.

"There is an importance of youth participation in consultations but also in addressing challenges and improving systems for addressing global challenges," he said.

He added that the consultation is a clear testimony that youth voices matter as cemented by the formulation of the youth policy in both countries.

The summit will enable youth to restore trust and foster collaboration and promote inclusiveness and

renew commitment to achieve SDGs.

He added the summit represents an opportunity to shape challenging issues to the global sphere such as technological changes and climate change among others.

Chief Economist at the National Planning Commission Joseph Maleke said the meeting was aimed at discussing the 2030 agenda saying the voice of the youth was critical as youth are heirs to the future.

"Youth of today are informed and connected to facilitate change and transformation which is a key tool for achieving SDGs," he said.

He said the consultations were important because they help to ensure that national plans are well planned in the future generations as well as ensuring that they are involved.

The Summit of the Future is expected to take place in September this year at the UN headquarters, New York in the US.



Youth engagement helps align SDGs with global progress as well as how to tackle emerging challenges, the UN has managed to link the discussions with Tanzania's development agenda

BoT in favour of local currency use

By Guardian Correspondents

THE Bank of Tanzania (BoT) has supported the decision to restrict the use of dollars, saying the move will strengthen the value of Tanzanian shillings.

Marwa Patrick, central bank's economist, Monetary Policy Department made the remarks during an interview with this paper at this year's Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF).

"We believe that this is a good move which will help to reduce pressure available together with strengthening the shilling because

the government institutions were also offering services in dollars," he said.

He added: "For example a person commits crime but he or she is required to pay in dollars so we believe that the restriction will strengthen our shilling."

Marwa said with the step, there are still enough reserves for foreign currencies which are sufficient for the use of more than four and a half months as the Governor has been insisting.

"Therefore, even to any investors who order or people who need foreign currency, we give them the

assurance that they should have faith that foreign currencies are available," explained Marwa.

He added that the country was expecting to get foreign currency in the coming 'high season' of the tourism sector where many people from different countries visit tourist attractions in the country.

Tanzania was now selling its natural beauty to foreign countries which is an assurance that the shilling will continue to strengthen," added Marwa.

He also said the value of the shilling against the US dollar was at 2,620/- and added that BoT believes

that the trend will continue to improve.

Finance Minister, Dr Mwigulu Nchemba ordered by July 1st, all public institutions that offer services to offer the services in shillings.

Already some institutions such as the Forest Service Agency (TFS) and the Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA), have announced they will offer services in shillings.

On Monday, some tour operators in northern regions have rejected the government's order that requires all payments be in Tanzanian shillings.

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Ratify ILO convention on decent work, govt advised

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

STAKEHOLDERS have appealed to the government to ratify the International Labour Organization (ILO) convention 189 - Decent work for Domestic Workers, which set standards for domestic workers.

It was adopted during the 100th session of the International Labour Organization on 16 June 2011 and entered into force on 5th September 2013.

Under the Convention, domestic workers are entitled to the same basic rights as those available to other workers in their country, including weekly days off, limits to hours of work, minimum wage coverage, overtime compensation, social security, and clear information on the terms and conditions of employment.

Speaking during the 6th National Conference on Domestic Workers Rights and Protection in Dodoma yesterday, the stakeholders argued that the government had agreed to sign the convention but had taken too long to do so.

Conservation, Hotel, Domestic and Allied Workers Union (CHODAU) Secretary General, Saidi Gwamba noted that while the government has been keenly working on issues surrounding the matter, it is high time it ratifies the international treaty.

He said by ratifying the convention, domestic workers will be recognized just like other workers. "While the law acknowledges, some members of the public do not give them due attention and treat them as less equal workers," he said.

Community of Volunteers for the World (CVM) Tanzania Manager, Nathanael Magesa noted that his organization sponsored the training to provide opportunity to various stakeholders to discuss the way forward on the ratification of the agreement.

His said CVM has been providing training for domestic workers in the country for over seven years. "This is another opportunity to provide education to domestic

workers," he said.

Marian Lamber, a director organization with CVM argued that African countries, Tanzania inclusive should safeguard rights of domestic workers. She said, "With passion on domestic workers affairs, I hope the ministry will consider changing labour laws and observe the matter."

The director also expressed concerns on the growing child trafficking into domestic working but stated that President Samia Suluhu Hassan, being a woman, will be able address issues of domestic workers both nationally and internationally.

Domestic workers comprise a significant part of the global workforce in informal employment and are among the most vulnerable groups of workers. They work for private households, often without clear terms of employment, unregistered in any book, and excluded from the scope of labour legislation.

Currently there are at least 67 million domestic workers worldwide, not including child domestic workers and this number is increasing steadily in developed and developing countries.

Even though a substantial number of men work in the sector - often as gardeners, drivers or butlers - it remains a highly feminized sector.

At least 80 per cent of all domestic workers are women. Their work may include tasks such as cleaning the house, cooking, washing and ironing clothes, taking care of children, or elderly or sick members of a family, gardening, guarding the house, driving for the family, and even taking care of household pets.

At present, domestic workers often face very low wages, excessively long hours, have no guaranteed weekly day of rest and at times are vulnerable to physical, mental and sexual abuse or restrictions on freedom of movement.

Exploitation of domestic workers can partly be attributed to gaps in national labour and employment legislation, and often reflects discrimination along the lines of sex, race and caste.



Abdul-Razaq Badru (R), Director General of the Public Service Social Security Fund (PSSSF), attends to a member of the fund at the ongoing 48th edition of the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE first integrated Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) filling station and conversion centre along Sam Nujoma road in Dar es Salaam will start its operations in November, this year, a senior officer confirmed yesterday.

Apart from serving vehicles, the would be the largest CNG in Tanzania and will also serve residential and industrial areas.

Dr James Mataragio, Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Energy unveiled this here when visited the construction site. He said that construction of the CNG will reduce the inconvenience to the owners of gas-powered cars who have been queuing up due to the lack of enough stations at the moment.

CNG plant to start offering services in November this year, official says

Dr Mataragio wanted the contractor to speed up the implementation of the project by increasing human resources and equipment so that it could be completed early and start serving the people.

He said that currently the gas filling stations do not meet the existing needs, so the completion of the station will reduce the problems of people who want to use natural gas.

He said Tanzanians are waiting for the project with great enthusiasm, especially in this period when the main agenda of the government is to promote clean energy.

Dr. Mataragio said the station

will be the largest gas filling and distribution centre for various regions, starting with Dodoma and Morogoro regions.

He said that the station would also be used to distribute CNG in other small stations that will be built including Muhimbili and Kibaha and later in different areas.

He also wanted the Project Management Manager from the National Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC), Eng Aristides Katto, to be at the project site all the time to see and manage the work effectively and motivate the contractor to speed up the construction.

Derick Moshi TPDC Director

of Planning and Implementation said that in September, this year, the initial works of the project will be completed and the equipment will have arrived in the country and started to be installed in the project.

"TPDC promises that the project will be built rapidly and we expect before the end of this year the station will start to be used to supply gas to people's homes, factories and to fill cars that use gas," he said.

He said TPDC will work to ensure that within the next few years, Tanzania has 15 large CNG filling stations in various locations in the country.

BISMILLAH RAHMAN RAHIM



The family of the Late Dr. Omar Ali Juma invites you for prayers in memory of the LATE DR. OMAR ALI JUMA which will be held on Thursday 4th July, 2024 at Ngazija Mosque, at 4:00p.m.

Your presence will be highly appreciated.

All relatives and friends are invited.

May God rest his soul in Eternal Peace .

Amen

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Doyo Hassan, an unsuccessful candidate for the national chairmanship of the opposition Alliance for Democratic Change in an election held on June 29, shows journalists in Dar es Salaam on Monday a letter of appeal. He is disputing the results on account of "violations of party's Constitution and election rules and regulations". He is with ADC vice chairman Zanzibar Amram Hamis (R) and national board member Asha Milongea. Photo: Correspondent Imani Nathaniel

EABC, SCCI seal pact to boost regional integration

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African Business Council (EABC) and the Somalia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) have signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen and spearhead regional integration efforts.

The signing ceremony took place in Mogadishu, Somalia, during the second day of the East African Community (EAC) Conference 2024 (EACON2024).

John Kalisa EABC CEO underscored the council's commitment to supporting the Somali business community in attracting investors and building strategic partnerships. He emphasized that the SCCI would be granted National Focal Point Status to facilitate streamlined coordination and collaboration.

Mohamoud Abdi Ali, SCCI President expressed appreciation for the EABC's visit and reaffirmed their strong interest in leveraging East African Community (EAC) integration for Somalia's economic growth. He highlighted the potential benefits of the MoU in enhancing trade, investment, and economic cooperation

within the region.

Key areas of collaboration agreed upon in the MoU include: Enhancing Trade Facilitation Programmes, the initiatives aimed at reducing barriers to trade and improving the ease of doing business across borders. Promoting Regional Value Chains; efforts to boost intra-regional trade by developing and strengthening value chains within the East African region. Supporting the Somali Business Community; Strategies to attract investors and build strategic partnerships that foster economic growth in Somalia. Building Strategic Partnerships; Collaborations between businesses, governments, and international organizations to drive sustainable development and granting SCCI National Focal Point Status; Streamlining coordination and collaboration between the SCCI and EABC to ensure effective implementation of agreed initiatives.

Kalisa also emphasized: "This MoU marks a significant step towards deeper economic ties and integration within the East African region. By working together, we can reduce trade barriers, enhance

regional value chains, and support the Somali business community in attracting investors and building strategic partnerships."

The MoU aligns with the broader objectives of the EACON2024 conference, which aims to promote regional integration and economic cooperation among East African countries, leveraging opportunities under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). The collaboration between EABC and SCCI is expected to play a crucial role in realizing these goals and driving sustainable economic growth in the region.

The Somalia Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) plays a vital role in advancing the country's economic interests. As the premier business organization in Somalia, SCCI advocates for policies that promote trade, investment, and private sector development. By fostering partnerships with regional and international organizations, SCCI aims to create a conducive environment for business growth and economic prosperity in Somalia.

Women activists in Dar to promote gender equality

By Getrude Mbagoo

WOMEN activists from across African countries convened in Dar es Salaam yesterday to reflect on progress, advocate for change and stimulate commitment on financing and accountability on gender equality.

Organised by the African Women Leaders Network (AWLN), in collaboration with the government and UN Women, the regional meeting brought participants from strategic government ministries, women's rights organizations, climate justice activists, young feminist women, women and girls with disabilities, international financial institutions, private sector representatives, young women leaders and AWLN chapters across African countries.

It aimed at supporting the Tanzania's government's efforts as a Generation Equality Forum (GEF) leader as well as strengthening accountability for delivering GEF commitments, accelerating the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and implementing the Beijing Platform for Action, particularly in gender-responsive macroeconomic planning and financing initiatives.

Speaking at the event, Angellah Kairuki, Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism and Chair of the Generation Equality Forum National Advisory Committee said as a GEF Global Champion and co-leader of the Generation Equality Action Coalition on Economic Justice and Rights, Tanzania is committed to utilizing its leadership to achieve gender equality and empower women and girls.

"In efforts to bridge the financial inclusion gender gap in sub-Saharan Africa Tanzania has recognized the need for innovative and transformative financing mechanisms, such as gender bonds, and is already starting to witness the transformative power of gender bonds under the leadership of a woman leader and member of the Generation Equality Committee," Kairuki said.

Underlining the progress of the GEF, Zanzibar Minister for Social Development, Elderly Gender and Children, Riziki Pembe Juma highlighted the significant achievements Tanzania has made across various sectors, including education, energy, finance, water, health, agriculture, and entrepreneurship.

She emphasized the crucial role of women leaders' voices across these sectors in guiding the country's Generation Equality efforts.

The Minister said the government is also supervising the implementation of the 2023 National Gender and Women's Development Policy, by implementing gender equality measures that give women opportunities to showcase their talents in society.

"President Samia Suluhu Hassan's leadership underscores the immense potential of women

in positions of power, serving as a powerful example for future generations. We also recognise the enduring contributions of women throughout history and reaffirm our commitment to advancing gender equality and women's empowerment globally," said.

UN Women Tanzania Acting Representative, Peterson Magoola, emphasized the continued need for sustained investment and innovative financing strategies to enhance national frameworks.

"We must strengthen policies, planning, and budgeting processes at all levels to ensure greater accountability and effective service delivery that reaches women and girls," said Magoola.

This includes increased investments in gender-responsive public and private quality care services, law, and policy reforms, and supporting women and young women to expand decent work opportunities in both the formal and informal economies.

The goal is to attain economic justice, enhance access to productive resources, and design and implement gender-responsive macroeconomic plans, budget reforms, and stimulus packages."

Rebeca Gyumi, AWLN Tanzania Chapter Co-chair, stressed on the need for the Generation Equality Forum to enhance its commitment tracking and reporting systems, ensuring they are clear and accessible for those working at the grassroots level. She pointed out that only 1.9 percent of all funding for gender equality reaches women and girls, highlighting the urgent need for change to achieve meaningful progress.

"These numbers must change, and change fast, if we are to make any meaningful progress toward gender equality. Let us reaffirm our commitment to promoting gender equality and leave this forum with renewed energy and concrete plans to drive our mission forward," Rebeca said.

The 'Beyond the GEF Midpoint': Galvanizing Commitment, Financing & Accountability' meeting serves as a critical platform for women leaders across sectors to call for expanded public and private sector support towards financing for gender equality and accelerating the achievements of Generation Equality commitments in Tanzania and across Africa.

Reflecting on the GEF Midpoint event hosted by UN Women in New York in September 2023, it provided an important opportunity to mobilize sustained attention and investment in gender equality as an accelerator for the SDGs.

The 2023 UN Women UN DESA Gender Snapshot report paints a sobering picture for Sub-Saharan Africa; showing that by 2030, 221 million women and girls might still be living on less than \$2.15 a day; and half of the women in the region might still be grappling with food insecurity.

Freddy was the second longest cyclone on record, says WMO

By Guardian Reporter, Geneva

THE World Meteorological Organization (WMO) has declared Tropical Cyclone Freddy to be the longest-lasting tropical cyclone on record, at 36 days.

Freddy crossed the Indian Ocean basin, starting off the coast of Northwest Australia and reached southern Africa, in February and March 2023. It caused major human and economic losses in the worst-affected countries.

A WMO international committee of experts working under the auspices of the Weather and Climate Extremes Archive conducted a detailed analysis and verification of the distance and duration issued an evaluation report yesterday.

The evaluation committee recognized Tropical Cyclone (TC) Freddy's duration of 36.0 days at tropical storm status or higher as the new world record for the longest tropical cyclone duration.

A reanalysis of the duration of the previous record holder TC John in the North Pacific Ocean in 1994 indicated that it existed at tropical storm status or higher for a combined duration of 714 hours, or 29.75 days.

Tropical Cyclone Freddy traversed the Indian Ocean Basin from off the northwest coast of Australia to multiple landfalls in Africa from 4 February to 14 March 2023.

In terms of distance, the WMO analysis indicated that TC Freddy travelled 12 785 km (7 945 miles, 6 905 nautical miles) at tropical storm status or above.

This is a close second to TC John, which covered 13 159 km (8 177 miles, 7 105 nautical miles) at tropical storm status or above. To put that number in perspective, that distance is nearly 33 percent of the Earth's circumference.

"Freddy was a remarkable tropical cyclone, not only for its longevity but also for its ability to survive multiple land interactions, which unfortunately had significant consequences for southeast African populations," said Chris Velden, committee member and tropical cyclone/satellite expert from the University of

Wisconsin, USA.

"This investigation highlights the meticulous care that the WMO undertakes in certifying all weather observations. Such painstaking evaluation provides the critical confidence that our global records of all-weather phenomena are properly measured," said Randall Cerveny, Rapporteur of Climate and Weather Extremes for WMO.

WMO will update its Archive of Weather and Climate Extremes to reflect the new record. The archive includes the world's highest and lowest temperatures, rainfall, heaviest hailstone, longest dry period, maximum gust of wind, longest lightning flash and weather-related mortalities. It is used by weather historians and, increasingly, by policy makers.

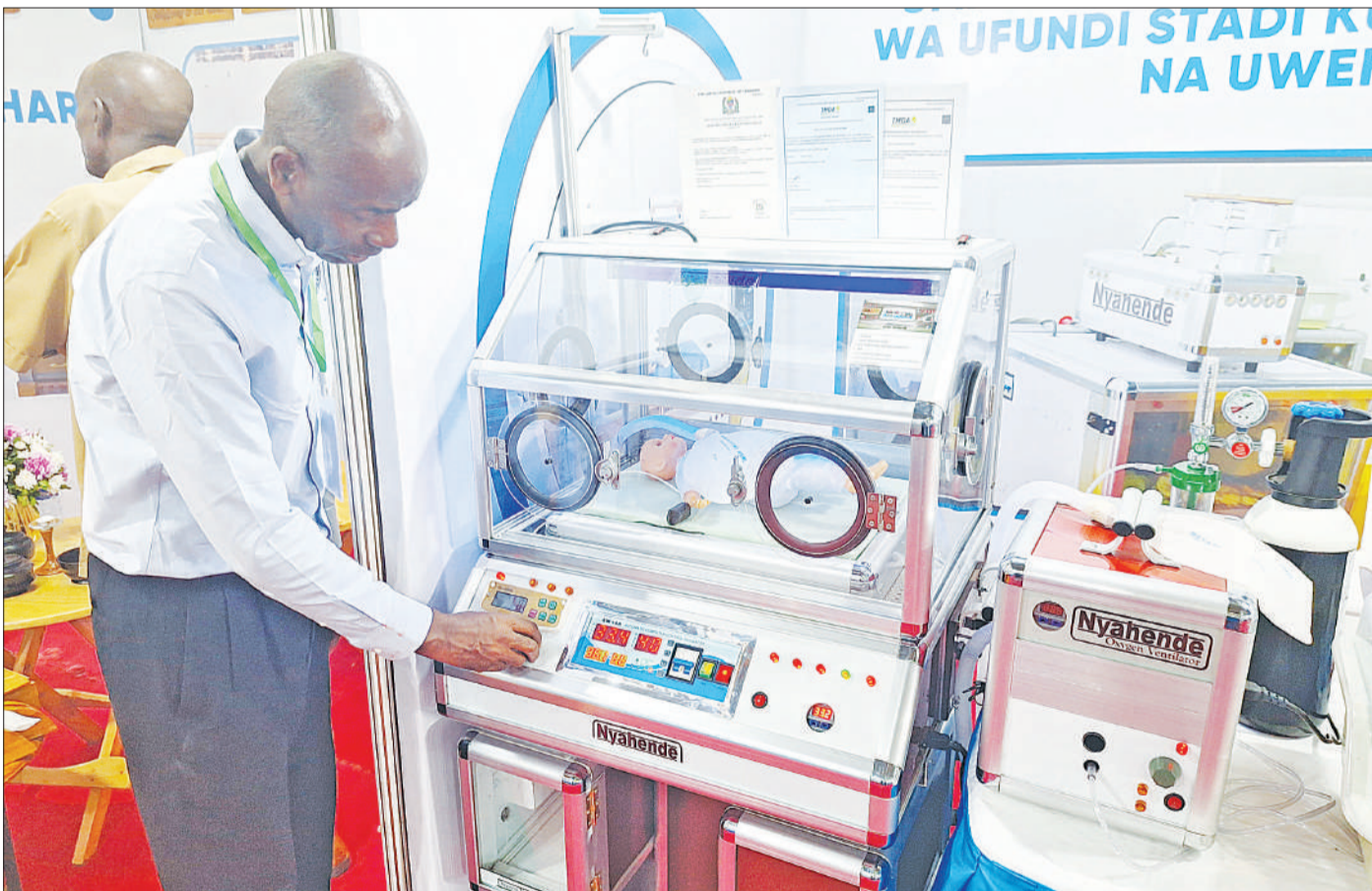
"The extremes presented for adjudication for the WMO Weather and Climate Extremes Archive are 'snapshots' of our current climate. It is possible, and indeed likely, that greater extremes will occur in the future. When such observations are made, new WMO evaluation committees will be formed to adjudicate these observations," said Randall Cerveny.

The WMO evaluation committee consisted of experts from the Tropical Cyclone Warning Center Melbourne (Bureau of Meteorology, Australia), the Regional Specialized Meteorological Centre (RSMC) La Réunion (Météo-France, France) that forecasted TC Freddy, as well as scientists from Spain, Canada, Hong Kong China, and the United States.

Due to its prolonged passage near and over land, Freddy was particularly destructive, especially in Madagascar, Malawi and Mozambique.

More than 1 200 people were reported as dead or missing and more than 2 100 injured in Malawi. In Mozambique, more than 1.3 million people were affected, with more than 180 deaths. In Madagascar, nearly 200 000 people were affected by the first and second landfall.

According to the African Risk Capacity's Tropical Cyclone Explorer (TCE) model, the damage caused by FREDDY is estimated at \$481 million.



George Nyahende, who has completed studies at Arusha-based Vocational Education Training Authority (VETA) centre, pictured yesterday explaining the functioning of an incubator machine he has designed for use in caring for premature babies. This was at the ongoing 48th edition of the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo

THE Tanzania Railway Workers Union (TRAWU) has applauded President Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan for improving the formula for computing retirement benefits to 40 percent lump sum, something which has brought smiles to civil servants in the country.

The union expresses high optimism that the development will help stimulate working morale, but also livelihoods among the retired civil servants across the country.

Jacob Shindika, TRAWU national chairman made the remarks yesterday at the ongoing 48th Dar Es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF-2024) that the Union has to a greater extent been impressed with the vital development.

Through the improved system, he observed that those who used to receive lump sum retirement benefits at 25 percent will now pocket 35 percent, while those who used to receive 59 percent will be paid up to 40 percent.

Trawu compliments President Samia for improving lump-sum retirement benefits

"We join with the Trade Union Congress of Tanzania (TUCTA) to raise our voice of thanks and appreciation to President Samia for her patriotic move to listen to our plea on improvement of issuance of lump sum retirement benefits towards the retired civil servants," he expressed.

He added, TRAWU was optimistic that the government will continue to improve the system on lump sum retirement benefits in order to ensure the retired servants live peacefully and meet their basic amenities.

"In his speech when tabling this year's fiscal budget in the Parliament, the Finance Minister unveiled numerous impressive plans, including intention by the government to keep on setting aside enough budget meant for salary increments, new employment as well as promotions for employees," he informed. Shindika also hailed President Samia

for implementing a series of efforts to upgrade railway transportation infrastructure in the country.

"The President has been working to source and inject billions of money on implementation of the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) project, the project which upon its full completion will facilitate easy and fast tracking transportation of human and cargos across the country," he unveiled.

He added that the Union was far impressed with the manner to which the government is working to improve and standardise the Tanzania Zambia Railway Authority (TAZARA), the 'Uhuru Railway'.

"We will continue to work hard and faithfully to ensure the good vision by President Samia Suluhu Hassan towards the country's railway transportation services materialises," he assured.

INCLUSIVE DIGITAL ECONOMY IN TANZANIA

Exim Bank's Tap Tap Utoboe Campaign: Paving the way Towards Inclusive Digital Economy in Tanzania

Dar es Salaam

Embracing digital transformation, Exim Bank is leading the charge to bring financial services to every corner of Tanzania. With the rapid expansion of digital banking, traditional financial institutions are no longer confined to physical branches, especially in remote areas. The expansion of digital banking is transforming how financial institutions in Tanzania reach clients, particularly in remote areas. Traditional banks now view digital solutions as the future, aiming to provide seamless services that reduce the risks associated with physical cash. This shift is critical as more people access banking services through digital means, such as internet and mobile banking, making it easier and safer to manage their finances. Exim Bank's cutting-edge digital solutions are revolutionizing banking, making it more accessible, secure, and convenient.

Exim Bank, a key player in this transformation, offers comprehensive digital services, that cater to the modern customer's needs. These services are designed to provide a complete banking experience from the comfort of one's home.

These include:

- Internet Banking
- Mobile Banking
- Wallet-to-Bank Services
- Agency Banking
- Diaspora Banking
- Preferred Banking Services

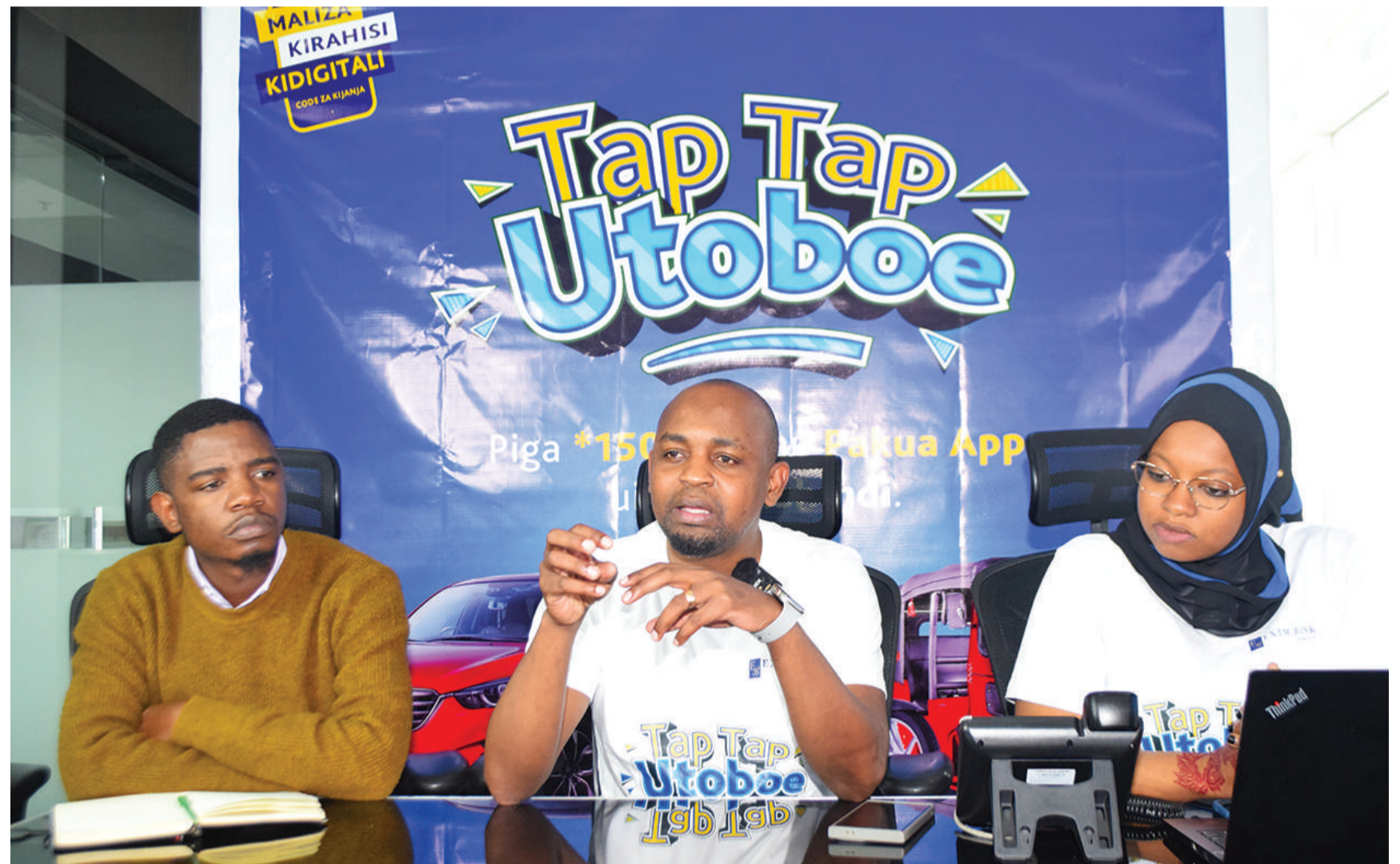
With the Exim Online Banking App, customers can even open new accounts online, eliminating the need for traditional identification processes.

Digital banking with Exim Bank offers numerous benefits:

- **Ease of Access:** Perform transactions such as bill payments, money transfers, and balance checks from the comfort of your home, anytime, anywhere.
- **Enhanced Security:** Advanced security features, including encryption and two-factor authentication, ensure your financial information is safe.
- **Real-Time Control:** Monitor your accounts, track spending, and manage your budget effectively with real-time updates.

Stanley Kafu, Head of Marketing and Communications at Exim Bank, emphasizes the bank's commitment to promoting electronic transactions over physical cash. This initiative is in line with the Bank of Tanzania's (BoT) mission to modernize financial transactions and align with global trends.

The Tanzanian government, under President Samia Suluhu Hassan, supports this digital shift. The Tanzania Instant Payment System (TIPS), introduced by the BoT, is a significant step towards instant electronic payments. The government aims to further enhance this system with QR code payment capabilities.



Silas Matoi, the Head of Digital and Alternative Channels at Exim Bank Tanzania (center), speaks to the press during the raffle draw, to select 10 weekly winners of the Tap Tap Utoboe campaign.

The surge in electronic transaction users, from 38.3 million in 2022 to 51.7 million in 2023, underscores the growing acceptance and reliance on digital banking in Tanzania.

Tap Tap Utoboe Campaign: Making Digital Banking Rewarding

Exim Bank's "Tap Tap Utoboe" campaign is designed to encourage the adoption of digital banking by rewarding customers who engage with mobile and online platforms.

The campaign features:

- **Weekly Cash Prizes:** 10 customers each week win TZS 50,000.
- **Monthly Cash Prizes:** 10 customers each month win TZS 100,000.
- **Grand Prizes:** A Mazda X5, a tricycle (Bajaj), and a motorcycle (Bodaboda).

Silas Matoi, Head of Alternative Channels & Digital Transformation at Exim Bank, invites customers to experience the convenience of digital banking, noting that the campaign is not just about winning prizes but about embracing a more efficient way to bank.

Athuman Ramadhani, a recent winner, shares his positive experience: "I was initially hesitant to switch to mobile banking, but the Tap Tap Utoboe campaign motivated me to try it. Winning cash was an unexpected delight, and I now regularly use these convenient services."

Enhancing Financial Inclusion

The transformation brought about by digital banking extends beyond mere convenience; it significantly enhances financial inclusion across the country. Remote areas, often underserved by traditional banking methods, now have unprecedented access to financial services. This shift is vital for fostering economic growth and development in these regions.

Digital banking allows individuals and businesses in rural areas to participate more fully in the economy. Farmers can receive payments electronically, reducing the risks associated with cash transactions. Small business owners can manage their finances more efficiently, track expenses, and make informed decisions, contributing to their business growth and sustainability.

Supporting Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)

Small and medium enterprises (SMEs) are the backbone of Tanzania's economy. By providing accessible digital banking services, Exim Bank supports the growth and development of SMEs. The ability to conduct transactions online, apply for loans, and manage business accounts through digital platforms reduces the administrative burden on business owners, allowing them to focus on expanding their operations.

Moreover, digital banking facilitates easier access to credit for SMEs. Traditional banking often involves lengthy and complex processes for loan approvals. Digital banking, however, streamlines these processes, providing quicker and more efficient access to funds, enabling SMEs to seize growth opportunities and enhance their competitiveness.

Educational Initiatives and Digital Literacy

To maximize the benefits of digital banking, Exim Bank is also focusing on enhancing digital literacy among its customers. The bank conducts educational initiatives and workshops to teach customers how to use digital banking platforms effectively. These efforts are particularly important in ensuring that all segments of the population, including the elderly and those with limited technological experience, can take full advantage of digital banking

services.

Through these initiatives, Exim Bank is not just providing services but also empowering customers with the knowledge and skills needed to navigate the digital landscape confidently. This holistic approach ensures that the transition to digital banking is smooth and inclusive.

Looking Ahead: The Future of Banking

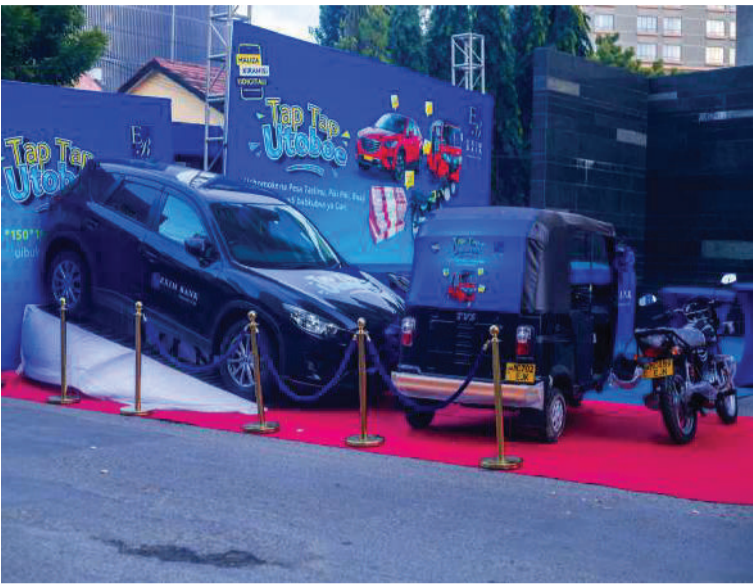
As Exim Bank continues to innovate and expand its digital banking services, the future of banking in Tanzania looks promising. The bank's vision is to create a fully inclusive financial ecosystem where every individual, regardless of location or socio-economic status, has access to reliable and efficient banking services.

The ongoing developments in digital banking technology, coupled with government support and growing digital literacy, are set to transform Tanzania's financial landscape. Customers can look forward to even more advanced features, greater convenience, and enhanced security as the digital banking revolution progresses.

Exim Bank's digital initiatives and the "Tap Tap Utoboe" campaign are pivotal in driving Tanzania towards a digitally inclusive economy. By providing secure, convenient, and efficient banking solutions, Exim Bank is fostering a culture of digital transactions across the nation. The bank's commitment to innovation, financial inclusion, and sustainability positions it as a leader in the digital banking sector.

Join the digital banking revolution with Exim Bank and experience the future of banking today. With Exim Bank, the power of banking is at your fingertips, bringing the promise of a brighter, more inclusive financial future for all Tanzanians.

INCLUSIVE DIGITAL ECONOMY IN TANZANIA



A display of some of the prizes to be awarded to the winners of the Exim Bank Tanzania's newly launched Tap Tap Utoboe campaign.



Head of the Marketing and Communications at Exim Bank Tanzania, Stanley Kafu (right), speaks to the members of press (not in picture) during the launching of the bank's Tap Tap Utoboe campaign.



Stanley Kafu, Head of Marketing and Communications at Exim Bank Tanzania (right), with Lucy Katamba, Inspector and Controller of Gaming from the Gaming Board of Tanzania (second from right); Andrew Lyimo, Head of Retail Banking at Exim Bank (second from left) and Head of the Digital and Alternative Channels at Exim Bank Silas Matoi (left), pose in front of a brand new vehicle, to be won by the bank's customers through newly launched Tap Tap Utoboe campaign.



Stanley Kafu, Head of the Marketing and Communications Department at Exim Bank Tanzania (left), speaks with a customer (posed on a motorcycle) during the launching of the Tap Tap Utoboe campaign at the bank's headquarters in Dar es Salaam.



Agnes Kaganda, Head of Customer Network at Exim Bank Tanzania, poses inside the new Mazda CX-5 vehicle to be won by the overall winner of the newly launched Tap Tap Utoboe campaign. Witnessing left is Stanley Kafu, Head of the Marketing and Communications at Exim Bank Tanzania



Silas Matoi, the Head of Digital and Alternative Channels at Exim Bank Tanzania (center), observes his fellow bank's staff Thuweiba Bakary (Left), who was conducting the raffle draw, to select 10 weekly winners of the Tap Tap Utoboe campaign. Witnessing right is Lucy Katamba, the Inspector and Controller of Gaming from the Gaming Board of Tanzania (GBT).



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KIDIGITALI**
CODE ZA KIJANJA

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The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO
Circulation Manager: DENNIS NTAITA
feedback@guardian.co.tz

Newsdesk

News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON
0757154767
General line: 0745700710
E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz

Advertising

Mobile: 0677020701
E-mails: advertise@guardian.co.tz
Website: www.ippmedia.com
epaper.ippmedia.com

Abductions, ransom payments after suspending fishing a real time-bomb

REPORTS in a section of the media that some parts of Kigoma Region are witnessing a spate of lawlessness in the wake of the suspension of fishing activities are cause for worry.

Going by the reports, youths with an easy potential for violence seem to be available for paid execution of abductions of unguarded individuals, at times with ransom paid.

It is said that cases of abduction by people using vehicles and firearms have touched off safety fears in Kibirizi ward, with at least two incidents having occurred there in the past two months.

Police have confirmed the incidents and appealed to members of the public not to send ransom payments to abductors.

Police are right in arguing that when abductors demand payment and obtain it, this fuels more kidnappings, bolstering the ranks of criminal gangs.

While that is true, the respective regional police commander would not say that on no account would any abductee be harmed.

However, this should not amount to suggestions that police show a lack of interest in cases of alleged threats reported to them or that they habitually wait for someone to seek assistance on a personal basis.

The other feature is that a subtle form of organised criminality might be springing up right under the nose of the police, just as the Livestock and Fisheries ministry started its three-month fishing moratorium.

Suspending people's incomes for three months is sure to have telling consequences as, after all, fishing is not elastic enough for income phasing.

What is happening is not a case of low morale by police officers

detailed to tackle criminality or even suspicions that some ranks in the force aren't altogether clean on the issue.

The key issue is the fishing suspension measure as a policy seeking sustainability of fishing in the lake but has no 'exit option' for those left without income.

While investigations are relevant, and even necessary, it is the policy that ought to be revisited first by widening 'fishing' to include auxiliary sources so that no collective complaint is created.

When there are meagre or lowly catches each passing day, a moratorium would likely impose itself in a more agreeable and workable manner, especially if fishing groups or communities are empowered with auxiliary facilities.

It can't be otherwise, as there is a collective grievance that builds a customary law sort of rationalisation of measures targeting groups of now-unemployed youths and 'investors' furnishing equipment like cars.

The premise is that all these 'know' the reason for what is going on and why, instead of combating the criminality, they more or less stand aloof as appears to be the case.

Whatever way the wind blows or the argument runs, though, there is simply no denying that any issue or development inducing or precipitating criminality is not only unacceptable but also intolerable.

Accordingly, law-enforcement organs and agents need to do their utmost - and merit as much public support as possible - in so engaging their professional wisdom and general enterprise and competence in bringing to a sustainable end whatever criminality Kigoma Region is witnessing or experiencing.

Enhancing water supply is not equal to 'sparing women chains of unpaid work'

ECONOMIC and Social Research Foundation (ESRF) experts working with a number of other organisations active on the ground are understood to have embarked on an initiative meant to isolate women from the chains of unpaid work.

The whole idea of paid domestic work for a woman actually caring for her family confuses a range of analysts, as it even intimates that it is faulty.

It is not hard to see where such sentiments lead, as it is evident that it fosters childless marriages, for which there may be inklings of improper links.

Be that as it may, 'scaling up innovations for reducing and redistributing women and girls unpaid care work in rural Tanzania' is aimed at supporting water availability to rescue women from spending too much time searching for water instead of using time on income-generating activities.

The point could be simplified to read that if water is available close to households, women can diversify their routine work to include some trading or other preoccupations of various sorts.

Seeking water from distant places is a problem both for their health and for their rights as members of society seemingly neglected.

The key aspect is scaling up rainwater harvesting technology to enable households to stock sufficient amounts of the precious liquid in a regular manner, vastly easing the lot of women.

That is a positive idea worth underscoring, without framing it in ways that treat household

work for women in families as oppressive, something unpaid and therefore hurts them.

In fact, it amounts to treating the family as a man's exclusive domain and so a woman taking care of the place merits pay for that.

These are the kind of contentions national leaders and their religious allies keep cautioning about with respect to the absorbing of foreign values without much introspection.

Western NGOs have a good water supply plan for at least one district, Kishapu, in Shinyanga Region. This is said to be a pilot area in which to undertake research to measure the efficacy of the measures applied to uplift non-working women.

That they first need to detect what they are committed to doing at home for their families so that their income-generating activities are justified is not rational.

Thus, local activists need to pursue their often-difficult work to attract foreign development activists to good work like availability of water and starting income-generating activities for women if they have some time to spare at home.

But let such projects be formulated in ways that are consistent with family values, for which we don't frankly have debates concerning their merits as in overly individualistic societies.

We don't have to wait for social dislocation and immorality to start sounding the sense of urgency but we also must look critically at presumably well-meaning formulations that slowly but surely dismantle our family commitments and ethics - even religious values, for that matter.



Exposing Afghanistan's pervasive, methodical gender-biased systems

By Joyce Chimbi

THE UN Special Rapporteur's annual report on human rights in Afghanistan lays bare the alarming phenomenon of an institutionalized system of discrimination, segregation, disrespect for human dignity and exclusion of women and girls.

In the new report, Richard Bennett, the UN's Special Rapporteur, provides an intersectional analysis of the establishment and enforcement of this institutionalized system of unparalleled gender oppression. It paints a picture of a worsening situation for women and girls.

"The situation is that the de facto authorities, who control the country but are not yet recognized as a government, are not just failing to implement their obligations to human rights under the human rights treaties that they've signed. They are deliberately implementing policies and practices that flout those policies to create a society where women are permanently inferior to men," says Bennett in an exclusive interview with IPS.

"Of course, there is sexism in every country, some worse than others, but this is very different from any other country."

Bennett is referring to the distressing pattern of large-scale systematic violations and subjugation of women's and girls' fundamental rights that is unfolding, abetted by the Taliban's discriminatory and misogynist policies and harsh enforcement methods such as gender apartheid and persecution.

"Only in Afghanistan has a government shut schools for girls above the age of 13, above the sixth grade, and does not allow women to go to universities. And this, combined with segregation, means that women are really suffering. For example, women can only get treatment from doctors who are women and the same applies to teaching. It is a very segregated society as a whole. Just today, a businesswoman told me that she could only do business with female customers. This is affecting not just the current situation and the current generation, but the future as well."

The Special Rapporteur finds that the Taliban's institutionalized system of discrimination is most visible through its relentless issuance and enforcement of edicts, decrees, declarations and orders that in and of themselves constitute severe deprivations of human rights



Richard Bennett © during his oral statement at the Human Rights Council on June 18, 2024. Credit: Anne-Marie Colombet/Human Rights Council

and violations of international law.

Between June 2023 and March 2024, they issued an estimated 52 edicts. These include banning foreign non-governmental organizations from providing educational programmes, including community-based education. The Taliban banned women from participating in radio and television shows alongside male presenters.

In July 2023, female beauty salons were forced to close. In August 2023, women were prohibited from entering Band-e Amir National Park. In October 2023, women were excluded from holding directorships within non-governmental organizations. In February 2024, women on television were required to wear a black hijab, with their faces covered, leaving only their eyes visible.

"We are concerned about intergenerational issues, but also intersectional issues. There is discrimination against women and girls who are of an ethnic or religious or linguistic marginalized groups, or persons with disabilities, or a woman heading a household. Travel requires accompaniment by a close male relative and some women do not have such a person available. All of this is extremely restrictive and will also affect future generations as it will lead to a lack of education and professions," Bennett says.

The report finds that "women and girls are being maneuvered into increasingly narrow roles where the deep-rooted patriarchy, bolstered and legitimized by Taliban ideology, deems them to belong: as bearers and rearers of children, and as objects available for exploitation, including debt bondage, domestic servitude, sexual exploitation and other forms of unremunerated or poorly remunerated labor."

The UN Special Rapporteur stresses that there was progress in Afghanistan before the return of the

Taliban.

"It was not perfect, but for 20 years there was notable progress. As a result, there are very many professional women in Afghanistan, and women who head households as the main income earners - the main breadwinners for their families. The restrictions are having very serious negative effects."

Bennett is among the prominent supporters of the global #AfghanGirlsVoices campaign launched by Education Cannot Wait (ECW), the global fund for education in emergencies and protracted crises within the United Nations. Now in its second phase, the campaign aims to ensure unrestricted access to education for Afghan girls and young women.

After seizing power in 2021, the Taliban swiftly imposed a ban on secondary education for girls, subsequently expanding this restriction to encompass universities and, more recently, private learning centers. Young women have also been prevented from leaving Afghanistan to pursue tertiary education.

"There has never been universal education in Afghanistan, even in the 20 years preceding the return of the Taliban. However, the education system gradually improved, although not as much in remote or rural areas. Part of this was due to a lack of resources, as well as an ongoing internal conflict. So, it was insecure and difficult to maintain schools. But once the Taliban came back into power after August 2021, an education system built over two decades was quickly unraveling," he says.

In addition to the school closures, he speaks of concerns about the quality of education from two perspectives. One is the alarm over an ongoing brain drain in Afghanistan since the Taliban took over. Many teachers and university

lecturers have left the country.

The other concerns are changes to the curriculum and especially a notable increase in madrasa education. Madrasa education has always been a feature of life in Afghanistan. "But now there seems to be at least anecdotal information that the teaching is much more religious-based than a broad education. Girls can go to madrasas," he says.

On recommendations and urgent solutions moving forward, Bennett stresses that "no country should ban schools. We therefore continue to call for the reversal of this policy and the reopening of schools with a good quality education. My recommendations are what I call an all-tools approach, as only one approach or any one tool will not work."

Overall, he says the report calls for justice and accountability, incorporating human rights and women's voices in political processes and diplomatic engagement.

Emphasizing that bolstering documentation of human rights abuses and violations is critical, as is reinforcing protection and solidarity for Afghan women, girls and human rights defenders.

Bennett has a direct message to the current rulers in Afghanistan, the Taliban, to reverse their policies and to comply with human rights. The second message is to the international community, urging them not to normalize or recognize Afghanistan's unacceptable and worsening human rights situation.

Further stressing that the global community should strongly resist normalizing diplomatic relations or accepting the Taliban into the UN unless and until they meet concrete, measurable, verifiable benchmarks on human rights and the rights of women and girls.

IPS UN Bureau Report



Belgian development agency
enabel.be

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Young people especially young women are empowered to thrive in a protective and gender-equal environment, to acquire education and skills, and to pursue decent work opportunities in Kigoma Region.

TZA22003-10062

Enabel, Belgian Development Agency is launching a Call for Proposals for **Girls and young women (14 to 29 years), in targeted districts of Kigoma, are empowered through multiple conducive learning pathways to enjoy decent, greener employment and an increased access to entrepreneurship** financed by the project/programme **Wezeshu Binti**. The full text of the guidelines for applicants may be consulted on the following website:

https://www.enabel.be/grants/?in_country=1383&is_status=all#grants

The deadline for submission of proposals is set at 5/8/2024 at 12:00 noon at the latest.

An information session on this Call for Proposals will be hosted online through TEAMS on 15/7/2024 at 10:00am.

Egyptian taxi driver turns cab into mobile library to encourage reading

ALEXANDRIA

ON a street in northern Egypt's coastal governorate of Alexandria, several passers-by were checking a variety of books placed on a taxi. The taxi driver, Mohammed Azzam, has turned his cab into a mobile library three or four days a week to encourage people to read.

"I have loved reading since childhood, that is one of the reasons why I decided to launch a mobile taxi library initiative," 42-year-old Azzam told Xinhua, satisfied to see pedestrians being interested in his books.

Azzam provided people with books during his non-working time, allowing them to read for up to three hours each time. Putting forward the initiative three years ago, the taxi driver has now become widely known in Alexandria.

He then opened a small library on the street for bookworms,

where he also sold books such as school textbooks and stationery to help fund his taxi library initiative.

The middle-aged man cited the main reason for launching the initiative as people's reluctance to read after the spread of the Internet and social networks. "People waste their time playing games on mobile phones or surfing social media pages," Azzam said, explaining, "People may get some benefit from these behaviors, but there is nothing better than holding and reading a book."

Samia Mohammed, a 22-year-old college student, said she stumbled upon the taxi-turned-library by chance and then frequented it for reading. "It was a bit strange for me to see a taxi driver showcasing books on his car for pedestrians," Mohammed said, adding that she greatly admired the idea.

"With no hesitation, I picked up a psychology book that interested

me," the student told Xinhua, adding most of her friends have now become frequent visitors to the unique library. "We have gotten Azzam's phone number. We will call to know when and where he is going to be stationed," she said, flashing a smile.

Mahmoud Abdo, a high schooler who also visited the mobile library, said such an initiative "will certainly attract more people and encourage them to read." "People rarely read in current days ... I read my school textbooks only."

Through this initiative, I also prefer to read some literature and scientific books now," Abdo told Xinhua.

Azzam said he wishes to promote the initiative by opening more small libraries inside Alexandria and inviting others to join him. "I also hope that similar initiatives will be launched across the country, mainly in remote areas," Azzam told Xinhua.



People read books at a mobile taxi library in Alexandria, Egypt, June 29, 2024. (Xinhua/Ahmed Gomaa)



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

PROVISION OF EMBEDDED PLATE, WATERPROOF MATERIAL, DUCTILE IRON MANHOLE COVER, PREFABRICATED PARTS

Ref: MST-TZ-20240622

Daqing Oilfield Construction Group Co., Ltd. (hereinafter as DOCG), as a CONTRACTOR for Storage & Terminal of EACOP Project, invites experienced and reputable contractors that have demonstrable capability, willingness, ability and availability to perform related works to express their interest in providing various services in the description to the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) project.

The EACOP Project development involves the engineering, construction, operation and maintenance of a crude oil export pipeline crossing Uganda and Tanzania and an onshore Marine Terminal in Chongoleani, near Tanga Port in Tanzania.

There are Four (4) planned packages for Terminal as follows,

Package-1: PROVISION OF FOUNDATION EMBEDDED PLATE (Ref: MST-TZ-20240622-001)

Brief Description of the Scope of the Materials:
The scope of the materials shall be machined and perforated as per drawings. Supplier can provide foundation embedded plate longer than 3.4m and thicker than 30mm.

Package-2: PROVISION OF WATERPROOF MATERIAL (Ref: MST-TZ-20240622-002)

Brief Description of the Scope of the Materials:
The scope of the materials shall include Sikaflex tank, Sika swell 2003, Chemical resistant coating, bitumen emulsion, isolation board, polyethylene sheet, modified bitumen coating etc.

Package-3: DUCTILE IRON MANHOLE COVER (Ref: MST-TZ-20240622-003)

Brief Description of the Scope of the Materials:
The scope of the materials are clear opening with heavy duty airtight, ductile iron manhole cover and frame bedded on grout.

Package-4: PREFABRICATED PARTS (Ref: MST-TZ-20240622-004)

Brief Description of the Scope of the Materials:
The scope of the materials shall include Precast Concrete and Welded Prefabricated Parts etc.

Should you be interested in participating any or all of the packages, please provide below minimum requirements clearly specifying the package(s) of interest, including the reference number(s).

Minimum Requirements for all Packages

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

- Company Profile;
- An experience list for similar services supplied in the last five (5) years;
- Confirmation that they can supply equipment as new, advanced, mature, High automation, complete and safe and reliable equipment;
- A copy of their own and main suppliers ISO and OHSAS current certification or equivalent;
- Compliance with petroleum (local content) regulations, 2017 and local company definition for Tanzania.
- Evidence of organization HSE Management Systems & policy, procedure, and process in compliance with applicable Industry standards for similar works.
- Quality assurance & Quality control plan/ procedures in place for the execution of similar type of work, Copy of ISO or any other certification as applicable.
- Proof of registration/application to Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.

Interested companies with the capacity to provide the services listed above should express their interest in English language by sending the above documents to zhaoning@docgi.cn; renhulin@docgi.cn; (not exceeding 20 MBs) on or before 17:00 hours East African Time (EAT), on 16/July/2024. Subject of the email should be MST-TZ-20240622 EOI -#— [COMPANY NAME].

Companies satisfactorily meeting the above minimum requirements will receive, subject to the signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), a detailed pre-qualification questionnaire for further evaluation by Company.

DOCG reserves the right not to consider companies that submit an incomplete dossier.

Note: Only prequalified companies will receive invitation to submit bids in furtherance of the call for tender process.



DAR ES SALAAM STOCK EXCHANGE PLC

DECLARATION OF DIVIDEND FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER 2023

The Board of Directors of Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange PLC (DSE) announce that the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of shareholders held on 25th June, 2024, approved the Audited Financial Statements and Declaration of Dividend of **TZS 145** per issued and fully paid up shares in line with the DSE's Dividend Policy. The total dividend declared is **TZS 3,454 billion**, which is 61 percent of the net profit generated in year 2023.

Pursuant to the Dividend Payment Declaration, the timetable for dividend payment shall be as follows:

Announcement of Dividend Payment:	25 th June, 2024
Trading of Shares cum Dividend:	25 th June – 15 th July 2024
Trading of Shares Ex-Dividend:	16 th July, 2024 onwards
Closure of the Members Register:	18 th July, 2024
Dividend Payment Date on/or about:	16 th August 2024

Dividend will be paid directly to shareholders bank accounts or mobile wallet, for those who have provided banking information or telephone numbers. Shareholders are requested to communicate their bank account/mobile wallet information to the Registrar:

CSD & Registry Company Limited (CSDR),
2nd Floor, Kambarage House, 6 Ufukoni Street,
P.O. Box 70081,
DAR ES SALAAM

Telephone: 0746160516 / 0677070414
Email: registrar@csdr.co.tz

Beijing Declaration of the Conference marking the 70th anniversary of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence

BEIJING

ON June 28, 2024, the Conference Marking the 70th Anniversary of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence was held in Beijing. President Xi Jinping of the People's Republic of China attended the conference and delivered an important address. Premier Li Qiang of the State Council of the People's Republic of China moderated the conference. Former political leaders from countries including Viet Nam, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Laos, Thailand, Indonesia, the Maldives, Egypt, Ethiopia, South Africa, Kyrgyzstan, Moldova, Brazil, Guyana, Japan, Republic of Korea, Italy, France, Croatia and Slovenia, representatives of international/regional organizations, and diplomatic envoys, academics, friends, as well as representatives of the press and the business community from more than 100 countries were present at the conference. The conference issued the Beijing Declaration.

Under the theme of "From the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence to Building a Community with a Shared Future for Mankind" and with four sub-forums focusing respectively on the Contemporary Value of Asian Wisdom, the Vision and Mission of the Global South in a Shifting Landscape, Contributing to Global Prosperity through Chinese Modernization, and Promoting Global Governance Featuring Extensive Consultation and Joint Contribution for Shared Benefits, the commemorative events broadened consensus among the parties on building a community with a shared future for mankind.

As the host of the commemorative events, the Chinese side summarized the key viewpoints of the participants as follows:

I

1. Seventy years ago, Chinese leaders put forth in full the following Five Principles, i.e. mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, mutual non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence. These principles were included in China's joint statements with India and Myanmar, which called for establishing the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence as the basic norm in state-to-state relations. The appeal has had an epoch-making significance.

2. Over the past seventy years, the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence have shown everlasting relevance. Informed by Asian wisdom, they have become open, inclusive, and universally applicable basic norms for international relations and fundamental principles of international law. They have made indelible historic contributions to the cause of human progress.

3. The Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence are consistent with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and reflect the underlying trend of international relations. With a greater emphasis on mutuality and equality, these principles provide a whole set of basic norms for peaceful coexistence among countries across political, security, economic and diplomatic domains, and have a far-reaching impact on the development of international relations and international law.

4. The Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence have opened a new path for the establishment and development of relations between countries with different social systems. These principles enable countries to break free from antagonistic and confrontational mindsets, coexist peacefully on the basis of equality and mutual respect, and resolve disagreements and disputes by peaceful means.

5. The Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence have bolstered the efforts of developing countries to deepen solidarity and cooperation and seek strength through unity. These principles have inspired developing countries to find independent paths of development, and contributed to the improvement and development of North-South relations.

6. The Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence were designed to protect the legitimate rights and interests of developing countries, and redress the systems of imperialism, colonialism and hegemonism. These principles have laid an intellectual foundation for and lent impetus to a more just and equitable international



Chinese President Xi Jinping delivers an important speech at the Conference Marking the 70th Anniversary of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence in Beijing, China, June 28, 2024. File photo

al order.

II

7. The Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence are showing greater vitality amidst global transformations not seen in a century. Building a community with a shared future for mankind is a natural step for carrying forward the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence under the new circumstances, and enriches the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence with the imperatives of the new era.

8. The Vision of Building a Community with a Shared Future for Mankind carries forward the essence of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, and builds on them to better reflect the reality that all countries share the same future. The overarching goal is to build a world of lasting peace, universal security and shared prosperity and one that is open, inclusive, clean and beautiful, which points the direction for all countries to work together on Earth, the planet we call home.

9. The participants spoke positively of China's proposals for advancing high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, the Global Development Initiative, the Global Security Initiative, and the Global Civilization Initiative, and recognized their great significance for safeguarding international peace and security, promoting global sustainable development, and contributing to human civilization and progress. These initiatives offer concrete and workable pathways toward building a community with a shared future for mankind.

10. The essence of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence is sovereign equality, which

is the most important norm in state-to-state relations. All countries are equal. The big should not subdue the small, the strong should not bully the weak, and the rich should not exploit the poor. World multipolarity should be characterized by equality and order. International law should be applied in an equal and uniform manner to all countries. Double standards and exceptionalism should be rejected.

11. Mutual respect is a ground rule of state-to-state interaction and the basis of building a new type of international relations. Considering that countries differ in historical and cultural traditions and development stages, it is imperative to respect the development paths and systems chosen independently by the people of other countries, not to impose one's will on other countries, and not to interfere in their internal affairs. Major countries should set an example.

12. All countries should take the path of peaceful development, act on the vision of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security, work for building a more balanced, effective and sustainable security architecture, and resolve major international and regional issues through dialogue rather than confrontation.

13. In the era of economic globalization, it is important to promote development and achieve mutual benefit through cooperation. It is also important to make the global economy bigger and let more countries have an equitable share in the benefits of development, thus making globalization more universally beneficial and inclu-

sive. Unilateral and protectionist measures in violation of the laws of economics and market principles will end up harming all sides.

14. Promoting the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence is conducive to safeguarding international fairness and justice and upholding true multilateralism. It is important to jointly defend the international system with the United Nations at the center and advance global governance characterized by extensive consultation and joint contribution for shared benefit. Hot-spot issues, such as the Ukraine crisis and the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, can only be resolved by a political settlement through dialogue and consultation. Global challenges, such as those emanating from climate change and artificial intelligence, must be addressed through open cooperation.

15. Exchanges and mutual learning between civilizations drive human progress. It is important to respect the diversity of civilizations in an open and inclusive spirit, reject the discriminatory and exclusionary notion of "civilizational superiority," and refrain from inciting clashes of civilizations. Peace, development, equity, justice, democracy and freedom are humanity's common values. They command the greatest global consensus and should be upheld by all.

16. The Global South is a key force that advocates and practices the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. It should be the staunch force for peace, the core driving force for open development, the construction team of global governance, and

the advocates for exchange among civilizations. It can make a greater contribution to South-South and North-South cooperation as well as human progress.

17. The participants commended the announcements by China for supporting Global South cooperation, which include:

Establishing a Global South research center, providing 1,000 scholarships under the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence Scholarship of Excellence and 100,000 training opportunities to Global South countries in the next five years, and launching a Global South youth leaders program;

Further leveraging the China-U.N. Peace and Development Fund, the Global Development and South-South Cooperation Fund, and the Climate Change South-South Cooperation Fund, and working with interested parties to set up a tripartite center of excellence for implementing the Global Development Initiative, so as to facilitate growth in Global South countries;

Renewing the China-IFAD South-South and Triangular Cooperation Facility and making an additional Renminbi contribution equivalent to U.S.\$10 million to be used to support agricultural development of the Global South;

Discussing free trade arrangements with more Global South countries, continuing to support the WTO's Aid for Trade initiative, renewing contribution to the WTO's China Program, and welcoming more Global South countries to join the Initiative on International Trade and Economic Cooperation Framework for Digital Economy and Green Development; and

Between now and 2030, China's import from fellow developing countries is expected to exceed U.S.\$8 trillion.

III

18. The participants spoke highly of the enormous achievements in Chinese modernization and China's relentless efforts for and contribution to safeguarding world peace, promoting friendly cooperation with other countries, and advancing common development of the world.

19. The participants were grateful for China's thoughtful organization of the commemorative events. They expressed readiness to work with China to turn into reality the wide-ranging consensus reached at the events, continue championing the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, and build a community with a shared future for mankind in order to create a better future for human society.

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Initiative meant to curb post-harvest loss is launched

By Getrude Mbagi

POST-HARVEST loss is among major challenges facing small-holder farmers in many countries including Tanzania, the country with many of them choosing to sell their produce soon after they harvest to avoid losses.

The Ministry of Agriculture estimates that small farmers lose between 15 percent and 40 percent of their harvests each year to mold, mildew, bugs, rats and other causes which threaten food insecurity.

To help overcome the challenge, the Sustainable Agriculture Tanzania has embarked on a special Post-Harvest Management (PHM) project to capacitate farmers with knowledge, skills and techniques on how to protect their produce after harvest in Mvomero and Gairo districts in Morogoro as well as Chamwino and Kongwa districts in Dodoma.

In a recently meeting that brought together leaders of small-scale farmers from various villages in Morogoro and Dodoma Revocatus Kisendi, PHM project manager said the programme which commenced early this year and until December, 2026 is set to revolutionise post-harvest management and boost incomes and livelihoods of small-scale farmers.

He said the initiative, which firstly started by conducting a participatory research, will greatly help improve management and post-harvest handling of cereals among farmers in the country.

According to her, the study conducted found the use of hermetic storage in particular hermetic bags will greatly help prevent post-harvest losses, boost incomes and food security.

The research demonstrated the effectiveness of hermetic bags in reducing postharvest losses by over 90percent and indicated that access to hermetic storage bags led smallholder farmers to store for longer periods, sell at higher prices, and shift consumption away from market sources to their own stock.

Massawe noted that smallholder farmers typically store grains after harvest for household consumption and as seeds. Traditionally, grains are stored in earthen pots, bamboo baskets, and other indigenous storage structures which are not insect-, pest- or moisture-proof, and cause losses, both through a direct loss of grain for consumption and in indirect losses of quality and nutritional value.

"The purpose is to have a relatively faster multiplier effect on the PHM knowledge among farmers, thus reducing the current observed grain post-harvest loss levels substantially through the promotion of knowledge and adoption of the use of hermetic bags as a reliable technology for grain storage. This will also ensure the availability of enough healthy food in the respective areas," she explained.

The three-year project (2024-2026), is implemented in collaboration with the Institute of Science and Technology (ISTP), Helvetas Tanzania, the University of Zurich (UZH), and the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) with



support from Liechtenstein Development Service (LED) and Symph sis. Some of the farmers expressed their gratitude to the stakeholders for coming up with the initiative to support them with training on how to manage post-harvest loss but also inform them about the best storage materials such as hermetic bags.

"In the past, we used to store our produce in normal bags; we would buy them even two times a year because we faced the risk of losing harvests to pest invasion. But since the introduction of this new technology, using the hermetic storage bags, we are not incurring huge costs anymore to buy chemicals to preserve the crops," said Monica Madebe, a farmer from Chingholwe Village in Gairo District, Morogoro Region.

She said that she was introduced to the hermetic bags three years ago when she and fellow farmers were trained by SAT on the technology and later bought the bags which have proven efficient ingrain storage.

"I remember I bought four bags at 4000/-each and stored my maize there, they have stayed and remained

with its quality even after many months, sometime I can store the maize for two years and no insect destroy them. So the technology has helped reduce costs of purchasing chemicals and other fumigants to protect our produce," she said.

Luka Chihala, a farmer from ChiweVillage in Kongwa District, Morogoro Region said the bags keep grain dry and fresh, and keep bugs and mold out.

"At first, farmers were afraid to adopt the bags but after going through an intensive training from experts to assures of the safety and quality of the bags, many of us bought and started to store our maize and other produce and we can testify that they are the best as we have now forgotten the use of chemicals," he said.

He was echoed by Jeremia Mkunda, a farmer from Kivipipa Village in Gairo said he used to spend a lot of cash on pesticides to preserve his maize but the new bags cut that cost.

Ally Solly, one of the suppliers of the bags said with the rapid technological changes, initiatives to adopt proven

tech solutions to help boost yields and fight post-harvest is something which should be given major priority by the government and stakeholders.

He urged farmers, especially those in remote areas to join in groups in order to be able to access the hermetic bags easily and affordably during the harvesting period.

Antusa Massawe, programme manager from SAT hermetic bag technology intervention, had the potential to help smallholders in our study maintain grain quantity during storage by protecting them from average and extreme losses, while also preserving quality by eliminating the need for storage of chemical insecticides.

More African nations focus on HPV vaccination against cervical cancer

ABUJA

YUNUSA Bawa spends a lot of time talking about the vaccine for the human papillomavirus that is responsible for nearly all cases of cervical cancer. But on most days, only two or three people allow their daughters to be vaccinated in the rural part of Nigeria where he works.

The challenge in Sabo community, on the outskirts of the capital of Abuja, is the unfounded rumour that the HPV vaccine will later keep young girls from having babies.

"The rumour is too much," said Bawa, 42.

As more African countries strive to administer more HPV vaccines, Bawa and other health workers tackle challenges that slow progress, particularly misinformation about the vaccine. The World Health Organization's Africa office estimates that about 25 percent of the population still has doubts about it – reflecting concerns seen in some other parts of the world in early campaigns for the vaccine.

A common sexually transmitted virus, HPV can cause cervical cancer, certain other cancers and genital warts. In most cases, the virus doesn't cause any problems, but some infections persist and eventually lead to cancer.

Across Africa, an average of 190 women died daily from cer-

vical cancer in 2020, accounting for 23 percent of the deaths globally and making it the leading cancer killer among women in the WHO Africa region of 47 countries. Eighteen of the 20 countries with the highest rate of cervical cancer cases in the world are in Africa. Yet the region's HPV vaccination rate has been low.

More than half of Africa's 54 nations - 28 - have introduced the vaccine in their immunization programmes, but only five have reached the 90 percent coverage that the continent hopes to achieve by 2030. Across the region, 33 percent of young girls have been vaccinated with HPV.

It's a stark contrast to most European countries, where both girls and boys have been receiving HPV shots.

Part of why Africa has a high burden of cervical cancer is because of limited access to screening for women, said Emily Kobayashi, head of the HPV Programme at the vaccines alliance Gavi.

"The elimination strategy is a long game ... but we know that vaccination is the strongest pillar and one of the easiest to implement," Kobayashi said.

But "it is one thing to introduce the vaccine, but if the vaccine remains in the fridge, it doesn't prevent cervical cancer," said Charles Shey Wiysonge, head of the vaccine-preventable

diseases programme in the WHO's Africa region. He said information must be provided by people "who are trusted, people who are close to the communities."

There is a long history of vaccine hesitancy in many African countries that is sometimes linked to a lack of trust in government, as one study published in the Nature science journal in May found, giving room for conspiracy theories and misinformation from social media influencers and religious leaders.

In Zimbabwe, where cervical cancer is the most frequent cancer among women, a group of mostly women known as Village Health Workers have been trained to raise awareness about cervical cancer and the HPV vaccine in rural areas. But they fight a high level of hesitancy among religious sects that discourage followers from modern medicines, asking them to rely instead on prayers and "anointed" water and stones.

The women who eventually agree to be screened for cervical cancer do so in secret, said Zanele Ndlovu, one of the health workers on the outskirts of Bulawayo city.

For a deeply religious country like Zimbabwe, "the spiritual leaders have so much influence that a lot of our time is taken trying to educate people about the safety of vaccines, or that they are not ungodly," Ndlovu said.

There are also success stories in Africa where authorities

have achieved up to a 90 percent vaccination rate. One example is Ethiopia, which relies heavily on religious leaders, teachers and hotline workers.

In Rwanda, the first African country to implement a national HPV vaccination programme in 2011, the coverage rate has reached 90 percent. Hesitancy is less of an issue due to vigorous awareness work that has relied on school-based campaigns and community outreach programmes, said Dr Theoneste Maniragaba, director of the cancer programme at Rwanda Biomedical Center.

Mozambique has deployed school-based programmes, a door-to-door approach and mobile outreach for girls in hard-to-reach areas that has helped it reach 80 percent coverage rate with the first of two doses. In Tanzania, where the HPV vaccine has been in use since at least 2018, authorities in April launched a campaign to target over 5 million girls and further raise coverage, which has reached 79 percent of girls with the first dose.

One of Africa's largest HPV vaccination drives targeting girls recently kicked off in Nigeria, which has procured nearly 15 million doses with the help of the U.N. children's agency. It will target girls ages 9-14 with single doses that the WHO's African immunization advisory group has said is as effective as the regular two doses.

One challenge is explaining the HPV vaccination to girls ahead of the onset of sexual activity, especially in conservative societies, said Dr. Aisha Mustapha, a gynaecologist in northern Kaduna state.

Mustapha has been successfully treated for cervical cancer. She said the experience helps in her meetings with religious leaders and in community outreach programmes in Kaduna, where she leads the Medical Women Association of Nigeria.

They try to make the girls feel comfortable and understand why the vaccine is important, she said. That sometimes requires comic books and lots of singing.



How a Gaza 'stunt' divided Australia's parliament

By Hannah Ritchie

WHEN Fatima Payman crossed the Senate floor to vote against her government she knew it would come with consequences.

The Australian Labor party has strict penalties for those who undermine its collective positions, and acts of defiance can lead to expulsion - a precedent with a 130-year history.

The last time one of its politicians tested the waters while in power was before Ms Payman was born.

But last Tuesday, the 29-year-old did just that - joining the Green party and independent senators to support a motion on Palestinian statehood.

Officially the Australian government supports a two-state solution, but did not back the motion after trying - and failing - to insert a condition that any recognition should be "as part of a peace process".

Within hours, Ms Payman had been temporarily suspended from her party room, by the end of the week it would become indefinite - after she publicly vowed to cross the floor again if given the opportunity.

"By her own actions and statements, Senator Payman has placed herself outside the privilege that comes with participating in the federal parliamentary Labor Party caucus," a government spokesperson said.

Prime Minister and Labor leader Anthony Albanese was more concise: "No individual is bigger than the team."

On Monday, Ms Payman responded by saying she had been "exiled" - explaining that she had been removed from caucus meetings, group chats and all committees.

The dismissal of the senator, elected in what was billed as Australia's most diverse parliament to date, has drawn a mixed response and raised questions - mainly, whether it's practical or fair for politicians to toe the line on issues affecting their communities.

Each step 'felt like a mile'

Ms Payman stands out in Australia's parliament.

The first and only hijab-wearing federal politician, she has been described as the embodiment of some of the nation's most marginalised: a young woman, a migrant, a Muslim.

She recounted crossing the Senate floor as "the most difficult decision" of her political career, adding that each step of her short walk had "felt like a mile".

However, the 29-year-old said she was "proud" of what she had done, and "bitterly disappointed" others hadn't followed.

"I walked with my Muslim brothers and sisters who told me they have felt unheard for far too long," she said.

The Israeli military launched a campaign to destroy the Hamas group which runs Gaza in response to an



Payman is Australia's first and only hijab-wearing federal politician

unprecedented Hamas-led attack on southern Israel on 7 October, during which about 1,200 people were killed and 251 others were taken hostage.

More than 37,900 people have been killed in Gaza since then, including 23 over the past 24 hours, according to the territory's Hamas-run health ministry.

This has become a volatile political issue in Australia that all sides have sought to carefully manage.

As has been the case in countless other countries, there have been protests from both Jewish and Muslim communities, as well as a sharp uptick in Islamophobia and antisemitism.

The senator's move has drawn both praise and criticism.

Anne Aly - who became the first Muslim woman to be elected in Australia's parliament in 2016 - and has been a fierce advocate for an end to the conflict

in Gaza, said she disagreed with Ms Payman's approach.

"I choose to do things in a way I think will make a material difference on the ground. Fatima chooses to do it her way," she told news outlet the ABC.

But Josh Burns - a Jewish Labor MP from Melbourne - who has a different world view from Ms Payman when it comes to issues such as Palestinian statehood, has been one of her biggest supporters.

"Parliamentarians come from different communities and backgrounds, and trying to balance all those perspectives isn't easy, but we must be an example to the Australian community about how to debate difficult issues respectfully."

The nation's Islamic bodies have also issued a joint statement describing Ms Payman's actions as "courageous" and calling on the Labor party to "echo the voices of the people it represents".

"Political calculations and attempts to walk both sides have devastating consequences in Palestine and will ultimately end in failure," it read.

But Mr Albanese called the resolution a "stunt", adding: "We need actually real solutions... this stunt from the Greens was designed to put Fatima Payman in a difficult position. It was designed to do that."

Mr Albanese's penalty against Ms Payman has been more lenient than the complete expulsion that party rules require.

And he's left the door open for her to re-enter the fold if she's willing to change course: "Fatima Payman is welcome to return to participating in the team if she accepts she's a member of it," he said in an interview on Monday.

"Not a token representative" Australian politicians have voted against their own beliefs to fall in line with party politics before.

Queer MPs - including current Foreign Minister Penny Wong - felt a similar conflict in the Labor caucus back in the days when it officially opposed gay marriage.

It's an issue that has opened Ms Wong up to personal attacks, but she's remained adamant that quiet advocacy from within the party - rather than public criticism - is

the preferred route.

And she says it was a decade of doing just that which saw same-sex marriage legalised.

"Even when we disagree, we have those arguments internally, as you saw over many years in the marriage equality debate. That's what I did, and I think that's the right way to go about it," she told the ABC.

But when asked whether she should have followed precedent, Ms Payman said: "It took 10 years to legislate same-sex marriage... These Palestinians do not have 10 years."

The contrasting approaches represent the changing demands of the Australian public, according to Kos Samaras - one of the nation's leading pollsters.

He says a growing cohort of young, multicultural voters are increasingly aligning themselves with politicians who aren't afraid to take a stance on causes their constituents are "passionate about".

He also argues that migrant communities are no longer willing to accept political messaging that effectively urges them to "keep their head down".

"Australia has had a terrible history, whether from a societal perspective or political parties - that whenever someone from a diverse background expresses their view, overwhelmingly they're told to pull their head in."

"That's a formula that kind of works when a new group of people migrate to a country and want to keep a low profile as they're establishing a new life - it's not going to work with those migrants' kids. And that's exactly who we're talking about."

"These are people who have grown up in a country that has often made them feel like outsiders, and they're no longer prepared to keep silent," he adds, noting recent polling from his team which found that many young Australian-Muslim women feel they lack a political voice.

A refugee whose family fled Afghanistan after it fell to the Taliban in 1996, it's a sentiment that Ms Payman says guides her politics.

"I was not elected as a token representative of diversity," she said after her temporary suspension last week.

"I was elected to serve the people of Western Australia and uphold the values instilled in me by my late father."

Ms Payman says that she believes the government is freezing her out to "intimidate" her into resigning.

But Mr Albanese is adamant that his decision is the right one, while emphasising that it is not about Ms Payman's "policy position" but rather, her decision to "undermine" her party.

For the time being at least, the young lawmaker has vowed to "abstain from voting on Senate matters... unless a matter of conscience arises where I'll uphold the true values and principles of the Labor Party."

BBC

THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORDS/WORD FIT - 1 25

Crossword grid with clues: Across: 1 mysterious tricks, 6 bring out or develop, 7 Liberated Israelites from Egypt, 8 substracted, 10 practical intelligence, 11 the seventh letter of the Greek alphabet, 13 set or turn on its end or upside down, 14 Paris is her mother city. Down: 1 the impetus gained by a moving object, 2 an action performed to convey one's feelings or intentions, 3 thoughts, 4 torsk, 5 intend to, 9 put food into the mouth and chew, 11 Garden where Adam lived, 12 an assistant to a political leader.

Word search puzzle with clues: REACHABLE, PER CENT, IMARI, EVE: TAS, AGE: VIA, BEDAD, NICE:RIDE, LOANEES, ALLSEED, NEAREST, MICE, MEET: RY, DADDY:AER, SHARED, PALM:IMAM, EGOISM. Includes 'Yesterday's solution' grid.

RADIO One RAJIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI. Program schedule for Monday through Sunday with various time slots and program names.

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One. Social media icons for Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter, along with the Radio One logo.

BUSINESS

Helium developer to conduct well test on Tanzanian project

By Guardian Reporter

HELIUM One Global Ltd has announced that it has made significant progress at its Rukwa project in Tanzania, telling investors it is on track to begin its extended well test (EWT) of Itumbula West-1 (ITW-1) later this month.

The company-owned rig is already on-site and ready for third-party services to begin rigging up ahead of the spud.

Additionally, the helium exploration group has acquired well control equipment to complement the drilling rig.

"An experienced drill crew has been appointed for the EWT operations, and personnel mobilisation is underway. Essential long lead items required for the July spud are arriving at the site," the company said in a statement on Monday this week.

"In preparation for the operations, the remobilisation of camp personnel and medical support is in progress."

In the update, Helium One said it has inked a contract with the global technology company SLB, formerly known

as Schlumberger, for the provision of cementing, drilling and completion fluids services, and surface well test equipment and services. GeoLog International BV has been contracted for mudlogging services.

Laboratory results of helium samples from ITW-1, a fault-fracture helium play, have been consistent with measurements made by the onsite field PVT laboratory, indicating positive outcomes for the project.

The second phase of fieldwork for the environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) study, required for the feasibility study, is ready to commence.

Both the feasibility study and sub-surface modelling are underway and will be integrated with the EWT results in preparation for the mining licence application.

"The team has remained focused over the past few months to meet the timelines, including the ordering and delivery of long lead items, integrated subsurface modelling and engineering in order to form the basis of a feasibility



study which will be required to apply for a Mining Licence to enable us to move into project development once the EWT is complete," said CEO Lorna Blaisse.

"We're very grateful to the Ministry of Minerals and the Mining Commission in Tanzania as well as the local communities in which we operate, for their ongoing support shown towards the company and the advancement of the southern Rukwa helium project."

Study has estimated 5.7 Trillion cubic feet (Tcf) of helium to have been generated beneath the Rukwa basin in Tanzania, just within the upper 10km of basement.

Rukwa is a large-scale, high-grade, primary helium project covering an area of approximately 3,590 km² in southwestern Tanzania in the Rukwa Rift Basin, comprising the Western Branch of the East African Rift System. The presence of helium in Tanzania's hot springs was first detected by geologist TC James in 1956 with concentration levels of 13 to 18 percent helium recorded in the gas analysis.

In 2016, a study by the University of Oxford noted that "There needs to be a thermal release of helium from the ancient crustal material, which is why high helium deposits are so rare. Tanzania meets this very rare criterion."

Another study by the Durham University indicated that "Within the Rukwa Rift Valley, helium seeps occur in the vicinity of trapping structures that have the potential to store significant reserves of helium."

TTB to solidify tourism as primary economic driver

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Tourism Board (TTB) has said it is striving to metamorphose the tourism sector into the preeminent driver of economic growth, as the country is currently rising in the realm of global tourism map.

The board's objectives involve increasing foreign exchange earnings and swelling international arrivals, consequently establishing tourism as a cornerstone of the nation's flourishing financial landscape.

Amidst challenges and uncertainties, the nation has demonstrated indomitable spirit and tenacity, ultimately emerging as a beacon of hope and inspiration for countless others who strive for similar success.

Defying expectations, the East African gem has witnessed a phenomenal rebound in its tourism sector, with both the influx of travelers and revenue generated now surpassing pre-pandemic levels.

At a gathering last weekend in Mikumi National Park, Efraim Mafuru, TTB Director General, took great pride in revealing the organization's ambitious goal for the tourism industry.

With a clear and resolute voice, Mafuru declared that the TTB seeks to transform the tourism sector into the leading economic contributor by attracting a growing number of visitors from around the globe.

Fueled by their passion for preserving and promoting Tanzania's breathtaking landscapes, vibrant culture, and unique wildlife experiences, the TTB team is dedicated to making this vision a reality.

According to the latest statistics from Mafuru, as of December 31, 2023, an astounding 1,808,000 international tourists had journeyed to Tanzania to immerse themselves in its enchanting tapestry of experiences.

This represents significant growth compared to the same period in 2019, when 1,527,000 visitors traveled through the country, leaving an indelible mark on its welcoming soil and providing testament to their experience.

Media reports suggest that the tourism sector remains a critical source of foreign currency, generating USD \$3.58 billion in revenue in March of this year, up from USD \$2.7 billion recorded during the same month in 2023.

Similarly, revenues surged in April of this year, reaching USD \$5.75 billion compared to USD \$2.8 billion registered during the same month in 2023.

Notably, other top contributors include mineral exports, which amounted to USD \$3.1 billion in April of this year and transportation services, responsible for USD \$2.5 billion generated during the same period.

Therefore, by sharing his aspirations with such fervent enthusiasm, Mafuru has ignited excitement and anticipation within both the local community and the international audience. He has positioned Tanzania on the path toward unprecedented growth and prosperity through sustainable tourism development.

Additionally, since the northern tourism circuit has been thriving, the focus is now on stimulating and elevating the



Efraim Mafuru, TTB Director General

country's southern tourist circuit, with TTB making monumental strides beyond merely attempting to increase visitor numbers.

The board has envisioned a groundbreaking initiative; the introduction of innovative tourism marketing themed "Tanzania Unforgettable." This will complement what President Samia Suluhu Hassan initiated with the famous 'Royal Tour' documentary and the 'Amazing Tanzania,' which targets the Chinese market.

These additions are meticulously designed to perfectly supplement the country's globally recognized wildlife attractions,

ensuring an even more captivating and holistic experience for travelers from around the world.

According to Mafuru, among the tourism products the board hopes to initiate are not limited to wildlife but also include increased emphasis on beach and floating restaurants, cultural and historical tourism, meetings and events tourism, as well as sports tourism.

Mafuru stated, "We understand that the needs of tourists are changing. Therefore, as a board, we have agreed that in order to promote various attractions, we must be creative."

Mafuru further illustrated his point with the following examples: "Take, for instance, the Great Serengeti Wildebeest Migration. We could develop it into a standalone product for which tourists pay exclusively to witness this natural marvel."

Adding: "Specifically, tourists may choose to observe over 1.8 million wildebeests on the move, accompanied by significant numbers of zebras, Grant's gazelles, Thompson's gazelles, elands, and impalas."

"Alternatively, visitors might opt to pay for the opportunity to behold the calving season, which takes place between January and March. During this time, expectant female wildebeests give birth. In actuality, nearly 8,000 calves are born every day during that three-month period."

Mafuru believed that such an abundance of young and inexperienced animals serves as a powerful attraction for African predators. Consequently, the likelihood of observing predator-prey interactions or even capturing footage of a kill is significantly heightened throughout the Serengeti calving season.

This offers excellent opportunities for wildlife photography enthusiasts while simultaneously posing potential threats to the lives of vulnerable wildebeests but that is nature.

Factors behind DAWASA bosses' recent suspension

By Francis Kajubi

UNREASONABLE water loss at the Dar es Salaam Clean Water and Environmental Sanitation Authority (DAWASA) is one of the three reasons led to the suspension of two top officials, who are now waiting for investigations.

The second reason is failure to make follow ups to fixing dilapidated water supply infrastructure which leads to leakages of million liters on a daily basis.

The third reason is the overlooking of crucial details, resulting in poor decision-making with regard to water supply activities.

Kiula Kingu, the then DAWASA's Acting Chief Executive Officer and Shaban Mkwanywe, the then DAWASA's Director of Production were suspended from their positions by Jumaa Aweso, Minister for Water on Sunday June 30, 2024.

The water minister's decision came just six days after The Guardian had on June 24, 2024 (last Monday) published a special report on a shocking rate of daily water loss at the authority attributed to poor management of supplying infrastructure.

The suspension stemmed from a report presented by Engineer Mwajuma Waziri, the Permanent Secretary, ministry of water, to the Minister Aweso, DAWASA Management, the authority's board members and the regional political committee.

The PS noted that the government has invested in machinery capable of producing 590 million liters on a daily basis, but due to inefficiencies and poor control of water loss, the authority currently produces only 320 million.

"The authority sells only 210 million liters on a



Water minister Jumaa Aweso. File Photo

daily basis with water losses standing at 110 million liters. This loss means the authority could potentially serve an average of six million residents of Dar es Salaam, Bagamoyo district council and Kibaha district councils where DAWASA serves," said Engineer Waziri. The lost 110 million liters water is equivalent to 34.37 percent of the current production. According to Waziri, Upper Ruvu plant pumps are now working, which causes water shortages.

However, she noticed that there are unfixed water chambers along the water distribution network.

In separate interviews held earlier May this year before the minister's

decision, the Acting Head of Communication Department Everlasting Lyaro, assured that water loss was well managed.

Lyaro said that water loss is well controlled with water production capacity of 590 million cubic meters on a daily basis while the demand stands at 585 million cubic meters, an excess of five million cubic meters.

Investigation by these journalists had earlier established from the latest released Water Utilities Performance Review report for the financial year 2022/23, compiled by the esteemed Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA), revealed a concerning uptick in water loss.

The report discloses that the percentage of water loss concerning water production has surged to 37.2 percent in 2022/23, a noticeable escalation from the previous year's 35.5 percent in DAWASA's served areas.

This heightened water loss trend is particularly prevalent in Dar es Salaam city and across the other 84 Water Supply and Sanitation Authorities (WSSA) scrutinized within the comprehensive report.

Nevertheless, as elucidated in the meticulously detailed Controller and Auditor General (CAG) report for the financial year 2021/22, which surfaced in March 2023, reveals related information in water loss within the three towns served by DAWASA namely Dar es Salaam, Bagamoyo and Kibaha.

The CAG report says that in 2018/19 the water loss in DAWASA served towns was 49.20 percent, in 2019/20 it was 41.25 percent, in 2020/21 it was 38.89 percent and in 2021/22 it was 39.03 percent which is 3.53 percent more than the percentage of water loss as stipulat-

ed in the current EWURA's report.

EWURA's water loss trends is, however, similar to that of the parliamentary Public Investment Committee (PIC) statement issued by Chairperson Deus Sangu on March 20, 2024 which states that annual water loss at DAWASA stands at 37 percent, above the International Water Association (IWA) benchmark which requires annual water loss not to exceed 20 percent.

Sangu said that DAWASA's customers have increased to 432,000 in March 2024 from an estimated 200,000 customers in March 2021.

According to DAWASA's website, the authority collectively serves Dar es Salaam, Bagamoyo district council and Kibaha district council in the Coast region.

The remaining seven districts of the Coast region are served by five Water Supply and Sanitation Authorities (WSSAs). The five WSSAs are Chalize Water Supply and Sanitation Authority, Kilindoni Water Supply and Sanitation Authority in Mafia, Kisarawe Water Supply and Sanitation Authority, Mkuranga Water Supply and Sanitation Authority and Utete Water Supply and Sanitation Authority in Rufiji district council.

This journalist had established that water losses if well managed; the lost water could be used to fix the utility shortage in DAWASA's served towns.

With regard to the water crisis in DAWASA's served towns, this publication dated April 10, 2024, released an in-depth exposé shedding light on the obstacles confronting residents in their quest for reliable access to uncontaminated water sources within the urban landscape.

Tanzania ranked as top recipient of EIB funding

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA has been ranked as the largest recipient of European Investment Bank (EIB) support in Sub-Saharan Africa, as the country has so far benefited from the bank's financing of 36 projects, amounting to €680 million (nearly 2trn/-) since 1977.

During last year, the country benefitted from EUR 270 million (777bn/-) of new investment to support businesses through partnerships with Tanzanian Banks, namely CRDB, NMB and KCB-Tanzania to facilitate lending to over 10,000 small- and medium-sized businesses.

EIB Global's partnerships with local banks are structured to allow them to increase their lending portfolios, take more risks and thus providing greater access to credit for a wider range of business clients.

Out of the financing, 3,000 beneficiaries are women-led enterprises and over 900 are blue economy enterprises and co-operatives in Zanzibar.

EIB Vice President Östros said: "The Tanzanian economy has shown great resilience and growth over the past years. The government has also continued to support private sector development in partnership with local, regional and international partners. This has made Tanzania a key partner under the EU's Global Gateway initiative and hence a key partner for the EIB. We are more than happy to work together with our partners in Tanzania to further strengthen the country, both its public and private sector."

Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Union to Tanzania, Emilio Rossetti said: "This high-level visit and meetings represent the enduring partnership of Tanzania with "Team Europe". The European Union, its Member States and their implementing agencies and public development banks work together to deliver the Global Gateway vision: supporting smart investments in quality infrastructure, respecting the highest social and environ-



EIB Vice President Thomas Östros

mental standards, in line with the EU's values and standards."

A high-level delegation of the European Investment Bank (EIB Global) led by Östros, is visiting Tanzania for a raft of activities geared at ramping up its investment in the country.

The visit provides an opportunity to take stock of EIB-supported projects with a particular focus on green private sector, public infrastructure, gender-lens investing and boosting of the blue economy.

EIB Global delegation visits the country for meetings with President Samia Suluhu Hassan and the President of Zanzibar Hussein Mwinyi

The meetings will cover the handover of the first phase of the Lake Victoria Water and Sanitation Project.

The EIB investment has increased coverage of water, wastewater and sanitation services to urban and peri-urban populations in Mwanza, and Bukoba and Musoma areas.

Talks will also centre on the ongoing airport rehabilitation and expansion works being supported by EIB Global in Bukoba, Kigoma, Tabora, Shinyanga and Sumbawanga.

Once complete, the project is expected to stimulate investment in the area, create jobs and thus enhance income levels, boost commerce and trade with neighbouring areas, attract tourism and increase social and economic interactions at the airports.

The project benefits also include an overall increase in aviation safety as the five airports will comply with international safety and security standards.

The parties will also discuss potential support for other investments such as the next phases of the Bus Rapid Transit system, Phase 2 of the Lake Victoria Water and Sanitation Project, the Zanzibar Water Security Project and the Tanga Plastic Waste Management Project. These projects are all under different stages of evaluation.

In addition, EIB VP Östros will meet with representatives of the leading banks in the country as well as some SME beneficiaries of the EIB Global's partnership with local commercial banks.



Once complete, the project is expected to stimulate investment in the area, create jobs and thus enhance income levels, boost commerce and trade with neighbouring areas, attract tourism and increase social and economic interactions at the airports

First shipment of Tanzanian graphite slated for this month

By Guardian Reporter

WALKABOUT Resources Ltd) is poised to make its maiden shipment of graphite concentrate from the Lindi Jumbo Graphite Mine in Tanzania to Europe, scheduled for early this month.

The company said in statement on Monday that is hailing this as the emergence of a new global graphite mining jurisdiction in Tanzania.

Walkabout is developing the high-grade Lindi Jumbo Graphite Project in the country's southeast to capitalise on market conditions for large and jumbo flake graphite products.

The mine continues to receive regular pilot orders, ranging from 20 to 80 tonnes, which are being fulfilled from concentrate produced during the commissioning and ramp-up phase.

To support this, plant throughput is being increased as part of a ramp-up plan to achieve at least one-third of the nameplate production capacity by the end of July.

Meanwhile, mining, operating and logistics costs are being closely monitored and managed, and the company is making efforts to mitigate the impacts of inflation.

At full production, Lindi Jumbo aims to be the highest margin-producing graphite mine globally.

The first shipment of pilot concentrate will be loaded onto a vessel bound for Europe in early July, with



further exports planned for various destinations in Asia.

All exports from Tanzania require verification sampling and analysis at a Tanzanian Government-contracted laboratory to validate the product chemistry determined at the Lindi Jumbo lab.

The permanent operations team at Lindi Jumbo is nearing full strength, with around 100 people, including more than 40 from local communities.

The team continues to test and optimise the plant to ensure the concentrate produced meets the

required grade, size and quality.

Final concentrate purity has been above 92% total graphitic carbon (TGC) with some runs achieving up to 95% TGC.

Most operating costs have now been contracted, with efforts to minimise diesel usage in the dry-

ing circuit.

Despite overall plant operating costs being expected to be around 35 percent higher than the 2019 definitive feasibility study (DFS), Lindi Jumbo remains one of the lowest-cost producing mines globally, with one of the highest basket prices.

First cash revenue from pilot sales will be received upon loading of the vessels in July. The company has drawn on its senior debt facility to fund commissioning and operating costs during the ramp-up phase.

The senior debt lender has agreed to extend the loan grace period to December 31, 2024, and the final repayment date to December 31, 2026, subject to conditions.

As one of the few operating graphite mines outside China, Walkabout says it is regularly approached by customers seeking further value from its coarse flake products. The board is considering the timing to investigate downstream growth opportunities that could increase future graphite production from the Lindi Jumbo Graphite Mine.

Managing director and CEO Andrew Cunningham said: "We have successfully unlocked a new graphite mining jurisdiction in Tanzania to meet global demand."

"Demand for Lindi Jumbo's graphite product is vibrant and attracting market pricing. Our focus is on continuing to methodically ramp up production and product quality to meet this demand."

"Set to be the highest margin producing graphite mine globally at full production, Lindi Jumbo continues to impress and at current estimated operating costs is currently one of the lowest cost producing mines in the world with one of the highest basket prices globally."

Low orange production affects incomes of growers Japanese firm extends footprint in Tanzania

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Muheza

LOW production has denied incomes among small scale orange growers in Tanga region over the last two consecutive seasons, at a time when the commodity prices have jumped to the roof.

The current market prices of oranges have increased four to five times to between 80/- to 100/- compared with 20/- recorded two years ago.

Speaking with The Guardian recently, the chairman of Muheza Orange Growers (CHAWAMA), Hassan Mohamed stated that the decline of production had also affected families' economies, specifically those depending on agriculture to generate their households incomes.

"Although the demands for oranges are high, it is worthless to growers because productions are low," business is now hotcake onto the market but for growers is worthless because the production is too low," he said.

He continued: "One acre farm with almost 70 orange trees which previously had a potential of producing at least 50,000 oranges is currently producing between 5,000 to 3,000 oranges only."



For his part, the Muheza District Agriculture Extension and Livestock Officer, Edward Mgaya stated that not only oranges, but other crops have recorded low harvests due to the effects of climate change and other geographical reasons.

"According to our survey we recognised that many farmers harvested low, both food and

cash crops because rainy was unreliable. The rains were heavy, which resulted into destroying soils and plants," he said.

Orange production makes a substantial contribution to Muheza district's economy, as according to data, 80 percent of the district council revenues is derived from taxes on orange production.

The district council authorities say oranges value chain is also contributing almost 75 percent of household income.

Tanga Region is a major orange production area in Tanzania, and it is estimated that more than 80 percent of all oranges in Tanga Region are produced in Muheza District.

Japanese firm extends footprint in Tanzania

By Francis Kajubi

A foreign investor has commended the government for creating a friendly environment for investment and doing business which attracts him to reconsider more investments in the country's economy.

The foreign investor who is ready to widen investment capital said at the ongoing 48th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF) that Tanzania has been a leading country for creating a conducive investment environment in the East African region.

The Japanese exporter of used cars, renowned for its multiple prestigious awards including top auction purchaser in Japan for three consecutive years from 2016, 2017, 2018 and recently this 2023, is set to expand its presence in the Tanzanian market amid rising demand for diverse vehicle options.

Having served the Tanzanian market for over a decade, Kobe Motor Company has successfully sold over 150,000 vehicles.

The company now aims to not only dominate the Tanzanian market but also emerge as a leader across the East African region.

The company's Chief Executive officer, Umar Ali highlighted Tanzania's significant role as one of the top ten export destinations for Japanese used cars, underscoring the market's importance to the company.

"Dedicated to enhancing our engagement in this vibrant region, Dar es Salaam serves as a strategic hub for East Africa, bolstering our confidence in expanding our sales and growth initiatives," he said.

Emphasizing its commitment to customer proximity, the company is actively participating in this year's Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair, inviting visitors to explore their pavilion and discover the array of offerings, including attractive deals and a

This year, the company announced by the introduction of leasing options to make people's dream in owning a car achievable, with these new leasing options, customers need only a 35 percent down payment, with the balance payable over 12 or 24 months.

The company is proud to be the first Japanese company to offer leasing in direct purchases from Japan.

Visually impaired PhD candidate beats the odds through tech studies

ITC training creates positive results

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo,

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

IN LIFE, success is always banked on high determinations, focused vision and hard-working, these should always remain the basic prerequisite.

Despite his visual impairment, Raphael Mwambalasa, the PHD student in Educational Psychology at the Dar es Salaam-based University (UDSM) is affiliated to the Vocational and Training Authority (VETA) College with an eye to study aluminium course.

Among others, the vision and mission is to prove to the world that being a blind has nothing to transform a person into a bagger or dependent.

The course involves the use of diverse hand-working motor machines, but he is effectively managing to operate them despite his blindness.

Speaking during an exclusive interview to this publication at the ongoing 48th Edition of the Dar Es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF 2024), Mwambalasa said he has decided to join the training as a way to prove to others will the same disability that they have opportunities to learn and engage fruitful into key economic sectors.

"My hands are my eyes, I am using the machines through sense and I have never found it difficult to operate them," he said.

And he told this publication that, as part of his PHD's field studies internship, he has opted to undertake the course, aluminium, so as to acquire tangible lessons.

"To be honest, I am seriously being irked with the poor manner to which majority of persons with eye sight impairment, and others with different forms of disabilities are remaining in closed - doors, and others begging along the streets due to fallacy of reasoning that they cannot perform anything useful for enabling them standing on their own economic shadows," he expressed.

After completing his Vocational studies, he said, the future focus is to sensitize and help others (with blindness) to start engaging themselves into different economic sectors.

"I am doing this with a good and patriotic heart to open a fresh door to others with different physical handicaps to deter from dependent life and start tapping



Raphael Mwambalasa PHOTO: Correspondent Valentine Oforo

various economic opportunities," he informed.

He urged the government to install and improving friendly infrastructures to enable the students with special needs at numerous learning facilities to acquire vital education in order to take large share in the country's economic sector. His mentor, Saleh Omary, a train-

er of course at VETA, expressed to have been amazed by quick learning manner of Mwambalasa.

"He's studying and understanding things very quickly, just like others with active eyes," he said.

He said Mwambalasa is practically proving that the physical challenged persons have capacity to learn different useful vocational

subjects to enable them earning a comfortable income to develop and handle their living.

"Doors are wide open for others to come and pursue vocational trainings at VETA, the government has so far set good system and infrastructure for them to study effectively, just like others," he encouraging.

Deputy Speaker: Govt working to spur agriculture

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE government has insisted that is currently working through the parliament on responding to all recommendations outlined by stakeholders in agriculture to improve the sector.

This was said recently in the capital city of Dodoma by the Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, Musa Azzan, during the opening of the 3rd Tanzania Agriculture Stakeholders Learning Event (TASLE) which was organised by Agricultural Markets Development Trust (AMDT).

Deputy Speaker (pictured) said the Parliament is ready to hear and work on various recommendations on how to improve the agriculture sector for the development of Tanzanians.

He said President Samia Suluhu Hassan has showed high commitments in the development of the agriculture sector.

"This year the government has set aside a budget of 1.2trn/- in agriculture sector only, this is huge amount of money that would go to change the lives of Tanzanians and economy," he said

He said food security plays a crucial role in life, urging youth to engage in the agriculture sector.

"I urge youth not to undermine agriculture since it pays a lot more than white collar jobs," he insisted.

He asked farmers to have min mills in their farms which can process goods at certain stage hence increase income.

Zungu also suggested for different policy on crops according to the production areas.

For his part the Chief Executive Officer of AMDT Charles Ogutu said agriculture is more significant sector of the economy in generating foreign exchange, employment and ensuring food security.

"Agriculture plays a crucial role for human survival we cannot live without it," he said.

Ogutu insisted on innovations in food systems for the development of people involved in agriculture sector and national income.

He asked the Parliament to support innovators by providing a subsidy which would enable to reach more farmers hence change the agriculture production and increase income and livelihood.

Speaking at the event a senior official from the Ministry of Industry and Trade Ramadhan Szya, agriculture is a hub of all sectors.

Szya said more efforts are needed towards the agriculture sector since it is one of major pillar of the economy.

He thanked the AMDT and its partners for organizing the event for the development of agriculture sector in the country.

The two day event attracted more than 60 participants from different sectors including farmers, service providers, non-government organisations and government officials.



Advertisement for the TV show 'UZALO'. It features a large group of diverse actors in various costumes. The text reads 'MONDAY - WEDNESDAY FROM 10:30 PM' and includes the ITV logo.

ITV PGM SCHEDULE table listing various TV programs and their broadcast times across different days of the week. The table is organized by day (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday) and includes columns for program names and their corresponding times.



Chinese President Xi Jinping addresses the 23rd meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation via video conference from Beijing July 4, 2023. XINHUA

President Xi hails uniqueness of China-Kazakhstan partnership

ASTANA/BEIJING

CHINESE President Xi Jinping said yesterday that China and Kazakhstan have established a unique permanent comprehensive strategic partnership.

Xi made the remarks in a written statement upon his arrival in Astana for a state visit to Kazakhstan, where he will also attend the 24th Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO).

The Chinese president said he is delighted to visit the beautiful country of Kazakhstan at the invitation of Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, and to attend the SCO summit, adding that he, on behalf of the Chinese government and the Chinese people, conveyed sincere greetings and best wishes to Tokayev and the friendly Kazakh people.

China and Kazakhstan share a long tradition of friendship, Xi noted.

More than 2,000 years ago, the ancient Silk Road closely connected the two countries, marking the beginning of a history of friendly exchanges, he said.

Over the past 32 years since China and Kazakhstan established diplomatic ties, the relationship has withstood the test of time and the vicissitudes of the international landscape, evolving into a unique permanent comprehensive strategic partnership, Xi added.

He also said that the everlasting friendship of the two nations has grown stronger over time, and set an example of solidarity, mutual benefit, and mutual success between neighboring countries.

Xi recalled that 11 years ago, he first put forward the initiative of jointly building the Silk Road Economic Belt in Kazakhstan, adding that today, Belt and Road cooperation between China and Kazakhstan has yielded fruitful results.

Two-way economic and trade cooperation has reached new highs, people-to-people and cultural exchanges have featured numerous highlights, and the two sides' international cooperation has been close and efficient, which has not only improved the well-being of the two peoples, but also injected more stability and positive energy into the international and regional situation, Xi added.

He said that during the visit, he will have talks with President Tokayev and have an in-depth exchange of views on China-Kazakhstan relations, all-round cooperation and other international and regional issues of common concern, in a bid to make new plans and arrangements for the development of China-Kazakhstan permanent comprehensive strategic partnership.

Xi also said that he looks forward

to attending the SCO summit, and discussing with all parties the future of the organization and ways to advance cooperation, so as to achieve new and greater progress for this important multilateral mechanism.

The Chinese leader left Beijing on Tuesday morning for the SCO meeting and state visits to Kazakhstan and Tajikistan at the invitation of President Tokayev and President Emomali Rahmon of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Xi's entourage includes Cai Qi, a member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and director of the General Office of the CPC Central Committee, and Wang Yi, a member of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and foreign minister.

In a signed article published in Kazakh media on Tuesday, Xi said China and Kazakhstan need to always follow the four principles that hold key to the success of their cooperation - mutual respect, good neighborly friendship, solidarity in trying times, and mutual benefit, so as to ensure sustained and steady growth of China-Kazakhstan relations.

"I hope my visit will help renew our traditional friendship and deepen the all-round cooperation between our countries. During my visit, President (Kassym-Jomart) Tokayev and I will meet and plan the way forward for further growth of China-Kazakhstan relations and discuss how best to take the China-Kazakhstan permanent comprehensive strategic partnership to new heights," he said.

The two countries need to further consolidate their political tradition of mutual support, stay committed to the golden rule of mutual benefit and win-win in cooperation, strengthen public support for an everlasting China-Kazakhstan friendship, and be responsive to the accelerated changes on a scale unseen in a century that are unfolding across the world, Xi said.

He said that he looks forward to meeting with President Tokayev to plan the way forward for closer China-Kazakhstan cooperation and draw a new blueprint for further growth of bilateral relations and the SCO.

"The visit offers me an opportunity to experience first hand the new progress and new changes that have been made in Kazakhstan," Xi said.

Mutual political trust between China and Kazakhstan has reached a new level, Xi said, adding that the two countries have achieved new success in results-oriented cooperation and witnessed a new upsurge in people-to-people and cultural exchanges.

Xinhua

ATMIS hands over fifth military base to Somalia forces

MOGADISHU

THE African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS) on Sunday handed over Orhasan military base to the Somali National Army (SNA), the fifth such facility to be transferred as part of the third phase of the ATMIS troops drawdown.

ATMIS Sector Four Commander Colonel Said Waberi Harour said the handover of the military base, manned by Djibouti forces and located in Beledweyne, cen-

tral Somalia, happened as the pan-African body stepped up the withdrawal of its troops in Somalia. Waberi commended the Djibouti troops for stabilizing Beledweyne and its environs. The AU Peace and Security Council (AUPSC) has backed Somalia's request made in May for a phased approach to the Phase 3 drawdown of ATMIS to enable Mogadishu to maintain half of the 4,000 troops that are expected to withdraw by the end of June. Deputy chief of the SNA Operations Department Muhudin

Ahmed said the Somali security forces are committed to assuming full security responsibilities for the region. The ATMIS handed over Abdalle Birolle military base to the SNA on Saturday, the fourth military facility in the ATMIS troops drawdown.

The AU mission withdrew 5,000 troops from Somalia and handed over 17 military bases to the Somali Security Forces during the first and second phases of the drawdown, which concluded in 2023.

US Supreme Court rules Trump has immunity from prosecution

WASHINGTON

THE US Supreme Court's ruling on presidential immunity leaves Judge Tanya Chutkan to determine how much of the federal criminal case involving Donald Trump's efforts to overturn his defeat to Joe Biden in the 2020 election can survive.

The 6-3 ruling on Monday, with the court's conservatives in the majority, declared that Trump has broad protection from criminal prosecution for actions that fell within his official responsibilities as president under the US Constitution.

The court delegated to Chutkan, a judge on the US district court in Washington, the complex task of determining how to apply that immunity in the four-count criminal indictment obtained last year by Special Counsel Jack Smith. Chutkan will have to conduct a detailed examination of the indictment to determine which of Trump's actions were official and must be stricken from the case and which were private acts that can proceed to trial.

That process will make it nearly impossible for a jury to decide Trump's guilt or innocence before the Nov 5 presidential election in which he is the Republican candidate challenging Biden, a Democrat. Trump has pleaded not guilty.

"It's probably one of the most challenging trial court responsibilities, certainly in my lifetime, that any district judge has been required to do," said Paul Grimm, a former federal judge who leads



Republican presidential candidate former US president Donald Trump speaks at a campaign rally in Chesapeake, Virginia, June 28, 2024. AP

the Bolch Judicial Institute at Duke University School of Law. "It will be a roadmap for the future prosecution of the case."

Among the actions Chutkan must analyze are Trump's public statements to his supporters before their Jan 6, 2021, attack on the US Capitol, and his plan to organize alternative slates of electors pledged to vote for him in states he lost in order to thwart congressional certification of Biden's victory.

Chutkan must also decide whether prosecutors can overcome a presumption that Trump cannot be prosecuted for pressuring then-Vice President Mike Pence to derail congressional certification. The Supreme Court deemed those communications official acts.

"The immediate job that Judge Chutkan has is to clarify what can go to trial and what can't," said Jeremy Fogel, a former federal judge and executive director of the Berkeley Judicial Institute.

Trump would likely appeal her initial rulings, which could cause more delays. Under the indictment, Trump was charged with conspiring to defraud the United States, corruptly obstructing an official proceeding and conspiring to do so,

and conspiring against the right of Americans to vote.

The trial had been scheduled to begin in March but was delayed by the litigation over Trump's claim of immunity. Chutkan has previously promised to give Trump about 90 days to prepare for trial once the case returns to her courtroom, with a trial expected to last six to eight weeks.

If Trump wins, he could direct the US Justice Department to end the case.

'She's no-nonsense'

Chutkan, born in Jamaica and nominated as a judge by Democratic former President Barack Obama, gained courtroom experience as a public defender representing people accused of murder and sexual assault. Chutkan has previously shown little patience for Trump's delay tactics and his attacks on the criminal justice system.

"The fact the defendant is engaged in a political campaign is not going to allow him any greater or lesser latitude than any defendant in a criminal case," Chutkan told Trump's lawyers during a hearing last year. **Agencies**

Russian Embassy denies claims of Moscow's election tampering in UK

LONDON

RUSSIA denies reports that it is meddling in the upcoming parliamentary elections in the UK, as these rumors are the same old tired slogans typical of the ruling Conservative Party, a statement by the Russian Embassy in the UK said.

"We categorically reject any suppositions of Russia's intention to interfere in the pre-election campaign in Great Britain which are being spread primarily by the leadership of the Conservative Party as well as by media outlets playing up to it.

Such speculations vividly illustrate the lack of imagination which has plagued the Tories toward the end of their tenure - it seems that they have absolutely nothing else to draw in voters and nothing to prop up their collapsed ratings with except for worn out falsehoods.

So what remains is making assumptions as to what Russia 'wants' or 'doesn't want' with regard to the election outcome. We think that ordinary British citizens have already grown weary of this tiresome farce," the embassy said.

The diplomatic agency noted that "Russia, unlike the UK and other Western 'civilizers,' is not in the habit of meddling in the domestic affairs of other sovereign states." "Manipulation, social engineering, color revolutions and coups d'etat are not our methods but the practice of the US and its satellites.

Additionally, we have no illusions: no matter which one of the main UK parties comes to power, the anti-Russia policy conducted clandestinely and with Washington's blessing, will continue. On this issue, a seeming priority for the collective West, the local voters have no choice and will not have one any time soon," the embassy added.

As the Sunday Times reported on June 29, chairman of the Conservative Party Richard Holden demanded an investigation be launched into media claims about the purported meddling of foreign pro-Russian bloggers in the country's parliamentary elections.

His statements were made after Australia's ABC informed that it found on Facebook (prohibited in Russia due to its ownership by Meta, a designated extremist organization) five accounts which were purportedly spreading "pro-Russian Kremlin narratives" and expressed support for Nigel Farage, the leader of Reform UK, a right-wing populist party.

According to ABC, the majority of the administrators of these pages, which have a following approaching 200,000 people, are located in Nigeria and the UK.

Agencies

Somalia launches national taskforce to tackle polio outbreak

MOGADISHU

THE Somali government said Monday it has launched a national taskforce on polio immunization, calling for swift action to end vaccine-preventable disease outbreaks.

The Somalia Immunization and Polio Eradication Task Force, which is chaired by Prime Minister Hamza Abdi Barre, will oversee and coordinate polio eradication and immunization efforts across the country.

"The establishment of the national task force on immunization and polio is a testament to my government's commitment to this cause," Hamza said in a statement issued in Mogadishu, the capital of Somalia.

The taskforce will mobilize financial and technical resources and ensure that every child in Somalia is provided with life-saving vaccines.

SIPE comprises key health officials at the federal and state levels and international partners. Barre reiterated his government's commitment to stop the transmission of polio by providing strong support and oversight of polio eradication and routine immunization activities in Somalia. He said the country is committed to mobilizing support for the implementation of the Somalia Emergency Action Plan, rallying efforts domestically and internationally to stop cross-border transmission. South-central Somalia is one of seven areas identified by the Global Polio Eradication Initiative as consequential geographies, according to the World Health Organization (WHO).

Those areas are prone to repeated polio outbreaks, which are hard to control because of overpopulation, fragile health systems and conflict. Since 2021, Somalia has confirmed 16 cases

of polio, all in the south-central region, according to the WHO.

An estimated 1.5 million children have never been vaccinated, and Somalia is one of five countries globally with an under-five mortality rate greater than 100 deaths per 1,000 live births. Without intensified efforts, the WHO said Somalia is unlikely to meet its 2030 Sustainable Development Goal target of no more than 25 deaths per 1,000 live births.

During the event, Barre also launched the Child Survival Forum, which will review progress and devise strategies and an action plan to further reduce child mortality. Much-needed leadership has been stepped up in Somalia, where 77,000 children die annually before their fifth birthday, and the country is urgently in need of accelerated progress to reduce these deaths.

Xinhua

Committee recommends Federation Council suspend Russia's OSCE PA membership

MOSCOW

THE Federation Council Committee on Foreign Affairs has recommended that the chamber adopt on July 3 the Federal Assembly's statement on suspending the Russian delegation's participation in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE PA) as well as any cash contributions to its budget, a source participating in the committee meeting told TASS.

He added that the senators supported the document unanimously.

"They supported it and recommended that the Federation Council adopt it at a meeting on July 3," the agency source said.

According to the draft statement, Russian senators and State Duma MPs are adamant that restricting parliamentarians who represent the people from taking part in OSCE PA events is unacceptable.

"We have to state that under the current circumstances the

possibilities for continuing constructive dialogue in the OSCE PA have been completely exhausted.

In this regard, the Russian senators and State Duma members consider it reasonable and legitimate to suspend the participation of the delegation of the Russian Federal Assembly in the OSCE PA and the payment of contributions to the OSCE PA budget," the document states.

"The Russian senators and State Duma MPs declare their readiness to return to work in

the OSCE PA on condition that its leadership and a number of member states revise Russophobic and discriminatory approaches to solving pressing problems of European security, and also express hope that sensible forces in the assembly will show the necessary will to resolve the political and ideological crisis in the area of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in the interests of peace and stability on the continent," it added.

The parliamentarians also be-

lieve that the repeated appeals to the leadership of the OSCE PA and its members to return to an equal interparliamentary dialogue have not been taken seriously, the draft statement says.

"Despite the Russian delegation's repeated appeals and proposals, the priorities of the OSCE PA leadership indicate that at present, instead of creating conditions for a constructive exchange of views and the formation of a unifying agenda, this platform is being used as a politicized tool for the purposeful im-

plementation of an anti-Russian course, including the deliberate distortion of the reasons of the events taking place in Ukraine.

Biased, discriminatory approaches, double standards and total Russophobia, as well as an unwillingness to engage in substantive discussion, including on topical issues of ensuring equal and indivisible security, testify to the extreme degradation of the OSCE PA as a mechanism for interparliamentary co-operation," the senators and MPs state.

In addition, they draw atten-

tion to the fact that for many years the Parliamentary Assembly has ignored the problems related to the violation of the rights of national minorities in Ukraine and the Baltic States, the freedom of communication and education in one's native language, has not paid attention to the blasphemous glorification of the Nazis and their accomplices, the harassment and murder of journalists who voice a position different from that of Brussels and Washington.

Agencies

PM urged NDA MPs to follow rules of Parliament, prioritise 'service to country' - Kiren Rijju

NEW DELHI

NATIONAL Democratic Alliance leaders felicitated Prime Minister Narendra Modi on his historic third term at the parliamentary party meeting of BJP alliance government yesterday.

A day after the Lok Sabha witnessed a massive uproar in the House, Prime Minister Narendra Modi urged all the party MPs to follow the rules of the Parliament, the Parliamentary democracy system and raise their issues effectively, Union minister Kiren Rijju said.

Rijju was addressing reporters after the NDA parliamentary meeting concluded this morning.

The Union Minister for Parliamentary Affairs said that PM Modi stated that every MP coming to Parliament should prioritise "service to the country" and develop expertise on issues of their interest.

"Today, the PM gave us a very important mantra. He said that every MP has been elected to the House to serve the nation. Irrespective of the party they belong to, service to the nation is our first responsibility. Every

NDA MP has to work by prioritising the country, this is what the PM urged. Secondly, the PM guided us well regarding the conduct of MPs," Rijju said.

The meeting marked PM Modi's first address to the MPs of the ruling bloc in his third term.

The Union Minister said that the Prime Minister has asked the MPs to develop expertise in some of the major issues of interest and represent those issues in the House.

"He said that every MP should present the matters of their constituency in the House very well as per the rules. He also told us to develop expertise in other major issues of interest - be it water, environment, or social area. So, PM told us to develop expertise in those areas. PM urged NDA MPs to follow the rules of the Parliament, the Parliamentary democracy system and conduct which is essential to becoming a good MP," Rijju said.

"I think this guidance by the PM is a good mantra for all MPs, especially the first-time MPs...We have decided to follow this mantra," the Union Minister said.

Rijju said that PM Modi has also requested



all the MPs to visit the Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya (Prime Minister's Museum) in the national capital with their family members.

"The Prime Minister has also made one request. Every MP, along with their family, should visit Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya. At Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya, the journey from Pt Jawaharlal Nehru to PM Narendra Modi has been displayed beautifully.

There is no political agenda...This is the first such effort that the entire country should get to know of the contribution of each PM, appreciate it, learn from it and pay

tribute to them," he said.

"...I believe that when the PM of the country speaks, everyone - not just MPs - should take it seriously because he is the Prime Minister of the country. Great people of the country have made PM Modi, the Prime Minister for the third consecutive term historically..."

Rijju further said, "The manner in which LoP Rahul Gandhi behaved yesterday, turned his back towards the Speaker, spoke out of rules and insulted the Speaker is something that people of our party, the NDA should not do..."

Meanwhile, later today, Prime Minister Modi is expected to address the Lok Sabha later today. A massive uproar erupted in the Lok Sabha yesterday over Rahul Gandhi's remarks. BJP has accused the Raebareilly MP of "insulting" the Hindu community.

Prime Minister Modi hit out at Rahul Gandhi over his remarks and said calling "the entire Hindu community violent is a very serious matter." Home Minister Amit Shah said that the Congress leader should apologise for his remarks.

ANI

Ruto tells protestors he will implement some of their recommendations

NAIROBI



WITH at least 39 people being killed and hundreds of people getting injured during anti-government protests in Kenya as per the country's human rights body, Kenyan President William Ruto has announced that he will implement some of the recommendations put forth by the country's youth.

Ruto (pictured) said that he values the input of youngsters and has listened to them, Kenya-based newspaper The Star reported.

In a release on Monday (July 1) marking two weeks since the protests began, the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR) said 29 people have died and 361 were injured in connection with the protests. The post-mortem of most victims are yet to be conducted, the rights body said.

Ruto said that he will implement the recommendations that he can, including reducing government expenditure and offices.

He said, "My good sons and daughters let me tell you that I value what you do. I have heard what you have said, I have seen what you have done and you have made recommendations. Some, I will outright implement on cutting down on government and cutting down on offices that we can."

The Kenyan President stated that young people have given him tough options and he will hold a meeting with them before the end of the week on how to go about this.

Ruto stated as they prepare to hold talks, young people should come forward to give clear suggestions on how the nation can move forward, The Star reported.

He said, "I will deal with some of the issues you have raised. You have given me some difficult choices I will suggest to you how we can together go about the difficult choices you have put on the table on some of the issues."

Ruto further said, "I want to promise you that in the engagement we are going to have, God willing, in the next couple of days. We've agreed with some of your colleagues here maybe Thursday, or Friday."

The Kenyan leader stressed that as they go ahead for dialogue, there must be respect. He called on the youth of Kenya to make every effort they can and within the law to protect the nation. He made these remarks during a meeting with Digital Media Houses representatives at State House in Nairobi, according to The Star report. Kenya's President said, "My request to you is that we have a country to keep. It is the only home we have and we must do whatever it is that we do within the parameters of the law respecting one another and talking to one another with respect so that we can move forward together as a country. I am looking forward to this engagement."

Meanwhile, a section of professional bodies and civil society have rejected Ruto's call for talks saying he is aware of what to do to alleviate the anger of people, Kenya-based newspaper Nation reported. Their response came after Ruto formed a National Multi-Sectoral Forum (NMSF) to try and calm the ongoing unrest by the youth.

They include the Law Society of Kenya (LSK), Kenya Medical Association (KMA), Kenya Union of Journalists and a number of civil society groups, according to Nation report.

The groups said, "The youth for Kenya (Gen Z) have clearly spoken on the urgent need for the state to arrest public theft and a bloated cabinet, invest in essential services, act on those who fired upon unarmed protesters and an end to extra-judicial killings among other demands."

ANI

UNGA adopts China-proposed resolution to enhance international cooperation on AI capacity-building

UNITED NATIONS

The 78th session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA) on Monday unanimously adopted the resolution, proposed by China and co-sponsored by over 140 countries, on strengthening international cooperation in the capacity building of artificial intelligence (AI).

The resolution on "Enhancing International Cooperation on Capacity-building of Artificial Intelligence" emphasizes that the development of artificial intelligence should adhere to "the principles of being human-centered," promoting beneficial intelligence, and benefiting humanity.

It encourages international cooperation and practical actions to help countries, especially developing countries, strengthen their AI capacity building, enhance their representation and voice in global AI governance, advocate for "an open, fair, and non-discriminatory business environment," and support the United Nations in playing a central role in international cooperation.

The resolution aims to achieve inclusive, beneficial, and sustainable development of artificial intelligence, thereby contributing to the realization of the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for

Sustainable Development.

China's permanent representative to the United Nations, Fu Cong, stated while introducing the draft resolution at the General Assembly plenary session that the rapid development of global AI technology is having a profound impact on the economic and social development of countries and the progress of human civilization.

However, most countries, especially developing ones, have yet to truly access, use, and benefit from AI, and the global digital divide continues to widen, he noted.

"Many UN member states widely anticipate strengthening international cooperation on AI capacity building, developing and utilizing AI technology equally, and sharing the knowledge and achievements of AI," he said.

Fu noted that this resolution focuses on AI capacity building, proposing a series of significant and practical measures to strengthen related international cooperation.

"The goal is to help all countries, especially developing ones, equally benefit from AI development, bridge the digital divide, improve global AI governance, and accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development."



Fu Cong, China's permanent representative to the United Nations, introduces the draft resolution on "Enhancing International Cooperation on Capacity-building of Artificial Intelligence" during the UN General Assembly (UNGA) plenary session at the UN headquarters in New York, July 1, 2024. Xinhua

opment," said the ambassador.

"The unanimous adoption of the resolution indicates broad agreement among member states to enhance global AI governance through dialogue and cooperation, fully demonstrating China's responsible attitude and leading role in AI development and governance," said Fu.

The ambassador added that China looks forward to using the adoption of this resolution as an opportunity "to actively promote its subsequent implementation with the broad membership," adhering to development priorities, being human-centered, ensuring

equality and mutual benefit, and upholding innovation.

"China aims to help developing countries strengthen AI capacity building with practical actions, promote sustainable development empowered by AI, enhance the common well-being of humanity, and contribute to building a community with a shared future for mankind," he said.

A spokesperson of the Chinese permanent mission to the United Nations stated that UN member states, especially developing countries, warmly welcomed the unanimous adoption of the resolution and highly appreciated China's

leadership role in promoting global AI cooperation and governance, as well as accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

They unanimously agreed that the resolution's focus on AI capacity building and its series of practical measures are of significant milestone importance in bridging the global digital divide and promoting the shared benefits of AI development among countries, he said.

The spokesperson also mentioned that in October 2023, the Chinese leader announced the Global AI Governance Initiative, which provides direction for global AI development and governance.

As the UN's first resolution on international cooperation in AI capacity building, it fully reflects the core essence of the Global AI Governance Initiative and the Global Development Initiative. It meets "the eager expectations" of the broad membership, especially developing countries, and "demonstrates strong support for multilateralism and the United Nations," the spokesperson said.

"It is another major step in practicing the concept of a community with a shared future for mankind on the UN platform," the spokesperson noted.

Xinhua

Lavrov to chair ministerial debates at UNSC on July 16-17

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov will chair ministerial debates at the United Nations Security Council on July 16 and 17, the Russian Foreign Ministry said.

"Three major events are planned during Russia's presidency (of the UN Security Council - TASS). Open ministerial-level debates on the topic of multilateral cooperation in the interests of forming a fairer, democratic and sustainable world order will be held on July 16 and

open ministerial-level debates on the situation in the Middle East will be held on July 17.

These two events will be chaired by Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov," it said.

The third event - debates on cooperation between the United Nations and the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO), the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (CSO) - will take place on July 19.

"In general, the UN Security

Council's program will be quite busy," the ministry said. "Meetings will be organized on the situation in Haiti, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, West Africa and the Sahel region, Yemen, Cyprus, Colombia, Lebanon, and Syria, as well as on the activity of the United Nations Regional



Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia.

It is planned to extend the mandate of the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti, the UN Mission to support the Hudaydah Agreement (UNMHA), and the sanction regime against the Central African Republic."

According to the ministry, the agenda also includes a meeting on the implementation of UN Security Council resolution 2720 on the humanitarian mechanism for the Gaza Strip with the participation of

Sigrid Kaag, UN Senior Humanitarian and Reconstruction Coordinator for Gaza.

"As a permanent member of the UN Security Council and a responsible participant in the international community, Russia will traditionally do its utmost to ensure the smooth operation of this body. Bearing this mind, Russia will direct its colleagues toward efforts to find common ground with due account of the interests of all parties concerned," the ministry said.

Agencies

Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence transcend differences in social system, ideology

THIS year marks the 70th anniversary of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. Although born in Asia, the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence transcend differences in social system and ideology. They have become an important norm governing contemporary international relations and fundamental principles of international law, contributing the wisdom of the East to properly handling state-to-state relations.

Under the current international situation, inheriting and promoting the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence is conducive to fostering international consensus and jointly addressing global challenges, thus promoting world peace and development.

The spirit of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence remains as relevant as ever.

Seven decades ago, then

Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai put forth in full the five principles for the first time - mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, mutual non-aggression, mutual non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual benefit, and peaceful coexistence.

Since then, the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence have been incorporated into a series of important international documents, widely accepted and recognized by countries across the world.

The enunciation of these principles was a major initiative in the history of international relations and a significant contribution to the building of a new type of just and equitable international relations.

The five principles capture the essence of today's international relations and manifest

humanity's common values of peace, development, fairness, justice, democracy and freedom. They can apply to relations among all countries regardless of their social system, stage of development or size.

Having withstood the test of the evolving international landscape in the past 70 years, the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence are showing strong vitality.

The significance of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence remains as important as ever.

The Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence have strong vitality because they give concrete expression to the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and conform to the fundamental interests of people around the world.

The core of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence is that there is sovereign equality

among all countries and that no country should monopolize international affairs. These principles offer a powerful intellectual tool for developing countries to uphold their sovereignty and independence, and they have thus become a rallying call for enhancing solidarity, cooperation and strength among them.

The world today is undergoing both transformation and upheaval; changes unseen in a century are unfolding at a faster pace; and human society faces unprecedented challenges. In this context, inheriting and promoting the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence is particularly important.

Only by truly adhering to the principle of sovereign equality of states can the foundation for mutually beneficial cooperation between countries be established, and peace and development of the world en-

ured. The role of the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence has continued to grow.

The five principles are conducive to both peace and development. Rejecting the law of the jungle by which the strong bullies the weak, they provide a new approach for peacefully resolving historical issues and international disputes, and create a sound environment for mutually beneficial international cooperation and common development. They help build a fairer and more equitable international order.

In the world today, injustice and inequality are still pronounced problems in international relations. Unilateralism, protectionism and bullying are resurging. Regional conflicts and local wars continue to erupt.

The international community should further inherit and

promote the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, uphold sovereign equality, respect each other's core interests and major concerns, enhance mutual trust through dialogue, and build peace through cooperation. By doing this, the international community will continuously embrace common progress and win-win outcomes.

China champions and firmly observes the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence. Over the past seventy-plus years since the founding of the People's Republic of China, China has always followed a path of peaceful development. It has never initiated a war or occupied an inch of a foreign land. It is the only country that has incorporated peaceful development in its Constitution, and the only country among the five nuclear-weapon states to pledge no first use of nuclear

weapons.

China is working to build a clean and beautiful world featuring lasting peace, universal security, common prosperity, openness and inclusiveness, and a community with a shared future for mankind. Chinese President Xi Jinping has proposed the Belt and Road Initiative, Global Development Initiative, Global Security Initiative and Global Civilization Initiative, providing Chinese solutions to development issues facing the mankind.

Adhering to the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence in pursuing friendship and cooperation with other countries, China is committed to promoting a new type of international relations, and will contribute its strength in safeguarding world peace and promoting common development.

People's Daily

SPORT

Celtics star Jayson Tatum agrees to 5-year, \$314 million supermax extension, AP source says

BY KYLE HIGHTOWER

JAYSON Tatum is the newest member of the NBA's \$300 million club.

The Boston Celtics star has agreed to a five-year, \$314 million contract extension to remain with the reigning NBA champions, a person with knowledge of the situation told The Associated Press on Monday.

The new pact will begin with the 2025-26 season and keep the five-time All-Star in Boston through 2029-30 season, according to the person who spoke on the condition of anonymity because it has not been announced.

The Athletic and ESPN were first to report the deal.

When completed Tatum's new, supermax contract will become the largest in NBA history, supplanting the one signed last offseason by teammate Jaylen Brown, when he inked a five-year deal that will pay him up to \$304 million.

Tatum averaged 26.9 points, 8.1 rebounds, 4.9 assists and shot 47% from the field in earning All-NBA first-team honors for the third consecutive season. Those numbers grew to 25 points, 9.7 rebounds and 6.3 assists per game during a playoff run in which he eclipsed 30 points six times, including 31 in their championship-clinching Game 5 win over the Dallas Mavericks.

He will look to add to his hardware this summer as a member of the U.S. men's basketball team when it attempts to capture its fifth consecutive gold medal. Tatum previously won a gold medal at the Tokyo Olympics in 2021.

News of Tatum's deal came on the same day that fellow Celtics starter Derrick White reportedly agreed to a four-year, \$126 million extension. All five of Boston's starters -- Tatum, Brown, White, Jrue Holiday and Kristaps Porzingis -- were already under contract for next season. With Tatum and White's new agreements they now all could be together through at least the 2025-26 season.

The deal also came on the heels of the Celtics ownership group, led by Wyc Grousbeck, announcing its plans to sell all of its shares by 2028.

Barring any significant roster changes, Boston is expected to have a combined payroll and luxury tax that will exceed \$400 million when Tatum's contract takes effect.

Meanwhile, Klay Thompson has taken off his Golden State jersey for the last time. And the Warriors say they're going to retire it to commemorate his time with them.

Thompson is moving on from the Warriors, with the four-time league champion agreeing to join the Western Conference champion Dallas Mavericks and change franchises for the first time in his 13-year NBA career, two people with knowledge of the decision said Monday.

ESPN and The Athletic first reported the multiteam deal which, as currently constructed, will be executed as the sign-and-trade of a three-year, \$50 million contract involving the Warriors, Mavericks and Charlotte Hornets,

said the people, who spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the agreement has not been announced.

Without mentioning Dallas -- by league rule, they technically cannot acknowledge any part of the trade yet -- the Warriors released a statement in tribute to Thompson on Monday night, saying they "can't overstate Klay Thompson's incredible and legendary contributions" to the team and that "the amount of joy and happiness that Klay provided Warriors fans ... cannot be minimized."

"His penchant for delivering in pressurized situations on the biggest stage, including many Game 6 heroics, has helped define a career," the Warriors said. "Klay's legacy will live on forever and we look forward to the day we can retire his #11 jersey at Chase Center, where he will join a host of Warriors immortals, including those who helped shape this recent dynasty -- himself included."

Thompson is sixth on the NBA's all-time 3-pointers made list with 2,481, behind Reggie Miller (2,560), Damian Lillard (2,607), James Harden (2,940), Ray Allen (2,973) and Thompson's now-former "Splash Brother" with the Warriors, Stephen Curry, and his 3,747 career makes from beyond the arc.

There were indications last season that Thompson and the Warriors might be headed toward a breakup.

Thompson came off the bench 14 times -- not much in the grand scheme of things considering he played 77 games, but those were his first appearances as a reserve since his rookie season of 2011-12. He shot 38.7% from 3-point range, the second-worst of his career. He averaged 17.9 points, the third-lowest of his career. He wasn't always in the finishing lineup and the season -- and his Warriors career -- ended with a 0-for-10 shooting performance against Sacramento in a play-in tournament loss.

Thompson -- a five-time All-Star and two-time All-NBA selection who missed two entire seasons with injuries -- took a long look around the court after that game, soaking in the scene just in case it would be his final time playing with the Warriors. Turns out, it was. And now he'll join a Dallas team that just went to the NBA Finals as a shooter brought in to help Luka Doncic and Kyrie Irving.

"We thank Klay for his contributions and wish him the best as another chapter in his journey is written," the Warriors said.

The Hornets were planning to acquire guard Josh Green as part of the deal, giving up two second-round draft picks. The 15th overall pick in the 2020 draft, Green has spent all four of his NBA seasons with the Mavericks and averaged 8.2 points, 3.2 rebounds and 2.3 assists this past season.

The league's moratorium on signings and most other offseason movement will be lifted on Saturday.

AP



Boston Celtics' Jayson Tatum celebrates the team's NBA basketball championship during a duck boat parade Friday, June 21, 2024, in Boston. (AP Photo)

SPORTS

Alliance Caravans trounces Generics Gymkhana in 2024 Petrofuel TCA Caravans T20 Cup

By Correspondent Japheth Kazenga

ALLIANCE Caravans prolonged their winning ways in the 2024 Petrofuel TCA Caravans T20 Cup with a 32-run defeat of Generics Gymkhana in Dar es Salaam last Saturday.

The tie, one of the day's two interesting games, had Generics Gymkhana winning the toss and electing to field against Alliance Caravans at the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club venue.

Some disciplined bowling by Generics Gymkhana restricted Alliance Caravans to 127/7 in the latter's 20-over quota, with skipper Akhil Anil's 42 off 31 being the crucial contribution in the encounter.

Generics Gymkhana, who were required to amass 128 runs to come out victorious, fell short of the target by 32 runs having finished at 95/8 in their 20-over quota.

Apart from Nikala Nishanga's 34 off 31, there were no formidable challenges placed by the batting squad to wade off Alliance Caravans' bowling unit's onslaught.

Anil was adjudged the Ras Logistics Man of the Match for his important batting innings, while Generics Gymkhana's Yalinde Maurice's four crucial overs-- which saw the performer take one wicket and give away just 12 runs-- was considered the Medinova Moment of the Match.

The day's other duel played at Annadil Burhani Club pitted Econo Lodge Lions against Harab Motors Pak Stars.

Econo Lodge Lions batted first against Harab Motors Pak Stars, scoring just 91/9 in 20 overs with Mohammad Ali and Aqib Liaqat earning three scalps apiece for Harab Motors Pak Stars.

In return, Harab Motors Pak Stars reached the 92-run target in just nine overs-- losing six wickets.

Mohamed Omary's 36 runs off 17 balls were the highlight of the eventual winners' innings. For the bowling side,



Harab Motors Pak Stars' cricketer Mohamed Omary (L) receives the Ras Logistics Man of the Match prize from Caravans Cricket Club's treasurer, Raneesh Ittipattavalappil, on the former's squad locked horns with Econo Lodge Lions in a 2024 Petrofuel TCA Caravans T20 Cup tournament clash in Dar es Salaam last Saturday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF CARAVANS CRICKET CLUB

Rehaan Rafiq's four-wicket haul stood out of the rest.

Omary was, consequently, adjudged the Ras Logistics Man of the Match for his 36 runs off 17 deliveries, and Rafiq's stellar four-wicket haul was considered the Medinova Moment of the Match.

The tournament is an annual T20 cricket competition organized by Caravans Cricket Club.

Alliance Caravans, Aurobindo AKSC, Delaware Upanga SC, Balakrishna Foundation Aces, Flashnet Strikers, Park Mobile Lions, Harab Motors Pak Stars, Econo Lodge Lions, Azania Bank

Pak Stars, and Generics Gymkhana are taking part in the showdown.

Petrofuel is the title sponsor of this tournament. Other sponsors of this tournament include Alliance Insurance, Ras Logistics, Medinova Healthcare, Automark, Pepsi, Ashton Media, MFI-Vertiv, Jiuzhou, SmarDTV, Intek-Korea, ASAS, Colourflex, and Delaware.

Aurobindo, Balakrishna Foundation, Park Mobile, Harab Motors, Flashnet, Generics, Econo Lodge, Azania Bank, Horizon Teleports, TATA, The Works, MO Bajaj, and Seacrift Hotel are also the showpiece's sponsors.

Simba urge fans to embrace change after Chama's departure

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

AFTER partying ways with midfielder Clatous Chama, Simba's manager of information and communication Ahmed Ally has urged fans and members to support the decision and focus on building a strong team for the future.

This comes after rivals Young Africans introduced Chama (pictured) as their newest player on Monday after his contract with Simba expired on June 30. Chama has been one of the Msimbazi Street-based side's best signings ever in his two spells with the club.

Young Africans are reportedly to have offered Chama US\$150,000 in sign-on fees and a salary of US\$13,000 monthly in a one-year deal with an option to extend.

The defending champions are expected to form a strong attacking partnership with Pacome Zouzoua, Stephanie Aziz Ki and Maxi Nzengele in the 2024/2025 campaign season.

Following his departure, Ally said the club fans and members need to respect the club's leadership decision in an attempt to create a new team for the foreseeable future.

"The club's leadership has emphasized that recent decisions prioritize Simba's long-term success. While acknowledging the departure of Chama, fans and members are encouraged to rally behind the team as it builds a new chapter. These changes ensure a mutually beneficial outcome for all parties involved.

"Simba fans they must remember the club is bigger than any one player. Even though Chama is gone, Simba will continue to be a force to reckon with for years to come. Great players will always come and go, but Simba remain. Let's focus on exciting upcoming events like Simba Day on August 3, where we'll celebrate and see a new team take the field," he said.

Simba are still finalizing their roster. According to Ally, they are still in talks with some players who have existing contracts to discuss their departure from the team.

"Pa Omar Jobe is still our player while the club is finalizing the departure of other players. Contract negotiations are underway with some players to terminate



their current deals. An announcement regarding these departing players will be made once the process is complete. The club is now focusing on revealing new players," said Ally.

Chama, though his exit wasn't ideal, appears to believe it's the right time to move on. After the initial buzz dies down, his contributions to Simba will likely be remembered fondly, potentially earning him legendary status at the club.

While at Simba, Chama won the Premier League title three times, the Federation Cup two times, and the Community Shield four times. He also won the Player of the Year award for the 2019/20 season.

He also guided Simba to three CAF Champions League quarter-final appearances and will be forever remembered for scoring late crucial goals against Nkana Red Devils and AS Vita that sent Simba to the group stage and quarter-final of the CAF Champions League in the 2018/19 season.

Last season, Chama scored seven goals in the Premier League and created six goals for his teammates. In the Champions League and African Football, he had a total of six goal involvements, so Chama was a key player at times for both Robertinho and Abelhak Benchikha.

During his two stints at the club, Chama played 179 games and scored 42 goals, boasting 60 assists in the process.

His new side, Young Africans wouldn't just benefit from Chama's skills on the field, but also from his star power. He would boost their marketing, merchandise sales, and overall image. In the Tanzanian Premier League, Chama is a rare talent who shines both on and off the pitch.

Ndondo Cup 2024 to revolutionize healthcare in Tanzania

By Guardian Correspondent

THE Ministry of Health has joined forces with the President's Office - Regional Administration and Local Government, the United States Government - USAID and PEPFAR, through the Breakthrough ACTION project, the Ndondo Cup organizing committee, and sponsors CRDB and ASAS, to revolutionize healthcare in Tanzania through the power of football.

The initiatives will be rolled out through the SITETEREKI youth platform, FURAHA YANGU men's campaign, and CHANJO ni MAISHA campaign, targeting eight regions in Tanzania, including Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Mwanza, Mbeya, Iringa, Ruvuma, Pwani and Kagera.

The tournament kicked off over the weekend, with an electrifying inaugural match between Manzeze Warriors and Makuburi FC at the Kinesi grounds in Sinza ward.

Attendees had access to comprehensive health services, including HIV testing and treatment services, as well as vaccination services.

Impressed by this innovative initiative, the guest of honour, Evangelina Chihoma from the PEPFAR Office, praised the organizing committee and sponsors for its forward-thinking approach, combining entertainment with health services.

"We are committed to pioneering innovative approaches that deliver tangible health outcomes," said Chihoma.

"We believe that sports can be a potent force for promoting behavior change and improving access to services, and we are thrilled to partner with the Ndondo Cup and the Government of Tanzania to bring this initiative to life."

This innovative initiative will be implemented at national and community levels, leveraging sports to enhance the uptake of HIV services and vaccination.

By integrating health services into entertainment, this initiative aims to normalize the uptake of health services among young boys and men by leveraging the popularity of football.

'What is the golden generation?' asks De Bruyne after Belgium slumps again

DUESSELDORF, Germany

KEVIN De Bruyne stood, hands on hips, and tried to take it all in.

Belgium has flunked another major international tournament after a losing to France 1-0 in the round of 16 at the European Championship on Monday.

It was an all-too familiar feeling for one of the remaining members of his country's so-called golden generation. Not that De Bruyne appreciates the tag.

"What is the golden generation?" he asked when it was pointed out to him that a collection of Belgium's greatest players including Eden Hazard, Vincent Kompany, Thibaut Courtois and Romelu Lukaku has never managed to reach the final of a major tournament, let alone win a trophy.

"You say that France and England and Spain and Germany is not a golden generation? OK."

If De Bruyne was touchy, it was understandable at the end of a tournament in which Belgium slumped to a shock loss to 45th-ranked Slovakia and was booed by its own fans after drawing 0-0 with Ukraine. Those results sent Belgium into the knockout match with back-to-back World Cup finalist France.

It feels like time is running out for De Bruyne, who celebrated his 33rd birthday on Friday.

He couldn't help his team to a title when it featured greats such as Hazard, Kompany and Courtois. With those players no longer around, Belgium exited Euro 2024 with a whimper. All-time leading scorer Lukaku failed to get a goal in four matches.

"I tried to do everything I could," De Bruyne said. "This is not what we wanted, but although we were not one of the favorites, we let ourselves down in the match against Slovakia."

UEFA fines its Euro 2024 co-organizer Germany over selfie-seekers on field with Ronaldo

FRANKFURT, Germany

UEFA has fined its tournament co-organizer Germany for failing to stop selfie-seekers from coming onto the field to get photos taken with Cristiano Ronaldo at the European Championship.

UEFA published a slew of disciplinary rulings on Monday that included two fines totaling 20,000 euros (\$21,500) for the German soccer federation. The total amount of fines levied across the 36-game group stage, including some that were previously announced, was almost 1.3 million euros (\$1.4 million) across 22 of the 24 national federations at the tournament. Only Slovakia and Spain were exempt.

The charges against Germany related to "order and security" at games and "protection of the playing area" at Portugal's games against the Czech Republic and Turkey.

Multiple fans have invaded the field to take photos with Ronaldo during and after games.

The Portugal star posed for one in-game photo with a young boy but grew visibly frustrated at the repeated security failures during the game against Turkey. UEFA announced it would review and increase security at stadiums.

After a brief brawl between Georgia and Turkey fans in the stadium before their game at Dortmund, UEFA announced fines on Monday of 30,000 euros (\$32,200) for the Georgian soccer federation and 25,000 euros (\$26,900) for Turkey.

UEFA investigating Jude Bellingham over possible indecent gesture at Euro 2024 game

FRANKFURT, Germany

ENGLAND star Jude Bellingham is being investigated by UEFA over a potentially offensive gesture made during the European Championship win against Slovakia.

UEFA said Monday it appointed a disciplinary inspector to look at "a potential violation of the basic rules of decent conduct."

Bellingham seemed to make a gesture with his hand toward his crotch after scoring an acrobatic stoppage-time equalizer on Sunday as England went on to win 2-1 in extra time. Bellingham's overhead kick with about 80 seconds left in the game saved England from a humiliating exit in the first knockout round. If UEFA charges Bellingham, he risks being suspended for the quarterfinal against Switzerland on Saturday. However, judging by similar cases in the past, the midfielder is likely to escape with a fine if he is disciplined.

"Information on this matter will be made available in due course," the UEFA said in a statement.

Bellingham took to social media late Sunday to deny suggestions he gestured toward the Slovakia bench.

"An inside joke gesture towards some close friends who were at the game. Nothing but respect for how that Slovakia team played tonight," Bellingham wrote on X.

Five years ago, Cristiano Ronaldo – while playing for Juventus – and Atletico Madrid coach Diego Simeone were each fined 20,000 euros (\$22,700) by UEFA for making obscene gestures during their Champions League match-up. Disgraced former Spanish soccer chief Luis Rubiales was also involved in a similar incident at the end of the Women's World Cup final last August. He grabbed his crotch as a victory gesture while Queen Letizia of Spain and 16-year-old Princess Sofia were standing nearby.

That offense was overshadowed soon after when Rubiales kissed Spain forward Jenni Hermoso on the lips without her consent. Rubiales was barred by FIFA from working in soccer until after the men's 2026 World Cup.

Epic penalties drama for Ronaldo ends with Portugal beating Slovenia in a Euro 2024 shootout

FRANKFURT, Germany

NO one does high drama in international soccer to such an operatic extent as Cristiano Ronaldo.

Portugal is heading to a blockbuster quarterfinal with France at the European Championship after its star captain generated compelling viewing on center stage of the victory over Slovenia on Monday.

Winning a penalty shootout 3-0 after a 0-0 game against the 57th-ranked team in world soccer might not sound much.

But there were tears, lots of them, from Ronaldo; an apology in prayer-form to his fans, who responded with adulation; extravagant arm gestures of anger, frustration and exasperation; chances wasted and denied to make more tournament history; a renewed duel with an old rival goalkeeper; and ultimately redemption and victory.

Ronaldo's mother was in the stadium and TV pictures showed her crying, too, after he missed his penalty.

"Sometimes it's hard and difficult to score penalties," Ronaldo told Portuguese broadcaster RTP after the match, getting emotional again. "I've scored more than 200 penalties in my career. Sometimes it's a mess."

Still, the last act of Monday's show gave Portugal what it needed.

"We showed the enthusiasm that we still have to play, to have fun, to give joy to the fans and that's it, this is our life," he said after it was all over, close to midnight in Frankfurt.

The 39-year-old Ronaldo went into the game without a goal at Euro 2024.

The moment when he surely had to become the oldest player ever to score at a Euros finals tournament came in the first period of extra time, the 105th minute, after missing five or six of the kind of chances he has thrived on now for 20 years at this level.

Portugal had been awarded a penalty kick and Ronaldo stepped up to take what could have been the decisive goal.

Instead, Slovenia goalkeeper Jan Oblak, a long-time adversary from their time playing Spanish league soc-



Slovenia's Jan Oblak saves a penalty from Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo. Reuters

cer in Madrid, dived left to push aside the well-struck shot against a post and away to safety.

Tears welled in Ronaldo's eyes and soon flowed during the break before the second period of extra time began. Teammates consoled him, kissed his forehead and urged him to keep going.

Extra time also finished 0-0 and when the penalty shootout started, Slovenia's first kick was saved by Portugal goalkeeper Diogo Costa.

Up stepped Ronaldo, facing a massed stand of about 10,000 Portugal fans. He placed it perfectly low beyond Oblak diving to his right.

Ronaldo looked apologetically to the fans and put his hands together as if in prayer. The fans responded with a bellowing and forgiving shout of "Siuuuu" – their soccer icon's trademark goal scream.

"I was certain that he had to be the first penalty taker and show us the way to victory," Portugal coach Roberto Martinez said. "Life gives you difficult moments and the way he reacted makes us very proud."

Costa answered the rest of those fans' prayers with as good a penalty shootout as any goalkeeper could

have.

He saved all three of Slovenia's kicks from Josip Ilicic, Jure Balkovec and Benjamin Verbi. Then he was in tears, too.

Bruno Fernandes and Bernardo Silva also scored for Portugal to seal the shootout 3-0 with two kicks to spare.

"I was sad and now I'm overjoyed. This is what football gives you," Ronaldo said in translated comments in a post-game interview. "You cannot explain it."

Portugal will face France in the quarterfinals on Friday in Hamburg, a rematch of the 2016 final that Portugal won in Paris after Ronaldo went off injured early.

"We all know that Cris is the hardest worker. I understand how frustrated he is," Costa said. "For me, it's an honor to play on the same team."

The personal duel between Ronaldo and Oblak had been memorable merely in regulation time.

It was an intensely frustrating first 90 minutes for Ronaldo with three free kicks, two mistimed jumps for headers and a golden chance to score with his first clear shot in open play.

That was in the 89th, when he ran clear on goal with the ball passed per-

fectly into his stride. The left-foot shot was low and powerful but Oblak's block was better.

The best of Ronaldo's free kicks was a powerful line drive right at Oblak in the 55th that the tall goalkeeper squatted to push away with strong hands.

The intense drama for the Portugal superstar almost overwhelmed the troubled evening for Slovenia's emerging star.

Benjamin Šeško had chances to win the game, in the 62nd and 115th minutes, going one-on-one with Costa after racing past 41-year-old defender Pepe.

The first was a weak shot that screwed wide, and the second was powerful and accurate but saved by the goalkeeper's outstretched boot.

So it went penalties. Just as it had in the Euro 2012 semifinals, when Spain beat Portugal before Ronaldo – as the fifth scheduled taker – even had the chance to step up.

Just as it had when Ronaldo's Real Madrid and Oblak's Atletico Madrid met in the 2016 Champions League final. Back then, Ronaldo placed the fifth and decisive spot-kick past Oblak to win the title.

Mbappé and France into Euro 2024 quarterfinals after Kolo Muani's late goal beats Belgium 1-0

DUESSELDORF, Germany

ANOTHER frustrating match for Kylian Mbappé. Another underwhelming performance by France at the European Championship.

Didier Deschamps isn't concerned – his team is into the quarterfinals.

"It's beautiful," the France coach said after Les Bleus relied on the ninth own-goal scored at Euro 2024 to squeeze past Belgium 1-0 in the round of 16 on Monday.

A heavyweight match between neighbors and teams ranked No. 2 (France) and No. 3 (Belgium) failed to live up to its billing, and the nature of the only goal proved to be fitting.

Randal Kolo Muani, on as a second-half substitute, turned in the area and sent in a shot in the 85th minute that deflected off Belgium defender Jan Vertonghen and looped over stranded goalkeeper Koen Casteels.

"I was lucky enough to get my shot on target," he said of his decisive intervention. "It was blocked but it went in. We're very, very happy and very, very proud."

UEFA thought differently about the destination of Kolo Muani's shot and put it down as an own-goal, the latest in a tournament full of them.

It's the second own-goal earned by France while there has also been a penalty by Mbappé. It means a France player has yet to score from open play.

"Even if today that goal was enough to get us to the quarterfinals, we have the capability to score more," Deschamps said.

France will play Portugal or Slovenia in the last eight on Friday.

Mbappé, again wearing a mask to protect his broken nose sustained against Austria in France's opening match, had five of France's 20 shots but none were on target. He played mostly on the left wing and was well-



Randal Kolo Muani of France takes a shot that was deflected in the net by Belgium's Jan Vertonghen. AP Photo

marshalled by a Belgian defensive set-up that included Kevin De Bruyne – the team's most creative player – deployed as a deep-lying midfielder.

De Bruyne had more clearing headers than incisive passes before being pushed further forward for the final half-hour of the game. Back in his favored position, he created Belgium's best chance when he played through Yannick Carrasco, who took too long over a shot that was blocked by France left back Theo Hernandez.

The match-winner, instead, was Kolo Muani, whose last big moment at a major tournament came when he bore down on goal in the last seconds of extra time in the 2022 World Cup final against Argentina. His shot was saved by Emi Martinez, when a goal would surely have won the title for France.

France's overall display will do little to stop the growing dissent among many of its fans who feel more can come from a talented bunch of play-

ers headlined by Mbappé, playing on the day he officially became a Real Madrid player.

Deschamps, however, was happy with his pragmatic tactics, saying: "We were intelligent, playing the waiting game and not falling into their trap."

Mbappé will be playing in his first ever quarterfinal at the European Championship, with France having lost on a penalty shootout to Switzerland in the last 16 at the last tournament in 2021.

As for the Belgians, they head home after a fairly miserable Euro 2024, during which the players were jeered loudly by their own fans following a 0-0 draw with Ukraine at the end of the group stage.

Against France, they were intent on not leaving the game too open for the quick French attackers and the deployment of De Bruyne in a deeper role helped in that regard, even if it limited the team's attacking options.

The tactic would have been a masterpiece had Belgium won. Unfortunately for coach Domenico Tedesco, it didn't.

"To go into detail tonight," he said, "is difficult for me."

AP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Epic penalties drama for Ronaldo ends with Portugal beating Slovenia in a Euro 2024 shootout

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Simba poised to sign Ivorian midfielder Jean Charles Ahoua

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

SIMBA are on the verge of finalizing the signing of Jean Charles Ahoua, a prominent attacking midfielder currently playing for Stella Club Abidjan in the Ivory Coast.

Ahoua (pictured) is expected to arrive in Tanzania this week to complete the registration process and is set to sign a three-year contract with the club.

At just 22 years old, Ahoua is being hailed as the successor to Clatous Chama, who recently parted ways with Simba following the expiration of his contract.

Ahoua's performance last season was nothing short of spectacular, earning him the title of Most Valuable Player (MVP) in the Ivorian Ligue 1. He scored 12 goals and provided nine assists, showcasing his potential to fill the void left by Chama.

The Msimbazi Street-based side has faced several challenges over the past three seasons, and the acquisition of Ahoua signals a significant step towards rejuvenating the club.

It is not uncommon for teams to experience periods of decline following extended success. During such times, strong leadership and strategic decisions are crucial to restoring the club's former glory.

Under the leadership of chairman Mohammed 'Mo' Dewji, Simba's management has demonstrated the necessary boldness to navigate these challenging times.

The upcoming season is expected to bring substantial changes to the squad, following a decision to release veteran players and those whose performance levels did not meet the club's expectations.

Chama, a key player for Simba, had the opportunity to extend his contract. However, the management decided it was time to seek a successor, considering Chama's age and the demands of the current squad.

Chama's contributions over six seasons were invaluable, but the club recognizes the need to invest in younger talent to sustain long-term success.

Simba's recruitment strategy during this transfer window reflects a focus on acquiring young, dynamic players who are in their prime. This approach aims to bolster the team's domestic performance and enhance its competitiveness on the international stage.

In addition to Ahoua, Simba have already signed Zambian Joshua Mutale, Ugandan Steven Mukwala and Lameck Lawi. The club has also parted ways with six players, including Saidi Ntibanzokiza, Luis Miquissone, Henock Inonga, Kennedy Juma, Shabani Chilunda, and Chama. These changes highlight the club's commitment to rebuilding and strengthening its squad.

As the team gear up for the upcoming season, Simba are set to begin its pre-season preparations in Egypt. Following this, the club will participate in the Simba Day celebrations on August 3, before competing in the Community Shield tournament to kick off the 2024/2025 season.

The addition of Ahoua is expected to bring fresh energy and skill to Simba. With his proven track record in the Ivorian Ligue 1,

Ahoua has the potential to become a key player for Simba, driving the team toward renewed success.

Aurobindo AKSC tames Alliance Caravans in 2024 Petrofuel TCA Caravans T20 Cup

By Correspondent Japheth Kazenga

THE battle for silverware in the 2024 Petrofuel TCA Caravans T20 Cup gathered pace last Sunday, with the showdown's spectators having witnessed an upset as Aurobindo AKSC thrashed hosts Alliance Caravans by six wickets.

It turned out to be Sunday's last clash held at the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC) ground and ended with the tournament hosts, Alliance Caravans, succumbing to their first loss.

Matches between Aurobindo AKSC and Alliance Caravans have always been entertaining for the neutrals, with spoils being shared amongst the parties on several occasions including several high-profile finals.

This time around, Alliance Caravans won the toss and elected to bat first. However, it seemed that Aurobindo AKSC had a strong game plan going into it.

Alliance Caravans lost wickets early until experienced Kassim Nassoro came out and stabilized the innings with his 44 runs from 42 balls.

Ganesh Giri who posted 20 (16) and Johnson Nyambo who ended with 17 (13) further put a spirited performance, helping Alliance Caravans set 123/9 on the board at the end of the 20-over quota.

For the bowling unit, Kartik Syal and Harsheed Chohan were the cricketers who stood out with two wickets apiece.

In return, Aurobindo AKSC started better with the opener Abhik Patwa scoring 33 runs off 41 deliveries and another notable contribution from Raunak Sharma- scoring 24 in 25 deliveries had the batting side stepping up.

Ajith Augustin- who scored 37 in 34 deliveries- was, at the end of it all, the performer with the most crucial contribution to the batting squad.

Alliance Caravans' bowlers could not do much because the target of 124 runs turned out to be easy for a team of Aurobindo AKSC's caliber to chase.

With this win, Aurobindo AKSC is leading the rest of the clubs in Group B going into game week three.

Aurobindo AKSC's Augustin was awarded the Ras Logistics Man of the Match for nailing 37 runs off 34 deliveries. Alliance Caravans' Jerry Mathewâ€™s dismissal of Augustin was the Medinova Moment of the Match.

In other ties that took place the same day, Park Mobile Lions garnered a comprehensive 71-run victory over Delaware Upanga SC, whereas Balakrishna Foundation Aces walloped Flashnet Strikers by 10 wickets.

Generics Gymkhana, led by skipper Amit Raghunvashi and the equally experienced Harsheel Shah, got the day underway with a 16-run victory over Harab Motors Pak Stars at Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club.



Aurobindo AKSC's Ajith Augustin (R) gets the Ras Logistics Man of the Match award from Andrew Muga of Park Mobile upon the conclusion of the 2024 Petrofuel TCA Caravans T20 Cup match between the cricketer's club and Alliance Caravans in Dar es Salaam last Sunday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF CARAVANS CRICKET CLUB

Simba confirm acquisition of Ugandan striker Steven Mukwala



By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SIMBA have confirmed the signing of Uganda international Steven Mukwala from Ghanaian Premier League side Asante Kotoko.

The 24-year-old striker put pen to paper on a two-year deal with Simba as they boost the squad for their participation in the CAF Confederation Cup next season.

He arrives at Simba after a fine individual season with Asante Kotoko who he joined in 2022.

Mukwala scored 14 goals and provided two assists from his 28 league appearances as his side finished sixth in the 2023/24 Ghana Premier League campaign.

He ended the campaign as the club's top scorer for a second consecutive time.

In his first season with Asante Kotoko, Mukwala netted 13 goals in 35 matches, 11 of which came in the Ghana Premier League.

His contribution extended to the continental level as he tallied two goals in the CAF Confederation Cup, further assisting five times throughout the 2022/23 season.

Before joining Asante Kotoko, Mukwala had previously featured for Vipers SC, Maroons FC, and URA FC in the Uganda Premier League.

Mukwala will add options for Simba who already have Dennis Kibu, Pa Omar Jobe, and Fred Koublan in their attacking line-up.

He is already in Dar and will be part of the squad for their outbound preseason tour of Egypt from July 8.

The Uganda Cranes forward becomes Simba's third signing after Lameck Lawi joined the club from Coastal Union and at-

tacking midfielder Joshua Mutale signed from Zambian Soccer League side Power Dynamos.

Simba will be hoping that Mukwala's goal-scoring prowess will help them achieve their ambitions in both domestic and continental competitions.

"One of the areas that had weaknesses last season was in the attack line and the arrival of Mukwala will bolster the squad alongside Fred Michael," read an excerpt from Simba's website.

Last season, despite winning the Community Shield and Union Cup, Simba were disappointed in the Premier League, African Football League and Federation Cup.

They were expected to challenge Young Africans for the league title but ended up battling and being usurped by Azam for the CAF Champions League spot.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

