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UAE group buys stake in Dar berths



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Development partners boost food production



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Millions liberated from burden of NTDs



NIMR sets up health research data system

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

THE National Institute of Medical Research (NIMR) is setting up a national health sector database, the National Health Research Data Repository (NHRDR).

Prof Said About (pictured), the NIMR director general, said the database is meant for collecting health research result records for researches done by various individuals or institutions regarding health issues, to simplify their use and availability.

At a meeting of stakeholders late last week, he said the system was built by NIMR experts in collaboration with leading health institutions.

After researchers complete their work on a specific project in the health sector, they will submit the same to be incorporated into the database system for easy viewing



The aim is to enable Tanzanians who are not proficient in English to benefit from the research

by scholars or other stakeholders, including the Ministry of Health, he said.

As no database for the purpose exists at present, the NHRDR project is essential to go in tandem with diversity of observation and recording at this time of science and technology advances, he said.

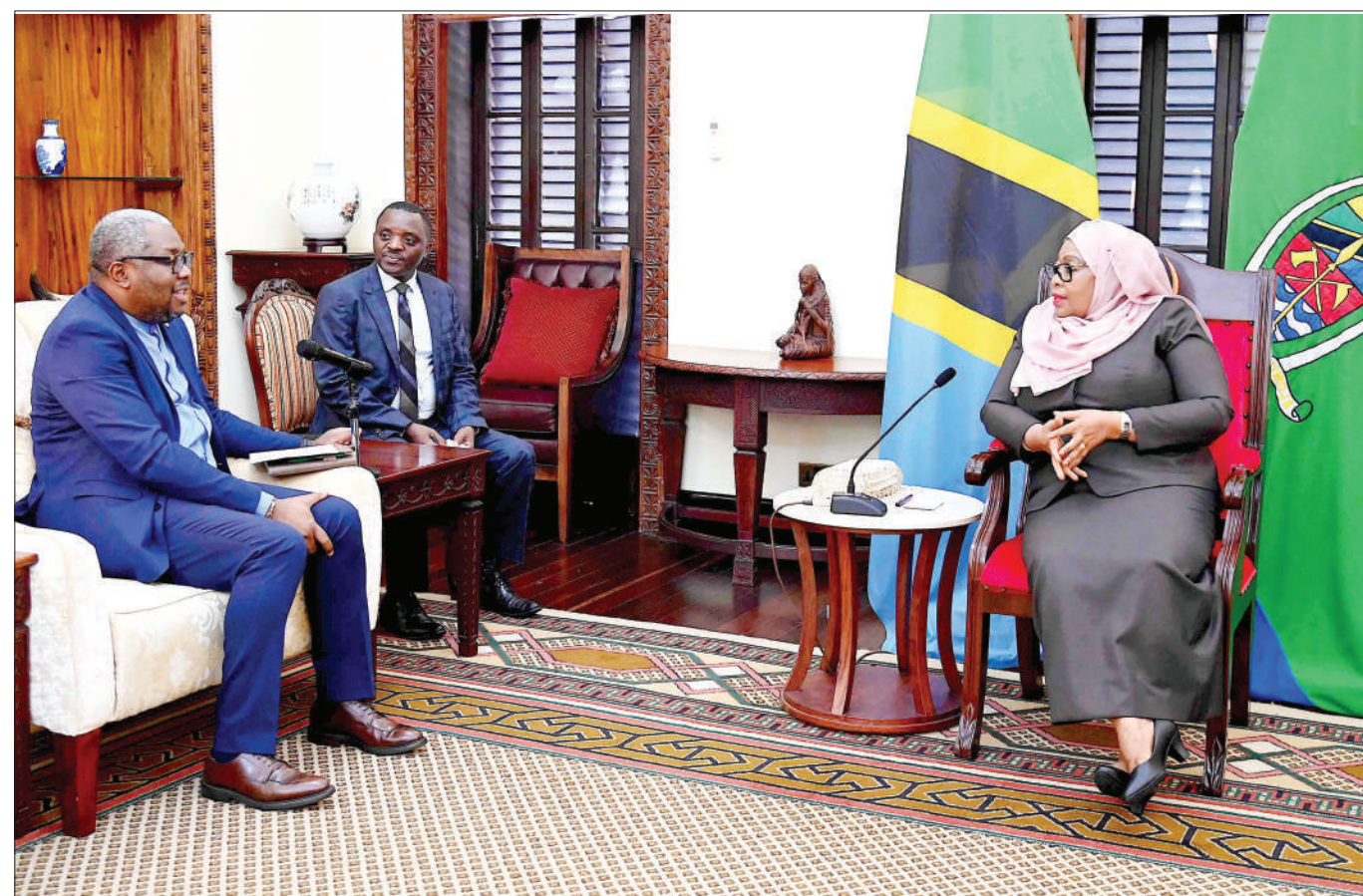
The database initiative is consonant with implementation of the 2021-26 Ministry of Health Strategic Plan (HSSP V), covering administration of the health research issues, interpreting the results for the use by policy makers and other users, he said.

Edward Mbangwa, the ministry's director of policy and planning, told the task force meeting on the project to translate into Kiswahili basic contents of documents produced in research activity.

The aim is to enable Tanzanians who are not proficient in English to benefit from the research, he said.

Dr Amos Kahwa, the NIMR chief research officer, said NHRDR will help policy makers in dissemination and use of research results owing to their being available on time and with considerable diversity of topics and researchers.

Govt allots 36bn/- for water basins food crops initiative



President Samia Suluhu Hassan holds talks with Remy Ngoy Lumbu (L), Chairman of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, at State House in Dar es Salaam yesterday. The commission, whose secretariat is based in the Gambian capital, Banjul, has three broad areas of responsibility: promoting human and peoples' rights, protecting human and peoples' rights, and interpreting the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights. Its delegation is currently in the country at the invitation of the government following a request by the Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition. Photo: State House

By Guardian Reporter

THE government is setting aside 36bn/- to facilitate research on how to use water basins to improve food production to end dependency on rain fed agriculture.

Agriculture minister Hussein Bashe made this announcement at a State House press conference briefing journalists on attendance by President Samia Suluhu Hassan at the Africa food summit held recently in the Senegalese capital, Dakar.

He said that this was among measures being taken to curb rising costs of grain and other staple foods, to ensure that the current spike in food prices becomes temporary and not repeated later.

Already 22 water basins have been identified and research is going on to set out to find out which water areas are suitable for which crops. Introducing subsidies on fertiliser and controlling fuel prices were designed to enhance agricultural productivity and stem the rise in food prices, he stated.

"I believe this is a transition period, food prices will drop and in the coming years, we will move from being a dependent nation even on things like food," he said.

Underlining that food prices were on an upward trend, he said that at the start of the sixth phase the world was facing a crisis due to the Covid-19 outbreak.

Covid-19 affected the country's fertiliser distribution while the war in Ukraine since early last year curbed importation, amidst the rise in fuel prices and drought arising from climate change, the minister explained.

As the country imports some food crops,



A new fertiliser factory to produce one million tonnes while the country's needs are pegged at 400,000 tonnes to 600,000 tonnes would be launched soon

seeds and fertiliser inputs the sector was bound to be affected, he said, noting that staples being sold at present were produced in the 2021/22 farming season where fertiliser prices stood at \$3000 per tonne but rose massively in the next farming season.

A rice farmer in Mbarali area in Mbeya Region bought planting fertiliser at 50,000/- per 50kg bag which moved to 140,000/-, with UREA increasing from 45,000/- to 120,000/- per bag.

First grade rice in Nzega fetches 2,500/- to 2,700/- but by the time it reaches the consumer in Dar es Salaam the cost would be increased by 70/- which later rose to 210/- due to fuel price increases, he stated.

During her time in office, President Samia has introduced several initiatives aimed at cushioning inflationary pressures, like subsidies on seeds, fuel and fertiliser, he further noted.

A new fertiliser factory to produce one million tonnes while the country's needs are pegged at 400,000 tonnes to 600,000 tonnes would be launched soon, he said, with other strategies taken up as widening irrigation agriculture, he said.

Food crop buyers from other countries helped to push up prices, leading to higher farm earnings and sharp increases in urban prices, which is in line with government policy where an earlier ban on grain exports - which cramped agro-sector expansion - was

'Public servants' ethics level up in last 8 years'

By Guardian Reporter

ETHICS observance among public servants has increased by 9.8 per cent in the past decade, with the first five years cited as leading in receiving complaints for unethical behaviour.

Jenista Mhagama, the Public Service Management and Good Governance state minister in the President's Office, made this remark when opening a stakeholders' meeting in Dar es Salaam yesterday, citing a report on 2022 research on the level of adherence to



It was called to take up the minister's directive on the matter, demanding that the report be discussed in detail

the public service.

She said the report indicates that ethics observance increased from 66.1 percent in 2014 to 75.9 percent in 2022, asking stakeholders to discuss the report in detail and provide recommendations on what to do with institutions failing to adhere to public service ethics.

During the five first years from 2014 complaints were filed on poor ethical behaviour in the police, courts, public procurement, land allocation and

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Mloganzila receiving 25 mental health cases daily

By Guardian Correspondent

MLOGANZILA branch of the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) is receiving substantially larger numbers of people suffering with mental health disturbances.

Dr Fileuka Ngakongwa (pictured), a mental health specialist at the referral hospital, has said the MNH branch receives about 25 patients every day compared to five it was receiving in the



recent past.

The rise of mental health patients can be attributed to excessive drinking of alcohol and taking illicit drugs, he said, noting that testing mental disturbance cases brought to the hospital shows that most of them are in binge drinking and drug use, which play a role in pushing up depression and uncontrolled hypertension.

He appealed for community

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rescinded. Harvests are the farmer's

property and can be sold to anyone for further resale elsewhere, and the government will not interfere with this liberty, he emphasised.

Mloganzila receiving 25 mental health cases daily

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education and especially in schools, where the much younger pupils need to be imbued with sentiments of not indulging in drugs and alcohol.

He also appealed to the community not to stigmatise mental health patients but rather help them and seek health experts for treating them as cures are available.

The relationship between family members of the patient and the doctors poses challenges as often the patients are left without support, he said.

This is part of stigma, so those with mental health patients should not stop assisting their patients, he said, insisting that if we can remove the stigma among community members, it will be much easier to treat patients.

Mloganzila Hospital provides medical services in most fields, including curative medicines and counselling, where in some cases doctors seek aid of psychologists, he stated.

30 Uhuru Kenyatta envoys face President William Ruto recall

NAIROBI

KENYAN President William Ruto is planning a major reshuffle of the country's diplomatic postings, with an initial eye on at least 30 openings that will see close to half of key ex-President Uhuru Kenyatta's picks retired or replaced.

For Dr Ruto, the openings in ambassador and high commissioner roles will give him yet another fresh chance to reward close allies who missed out on the Cabinet and principal secretaries' appointments.

For long, presidents have used such envoy roles to reward key allies, with lots of interest in big postings seen as allowing influence in foreign countries.

"Diplomatic postings are done according to the prerogative of the President. The Ruto government is not about vengeance or unfair treatment. Yes, there will be changes but they will be based on a clear and fair criterion and not punitive," Foreign Affairs Cabinet Secretary Alfred Mutua told the Press.

Foreign Affairs Principal Secretary Dr Korir Sing'oei confirmed the planned appointments but insisted the cases of the current office holders leaving their posts will vary from one person to another.

Most envoys, he said, have completed their tenure of four years while others have reached the year of retirement.

"An ambassador serves a maximum of 48 months. There are about 20 who have exceeded this period and will be recalled. Ambassadors over 60 years old, having attained retirement age unless in exceptional circumstances, will be recalled. There are about six in this category," Dr Sing'oei told the Press.

But in what could be interpreted as a plan by Dr Ruto that could see a clean sweep in all Kenyan missions abroad, Dr Sing'oei said the envoys, after all, serve at the pleasure of the President. "Ambassadors serve at the pleasure of the President and so it is possible some who may not fit the two criteria above could be recalled," said Dr Sing'oei, who served as Dr Ruto's legal adviser when he was DP.

The Executive Order released early this month listed 66 embassies and consulates across the world.

Yesterday, a senior member of Dr Ruto's inner circle told the Press that the purging of Uhuru allies in the country's missions abroad is likely to commence immediately after the President concludes the changes which have been going on in boards of various parastatals.

"Here, we admit patients in critical condition needing to be administered with prolonged cure," he further noted.

In October 2022, when addressing health stakeholders at a conference under the theme 'Mental Health and Wellbeing: a Global Priority,' minister Umyy Mwalimu underscored the need to ensure mental health services and psychology consultancy is available as widely as possible in public health facilities.

It is estimated that seven million people suffer from mental health and 1.6m live with depression, she said.

Dr Zabulon Yoti, acting country representative for the World Health Organization (WHO) said that globally mental health is given less priority due to stigma and misconceptions.

The 2018 World Mental Health Report titled 'Transforming Mental Health' shows that one in eight people has mental disorderliness of some sort, he added.

"Obviously, we are going for all the ambassadors and high commissioners. The process would have started earlier, but we were waiting for a few things (pending). The boss (Dr Ruto) was dealing with the boards and he has been away and that is why it has not been concluded but we expect that in the next one or two weeks he would have sorted the boards and started embassies and consulates," said the source.

He added: "They never believed in this government, why should we retain them? Even in America, when a new president comes in, all ambassadors are recalled."

Some of the envoys whose terms are almost coming to an end are those who were appointed in 2018.

They include Cleopa Mailu (Switzerland, UN), Prof Judy Wakhungu (France), Willy Bett (India), Mohammed Shidiye (Botswana), Phyllis Kandie (Unesco), Lt-Gen (Rtd) Samuel Thuita (Israel), Nicholas Peter Ogego (Saudi Arabia), former DCI boss Ndegwa Muhoro (Malaysia) and Lazarus Amayo (Washington).

In 2020, Kenyatta appointed Dr Martin Kimani to be Kenya's ambassador to the United Nations in New York, Tom Amolo (Berlin), John Tipis (Canberra), Immaculate Wambua (Canada), Catherine Mwangi (South Africa), Jean Kamau (Ethiopia), Lemarron Kaanto (Brazil), Daniel Wambura (Burundi), Benson Ogutu (Russia), Tabu Irina (Japan), Linday Kiptiness (Thailand) and Joshua Gatimu (Iran), among others.

In case President Ruto decides to recall all the envoys appointed by Kenyatta, the most affected ones will be the individuals he appointed towards the end of his term who are barely a year in office.

Kenyatta appointed former Clerk of the National Assembly Michael Sialai (Namibia), former ICT Principal Secretary Bitange Ndemo (Belgium) and Mary Mugwanja (Vienna, Austria).

Others are Muthoni Gichohi (Beijing, China), Gathoga Chege (Cuba), Salim Salim (Djibouti) and Major-General A.G. Matiri (Egypt).

The others are Clement Kiteme (Angola), Galma Boru (Indonesia), Paul Ndung'u (Mozambique), Major-General Andrew Ikenye (Nigeria), Margaret Shava (Netherlands), Amina Abdalla (Sultanate of Oman), Nyambura Kamau (Pakistan), Boniface Mwilu (Qatar), Michale Oyugi (Spain), Major-General (Rtd) Thomas Chepkuto (Somalia), Leonard Boiyoy (Turkey) and Major-General (Rtd) George Owinow (Uganda).

AGENCIES



Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development minister Dr Angelina Mabula has a quick word with College of Business Education officials in Dar es Salaam yesterday shortly before opening one-week training the college has organised for real estate agents. Photo Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

'Public servants' ethics level up in last 8 years'

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titing, plus complaints on various agreements and contracts entered by public firms.

Research conducted by the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) showed that the listed areas keep being complained about, she said, urging that the meeting look into the research results to map out

solutions.

There are still areas that need improvement or emphasis, he said, citing frequent follow up on adherence to ethics among public servants, she said, while the permanent secretary, Xavier Daud said the meeting was a working session to examine the results of the research.

It was called to take up the

minister's directive on the matter, demanding that the report be discussed in detail, he said.

Leila Mavika, the director of ethics administration, said the research aimed to look into whether people are satisfied by the services they obtain.

PCCB also sought to find out whether public officials providing the services do so according to their

responsibilities, upon which the government would be in a position to take appropriate steps, she stated.

Last month PCCB released its report, the National Governance and Corruption Survey which ranked the police force, courts of law and land service units as the top institutions "perceived to be most prone to corruption and moral misconduct," she further noted, citing other major problematic areas as the health sector and the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA).

The study was an in-depth governance and corruption survey to develop an empirical database to inform major institutional and policy reforms and other interventions for curbing corruption, she added.



Justus Mtolera (gesturing), acting resident engineer with the Julius Nyerere Hydro Power Project in Coast Region, briefs Tanzania Electric Supply Company Ltd (Tanesco) board members who toured the site of the project at the weekend on progress made in its implementation. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Conflict-torn DR Congo gears up for Pope Francis visit

KINSHASA

IN DR Congo's bustling capital Kinshasa, the faithful are flocking to impromptu market stalls in churchyards to buy t-shirts and wax tissues adorned with the image of Pope Francis, ahead of the pontiff's visit.

Papal souvenirs have become hot-selling items in the city ahead of the Argentinian pope's four-day trip to the deeply religious central African country, which begins today.

Many in the Democratic Republic of Congo view the papal visit as a chance to soothe tensions in

the east, where M23 rebels have captured swaths of territory since last year and provoked a humanitarian crisis.

Berthe Baleweya, a woman who'd come to Kinshasa's Notre-Dame du Congo cathedral to buy a Francis-themed wax cloth, told AFP that wearing the pope's image would be a "great blessing".

Also read: Uganda chooses oil over environmental conservation as it starts drilling

Emmanuelle Wemu, who runs a Catholic aid group, has already bought and tailored her wax print decorated with the pope's face.

"I expect a message of peace from him, in this moment when the DRC is in turmoil," she said.

Over one million worshippers are expected to turn out for an open-air mass in Kinshasa's Ndolo airport on February 1, a sizeable portion in the megacity of over 15 million.

The DRC is a traditionally Catholic nation of over 90 million people, deeply impoverished despite vast mineral wealth.

Pope Francis was scheduled to arrive in the DRC last July, but the trip was postponed over health concerns.

Many also speculated that

escalating conflict in eastern Congo -- where the pope had been due to visit -- prompted a rethink.

The M23 rebel group, which is allegedly backed by Rwanda, has waged an offensive against the Congolese military and recently come within several miles of Goma, a commercial hub of over a million people and capital of North Kivu province.

Pope Francis is no longer due to go to eastern Congo, according to his new programme, but he will meet victims of the conflict while in Kinshasa.

AGENCIES



Chichi Banda (R), head of Tanzania Commercial Bank's Relations and Liaison Division, symbolically presents 100 bags of cement to councillor Shabani Katalambula of Goweko ward in Uyui District, Tabora Region, at the weekend. It was the bank's contribution to the ongoing construction of a health centre in the ward. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Ministry invests 60bn/- in fishing sector to bolster people's incomes

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

THE Livestock and Fisheries ministry has invested more than 60bn/- in the fishing sector in FY 2022/23 in order to improve people's incomes from the sector.

The ministry's director of research, training and extension department Prof Mohammed Sheikh made the remarks here at the weekend on behalf of the Permanent Secretary (Fisheries),

Dr Rashid Tamahtamah during the visit of EU envoys to the fisheries education and training agency (FETA) campus.

Prof Sheikh said the money is invested for enhancing production of fish by purchasing fishing boats and to enable small fishermen reach deep waters for more fish to increase their incomes. He said the EU envoys visited the FETA campus to witness fish farming activities they are sponsoring.

For his part, FETA chief executive officer, Dr Semvua Mzighani said fish farming in blocks was fast growing and since the government has invested money therein it was important for the youth to grab the opportunities.

Dr Mzighani said FETA provides short and long term training, hence those needing to train on fish farming should join.

He added that there has been a big response from people wishing to

learn about fish farming and there already people who have invested in Lake Victoria, but called on more people, the youth in particular to grab the opportunity.

Mpanju Elipidius, one of the fish farmers in Lake Victoria who was trained by FETA said the training are good and will help the youth to increase their incomes.

"We commend the government for allocating funds as soft loans to the youth to enable them in fish farming.

"We also appeal to banks in the country to emulate the government by extending such loans to the youth for investing in various economic activities," he added.

UAE group buys stake in Dar berth operating firm

By Guardian Reporter

INTERNATIONAL Holding Company (IHC), the diversified Abu Dhabi-based conglomerate, announced yesterday that it will be investing 1.4bn dirhams of the United Arab Emirates (\$400m) into Adani Enterprises shares, now listed for a further public offering (FPO) at the Bombay stock exchange, with investment in Tanzania on the cards.

Syed Basar Shueb, IHC chief executive officer said in a statement issued yesterday that UAE firm was investing in the Indian multinational and a part of Adani Group through Green Transmission Investment Holding, its subsidiary.

Adani Group now operates four berths (8 to1) at the Dar es Salaam port in the wake of a contract early this month with the Tanzania Port Authority (TPA).

The statement said that this investment is part of IHC investment diversification focusing on Europe, Africa, Asia, and South American markets.

"Our interest in Adani Group is driven by our confidence and belief in the fundamentals of Adani Enterprises Ltd," the UAE group stated, noting that it sees strong potential for growth from a long-term perspective and added value to its shareholders.

This investment offer is the second that IHC has completed with India's Adani Group after last year's Dh7.3bn (\$2bn) investment in three green-focused companies of the Adani Group, including Adani Green Energy, Adani Transmission and Adani Enterprises, all listed on the Bombay Stock Exchange and National Stock Exchange of India.

"The advantage of the FPO is the historical reference for the company's earnings report, company's management, business practices, and much data to bank on before making any investment

decision," the CEO noted.

IHC continues to look ahead this year as its ambitious progression strategy gets well underway, with an expected further acquisition across four continents by the end of the year alone, focusing on a fast-growing economy, rapidly expanding equity markets, and top investment destination.

"We are watching the international market closely for new prospects, and we will continue exploring further opportunities outside our traditional market in 2023," Shueb added.

IHC aims to increase its global acquisition by 70% in 2023, with the clean energy and food processing sectors being a key focus.

IHC was founded in 1998 as part of an initiative to diversify and develop non-oil business sectors in the UAE and has grown to become the most valuable listed holding company in the Middle East with a market cap of AED 648 billion as of September 30, 2022. The company endeavors to implement sustainability, innovation, and economic diversification initiatives across what is now one of the region's largest conglomerates. IHC is included in FTSE ADX 15 Index (FADX 15), representing the top 15 largest and most liquid companies on the ADX.



Our interest in Adani Group is driven by our confidence and belief in the fundamentals of Adani Enterprises Ltd



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: PROVISION OF OIL SPILL PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE SERVICES REFERENCE NO. 00000128

East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) LTD ("EACOP LTD") invites experienced and reputable companies to express their interest in providing Oil Spill Preparedness and Response Management Services to the [EACOP] Project. The EACOP Project involves the construction and operation of an underground and cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale, Hoima District in Uganda to the Chongoleani peninsula near Tanga in Tanzania where there will be a Marine Storage Terminal and Load out Facility for tanker export. The length of the pipeline is 1,443 km, of which 296km will be in Uganda and 1,147 km in Tanzania.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES

- Preparation of Oil spill Contingency Plans (OSCPs) for construction and operations phases (including oil spill risk assessment and oil spill modelling, for both terrestrial and marine environments).
- Preparation of Sensitivity Maps (or updating of existing TanSEA and ZanSEA sensitivity atlases) and Protection Plans.
- Engagement with relevant stakeholders at national/regional/local levels including local communities.
- Recommendation / Provision of land and marine based response (equipment and personnel).
- Recommendation / Provision of land and water remediation.
- Training for Emergency Response personnel in Oil Spill response at the Operational, Tactical and Strategic Levels.
- Provision of training on the Incident Management System (IMS 100, 200 and 300) process, particularly for largescale incidents.
- Prepare, deliver and reporting for Oil spill exercises, including Major Exercises

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

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

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

Companies which have the ability, capacity, and resources to implement the activities listed above should express their interest by sending together with the documents stated in the above section through an email to procurement.tz@eacop.com, (max. email size 20Mb) on or before 17:00 hours East African Time (EAT) on or before 24th February 2023. Email object shall be: 00000128_Oil Spill Preparedness and Response Services. Statements of EO should be no more than ten (10) to twenty (20) pages long. All Expression of Interests should be submitted in English Language.

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



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: PROVISION OF EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND CRISIS MANAGEMENT SERVICES REFERENCE NO. 00000127

East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) LTD ("EACOP LTD") invites experienced and reputable companies to express their interest in providing Emergency Response and Crisis Management Services to the [EACOP] project. The EACOP Project involves the construction and operation of an underground and cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale, Hoima District in Uganda to the Chongoleani peninsula near Tanga in Tanzania. The length of the pipeline is 1,443 km, of which 296km will be in Uganda and 1,147 km in Tanzania.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES

- Provision of support to Incident Management Team and Crisis Management Cell during an incident or crisis
- Provision of support in updating the EACOP Emergency Response Plan
- Training for Emergency Response personnel at Operational, Tactical and Strategic Levels.
- Provision of training on the Incident Management System (IMS 100, 200 and 300) process, particularly for largescale incidents.
- Provision of Mass Casualty Management training and emergency response support
- Provision of Relative Response Teams and Evacuation Reception support
- Prepare, deliver and reporting on Incident and Crisis Management exercises, including Major Exercises

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

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

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

Companies which have the ability, capacity, and resources to implement the activities listed above should express their interest by sending together with the documents stated in the above section through an email to procurement.tz@eacop.com, (max. email size 20Mb) on or before 17:00 hours East African Time (EAT) on or before 24th February 2023. Email object shall be: 00000127_Emergency Response and Crisis Management Services. Statements of EO should be no more than ten (10) to twenty (20) pages long. All Expression of Interests should be submitted in English Language.

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Development partners to commit \$30bn to bolster food production in Africa

By Guardian Reporter

THE second Africa food summit in Senegal ended on Friday, with development partners agreeing to commit \$30 billion to back the continent's resolve to boost agricultural productivity and become a breadbasket for the world.

Among the development partners are the African Development Bank which plans to contribute \$10 billion over five years, and the Islamic Development Bank, which intends to provide \$5 billion.

The Dakar 2 Summit—under the theme 'Feed Africa: food sovereignty and resilience'—adopted a declaration on the implementation of the Summit's resolution, to be submitted to the African Union.

Organised by the Senegalese government and the African Development Bank, the summit rallied dozens of dignitaries, including 34 heads of state and government, 70 government ministers, and development partners, to work tirelessly on compacts that would transform agriculture across Africa.

Addressing the closing plenary, African Development Bank Group President Dr Akinwumi Adesina said the continent and its partners are determined to see results and that implementation is critical to boosting food production and feeding Africa.

"The message was clear: we will work together to strongly support the implementation of the Food and Agriculture Delivery Compacts at country levels," Adesina said.

He said the heads of state and government committed to setting up presidential high level advisory councils to oversee the implementation of the compacts, to be chaired by the presidents themselves in their respective countries.

"With strong collective determination and resolve, we will work in coordination and partnerships to help countries to deliver success," he affirmed.

Adesina commended the high turnout at the event. "We came in response to a clarion call out of Africa that it is time for Africa to feed Africa. The clarion call was that the time is right, and the time is now for Africa to feed itself. We came from Africa. We came from around the world."

He said that Dakar 2 Summit would be remembered as a key moment in Africa's ability to feed itself and achieve food self-sufficiency and food sovereignty: "We leave with a determination and

resolve to feed Africa. With hands together and in locked steps, we will reach our destination: An Africa that finally feeds itself. An Africa that develops with pride."

Senegalese Prime Minister Amadou Ba called the summit "a resounding success."

"Agriculture creates jobs and promotes wealth and health," he said and called upon all citizens of Africa to come together and agree on a joint agenda steered by Africans for Africans.

Prime Minister Ba added: "It's a paradox that Africa is the largest continent but also the most dependent. Starting now, we must do away with dependency. Africa should consume what it produces and produce what it consumes."

Irish President Michael Higgins, who attended all three days of the summit, called for global support for the 'Feed Africa' agenda.

"Let us make this century Africa's Century, one which will see the continent become free from hunger, a shared continent in a global family, one based on the firm foundations of respect for each nation's institutions, traditions, experiences, and wisdoms," president Higgins said.

Netherlands Director-General for International Cooperation Kitty Van Den Heijden announced that her country would commit an additional €450 million over the next five years to food security programs with a focus on Sub-Saharan Africa. She said the country would also support the African Emergency Food Production Facility of the African Development Bank with \$30 million.

"We don't have time to waste; we need to take action and build more resilient food systems," she added.

The president of the Islamic Development Bank, Dr Muhammad Al Jasser, delivered a statement pledging continued support to boost food production in Africa. Canada and Germany also made commitments to support the Feed Africa agenda.

In the Dakar Declaration, the leaders agreed to allocate at least 10 percent of public expenditure to increase funding for agriculture. They also resolved to deploy robust production packages to boost productivity and increase resilience to achieve food security and self-sufficiency.

"The message was clear: we will work together to strongly support the implementation of the Food and Agriculture Delivery Compacts at country levels"



Contractors Registration Board registrar Rhoben Nkori (L) has a word in Dodoma city at the weekend with Tanzanian contractors who were attending a two-day seminar on the operations of joint ventures. It was organised by the board under a capacity building programme. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Court sentences ex-ministry official to one-year imprisonment or 2.9m/- fine

By Correspondent Zuwena Shame

THE Kisumu Resident Magistrate Court has sentenced former Assistant Director of Youth Development in the ministry of Information, Youth, Culture and Sports, Esther Riwa to a one year imprisonment or 2.9m/- fine after finding her guilty of 23 counts including forgery.

The court also ordered the convict to return the money she collected from the ministry after

finishing serving the punishment.

Reading the judgment yesterday, Principal Magistrate Pamela Mazengo said the court has proved beyond reasonable doubt that the accused committed the offences.

She told the court that evidence shows that the accused did commit the offences because she was the one having the mandate of making refunds for the youth project in Ruvuma region.

She told the court that the accused told the court that she

received payment receipts from the accountant believing they were fine but she was supposed to be sure.

"On her defence, she told the court that there was nothing wrong and the ministry received receipts which were real with no errors but that doesn't mean that everything was okay. Her evidence did not counter the evidence from the prosecution side therefore, she has been found guilty as the one who forged payment receipts," Mazengo

told the court.

On the charge sheet, the accused was facing 26 charges including using forged documents and deceiving her employer.

It was alleged that the convict committed the offences between 11 May and 20 September 2015 in the ministry of Youth Development in the ministry of Information, Youth, Culture and Sports in Ilala, Dar es Salaam.

Apart from that, the accused also prepared a payment list of youth in Ruvuma region with various names for the purpose of showing that the said amount was paid to development officers in Ruvuma, something which was not true.

SA to send 12 cheetahs to India to support conservation efforts

JOHANESBURG

South Africa will send 12 cheetahs to India in February to help rebuild populations of the cat species which had become extinct in the Asian country.

The two countries entered into an agreement which will see South Africa send 12 cheetahs to India every year for the next eight to 10 years, according to a statement from the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment.

This builds on previous transfers of cheetahs to India after they had been locally extinct for 70 years due to overhunting and habitat loss. "The cats will join eight cheetahs introduced to India from Namibia during 2022," the DFFE said.

The reintroduction of cheetahs to India will not only have ecological benefits but will also improve the economies of local communities.

The initiative was launched following a request from India's government.

An overview of the challenges and opportunities of the climate crisis, as it changes the world we know.

The programme is coordinated by the DFFE, the South African National Biodiversity Institute, South African National Parks, the Cheetah Range Expansion Project, and the Endangered Wildlife Trust in South Africa. These South African organisations are collaborating with the National Tiger Conservation Authority and the Wildlife Institute of India.

The countries will also exchange best practices on carnivore conservation which includes the transfer of technology, training professionals and shared custodianship of the cheetahs as they are moved.

The terms of the agreement will be reviewed every five years, the DFFE said.

'Govt is working on bill to lead to setting up of an authority for regulating real estate'

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE government is finalising the formulation of a bill which will establish the Real Estate Regulatory Authority to manage the industry and protect the interests of tenants.

Among others, the envisaged authority will obligate landlords to collect rent on a monthly basis instead of the six month and one year which is the case currently. Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development minister Dr Angelina Mabula revealed this while opening one week training for real estate agents.

The training is conducted by the College of Business (CBE) acting Rector, Tandi Luoga who added that it will later be conducted for a period of one year.

The minister said that there have been complaints from citizens about landlords forcing them to pay rent for six months or one year saying the coming law will help to manage the situation.

"The law will force the owner of the house to receive one month rent but there will be room for negotiation between the tenant and the owner of the house and if they discuss and agree to pay a year or six months voluntarily that is allowed but it should not be by force," she said.

Dr Mabula asked the agents to abide by ethics in order to make their profession reputable as it is in many East African countries saying experience shows most of them operate unlawfully.

She said that some of them have been selling properties that they have not been told to sell such as plots and houses, a situation that causes many conflicts as they disappear after that to unknown places and cause buyers to remain struggling.

"That's why I emphasize to trainers on the need to teach ethics and morals. If you do fraud no one will regard you and you will end up in trouble," said minister Mabula.

The Chairman of the Tanzania Brokers' Association (AREA), Erick Rweikiza said the mission of their association is to create a better environment to educate its members about their profession and defend their interests.

He said their intention is to create a better environment to provide better services to tenants, landlords, sellers and buyers who together are the employers of those agents.

He said statistics show that Dar es Salaam will have 10 million people by the year 2030, with the increase in the number of people causing the demand for the housing sector to grow.



That's why I emphasize to trainers on the need to teach ethics and morals. If you do fraud no one will regard you and you will end up in trouble

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE PROVISION OF Concrete Testing Laboratory	
REF: ETJ-BB-PR-EI-GEN-GE-0015	
<p>BESIX Ballast Nedam Limited, executing Early Services for the Jetty and Load Out Facilities in the Tanga Bay for the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project, invites experienced specialist Companies to express their interest for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concrete Testing on freshly made concrete and hardened concrete, Concrete initial testing - Mechanical testing of steel reinforcement <p>The Republic of Uganda, the Uganda National Oil Company (UNOC), the United Republic of Tanzania and/or Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC), as well as other international oil companies are partaking in the implementation of the EACOP Project.</p> <p>The EACOP Project development involves the engineering, construction, operation and maintenance of a crude oil export pipeline crossing Uganda and Tanzania incl. a Jetty with Load Out Facility for Oil Tankers, near Tanga in Tanzania.</p> <p>BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE MATERIALS / SERVICES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Testing of concrete as per BS EN 206 + A1 which includes initial, freshly made and hardened concrete - Testing mass concrete at site - Concrete cover verification for precast elements 	<p>- Testing of chlorides content from drilled concrete</p> <p>- Testing of steel reinforcement as per BS EN 10080 and BS 4449</p> <p>MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:</p> <p>Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Company profile with proof of sufficient financial and capable resources. - An experience list with relevant supply history / track record showing minimum of five (5) years' experience in execution similar services of required concrete and steel reinforcement testing activities as per international standards common in the Oil and Gas business or comparable market. - ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015 - Compliance with petroleum (local Content) regulation of 2017 and local company definition for Tanzania. - 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 highly recommended. - Draft/Sample report dossier in pdf format - List of concrete testing equipment - CV of testing personnel
<p>Interested companies which meet the minimum requirements and have the capacity to provide the services listed above should express their interest by sending together with the above listed documents an email to procurement@bbnlt.co.tz (Max. Email Size: 20 MBs & All documents must be submitted in the English language) on or before 14th February 2023, 1800hrs Tanzania Time.</p> <p>Companies satisfactorily meeting the above minimum requirements will be evaluated and if selected will be invited, subject to the signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), to participate in the bidding process.</p> <p>Note: Only pre-qualified companies will receive an invitation to submit their bid in furtherance of the Call for Tender process.</p>	

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR THE PROVISION OF Calibration Services	
REF: ETJ-BB-PR-EI-GEN-GE0010	
<p>BESIX Ballast Nedam Limited, executing Early Services for the Jetty and Load Out Facilities in the Tanga Bay for the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project, invites experienced specialist Companies to express their interest for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Calibration service for inspection, measuring and testing equipment. <p>The Republic of Uganda, the Uganda National Oil Company (UNOC), the United Republic of Tanzania and/or Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC), as well as other international oil companies are partaking in the implementation of the EACOP Project.</p> <p>The EACOP Project development involves the engineering, construction, operation and maintenance of a crude oil export pipeline crossing Uganda and Tanzania incl. a Jetty with Load Out Facility for Oil Tankers, near Tanga in Tanzania.</p> <p>BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE MATERIALS / SERVICES:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Calibration of welding and coating inspection tools and equipment - Calibration of survey equipment - Calibration of measuring instruments 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Calibration of NDT devices - Calibration of temperature and pressure gauges - Calibration of HSE measuring tools/instruments <p>MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:</p> <p>Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Company profile with prove of sufficient financial capabilities and sufficient and capable resources. - List of brands and type of instruments which can be used to provide calibration service. - An experience list with relevant supply history / track record showing minimum of five (5) years' experience in execution similar services of required calibration as per international standards common in the Oil and Gas business or comparable market. - ISO 9001:2015, ISO 14001:2015, EN/IEC 17025 - Compliance with petroleum (local Content) regulation of 2017 and local company definition for Tanzania. - Proof of registration/application to Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this
<p>Interested companies which meet the minimum requirements and have the capacity to provide the services listed above should express their interest by sending together with the above listed documents an email to procurement@bbnlt.co.tz (Max. Email Size: 20 MBs & All documents must be submitted in the English language) on or before 14th February 2023, 1800hrs Tanzania Time.</p> <p>Companies satisfactorily meeting the above minimum requirements will be evaluated and if selected will be invited, subject to the signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), to participate in the bidding process.</p> <p>Note: Only pre-qualified companies will receive an invitation to submit their bid in furtherance of the Call for Tender process.</p>	



Tanga city acting director Hawa Msuya (2nd-L) and CRDB Bank Plc Tanga branch manager January Kirambata pictured in the city at the weekend exchanging documents on the handing-over of two classrooms the bank has built for a school for special needs students at 41m/-. Witnessing the event are Pre and Primary School officer Kassim Kaoneka (L) and headmaster Mbwana Hassan. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Govt assures Thai, Sri Lanka mineral traders of unfaltering support

By Guardian Correspondent, Tunduru

THE government has assured foreign businessmen from Sri Lanka and Thailand buying minerals and gems in Tunduru District, in Ruvuma Region, that they are free to engage in the business during all the period they come and stay in the country.

The assurance was given here at the weekend by Resident mining Officer for Ruvuma Region, Hamisi Kamando when addressing the Asian mineral traders.

"In case of problems, call me at any time, I will come without fail," stressed Kamando, adding that the aim for this is to make sure all complaints are removed in order for the government to earn its revenues from the mineral sector," he said.

He said in case minerals sellers take their minerals to the traders at the weekend or during the night, they should call him by phone or sms, or any other district mineral officers so that the minerals are shown and recorded for other procedures.

Kamando, who used the meeting primarily to listen to complaints from the mineral traders, said the traders were important for the district, the region and the nation in general due to their great contributions to the country's revenues.

He said mining officials have the responsibility to listen to and find solutions to all problems being aired and that he will closely follow up on these complaints raised at the meeting in order to work on them.

Kamando further said they will make sure that all complaints aired by them and beyond his capability will be forwarded to the higher authorities for prompt solutions.

Earlier, speaking at different

times, some of the foreign mineral traders cited various complaints facing them, including lack of proper offices for purchasing the minerals, the challenge that has made them wanting to shift to Nachingwea district in Lindi Region.

They said as the problem continues, the authorities have been taking 9.6m/- as rent per year, or 2.4m/- every three months.

They said the payments have no relation to other various charges including royalty they pay to the government, the issue they view as not being right, compared to the business they conduct.

In the circumstances, they said many of them have failed to engage in the mineral business to the time their visas have expired thereby incurring huge losses.



In case of problems, call me at any time, I will come without fail," stressed Kamando, adding that the aim for this is to make sure all complaints are removed in order for the government to earn its revenues from the mineral sector

175 people given legal aid services from LSF in just-ended Law Week

By Guardian Reporter

A TOTAL of 175 people have been given legal aid services from the Legal Services Facility (LSF) during the Law Week at the Kisutu Resident Magistrate's Court grounds in Dar es Salaam.

The law week concluded on Sunday in Dar es Salaam after being kicked off on January 22, 2023, where various legal practitioners got the opportunity to show their work by providing services through the exhibition.

LSF through paralegals in Dar es Salaam was able to deal with

various matters including marriage disputes, child care, inheritance and land disputes.

Wrapping up the one-week exhibition LSF chief executive officer (CEO) Lulu Ng'wanakilala, said that LSF has been collaborating with the courts as a tool to give justice to promote access to justice in Tanzania by helping citizens get their rights for development.

"The law week has been important for us as stakeholders of the court because through legal assistants we have been able to provide free services to the citizens who visited our booth through

mediation. Through this week we have helped 175 people, of which 73 are men and 102 are women," said Ng'wanakilala.

Arbitrator from the High Court of Tanzania, Arbitration Division, Judge Dr.Zainab Mango said that the courts are now faced with many ongoing proceedings, which also require Evidence to make a final decision, which has to take a long time unlike using the mediation method. "Arbitration does not take long, it only takes 30 days. This is in accordance with our constitution Article 107A(1)(d), which emphasizes promoting and

developing arbitration between those involved in the conflict," she said.

On behalf of other paralegals sponsored by LSF, Anthony Isakwi said that they have been working to solve various challenges in society by providing legal aid services and legal education, where mediation has been more dominant to find solutions in conflicts.

"Arbitration has become our main method that we use in solving various cases that are reported to us. Arbitration has been taking place mostly in civil cases. But in criminal cases such as sexual violence and so on, we collaborate with other stakeholders such as the Tanzania Women's Lawyers Association (TAWLA), who take the matter further to justice institutions including the courts," said Isakwi.



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

African Underground Mining Services, AUMS (T) Ltd invites eligible, qualified and experienced Tanzanian companies to express their interest in the supply of the following.

- Two Remote Control Technologies "ATX2200 Digital Teleremote Guidance Units".
- One "Automation Lite LV Kit" and associated test equipment.
- The installation and on-site commissioning of two Remote Control Technologies digital "Control Master ATX2200 Tele Remote Guidance Systems" on two Sandvik LH 62Li loaders.
- The installation and commissioning of one "Automation Lite LV Kit".

At AUMS (T) Ltd operations at Geita Gold Mine in Tanzania.

1. Schedule and deadline for submission

The contract is to be awarded through a competitive tender process. If your company wishes to be considered for pre-qualification please submit an EOI by email to ContractsTanzania@aumsg.com by not later than **16:00HRS Local Time on 07/02/2023** quoting "EOI Supply of Remote Control Guidance Systems" in the subject line of your email.

Please submit an EOI on your company letterhead with the following mandatory information:

- Company Profile, Shareholder details, Directors list, Organogram, Number of employees with a foreign to national ratio indicated
- Valid Tax Compliance, VAT Registration & TIN certificates
- Certificate of Incorporation, Valid Business Permit/Licenses
- Industry Regulatory Compliance Licenses, Manufacturer Authorizations, Exclusive Distributorship Certificates. Along with other relevant Industry Specific Documentation
- Summary of Court proceedings (pending and completed), Court Judgments and /or insolvency/bankruptcy proceedings if any, against your company and or any of your shareholders, directors and/or senior leadership/management team over the last 3 years
- Occupational, Health, Safety and Environmental Requirements
- Trade references, previous contracts to supply Remote Control Technologies equipment.
- Key Employees CV & Certificates
- Compliance to Tanzania's Mining Local Content Requirements as per the Mining Local Content Regulations 2018.

Any response received beyond 16:00HRS Local Time on **07/02/2023** shall not be considered.

2. Assessment criteria

The mandatory information requested at paragraph 1 will be evaluated and scored to shortlist pre-qualified companies.

The pre-qualification of any company submitting an EOI shall be at the sole discretion of AUMS(T) Ltd.


The bidder shall bear all costs associated with the preparation and submission of the companies EOI. AUMS(T) Ltd shall not be responsible or liable for any costs incurred regardless of the conduct or outcome of the bidding process.

For more information on **African Underground Mining Services** and its operations please refer to the following website www.aumsg.com.

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Embassy of Sweden Dar es Salaam

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Embassy is responsible for representing and promoting Swedish interests in Tanzania and has approximately 40 employees. The overall tasks of the Embassy include supporting business and trade, development cooperation as well as consular and visa services.

The strategy for Swedish development cooperation with Tanzania 2020 – 2024 focuses on four results areas i.e. 1). Democracy, the rule of law, human rights and gender equality; 2). Education; 3). Inclusive economic development; 4). Environment, climate and energy

PROGRAM MANAGER – SOCIAL PROTECTION

We would like to invite applications from suitably qualified candidates for the position of Program Manager – Social Protection. In close cooperation with colleagues, you will contribute to achieve the overall objective of Swedish development cooperation of supporting people in poverty and under oppression to improve their living conditions in Tanzania. We strive to support change through a holistic multi-dimensional perspective on poverty. Follow-up and close cooperation with partner organisations are also at the core of our approach.

We are looking for a new person to welcome to our team that has good ability to collaborate and build trusting relationships with colleagues and external partners. You also need to have the ability to lead yourself by self-sustaining, taking initiatives and pushing issues forward. To succeed in this role, you should have the ability to communicate effectively. Finally, it is important to be flexible; solution-oriented and capable of handling the unpredictable.

Duties and responsibilities:

The main responsibilities for this position involves following up on the Productive Social Protection Programme (PSSN-II), which is a nationwide program implemented by Tanzania Social Acton Fund (TASAF). Sweden is one of the largest contributing partners to PSSN II. In addition to bilateral funding, the Embassy oversees delegated funds from European Union in Tanzania to PSSN II. This entails:

- A close engagement with TASAF to follow up on program component plans and agreed actions to strengthen the overall implementation of the programme but also with a specific focus on the gender action plan or communities' engagement.
- Provide advisory support on social protection to Swedish embassies in East Africa and Southern Africa with social protection programmes
- Contribute to internal learning and capacity building on social protection within the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA), in cooperation with Sida's informal network for social protection.
- Provide advisory support on social protection to Swedish Embassies in Africa with social protection programmes. This may include support and advice in the entire strategy and contribution management process, e.g. in the appraisal of new programs, follow-up, dialogue and evaluation.
- Be an active team member at the Embassy contributing to the overall responsibilities of the Embassy.

Qualifications, Skills and Experience:


- A graduate degree in economics, social science, development studies or related disciplines.
- At least 3 years relevant experience in the area of social protection systems.
- Excellent command of written and spoken English. Skills in Swahili and Swedish is a merit

Merits:

- Knowledge of social protection programmes in Tanzania or other African countries.
- Experience of working in International development cooperation or an international organisation.
- Knowledge on the policy making process in Tanzania, preferably on social protection issues.
- Knowledge on the body of research, including evidence on the impact of social protection programmes for Sub-Saharan Africa.
- Knowledge on gender issues and gender mainstreaming.
- Experience of working on internal capacity building, learning and knowledge sharing.

If you are interested in this exciting career opportunity, e-mail us one attachment having your CV (maximum 5 pages) and one page application letter explaining your suitability for the job. Please, do not include your certificates. Write "PM-SP" in your e-mail subject line. The deadline is on 8th February 2023. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. *We regret the vacancy is not ideal for fresh graduates.*

**Executive Search and Selection Division
Prospect Africa Limited
e-mail: recruitment@prospect-africa.net**



'More countries eliminate NTD but investments key to sustain progress'

By Guardian Reporter

THE World Health Organisation (WHO) has released a new progress report on Neglected Tropical Disease (NTD) highlighting the progress and challenges in delivering NTD care worldwide, against a backdrop of COVID-19-related disruptions.

The report, entitled "Global report on neglected tropical diseases 2023" shows that NTDs continue to disproportionately affect the poorest members of the global community, primarily in areas where water safety, sanitation and access to health care are inadequate.

Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, WHO Director-General said: "Around the world, millions of people have been liberated from the burden of neglected tropical diseases, which keep people trapped in cycles of poverty and stigma."

He added: "But as this progress report shows, we still have a lot of work to do. The good news is, we have the tools and the know-how not just to save lives and prevent suffering, but to free entire communities and countries of these diseases. It's time to act now, act together, and invest in NTDs."

Although as many as 179 countries and territories reported at least one case of NTDs in 2021, 16 countries accounted for 80 percent of the global NTD burden. Around 1.65 billion people were estimated to require treatment for at least one NTD, globally.

The new progress report shows that the number of people requiring NTD interventions fell by 80 million between 2020 and 2021, and eight countries were certified or validated as having eliminated one NTD in 2022 alone.

As of December 2022, 47 countries had eliminated at least one NTD and more countries were in the process of achieving this target.

Accomplishments made in 2021-2022 build on a decade of significant progress. In 2021, 25% fewer people required interventions against NTDs than in 2010, and more than one billion people were treated for NTDs each year between 2016 and 2019 through mass treatment interventions.

The report also notes the significant impact of COVID-19 had on community-based interventions and on access to health facilities, as well as on supply chains for healthcare products.

This led to 34 percent fewer

people receiving treatment for NTDs between 2019 and 2020, even if a general resumption of activities enabled an 11 percent increase in recovery in 2021, when approximately 900 million people were treated.

The new report emphasizes greater efforts and investments required to reverse delays and accelerate progress towards the NTD road map targets by 2030.

Promoting country ownership and accountability, as well as the sustainability and predictability of financing, including more robust domestic funding, are key to achieving the NTD road map goals and enabling countries to deliver on their commitments to provide quality NTD services to affected populations.

Multi-sectoral collaboration and partnerships are vital to make this happen. Last week, WHO and Gilead Sciences signed a new agreement for the donation of 304 700 vials of AmBisome (liposomal amphotericin B for injection) for the treatment of visceral leishmaniasis in countries most impacted by the disease, extending their previous agreement to 2025.

The new three-year collaboration is estimated at US\$ 11.3 million and also makes provision for financial support to WHO.

WHO urges more partners and donors to come forward and fill existing gaps that hinder the full-scale implementation of NTD activities at global and local levels.

Later this week, the 152nd session of the WHO Executive Board will consider admitting The Carter Center into official relations with WHO.



Around the world, millions of people have been liberated from the burden of neglected tropical diseases, which keep people trapped in cycles of poverty and stigma

CCM in Iringa pledges to build dormitories at Mufindi school

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya,

Mufindi

Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) Iringa Region has promised to construct dormitories at Kiyowela secondary school in Mufindi District, a move aimed to protect girls and save students from walking long distances.

Speaking on Sunday during the launch of the party's 46th anniversary celebrations, a member of CCM Central Committee in Iringa Region, Salim Abri (ASAS) said the party has heard the cries of students and will construct dormitories for them.

He said parents and students have for a period been complaining of lack of dormitories at the school, the thing that affects their academic performance as they spend too much time walking to and from school.

"We have requested the school management to provide us with the building drawings so that we can start construction of the dormitories. We want our children, especially girls to be protected," he said, adding that currently students walk for almost four kilometres to and from school.

Abri added the party in collaboration with various regional bodies have decided to work on students' complaints, insisting that construction is scheduled to commence in coming months.

"Keeping girls at schools protects them from early pregnancies and reduces drop outs," he added.

Students at Kiyowela secondary school come from three villages—Magunguli, Isaula and Kiyowela.

CCM Secretary in Kiyowela ward, Mufindi District, Basil Msakwa said that residents in the area are anxiously waiting for the government and the party to construct the dormitories.

He commended the party for its decision to help improve academic performance of students especially girls by ensuring they stay at school throughout the learning period.

He said the government has been implementing various development projects in the ward including electricity projects in the three villages, construction of a dispensary in Isaula and Kiyowela villages, construction of three laboratories at Kiyowela secondary school and staff quarters.

According to Msakwa, the government is also repairing all the roads across the ward.

He said that some of the projects have been completed while others are at final stages including construction of CCM ward offices.

The ward has a population of more than 2,000 people.

Meanwhile, more than 100 people including the former Secretary of Chadema in Kiyowela ward, Yohanne Mwinuka have joined the ruling party.



Neema Ndikumwami (2nd-R), corporate social responsibility manager with Wentworth, pictured in Mtwara-Mikindani municipality at the weekend presenting to Mtwara regional commissioner Col Ahmed Abbas Ahmed (2nd-L) sanitary towels for use by students in the region. It was support extended by the Wentworth Africa Foundation in marking President Samia Suluhu Hassan's birthday (January 27). The others include Kamburage Primary School head teacher Florence Magomba (R) and the municipality's mayor, Shadida Ndile (L). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Henry Mwangonde

MAENDELEO Bank Plc has announced a 2.02bn/- profit before tax in the year 2022, almost double from the 710m/- recorded in 2021.

Speaking at a press conference yesterday, the bank's Managing Director Dr Ibrahim Mwangalaba said during the year ending, the bank registered 184-percent and 163-percent year on year growth in profit before and profit after tax respectively, while generating a return on equity of 80-percent and an earnings per share of 50/-.

According to him, the bank's profit after tax improved from 587m/- in 2021 to 1.31bn/- in 2022 saying this was a record as the bank has been profitable consecutively for the last 8 years since the second

Bank announces 2.02bn/- profit before tax for 2022

year of operation 2015.

"The impressive growth in profitability was mainly contributed by various factors of the economy but mainly the staff which is forward looking to seeing the bank as a key player in the national economy," he said.

He named the key drivers as overall revenue growth which increased by 22-percent year on year from 12.8bn/- to 15.6bn/- in 2022, Net Interest Income Growth by 31-percent from 7.6bn/- in 2021 to 9.9bn/- in 2022.

Another factor was the lending business increase due to improved economic conditions which led to improved loan book quality from Non-Performing Loans (NPLs) of 13-percent in 2021 to 5.2-percent in 2022.

Dr Mwangalaba said deposits increased by 11-percent from 70bn/- in 2021 to 77bn/- in 2022, while loans and advances to customers increased by 5-percent from 57.0bn/- in 2021 to 60.0bn/- in 2022.

He said various strategies

employed on customer deposit mobilization was mostly driven by value adding products and services the bank has been offering.

"Increased bank accessibility through digital products such as mobile banking services including over 1,200 agents who have contributed to the growth observed," he said.

He added that the bank's total assets improved from 102bn/- to 106bn/- representing a 5-percent growth.



Mining Commission chairman Prof Idris Kikula closes a seminar for artisanal miners from Dodoma and Singida regions at the weekend. It was held in Singida municipality. Photo: Correspondent Thobias Mwanakatwe

Deputy minister tasks RMOs and DMOs to address embezzlement

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

DEPUTY Minister for Health Dr Godwin Mollé has called upon Regional and District Medical Officers (RMOs and DMOs) to address embezzlement cases under their jurisdictions.

Dr Mollé made the remarks here on Sunday in a statement read on behalf of the Health Minister, Umyi Mwalimu at the apex of the celebration to mark World Leprosy Day held on the last Sunday of every month of January.

He said in addition to the government's investing heavily in the health sector by improving

infrastructures and provision of modern medical equipment, there is still a challenge for the improvement of health services on the part of health officials.

"It is a shame when higher officials of the government or ministries visiting RMOs or DMOs or heads of a health centre find incidents of embezzlement under their charge."

"This is not acceptable at all and if such acts of embezzlement continue I will not hesitate to act, including fearing the officials responsible because everyone is supposed to be accountable for what happens under him/her," said Dr Mollé.

He appealed to RMOs and DMOs

that whenever they receive drugs from the Medical Stores Department (MSD) it is better to involve regional and district commissioners because these are chairmen of defence and security committees with the aim of improving the administration of the medical sector.

Regarding the World Leprosy Day, the deputy minister said as for now Tanzania has made steps in the fight against the disease.

He said the disease's prevalence has dropped in the country year after year in the last two decades following the world taking decisive steps towards its eradication.

"Our country has been able to

diagnose and treat more than 122,000 new leprosy cases and in 2021 there were only 1,613 new cases.

He said Tanzania has attained an early stage in the international level for the eradication of leprosy by having less than one patient out of 10,000 people.

However, Dr Mollé cited regions with many cases of leprosy as including Morogoro, Lindi, Dar es Salaam, Coast, Mtwara, Tanga, Katavi, Dodoma, Geita, Shinyanga, Tabora and Rukwa.

He instructed every local council to incorporate leprosy eradication activities in their health strategies.

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Drastic cutting of mercury use by small gold miners yet a tall order

SAFER gold processing units are now the watchword at the Tanzania Mining Commission as the regulatory agency begins to take a detailed view of the disaster waiting to happen on account of the scale of using mercury in artisan gold mining and processing. Top TCM officials were on a regional training tour to ask owners of gold processing facilities using mercury and sodium cyanide to make sure they build trenches for disposal of mercury laden residues. This is an effort to prevent the hazardous chemicals from seeping into water sources, but us the situation still controllable?

In the first place, officials of the commission are conducting something like an awareness exercise, not a change of regulations or restraining availability of the chemicals, for that might not be workable outside adopting higher technology. And unless imitation copies of applicable technology are introduced, changing the sort of technology used in gold processing requires a shift from small scale miners to fairly large investors. A step into displacing most local miners for foreign speculators, and that won't be easy to explain, so the step is out of issue.

Commission officials were visiting Dodoma and Singida regions to explain safety, health, preservation and managing of the environment, along with the use of gunpowder in their activities. It is a handful of issues already before the processing of gold ore using mercury and sodium cyanide is taken up, and even when there is

an effort to approaching the issues, it is unclear if there is a regulatory lever available to bring to a halt the gradual conversion of uncountable water sources both at the surface and underground unusable for the mercury content. But may be the urgency isn't to high if particles settle, not flow with the water. The Mara situation is nowhere in Singida.

There was a time intense river pollution was noticed in Mara Region and caused the deaths of scores of cattle and even villagers, but the matter has since then crept out of the public agenda. Still, as artisanal gold mining uses 18.5 tonnes of mercury annually, and this has been the case for 10 to 20 years, it is possible that the effects are already building up. But so far the commission is only expressing worries that there are clear pollution effects in humans and the wider environment, where it is relevant to see what technological adaptations are feasible before the situation gets out control. Better late than never.

The commission team asked mining supervisors at the regional level and licensed owners of mines to make sure there are no trenches or holes left uncovered, but this relates to physical dangers rather than the pollution part. Open holes are a dimension of pollution as they make a patch of land unsable until that anomaly is removed, but as previous users are no longer there (if it wasn't just a bush) surely an investor can be found who can even use holes as an asset? How faulty is it to think of fish farming in such a zone, skip using millions to land fill?

Form IV results not real cause for alarm, just disappointing

ORGANISERS of the national Form IV exams say that the majority of students, six out of ten, passed at D grade, implying that just above a third of the students passed in the proper sense of the term. In the distant past that would have been real cause for alarm as it would be classed as 'mass failures,' as passing strictly speaking stopped at C grade. No such emergency is in the air at the moment, not even quiet desperation, as the results are only a challenge for the youths to seek where they fit in to start training.

The results showed what many people have been saying all along, that the quality of education leaves a lot to be desired. Yet there is a difference between the quality as such and the passing level, and in part we get this dismal performance because the quality of teaching, and setting exams, has remained basically the same. It is societal change that is more at issue rather than school change that leads to less than admirable performance in examinations.

Those who see school results of this sort as alarming are often under the impression that when one leaves school - and especially if a youth is leaving college - such person needs to be employable directly without any further effort,

which is a bit idealistic. There ought to be bridging courses in this or that field when a student had done college, and at times there is on the job training, as education enables one to grasp issues in that profession or branch of society or industry, not fit in particular roles.

Another aspect is low comprehension of key subjects when 79.2 per cent of candidates get F in Basic Maths, and 12,536 candidates fail to appear for exams. The reason by and large is that secondary school selection is no longer competitive as it was in the

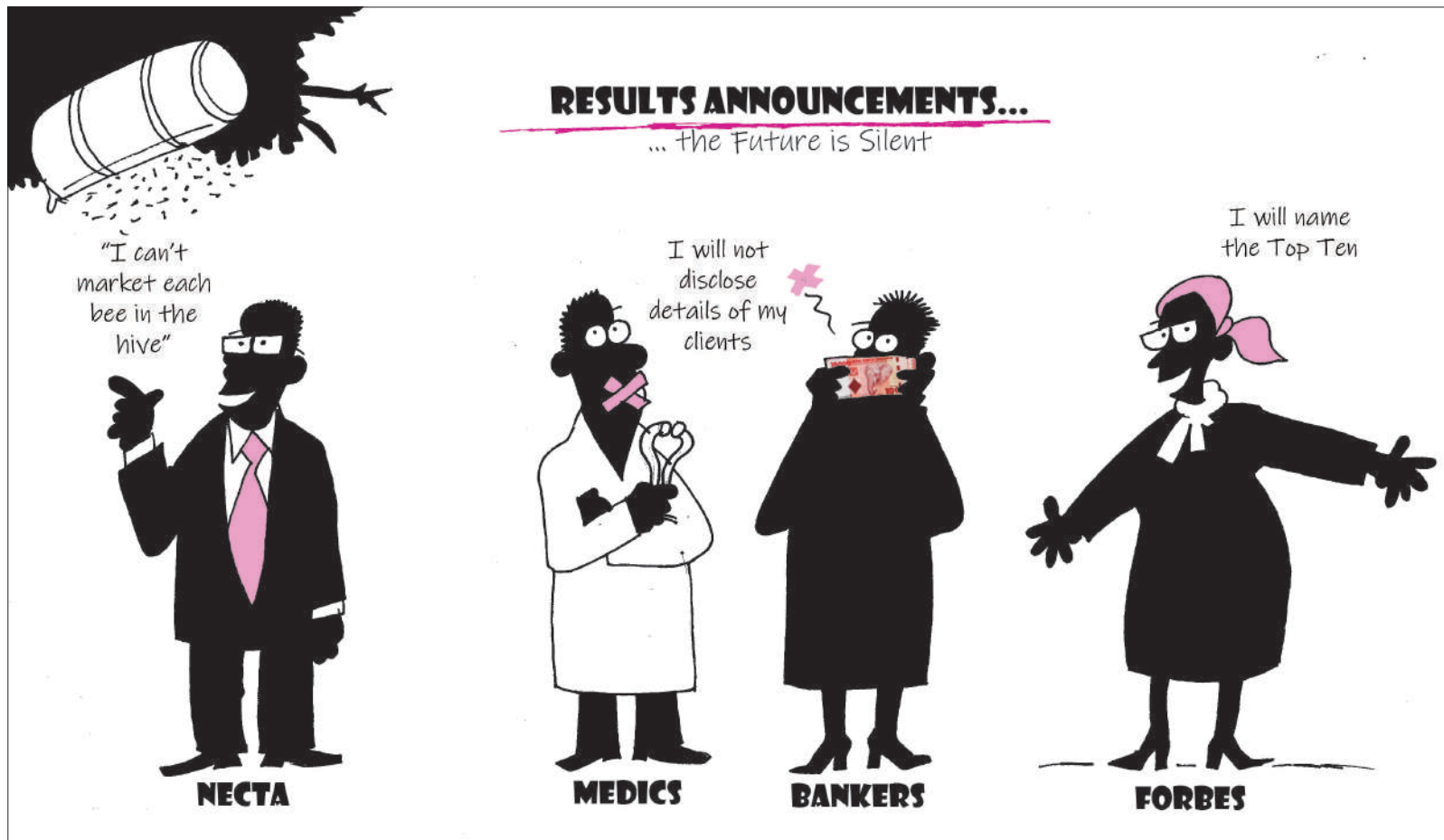
past, such that event those who aren't mentally inclined to pursue schooling are pushed into school not for their dreams but the family and often enough the wider public. In due course it becomes clear that the lad's mind is directed elsewhere, though in many cases it is social discomfort that pushes pupils out of school.

Thus 12,000 absentees out of 450,000 ought not alarm anyone, though not all those cases are an expression of fee will; often a young person has to fend for his life.

As usual the bad old habit of cheating reared its head again, so NECTA had to cancel results of 333 candidates and suspend those of 286 others, closing three examinations centres seen to have planned and conducted cheating in the exam. This ruins the image of the concerned schools for no valid reason except to imagine that this will not be noticed and in all appearances the school would just score highly.

But there is 'standard variation' of how pupils or students answer questions, even it is multiple choice ticks, and when they are too similar for comfort, it is easy to suspect something. A quick comparison will show the extent of cheating outright, or in smuggling of answers.

The fact that a total of 192,348 school candidates (36.95 percent) passed by getting division one, two and three indicates that there is still plenty of college material (in the sense of proceeding to high school and then to university, or some to college directly). Out of the number, A grades in this or that subject were countable for instance in Physics it was 530 candidates nationwide who obtained A grade, while in Chemistry (a favourite combination subject with Physics) more than 10,000 candidates had an A score. That means the difficulty is the mathematics background, which calls for special overview.



US and imposition of visa restrictions over Nigerian polls

By Chido Nwangwu

CHIDO Nwangwu writes about the recent move by the United States government to make good its plan to impose visa restrictions on individuals found undermining the 2023 general election in Nigeria.

International relations and diplomacy, usually involve engagement and deployment of a realistic mix of "carrots and sticks." Especially when the very powerful and influential countries seek to protect their interests. Due to the decades of corrupt, ruinous and incompetent governance of the leadership of these "developing" countries, particularly in Africa, they have become dependent on their preferred destinations to travel abroad for individual but expensive lifestyles and basic healthcare needs.

One of those preferred destinations is the United States of America.

For routine checkups, these leaders trust the American and European-based medical doctors, it seems, much more than those based in Nigeria and most of the African countries.

Medical and healthcare professionals from the same countries also practice across the United States as top-ranked leaders in the industry.

But you need visas or other requisite immigration documents to travel into the U.S. Unlike into some of the African countries where the borders are not effectively and strictly managed or protected.

On April 26, 2021, the U.S. Secretary of State, Antony Blinken announced his meeting, virtually, with the President of Nigeria, retired army General Muhammadu Buhari. USAfricaonline.com reported Blinken's highlight of the United States and Nigeria's "shared goals of strengthening democratic governance, building lasting security, and promoting economic ties and diversification."

I think, in realistic pursuit of the

"shared goals of strengthening democratic governance" component, the United States has reiterated its position that people involved in undermining the electoral process in Nigeria will face visa restrictions.

Consequently, Blinken has continued to follow-up the announcement with his statement released by the U.S. Mission in Abuja on Wednesday, January 25, 2023 restating that the U.S. supports Nigeria's democratic process and desire to uphold the rule of law.

Here: "Today, I am announcing visa restrictions on specific individuals in Nigeria for undermining the democratic process in a recent Nigerian elections."

Drawing from the laws of the United States, he noted that: "Under Section 212(a)(3)(C) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, these individuals will be found ineligible for visas to the United States under a policy to restrict visas of those believed to be responsible for, or complicit in, undermining democracy in Nigeria."

"Certain family members of such persons may also be subject to these restrictions. Additional persons who undermine the democratic process in Nigeria—including in the lead-up to, during, and following Nigeria's 2023 elections—may be found ineligible for U.S. visas under this policy."

He underlined the point that "The visa restrictions announced today are specific to certain individuals and are not directed at the Nigerian people or the Government of Nigeria. The decision to impose visa restrictions reflects the commitment of the United States to support Nigerian aspirations to combat corruption and strengthen democracy and the rule of law," he added.

Let me note the fact that some of the children and relatives of those who make living and life very difficult in Nigeria are on different forms/types of U.S. visas or other immigration facilities from other countries. This seems, again, like a reasonable use of "carrots and sticks."

The value of strong multilateral cooperation in a fractured world

By Ulrika Modéer and Tsegaye Lemma

THE multilateral system, even in the face of heightened geopolitical tension and big power rivalry, remains the uniquely inclusive vehicle for managing mutual interdependencies in ways that enhance national and global welfare. The complex challenges of a global pandemic, climate emergency, inequality and the risk of nuclear conflict cannot be dealt with by one country or one region alone. Coordinated collective action is required.

Without coordinated and timely collective global action in recent years to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, global suffering would have been far greater. Initiatives such as COVAX and the UN's socio-economic response to COVID-19 not only helped mitigate the public health emergency, but also help decision-makers look beyond recovery towards 2030, managing complexity and uncertainty.

The devastating war in Ukraine has been a colossal blow to multilateral efforts by the international community to maintain peace and prevent major wars. However, multilateral cooperation cannot be declared obsolete - it is crucial in efforts to put human dignity and planetary health at the heart of cross-border cooperation.

The recent Black Sea Grain Initiative agreement represents

a key testament to the value of multilateral cooperation working even in the most difficult circumstances, ensuring the protection of those that are most vulnerable to global shocks.

Without this agreement, global food prices would have risen even further, and vulnerable countries pushed further into hunger and political unrest.

The multilateral system is faced with the ostensible imbalance in matching humanitarian and development needs with Official Development Assistance (ODA) commitments. Despite some donors' efforts to maintain - and even increase - their ODA commitments, others are faced with increasing politicization of aid - and it is part of the political calculus.

With the war in Ukraine still raging, there is real possibility that several donors will tap into ODA budget to cover the partial or entire cost of hosting Ukrainian refugees and rebuilding the devastated Ukrainian infrastructure and economy.

The UN system, a core part of the rule-based international order, is funded dominantly by voluntary earmarked contributions. Ultimately, this gives donor countries influence over the objectives of global public good creation.

Funding patterns tend to be unpredictable, making it hard to strategize and plan for the long term. Although earmarked funding allows the system to deliver

solutions to specific issues with scale, the system's lack of quality funding support risks eroding its multilateral character, strategic independence, universal presence, and development effectiveness.

The recently launched report by the Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation and the UN's Multi-Partner Trust Fund Office showed that more than 70 percent of funding to the UN development system is earmarked, compared to 24 percent for the World Bank Group and IMF, and only 3 percent for the EU.

As the world faces daunting development finance prospects in 2022-2023, investments should focus on protecting a strong and effective multilateral system; the system that remains trusted by countries and partners for its reliable delivery of services.

It has also proven to complement bilateral, south-south and other forms of cooperation - beyond the traditional development narrative. An ODI study showed that the multilateral channel, when compared with bilateral channel, remains less-politicized, more demand-driven, more selective in terms of poverty criteria and a good conduit for global public goods.

Notwithstanding the institutional and bureaucratic challenges that the multilateral system faces, which must be addressed head-on, a retreat from a shared system of rules and norms that has served the world for seven decades is the wrong response.

Those of us in the multilateral

development system, must recognize the difficult work that lies ahead. We must continue to demonstrate that each tax dollar is spent judiciously and show traceable results, while upholding the highest standards set out in the UN charter.

Improved transparency on how and where we spend the funds entrusted to us by our key partners and the IATI standard have long been adopted as key requirement outlined in the funding compact.

The Multilateral Organisation Performance Assessment Network and other donor assessments have recognized the systems' value for money and confirmed that partnerships with other UN entities improve programmes and effectively integrates multiple sources of expertise.

Of course, the system must continue to build on successes and lessons to prove to our partners that we remain worthy of their trust and drive our collective agenda.

However, the true value of multilateral cooperation can only be fully realized with strong political commitment by partners matched with the necessary financial investment.

Ulrika Modéer is UN Assistant Secretary-General and Director of the Bureau of External Relations and Advocacy, UNDP; Tsegaye Lemma is Team Leader, Strategic Analysis and Corporate Engagement, Bureau of External Relations and Advocacy, UNDP.

By Thandekile Moyo

Zimbabwean government passes law designed to throttle independent civil society

ON 5 November 2021, the clerk of parliament in Zimbabwe published the Private Voluntary Organisations Amendment Bill 2021 (the PVO Amendment Bill) in the Government Gazette. The bill has since been passed by the National Assembly and will be debated in the Senate on 31 January 2023.

The amendments that are proposed might leave you thinking that the Zimbabwean government deals with a multitude of terrorist financing threats on a regular basis.

In summary, the amendments ostensibly seek to address two things:

To prevent nonprofit organisations (NGOs) from being misused by terrorist organisations as fronts or “conduits for terrorist financing”;

To ensure that private voluntary organisations do not undertake political lobbying.

These two issues clearly express the intentions of the government. The first is to monitor, cease and even seize funds received by NGOs in the country.

The second targets the activities of NGOs and seeks to silence dissenting voices and to further shrink, if not close, civic spaces ahead of Zimbabwe’s 2023 elections.

This is made clear by the major clauses of the bill which include changing the definition of PVOs as well as expanding the definition of “funds or other assets” to include “all financial assets and funds or other assets of every kind”.

To make sure that as many people as possible are forbidden by law from financially supporting the opposition or from opposing government (read Zanu-PF), the amended definition of a PVO includes anyone that fundraises for any activity.

For example, if you wake up and decide that, for your birthday, you will ask people to donate money towards the drilling of a borehole in your community, the bill demands that you must first register as a PVO. You can do that voluntarily or you can be forced to do so by the Minister of Social Welfare.

It means if, after registering as a PVO, you decide to donate 10 T-shirts to a candidate in the local government elections, you will be breaking the law as PVOs will now be prohibited from political lobbying.

Another clause seeks to criminalise the “supporting or opposing [of] a political party or candidate by PVOs”.

Clause 7 seeks to give the minister power to suspend an executive committee of any PVO suspected of maladministration, and powers for the minister to appoint trustees to run the PVO while it is being investigated.

Civil penalty orders

The bill seeks to have an Office of the Registrar under the Ministry of Social Welfare. This Registrar will have the power to consider and determine applications for the registration as well as proposed deregistrations of organisations. At least three of the clauses seek to give the Registrar more powers: including collecting fees for the registration of PVOs as well as “to impose civil penalty orders... on non-complying private voluntary organisations”.

By changing the definition of PVOs, the government of Zimbabwe wants to make sure that nobody in the



Zanu-PF President Emmerson Mnangagwa.

civic space is left untouched by the proposed laws.

The bill aims to give rights to the minister to order any organisation they target to register as a PVO. Anyone or any organisation that “doesn’t use their own funds for their activities, but instead collects contributions from the public or receives financial assistance from anyone inside or outside Zimbabwe”, shall be forced to register as a PVO.

It is clear, as one reads the bill, that what the government regards as “terrorism” – or who they regard as a “terrorist” – is anyone they believe to be supporting the opposition or opposing government (read Zanu-PF).

One of the amendments reads:

“When any PVO that supports or opposes any political party or candidate in a presidential, parliamentary or local government election, or is a party to any breach under section 7 under part iii of the Political Parties (Finance) Act [Chapter 2:12] as a contributor of funds to any political candidate or otherwise, shall be guilty of an offence and liable to a fine of level 12 or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding one year, or both such fine or such imprisonment.”

The bill claims to be addressing the threat of “terrorist financing”. However, the above paragraph makes it clear that the government considers the financial support of opposition parties to be terrorist financing.

Not only that, but they also criminalise opposition to any political party, which is basically the criminalisation of dissent. PVOs will be prohibited from calling out the government for, for example, human rights violations if that can be seen as opposing a political party.

Criminalising opposition politics

What the government is attempting to do is ensure that as many people as possible are forced to register as PVOs so that they can prevent not only the funding of opposition parties, but also restrict open support for the opposition.

The bill seeks to criminalise opposition politics, which includes the activities of civil society organisations and NGOs that are viewed as political lobby groups.

Most NGOs target human security in all its forms – from human rights to economic security and political insecurity, among other issues. The major cause of this insecurity is the government.

It is the inadequacy of the government that has led to health, education, water and sanitation crises in the country. It is their inadequacy that has led to starvation.

It is also their repressive laws and incompetence that have led to failed voter education and a failed voter registration drive.

When PVOs – being NGOs, civil society organisations (CSOs) and individu-

als – then raise funds from the public or from local and foreign donors to support service delivery (effectively subsidising government) and save lives, the government sees this as political lobbying.

They see it as such because they fear that, in their operations, PVOs will deliberately or inadvertently expose the government’s incompetence and failures. Understandably, opposition political parties’ campaigns are founded on the idea that Zanu-PF must be replaced because of their failure to provide a stable currency and create an environment conducive to employment creation, as well as fail to provide merit and public goods. However, when PVOs address these issues, the government sees collusion – real or imagined – between PVOs and the opposition.

Voter registration crackdown

An example is the crackdown on organisations involved in encouraging people to register to vote.

One of the opposition’s campaigns has been to get as many people as possible to register to vote. In neighbouring Zambia, there are claims that the incumbent party won the election in 2022 because of a massive voter registration drive by the opposition.

When Zanu-PF sees anyone encouraging people to vote, it views it as political lobbying for the opposition, despite the fact that encouraging more people to vote will benefit candidates from all

parties.

More people voting will also give a clearer picture of what the people want.

Democracy demands that people must be encouraged and capacitated to vote. Anyone who feels threatened by the masses being empowered to vote knows that their power is illegitimate – it is not derived from the people, and they would like to keep it that way.

We must be under no illusion that the PVO Amendment Bill targets NGOs, CSOs and activists.

This view of NGOs and CSOs as enemies of the state is expressed in the state-controlled Herald newspaper that said: “The NGOs have been at the forefront of funding subversive activities and the government has the rights to protect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Zimbabwe.”

The propaganda that anyone who expresses dissent is funded by the West through NGOs is believed by many Zimbabweans. It is meant to make people view dissenters with suspicion, even when they share the same views. This has led to many people folding their arms and sitting back as the government launches vicious attacks on free speech and civil rights.

It seems many Zimbabweans do not realise that in targeting NGOs, CSOs and activists, the PVO bill ultimately targets all Zimbabweans and seeks not only to silence us all, but to worsen our social and economic conditions.

PVOs are not just engaged in social justice work; they provide essential social services that government fails to provide, such as healthcare and food aid. Without NGOs, many in urban and rural areas would die of starvation.

Without NGOs, thousands of children in the country would be out of school.

There are currently many community projects, especially in rural areas, where individuals are pooling funds to build schools and feed schoolchildren, among other activities.

This bill seeks to force such people to register as PVOs and thus take away their rights to engage in political lobbying.

In the Monetary Policy Report of February 2022, the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe said NGOs were the third-largest contributor of foreign currency receipts in the country. The bedridden economy of Zimbabwe would have come to a standstill years ago were it not for the funds brought in by PVOs and the diaspora. **DM/MC**

Misconceptions about clubfoot deny children their right to treatment

By Emmanuel Kowero and Pankras Luoga

THERE is sizeable number of children born with foot deformity called clubfoot in our society. The deformity is sometimes associated with beliefs such as curse or witchcraft. As a result, some of these children are not sent to health facilities for treatment.

Failure to get treatment at the right time results in permanent feet disabilities among children which affect their lives in a long run. This is unfortunate because such permanent disabilities can be avoidable by undergoing proper treatment that is available in most of health facilities in the country.

What is clubfoot?

Clubfoot deformity is a common three-dimensional congenital deformity of the foot characterized by foot turning inward and downward. That is the middle arc of the foot increased, the inward rotation of the forefoot, heel rotating inward and the whole foot pointing downward. The deformity occurs in new-born babies and may have many effects if not treated well. Some of the effects include permanent disabilities hence limiting in utilizing their full potentials in the socioeconomic activities for the development of the nation.

What are the causes of clubfoot?

Most studies done suggest that causes of clubfoot deformity remain unknown. However, some studies highlight that the situation can be associated with a combination of genetic and environmental factors. Also, it can be caused by other secondary and or neurological disorders.



How is the situation?

It is estimated that 1 to 2 babies per 1000 live births are born with clubfoot around the world each year, among them, 80 per cent are from low and middle-income countries.

The situation in Tanzania is a bit alarming as it is in other sub-Saharan countries escalated by low awareness and limited resources among parents. It is estimated that 2,600 babies are born each year with clubfoot deformity in Tanzania.

The trends are more evident in poor rural areas of the country. In most parts of our country, children born with clubfoot are sometimes rejected by their parents and

some societies as well. The society associates occurrence of clubfoot in children with a curse in the family and misfortune as well as witchcraft related beliefs.

What is done then in society?

In most of our families and society, it is taken as unusual thing when a child is born with a clubfoot in a family. Such children are left in houses and are not sent to health facilities for treatment which makes them remain permanently disabled for the rest of their lives.

Sadly, some of them are not sent to school hence accelerating social and economic deprivation of this particular group in the society. In addition, due to local beliefs within

the society, some of these babies born with clubfoot are given unscientific treatments including those offered by traditional healers and witch doctors.

Because such traditional remedies do not bear fruit, families incur huge cost of move from one healer to another, leading to misunderstandings among members of the family. Always, all this worsen the situation as the child still remains with the disability despite numerous visits to traditional healers.

What are the effects of untreated clubfoot?

When clubfoot remains untreated, it leads to long-term physical, psychological, emotional and economic difficulties for affected individuals

and families. Physically, the child remains with permanent physical disability, pain, stiffness and walking difficulties.

Children with untreated clubfoot grow and develop with the deformity hence limiting their full participation in the social and economic activities. The activities are such as schooling and playing together with other children as part of socialization. Such children are discriminated against in the society which affects their mental health as they grow up. In a long run, these negative effects persist for the whole spectrum of their lives.

What should be done?

Identifying deformities in the feet of new born babies is easy. Therefore, parents need to make simple assessment on their new born babies to be able to detect foot abnormalities including clubfoot. Then parents should take the new born with clubfoot to a health facility for treatment as early as possible.

If treatment is offered early in the first week, patients heal in a very short period of time and lead their normal life without any memory of the presence of clubfoot in their lives. But when treatment starts after the age of two, it becomes even more difficult to manage and requires complex surgeries that are costly financially and time consuming.

It is important to note that if the treatment is not offered in a facility in your area, then seek help and send the child to organizations that offer such services as Tanzania Clubfoot Care Organization (TCCO) which works in partnership with the Ministry of Health and President’s Office Regional Administration and Local Government, and supports more than 50 hospitals in Tanzania to offer free, quality and timely clubfoot treatment.

In a nutshell, clubfoot can be treated and services are available in all regional referral hospitals, some district hospitals as well as some faith-based hospitals in our country. If treated at the right time, the child heals and become normal. This allows such children to be able to participate fully in all social and economic activities including

Appeal to the public

The situation calls for collective efforts to combat clubfoot in our families and society as it is a public health issue that needs urgent action from all stakeholders. In this case, the first and most important stakeholders are the parents or guardians followed by the general public and finally the government.

If cases of clubfoot are left untreated, our nation will continue wasting much potential in terms of manpower that could have important contribution in the development of our country. Therefore, treating children born with clubfoot unlocks potentials of this group of citizens.

Every citizen in this country has a right to contribute in the development of our country. Not treating children born with clubfoot in our families and society is denying them the opportunity to exercise their right in developing their country.

Emmanuel Kowero is Programme Manager at Tanzania Clubfoot Care Organization (TCCO) and Pankras Luoga is Assistant Lecturer in Health Systems Management, Monitoring and Evaluation in Health at Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS).

China witnesses prosperous development of carbon fiber industry



An employee of the Xining branch of Zhongfu Shenying, a leading Chinese carbon fiber manufacturer, works in a workshop. (Photo by He Yingli)

By Han Xin

CARBON fibers, dubbed "black gold material," are of high tensile strength, wear resistance, and corrosion resistance. They can be applied in a wide range of fields such as aerospace, energy equipment, transportation, and sports equipment.

They turn wind turbines and new energy vehicles lighter, carrier rockets more energy-efficient, and fishing poles and rackets more durable. As a matter of fact, carbon fibers are now seen in almost every industry and are seeping into every household.

Carbon fibers are divided into small-tow and large-tow categories. A bundle of more than 48,000 carbon fibers

would fall under the large-tow category.

Small-tow carbon fibers are of high performance, which nonetheless involve high costs. Large-tow ones, on the contrary, are much more cheaper but still maintain reliability. Hence, they enjoy wider application in the market.

Recently, China's first 10,000-ton large-tow carbon fiber project was put into use in the carbon fiber industrial base of Sinopec Shanghai Petrochemical Co. Ltd.

The products are on par with similar overseas items in functionality. Every bundle has 48,000 carbon fibers, each of which is as thin as 1/7 to 1/8 of the diameter of hair but features strength seven to nine times that of steel. The carbon content is more than 95 percent.

This means China has made important breakthroughs in the production of large-tow carbon fibers and the domestic manufacturing of equipment.

As China's high-tech industry develops, carbon fibers have embraced wider areas of application.

According to statistics, the country's demand for the material surged rapidly in the past decade. China saw a demand of 62,000 tons for carbon fibers in 2021, up 27.7 percent year on year.

In addition to the growing demand in the aerospace industry, the new energy sector led by the wind turbine industry has become an important engine driving the development of carbon fibers, taking the carbon fiber industry to a new phase of development featuring industrial application.

Such demand will keep growing in the foreseeable future, given the constant equipment upgrading in the commercial aviation and unmanned aerial vehicle industries in China.

Thanks to the expanding market, the Chinese carbon fiber industry is seeing a better structure

and delivering products that are of higher performance and lower cost.

Gangke carbon material company in north China's Shanxi province is now capable of producing all major carbon fiber products, and leading Chinese carbon fiber manufacturer Zhongfu Shenying is also building a 30,000-ton carbon fiber plant.

For some time, China has constantly made new breakthroughs in the manufacturing and key technologies of carbon fibers and expanded relevant production capacity thanks to policy support and the efforts made by enterprises. The market share of domestically produced carbon fiber products climbed to 46.9 percent in 2021 from 31.7 percent in 2019.

China boasts a complete and independent industrial system and enjoys advantages as a super large market, which creates rich scenarios for the commercial application of carbon fibers. Its large R&D teams and emerging innovative market entities also provide solid support for the innovation of carbon fiber technologies.

Currently, there's still big room for improvement in the performance and stability of China's domestically made carbon fiber products, though the country's carbon fiber industry has made great strides. The country is still relying on imported products when it comes to core carbon fiber equipment.

In the future, China will make more innovations in key technologies and make its carbon fiber production internationally competitive, so as to promote high-quality development of the carbon fiber industry.

People's Daily

JERUSALEM / GAZA

AFTER bloodshed in Jerusalem and the West Bank and a month since Israel's most right-wing government took office, Israel and the Palestinians risk sliding into a cycle of wider confrontation with pressure on both sides for retaliation, analysts say.

A Palestinian gunman shot dead seven people near a synagogue in Jerusalem's outskirts on Friday evening, a day after Israeli forces carried out a raid on the occupied West Bank city of Jenin which killed 10 people including seven gunmen.

Israel said on Saturday it was sending army reinforcements to the West Bank and promised a "strong and swift" response to the shooting, which the Palestinian militant group Hamas hailed as a retaliation for the Jenin operation.

The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has ebbed and flowed for decades through conflicts, uprisings and peace talks. Now Israel has normalized relations with more Arab states, while Palestinians have grown more isolated and divided.

With prospects for political progress bleaker than they have been for years and with world powers now distracted by the Ukraine conflict, violence has steadily been rising.

The latest outbreak followed months of confrontations that left 190 Palestinians dead, according to United Nations figures. In addition to the seven killed on Friday, 29 Israelis and foreign nationals, including civilians and soldiers, were killed by Palestinians last year, according to Israeli government figures.

Tensions have risen further since Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu returned to power in December with religious nationalists in key cabinet posts, promising a tougher stance and enraging Palestinians.

"I think this deterioration is going to continue and is inevitable," said Ghassan Al Khatib, a Palestinian analyst and professor of politics at Birzeit University in the West Bank.

The rise of populist Israeli politics was fueling demand for uncompromising action against Palestinians, which would "bring further Palestinian reactions and that will lead into a continuity of the current escalation", Khatib said.

Israeli National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir, who angered Muslims by visiting the Al Aqsa mosque compound within days of taking office, supports the death penalty for Palestinians convicted of killing Israelis and immunity from prosecution for Israeli soldiers and police.

Bigger settlements, more guns

Israel and Palestinians risk deeper conflict



Israeli youths hold a candlelight vigil at the site of a shooting attack on Jan 27, in east Jerusalem on Jan 28, 2023. (PHOTO / AFP)

Ben-Gvir also seeks to further expand Jewish settlement in the West Bank, which was captured by Israel in a 1967 conflict and where Palestinians have long sought to establish a state. Most world powers consider Israel's settlements in the West Bank and East Jerusalem as illegal.

Speaking after Friday's shooting, he promised more gun permits for Israelis and said he instructed police to destroy Palestinian houses built without permit in East Jerusalem, occupied by Israel in a 1967 conflict.

Hamas spokesman Hazem Qassem said Israel's moves "will not stop our people's legitimate resistance against the occupation" and said Palestinians would continue their "glorious revolution".

Despite fiery language from the militant group which controls Gaza, Hamas has not turned its rockets on Israel - as it did in a 2021 conflict - and Netanyahu insists Israel is not seeking escalation, averting any new conflagration for now.

Yet, with at least 35 Palestinians - including gunmen and civilians - already killed this year, there is little sign of tensions easing. Israel says its West Bank raids

targeted militants such as the suspects behind deadly attacks carried out by Palestinians inside Israel last year. The Palestinians call the Israeli raids acts of aggression in occupied land.

Friday evening's attack by Khaire Alkam, the 21-year-old Palestinian gunman, came as Israelis began the Jewish Sabbath and International Holocaust Memorial Day, commemorating 6 million people killed by the Nazis in World Conflict Two.

The situation has been complicated by so-called 'lone wolf' attackers, acting on their own but Israel says such young men are often radicalized by TikTok videos and other material from groups like Hamas even if they are not directly linked to them.

"Incitement on the web is promoted by Hamas and has a dramatic effect on the young generation's minds," said Michael Milshstein, a former adviser to the Israeli military agency overseeing Palestinian affairs in the West Bank.

Friday's synagogue shooting was in an area of Jerusalem annexed by Israel, a move not recognized internationally.

Chain reactions

Alkam's father said his son, like other suspected 'lone wolf' attackers, had no links to militant groups.

Alkam's grandfather, according to his family, was killed in a knife attack a quarter of a century ago. A Jewish settler arrested for the killing was ordered released after a month in detention by a court which said there was insufficient evidence to prosecute him, Israeli media said.

Police and court spokespeople did not immediately respond to requests for comment and requests for court documents related to the settler case.

Khatib said Palestinian anger was fueled by the actions of Israeli soldiers and Jewish settlers, not Palestinian groups.

"They don't need Hamas, they don't need Fatah, they don't need anybody to encourage them. They just watch what the settlers are doing, they just watch what the Israeli soldiers are doing and this is enough," Khatib said.

"The only way out of this chain of actions and reactions is a political process that can bring back hope to Palestinians of a peaceful end of occupation," Khatib said.

Yet Palestinians have little prospect for coordinated response, with their leadership fractured between the isolated Islamist Hamas group in Gaza and the internationally recognized but hamstrung Palestinian Authority in the West Bank.

"Each area of the West Bank is witnessing some form of armed clashes, but these are not united mass-scale movements," said Tahani Mustafa of the International Crisis Group.

Khaled Elgindy of the Middle East Institute said current tension echoed the situation in 2000 when a visit by Israel's then opposition leader Ariel Sharon triggered Palestinian protests which grew into the second intifada, or uprising.

"Anything can be the spark," Elgindy said. That prolonged conflict led to renewed international peace efforts. But with many countries focused on the conflict in Ukraine and domestic economic challenges, there is little sign of outside pressure to stop any slide to wider conflict.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken is visiting Israel and the West Bank this week. Blinken condemned Friday's shooting in Jerusalem in a statement which made no mention of any US commitment to address the wider crisis.

"We have a situation that is very similar to the dynamics that we saw in the midst of the second intifada, but without the outside actors acting as they did then," Elgindy said.

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 UMJUVYO 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

African scientists root for hybrid rice to beat climate-induced hunger crisis

NAIROBI

LARGE-SCALE adoption of hybrid rice that has proved effective in withstanding climatic stresses, as well as pests and diseases, is paramount in order to tackle Africa's hunger and malnutrition crisis, scientists said Friday.

Emmanuel Okogbenin, for programme development and commercialisation at African Agricultural Technology Foundation (AATF), noted that the introduction of improved rice varieties will boost food security and tackle rural poverty in the continent.

"We are encouraging farmers to adopt hybrid rice whose yield levels are high, is adaptable to different ecologies, and is key to food security and improved incomes for rural communities," Okogbenin said.

He spoke during a tour of the Mwea irrigation scheme in central Kenya where AATF has facilitated the introduction of hybrid rice to test its resilience in the face of extreme weather events, invasive pests, and diseases.

According to Okogbenin, hybrid rice that has been introduced in central Kenya has registered a doubling of yields at the small-

holder level besides boosting the socioeconomic status of farmers.

He stressed that the unfolding climate crisis in Africa coupled with the spread of voracious pests, diseases, and loss of soil fertility calls for a shift from conventional to improved rice varieties.

Sheila Ochugboju, the Executive Director of the Alliance for Science called upon African governments, research institutions, and industry to facilitate the deployment of improved rice varieties to small-holder farmers as part of climate adaptation in the agriculture sector.

Ochugboju added that extension services in Africa should be revamped to help farmers access information, improved seeds, fertilizer, and modern post-harvest storage facilities.

She noted that hybrid rice is not only climate smart but is also rich in nutrients and ideal for tackling growing micronutrient deficiency among children in the continent.

Ochugboju said that friendly policies and regulations, farmers' training, and investments in modern storage facilities will be key to spurring greater adoption of hybrid rice in Africa.



Human activity and drought 'degrading more than third of Amazon rainforest'

By Jonathan Watts

HUMAN activity and drought may have degraded more than a third of the Amazon rainforest, double the previous estimate, according to a study that heightens concerns that the globally important ecosystem is slipping towards a point of no return.

Fires, land conversion, logging and water shortages, have weakened the resilience of up to 2.5m sq. km of the forest, an area 10 times the size of the UK. This area is now drier, more flammable and more vulnerable than before, prompting the authors to warn of "megafires" in the future.

Between 5.5% and 38% of what is left of the world's big-

gest tropical forest is also less able to regulate the climate, generate rainfall, store carbon, provide a habitat to other species, offer a livelihood to local people, and sustain itself as a viable ecosystem, the paper observes.

This degradation is on top of the 17% of the original forest that has been completely cleared over the past half century with Brazil having pushed back its agricultural and mining frontiers to satisfy the demands of an increasingly wealthy, more populous and high-consuming world.

The new Brazilian president, Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, has promised to change direction with a zero-deforestation policy. But the authors say work

also needs to be done on degradation if megafires are to be avoided in the future.

"There is hope now, but our paper shows it is not enough to resolve deforestation. There is much more work to be done," said Jos Barlow, of Lancaster University.

The findings, published in Science on Thursday, are based on a review of existing studies, recent satellite data, and a new assessment of drought impacts by an international team of 35 scientists and researchers, from institutions including Brazil's University of Campinas (Unicamp), the Amazon Environmental Research Institute (IPAM), the National Institute for Space Research (INPE), and the UK's Lancaster University.

Water deprivation accounts for most of the increase in Amazon degradation compared with the previous estimate of 17%. Drought is an area of increasing concern because it raises the forest's vulnerability to fire and diminishes by up to 34% its ability to regenerate itself through evapotranspiration - the generation of rainclouds by trillions of plants.

This has knock-on effects across a wider region, including in food producing areas that depend on the Amazon's "flying rivers" to water crops. Most worryingly it raises the spectre of a destructive feedback loop in which drought makes the forest less able to pump water which leads to more drought.

To prevent these risks from

spiralling out of control, the authors urge policymakers to reduce the drivers of degradation and treat it as much of a priority as the better-known problem of deforestation. The two vary greatly in terms of visibility. Deforestation is the total clearance of forest and conversion of the land to other uses, which can be easily identified by satellites. Degradation, on the other hand, is the partial loss of vegetation due to human behaviour, which is often hidden because it takes place under the canopy of bigger trees.

To the naked eye, the distinction is as great as that between having your hair shaved off completely and thinned. But degradation has at least

as much of an impact as localised deforestation, as it affects a far larger area. The paper says the quantities of carbon released from degradation could even be higher than those from deforestation.

The authors acknowledge considerable uncertainty in their estimates because degradation is difficult to measure and define. This is reflected in the wide range of estimates for the affected area: from 5.5% of the remaining forest if only fire, logging and edge-effects are included, to 38% if drought effects are added.

The impacts on society are unevenly distributed. Most of the economic benefits from logging and land clearance are

channelled to distant cities and other countries. By contrast, most of the negative impacts - loss of forest products, worsening air quality, deteriorating water quality - are suffered by indigenous and other forest communities.

Barlow warns of socio-economic tipping points when a forest becomes so degraded it is abandoned by local people, which means less protection against extractive industries.

The authors of the paper advise policymakers to step up monitoring of degradation, strengthen fire fighting capacity, curb logging, and plant buffer zones of secondary forests to protect the exposed borders of original vegetation.

Horn of Africa drought drives 22mln to hunger

By A Special Correspondent

FROM southern Ethiopia to northern Kenya and Somalia, around 22 million people are at risk of hunger as the worst drought in four decades grips the Horn of Africa.

In the afflicted areas, inhabitants -- who eke out a living mainly from herding and subsistence farming -- are experiencing their fifth consecutive poor rainy season since the end of 2020.

The United Nations says 12 million people in Ethiopia, 5.6 million in Somalia and 4.3 million in Kenya are "acutely food insecure".

The overall figure has almost doubled from 13 million at the start of 2022, the UN's World Food Programme said in a January 23 report.

Across the region, 1.7 million people have been driven from their homes by a lack of water and pasture, it said.

The Horn of Africa is one of the region's most vulnerable to climate change, and extreme weather events are occurring with increased frequency and intensity.

Since 2016, eight of the 13 rainy seasons have seen below average rainfall, according to data from the US-based Climate Hazards Center.

The last famine was declared in Somalia in 2011, when 260,000 people -- half of them children under the age of six -- died of hunger, partly because the international community did not act fast enough, according to the UN.

At that time, the region had encountered two poor rainy seasons, compared to five in the current drought.

Crops, already ravaged by a locust invasion between 2019 and 2021, have been wiped out and livestock has suffered a similar fate.

The UN's humanitarian agency OCHA estimated in November that 9.5 million cattle had perished.

Humanitarian groups warn that the situation is only likely to worsen, with the next rainy season from March to May also expected to be below average.

Dire conditions in the Horn have been amplified by the war in Ukraine, which has contributed to soaring food and fuel costs, disrupted global supply chains and diverted aid

money away from the region.

Somalia is the hardest hit country, with the drought affecting more than half of its population, about 7.85 million people.

In December, OCHA said the troubled nation was technically not yet in the grip of full-blown famine thanks to the response of aid agencies and local communities.

But people were nevertheless suffering "catastrophic" food shortages, it said, warning that if assistance is not scaled up, famine is expected in southern Somalia between April and June.

Agropastoral populations in Baidoa and Burhakaba districts, and displaced people in Baidoa town and the capital Mogadishu were most at risk.

OCHA warned that by June, the number of people at the highest level on the UN's five-scale food insecurity classification was expected to more than triple to 727,000 from October, meaning they have dangerously little access to food and could face starvation.

According to the UN children's agency UNICEF, almost two million children across Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia require urgent treatment for severe acute malnutrition, the deadliest form of hunger.

It said in September that 730 children had died between January and July in nutrition centres in Somalia, but that the real numbers were likely much higher.

Lacking water, milk and food, and often living in squalid conditions, the youngest become so weak they are vulnerable to diseases such as measles and cholera, and their long-term growth can be restricted.

Some 2.7 million children have also stopped going to school, it said.

"There is no end in sight for the hunger crisis and hope is slowly fizzling out," said Xavier Joubert, Ethiopia director for the British charity Save the Children.

"There's no doubt that the need has grown to an enormous scale," he said, adding that more funds were urgently required.

Currently only 55.5 percent of the \$5.9 billion sought by the United Nations to tackle the crisis has been funded.

Early humanitarian action averted a famine in Somalia in 2017.



European Union investment could be the catalyst to revive Lake Chad Basin's economy

By Teniola Tayo

THE European Union (EU) will, on 6 February, finalise the list of priority projects under its Global Gateway initiative in 2023. The plan to mobilise investments that build sustainable links worldwide was unveiled in December 2021. Half of the €300-billion global target is earmarked for soft and hard infrastructure projects in Africa between 2021 and 2027.

The Global Gateway is one of the latest frontiers in the geopolitical struggle for influence in Africa. It is regarded as a direct response to China's Belt and Road Initiative, an infrastructure financing programme considered to have improved the perception of China in Africa. It's also comparable to the United States' Build Back Better World plan for infrastructure financing.

EU officials insist that their approach differs from China by using private-sector investment, not government-backed loans. Global Gateway projects must however align with 'the EU's democratic values and international norms and standards' - raising questions about the applicability of these values to external partners.

Some also argue that Global Gateway funding targets are too low. Compared to its €300-billion global goal between 2021 and 2027, the Belt and Road Initiative would have committed an estimated \$1-trillion between 2017 and 2027. And a significant portion of Global Gateway funds will likely not be 'new money' but simply the coordination of member states' existing commitments through its Team Europe approach.

In creating the Global Gateway, the EU seeks to join the United States in presenting a strong Western response to China's growing global influence. The increasingly contentious issue of migration among EU member states could also be a factor. Polarising stances on the treatment of irregular migrants and asylum seekers are already causing deep internal rifts.

Africa's leaders could however shape the plan to benefit their populations and eventually achieve equal Africa-Europe partnerships. Economic recovery in the Lake Chad Basin is among several projects that could benefit. The region has been ravaged by



A European Union (EU) flag flies outside the Berlaymont in Brussels, Belgium, on Wednesday, October 7, 2020. (Photo: Geert Vanden Wijngaert/Bloomberg)

Boko Haram violence for over a decade, and the Global Gateway could help resolve the underlying causes of the crisis.

Since 2018, the Lake Chad Basin Commission has led recovery efforts through its Regional Strategy for Stabilization, Recovery and Resilience of the Boko Haram-affected Areas. The commission and others involved in rebuilding the region can boost peace and development by identifying and promoting Global Gateway investment projects.

The EU already supports Lake Chad Basin recovery by funding humanitarian and development organisations. It is a strong partner of the regional strategy and committed €5-million to the Regional Stabilization Facility between 2019 and 2022. Progress is reflected in the building and reconstructing of infrastructure such as

roads, markets, schools, hospitals and government offices. Training centres have also been established for skills acquisition.

Socio-economic recovery and sustainable development are key to the stabilisation strategy. With its focus on humanitarian and development funding, existing EU support is constrained in its ability to promote economic growth. The selection and management of aid projects don't compare to starting business ventures, and addressing long-term economic challenges without creating dependencies is difficult.

Private sector-led investment projects are critical for sustainable development. When carefully managed, they are better suited for creating jobs, growing livelihoods and driving structural change. This means that Global Gateway projects in the Lake Chad Basin can complement existing

development initiatives.

Attracting investment into regions suffering from protracted conflict is a tall order, but the Global Gateway hopes to incentivise the European private sector to invest in apparent high-risk areas. The plan also focuses on security - and the combination of these elements presents a compelling case for the Lake Chad Basin. The intersection between climate change and regional security makes local projects a great fit, given the focus on climate resilience projects.

Lake Chad Basin's growing youth population would also benefit from digital connectivity initiatives, enabling micro-entrepreneurship through the growing gig economy in countries such as Nigeria. Projects focused on strengthening agricultural output and supply chains can help revive the Lake Chad Basin's agro-economy

and support food security.

The EU must prioritise input from its external partners to ensure that mutually beneficial projects are selected. The European Investment Bank should work even more closely with counterparts such as the African Development Bank in choosing and implementing interventions.

African leaders must rise to the challenge and be proactive. A series of meetings could be convened between investment promotion agencies in Lake Chad Basin and Global Gateway actors to map out opportunities that benefit both communities and investors.

DM

Ethiopia loses national treasures to looting and trafficking in Tigray war

By Tadesse Simie Metekio

IN early 2022 it was reported that centuries-old Ethiopian relics, including manuscripts and bibles, were being advertised for sale online on marketplaces such as eBay. Most were allegedly looted from Tigray, with thefts also reported in the adjacent Amhara and Afar regions. Instability caused by the two-year war in these northern regions made looting and trafficking easy.

According to sources who requested anonymity, an investigation in Amhara National Regional State last year revealed large-scale artefact looting. The inquiry found that about 1,721 registered movable artefacts were lost or looted from seven administrative zones during the war.

Of these, 1,155 were removed from the Dessie Museum and Merho Palace and Museum alone. The number is probably higher as not all the antiquities are officially registered. In addition those taken, 379 mov-

able artefacts were destroyed, 73 were partially damaged, and 91 were fully damaged.

While the federal government denounced the destruction of cultural heritage during the conflict, it has received little attention since. The country's major investigation into the war, conducted jointly by the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, didn't encompass the looting of relics. This was a missed opportunity because wartime misappropriation or pillaging of artefacts may constitute war crimes.

There is currently no investigation to understand the true nature and scale of trafficking in antiquities from Ethiopia's conflict regions. A recent probe by the Inter-Ministerial Taskforce established in November 2021 to oversee the investigation of crimes perpetrated in connection with the war, hasn't looked into artefact looting and trafficking. Sources close to the task force told



Enact project that the criminal investigation was limited to the destruction and looting of individuals' property.

A smaller regional investigation in the Amhara Region doesn't depict the full scale of the problem. It was restricted to a few locations and only identified looted and damaged artefacts that were registered. With no coherent picture available, responses are limited at this stage.

Looting is just the initial stage in transnational artefact

trafficking, which involves a complex network of individuals from source, transit and illicit demand markets. Relics are bought and sold on the grey market, where the mixing of illegal with legal items makes identifying looted antiquities difficult. This is exacerbated by the widespread use of online artefact marketplaces.

As was done in Amhara, compiling an inventory of artefacts is essential to uncover the scope, actors and modus operandi of trafficking. Expanding

this to other regions would help build a more comprehensive picture, and facilitate national and international efforts to prosecute perpetrators and recover and repatriate antiquities.

Such investigations would enable government and researchers to begin collating information on missing artefacts. This first step could be the basis for diplomatic campaigns to raise awareness of the harms caused by the international sale of looted relics, and seek repatriation from private collectors

or museums.

Here the government could build on its recent success in convincing the United Kingdom to return ancient artefacts stolen by British soldiers over 150 years ago. Similarly, in 2005, diplomatic efforts succeeded in persuading Italy to give back the ancient Obelisk of Aksum to Ethiopia, which had been in Rome for 68 years.

To recover artefacts that have already left its borders, Ethiopia also needs to strengthen international cooperation. Ethiopia is already party to the 1970 United Nations convention against the illicit trade of cultural property, and the 1954 Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict.

Exploring legal and institutional channels provided by these conventions could help to prevent and disrupt transnational criminal activities. The same applies to regional cooperation to intercept and confiscate Ethiopian artefacts still in Africa.

Ethiopia's primary legislation for protecting and preserving cultural heritage, the Research and Conservation of Cultural Heritage Proclamation 209/2000, is mainly an administrative law with some penal provisions. It doesn't address the transnational organised crime elements. Given the recent looting, illicit acts linked to the trafficking of cultural heritage must be criminalised, and the offences treated as transnational and organised crimes. Specialised investigative techniques and tools should also be introduced.

Here the federal government could refer to the 2014 International Guidelines for Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Responses with respect to Trafficking in Cultural Property and Other Related Offences. Although they are non-binding, the guidelines offer the most comprehensive framework for preventing artefacts trafficking and are a valuable reference for legislative reform in Ethiopia. DM

RADIO One **RATIBA YA VIPINDI** **JUMATATU - JUMAPILI**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME
05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKRA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHI 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:15 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:25 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 07:40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 08:20 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 08:30 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 08:40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09:10 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09:20 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09:30 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09:40 AM HABARI NYEPESI 09:50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 10:15 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:30 AM DJ SHOW 10:35 AM DJ SHOW 10:40 AM DJ SHOW 10:45 AM DJ SHOW 10:50 AM DJ SHOW 10:55 AM DJ SHOW 11:00 AM DJ SHOW 11:05 AM DJ SHOW 11:10 AM DJ SHOW 11:15 AM DJ SHOW 11:20 AM DJ SHOW 11:25 AM DJ SHOW 11:30 AM DJ SHOW 11:35 AM DJ SHOW 11:40 AM DJ SHOW 11:45 AM DJ SHOW 11:50 AM DJ SHOW 11:55 AM DJ SHOW 12:00 AM DJ SHOW	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / 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Thirteen regions stuck below national average of individual income

By Mnaku Mbani

THIRTEEN regions in Tanzania mainland have continued to stuck below the average national earnings per individual (GDP per capita), which indicates existing economic progresses are not stimulating the improvement of personal incomes of many people.

This is also a wake-up call for regional authorities to ensure that they create progressive economic policies to enable the rising of incomes to create personal wealth and reduce poverty.

Income poverty has remained the major concern for the government, in both urban and rural areas; in a country with the lower middle income status.

The national accounts for 2015-2021 published by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) shows that, while the national GDP per capita has improved to 2.7mn/- in 2021 from 2.2mn/- in 2015, twelve regions have failed to meet the national average.

The regions which have failed to meet the national average income per person since 2016 include Manyara, Morogoro, Rukwa, Katavi, Mara, Pwani, Songwe, Shinyanga, Tabora, Dodoma, Singida, Kigoma and Kagera.

According to the report, only 12 regions of Tanzania mainland have remained on top of the GDP per capita national aver-

age, with Njombe being the fastest growing.

The GDP per capita for Njombe Region increased by 1.3mn/- from 2.1 million 2016, which was below the national average of 2.2mn/- to 3.4mn/- (provisional) in 2021, which is above the national average of 2.7mn/-.

Such increase of the amount of income per individual recorded by Njombe has never been recorded by any other region of Tanzania mainland, according to NBS data.

Njombe is the smallest economy with the regional GDP of 2.9trn/- by 2021, the second smallest in Tanzania mainland behind Katavi, with 1.8 percent share to the national economy, according to provisional data for 2021.

Speaking with the Guardian yesterday, Anthony Mtaka, the Njombe regional Commissioner said six years ago, residents in the region were depending on timber and agriculture as their main sources of incomes, but since 2021, many started to harvest avocado, supplementing the incomes of many households.

"On average, one avocado tree can generate an income of 400,000/- per season, and having ten trees will obviously generate 4mn/-," he explained.

He said the regional authorities are continuing to improve avocado farming and the overall crop's value chain, to ensure value addition create other econom-



Njombe regional commissioner Anthony Mtaka

ic opportunities for residents of Njombe.

Looking forwards, Mtaka said the regional authority is expected to distribute 250,000 avocado seedlings valued 750mn/- to beneficiaries of income transfer programme by Tanzania Social

Action Fund (TASAF) to enable them to graduate in the next five years.

"Njombe has a total of 25,000 TASAF beneficiaries and we want to clear all poor people in our region through avocado farming," he said.

He said the region is also expected to attract avocado processors, such as cosmetic manufacturers which will also create jobs.

Another economic activity which has improved the incomes of families in Njombe, according to Mtaka is an improved Irish potatoes farming, of which yields has gone up from 50 bags per acre to 100 to 200 bags.

The revival of wheat farming and value addition in Makete district is also an income supplementary for many families, he said.

According to Mtaka, coal production in Ludewa and Iron-Ore deposits in Mchuchuma and Liganga are also expected to boost the regional economy, which will also increase incomes of individuals as well as government taxes. Njombe will soon start exporting coal mined from Ludewa district, he said.

Mtaka said the regional authority is also expected to promote livestock sector through one family-one cow, to also supplement families' income through sale of milk.

"We are going to attract some investors in dairy sector, especially processors such as Asas based in Iringa to target Njombe region as the main source of milk," he said.

The dry port which is expected to be built in Makambako will also help to improve to boost the share of regional economy to the national economy, he said.

Other regions which were below the national average in 2016, but they have made progress since 2016 to 2021 were Mtwara and Morogoro regions. However, Manyara region made some progress from 2017 to 2020, after surpassing the national average, before going below the line in 2021.

According to the report, Kagera region has remained on the bottom of the list since 2016, despite of being the largest producer of coffee as well as having other major economic activities in agriculture, fishing and cross-border trade.

According to NBS, the regional average income per person in Kagera amounted 1.2mn/- in 2021, which was less than half of the national average of 2.79mn/-.

In 2016, the regional GDP per capita for Kagera, which also host the largest sugar factory, Kagera Sugar was only 1.02mn/- which was below the national average of 2.2mn/-.

NBC boss reveals drivers of bank's performance in 2022

By Guardian Reporter

NBC Bank managing director and chairman of Tanzania Bankers Association (TBA) Theobald Sabi (pictured) has revealed factors which enabled the bank to record strong financial performances last year.

"I am happy to report a strong financial performance by NBC Bank for the year 2022, which reflects the growth we are seeing across all our customer segments," he said in a statement yesterday.

According to the unaudited financial statements for Q4, 2022, profit before tax grew by 36 percent to 81.8bn/-, with revenue increasing by 18.1 percent to 258.5bn/- in 2022.

"We have seen a healthy rebound within the SME portfolio. Geographically we

are conveniently and efficiently reaching more Tanzanians, thanks to the expanding NBC Wakala network (Agency Banking), Branch & New Service Centers, Mobile (NBC Kiganjani), as well as Electronic Banking (NBC Connect) platforms."

He said the bank continues to invest in systems and network expansion to support the customer growth ambitions as well as reach more Tanzanians conveniently and effectively.

"This success has been achieved on the back of deliberate actions by the government, which resulted from an increasingly conducive business environment," Sabi noted.

"The balance sheet growth was aligned with our customer base growth, with loans & advances growing 27 percent to 1.77trn/- and deposits growing 27 percent



to 1.93trn/-."

Loans & advances have grown with an improving Non-Performing Loans ratio which stood at 3.5 percent as of December 2022.

"Our loans & advances, deposits, and transactional volumes have grown, re-

fecting the continued growth of our customer base," he said.

Net interest income rose to 167.1bn/- last year compared with 158.3bn/- in 2021. On quarterly basis, net interest income went up to 46.6bn/- during the fourth quarter of last year, compared

with 42.8bn/- recorded in Q4, 2021.

On quarterly basis, non-interest income reached 21.4bn/- during the fourth quarter of last year, compared with 16.3bn/- during similar quarter in 2021, while on cumulative annual basis, a total of 92.5bn/- were recorded last year compared with 61.6bn/- generated in 2021.

Foreign exchange dealing ad transactions generated 20.2bn/- last year compared with 12.1bn/- in 2021, while fees and commissions amounted 52.4bn/- last year from 43.2bn/- during the previous year.

According to the statements, total comprehensive income increased to 59.3bn/- last year compared with 39.1bn/- in 2021, although on quarterly basis, it slowed to 11.5bn/- in Q4, 2022 from 13.9bn/- in Q4, 2021.

The bank's total assets amounted 2.8trn/- during the fourth quarter of last year, compared with 2.7trn/- during the third quarter due to increased lending, other assets, balance with other banks and financial institutions and investment in government securities, amid slowed balance with Bank of Tanzania (BoT), cash and inter-bank receivables.

Balance with other banks and financial institutions amounted 54.8bn/- during the fourth quarter of last year from 48.4bn/- during the third quarter, while investment in government securities jumped to 442.8bn/- compared with 421.4bn/- respectively.

BOA Bank records 5.3bn/- net profit in 2022

By Guardian Reporter

BOA Bank Tanzania recorded a cumulative net income after income tax of 5.3bn/- last year compared with 3.2bn/- recorded during the previous year.

The bank's unaudited financial statements for the fourth quarter of last year show on quarterly basis, net profit after income tax increased sharply to 1.5bn/- during the fourth quarter of last year, compared with 74mn/- recorded during the similar quarter of previous year.

According to the statements, basic earnings per share jumped to 105,017/- last year compared with 64,870/- in 2021, while on quarterly basis, eps jumped to 32,069/- in Q4, 2022 from 1,465/- recorded during similar quarter in 2021.

The increase of profit resulted from increase of net interest income, reduced the impairment losses on loans and advances during the last quarter of last year and slight increase of non-interest income.

Net interest income grew annually to 34bn/- last year compared with 32.3bn/- in 2021 while on quarterly basis, the statements show net interest income slightly increased to 9.2bn/- during Q4, 2022 compared with 8.1bn/- in Q4, 2021.

The bank managed to reduce impairment losses on loans and advances to 617mn/- during the fourth quarter of last year compared with 3.58bn/- recorded during similar quarter in 2021,



BOA Bank Tanzania managing director Adam Mihayo

while on annual basis, impairment losses shrunk to 3.6bn/- in 2022 compared with 5.6bn/- in 2021.

The bank balance sheet also ended up last year strong after net assets increased to 776.6bn/- during the last quarter of last year from 682.1/- recorded during the previous quarter ended in September 2022.

The increase of assets resulted from increased investment in government securities, balance with Bank of Tanzania (BoT), interbank loans receivables

and lending.

Lending grew to 423.7bn/- during the fourth quarter of last year from 363.1bn/- during the third quarter, while investment in government debt instruments amounted 136.8bn/- during Q4, 2022 compared with 129.8bn/- in Q3, 2022.

Customer deposits also increased to 486.3bn/- during the fourth quarter of 2022 compared with 450.5bn/- recorded during the previous quarter.

Tanzania seeks to promote economic justice for women

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

THE government intends to expand women's access and control of productive resources such as land, financial products through innovative approaches including gender bonds and digital finance.

The International Gender Specialist, African Development Bank (AfDB) Laeticia Mukarasi said this recently at a one-day consultation meeting of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) strategy for gender mainstreaming.

Under the leadership of President Samia Suluhu Hassan, she said, the government is committed to undertake a proactive stance under the action area of economic justice and rights, to be achieved through a multi-sector programme dubbed: "Tanzania Generation Equality Programme" (TGEPO 2021/22=2025/26.)

"To achieve this, the government will strengthen women's economic development funds to enable women to have easy access to start-up capital for their enterprises, intensify interventions that promote cultural transformation and change in discriminatory social norms and values that deprive women and girls of their rights to equitably own, control and benefit from land and other productive resources," she said.

The programme will also promote financial inclusion through innovative approaches including the application of electronic payments platforms, virtual savings and credit supply platforms.

Other includes leverage digital technologies to promote competitive production and trading to create a dynamic value-chain and reliable market in agriculture, livestock keeping, mining, blue economy and other sectors where women

are mostly employed.

Emphasizing on expanding decent work and employment in formal and informal economies, she said the government will create an enabling inclusive legal and policy environment and support women and young women to expand decent work in the formal and informal economy to attain economic justice by 2026.

In this respect, the government will also expand decent work through the provision of business development services and formalization of women's enterprises to facilitate access to economic opportunities including financial services, improve access and use of affordable and relevant technologies to increase women's capacity to produce competitive products for the domestic, regional and international markets.

Also will scale-up investment in educational programs for girls including the establishment of girl's science schools, technology hubs and vocational training centres in all regions in the country to impart requisite skill sets and competencies for their effective engagement in modern economic activities.

Elaborating on women's economic empowerment by transforming the care economy, she said, the government plans to increase investment in gender-responsiveness for public and private quality care services, law and policy reforms as well as creation of decent care jobs to recognize, reduce and redistribute unpaid care work and represent care workers while guaranteeing their labour rights by 2026.

"To achieve this, it will up-scale national multi-sector childcare programs and establish community-based childcare centres at the village level, workplaces, and marketplaces," she said.

Digital marketing; the swift strategy

By ALLEY MTATYA

LET us run back to late 2022 for a minute. I like to monitor digital media trends when they happen. Last year around October 2022 a popular American musician by the name of Taylor Swift released her eagerly awaited album named, 'Midnights', well, at exactly 12 midnight. Some might not know her but in short she's an American born singer and song writer who rose from singing country music to singing pop music. Last year August 2022, the singer took to Instagram to describe her soon to be released 10th studio album, 'Midnights', as "the stories of 13 sleepless nights scattered throughout her life." Indeed, it was the beginning of a veer, a truly brilliant marketing move.

The album went on to be Spotify's most streamed album in a single day as well as breaking the record for the most streamed artist in a single day in Spotify's history. It didn't end there, after the release of 'Midnights' in October 2022 at exactly midnight, Swift broke yet another record becoming the first-ever artist to occupy all 10 top slots on the Billboard Hot 100 chart. Swift's fan base is diverse and vast as the majority of her fans are younger and can be found mostly on Tik-Tok.

The Swift Social and Mainstream Strategy

Swift posted a campy series of videos on Tik-Tok titled 'Midnights mayhem with me,' during which she used a bingo cage to randomly select one song off the 13-track album and announce its title, mind you this launch



is all happening on social media for all 13 tracks. The last video she released titled 'Snow on the beach', generated 86 million views with 24 hours after being posted. Swift was also working with Spotify to release her lyrics snippets on billboards around the world. On October 17, 2022 the first billboards were released att...you guessed it, 'Midnight', in New York and London.

Just after that prolific album release she took to business with an American bank; Capital One, as you can imagine at that moment fans were geared and hyped up to hear her new album live. Well after the album launch, 2023 would see her plan for her album tour, 'the Eras Tour'. Taylor Swift took her business to the next level that was quite unique and not like any other, her partnership with Capital One Bank, specifically their Credit Card service for her tour ticket sales. Swift is and has been a Capital One brand ambassador since 2019 and she has been spotted in several Capital One product campaigns. The business duo jointly offered fans exclusive Taylor Swift merchandise, including blankets, T-shirts, album-themed bundles and even her signed CDs.

This partnership was kind of a build up to the pre-album launch, because few months to the launch Capital One had unveiled their campaign 'Multiple Taylors', starring Taylor Swift which was made in partnership with a Texas based advertising agency called GSD&M which premiered at the World Series Game 3 a few months into Swift's album launch. According to the bank, Capital One Venture X cardholders could earn both unlimited double miles on all purchases and "exclusive access to unforgettable experiences", including the tour presale premium, of which the pre-sale window was postponed due to an unprecedented demand.

The Power of Social Communities

If you look at the power of Swift's community that she has built and how some of the brands were able to leverage or were able to engage on her album launch that brought in more than 1.2 million in sales in just 2 days.

When you are a brand or a business organization or producing social content, you're not just competing with others in your space, you're not competing with other brands but you're competing with content that

people are consuming in social forms. Whether the content is from their family, from friends or from creators that they follow, it has to measure up.

Referring back to Taylor Swift, not only did the album drop but it was already generating a lot of conversations on social media, to the extent that it made millions of people to run to Spotify and stream her new songs.

That became part of the "zeitgeist", there was part of the conversation, so for example if you were a marketer that wanted to capture any social media attention at that period of time, basically if you were not talking about the Taylor Swift's album you would have been struggling because people's attention was there.

The brands, the influencers or the entities that do social media best are the ones who are part of the conversation. They may be leading it or they may be contributing to it but that does not necessarily matter as you just need to be a part of that conversation.

Taylor Swift is also known for her appeal to the Instagram generation. Before, during and after her new album launch, Swift moved between Instagram, YouTube, Tumblr and Twitter to interact with fans - sending them into a frenzy. She really took the majority of socialites on that day on an immersive journey that caused a buzz. Personally, I loved most of the creative's that were used throughout the teaser campaign they ignited the hype.

Takeaways from Taylor's Technique

4 techniques for Swift's impactful social media campaign: First, she played the long game, with strong and simple creative theme that let fans know the artist is switching things up. Secondly, fan first formula - direct interaction, providing content for them to personalize - drove a greater spread of anticipation with her audience. Thirdly, countdowns and detail-oriented teasers for what's next to feed her fan's endless appetite for more. Even paintings on the walls of scenes in her music video hinted at collaborations in songs to come. Finally, personalization drove the feeling of closeness with fans. Celebrities live a private life, away from the public eye. This means, fans love when they get insights into their lives.

Alley Mtatya (pictured) is the Founder - Eyeland Advertising and Analytics

Maendeleo Bank posts 1.3bn/- net income after tax in 2022

By Guardian Reporter

THE Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) listed Maendeleo Bank recorded a cumulative net profit after income tax of 1.3bn/- last year compared with 498mn/- recorded in 2021, with basic earnings per share more than doubled to 50/- compared with 20/- respectively.

Unaudited financial statements for the fourth quarter of last year show the increase resulted from expansions of both interest and non-interest incomes, which translated into operating income of 2bn/- last year compared with 710/- recorded in 2021.

Interest income grew to 9.9bn/- last year compared with 7.55bn/- recorded in 2021 while non-interest income increased to 2.1bn/- compared with 1.6bn/- respectively.

The bank also managed to increase number of employees to 105 last year compared with 93 employees recorded during the previous year.

The bank's total assets slightly went up to 106.5bn/- during the fourth quarter of last year from 103.2bn/- during the third quarter, due to improvement in investment in government securities, balance with Bank of Tanzania (BoT) and cash, amid slowing lending to 60.6bn/- from 65.5bn/- respectively.

Investment in government debt instruments increased to 21.5bn/- during the fourth quarter of last year compared with 19.2bn/- recorded during the third quarter while balance with BoT increased to 7.6bn/- compared with 6.9bn/- respectively.

Shareholders' fund improved to 17.3bn/- during Q4, 2022 from 17.1bn/- which is above the regulatory capital requirements.

Non-performing loans and advances improved to 3.2bn/- during the fourth quarter of last year from 4.5bn/- during the third quarter which slowed down the NPLs rate to 5.1 percent, slightly 0.1 percent above regulatory benchmark of 5 percent compared with 6.7 percent recorded in Q3, 2022.

Deposits growth increased to 6 percent during the fourth quarter of last year from 4 percent during the third quarter while assets growth went up to 3 percent from 2 percent respectively.



Maendeleo Bank managing director Dr Ibrahim Mwangalaba

Akiba Bank customer deposits hit 125bn/- in Q4,2022



By Guardian Reporter

AKIBA Commercial Bank customer deposits amounted to 125.5bn/- during the fourth quarter of last year compared with 119.7bn/- recorded during the third quarter of last year, the bank's unaudited financial statements for the fourth quarter of 2022 has shown.

The statements show the bank lending also expanded to 98bn/- during the fourth quarter from 84.5bn/- during the third quarter, pushing total assets to 192bn/- compared with 182.4bn/- respectively.

The bank capital amounted to 26.5bn/- during the end of last year, well above the regulatory requirements.

However, the bank's investment in government debt instruments slowed to 40bn/- from 45.5bn/- respectively, while cash remained flat at 13bn/-.

According to the statements, the bank managed to reduce losses after income tax to 2.2bn/- last year compared with a loss of 5.4bn/- recorded during the previous year, due to reduced interest and non-interest expenses as well as increased interest income.

Net interest income increased to 19.9bn/- last year compared with 17.3bn/- recorded during the previous year after increasing interest income to 26.8bn/- from 25.4bn/- respectively and reduced interest expenses to 6.8bn/- last year compared with 8.1bn/- in 2021.

Non-interest income increased to 6.4bn/- last year compared with 4.5bn/- in 2021 due to increase in foreign exchange income, fees and commission as well as other operating income.

Earnings per share also improved to a loss of 83/- last year compared with a loss of 197/- in 2021 while number of employees decreased to 384 from 413 respectively.

The bank has also managed to cut non-performing loans and advances to 8bn/- during the last quarter of last year from 13.3bn/- during the third quarter, which indicates the improvement of asset recovery, which translated into reducing the rate of NPLs to 8.1 percent in Q4, 2022 compared with 14.9 percent in Q3, 2022.

CBK licenses twelve mobile phone lenders

NAIROBI

THE Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) has issued a new round of approvals to 12 players in the lucrative digital loans market bringing the number of licensed digital lenders to 22 after 10 were cleared in September last year.

In a statement to newsmen on Monday, the apex bank said it had received a total of 381 applications since March last year meaning only five percent of the approval requests have received the regulator's nod.

"Other applicants are at different stages in the process, largely awaiting the submission of requisite documentation. We urge these applicants to submit the pending documentation expeditiously to enable completion of the review of their applications," said CBK.

Industry leader Inventure Mobile Limited which trades as Tala has made it to the list after being locked out in the first round last year.

Others on the list include Letshego Kenya Ltd, Natal Tech Company Limited, Pezesh Africa Limited, Natal Tech Company Limited, Ngao Credit Limited and Tenakata Enterprises Limited.

Sevi Innovation Limited, Umoja Fanisi Limited and Zanifu Limited also formed part of the list released on Monday.

The deadline for applications closed on September 17 last year, meaning only those that had applied will continue operating pending the conclusion of their approval process while new entrants will be forced to wait for licenses to start operations.

Under the new rules, the lenders are supposed to furnish the regulator with a Certificate of Incorporation, Memorandum and Articles of Association of the applicant and that of any significant shareholder.

Directors, CEOs, senior officers and significant shareholders are also required to undergo a fit and proper test from the regulator which also required disclosure on the source of funds and pricing models.

In the strict consumer protection rules introduced by the Digital Credit Providers Regulations 2021, CBK is keen on ensuring mobile loan borrowers no longer get pestered by intrusive phone calls to their friends and family when they default. The digital lenders will also be required to disclose the total charges for their loans, including interest rates, late payment and rollover fees, before disbursing credit to customers.

The new law also gave CBK powers to revoke the licenses of firms which send information about loan defaulters to third parties in name-and-shame tactics meant to recover the money.

Central banks set to lift interests to 15-yr highs

NEW YORK

LEADING central banks are due to raise interest rates this week to the highest levels since the financial crisis, stoking anxiety among some investors that this month's bond market rally underestimates evidence of persistent inflation.

Bond prices have rapidly rebounded since the start of the year from last year's historic sell-off, as markets bet that interest rate rises will slow and, in the case of the US Federal Reserve, even go into reverse. But some investors have doubts.

"I think it's just a matter of the market kind of waking up to what the macro environment really is, as opposed to what they hope it is," said Monica Erickson, head of investment grade credit at DoubleLine Capital. "[It] is going to be super difficult again for the Fed to...get inflation down to that magical 2 per cent number without putting us into a recession."

Maureen O'Connor, global head of high-grade debt syndicate at Wells Fargo, said: "The credit markets are effectively pricing in a no-recession outcome. But that's not the consensus base case that most economists are forecasting."

A Bloomberg index tracking high-grade and junk-rated government and corporate bonds around the world has returned 3.3 per cent so far in 2023, putting it on course for its strongest January since its inception in 1999. Inflows into US and western European corporate bond funds are set for their best January on record, totalling \$19.3bn up to January 26, according to EPFR data.

The Fed, the European Central

Bank and the Bank of England will all hold policy meetings this week. Investors expect the Fed to slow the pace of its monetary tightening to 0.25 percentage points, raising rates to the highest level since September 2007, the start of the global financial crisis.

The BoE and the ECB are widely expected to lift rates by half a percentage point to their highest levels since autumn 2008 when Lehman Brothers filed for bankruptcy.

There are growing indications that underlying price pressures are proving persistent in the face of these rapid and globally co-ordinated rate rises – and the gap between investor expectations and economic data is widening.

Market measures of inflation suggest traders now expect inflation to eventually fall close to the Fed and ECB targets of 2 per cent. But price growth still stands at 6.5 per cent in the US, and 9.2 per cent in the eurozone. Core inflation – which omits volatile food and energy costs and is closely watched by central bankers – remains strong.

Consumers and businesses in most advanced economies expect inflation to remain higher than central bank targets in the medium term despite recent declines, surveys show. Policymakers closely watch such indicators, as well as market-based measures of expectations, because they can feed wage demands, fuelling further inflation.

"Inflation expectations can be a self-fulfilling prophecy, as higher expectations trigger the inflationary conditions that are envisioned," said Nathan Sheets, chief economist at US bank Citigroup. Central banks' concern was "ensuring that inflation expectations don't ratchet upward from here".

Jennifer McKeown, chief global economist at Capital Economics, said that "on almost all measures, inflation expectations are still much higher than their pre-pandemic levels and above the levels that would be consistent with the major banks' 2 per cent inflation targets".

If central banks keep rates high for a protracted period or raise them by more than

investors expect, the bond market rally could unravel.

Yields on 10-year US Treasuries, a benchmark for borrowing costs across the globe, have slipped to 3.5 per cent from 3.9 per cent at the end of December. That has boosted the appeal of corporate bonds, which typically offer higher returns than their government counterparts.

Credit spreads – the premium that investors demand to hold corporate bonds over high-grade government debt – have narrowed since the start of January. The gap in yields between US investment grade debt and Treasury notes has tightened by 0.1 percentage points so far this year.

Spreads on lower-rated high-yield bonds have tightened even more, losing almost 0.6 percentage points.

"The investment grade market is pretty priced for perfection right now," said O'Connor. "I worry about the black swan events and the catalysts that could catapult spreads wider from here."

Such concerns have not stopped a wave of cash pouring into bond markets.

"There is a lot of money chasing yields," said Rick Rieder, chief investment officer for fixed income at BlackRock. "In an environment where growth is slowing, where the equity market is not appealing, people are saying – there is an attractive yield and I can lock this rate up."



The investment grade market is pretty priced for perfection right now," said O'Connor. "I worry about the black swan events and the catalysts that could catapult spreads wider from here



Euro zone bond yields now increase

LONDON

EURO zone government bond yields rose sharply on Monday in the wake of stronger-than-expected Spanish inflation data, and as investors looked towards the European Central Bank's (ECB) interest rate decision on Thursday.

Inflation in Spain, when adjusted to compare across the euro zone, was 5.8 percent year-on-year in January, up from 5.5 percent in December, data showed on Monday.

That was well above analysts' expectations for a 4.7 percent reading.

The data prompted euro zone bond yields, which move inversely to prices, to rise sharply.

Germany's 10-year government bond yield, the benchmark for the bloc, was last up 4 basis points (bps) at 2.287 percent, its highest since Jan. 10. Italy's 10-year yield

jumped as much as 10 bps to its highest since Jan. 6, and was last up 6 bps at 4.292 percent while Spain's 10-year yield was last up 3 bps at 3.296 percent.

The spread between Germany and Italy's 10-year yields widened sharply after the data to the biggest gap since Jan. 4 around 205 bps. It was last at 197 bps.

"The Spanish CPI was much higher than expected and this caught markets off guard," said Antoine Bouvet, senior rates strategist at ING, referring to the consumer price index data.

Investors are set for a busy week, with euro zone inflation data and the Federal Reserve's latest decision due on Wednesday; the Bank of England, along with the ECB, on Thursday; and US employment data on Friday.

The ECB is set to raise interest rates by 50 bps on Thursday, taking its main rate to 2.5 percent, the highest since 2008.

"The main focus on the ECB this week

will be the signals for the March meeting," said Jussi Hiljanen, head of European rates strategy at Swedish bank SEB.

Traders will be looking for whether officials signal they are likely to hike again by 50 bps, or hint that a step down to a 25-bp increase is a possibility.

The yield on Germany's 2-year bond, which is highly sensitive to interest rate expectations, was up 5 bps at 2.635 percent on Monday. Italy's 2-year yield was 9 bps higher at 3.266 percent.

As of Monday, traders expected the ECB to raise its main interest rate to a peak of 3.4 percent in late summer, according to derivatives called forward interest rate swaps. The Federal Reserve is widely expected to raise interest rates by 25 bps, to a range of 4.5 percent to 4.75 percent, on Wednesday. Investors broadly expect the Bank of England to hike by 50 bps to 4 percent, according to derivatives prices.

Tailwater recycling saves cost, boosts aquaculture in China

SHIJIAZHUANG,

TAILWATER is not wastewater, as is found out by a major aquaculture city in China's northern province of Hebei.

"Since the middle of January, we harvested up to 2,500 kilograms of prawns every day. Recycled water played an important role," said Yin Xiangguang, head of a mariculture farm in Laoting County of Tangshan. Tangshan has been promoting green mariculture.

At the entrance to his aquaculture farm, a water wheel-like roller spins without stopping. The tailwater flows into the roller and microfilter. Large particles of residual bait, fish, and prawn feces are filtered out.

In the following steps, the farm carries out nitrogen removal treatment and ultraviolet disinfection. The treated water is heated and returned to the prawn ponds for reuse, while a small amount of tailwater is discharged into the sea after special treatment.

Yin's mariculture farm raises more than 10 varieties of aquatic products, including prawns and flounders.

In 2020, the farm built a water recycling plant, which increased the recycling rate of aquaculture water to higher than 80 percent.

The mariculture farm has reaped huge benefits from

investment in water recycling facilities. "In the past, we pumped in water from the sea," said Yin. "This caused stress reactions of prawns and some loss."

With the use of recycled water, the temperature and quality of the water remain constant, ensuring a stable living environment for fish and prawns. Nowadays, the mariculture farm only needs to be supplied with a small amount of seawater.

Tangshan City has a coastline of over 250 kilometers and more than 930,000 mu (about 62,000 hectares) of area used for seawater aquaculture. Local output of aquaculture totals 247,000 tonnes.

The city aims to speed up the green and low-carbon transformation of the aquaculture industry.

The Tangshan Caofeidian Huitong Aquatic Science and Technology has set up tens of sedimentation tanks outside its aquaculture farm for treating tailwater.

The five-stage sedimentation tanks purify the tailwater for further use, said Tian Zhongxi, office director of the company.

Many aquaculture farmers have already experienced the benefits of eco-farming, said Su Wenqing, an official in charge of aquatic technology promotion in Tangshan City.



In 2020, the farm built a water recycling plant, which increased the recycling rate of aquaculture water to higher than 80 percent

Adani rout hits U\$72bn, fight with Hindenburg intensifies

NEW DELHI

BILLIONAIRE Gautam Adani's 413-page attempt to restore confidence in his business empire is falling flat with investors, as stock-market losses deepen and key dollar bonds sink to fresh lows.

Shares of all Adani Group firms slumped on Monday despite the Indian conglomerate's lengthy weekend rebuttal to allegations of fraud by short seller Hindenburg Research.

The three-day selloff has now erased nearly \$72 billion of market value amid a share sale by Adani's flagship that was meant to underline the tycoon's ascension on the global stage.

While the Adani Group has portrayed Hindenburg's allegations as baseless and an attack against India itself, the saga is reviving longstanding investor concerns about the conglomerate's corporate governance.

It also threatens to weaken broader confidence in India, until recently a top investment destination for Wall Street, and accelerate a nascent shift toward a reopening China.

"Not sure if Adani's rebuttal is enough to assuage investor concerns. Just because things are disclosed and known does not make them right," said Brian Freitas, an analyst at Smartkarma. "How does a group that big explain no analyst coverage and no mutual fund holdings?"

In its rebuttal published Sunday, Adani said that some 65 of the 88 questions raised by Hindenburg have been addressed in the conglomerate's public disclosures, describing the short seller's conduct as

"nothing short of a calculated securities fraud under applicable law." The group reiterated it will "exercise our rights to pursue remedies to safeguard our stakeholders before all appropriate authorities."

Hindenburg said Adani's rebuttal ignored all its key allegations and was "obfuscated by nationalism." The conglomerate's statement failed to specifically answer 62 of Hindenburg's 88 questions, the short seller said Monday, and conflated the company's "meteoric rise" and the wealth of Asia's richest man "with the success of India itself."

Adani's stocks were some of the best performers last year not just in the local market, but also on the broader MSCI Asia Pacific Index.

The selloff continued on Monday with Adani Total Gas Ltd. and Adani Transmission Ltd. down as much as 20%. The flagship Adani Enterprises also erased its earlier gain of 10% to trade 2% lower.

Adani Enterprises' shares remain below the floor price set for the follow-on equity sale. The company is seeking to raise 200 billion rupees (\$2.5 billion).

Overall subscription for the share offer by Adani Enterprises, which closes on Tuesday, was at just 2% as of 13:42 p.m. in Mumbai on Monday. Retail investors had bid for 3% of the shares on offer to them, while the company's employees bid for 10% of the shares for their category. The non-institutional part that includes wealthy individuals had been taken up 1%. Institutional investors bid for 4,576 shares, a fraction of the 12.8 million on offer.

VIEW FROM THE TOP

WHO says COVID-19 remains an international emergency

GENEVA

THE World Health Organization said yesterday that the COVID-19 pandemic still constitutes a public health emergency of international concern, as the United Nations health agency seeks an expanded role in tackling the next global health emergency.

The WHO will push at its board meeting this week for a bigger role after COVID-19, but is still seeking answers on how to fund it, according to health policy experts.

The Geneva meeting sets the program for the UN agency this year - as well as its future budget - with the WHO facing two key challenges: a world that expects ever more from its leading health body, but which has not yet proven willing to fund it to tackle those challenges.

At the Executive Board's annual meeting from Jan 30-Feb 7, members will give feedback on WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus' global strategy to strengthen read-

iness for the next pandemic which includes a binding treaty currently being negotiated. "I think the focus is very much on the program budget, then sustainable financing," Timothy Armstrong, WHO director for governing bodies, told journalists when asked about the agenda.

Also on his list was "the position of the World Health Organization, recognizing there is a need for a reinforced central role for WHO" in the global health emergency system.

The WHO is seeking a record \$6.86 billion for the 2024-2025 budget, saying that approving this sum would be "a historic move towards a more empowered and independent WHO".

But approval will require member states to make good on promises made last year to hike mandatory fees - a fact which is uncertain since the deal was always subject to conditions.

"What we are currently seeing is that some member states are now trying to pre-condition lots of things," said a source close to the talks, saying it "re-



A picture taken on May 8, 2021 shows a sign of the World Health Organization at the entrance of their headquarters in Geneva amid the COVID-19 outbreak. File photo

mains to be seen" if all countries will commit to raising fees. Reuters could not immediately establish which countries might withhold support.

The current base budget, which does not include the funding changes, has a nearly \$1 billion financing hole, a WHO document showed - although that gap is not unusual at this point, two sources added. However, one did add that it was "absurd" that the WHO still has to scabble for money after COVID-19.

"It's a huge knot," said Nicoletta Dentico, the co-chair of the civil society platform the Geneva Global Health Hub. "The weakness of WHO is under our eyes."

The agency is also considering starting big replenishment rounds every few years to top up its coffers, a document showed.

Pandemic preparation

The WHO, which celebrates its 75-year anniversary having been set up in 1948, will also use the meeting to advocate for a boosted role in pandemic preparedness, documents showed.

Tedros will call for a Global Health Emergency Council to be set up linked to WHO governance. However, external experts have said such a council needs higher-level political leadership.

"Given that pandemic threats involve and impact almost every sector, it must be an outcome of a UN General Assembly resolution, be appointed by and accountable to it," Helen Clark, former prime minister of New Zealand and head of the independent panel set up to review the handling of COVID, told Reuters.

Ex-Japan SDF member sues govt, abusers for sexual assaults

TOKYO

A woman who was sexually assaulted and repeatedly harassed by male members while she served in Japan's Ground Self-Defense Force (GSDF) has filed a civil suit against the government and her five assailants, she told a press conference yesterday.

Rina Gono, 23, who quit the force in June 2022 and posted online about a wide range of abuses that took place at the GSDF's Camp Koriyama in Fukushima Prefecture, filed the suit at the Yokohama District Court.

Gono, who informed the Defense Ministry of her sexual assaults last June and called for an investigation, is seeking damages from the state and her five assailants, saying she was abused daily between fall 2020 and August 2021.

The Defense Ministry has confirmed her allegations and admitted that along with being the victim of repeated sexual harassment, Gono was "groped and forced to the ground where the male members pressed their hips against her body during meals," according to reports.

The ministry issued an apology to Gono in September last year.

Some of the assailants have since been found guilty of sexually harassing other female members at Camp Koriyama.

Five of her abusers in their 20s and 30s, whose ranks ranged from sergeant and sergeant 1st class, as well as a master sergeant in his 40s who was found to have ordered the sexual attacks, were dishonorably discharged in December 2022.

The unit commander, who disregarded Gono's cries for an investigation, was suspended for six months.

Gono's civil action was prompted by receiving comments from her assailants making light of their abuses during a meeting with them, she said.



India's top court to hear cases against BBC documentary ban

NEW DELHI

INDIA'S Supreme Court will consider petitions next week against a government order blocking the sharing of clips of a BBC documentary that questioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership during riots in 2002 in the western state of Gujarat.

The government has dismissed as a biased "propaganda piece" the film released last week, titled India: The Modi Question, and blocked the sharing of any clips from it on social media.

The Supreme Court will take up the petitions next week, Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud said in court yesterday.

A New Delhi-based lawyer, M L Sharma, opposed the government's move in one of the petitions to the Supreme Court.

A separate petition by lawyer Prashant Bhushan, journalist N. Ram and opposition politician Mahua Moitra focused on the order to



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi waits for the arrival of Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi at Hyderabad house, in New Delhi, India, on Jan 25, 2023. (PHOTO / AP)

take down social media links to the documentary.

In a Twitter comment on the second petition, Law Minister Kiren Rijiju said, "This is how they waste the precious

time of the Honourable Supreme Court, where thousands of common citizens are waiting and seeking dates for justice."

Modi, who aims for a third

term in elections next year, was chief minister of Gujarat in February 2002, when a suspected Muslim mob set fire to a train carrying Hindu pilgrims.

The incident sparked one of the worst outbreaks of religious bloodshed in independent India.

In reprisal attacks across the state at least 1,000 people were killed, most of them Muslim, as crowds roamed the streets for days, targeting the religious minority. But activists put the toll at more than twice that, at about 2,500.

Modi has denied accusations that he did not do enough to stop the riots. He was exonerated in 2012 following an inquiry overseen by the Supreme Court and a petition questioning his exoneration was dismissed last year.

The BBC has said the documentary was "rigorously researched" and involved a wide range of voices and opinions, including responses from people in Modi's Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party.

Agencies

Iran summons Ukraine diplomat over comments on drone strike

DUBAI / TEHRAN

IRAN summoned Ukraine's charge d'affaires in Tehran yesterday over his country's comments on a drone strike on a military factory in the central Iranian province of Isfahan, according to the semi-official Tasnim news agency.

In Ukraine, which accuses Iran of supplying hundreds of drones to Russia, a senior aide to President Volodymyr Zelenskyy linked the incident directly to the conflict there.

"Explosive night in Iran," Mykhailo Podolyak tweeted on Sunday. "Did warn you."

A US official told Reuters that Israel appears to have been behind the attack. Iran has acknowledged sending drones to Russia but says they were sent before the Ukraine crisis began last year. A US official said on Sunday that Israel appeared to have been behind the overnight drone strike. Iran said it had intercepted the strike and that there were no casualties or serious damage.

In Moscow, the Russian Foreign Ministry on Monday condemned the drone strike and warned against what it called "provocative" actions that could trigger an escalation in an already tense situation.

"Such destructive actions could have unpredictable consequences for peace and stability in the Middle East," the ministry said.

Iran said on Sunday the unsuccessful attack on the military plant was carried out by three armed quadcopters, the official news agency IRNA reported.

The quadcopters were equipped with bomblets, the IRNA report quoted an informed source as saying.

The source added that, upon hearing the quadcopters' noise, the plant's perimeter intrusion detection systems targeted the unmanned aerial vehicles with electronic warfare equipment and managed to bring down one of them.

Another quadcopter lost its GPS link due to jamming and crashed onto the roof of an industrial shed, causing minor damage, according to the source.

Iranian security forces in the military plant have taken possession of the third quadcopter, which sustained less damage, the report said.

The foiled attack took place at about 23:30 local time (2000 GMT), Iran's Defense Ministry said in a statement after local media reported that a loud blast had been heard at a military plant in the city.

Mohammadreza Jan-Nesari, Isfahan's deputy governor for political and security affairs, said security authorities had launched investigations to identify those behind the attack.

Finland says to stick with Sweden in NATO process

HELSINKI

FINLAND is sticking to its plan to join NATO at the same time as Nordic neighbor Sweden, and hopes to do so no later than July, Finnish foreign minister Pekka Haavisto said yesterday.

Sweden and Finland applied last year to join NATO following the Ukraine crisis, but raised objections.

The three countries signed an agreement in Madrid over a way forward, but last week, Türkiye suspended talks after protests in Stockholm that included the burning of a Koran.

Türkiye's President Tayyip Erdogan signaled on Sunday

that Ankara could agree to Finland joining NATO ahead of Sweden and Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu on Monday made similar statements.

However, Haavisto said Finland will stick with Sweden, its closest military partner, during the application process.

"Our strong wish is still to join NATO together with Sweden," Haavisto told a news conference in Helsinki.

"We have underlined to all our future NATO partners, including Hungary and Turkey, that Finnish and Swedish security go together," he said.

A spokesperson for Sweden's foreign ministry de-



clined to comment.

Of NATO's 30 members, only Türkiye and Hungary are yet to ratify the Nordic countries' membership applications.

Presidential and parliamentary elections will be held in Türkiye in May and many analysts believe that it will be hard to make progress before that.

But Haavisto said he still hoped Finland and Sweden would become NATO mem-

bers in the next few months.

"I still see the NATO summit in Vilnius in July as an important milestone when I hope that both countries will be accepted as NATO members at the latest," Haavisto said.

Finland and Sweden had been hoping for a rapid accession process and were taken by surprise by Türkiye's objections.

Türkiye wants Sweden, in particular, to take a clearer stance against what it sees as terrorists, mainly Kurdish militants and a group it blames for a 2016 coup attempt in Türkiye.

Sweden has said it takes Türkiye's security concerns

seriously and is implementing the three-way agreement signed in June last year, but Ankara says it is not doing enough.

That has led to speculation Finland - which shares a 1,300-km (810-mile) border with Russia - could proceed without Sweden.

But Haavisto said security assurances from the United States, Britain and other NATO members meant that Finland could be patient.

"We appreciate those security assurances very much even if we understand that it is not the same as the NATO Article 5, but it is very important for us," he said.

China sees remarkable progress in cyclic utilisation of industrial wastewater

HOW much water is used for industrial purposes in China, the world's largest industrial country?

In 2021, China's industrial water consumption stood at 104.96 billion cubic meters, which accounted for 17.7 percent of the country's total water consumption.

China's water-use efficiency in steel and petrochemical industries has reached the international advanced level though the per capita water resource share in the country is only a quarter of the global average. However, that in some other industries is still seeing room for improvement due to certain reasons such as the

backwardness in key technologies and equipment. With the rapid development of industry, the varieties of industrial products are more diverse and the components of industrial wastewater becoming more complex. Apart from nitrogen, phosphorus and suspended matter, more poisonous and hazardous substances that are difficult to handle have been found in industrial wastewater, such as heavy metal and oil contamination.

Achieving efficient and cyclic utilization of industrial wastewater is key to promoting green development and balancing the supply and demand of water consumption. Af-

ter years of efforts, China has made positive progress in the cyclic utilization of industrial wastewater and has seen remarkable results in industrial water conservation.

The discharge of industrial wastewater in the country dropped to 1.34 million tons in 2019 from 2.37 million tons in 2010, a reduction of around 44 percent.

Among industrial enterprises above designated size, or those with annual main business revenue of 20 million yuan (about \$2.95 million) or more, the recycling rate of industrial water went up from 89 percent in 2015 to 92.9 percent in 2021, and water consumption per 10,000 yuan of industrial

added value in 2020 dropped 39.6 percent compared with 2015. The recycling rate of industrial water of enterprises above designated size in steel and petrochemical industries stands at 97 percent and 95.2 percent, respectively. Between 2016 and 2020, key medium- and large-sized iron and steel manufacturers in China reduced wastewater discharge by about 300 million cubic meters and saved 2.1 billion cubic meters of water consumption. Internal recycling and treatment is the major way of cyclic utilization of industrial wastewater. To tackle the difficulties in the whole process of cyclic utilization, collaborative research in inno-

ventions of relevant technologies and equipment are proved to be effective solutions. An enterprise in Zibo, east China's Shandong province has launched cooperation with a university to develop technologies that recycle and treat wastewater generated by water jet looms. The enterprise has not only optimized the recycling and treatment of industrial and domestic sewage, but also succeeded in biochemically degrading the sewage, which helps tackle pollution in a targeted manner.

People's Daily

Managing Sino-US ties high on agenda

ON Jan 21, Chinese New Year's eve, Foreign Minister Qin Gang appeared on big screens during the NBA game in Washington, DC, between the Washington Wizards and the Orlando Magic to deliver a message.

The Washington Wizards, formerly known as the Washington Bullets, visited China shortly after the Sino-US diplomatic relationship was established in 1979, and was the first NBA team to visit the country.

In his video message, Qin said that in December, as the then Chinese ambassador to the United States, he "spent a wonderful evening watching a fabulous game" played by the team. "I wish the Chinese and the American people a prosperous Year of the Rabbit and a bright future," he said.

Steve Orlins, president of the National Committee on US-China Relations, told Forbes magazine that Qin using an NBA game to extend his Chinese New Year greetings to the people of the US "is an imaginative way to remind Americans that we share many things with China, including love of the NBA".

Seeking more common ground between China and the US, managing differences, rejecting economic decoupling and avoiding clashes in the Western Pacific region are among the top tasks of the two countries' diplomats in the new year, officials and leading policy researchers said.

Following President Xi Jinping's face-to-face meeting with US President Joe Biden in November, Vice-Premier Liu He met with US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen in Zurich, Switzerland, before Chinese New Year, and Beijing called the talks "constructive".

According to the General Administration of Customs, in the first 11 months of 2022, China-US trade volume reached 4.62 trillion yuan (\$681 billion), up 4.8 percent year-on-year.

Washington has publicly voiced hope on the plan for US Secretary of State Antony Blinken to visit China in the near future.

The two countries are in communication on the specifics of the visit, and Beijing hopes that "the US will perceive China correctly, pursue dialogue and win-win cooperation, not confrontation and zero-sum competition, and work with China in the same direction", Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin said on Jan 17.

Wu Xinbo, dean of the Institute of International Studies at Fudan University, said the US should not continue practicing coercion against China while seeking dialogue with Beijing. "The Biden administration sought to define the rules and the conditions of its competition



Chinese and US flags flutter outside the building of an American company in Beijing, Jan 21, 2021. (PHOTO / AGENCIES)

with China, but China refused to follow the US lead or fall into the US trap, leading to Washington's frustration," he said.

Wu added that the Biden administration has formulated a clear road map of its two-sided economic and trade policy toward China: It seeks decoupling in some areas while continuing to utilize the Chinese market in other domains.

Huang Ping, China's consul general in New York, proposed "three R's" – respect, recovery and responsibility – as his wishes at a Chinese New Year reception with business leaders this month.

"China and the US, in the spirit of mutual respect, should see each other as partners and opportunities", achieve new heights in their cooperation, shoulder their responsibilities to shore up multilateralism and an open economy while addressing global challenges, Huang said.

At the same event, former US secretary of state Henry Kissinger said that "each nation

needs to understand the other more fully".

"While working together, we can achieve great things; not just for our countries, but also for humanity," he added.

Analysts said that Washington's two-sided approach to China has damaged its ties with Beijing and will trigger greater concerns among the rest of the world if it persists in its provocations, such as allowing US lawmakers to visit Taiwan.

Washington's military cooperation with the Taiwan region "is, in essence, a part of the US policy of containing China," Talat Masood, a retired Pakistani Army lieutenant general and a former federal secretary, said in an article published in The Express Tribune newspaper on Wednesday.

Michael D. Swaine, a senior research fellow of the East Asia Program at the Quincy Institute for Responsible Statecraft in Washington, recently wrote that Washington should place clear limits on its interactions with Taiwan "to emphasize that they are unofficial and do not

involve contacts between senior officials".

Su Xiaohui, an associate research fellow at the China Institute of International Studies, said Washington has displayed its urgent need to step up strategic communication with China by highlighting its hopes about Blinken's China visit.

"In fact, the US cannot steer away from directly talking to China if it really wants to install 'guardrails' for their relations and deal with its own economic headaches, such as soaring inflation," she said.

"Washington is still unwilling to risk crossing the line drawn by Beijing, but it cannot resist the temptation to work on some provocations, so it remains to be seen how it will work to manage differences and avoid crises," she added.

Xinhua

UK PM Sunak sacks party chairman Zahawi over tax affairs

LONDON

BRITISH Prime Minister Rishi Sunak sacked Conservative Party chair Nadhim



Zahawi on Sunday after an investigation found he committed a serious breach by not being open about a tax probe, the latest scandal to hit one of Sunak's top ministers.

Sunak had initially stood by Zahawi before ordering an independent adviser to investigate questions over his tax affairs after it emerged Zahawi had settled a probe by Britain's tax authority HMRC last year.

Zahawi (pictured) has said the tax body ruled he had been "careless" with his declarations but hadn't deliberately made an error to pay less tax, confirming he paid a penalty to HMRC.

Sunak's independent adviser Laurie Magnus said that Zahawi didn't declare that his tax affairs were being investigated when he was briefly made finance minister last year, and failed to disclose details when Sunak appointed him to his current role.

"Following the completion of the Independent Adviser's investigation ... it is clear that there has been a serious breach of the Ministerial Code," Sunak said in a letter to Zahawi.

"As a result, I have informed you of my decision to remove you from your position in His Majesty's Government."

Zahawi's response to Sunak did not mention either the HMRC or independent adviser's investigation. He expressed concern at the conduct of some in the media in recent weeks and said he would support Sunak's agenda as a backbench lawmaker.

"I am sorry to my family for the toll this has taken on them," he said. It is a setback to Sunak's attempt at a government reset after a chaotic year that saw three different British prime ministers. An investigation into alleged bullying by Deputy Prime Minister Dominic Raab is ongoing and could cause further headaches.

Eight killed in mass shooting at birthday party in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG

GUNMEN killed eight people and wounded three others at a birthday party in South Africa's Eastern Cape province, police said, adding that manhunt was underway to find the killers.

The mass shooting was carried out by two attackers and occurred

between 5:15 and 5:30 pm (1515 and 1530 GMT) on Sunday at a house in Kwazakele, Gqeberha, the South African Police Service (SAPS) said in a statement.

The gunmen fled after the attack, and no arrests have been made, the police said. Investigations into the circumstances and possible motives for the attack were ongoing. Police

have not named the victims, but confirmed that the owner of the house was among them.

"These victims were killed by criminals, and we will not rest until we find out what happened and who was responsible for (this) callous and cold-blooded attack on these unsuspecting victims," said Eastern Cape SAPS Commissioner Nomthetheli

Lillian Mene.

The latest incident follows a spate of mass shootings last year that shocked the nation. In July, gunmen killed 19 people in random shootings within hours of each other.

South Africa has one of the world's highest murder rates, with around 20,000 people killed every year out of a population of 60 million.

According to campaign group Gun Free South Africa, there are about 3 million guns registered in the country, though there are many more unregistered.

Police Minister Bheki Cele and SAPS National Commissioner Fannie Masemola are expected to visit the site of the latest outrage later yesterday.

Emirates to expand mainland China operations, resumes passenger services to Shanghai and Beijing

DUBAI, UAE

EMIRATES has started revamping up its operations in China in response to strong travel demand, boosting connectivity to its gateways; Guangzhou, Shanghai and Beijing as the country reopens its borders and eases its COVID-related entry restrictions.

Emirates has resumed passenger services to Shanghai starting with two weekly flights operated by an Airbus A380 aircraft this month, with EK302 departing from Dubai to Shanghai non-stop and EK303 making a short stop in Bangkok before returning to Dubai. This service will ramp up in frequency to four weekly flights operated by a three-class Boeing 777-300ER aircraft from February 2, 2023.

Emirates will further boost its Dubai-Shanghai route from March 2023 with a daily non-stop service. Emirates currently operates a non-stop flight from Dubai to Guangzhou as EK362, and a return flight from Guangzhou to Dubai via Bangkok as EK363, four times a week.

Starting from February 1, 2023, the airline will increase services between Dubai and Guangzhou with EK362/EK363 operating as daily non-stop flights with the flagship Emirates A380.

Operated by a three-class Boeing 777-300ER aircraft, Emirates will return to China's capital city Beijing with a daily non-stop service from Dubai, starting from 15 March 2023. This will bring the airline's operations in the market up to 21 weekly flights, providing increased choice and flexibility for both business and leisure travellers, and contributing to China's tourism recovery.



Emirates has been serving China for nearly two decades and has established its presence in the Chinese market through strategic partnerships and a continued commitment to the local community throughout the pandemic.

Emirates offers travellers increased connectivity to 24 domestic points via Guangzhou, Beijing and Shanghai, as well as six regional points via Guangzhou through its partnership with China Southern Airline, while simultaneously providing its partner-airline's customers access to six destinations within the Middle East and Africa regions. Travellers can also benefit from Emirates' existing interline agreements with Air China, China

Eastern and Cathay Pacific to access even more domestic Chinese cities.

Travellers flying with Emirates can enjoy the best experience in the sky with an unmatched culinary experience, regionally inspired multi-course menus developed by a team of award-winning chefs complemented by a wide selection of premium beverages. Customers can sit back and relax with more than 5,000 channels of carefully curated global entertainment content featuring movies, TV shows, music, podcasts, games, audiobooks and more with ice, Emirates' award-winning inflight entertainment system.

The Emirates A380 experience remains highly sought

after by travellers offering 14 First Class suites, 76 lie-flat seats in Business Class and 426 ergonomically designed seats in Economy Class.

Customers travelling to and from Guangzhou can look forward to enjoying its spacious and comfortable cabins, signature products that offer travellers the best experiences in the sky like the Onboard Lounge, First Class suites and Shower Spa.

Customers travelling to and from Shanghai and Beijing can benefit from Emirates' award-winning service and industry-leading products on board the airline's three-class Boeing 777-300ER aircraft, which offers 8 private suites in First Class, 42 lie flat seats in Business Class and 304 spacious seats in Economy Class. Agencies

Indonesia: Local trader forged ingredient label in cough syrup

JAKARTA

INDONESIAN police said yesterday a local trader of industrial-grade chemicals sold them as pharmaceutical-grade, leading to their use in medicated syrups that authorities suspect may have caused deaths of more than 200 children across the country.

Authorities have said two ingredients, ethylene glycol (EG) and diethylene glycol (DEG), found in some syrup-based paracetamol medications are linked to acute kidney injury, which many of the children suffered.

The two ingredients are used in antifreeze, brake fluids and other industrial applications, but also as a cheaper alternative in some pharmaceutical products to glycerine, which is a solvent or thickening agent in many cough syrups. They can be toxic and can lead to acute kidney injury.

Pipit Rismanto, a senior police official, told reporters authorities have found that CV Samudera Chemical sold "industrial-grade" EG and DEG as pharmaceutical-grade propylene glycol manufactured by Dow Chemical Thailand and supplied them to distributors of local drug-makers.

Police have arrested and charged officials at Samudera and its distributor CV Anugrah Perdana Gemilang. More suspects may be named as the investigation continues, Pipit said.



In this file photo dated Oct 24, 2022, police officers visit a drug store to inspect syrup formulas for children, following numerous child deaths from kidney injuries attributed to harmful substances in medicinal syrups, in Banda Aceh. (PHOTO / AFP)

SPORT



A member of the Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) Youth Wing (UVCCM)'s National Council, Ramadhan Matola, participates in the construction of Kassim Majaliwa Stadium's wall in Ruangwa recently, as part of CCM's 46th anniversary celebrations which will climax on February 5. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Dar to host 2023 East and Central Africa Junior Athletics Championships

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA will host this year's edition of the East and Central Africa Region (EAAR) Junior Athletics Championships to be held in Dar es Salaam in March.

Athletics Tanzania (AT) Acting Secretary-General Jackson Ndaweka disclosed in an interview the developmental championships will be held from March 10-11 at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium and 10 EAAR member nations are expected to battle it out in it.

This is the second time in a row that AT is overseeing the hosting of the track and field championships and he described the move as an opportunity for the country's junior athletes.

He said runners making the national junior athletics side which will represent the country in the championships will be selected at the National Trials to be held at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium on February 25.

According to Ndaweka, the selected athletes

are expected to enter the residential camp two days later.

Ndaweka called upon all regions in the country to start preparations for the National Trials.

"We will host this year's East and Central Africa Region Junior Athletics Championships, initially Rwanda was the host but they did not meet some of the conditions so Tanzania being last year's host was also awarded the opportunity to host the showdown this year," he said

The AT official said the EAAR Championships will be used as qualification for Africa Junior Athletics Championships which will be held in Zambia in April.

This will be the third time in recent years that Tanzania is hosting the East and Central Africa Junior Athletics Championships.

The country had previously hosted the showpiece in 2017 and last year. World Athletics (WA) is the main sponsor of the showpiece.

Simba SC ushers in new leadership

By Correspondent Shufaa Lyimo

TANZANIA's football giant, Simba SC, last weekend held an election in Dar es Salaam, with Murtaza Mangungu retaining his position as the club's Chairman.

Mangungu collected 1311 votes to defeat his opponent Stewart Kalua who got 1045 votes in the election which took place at Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre (JNICC).

Announcing the results, the Chairman of Simba SC Election Committee, Boniface Lihamwike, said five members were moreover vying for a position on the side's Board of Directors.

Lihamwike mentioned the five elected members as Seif Muba who got 1636 votes, Asha Baraka who collected 1564 votes, Issa Idd who got 1285 votes, Robin Chiduo who got 1267 votes and Selemani Haroub who got 1250 votes.

The Election Committee Chairman said that the results were obtained as per the rules and procedures of the election.

Lihamwike pointed out that he was grateful that the election was conducted fairly because no one had won by favouritism.

"This election has been held per the rules and the constitution of Simba SC, I believe that all winners will fulfill all promises they made

during the campaign," Lihamwike said.

Mangungu said that he will continue to fight for the club to do well in its Premier League games as well as make its presence felt in the 2022/23 CAF Champions League.

The re-elected Chairman thanked the leaders of the club for the cooperation they offered him throughout the two years he had served the club. Mangungu revealed his strategy is to see Simba SC defeat age-old rivals, Yanga, in the 2022/23 NBC Premier League tie, alias 'Dar derby', to be played in Dar es Salaam on April 16 this year.

The official noted: "I will continue strengthening cooperation in our club to make our team progress and become one of the most competitive teams in Africa."

"I am asking all members who were campaigning for my opponent to join me and develop our team," Mangungu stated.

He said he will work with Stewart Kalua, who was eyeing the same position, asking the latter not to be disappointed by the results he got.

Kalua asked members who campaigned for him to stop entertaining factions and promised to offer support. Kalua moreover asked the winners to fulfill their promises to develop the club.

SPORTS

Never write off an underdog

By Correspondent Lloyd Elipokea

AHEAD of the concluding African Nations Championship (CHAN) finals in Algeria, most people would probably have written off the chances of Niger and Madagascar to overcome some of the continent's perennial juggernauts.

Indeed, it is not difficult to understand this dismissal of their chances as history shows that Niger and Madagascar have rarely earned rave reviews for either securing trophies or performing well in continental football championships.

Nevertheless, despite being regarded as lightweights, Niger and Madagascar have excitingly ripped the history books to shreds at the ongoing CHAN finals in Algeria.

Incredibly, Madagascar admirably downed Mozambique 3-1 in the quarterfinals to advance to the semi-finals of the CHAN finals for the first time in their history.

This marks the first time in Malagasy football history that a national team has progressed to the business end of any continental football event.

However, if you think that Madagascar's historic feat is brilliantly quintessential, then Niger's exploits at the CHAN finals this year have been nothing short of spectacular.

Following their jaw-dropping qualification from the group phase for the quarterfinals, Niger continued merrily on their giant-killing spree by claiming an upset 2-0 win over Ghana in the last eight of the CHAN finals.

However, as we wait with bated breath to see whether Niger and Madagascar can make quick work of their semi-final opponents, an interesting question comes to mind, which is, what can Tanzanian football learn from the sublime showings of these two so-called minnows?

Well, one answer that sticks out is that we should never quake in our boots at the thought of facing some of the continent's strongest teams.

Indeed, lest we forget, our rich football history is laden with unforgettable tales of our football clubs slaying some of the continent's most feared giants.

Who can forget Simba SC's extraordinary coup in 2003 when it



Tanzania's Yanga right fullback, Kibwana Shamari (C), shoots past Tunisia's Club Africain defender when the two sides took on each other in the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup Additional Second Preliminary Round's rematch that took place at the latter's backyard in Tunis last year. Yanga won 1-0. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

ousted Egyptian behemoths Zamalek from the CAF Champions League?

In addition, just a few years ago, Simba SC again took center stage as they confidently marched to the quarterfinals of the CAF Champions League from a group chock-full of Africa's biggest clubs.

Thus, as Yanga and Simba SC eagerly embark on their quest for glory in the group phases of the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup and 2022/23 CAF Champions League respectively, they should never forget that underdogs can at times slay giants.

Let us turn now to aesthetic matters where the Ministry of Culture, Arts, and Sports directed cultural officials in the country late last week to ensure that artists benefit from the cultural and arts fund at regional and council levels.

Indeed, one hopes that cultural officials in the country can follow this instruction to the letter to ensure that various artists can come up with pleasingly beautiful

and impactful artistic productions of various sorts.

For example, such productions might include a portrait of our founding President Julius Nyerere, and a documentary that narrates the history of Bongo Flavor from its origins to the present day, among others.

The possibilities are indeed endless so let's hope that cultural officials in the country can swiftly get cracking.

Fears rising if the Simba SC business model is increasingly under pressure

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

PUNDITS had lately been wondering what was amiss at the country's most ambitious soccer outfit, Simba SC, as it was tying up its election preparations last week.

Reports were heard that a contender, entertainment entrepreneur Asha Baraka was subjected to threats for aspiring to take over as Chairperson for the Board of Directors.

This either confirmed or at least substantiated feelings that 'business as usual' is creeping back into the club by creating an empire out of the portion of funds directly supervised by the board, not management.

A pundit in one of the more noticeable sports commentary programs wondered if a person entering the office by issuing death threats on formidable rivals or at least one such rival would be working for the club or would have conquered it if elected under such circumstances.

And if someone who at some point faced death threats in seeking to be elected, comes to the office all the same and then sees things that need to be righted.

Would he or she dare to raise a hand or would the death warning finally have its way, as a reminder?

It is unlikely that any real investigation will be conducted on the issue as it is a social matter since the club is a private entity managed within the community, by gentlemen's agreement.

But then as it involves organizing massive public activities like running a major football club, it has to be registered and the polls it conducts proceed as per the provisions of certain pieces of legislation.

The public authorities are also interested in knowing who owns the club, what parts are held by an individual, and what parts are held by the wider public.

The design that was finally approved after interminable deliberations within the club and among the public authorities was that 49 percent be held by an investor (more appropriately, a sponsor), and 51 percent remain with the wider membership.

Aficionados note that the number of members is limited to 50,000 but it is disputed if this number is filled or if it still has gaps.

It isn't clear why there is a limit on



A section of Simba SC members follows proceedings of the club's Annual General Meeting (AGM) that took place at Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre (JNICC) in Dar es Salaam last weekend. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

numbers, especially given the massive fan base, but it gives an impression of weighted membership as if purchasing club shares.

When any electoral event is marked by the issuance of death threats, it indicates a stable or relatively large amount of disposable funds where the one taking over has authority, total or preponderant, on how those funds will be used.

Alternatively, the responsibilities to which the position is attached can have an overbearing influence on how certain other activities are being organized or supervised, for instance, betting, player registration, technical bench team, etc. Such spheres can be linked with pivotal interest groups bringing no change.

In that case, it isn't easy to figure out from the outside how in this particular instance such threats could have come up, but the outside parameters yield some answers, and that is why it is useful to pose questions about how healthy the club's admired business model is.

Elections in which threats to life are involved, an indication that one is stepping into an acutely corrupt sphere of doing things, is precisely what this model is supposed to obviate.

The basic reasoning is transforming soccer into business, not a collective asset where those with sharper knives and stronger hands gain the most. It is threateningly so.

These threats are not irrelevant because in Simba SC history there was a time that an entire executive committee save two or at most three members were still alive by the time its term of office was

expiring. It is something the soccer public wishes to put behind it, but interest groups ensured that a true business format is avoided in the club for a condominium, a two-pronged model where the investor has a minority share, and the majority now wants to run the club. If they weren't sure they could do that, where would such an attitude arise from?

It needs to be a bit close to how things are organized at the club for one to say for sure whether the old habits are creeping back or the business model is working.

For instance, the sponsor quit his erstwhile position as an actual supervisor as board chairman, and when the role is given to someone else, and it involves directing the management on what to do and what else, it would come to this. The old model is restored by reducing the investor to a passive figure.

There are tell-tale signs that all is not well at the club, where the death threats are just a sharp pointer to a growing number of signs, some of which regularly aired in soccer pundit talk shops all day long.

There was a time the key investor said 'he would never quit Simba SC,' which can only be construed to mean that he toyed with the possibility and even spoke it aloud in private, without it being a formal declaration.

And while the outgoing CEO could in a sense just have opted for greener pastures, there is also the chance that she decided to abandon not quite a sinking ship, but say, more of a den of wolves.

Brazil open door to breaking foreign coach taboo

RIO DE JANEIRO

MORE than two decades since their last World Cup triumph and without a local consensus pick, Brazil are considering breaking an unwritten taboo: hiring a foreign coach.

After six years in the job, Tite left the Brazil post last month following the Selecao's World Cup quarterfinal exit against Croatia.

Despite knowing for some time before the Qatar showpiece that Tite was leaving, Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) president Ednaldo Rodrigues still has not found a replacement.

Now he is widening his search.

"We have no nationality prejudices," he said on January 17.

"We want it to be a respected coach who can bring a level of play worthy of the athletes. We want to do what Brazil have always tried to do: to be very attacking."

Apart from England, who hired Swede Sven Goran Eriksson and Fabio Capello of Italy in the 2000s, almost no other major footballing nation has had a foreign coach in decades.

Brazil's World Cup drought – stretching back to their dazzling triumph in 2002 with a three-pronged attack comprised of Ronaldo, Ronaldinho and Rivaldo – has forced the record five-time world champions to cast the net farther afield.

There are potential Brazilian candidates, but none have garnered widespread support.

"We have good quality, but before we used to produce more coaches than now," Luiz Felipe Scolari, the 2002 title-winning coach, said recently.

"The new generation ... haven't won enough trophies."

Fans unconvinced of 'gringo' merits - Brazilian press have been proposing numerous possible candidates.

Spaniards Pep Guardiola and Luis Enrique, Italy's Carlo Ancelotti, Frenchman Zinedine Zidane, Jose Mourinho of Portugal and even Argentines Marcelo Gallardo and Mauricio Pochettino.

Manchester City's Guardiola and Ancelotti of Real Madrid have both ruled themselves out, although the Spaniard did say a couple of years ago that he fancied leading a national team when he leaves the English champions.

"Since the end of last year I think I've heard 26 names. We will go after some of them," said Rodrigues, who

hopes to have the new man in place by March.

But it is not easy hiring a world class coach when top European clubs can pay such inflated wages and offer the chance to compete for the Champions League or national titles.

It is also not easy to convince the Brazilian fans to accept a "gringo" in charge of the Selecao.

A poll in December found 48 percent were against the idea, with only 41 percent in favor.

The rejection rate was at least lower than in previous such polls.

"In Brazil there is one idea: we have the best football in the world, so we don't need a foreign coach telling us how to play," historian and editor of sports website Ludopedio, Victor Figols, told AFP.

"Us, who know how to develop great players, who in part created dribbling, the way to play the beautiful game."

- Local candidates -

Brazil did once have foreign coaches, although their reigns were fleeting.

Uruguayan Ramon Platero held the position in 1925, Portugal's Jorge Gomes de Lima coached the Selecao alongside Brazilian Flavio Costa in 1944, and Argentina's Filpo Nunez had a brief stint in 1965.

But foreigners were discarded once Brazil, using homegrown coaches, consolidated itself as a world football power.

Quite the opposite occurred as coaches such as Scolari, Vanderlei Luxemburgo, Carlos Alberto Parreira, Ricardo Gomes and Zico took charge of other national teams.

"An image was built throughout history that since we develop great players, we also develop great coaches, but it's not true," said Figols.

"If we look at the FIFA rankings, Brazilian coaches are not even in the top 10." There are some local candidates who are popular among the press, such as Dorival Junior, who won the 2022 Copa Libertadores with Flamengo, or Fernando Diniz of Fluminense, Gremio's Renato Portaluppi and Mano Menezes of Internacional.

But none of them have a comparable resume to Tite's before he took over the Brazil role.

With Corinthians, Tite won the Copa Libertadores, two Brazilian titles and the Club World Cup in a five-year period.

Referees' union says James was fouled on controversial play

By TIM REYNOLDS

THE National Basketball Referees Association said Sunday that LeBron James was fouled on the last play of regulation in the Los Angeles Lakers' game against the Boston Celtics.

The NBA office also confirmed for the second time that a foul should have been called.

"Like everyone else, referees make mistakes," the union wrote in its tweet. "We made one at the end of last night's game and that is gut-wrenching for us. This play will weigh heavily and cause sleepless nights as we strive to be the best referees we can be."

James got the ball about 35 feet from the basket, with 4.1 seconds remaining in what was a tied game at Boston on Saturday night. He split two defenders as he got into the lane, then went airborne and got past Jayson Tatum as well.

James laid the ball up with his left hand, Tatum clearly made contact with James' shooting arm, no foul was called and the game went to overtime. Had a foul been called, James would have gone to the free-throw line with an opportunity to put the Lakers ahead with 1.8 seconds remaining.

The Celtics wound up winning the game in overtime, 125-121.

"We got cheated tonight, honestly. ... It's unacceptable," Lakers forward Anthony Davis said after the game.

The NBA acknowledged shortly after the game that a foul should have been called – "There was contact. At the time, during the game, we did not see a foul. The crew missed the play," crew chief Eric

Lewis told a pool reporter – and reaffirmed that Sunday in the report detailing calls made and missed in the final two minutes of regulation and overtime.

The Lakers entered Sunday 13th in the Western Conference at 23-27, only two games back of the final play-in spot and four games back of the fourth-place Los Angeles Clippers. But the Lakers have also spent virtually the entire season on the outside of the playoff picture.

"We don't have room for error," James said after Saturday's game. "And it's one of the best games we played all year. For it to fall on somebody else's judgment, or non-judgment, it's just ridiculous. It's ridiculous."

Neither James nor Davis will play in the Lakers' next game on Monday at Brooklyn, the team said. Injuries are the reason; James has left ankle soreness and Davis continues to deal with a right foot stress injury.

James reacted with no shortage of animation after the missed call on the Tatum play, immediately pointing to his arm and eventually slumping to the court, resting on his knees and elbows as he tried to come to grips with no foul being called.

Lakers guard Patrick Beverley brought a camera onto the court during the ensuing stoppage to show Lewis an image of the contact; Beverley got a technical foul, and the Celtics wound up starting the overtime with a 106-105 lead because of the resulting free throw.

It marked at least the fourth time in recent weeks that the Lakers felt a late-game call went against them in what became a loss.

Analysis: Novak Djokovic clearly not done dominating tennis

MELBOURNE, Australia

NOVAK Djokovic clearly is not done dominating his sport.

He says so.

His coach says so.

And, most importantly, his performances throughout a draining run to a record-extending 10th Australian Open championship and record-tying 22nd Grand Slam title, plus his return Monday to No. 1 in the ATP rankings, say so.

His message Sunday night, essentially, was: Look out.

"I still have lots of motivation. Let's see how far it takes me. I really don't want to stop here. I don't have intention to stop here," the 35-year-old Djokovic said after beating Stefanos Tsitsipas, a man more than a decade his junior, by a 6-3, 7-6 (4), 7-6 (5) score in the final at Melbourne Park. "I feel great about my tennis. I know that when I'm feeling good physically, (and) mentally present, I have a chance to win any Slam against anybody."

Hard to argue.

Not only has no man won more major trophies (Rafael Nadal also has 22; Margaret Court, with 24, and Serena Williams, with 23, are the only players in history with more), but Djokovic just keeps applying constant pressure on opponents – regardless of the surface or any apparent obstacles in his way.

He returned to Australia with some trepidation, unsure of what sort of reception awaited a year after he was deported for not being vaccinated against COVID-19, and was fine. He dealt with a sore left hamstring, and was fine, dropping one set along the way to the



Novak Djokovic of Serbia reacts as he holds the Norman Brookes Challenge Cup after defeating Stefanos Tsitsipas of Greece in the men's singles final at the Australian Open tennis championship in Melbourne, Australia, Sunday, Jan. 29, 2023. (AP Photo)

title. He was bothered by the unusual circumstances that kept his father – who had last attended the Australian Open 15 years ago – away from Rod Laver Arena for Djokovic's semifinal and final, and was fine.

Well, able to bottle all of that up, anyway, until the last point was played. That's when Djokovic "emotionally collapsed," as he put it, sobbing in the stadium.

"It required an enormous mental energy, really, to stay present, to stay focused, to take things day by day," he said, wearing a white zippered jacket with "22" printed on the chest, "and really see how far I can go."

His strokes are pure as can be. His athleticism, too. His resolve? Off the charts.

"Novak is a player that pushes you to your limits," is the way Tsit-

sipas explained it.

He would know. He has lost 10 consecutive matches to Djokovic, two in Grand Slam finals.

"I don't see this as a curse. I don't see this as something, like, annoying," Tsitsipas continued. "This is very good for the sport – to have competitors like him, to have champions like him."

The "GOAT" debate – "Greatest of All-Time" – has consumed tennis fans for years, comparing Djokovic, Nadal and Roger Federer. It's an OK parlor game, sure, although silly on its merits. All three, it goes without saying, are great.

Federer, 41, is retired. Nadal, 37 in June, left Melbourne with an injured left hip flexor. Djokovic, 36 in May, keeps on keeping on.

For how much longer?

"Definitely two, three more years," said Goran Ivanisevic, the

2001 Wimbledon champion who has coached Djokovic since 2019. "The way he's taking care of his body, the way he (approaches) everything, the food, it's amazing."

Djokovic won't be pining down on what he has left. Nor should he. Like Federer, like Nadal, like Williams, he can play as long as he pleases.

Let's just say Djokovic is not satisfied with what he's done.

"I don't know how many more years I'm going to play or how many more Slams I'm going to play. It depends on various things. It doesn't depend only on my body," the father of two said, noting that a proper balance with his family life is important to him, too.

As it is, Djokovic won 10 of the last 19 majors – Nadal has a half-dozen of those – and no one collected more after turning 30. There are youngsters to keep at bay, chief among them Carlos Alcaraz, who won the U.S. Open and rose to No. 1 in September at 19 but missed the Australian Open with a leg injury.

Djokovic wasn't at Flushing Meadows for the same reason he wasn't at Melbourne Park last year, and the United States, unlike Australia, still is not admitting unvaccinated foreigners.

But before that, Djokovic is sure to be the favorite at Roland Garros if Nadal isn't healthy, and at Wimbledon, which he already has won seven times.

"Physically, I can keep myself fit. Of course, 35 is not 25, even though I want to believe it is," Djokovic said. "But I still feel there is time ahead of me. Let's see how far I go."

AP

Masau Ujiri's Giants of Africa announce worldwide celebrations to mark 20th anniversary

TORONTO

ON the occasion of its 20th anniversary, Giants of Africa, a not-for-profit dedicated to enriching the lives of African youth through sports, and its co-founder Masai Ujiri, Vice-Chairman and President of the Toronto Raptors, last week announced worldwide events taking place throughout the year in celebration.

2023 marks 20 years of Giants of Africa travelling the African continent conducting basketball camps for boys and girls, building courts, and facilitating youth outreach initiatives.

"It has been humbling to reach such an incredible milestone and there is much to be proud of as we reflect on the last two decades. 20 years of service has only been possible because of the passion and commitment of every person and community that has come together to make Giants of Africa what it is today," said Masai Ujiri, Giants of Africa co-founder and Vice-Chairman and President of the Toronto Raptors.

"We've really only just begun. There is an understanding that we need to keep going and a desire to learn from our journey so that we can continue to help more. We are excited about the bright future as Giants of Africa continues to develop infrastructure and inspire African youth worldwide with programs focused on education, empowerment, and leadership, both on and off the court."

20 YEARS OF IMPACT.

Since 2003, Giants of Africa has positively impacted over 40,000 African youth across 17 countries through access to over 30 basketball courts and 80 basketball camps or clinics. Twenty-six of the total courts have been made possible through 'Built Within', the foundation's multi-year, 100-court commitment to investing in sports infrastructure across Africa, launched in 2021.

Since its inception, outreach initiatives in at-risk communities and refugee camps have been at the heart of Giant of Africa's purpose. In 2021, the foundation unveiled a new

led by founder Dr. Josephine Kulea, the Foundation provides a safe



Giants of Africa co-founder and Vice-Chairman and President of the Toronto Raptors, Masai Ujiri.

haven for young women. Dr. Kulea and her staff rescue girls from FGM, beading and forced

marriage in northern Kenya. Giants of Africa is grateful to help contribute to their mission and empower the girls through sport.

Hundreds of Giants of Africa alumni have received scholarships abroad including NBA player Precious Achiuwa of the Toronto Raptors, WWE Star Tolupe Omogbehin - aka Omos and countless others who have gone on to professional careers across a variety of industries.

2023 MARQUEE EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

"Built Within" (January and Au-

gust 2023)

The celebration of the 20-year milestone kicks off this month with the continuation of 'Built Within', the foundation's multi-year, 100-court commitment to investing in sports infrastructure across Africa.

In January 2023, Giants of Africa unveiled five new courts in Bobo-Dioulasso, Burkina Faso and Nairobi, Kenya, including refurbishing Diwopa, Kayole to refurbish the first court ever built by the foundation in 2015. Additionally, a court was built at Elman Peace in Mogadishu, Somalia - a country plagued by civil war, political instability and traditional cultural practices that limit the rights and autonomy of women

and girls.

Giants of Africa will be pleased to announce the unveiling of additional courts this summer.

"AfriCAN (March 20 in Toronto, Canada)

The second annual AfriCAN event aims to advance Africa forward by uniting working professionals from the African diaspora. The networking-style event creates a community that not only celebrates their African heritage, but also brings knowledge and resources back to the continent.

"Giants of Africa Festival (August 13 - 19th in Kigali, Rwanda)

The inaugural 'Giants of Africa Festival' will be held in Kigali, Rwanda. The week-long celebration of basketball, education, culture, and entertainment will unite more than 250 youth from the 16 countries that the foundation has visited across Africa. The festival will use basketball as the tool to educate and empower African youth to dream big.

Program highlights include an opening ceremony celebration, an educational forum on International Youth Day bringing together over 2,000 Rwandan youth and a closing concert, all at the BK Arena.

For more information and ways to support these campers as they take part in a once in a lifetime experience, visit www.GOAFestival.org

"The Giant of Africa" celebration in honour of Nelson Mandela (December 3-5 in Toronto, Canada)

A star-studded gala, Giants of Africa night at the Toronto Raptors game, a diversity, equity, and inclusion event and more.

(Agencies)

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Novak Djokovic clearly not done dominating tennis

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Yanga's attacker Kennedy Musonda (L), negotiates his way past Tabora's Rhino Rangers defender when the outfits took on each other in this season's Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) duel played in Dar es Salaam last weekend. Yanga cruised to a 7-0 victory. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

Five Premier League clubs knocked out of ASFC

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

THE last 16's line-up for Mainland Tanzania's Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) was settled last weekend when 16 matches were played around the country from Thursday to Sunday.

There will be 11 NBC Premier League clubs, four Championship League sides, and one Regional Champions League representative.

Five Premier League clubs, Namungo FC, Polisi Tanzania, Ruvu Shooting, Dodoma Jiji FC, and Coastal Union- have been knocked out of the tournament.

African Sports, Green Warriors, Pan African, and JKT Tanzania are the only Championship League sides remaining in the competition.

JKT Tanzania advanced after a penalty shootout victory over NBC Premier League side Polisi Tanzania at Ushirika Stadium. They will now face Singida Big Stars who defeated Ruvu Shooting 2-1.

African Sports edged out New Dundee in a penalty shootout following a goalless stalemate.

For a place in the last eight, they will battle Simba SC who overcame fellow Premier League side Coastal Union on Saturday evening.

Mwanza regional side, Mapinduzi, is the only non-league side still standing having knocked out Polisi Katawi in a penalty shootout.

They have booked a date with 2019 winners Azam FC who edged out Dodoma Jiji FC.

Green Warriors defeated fellow Championship League side, Mbuni FC, 2-1 to set up a last-16 clash with Geita Gold FC.

Mtibwa Sugar defeated Regional Champions League side, Buhaya FC, and will now take on Kinondoni Municipal Council FC who edged out Championship League side, COPCO FC.

Defending champions Yanga are the leading scorers so far in the Azam Sports Federation Cup this season with 15 goals.

They followed up their 8-0 success over Kurugenzi FC in the last 64's stage with a 7-0 victory over Tabora's Rhino Rangers on Sunday.

In the last 16, Yanga will host Tanzania Prison who had to go through a penalty shootout win over Championship League side Mashujaa FC.

The ASFC, which sees winners rake in 50m/-, has had four different winners since the tournament was re-established in 2015 under the Azam Media sponsorship.

Simba SC is the most successful team with three trophies. Yanga was the inaugural winner in 2016 and triumphed again in 2022, while Simba SC was crowned champion in 2017 and became the first club to win back-to-back Federation Cup titles in 2020 and 2021.

The last 16 ties will be played between March 3-5. The exact dates and venues for the ties will be announced by TFF in the next few days.

The winners of the Federation Cup get an opportunity to represent Mainland Tanzania in the CAF Confederation Cup.

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Chaneta set to release calendar of activities

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA Netball Association (Chaneta) says it is waiting for National Sports Council (NSC)'s approval before the association releases its calendar of activities for this year.

Rose Mkisi, Chaneta Secretary-General, said the association's leaders submitted the calendar to NSC and they are waiting for the council's approval before making it public.

She could not issue any hint on what contains in the calendar but said it is a fully packed calendar that is aimed at taking the country's netball to another level.

"Our calendar of activities will be known soon, we can not make it public as we first need the approval of the National Sports Council but, in a nutshell, it is a fully packed calendar," she said.

In the previous interview held last year, Rose disclosed that Chaneta has lined up several activities which include Junior Netball Tournament, National Championships, international friendly events, and local and international courses for coaches, umpires, and officials.

National netball team, Taifa Queens, which has been idle for the past seven years, last year competed in two international tournaments in Zambia and South Africa and, in World Netball (WN) recent rankings the team has maintained its number 45 position. In both outings Taifa Queens failed to record any win.

World Netball published the rankings on its website last year and Chaneta stated it has a lot of work to do.

According to WN, the rankings included all matches played up to November 3 2022 which include all matches played at the regional qualifying events for the 2023 Netball World Cup.

The world netball body revealed the recent update confirms the seeding for the 16 qualified teams for the Netball World Cup draw which is expected to take place later this month. The 2023 Netball World Cup will be held in Cape Town, South Africa from July 28-August 6, 2023, with Australia, Barbados, England, Fiji, Jamaica, Malawi, New Zealand, Scotland, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Tonga, Trinidad & Tobago, Uganda, Wales, and Zimbabwe all set to compete for the trophy.

In the period, Taifa Queens played 15 games, weighted 55, accumulated 55 points, and rated fourth.

Last year, Rose blamed the fall on the squad's failure to play more test matches in the year.

She said her association with the support from stakeholders will have intensified plans to see Taifa Queens play many games.

"The WN compiles rankings based on points that teams accumulate, what is needed now is to play many international games, I'm sure with the support of stakeholders we can improve on the rankings," she noted.

Despite not doing well on the WN rankings, Rose said Tanzania's netball is heading in the right direction. "Remember during Mama Anna Bayi's leadership, our netball was heading in the right direction, we were playing many international games, we even hosted the Africa Championships, and we nearly qualified for Commonwealth Games," Rose noted.

She revealed: "But after the change of leadership our netball went to shambles, we were inactive and we were suspended from INF, now WN, but now the national team has started playing international matches."

"We recently competed in Africa Netball Championship in South Africa, with support from well-wishers and surely next year things will improve," she said.

World Netball explained the ranking formula on its website, stating: "The number of points earned by a team for any match depends on two factors- the result (won, tied or lost) and the opponent against whom the result was achieved. The higher an opponent's rating the more points are earned for beating them."

Murtaza Mangungu retains chairman's post at Simba SC



Simba SC's Chairman, Murtaza Mangungu, addresses the club's members at the Annual General Meeting and election which took place at Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre (JNICC) in Dar es Salaam last weekend. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

MURTAZA Mangungu has retained his position as Simba SC Chairman after successfully edging out Advocate Moses Stewart Kaluwa in a tightly contested election conducted at the Julius Nyerere International Conference Centre on Sunday.

Mangungu garnered a total of 1311 votes out of the 2336 total votes cast defeating his rival Kaluwa who got 1035 votes.

Upon his re-election, Mangungu thanked the club's members for having trust in him and urged them to put behind their election campaign differences and unite behind the club.

The Chairman noted: "I agree with what has been said by my

brother Moses Kaluwa that the election was a democratic process within our club. The election exercise is over and what happened earlier during the process has ended today."

Mangungu said: "Each one of us had people who supported him. I advise and ask those who supported me not to use this opportunity to bully our colleagues because this is a democratic process, everyone has the right to choose the side that they think suited them."

The Chairman pointed out: "For brother Kaluwa, we will continue to cooperate as we have always done and we will look at how we can improve and receive your contribution of ideas as we have always done."

He stressed: "The election is over, let's continue to work together to make sure we fight for our team. All the things that we have gone through let us just believe

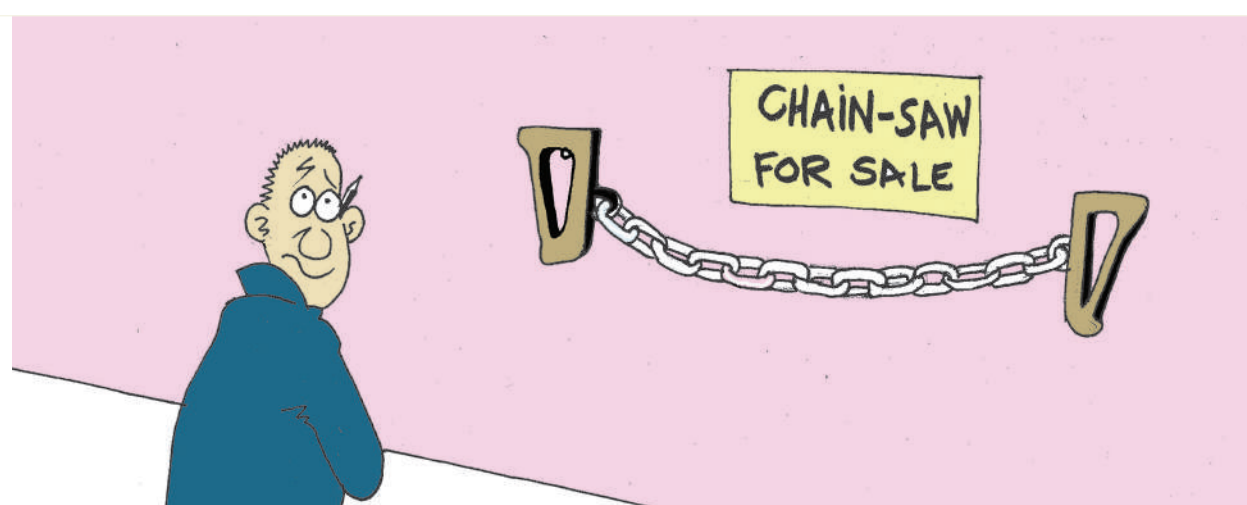
it was an exercise and we thank God we have reached the end. I strongly urge and ask all Simba SC members to continue to be united."

Advocate Kaluwa said he was not satisfied with the outcome and did not sign results forms but conceded and promised to work together with the elected officials for the benefit of the club which he termed as bigger than any individual.

The contestant said: "Firstly, I thank you for your patience, secondly, I thank you for voting for me, thirdly, I have been dissatisfied with the results, so I did not sign the results forms, but my request to you, Simba SC is bigger than the election exercise, Simba SC is bigger than all of us."

Kaluwa noted: "The election is over, if there were any factions, let them break and disband so that we can build our Simba SC."

Flexibles by David Chikoko



TO NIGHT @ 9:00

MJADALA

EATV TUESDAY

11:00 DADAZ
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA
13:00 Mpera Mpera
13:30 Kati Za Wana
13:55 Dandao Za Michezo
14:00 SPORTS (I)
15:00 Funguko
15:30 Mpera Mpera
15:55 Dandao Za Michezo
16:00 Hoti Spot
16:30 Zote Kuntu
17:00 SSELECT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 Kati Za Wana
18:30 #HASHTAG
19:00 EATV SAA I
20:00 DADAZ (II)
21:00 MJADALA
21:30 Zote Kuntu
23:00 Kurasa
23:05 Club Bangers

eastafrika RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

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The program targets an audience that is aware of current developmental challenges and opportunities and is keen to share, engage and participate in the shaping process.