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**National Pg 3**  
Plans on course to overhaul education system



**National Pg 4**  
Floods affect 1,500 people in Kyela



**National Pg 7**  
Programme brings success in Nyang'hwale



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# More investors coming after Samia visit to Belgium, UAE

**F**INANCE and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba has assured investors from Britain and Norway that the government is working to create a better investment environment and highlighting a number of attractions.

He made the pledge in Dar es Salaam when he conversed with a group of investors from the United Kingdom and Norway interested in

investment opportunities in various sectors, saying the government will provide greater cooperation to facilitate investments.

The group of investors expressed interest in agriculture, energy, mining and processing along with infrastructure, being a result of the visit by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to Belgium and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

The minister assured the prospective

investors that the government was keen on improving investment policies, underlining that Tanzania has predictable investment policies enabling it to fully participate in regional and international market accords.

He pointed to peace and security in the country, easy accessibility to land for investment, the big population and rising purchasing power in the domestic and regional

markets, as factors to enable foreign investors to be assured of profitable initiatives.

On their part, the visiting investors commended government efforts in encouraging investment as well as creating a friendly environment for investment and business. They seek to meet with stakeholders like regulatory agencies to learn more about how to invest capital and technology in agriculture,

energy, and mineral processing along with oil and gas industries.

Lanre Akinola, the chairman of the investors' group, said that in the next few years Tanzania is predicted to have a stronger and stronger economy as it hopes to attract more investors from Europe and elsewhere, boosting the economy and creating jobs.

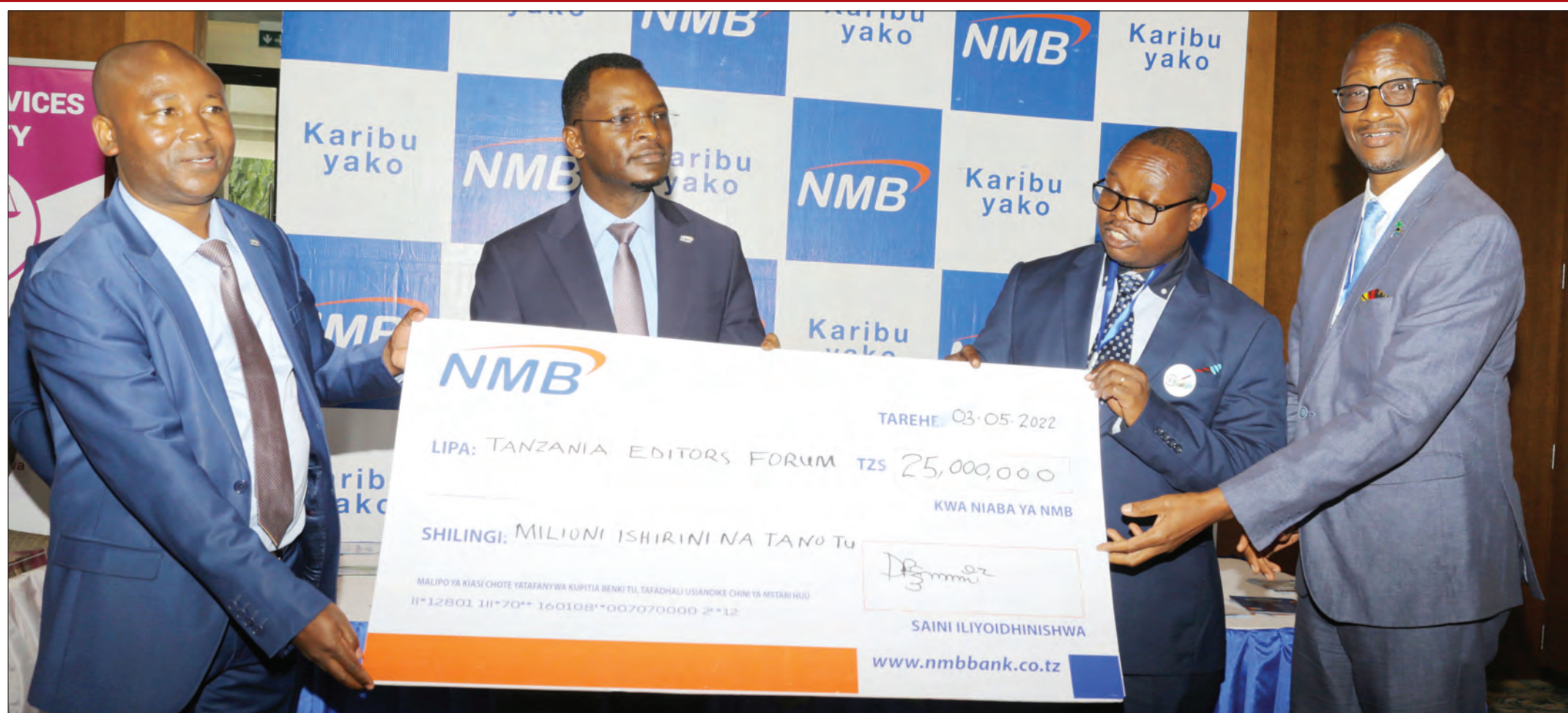
## ACT ventures into fuel price, living costs debate in style

By Guardian Reporter

ACT-Wazalendo yesterday suggested ways of addressing the fuel price hike announced earlier this week, urging immediate and deliberate action to help the people afford the cost of living.

Ishaka Mchinjita, the party's energy sector spokesman, said in a statement that the government should suspend at least 500/- in levies for a litre of petrol, diesel and kerosene.

This would help curb rising oil prices, while affecting the government's budget projection by 200bn/- a month if it is removed, he stated, similarly advising the use of "savings" available in the Inter-



NMB Bank northern zone manager Dismas Prosper (L) hands over a dummy cheque for 25m/- to the Tanzania Editors Forum (TEF) chairman, Deodatus Balile (2nd R) during the World Press Freedom Day event held nationally in Arusha on Tuesday. Others are TEF vice chairman Bakari Machumu (R) and the bank's Clock Tower branch manager, Emmanuel Kishosha. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

**ACT-Wazalendo calls on the government to take responsibility for protecting the people and ensuring their well-being**

national Monetary Fund (IMF) to cover taxes levied on petroleum, diesel and kerosene.

Experts said an alternative suggestion could be reducing the import cover the government holds with the Bank of Tanzania, even such a move needs to be carefully considered as it magnifies the risk

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## 'Horticulture, fast track route out of poverty'

By Guardian Reporter

By Guardian Reporter Dodoma HORTICULTURE is among few opportunities for small scale farmers to find a fast route out of poverty, noticed in how many farmers convert from staple crops and traditional cash crops to horticulture, an expert has declared.

Dr Jacqueline Mkindi, managing director for the Tanzania Horticultural

Association (TAHA) said in an interview here that horticulture has the potential to create more employment especially for youth and women.

This tendency is helping to improve the gross domestic product (GDP), boost foreign currency earnings, supply industry with raw materials, widen the revenue base, help to guarantee self-sufficiency and even managing to leapfrog other sectors of the economy, she stated.

Ministerial agency statistics show that the vibrant industry was growing at 11 percent rate annually, contrasting with the stagnant agriculture sector as a whole growing at four percent per annum.

Horticulture has become the second largest growth driver of the entire agricultural sector after food crops, contributing nearly 25 percent of the country's total agrarian production, such that the ministry is now paying

closer attention to the subsector.

Dr Mkindi and ministerial authorities have agreed to form an operational partnership where the ministry recognizes TAHA as its key partner in accelerating the ongoing revolution in the horticulture industry to help turnaround the country's economy.

Andrew Massawe, the permanent secretary and TAHA's CEO have lately inked a memorandum of understanding in the capital to bring about meas-

ures that could unlock the full potential of the horticulture industry, projected to net \$2bn annually by 2030.

The MoU details how the partnership will be conducted, with the key intention being to fast-track changes in the subsector to enhance the creation of employment especially for youth and women. The measures would also help

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## Budget: Innovation fund now at 5.5bn/-

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

LOCAL innovators have a reason to smile as the government has set 5.5bn/- for innovation, science and technology activities in the 2022/2023 financial year, up from 1bn/- in 2021/2022. Prof Eliamani Sedoyeka, the permanent secretary in the Ministry of Education, Science

**The government acknowledges that science innovation is vital in national development**

and Technology, told journalists here yesterday that the funding is aimed at attracting investments in science and technology, embracing innovation to accelerate industrialization. Enhanced innovation will also create employment, promote sustainable trade and uplift the country's economy, he said, officiating at a one-day

seminar for journalists in the region ahead of the country-wide 2022 Innovation Week. Expressing the government's commitment to encourage innovations, he said the week-long event is a platform for innovation stakeholders to share experience in innovation. It is organized by the ministry in collaboration with United Nations Development

Programme (UNDP), he said. "The government acknowledges that science innovation is vital in national development," he stated, specifying that from 1bn/- budgeted for the sector, bringing it to 5.5bn/- is a major boost. A number of innovators had been financed and others are lined up

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## Budget: Innovation fund now at 5.5bn/-

FROM PAGE 1

for funding at the Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH), he stated. Innovation Week was started in 2019, with 200 innovators identified and the government using a total of 2.3bn/- in funding some of the projects, he stated, noting that this year's Innovation Week will be held in some 16 regions, up from nine regions last year. There are many young innovators at lower levels so this year's focus is to encourage young innovators at the primary school level to participate, underlining that with a good education system a country can bring up great innovators helping to bring about social and economic development.

Prof Maulid Kipanyula, the director of science, technology and innovation at the ministry, said at least 50 primary pupils have applied to participate in this year's competitions, having been identified through social workers trained to represent the science directorate to help get innovators at the lowest levels of the society.

The Innovations Week is slated for 15th to 20th May in the capital, also running in 16 regions listed as Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Mbeya, Arusha, Iringa, Mwanza, Zanzibar, Tanga, Kilimanjaro, Njombe, Kagera, Mtwara, Mara and Ruvuma, involving debates on the development of science, technology and innovation in the country, he said. Joseph Manirakiza innovation programme with the UNDP, said the UN agency is committed to promote science and innovation. It offers financial assistance to innovators whose works are ready to enter the market but face financial obstacles, he added.



Minister for Finance and Planning Dr Mwigulu Nchemba (C-front row) in a group picture with a group of foreign investors and ministry's officials in Dar es Salaam yesterday shortly after discussion on investment opportunities and incentives available in the country. Third (R-front row) is Norwegian ambassador to Tanzania Elisabeth Jacobsen. Photo: Ministry Finance

## Comesa reveals the Indomie noodles Kenyans should not eat

NAIROBI

Tests by the Food and Safety Authority (FSA) of Egypt found that Indomie's chilli, chicken and vegetable flavour packets contained aflatoxins and pesticide residues in quantities that exceeded safe limits.

The Comesa Competition Commission (CCC) has warned consumers against eating some chicken and vegetable flavoured instant noodles commonly referred to as Indomie that were recalled from the Egyptian

market on Tuesday.

The recalls followed tests by the Food and Safety Authority (FSA) of Egypt which found that Indomie's chilli, chicken and vegetable flavour packets contained aflatoxins and pesticide residues in quantities that exceeded safe limits.

Following the findings, some 733,340 cartons of different Indomie flavours have been withdrawn from the Egyptian market by the supplier.

The FSA stated that other than those three products, Indomie noodles

were found to be generally safe for human consumption.

The Comesa watchdog warned consumers in markets within the bloc, including Kenya to watch out for the affected products.

"The Commission through its market observatory has established that some of the recalled Indomie products are imported and marketed in other member states of the common market.

The commission would like to therefore alert the general public of

the risks in consuming above Indomie instant noodles as established by the FSA and to exercise caution in the consumption of the same," the CCC said. The product warning comes barely three weeks after the watchdog warned consumers against eating some Kinder Joy chocolates recalled by the Italian candy maker Ferrero from the European and United States markets.

The manufacturer of Kinder Joy voluntarily recalled some of its products over increasing concerns that they

might contain salmonella bacteria.

The products recalled by the Italian-based firm included Kinder Happy Moments Milk Chocolate, Kinder Mix Chocolate Treats Basket, and Crispy Wafers Assortment. There have been no reported cases of salmonella infections in Comesa markets including Kenya.

The affected products were manufactured at the company's plant in Belgium where the bacteria were first detected.

AGENCIES



Dar es Salaam residents during the Eid el Fitr festival at the Indian Ocean's Coco Beach Oysterbay in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

## ACT delves into fuel price, living costs debate in style

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for import stability and keeping with foreign debt repayment schedules.

ACT-Wazalendo urged the government to increase import oil reserve capacity, as lack of such facility propels periodic rises in oil prices, citing the Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) as best placed to create room for six month stocks to offset supply emergencies.

Investing in renewable energy to protect fuel supply inward self-reliance plus bringing about price relief and sustainability in domestic fuel use were also suggested, lamenting that shifting from petrol to natural gas had been unduly delayed.

Using the country's resources to recover from energy disasters was vital as we cannot directly address supply gaps if we do not produce energy on our own, he said, appealing to the government to expedite the compressed natural gas processing plant "by involving the public in negotiations and agreements for the project."

"ACT-Wazalendo calls on the government to take responsibility for protecting the people and ensuring their well-being," the statement underlined, stating that the current economic situation requires emergency measures to prevent

the situation from becoming a national disaster.

He cited a study conducted on oil prices in the world market last market as putting a litre of petrol at 1,438.80/-, diesel at 1,401.28/- and the cost of transportation, customs and insurance (CIF) to the port of Dar es Salaam as 100.71/- for petrol and 61.65/- for diesel, per liter.

Before the government hiked taxes and levies the cost of petrol stood at 1,539.51/- and diesel 1,462.93/- per litre at offloading, but a tax hike of 1,321/- per liter of petrol (46.1 percent of original cost) and 1,229.07/- on diesel (45.6 percent of cost) affected the pricing.

The party also feels that the oil procurement system was not in line with the emergency situation and creates a stalemate. Oil was still being sold at market prices where the supply meets short-term needs "without a large reservoir that could meet at least six months' demand."

"Given the realities of oil prices and the impact on the street, the party sees government silence on the rising oil prices and rising living costs as disregard for citizens, who are the biggest victims in the situation. We've seen fit to come up with proposals to save our country from reaching an even more fragile situation," the statement added.

## TAHA: Horticulture fast track route out of poverty

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to increase income, improve food and nutrition security, pushing improved livelihoods plus equitable and inclusive growth, the CEO noted.

Cooperation will be directed at critical components such regulatory changes to facilitate horticultural production, marketing, value addition, nutrition

and increased productivity.

Accessing and spreading the means for technological upgrading through research, outreach, innovation and technology transfer tied to information packaging and dissemination were emphasized in the inked accord, she said.

"Parties therefore agree to enhance and promote commercialization of horticultural value chains, as well as

to implement joint activities in identifying and addressing business enabling environment in horticulture," the MoU indicates.

Attracting trade and investment in the sub-sector is a major objective of the MoU, for enhancement of the business environment, sustainable production and productivity, plus institutional capacity in research and development in horti-

culture, she elaborated.

Market access for horticultural commodities and products and information sharing was similarly recognized, where TAHA has made advances with inroads into key markets in the European Union.

This line of cooperation will help strengthen private sector growth, develop the hard infrastructure in horticulture including market

support infrastructure and irrigation systems, plus commercialising horticultural value chains, she stated.

Massawe noted that the ministry had decided to partner with TAHA in an endeavor to increase horticulture export value to \$2bn that is anchored in the government's 2030 agenda.

Showing appreciation for ministerial commitment, Dr Mkindi said that overwhelm-

ing trust has been bestowed upon TAHA, endorsing partnership in driving the horticulture industry value chain. TAHA cherishes the government for improving the business environment, with most key inputs and technologies being exempt from value added tax and import duties, enabling business initiatives and investment in horticulture to grow by leaps and bounds,

she explained.

The horticulture industry is slowly but surely becoming as major foreign currency earner, with key players pursuing the \$2bn export value in the near future, while pegged at \$779m annually at present.

For close to two decades, TAHA has successfully brought together over 4.5m producers, traders, exporters and processors of the

various horticultural products like flowers, fruits, vegetables, tubers, spices, herbs and seeds from plantation holders and smallholders all using its facilities and trade arrangements.

As it stands, horticulture potential offers a ray of hope for the struggling agricultural sector in the backdrop of declining traditional exports such as coffee and cotton, experts affirm.



## Plans to make changes to the education sector

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

THE government has announced plans to make changes to the education sector in a move aimed at preparing learners to practically understand subjects such as agriculture and science.

Through the programme the government has put in place strategies to prepare teachers through training both locally and abroad.

The plan was announced by Prof Adolf Mkenda, Minister for Education Science and Technology when he opened special training to 322 teachers for agriculture and science drawn from all regions in the country.

The minister said already the government has started prioritizing training for teachers for the subjects to ensure that the intended plan was reached.

He said the aim of the training was to prepare youth who will add value and knowledge to the agriculture sector.

The Director General of the Tanzania Institute of Education (TIE) Dr Aneth Komba said the aim of the training was for capacity building for science teachers and agriculture.

Dr Komba said the aim of the training will enable teachers to get knowledge that will be delivered to learners even at lower levels.

She said the training is meant for the third cohort of teachers from private and public schools who have been given knowledge and are ready to enter the job market.

The Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Office of the President's Office Regional Secretariat and local government, Hadija Mcheka said the training will help as there are a limited number of teachers in the country who are able to teach such subjects.



CCM National Executive Committee member for Dodoma region Ahidi Sinene, plants a tree during the 2,000 trees planting campaign at Mirembe hospital in Dodoma yesterday. Looking on are participants during the campaign. Photo: Correspondent Renatha Msungu.

## One million SMEs to benefit from PASS financial guarantees

By Guardian Correspondent, Geita

de in commercial products in farming, livestock and fishing sectors and created about two million 2.6 million jobs.

He said from all these achievements "I would like to thank our stakeholders, financial institutions and others for more understanding and for their continued to work together in assisting investment in

farming through financial institutions." He said in order to go in tandem with advances in technology to simplify the availability of services to farmers, PASS Trust has created a digital system for the provision of

guarantee services - Digital Credit Guarantee.

He said this inclusive system, apart from simplifying our services, it has also, to a great extent been part of PASS Trust strategies in efforts to

spur Inclusive Green Growth (IGG) that aim to mobilise environmental preservation for sustainable agriculture and Circular Economy.

For his part, Acting Geita Region Administrative Secretary, Herman

Matemu said; "since our region has big opportunities in the crops farming, fishing and livestock keeping sectors I am certain that this meeting will help to spur development for the people and alleviate poverty.



### EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

#### OUTSOURCING OF QUARRY OPERATIONS

- 1.1 MBEYA CEMENT COMPANY LIMITED (MCCL) is a subsidiary of the Holcim Group with its industrial operations based in Plot No. 1/1 Songwe Industrial Area, Mbeya. MCCL is now looking for experienced Companies/Institutions/Firms with capability to manage its Quarry Operations.
- 1.2 MCCL now invites all qualified and interested companies to participate in expression of interest for outsourcing of Quarry Operations for all MCCL Quarries (Limestone, Pozzolana and Clay)
- 1.3 Scope of work includes Drilling, Blasting, Mining and Haulage of materials from quarry to stockpiles within the plant. The interested parties should be able to provide but not limited to the required equipment listed: Excavators, Wheel loaders, Dozers, Dump trucks with FOPS (Falling object protection system), Rock breaker and Drilling machine.
- 1.4 Eligible companies meeting following minimum requirements should respond to this EOI
  - i. Company shall have at least 5 years' experience in provision of quarry operations services (drilling, blasting, mining and haulage).
  - ii. Have financial capacity to provide the requested services
  - iii. Suitable Health, Safety and Environment (HSE), Social and Quality policy.

**Interested Companies are requested to submit the following documents while responding to this EOI:**

- Letter of interest clearly indicating the current project reference, and years of experience in similar services.
- Reference letters from at least 5 clients.
- Audited Financial statements for the year 2021, 2020 and 2019
- List of current Equipment (MHE - Mobile Heavy Equipment) owned by the company with their current operation condition/ status.

Interested companies that meet the minimum requirements and have the capacity to undertake the works mentioned above should express their interest by sending together with a copy of their Contractor Registration Certificate, an email to [mcc.tender@lafarge.com](mailto:mcc.tender@lafarge.com) on or before 14:00 hours East African Time (EAT), on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2022.

Upon sending email subject should indicate: **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - OUTSOURCING OF QUARRY OPERATIONS**



### VACANCY: PROJECT EXECUTANT RESILIENCE FOR PEOPLE AND BIODIVERSITY

WWF is seeking to hire a Project Executant for Resilience for People and Biodiversity to be based in Dar es salaam, Tanzania

#### I. Major Duties and Responsibilities

- \* Implements the above-named project and prepares monthly updates, quarterly and annual technical progress reports.
- \* Development of project annual work plan, budget, fund advance request and concept notes
- \* Ensure smooth cooperation with WWF Finland, other project staff and parties to accomplish project activities and goals.
- \* Financial responsibility may include working within available budgets, managing field budget and allowances for local communities and other project partners.
- \* Creation of high-quality field stories, data bases and undertakes project monitoring and evaluation in collaboration with the Monitoring and Evaluation Officer and the Communications Officer.
- \* Ensure compliance with WWF internal policies and external requirements.
- \* Supports proposal development for other projects within WTL
- \* Under minimal supervision, makes independent decisions based on analysis, experience and judgment.
- \* Responsible for his/her project performance management, through training and career development with the help from the WWF TCO Forest Coordinator.
- \* Identifies and aligns with the core values of the WWF organization: Courage, Integrity, Respect and Collaboration
- \* Supervise and guide the field implementing partners including participating villages
- \* Undertakes any other assignment as assigned from time to time by the Forest Program Coordinator and WTL Lead.

#### Required Qualifications and skills

Bachelor degree on Forestry, Natural Resource Management, Social Sciences, Environmental Science or any other related field. A Master degree can be an added advantage. Five years relevant professional experience in natural resources management, forest landscape restoration and community-based conservation projects and experience in coordinating trainings and meetings. Strong knowledge and understanding of the Theory behind Forest Landscape Restoration, Climate Change and application of Nature-Based Solutions for impactful restoration and community benefits. Understanding of and sensitivity towards, the culture, gender, religion, race, age and livelihoods context of rural coastal communities in Tanzania. A proven ability to work effectively without direct supervision, working in a team and willing to travel regularly and to stay for periods and to travel at short notice. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills and good oral and verbal communication skills in both Kiswahili and English, with an ability to develop strong relations with Government, local NGOs, CSO, private sectors and community partners. Good inter-personal and teamwork skills, networking aptitude and ability to work in multicultural environment. Very good command in English & excellent writing skills and the ability to prepare clear, concise reports.

**Additional information**, including Terms of Reference, can be obtained through web address: [https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs\\_and\\_opportunities/jobs/](https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs_and_opportunities/jobs/).

Applications must include a complete Cover Letter & CV with full contact details of three referees and should be addressed to the People & Culture Manager, via email to: [hresources@wwftz.org](mailto:hresources@wwftz.org) by **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2022 at 4:30 pm**. Only the shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

*Female applicants are strongly encouraged to apply.  
WWF is an equal opportunity employer and committed to having a diverse workforce*

**Note: WWF has a principle of zero-tolerance to fraud and corruption (including kickbacks), if you encounter such incident, report by sending an email to [fcici@wwftz.org](mailto:fcici@wwftz.org)**



## Residents of Mdimni embark on fish farming

By Beatrice Philemon

RESIDENTS of Mdimni in Mkuranga District, Coast Region have embarked on fish farming as an alternative for income generation and a way of conserving the environment.

Chairman for the villagers Said Msati said the fishermen are now forming groups which comprise 16 members each.

"We have decided to embark on this project after discovering that climate change has brought huge effects to Mdimni fishermen," he said.

According to Mdimni fish stocks have declined hence decline in income because the residents depend on fishing for their way of life.

"We believe fish pond farming will create employment for Mdimni residents, especially youth and allow them to improve their livelihood," he said.

He said the clubs will be distributed with fish species as facilitation for the villagers.

According to him, Mkujuli fingerlings, a local name, will be distributed for villagers for fish pond farming.

He said this was a new strategy to let fishermen and villagers speak in one voice on issues of their concern but also to have one voice.

He called on members to make best use of the platform to discuss

issues affecting their businesses, fishing activities to be delivered to authorities.

"We believe through AMCOs it will be easy for members to access fishing gears," he said.

Currently fishermen living at Mdimni village use traditional fishing boats that are very small and unsafe but also use local modes of fishing.

"As fishermen we still need the government's support so that we obtain modern fishing boats that in turn help us operate our fishing activities more easily and increase our catches," he said.

Mdimni village chairman, Adam Ulanga said the village was officially established in 1971 and has 1332 residents, 400 fishermen and 90 households.

Commenting on alternative means to raise income, he said currently other villagers have decided to engage in beekeeping projects, mangrove planting, vegetable farming, environmental conservation and crab fishing projects while others are now engaged in salt production.

He said currently fishermen are struggling to access funds to buy food for their families, something that was not there before while others are now embarking in agricultural activities as casual workers so that they can get money to feed their families but with low payment.



Former MP for Muheza ambassador Adadi Rajabu (R) shares a light moment with Mtindiro ward councillor Mustafa Hatibu (C) and TSN director Farough Baghozah shortly after Eid el Fitr prayers in Muheza district, Tanga region. Photo: Correspondent Steven William

## Over 1,500 Kyela residents homeless after floods washed away 300 houses

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

MORE than 1,500 people in Kyela District, Mbeya Region are in dire need of humanitarian assistance after floods washed away their homes and belongings, authorities have said.

Mbeya Regional Commissioner, Juma Homera told journalists that

heavy rain which pounded the district from 27 to 28 April this year has left the residents with nothing to touch.

RC Homera who was giving an evaluation of the disaster said the government was working on how to assist the residents.

He said the evaluation has shown that more than 300 houses were

washed away at the same the properties such as livestock and other valuables were also washed away.

He said the floods were a result of three rivers namely river Mbaka, Songwe and Kiwira saying his office has written to the prime minister's office responsible for disaster management to work on assistance. "Currently we have used the disaster management office which is here in Mbeya to take emergency assistance such as blankets, bed sheets and others to see how we can help further," he said.

Homera said the residents also require five tonnes of food, 41 camps for those who have been housed in special camps among others.

Homera called upon able Tanzanians to work with the government to assist the people of Kyela specifically with food.

Speaking during Eid players Mbeya region Chief Sheikh Msafiri Njalabaha called upon Tanzanians to pray for Kyela residents.

Affected wards include Katumba Songwe, Mababu, Mwaya, Kan-

junumele, Bujonde, Ndandalo, Mkuyu, Ikolo and Ikama, along with Talatala, Njisi, Ipinda, Makwale, Ndobu and Matema wards. An estimated 10,616 hectares of paddy are likely to have been totally destroyed, he said.

Floods have caused disruption of classes in some primary schools for two days as many roads were

not usable, after intense downpour in Rungwe and Ijeje districts.

The rains resulted in Songwe River overflowing, eroding crops and soaking houses with water, drowning livestock and carrying off the carcasses among debris, damaging roads, washing away bridges and cutting off communications in various wards.

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## Govt reaffirms commitment to engage women, youth in agribusiness

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

THE government has reaffirmed its commitment and determination to leverage women and youth participation in agribusiness opportunities.

Deputy Minister for investment, industries and trade Exaud Kigahe made the remarks at the dialogue to leverage women's and youth participation in agribusiness opportunities in Dodoma recently.

The dialogue was organised by Agriculture Market Development Trust-AMDT. The deputy minister said women and youth should play an active role as the 6th phase government is opening up investment opportunities through agriculture, industries and trade.

He advised that women and youth should form small groups and unite adding that through financial institutions, it will be easier for them to import large bulk of goods and products and reduce unnecessary costs.

He said the government recognizes the importance and the role being played by women and youth to leverage national economy through different sectors.

"Agriculture is the backbone of our national economy. Raw materials from agriculture are mainly used in manufacturing industries. I commend AMDT for organising this dialogue to explore and discuss opportunities available for them.

"Women and youth are the catalyst of development for

any nation. Therefore, they should not be left behind in the process of socio-economic development of the nation," he said.

Economic development depends on industries, trade and agriculture. The government will continue creating conducive environment for local and foreign investment as well as policy and legal frameworks, he added.

He assured women and the youth that the government has already worked on nuisance fees, levies and taxi at the district council levels. Citing an example he said the government has already removed more than 35 nuisance tax and levies.

He urged women and the youth to use the government institutions like TIRDO, SIDO, TANTRADE and BRELA to get trained so that they can be able to produce quality products and goods.

He commended the good work being done by AMDT for working together with the government to find solutions to the challenges facing agriculture development such as markets and value chain development.

He urged the media to give priority women and the youth when reporting saying journalists have key role to play to inform them and the general public at large on different emerging opportunities.

AMDT mission is to unleash large scale systemic change in agricultural market systems that are critical for the productive poor.



Manyara region Special Seats MP Asia Halamga (L) celebrates Eid el Fitr with Endasak secondary school students in Hanang' on Tuesday. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

TPDF Lugalo Golf Club and the family of the late Brig. General Ernest John Galinoma (Retired) invites you to





**MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT**

**SATURDAY**  
**7<sup>th</sup> May, 2022**

Venue  
**TPDF Lugalo Golf Club**

Chief Guest  
**LT. GEN. MATHEW MKINGULE**  
Chief of Staff (TPDF)

Entry  
**15,000/- (Registration Fee)**

**PRIZES TO BE WON**  
**BEGINNERS GOLF CLINIC**  
(For Kids & Adults)

In Partnership with  




# Bahi residents advised to cherish land title deeds

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

BAHI residents in Dodoma have been called upon to value and perceive land farm title deeds as a key to moving out of poverty.

Property and Business Formalisation Programme for Tanzania. (MKURABITA) Chief Executive Officer Dr Seraphia Mgembe made the call when she addressed residents of Msisi and Makanda on the importance of having title deeds to end land conflicts.

"You should not remain behind, use this opportunity to get title deeds so that you are true owners of your land," she said, hailing the government for setting aside funds for the project which she said was going to be beneficial to the residents saying this will make residents be empowered economically.

Msisi Ward Councilor Mathayo Malilo lauded MKURABITA for handing them title deeds but also asked for help from the government to train wananchi so that they understand how to use the

documents to access loans.

"Most of our people do not understand how to use the documents to get loans, if they can be given knowledge then they perform better," he said.

Member of Parliament for Bahi, Kenneth Nollo said there was more to be done in the district especially on documenting the farms which he said was a problem for a long time.

"This will help to address land conflicts which have been a challenge in the district," he said.



Property and business formalisation programme for Tanzania (MKURABITA) coordinator and CEO, Dr Seraphia Mgembe (C) speaks to the residents of Msisi village in Bahi district, Dodoma region on the importance of obtaining farm title deeds. Photo: Renatha Msungu.

## AU condemns deadly attack on army base in Somalia

By Special Correspondent

AFRICAN Union (AU) chairperson Moussa Faki has condemned an attack by al-Shabaab militants on a military base in central Somalia manned by Burundian soldiers.

The AU did not confirm the exact number of casualties suffered in the attack on the base, which is some 130km (80 miles) northeast of the capital, Mogadishu.

However, al-Shabaab militants claim more than 173 soldiers were killed and that they have taken complete control of the AU base.

In a statement, Faki said the "attack will not lessen the determination" of the AU's force in Somalia.

He called on the international community to increase support to the Somali security services and the AU mission.

Faki has also had a phone call with Burundi's president to "pay respects for the sacrifice" of the Burundi peacekeepers.

On Tuesday, Al Shabaab jihadists armed with guns and explosives stormed an African Union base in Somalia triggering a fierce firefight that killed at least 10 Burundian peacekeepers.

The Somali government and the African Union (AU) condemned the "terrorist" attack although they did not disclose how many people had died.

Burundi's army said in a statement that 10 of its soldiers were killed and 25 were injured, while a further five were missing. It said 20 Al Shabaab militants were also killed.

Earlier, a high-ranking Burundian military officer told AFP about 30 soldiers were killed.

"There was heavy fighting and casualties inflicted on both sides," local military commander Mohamed Ali said, adding: "They launched the attack with a car bomb blast before a heavy exchange of gunfire broke out."

It was the first such attack on a peacekeeping base since the AU Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS) replaced the previous AMISOM peacekeeping force on April 1.

Al-Shabaab, which has been waging a deadly insurgency against Somalia's fragile central government for more than a decade, claimed responsibility, saying it had taken control of the camp and claimed to have killed 173 soldiers.

It also released a video showing bodies of what appeared to be slain soldiers lying on the ground, according to the SITE Intelligence Group that monitors extremist groups.

The death toll claims and the video could not be independently verified.

Somalia's government said it "condemns in the strongest possible terms the heinous attack targeting ATMIS" and appealed to the international community to do more to support Somali forces and ATMIS "in effectively combatting terrorism".

## New Omicron subvariant takes hold in US as Covid cases tick up

LOS ANGELES

A New, highly transmissible subvariant of Omicron is spreading rapidly across the US, as Covid-19 cases in the country are ticking up again.

The new strain, called BA.2.12.1, made up 36.5 per cent of new Covid-19 cases in the country in the week ending April 30, according to data released Tuesday by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

The data increased from 26.6 per cent a week before, and 16.7 per cent two weeks prior, CDC data showed.

The majority of Covid-19 cases in the US - around 61 per cent - are still caused by BA.2, which has become the country's dominant variant since March.

Some regions, like the Northeast, are seeing more cases caused by BA.2.12.1 than others. The New York State Department of Health first announced the emergence of the subvariant in mid April. It was responsible for 41.6 per cent of infections across the state as of April 23, according to the latest data of the department.

"BA.2.12.1 has been noted to be of higher concern, given additional mutations," said the department.

BA.2.12.1 appears to be about 25 per cent more transmissible over the BA.2 subvariant, said CDC Director Rochelle Walensky, adding that additional evaluation is currently underway to understand the impact of BA.2.12.1 on vaccine effectiveness.

Besides BA.2.12.1, a pair of new Omicron subvariants has emerged, raising the possibility that people infected by earlier Omicron strains can get reinfected.

The pair, BA.4 and BA.5, have gained increasing attention in South Africa as weekly Covid-19 cases tripled in the last two weeks.

The rapid growth of BA.4 and BA.5 in South Africa has drawn concern from health experts for a potential surge in the US.

"BA.4 and BA.5 are more contagious than BA.1 and BA.2, and have a better shot at evading existing immunity," Zhang Zuofeng, chair of the Department of Epidemiology at the University of California, Los Angeles, said on Tuesday.

Therefore, unvaccinated people who have been infected by Delta, and earlier Omicron strains like BA.1 or BA.2, have higher risk of get reinfected, Zhang said.

However, as the virus stays in the upper respiratory tract and causes less lung infection, it may have limited impact on severe diseases and deaths, Zhang said.

Only a small number of cases of BA.4 and BA.5 have been documented in the US currently.

Zhang said the pair of new variants are likely to cause an increase in new infections in the US, but not like the outbreak caused by the original Omicron variant in January.



## 27th Annual General Meeting

Chairman and Shareholders,

### Re: Notice of the 27th Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the **TWENTY SEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** of CRDB BANK PLC will be held on Saturday, **21st May, 2022** physically at the **Arusha International Conference Centre (AICC), Simba Hall** and virtually commencing at **09:00 a.m.** The Agenda shown below will be transacted:

- 1. Opening of the Meeting.**
- 2. Adoption of the Agenda.**
- 3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Twenty Sixth Annual General Meeting.**
- 4. To deliberate the Matters Arising.**
- 5. Adoption of the Report by those charged with Governance and Audited Financial Statements for year 2021.**
  - 5.1. Report by those charged with Governance.
  - 5.2. Audited Financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2021.
  - 5.3. Declaration of Year 2021 Dividend.
- 6. Directors Remuneration.**
- 7. Appointment of the External Auditors.**
- 8. Election of Board Members**
  - 8.1 One (1) Board Member to represent shareholders owning shares above 1% and below 10%
  - 8.2 Three (3) Board Members to represent shareholders owning shares below 1%
  - 8.3 One Independent Director
- 9. To deliberate on Proposals received from Shareholders.**
- 10. Any other business with leave of the Chair.**
- 11. To set the place, date and venue of the next meeting.**
- 12. Closing of the Meeting.**

### NOTE:

- 1. Virtual Attendance:** The AGM may be attended through the Banks digital channels (SIM Banking, SIM Account and Website [<https://www.crdbbank.co.tz>]) The Bank will send to all shareholders via their mobile phones ID and password information on how a shareholder can access the virtual meeting and participate.
- 2. The Shareholders Register shall be closed from Friday 13/05/2022 and shall be opened on Monday 16/05/2022.**
- 3. All proposals to be discussed under Agenda no. 9 must be received by the Secretary not later than 4.00 p.m. on Friday, 06/05/2022.**
- 4. Papers for the meeting may be collected from CRDB Bank Branches from 10/05/2022 and will also be available in Arusha from 20th to 21st May, 2022 and on the Bank's website on 10/05/2022**
- 5. Costs for transportation and accommodation will be borne by shareholders themselves.**

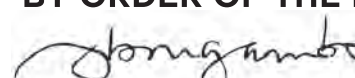
### NOTICE OF SHAREHOLDERS SEMINAR

Notice is hereby given that there will be a Shareholders Seminar on *Significance and procedures on preparing Will and Administration, End of physical CDS Receipts by DSE and Safeguarding your Assets* on 20th May 2022, starting at **9.00 a.m.** at the **Arusha International Conference Centre (AICC), Simba Hall.**

The contact for communication is:

**The Secretary**  
**CRDB Bank Plc**  
**CRDB Bank Headquarters,**  
**P. O. Box 268**  
**Dar-es-Salaam**  
**Tel. no. 022 - 2114237, 2117442 - 7 - Fax or 022 - 2131005**  
**E-mail - shares\_unit@crdbbank.co.tz**

### BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

  
**J. B. Rugambo**  
**COMPANY SECRETARY**

20th April, 2022





CCM Simanjiro district secretary Amos Shimba (L) talks with the party's mirerani ward publicity secretary Happy Urassa (2nd R) and the Zaire branch secretary Adam Komba during his visit to review and inspect ongoing party's elections. Looking on is CCM woman wing district secretary Leokadia Fisso. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

## Tumaini Hospital faces a shortage of medical supplies, councilors warn

By Guardian Correspondent, Hanang'

HANANG' District ward councilors in Manyara Region have called on the Medical Store Department (MSD) to provide adequate medicine to the Tumaini District Hospital, which is currently facing severe shortages of medical supplies.

The problem of drug shortages at the hospital was raised on Monday at the ward councils' meeting, whereby Dawari Ward Councilor, Charles Yona, wanted to know why the drug shortages did exist at the Tumaini District Hospital.

"This is the hospital and all the people of Hanang' depend on it for all kinds of treatment. Now, how come there is no medicine, when the patient arrives he is told to go and buy medicine and come. With this trend, we will cause disasters. Ask the ministry to come up with a lasting solution to this issue," he said.

He also said the hospital, despite being rehabilitated, was still threatened by a shortage of medicines.

In his response, District Councils' community services, education,

health and water committee chairman and the Ishponga Ward Councilor, Festus Mjengi, admitted that there was indeed a drug problem at the hospital, claiming that the problem stemmed from a limited budget for medicines allocated by the government.

Commenting on the move, Hanang' MP, Samuel Hhayuma, said the problem with medicines and medical equipment at the hospital was caused by budget constraints.

Hhayuma said the MSD Director General was removed due to a procurement problem that was hampering access to MSD medicine and performance.

"The MSD debt that they were claiming from Tumaini District Hospital has been paid but they are still not paying for our hospital. I believe that in a short time, the barriers to procurement will end and the people will have access to medicine," said the MP.

Acting District Medical Officer Dr Fredrick Jackoracha said that drug shortages are a national problem, so in order to eliminate the problem; they will have to strengthen the medicine committee.

## AU suggests need for girls to develop applications to fight sexual abuse

By Beatrice Philemon

AFRICAN Union has suggested the need for girls to be at the forefront of developing applications that give their peers an opportunity to report risks and occurrences of harmful practices to the authorities or within safe spaces for immediate action.

AU's director of social development, sport and culture Cisse Mariama Mohamed made the

suggestion in Dar es Salaam recently at the launching ceremony of the Second Phase of the African Girls Can Code Initiative (AGCCI).

"Applications developed by girls through AGCCI project should also look at creating mechanisms for African Girls to lead the fight against Online Child Sexual Exploitation," she said.

She stated: "I'm pleased to

extend the AU's highest compliments and commitment to the 2nd phase of the AGCCI, we are with you in strengthening and operationalizing girl focused learning and skilling in technology as a driving force to empower African Girls with livelihoods that liberate them from harmful practices."

Also as implementing AGCCI, enrolment of trainees should also leave no girl behind includ-

ing girls who dropped out of school due to pregnancy and early marriage, those with disabilities and also capture girls in rural, remote areas and conflict and humanitarian settings.

The training modules must also be child friendly and be made accessible online in diverse languages and formats for girls who are illiterate.

Implementers should seek

ways of including the Girl's Can Code Modules within the national secondary school curriculum to ensure a wider coverage of learning and sustained impact.

Similarly create linkages with corporate bodies and public institutions to further the skills of the girls trained from modules to hands on practice.

"The AGCCI programme is most viable today as we seek

mechanisms to accelerate an End to Harmful Practices on children against a backdrop of unprecedented consequences of the COVID19 pandemic which exacerbated poverty and led to a breakdown of social and judicial systems putting girls at the greatest risk of child marriage and female genital mutilation," she said

The empowerment of girls

with market relevant and in demand employable skills under the AGCCI directly addresses the issue of poverty as a key driver to harmful practices by ensuring that these girls are adequately skilled to earn a reasonable income not only to sustain themselves but also their families who would have otherwise considered them as an asset for redemption from never ending financial burdens.



Nyang'hwale district commissioner David Jamhuri (2nd R) presents incentive prize to Msalala secondary school teacher Mwajabu Ntila during the prize giving ceremony for teachers and students under the programme implemented by Barrick Bulyanhulu in collaboration with district councils in Shinyanga and Geita regions held recently. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Bulyanhulu Mine's school PIP continues to bring more success in Nyang'hwale

THE Performance Improvement Programme (PIP), which is being implemented by Barrick through the Bulyanhulu Mine, in collaboration with Nyang'hwale District Council in Geita Region, has achieved good results by increasing the number of student achievements in the district.

Before this programme was introduced which is targeting Secondary Schools, the performance of Form Four students in the district at Division One level was five students only, but now the number has increased to 55 students.

This was revealed over the weekend during the prize-awarding ceremony for students from various secondary schools who performed well along with teachers who enabled that success through this programme.

District Commissioner, David Jamhuri was the guest at that function which was attended by teachers, parents, students and workers of Barrick.

The programme was launched in 2019 with the aim of raising the performance of secondary school students and reducing truancy in schools, especially for girls.

Due to the positive results of this programme for students, the Community Development Committee (CDC) has been allocating funds each year to achieve its implementation.

Barrick Bulyanhulu Community Relations Manager, Agapiti Paul, said in 2021 the company had allocated 50 million shillings to the Community Project (CSR) in Nyang'hwale District Council for the purchase of textbooks for students and teachers in 10 government secondary schools in the district, to provide incentive prizes to Di-

vision One students, parents of those students, teachers in whose subjects they teach students did well and the respective schools concerned.

Nyang'hwale District Commissioner, David Jamhuri, commended Barrick's efforts to provide incentives for teachers and students with the aim of increasing students' achievement in that district.

"I believe the cooperation of the government with Barrick, through this programme, will bring more success, I urge teachers and students to increase their efforts at all times to enable the government's goal of improving the education sector in the country," he said.

One of the Msalala Secondary School students who benefited from this programme, Egide Halalawe said through this programme students benefit by getting textbooks and school meals and has motivated teachers to teach hard and closely monitor students when they are in their final year.

"We thank Barrick and the District Council for introducing this programme, we believe this programme will enable more students to perform better in their exams including getting Division One and other high grades of achievement," he remarked.

One of the parents Idd John said the initiative is good and encourages children to be more committed also parents who are not financially capable, their children are learning well due to getting sufficient textbooks as well as meals, moreover teachers have been teaching voluntarily students who are in their final year during holidays without asking any payment from parents.

By Special Correspondent

## 20 million at risk of hunger in the Horn of Africa

FROM southern Ethiopia to northern Kenya and Somalia, swathes of land across the Horn of Africa are being ravaged by a drought that has put 20 million people at risk of starvation.

A donor conference last week raised almost \$1.4 billion for the region, which the UN says is facing its worst drought in 40 years.

In the afflicted areas, people eke out a living mainly from herding and subsistence farming.

They are experiencing their fourth consecutive poor rainy season since the end of 2020 - a situation exacerbated by a locust invasion that wiped out crops between 2019 and 2021.

"The number of hungry people due to drought could spiral from the currently estimated 14 million to 20 million through 2022," the UN's World Food Programme (WFP) said last month.

Six million Somalis - 40 percent of the population - are facing extreme levels of food insecurity and there is "a very real risk of famine in the coming months" if current conditions prevail, the UN humanitarian response agency OCHA said last week.

Another 6.5 million people in Ethiopia are "acutely food insecure", it said, as well as 3.5 million in Kenya.

Across the region, one million people have been driven from their homes by a lack of water and pasture, and at least three million head of livestock have perished, OCHA said.

"We must act now... if we want to prevent a humanitarian catastrophe," the Food and Agriculture Organization's representative to the African Union, Chimimba David Phiri, said at a UN briefing in Geneva in April.

Experts say extreme weather events are happening with increased frequency and intensity due to climate change.

Dire conditions in the Horn of Africa 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.

UNICEF Executive Director, Catherine Russell said 10 million children in Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia are in need of urgent life-saving support because of the crisis.

"Overall 1.7 million children are severely malnourished across the sub-region," she said in a statement after a four-day visit to Ethiopia last week. Russell said a lack of clean water was increasing the risk of disease among children, while hundreds of thousands had dropped out of school, many having to travel long distances

in search of food and water.

East Africa endured a harrowing drought in 2017 but early humanitarian action averted a famine in Somalia. But in 2011, 260,000 people - half of them children under the age of six - died of hunger in the troubled country; partly because the international community did not act fast enough, according to the UN.

Beyond the direct and potentially deadly consequences on the people affected, the shortage of water and grazing land is a source of inter-communal conflict, particularly among herders.

The drought also threatens the animal world. Livestock such as cattle - an essential source of subsistence in the region - are dying en masse.



## Mbulu District officials ban illegal stone, sand mining

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbulu

MBULU District Council has banned illegal stone and sand mining due to serious environmental reasons and loss of revenue.

District Council Executive Director Abubakari Kuuli made the ban when speaking to experts, ward and village leaders in the district.

"I'm banning this mining and most of them do not have permits, as they do not have permits they do not pay taxes, they must now stop immediately," he said, urging people to expose arbitrary mining so that the council can control and improve the environment.

Hydom ward councilors Nasaeli Sulle and Masieda ward councilor Nicomedya Nada altogether admitted to the challenge,

saying it needs swift action to restore the degraded environment.

To make matters worse, the stone and sand miners are also affecting various water sources and even their safety is at stake.

"We have got to the point where we have to control these people and enforce existing laws, otherwise we will be left with holes everywhere," said Nicomedya.

Herman Hando praised the government's move to ban, arbitrary stone and sand mining which has led to huge holes that endanger the safety of children and the elderly.

Mbulu District is one of the six districts of the Manyara Region of Tanzania. It is bordered to the north by the Arusha Region and Lake Eyasi, to the east by the Babati Rural District, to the south by the Hanang District, and to the west by the Singida Region.



Ushetu legislator in Shinyanga region, Emmanuel Cherehani (L) speaks with residents of Uyogo ward yesterday during his visit to listen and resolve various challenges facing them. Photo: Correspondent Shaban Njia

## Mufindi District embarks on land use project to address conflicts

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Iringa

MUFINDI District is set to implement a land use plan in two villages of Ikongo and Ikongo Juu in a pilot project aimed at addressing land conflicts.

The project which is co-implemented by Landesa Tanzania and Pelum will focus on proper land management systems as well as best practices to facilitate policy change.

Speaking at training to the implementing team and journalists recently, Landesa programme direc-

tor Dr Monica Mhoja said the main objective of the meeting was to initiate a land use planning process in the two villages.

She said the villages have never had any land use plan after splitting them and the project will in the end produce land use plan as well as survey and allocate relevant areas.

Landesa has four years of operation in Tanzania but has more than 50 years in various countries around the world, where more than one million people have been able to benefit from advice on various

land issues.

Dr Mhoja explained that the establishment of the organisation has been focused on assisting the government in looking at what goals are and addressing challenges in land matters which in the end will facilitate policy change.

"When looking at various factors we have realized that there is need for a land use planning policy so that it can better manage the land use planning law," said Dr Mhoja.

She noted that in carrying out various responsibilities they are collab-

orating with various stakeholders including Pelum Tanzania who have focused on land surveying in collaboration with the relevant councils.

According to her, Pelum has worked for a long time in various councils and this time they have decided to work together by looking at gender-inclusive policies and found it worthwhile to work with stakeholders who work closely with the community.

In the areas where Pelum was working, one of them was Mufindi for marginalised groups in land ac-

quisition, for example, groups of widows, people with disabilities, youth and women.

Dr Mhoja said that they were mobilising women and men to see the importance of owning land together as husband and wife and getting a joint ownership document.

"We hope to also provide certificates (CCROs) to women, youth, the elderly, people with disabilities, poor households and many more," said Dr Mhoja.

She explained that the existence of village land use will alleviate pov-

erty and conflicts.

Program Officer from Pelum Tanzania Angolile Rayson said they have been working in Mufindi District Council since 2013, undertaking various projects, including land use planning and land rights.

Their areas of work includes projects related to empowering or enhancing land ownership for small-holder farmers and pastoralists and have so far reached 15 villages with village land use planning issues and eventually issued more than 10,000 private land titles (CCROs).



A chicken farmer in South Africa

## Global affairs affect prices of poultry products in S.Africa

DURBAN

THE South Africa Poultry Association (SAPA) says high prices of maize and soya beans have risen even further due to the international conflict in Ukraine. This has resulted in increased costs for poultry farmers, which in turn has led to higher prices for poultry products.

Izaak Breitenbach, General Manager of the association, said the poultry industry had been struggling with higher costs since last year. "We faced increased costs in the price of maize and soybean last year. There was a R65 increase in the price of maize and soybean and a 20% increase in chicken feed. An increase in input costs is passed on to chicken products." The price of fertiliser, crude oil and soya beans had increased dramatically and could be attributed to the Russia/Ukraine conflict, he said.

"Ukraine is an exporter of maize and soybean, which is affected by the war with Russia. At the moment we are seeing historically high prices of chicken feed. Other countries have also felt the strain. Brazil has also increased the price of chicken products by 22% due to increased input costs."

Mervyn Abrahams, of the Pietermaritzburg Economic Justice & Dignity Group, said that the organisation had noted a major increase in the price of poultry products, among others.

"A number of factors are contributing to increased food prices - the increase in the fuel price

and electricity tariff and the Russia and Ukraine conflict. The increase in frozen chicken pieces has been staggering: in April 2021 the price was about R330. This year April the price increased to R374 - an increase of over R40 and a 13% year-on-year increase."

The overall price of a basic food basket has increased from R4 185 in April 2021 to R4 529 last month, an increase of R344.

"The problem in South Africa is that when prices go up, wages and salaries don't go up at the same rate. That is why we find the consumer struggling."

The rising food costs come amid price hikes for both illuminating paraffin and diesel this week, with a marginal decrease in the price of both grades of petrol. Minister of Minerals and Energy Resources Gwede Mantashe yesterday announced a 12c/litre decrease to both grades of petrol, but low-sulphur 50ppm diesel will increase by 92c a litre and the regular 500ppm will see a 98c rise. Illuminating paraffin will rise by 79.6c/litre.

The prices come into effect today. Layton Beard, spokesperson for the AA, welcomed the petrol price decrease, but said the price of illuminating paraffin was particularly worrying as this was used for cooking, heating and lighting and comes as South Africa enters winter.

Prof Bonke Dumisa, an independent economic analyst said: "The best we can do is buying necessities and save money to help with rising costs."

## UNESCO's flagship O3 programme empowers 30m learners to prevent HIV, reduce EUP, GBV

By Guardian Reporter

THE United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)'s flagship Our Rights, Our Lives, Our Future (O3) programme is holding its Annual Review and Partners' Meeting from May 4 to 6, this year in Johannesburg, South Africa.

In its statement, UNESCO said that the meeting will be opened by the South Africa's Minister for Basic Education Angie Motshekga.

It said that the O3 programme run in partnership with ministries of education and health supports 33 countries across sub-Saharan Africa to work towards a region where ad-

olescents and young people are empowered, healthy and resilient and have the capacity to reach their full potential and contribute to the development of their community, country and region.

"As 2021 marked the fourth year of the largest programme in Africa on sexuality education (SE) as well as safe, inclusive and healthy learning environments," the statement reads in part.

UNESCO, its partners, and high-level representatives from Education Ministries, are gathering to review O3's transformative results focusing on children, adolescents and young people.

This include 30 million learners received sexuality education in 61,000 primary and secondary schools, more than 50 million young people in and out of school were reached through multiple media platforms such as television lessons, interactive radio lessons, social media and mobile applications.

It also include 325,000 in-service and pre-service teachers have been trained and equipped to deliver quality, age appropriate and culturally sensitive SE, adolescents and young people with disabilities were supported to access sexual and reproductive health information and services.

More than 30,000 parent-teacher associations were also reached as key partners in the health and well-being of children and young people, 20 million community members were sensitized to the importance of keeping girls in school, more than 700 religious leaders have been trained to train others in supporting adolescent's health and well-being.

2021 was also the first year of UNESCO's O3PLUS programme, which targets young people in higher and tertiary education institutions.

O3PLUS, along with relevant regional structures, national ministries, higher and tertiary education institutions (HTEIs) and key part-

ners, supports innovation in access to life skills-based sexuality education and sexual and reproductive health services for HTEI students while advocating for policy and practice changes to make campuses safe and inclusive learning environments for students and staff.

Through the generous support of the governments of Sweden, Norway, France, Switzerland, and Ireland, and the Packard Foundation, these programmes align with UNESCO's current efforts to address the intersections of Sustainable Development Goal 4 (education), 3 (health), and 5 (gender equality) and contribute to a sustainable future for Africa's children and young people.



# The Guardian

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THURSDAY 5 MAY 2022

Taking A New Look  
At The News  
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

## 'Panya road': Urbanised form of decadent hunter-gatherer society

FEW things are as disturbing on the public mind in the city of Dar es Salaam as the rise of groups of juvenile delinquents, petty armed robbers with machetes and knives, ready to harm anyone they are robbing, and especially with the slightest sign of resistance. It isn't the first time such groups have come as over the past decade they have come and gone, depending on what happens in the streets, and definitely, the diligence of the police force. Yet it appears that each time the police are taken unawares, and lately many minor case inmates were freed, and it is likely some experienced organisers got loosened.

Thus it is a familiar cycle of re-arresting wrongdoers after clemency gives them a new opportunity to wreak havoc in society and feel proud about it, as many of them don't seem to bother if they are free or in prison, so long as they aren't harmed. Crowds often lynch solitary criminals caught in the act, but it is a different matter when an armed crowd approaches a shop or an individual in the streets; the shutters come down and people run for safety. By the time the police arrive all has returned to an eerie calm, and can only start knowing who was there by investigation rather than by actually apprehending the delinquents.

Up to now President Samia Suluhu Hassan has addressed the upsurge on two occasions, first in the May Day ceremonies, in a rapid remark to caution the youths to stop the habit, but it evidently fell on deaf ears. Then with the Eid Baraza at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre the president sort of underlined to police officers and the regional administration to see the back of this anomaly.

Experience shows that it will not last long as it's entirely spontaneous and arises from the fearlessness tied to a stick of hashish, awareness of momentary invincibility, the thrill at crowds running away from them, and cash.

One feature of such phenomena is that there is an underlying copy-book from which the youths imitate, though it is unclear who has been there, sees how it happens and then puts it to application in densely populated streets with juveniles hungry for cash - and ready for action. They are also in an age group where thinking up to where the nose ends is enough to rush into action, without a clear idea of what happens next, what experts call 'sustainability' of such actions. Robbers plan out operations, unlike them.

It is not easy to map out how a 'panya road' group comes up but a few of those interviewed or asked questions by some investigative reporters seem to link the actions with excitement after smoking. This is consonant with how hunting expeditions, cattle rustling and primitive warfare operations are conducted, that a whipping up ritual is conducted to put village youths on the highest possible state of excitement, where they now resemble a pack of predators rather than a group of village youths. Instead of village elders organizing the hunt (including rustling) conducting the ritual, it is an ex-inmate, a hero to his street admirers, who shows them what to do, with the personality cult strengthened by the wish in all of them to be heroes as well. It is like a ritual to prove one's worth as in tribal circumcision and then being given a bride; the parameters aren't strictly speaking far-fetched. Let 'panya road'

## With city bus fares rising to 500/-: The value of coins is further eroded

ONE way to look at a country's economy is to take a close look at the currency, what are its minimum and maximum values and what those values can buy.

In East Africa, the three original member states of the East African Community, all use a currency called the shilling but its value is one thing in one country and another thing in other countries.

The critical period starts around 1971 to 1978 for a start, and then the 1980s decade as a whole. By the time currency values stabilized in the 1990s, current shapes had taken form, where the Kenyan shilling isn't far from 100shs to the dollar, and Tanzania's shilling at 1000shs.

Constant depreciation in the value of currencies to the dollar has taken different shapes in the proceeding 30 years, with the original line of motion more or less maintained.

The relative strength of each currency vis a vis another has tended to remain stable over the period, for instance Tshs 20 to Ksh1 for more than a decade, meanwhile as depreciation against the dollar is equally limited.

The turn to Tshs2000 against the dollar has been maintained within small margins for over a decade, as did the 400/- short trips bus fares.

When the bus share shifted from 300/- to 400/- it dramatically altered the value of the 1,000/- note, as one no longer had three clear bus trips and petty change, but two bus trips and some change.

This kind of transition makes an impact in the day to lives of those who live on petty business and low earnings in general, and at times one notices fewer people in buses, before people make adjustments to what they charge in goods or services to survive. Not

everyone can recover those losses, first with bus fares and then with price adjustment for various goods, including staples, so on the whole people tend to become poorer.

At the level of policy, there is a surprising gap of how such situations can be interpreted, as to trade unions it is even further proof that salaries should be raised, while realistically speaking such rises will push up the prices of goods further even if bus fares stable for the foreseeable future.

With people in general having less money for goods (as fares are more costly, and other items), not each producer will be able to raise prices to cover for higher wages, and thus many factories and other small businesses close down.

The trick in those issues is to realize that the government can order wage rises if it wants, but it can't order small businesses or large ones to hire people - and indeed even, really, to remain in business.

That point doesn't seem to be grasped at the level of dialogue as conducted in the legislature and in the media, where salary rises appear to be a popular topic, and hesitant to say it is for civil servants or across the board.

Rising fares risk making the wrong point about misery of low salaries; but the real point is the weak currency, not striving to compensate for the diminished earnings of any particular group. Bus fares are a thermometric reflection of currency value at the lowest level of purchasing power; it has taken a hit.

It is simply a moment of taking stock of how poverty is eating into lower levels of society, not to listen to those who want compensation for higher fares, as if everyone is employed, or can get more cash as well.

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## Roads programme essential for progress



By Special Correspondent

TRANSPORT is one of the critical building blocks of any modern economy and the widespread neglect of roads in recent years is being addressed in a major way with the second year of the three-year Emergency Road Rehabilitation Programme 2 already in full swing.

The scale of this programme can be seen from the \$17 billion budget this year. This is in addition to the \$16 billion of normal budget, the money from the Zimbabwe National Road Administration, with the Government, through Parliament, effectively more than doubling the amount to be spent, so allowing a lot of catch up work.

Last year saw the Government not just maintaining its programme in rural areas and along national highways, but finding a loophole in the local government law, which gives independence to municipalities for things like city roads, by declaring the appalling state of urban roads a national disaster, which was at that time a reasonable description.

The Zinara funds are automatically spread across the country. Licence fees, and the police are certainly ensuring these are now collected, tend to be distributed according to where the licensed vehicles are based, so towns and cities get the bulk of this cash.

The toll fees, paid by those who use the network of roads, tend to go on the national highways and longer and so rural feeder roads.

The extra budget from the Treasury is fairly distributed where it is most needed, so everyone gets a share. One interesting point is that the Government is acting as a national Government rather than playing politics.

Most of the repairs, rebuilding and new building of urban roads are done on the roads that run through constituencies won by opposition parties in recent elections, including the set of by-elections last month, but that work contin-

ues with a high priority this year. What is now most important is that there is central planning and policy through the Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure Development.

It is impossible to fix everything simultaneously, but with a co-ordinated plan running over three years the bits will all fit together.

Some of the progress comes from earlier work in the Second Republic.

Zinara is the obvious example which had to be reformed and rebuilt itself, and the corruption that was endemic rooted out, so it was both collecting the licence fees and the tolls and was spending the low allocated percentage on administration.

This means that the money it collects goes largely on roads, rather than into pockets.

The problem of councils, basically urban councils, sidetracking Zinara money into other accounts has also been stopped and Zinara has made it clear it wants to see the accounts of the road accounts before it hands out any more cash.

At the same time the contracting has been tightened up. By now the Transport Ministry knows who can be on the approved list of suppliers and road buildings and who needs to be excluded, or at least closely watched. There have been the odd duds, but we learn.

The days when someone was given contracts for being a brother-in-law are over and very precise contracts, specifying exactly what needs to be done and by when are

now the norm.

The contractors, who are paid by the kilometre not the week, are also becoming more efficient and so packing in more work each week, with of course the inspector coming round to check on just what they are doing so no one cheats or skimps.

Although a lot of progress has already been made and some quite ambitious plans have been announced for this year, it might take more than this year and next year to catch up on the years of neglect and the programme could well have to continue.

At the same time, the local authorities who are supposed to take a lead in road maintenance at least, need to get their act together, or have their act put together by the Transport and Local Government Ministries.

Many rural district councils are already doing this. Along with clinics and schools the road graders, an expensive item, feature in the spending of devolution funds as these councils respond actively to pressure from their residents, who all want usable roads, ones that can bring trucks and buses to their farms.

Now urban councils have to follow suit and get their act together. While arterial roads and the main link roads have been, or are being, rebuilt by the Emergency Government programme, driving off the highway into a suburb is generally a nightmare.

Not only have some quite decent

roads built last century been neglected, but also some of the more modern suburban roads were built to an exceptionally low standard and have fallen to bits in less than a decade.

Fairly obviously some more modern councils were prepared to either accept low standards from developers, or were quite unable to enforce standards their professionals set. Or perhaps some of the road money was diverted.

The emergency programme in rural areas ties in with the inputs and marketing schemes set up by Government, or backed by Government. It is not much use giving inputs and providing guaranteed markets for surpluses if the lorries cannot get to the farms reasonably easily.

It is the same in urban areas. The emergency programme by Government has given the desperate attention required to roads that can move materials into factory areas and goods out and get the workforce to and from work.

Harare City Council had done a bit of work before the Government took over, but just on roads in Borrowdale, Greendale and Highlands which was all very nice but hardly the most critical.

Again fixing public transport and buying regular batches of new buses for Zupco requires that the roads these buses use are usable and that we are not seeing buses off the road each month waiting for a new set of shock absorbers.



# Transitional justice in the DRC: How the UN has put it in a drawer

By Luc Henkinbrant

ON December 20, the United Nations Security Council extended the mandate of its mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), for one more year. But the resolution adopted makes no mention of any task actively involving it in the implementation of transitional justice. In this opinion piece, the author argues that the UN and the military courts have swept the 2010 Mapping Report under the carpet, while abuses against the population continues.

The now famous "Mapping Report" published in October 2010 by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), listed 617 serious "incidents," most of which constituted mass crimes committed between 1993 and 2003 on the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) which were pre-qualified as crimes against humanity, war crimes and even, in the case of the massacre of thousands of Hutu refugees, possible genocide. A decade later, almost none of these international crimes have been prosecuted, whether by a Congolese court, an international criminal court, or on the basis of universal jurisdiction.

None of these crimes has given rise to any work of remembrance or truth-seeking mechanism worthy of the name. None of the individual victims and none of the victimized communities have been granted reparations, individual or collective, material or symbolic. There has been no guarantee of non-repetition through a reform and clean-up of the security sector. In short, none of the main mechanisms of transitional justice have been put in place in the DRC, despite the massive presence of the United Nations there for more than 20 years.

In the preface to the report, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights at the time Navanethem Pillay noted that it "looks to the future by identifying several paths that Congolese society can take to come to terms with its past". She stated that "although it is primarily up to the government of the DRC and its people to define and implement an approach to transitional justice, they must be able to count on the support of the international community in this regard", and she asked the United Nations to "fully support the human rights stocktaking exercise undertaken in the country by the OHCHR".

More than 11 years later, where do we stand?

"A report is gathering mould"

In December 2018, during his Nobel Peace Prize acceptance speech, Congolese doctor Denis Mukwege said: "A report is gathering mould in an office drawer in New York. It was drafted following professional, thorough investigations into war crimes and human rights violations perpetrated in Congo. This investigation explicitly names the victims, the places and the dates, but leaves the perpetrators nameless. (...) What is the world waiting for to take this into account?" Lacking a response to his question, the Nobel Peace Prize winner was left proposing in June 2021, a note of "Advocacy for a holistic national strategy for transitional justice in the DRC".

It is disturbing to note that Security Council Resolution 1991, adopted a few months after the publication of the Mapping Report, is completely silent on the follow-up that should be given to it. The resolution speaks in vague and general terms only of "promoting lasting reconciliation in the Democratic Republic of Congo by continuing the fight against impunity". It is not surprising that the United Nations, through MONUSCO, the UN Joint Human Rights Office, the UNDP, etc. is only developing a minimal transitional justice programme in the DRC.

"A sham justice system"

Of the 617 "incidents" listed in the Mapping Report, only two, the so-called Milobs incident and the Ankoro incident, were prosecuted before Congolese military courts. The paragraphs devoted to the Ankoro case are worth reading. "A careful reading of the decision suggests a lack of impartiality and independence," says the report. To the point that "this trial was considered by national NGOs and victims to be impunity, using a sham justice system set up to shield the defendants from prosecution".

This court case (as well as many others in recent times) illustrates the urgent need to remove the jurisdiction of military courts to prosecute alleged perpetrators of international crimes. Their serious shortcomings and weaknesses are detailed at length in the report: "One of the major weaknesses of the judicial system in the DRC has always been the lack of independence of the courts and tribunals from the executive, legislative and administration structures of the State. Interference and interference in judicial matters by political and military authorities is common and well known". The Mapping Report recalls the principles of the United Nations, one of which states that "in all circumstances, the jurisdiction of military courts should be set aside in favour of the jurisdiction of the ordinary courts to conduct inquiries into serious human rights violations".

Since then, Congolese military tribunals have continued to receive support from the United Nations and international NGOs, and have pursued a "prosecutorial strategy" focusing on cases primarily of sexual violence, with the automatic (and often abusive) characterization of acts of violence as crimes against humanity or war crimes. There is an urgent need to stop being naive or complacent. The result that political and military authorities expect from these military justice proceedings is purely "for show". In reality, the hidden but real objective of these trials or, in many cases, of these parodies of trials, is to mask the complete or almost total inaction of Congolese justice on the prosecution of international crimes.

It would be ridiculous to pretend that the total lack of independence and serious shortcomings in terms of the right to a fair trial denounced by the 2010 Mapping Report have since disappeared as if by magic or through a slew of so-called "capacity building" programmes. All this makes it incomprehensible and even shocking that the United Nations and several international NGOs (TRIAL International, RCN/Justice & Democracy, Avocats sans frontières, Physicians for Human Rights, etc.) continue to support the military justice system, which, in contradiction to legislative changes, continues to exercise a virtual



monopoly on the prosecution of international crimes.

**Truth-seeking and reparations on hold**

Despite the recommendations of the Mapping Report, the UN has supported almost no serious initiative to investigate the truth about the mass crimes committed during the ten-year period covered by the report. The few truth-seeking activities supported by UN agencies focus on the more recent past of mass crimes committed in Kasai.

This approach prioritizes non-judicial transitional justice mechanisms, with a real risk that this will be at the expense of judicial mechanisms and guarantees of non-repetition, such as the security sector clean-up process. While welcoming some progress, such as the adoption of a provincial edict creating a provincial Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission in Central Kasai, the Congolese Society for the Rule of Law, in its many reports and communications, points out that "the three priority cases (Mulombodi, Nganza and Tshisuku) referred to [the military prosecutor] are inexplicably slow".

The Mapping Report also makes numerous recommendations on reparations, concluding that a compensation fund would be an appropriate mechanism. But here again, the technical assistance provided by the specialized agencies of the United Nations has been terribly inconsistent. How else can one explain the fact that the only government initiative is a very recent and questionable draft ministerial decree "establishing the statutes of a public institution called the National Fund for Reparations to Victims of Sexual Violence and Other Serious Crimes in the Democratic Republic of Congo"?

Institutional reforms and guarantees of non-repetition In 2010, the Mapping Report noted that, as in the justice sector, reforms of the security forces, particularly the police and the army, had been undertaken at the beginning of the transition in the DRC. But it added: "However, it is regrettable that transitional justice has not been taken into account in any way in these processes", which would have allowed for vetting measures aimed at ensuring that "state officials who are personally responsible for gross human rights violations, in particular those in the army, security services, police, intelligence services and judiciary, should no longer exercise their functions within state institutions".

The United Nations is well aware of the individuals potentially targeted by these measures. While the identity of the alleged perpetrators of some of the crimes listed in the Mapping Exercise is not mentioned in the report, it has been recorded in a confidential database of the project submitted to the High Commissioner for Human Rights. There is also a second database. This is the database of the MONUSCO Profiling Unit, which is responsible for examining the past actions of members of



the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Congo (FARDC) concerning respect for international humanitarian law and human rights in the context of the UN's "due diligence policy" and provision of UN support to non-UN security forces.

It is understandable that these databases are used as part of the "due diligence policy". It is far less understandable that they are not used in a vetting process to ensure that senior FARDC officers who are alleged to have committed gross human rights violations are no longer able to remain in post. It is even less understandable that these two databases are not used to launch criminal proceedings against them.

**Non-assistance to people in danger**

One can only note the shocking apathy of the United Nations with regard to the implementation of transitional justice mechanisms in the DRC and bitterly regret that transitional justice is largely absent from the "strategic documents" that guide its action in this country. We would cite, among others: the Security Council resolutions adopted since the publication of the Mapping Report; the Joint Justice Reform Support Programme (2020-2024), in which only two lines and a footnote are devoted to transitional justice; and the MONUSCO withdrawal plan, in which transitional justice mechanisms are not even mentioned.

These astonishing shortcomings of the United Nations are carefully concealed behind statements welcoming the progress made and congratulating the Congolese authorities. The Secretary-General, for example, "is encouraged by the government's commitment to the advancement of transitional justice, as evidenced by its programme of action and the recent establishment of a joint commission, composed of representatives of the national authorities and the UN, to develop a roadmap", and adds: "I am encouraged by the progress made in establishing transitional justice measures in the Kasai region, which is essential for its stability". For its part, the Security Council, in a recent resolution, "welcomes the steps taken by the Congolese government towards the establishment of a national transitional justice strategy". And not to be outdone, the Human Rights Council "welcomes the process under way of implementing the transitional justice mechanism".

**An inferior substitute for transitional justice**

In reality, there is no true "implementation process" of transitional justice under way in the DRC. At most, there are "measures" being prepared by the government that risk putting in place an inferior substitute.

We have already seen that serious reservations have been expressed about the proposed National Reparation Fund. There are equally strong reservations about

the establishment of a "National Commission for Transitional Justice and Reconciliation" contained in another draft decree prepared by the Ministry of Human Rights. If examined closely, this NCTJR would in reality be nothing more than a poor copy of the first Truth Commission that the DRC had from 2003 to 2006, which completely failed. It will not be able, as it claims, to "implement the national policy and strategy of transitional justice in the Democratic Republic of Congo", since this policy has not been defined beforehand, but will instead be a means of protecting the perpetrators of abuses from future legal proceedings.

**A "Kasai Model" of Transitional Justice?**

Kasai has recently been held up as a "model." Since 2016, the Kasai region has experienced large-scale violence that has left thousands dead. As a result, the Human Rights Council decided in June 2017 to appoint a team of international experts to visit the area. In late 2018, the UN Peace Building Fund funded the Peace, Justice, Reconciliation and Reconstruction in Central Kasai project. Implemented by UNDP, MONUSCO's human rights office and the international NGO Search for Common Ground, the programme aimed to put in place transitional justice mechanisms. But three years later, a question arises: can this "transitional justice programme in Kasai" be replicated and extended throughout the Democratic Republic of Congo? The answer is no, for several reasons.

The programme is far from having achieved its objective. Although an edict creating a provincial Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission in Central Kasai was adopted, it exists only on paper. The various forms of reparations (individual and collective, material and symbolic) are far from having been granted to the victims. In the wake of the latest Security Council resolution, the Congolese Society for the Rule of Law, the most active NGO on this question in Kasai, issued a statement in which it "continues to express serious doubts about the willingness of the government of the Republic to fight impunity" and fears that MONUSCO's support on this issue is limited to the North and South Kivu provinces and Ituri.

There is also another reason why "replication" is even more impractical. The context of the mass crimes committed in Kasai in the recent past has almost nothing to do with the context(s) of the mass crimes committed in the more distant past in eastern DRC. The vast majority of the crimes reported in the Mapping Exercise were committed in the context of an international or internationalized armed conflict that involved two or more states (Zaire/DRC, Rwanda, Uganda, Burundi, etc.), thus qualifying as war crimes. In Kasai, the majority of the crimes reported in the International Expert Team report were committed in a completely different context - that of an internal armed conflict involving the national defence and security forces, the Kamuina Nsapu and Bana Mura militias.

**What are the causes of this UN passivity?**

The absence of a serious initiative to bring to justice those responsible for Congo's suffering remains incomprehensible to the Nobel Peace Prize winner. In his latest book, "The Power of Women", Mukwege recalls how, elsewhere, the international community has acted, most often through Security Council resolutions: "The genocides in the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda gave rise to ad hoc international courts that have indicted 250 of the worst criminals.

The Special Court for Sierra Leone established in 2002 investigated the civil war that ravaged the West African country in the 1990s, and in 2012 it found former president Charles Taylor guilty of war crimes. A criminal court was established in 2003 in collaboration with international aid to prosecute the leaders of the Khmer Rouge who caused the deaths of more than 1.5 million people in Cambodia over four years during the 1970s."

So why, once published, was the Mapping Report put in a drawer at UN headquarters, where more than ten years later this colossal work condemned to irrelevance still lies? Mukwege, in his book, dares to answer: "A first draft of the report was leaked, and the media focused on the role of Rwandan troops in the atrocities committed and the hypothesis that the massacre of Hutu refugees on Congolese territory could amount to genocide. The Rwandan government 'categorically rejected' this idea and said it was an attempt to 'validate the theory of double genocide', according to which there was a second genocide against Hutus in the DRC.



# Beijing 2022 legacy turned into high-quality assets benefiting people

By He Yong

**Y**ANQING Olympic Zone in the Yanqing competition zone of the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics and Paralympics, which has been officially approved by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and thus become the third area in Beijing titled "Olympic" after Beijing's Olympic Park and Winter Olympic Park, is slated to open to the public on April 29 and operate in all seasons.

Located on the Xiaohaituo Mountain in Yanqing district, Beijing, the Yanqing Olympic Zone consists of venues and facilities for the 2022 Winter Olympics and Paralympics including the National Alpine Skiing Center, National Sliding Center, and the Winter Olympic and Paralympic Village in Yanqing district. It is one of the important legacies left by Beijing 2022.

As the core area of the Yanqing competition zone, the Yanqing Olympic Zone is expected to be developed and exploited in many ways based on its three functional sections, namely core area of mountain and outdoor sports, indoor leisure and recreational activity area, and comprehensive service area for visitors.

According to an executive of the Yanqing Olympic Zone, it will build an international ski resort that features skiing-related facilities and services that suit visitors' needs for mountain and outdoor sports, health care, vacation, recreation and leisure.

While keeping the functions of hosting international high-level alpine skiing competitions and satisfying the training needs of professional athletes, the National Alpine Skiing Center will be moderately transformed so as to function as an alpine skiing training base, ski school, etc. with a multi-dimensional skiing training and teaching system, according to the executive.

The National Sliding Center, which is dubbed the "Flying Snow Dragon", will remain a competition venue and be used for undertaking and hosting high-level competitions while providing professional training fields for national sports teams, the executive said.



Xidazhuangke village located near the Winter Olympic and Paralympic Village for Beijing 2022 in Yanqing district, Beijing, is expected to build a culture exhibition zone featuring homestay hotels in mountain village in northern China. File photo

"Retaining memories of Beijing 2022 while providing characteristic experiences is expected to be a major feature of the Yanqing Olympic Zone," said Fu Liansheng, chairman of a company based in Yanqing district that provides services and products related to leisure and fitness activities.

The Yanqing Olympic Zone will preserve all the landscape elements of the Beijing 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, according to Fu, who added that the office of the head of the Winter Olympic and Paralympic Village in Yanqing district will remain open to visitors and the ornaments featuring the official mascots of the Games, Bing Dwen Dwen and Shuey Rhon Rhon, which is popular among athletes, have also been kept where they were.

In addition, the resort hotel of the Winter Olympic and Paralympic Village retains facilities set up for the Games, including the exhibition areas of traditional culture and traditional Chinese medicine culture, the post office, and the souvenir shop, and will

hold Beijing Winter Olympics-themed exhibitions to help visitors experience the atmosphere of the grand event.

The mountain valley where the Yanqing Olympic Zone is situated enjoys beautiful natural landscape, abundant animal and plant resources and ice and snow resources.

Based on the natural resources of Xiaohaituo Mountain, Yanqing Olympic Zone will launch a series of activities, including cycling race, music festival, cross-country race, and mountaineering festival, by leveraging the influence of key competitions and activities and making good use of leading global resources and activities to which Yanqing Olympic Zone owns intellectual property rights, Fu said, noting that the Xiaohaituo Mountain will be turned into a tourist attraction where tourists can enjoy the view of blossoms in spring, escape the summer heat, view splendid mountain scenery in autumn, and play with snow in winter.

In an effort to make sure it can operate all year round, Yanqing Olympic Zone will start a school to cultivate talents including pro-

fessionals providing services for skiers in winter and mountain guides who help climbers in summer. It will also build an integrated camp that combines training field, accommodation, and teaching activities.

Xidazhuangke village, located near the Winter Olympic and Paralympic Village in Yanqing district, will build a culture exhibition zone featuring homestay hotels in mountain village in northern China. Houses in the mountain village will surround the buildings that served Beijing 2022.

Residents of the village are expected to receive keys and move into their new homes in a few days.

Leveraging its advantage of being a part of the Yanqing competition zone, Zhangshanying township, to which Xidazhuangke village belongs, aims to build a world-famous beautiful Winter Olympics-themed town featuring ice and snow sports and activities.

In the first quarter of this year, projects designed to improve the living environment of 13 villages in Zhangshanying township were kicked off, according to an official of the township, who disclosed that the local government has also made continuous efforts to promote local infrastructure construction and implement projects to boost the development of fruit industry.

The township tries to make the most of its lush mountains and lucid waters and ice and snow elements to stimulate the growth of local industries and increase people's income, said the official.

Relying on the Yanqing Olympic Zone, Yanqing district will pool its resources to develop itself into a tourist destination featuring "all-for-one" tourism and integrated tourism products and services.

An official with the culture and tourism bureau of Yanqing district disclosed that the district will hold international top-level ice and snow sports events on a long-term basis, continuously undertake competition events like world-class cycling road race, mountain marathon, and cross-country mountain race, and gradually open to the public leisure tourism projects and facilities including ski resorts, customized routes for mountain hiking, and summer camp for families.

It's believed that the Yanqing Olympic Zone will further add vigor and dynamism to the area it is located and turn venues like the National Alpine Skiing Center and National Sliding Center into high-quality assets that benefit the people.

People's Daily

KUALA LUMPUR

## Out of Africa: Rich continent, poor people

**C**APITAL flight from the global South is immense, with widespread adverse effects. A new book proposes measures to curb, even reverse capital flight from Africa. It also offers pragmatic lessons for many developing countries.

Out of Africa

On the trail of capital flight from Africa extends pioneering work begun much earlier. The editors - Leonce Ndikumana and James Boyce - estimate Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) has lost more than US\$2 trillion to capital flight in the last half century! SSA currently loses US\$65 billion annually - more than yearly official development assistance (ODA) inflows. The book's studies carefully investigate natural resource exploitation - of South African minerals, Ivorian cocoa, and Angolan oil and diamonds.

Such forensic country analyses are crucial to more effectively check capital flight. Outflows since the 1980s from the three countries have been massive: US\$103 billion from Angola, US\$55 billion from Cote d'Ivoire, and US\$329 billion from South Africa in 2018 dollars.

Capital flight has been much more than cumulative external debt. Annual outflows were between 3.3% and 5.3% of national income. Nigeria, South Africa and Angola account for the most capital outflows from SSA, with Cote d'Ivoire seventh.

Resource booms

As governments get more revenue from natural resources, the fiscal 'social contract' is eroded. When people pay taxes, they expect state spending to benefit the public. But with more revenue from resources - via state monopolies, royalties and taxes - governments become less accountable to their own citizens.

Gaining and maintaining access to foreign credit has similar effects. Developing country governments then focus on ingratiating themselves with friendly foreign donor governments to get ODA, and on enhancing their credit ratings.

Hence, such regimes have less political need to provide 'public goods', including services, let alone accelerate social progress. Thus, erosion of the fiscal 'social contract' undermines not only public wellbeing, but also state legitimacy.

To secure power, ruling cliques often rely on 'clientelism' - patron-

age or patron-client relations - typically on regional, ethnic, tribal, religious or sectarian lines. Their regimes inevitably provoke dissent - including oppositional ethno-populism and civil unrest, even armed insurgencies.

Unsurprisingly, such regimes believe their choices are limited. Another option is repression - which typically rises as the status quo is threatened. The resulting sense of insecurity spreads from the public to the elite, worsening capital flight.

Exploiting valuable natural resources not only generates export earnings, but also attracts foreign investments. One result is 'Dutch disease' as the national currency rises in value - reducing other exports and jobs, inevitably hurting development prospects.

Thus, vast private fortunes have been made and illicitly transferred abroad. Ruling elites and their allies rarely only rely on either state or market to become richer. The book shows how both state and market strengthen private and personal power and influence.

Plundering Africa

The book's case studies show how resource extraction has been

central to capital flight. In all three countries, the efficacy of fiscal policy tools - especially to foster investments for development - has been undermined. Outflows have increased with economic liberalization, as unrecorded financial outflows - via the current account - grow with freer trade. Thus, trade-related financial transactions enable corruption and capital flight.

In Côte d'Ivoire - the world's top cocoa producer - rents initially came from supply chains connecting farmers to consumers. Corrupt partnerships - connecting domestic elites to foreign businesses - have been crucial to such arrangements.

Thus, natural resource primary commodity exports have enabled illicit capital flows. Ivorian cocoa exports have been consistently under-reported - with trade statistics of major importers showing massive under-invoicing by exporters.

Post-colonial political settlements have given a few privileged access to resource rents. With capital flight thus enabled, successive Ivorian regimes have been less obliged to spend more on development or public wellbeing.

Due to the cocoa boom, the post-

colonial 'Ivorian miracle' ended when prices fell. The bust triggered a political crisis, culminating in civil war. But the crunch also meant the country could no longer service its foreign debt. In Angola too, natural resources worsened its protracted civil wars. After these ruinous conflicts, oil rents enriched the triumphant nepotistic regime. This enabled the control to gain control of more, even as most Angolans continued to live in destitution.

Angola's massive oil exports mainly benefited the small elite of cronies around the president. They failed to develop the economy or improve most lives. All this has been enabled by 'helpful' professionals who have enriched themselves doing so.

While benefiting its elite and foreign transnationals, Angola's 'oil curse' has blocked balanced and sustainable development of its economy. Despite rapidly depleting its oil reserves, Angola and most Angolans have benefited little.

South Africa - SSA's second largest economy after Nigeria - seems less reliant on natural resources. Post-apartheid economic liberalization has enabled capital flight as private corporate interests - especially the

influential minerals-energy complex - quickly took advantage of the new dispensation.

By under-invoicing their exports, mineral interests have been engaged in massive capital flight and tax evasion. Meanwhile, business cronies have enriched themselves in new ways, e.g., in the state's electric power sector. Such abuses were exposed by the Gupta family scandal, leading to then President Jacob Zuma's downfall.

Stemming capital flight

'State capture' by politically influential nationals have undermined government regulatory capacities with help from transnational enablers. Ostensible 'good governance' reforms have enabled capital flight and tax evasion - by undermining 'developmental governance', including prudential regulation.

Institutional environments, mechanisms and enablers facilitate capital flight, tax evasion and wealth accumulation offshore. With often complex, varied and changing facilitation, capital flight has shifted massive wealth abroad for elites.

Transnational financial networks have eased capital outflows - at the expense of productive investments,

good jobs and social wellbeing. Capital flight has worsened financing, including budgetary gaps - aggravating related social deprivations.

Wealth creation enhances the economic pie, but distribution depends on who appropriates it. Improved understanding of such varied and ever-changing relations of appropriation is crucial to effectively curb this haemorrhage.

Greater awareness should inspire and inform better measures to check capital flight from the global South. Instead of the Washington Consensus 'good governance' mantra, a developmental governance agenda is needed.

Hence, curbing capital flight is crucial for financing sustainable development. Checking capital flight and related abuses - such as trade mis-invoicing, money laundering, tax evasion and public asset acquisition by elites - requires well-coordinated efforts at both national and international levels.

All researchers, policymakers and regulators will gain from the book's forensic analyses of financial, fiscal and other such abuses. International financial institutions now have little excuse for continuing to enable the capital flight and tax evasion still bleeding the global South.

IPS

# CAPITAL RADIO

# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS 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 UMUJAVYO 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



# Ex-Kenya Chief Justice Willy Mutunga opens up on social justice, corruption and constitutional reforms

By Correspondent Geoffrey Nangai

FORMER Kenya Chief Justice Willy Mutunga has opened up on social justice, corruption and constitutional reforms in his new book titled "Beacons of Judiciary Transformation". The book has opened up on Kenya's judiciary transformation process, fight against corruption and constitutional reforms.

He was the first person to serve as Chief Justice since Kenya's constitution was rewritten in 2010, taking up the post in June 2011, and later retired from the judiciary in June 2016 and also doubled as the President of the Supreme Court of Kenya under the new 2010 constitution in his book titled 'Beacons of Judiciary Transformation'

Beacons of Judiciary Transformation contain over 60 speeches, judicial opinions, and academic articles of CJ Mutunga written during his tenure as Chief Justice and President of the Supreme Court of Kenya.

In the book, the former Chief Justice shares his views and philosophy on social justice, constitutionalism, democracy, and equality.

Speaking during the launch of the book, the former Chief Justice of Tanzania Mohamed Chande Othman described Mutunga as a colleague and mentor who played an instrumental part in shaping judicial reforms.

"Willy has been very close to the judiciary of Tanzania. He shared his views on the process of the constitutional review process with the Warioba Commission," he said.

He noted that Mutunga went through a very transparent, competitive merit-based process with the public participating fully and took over the role with a track record of credentials from academia, human rights, civil society leadership and legal aid. Most surprising is he remained a favorite advocate of constitutionalism.

"If it were with the same credentials here in Tanzania, there would be an esoteric next to his name and he would be termed as an 'outsider' as he was externally sourced. That's judicial culture," he noted

Justice Othman said Mutunga had a strategic vision to transform the judiciary which was very compelling in Kenya and make it independent of the executive.

"During the constitution building process, Kenyans wanted all the judges and magistrates sacked. He came with a vision and strategic framework to decolonize the judiciary. There were some quick wins and it is interesting that his judicial transformation was carried on," he added.

He noted that Mutunga was also instrumental in guarding the constitution of Kenya, ensuring abidance to the rule of law and protecting the independence of the judiciary.

"Just before his departure, he addressed the senate in Kenya and explained to them that it was not the court that is activist, but it is the constitution that is activist. He believed in constructive engagement urging that supremacy wars really don't serve the mwananchi," he added.

On his role in fighting corruption, the retired CJ Othman



Former Kenya Chief Justice Willy Mutunga (right) flanked by the former Chief Justice of Tanzania Mohamed Chande Othman (L) and Tanzania's former Prime Minister Judge Joseph Warioba (C) during the launch of his new book titled: 'Beacons of Judiciary Transformation.' Photo: Correspondent Geoffrey Nangai.

said Mutunga played part in prevention of corruption and integrity adding that there was a lot of work done to eradicate the rot in the judicial system.

Commenting on the book, Justice Othman said Mutunga's generous work shares valuable lessons for us all.

"The book gives important insight through personal experiences of judicial matters in Kenya with relevance for the East African region and continent at large," he said.

Tanzania's former Prime Minister and Vice President, Judge

Joseph Warioba said Mutunga's knowledge is "valuable for judiciary transformation and should serve as a reminder that the law goes hand in hand with human rights."

"It is anticipated that the book will stir public debate on key legal and political questions of our time by providing first-hand information on important legal matters," he said.

Speaking during the same event, CJ Mutunga said he owed his career growth to the University of Dar Es Salaam where he enrolled in law.

Commenting on the disputed presidential election petition of 2013, CJ Mutunga said presidential elections in Kenya cannot be accepted under the pretext of divisionism.

"I have written about it somewhere in this book but all I can say is that even if you get Solomon to come and listen to that petition, he would still be chased out of town. You cannot have a Supreme Court deciding with the decision accepted under the pretext of divisionism. Media was not happy with me and I was called all sorts of names," he recalled.

He said the court decision gave him a lot of spotlight and gave him more importance than even the president himself adding that he feared he would have been stormed if he had stepped a foot where he comes from.

"The decision was very difficult. We delivered it in ten minutes and actually people believe it was my decision yet it was a decision of six members. We gave all the documents to universities so the debate continues. On twitter, someone named me the Chief Injustice after the decision so we actually asked ourselves why judges are

referred to as justice," he said.

Commenting on the issue of fighting corruption, CJ Mutunga said some of his colleagues got into trouble for fighting corruption yet spouses, relatives were busy engaging in corruption.

"We worked as a team and this was not a one-man show. It was actually collective intellect. This was work of a team of professional

CJ Mutunga noted that he would be launching his book later this year titled, 'The Studied Justice'

The Chief Executive Officer of the Center for Strategic Litigation, Deus Valentine Rweyemamu, said he looks forward to seeing the book act as an important reference for practicing lawyers, members of the bench as well as legal scholars and academics in Tanzania and the region.

"We are pleased that CSL has been able to host an important conversation through this timely book on the rule of law, democracy and social justice in Africa. The book is well-written and easy to follow thus making it relevant for readers both in and outside legal practice. It is hugely fitting to the work of CSL in promoting a civic and political culture where the law is supreme, and the constitution and human rights are respected."

CJ Mutunga had a decorated career as a leading public intellectual, legal scholar, social justice activist, lawyer, and jurist. His outstanding career owes to his training and academic work through the Universities of Dar es Salaam, Nairobi as well as at the York University in Canada.

The former law lecturer spent his formative years at University of Dar es Salaam where he trained in law before pursuing a career in academia.

He has also advised on constitutions of several other countries including the Gambia and served as the Commonwealth envoy in the Maldives.

Under his tenure as Chief Justice from 2011 to 2016, Mutunga sought to lay permanent and indestructible foundations for the transformed judiciary.

Under the blueprint of the Kenyan Judiciary Transformation Framework 2012 - 2016, he achieved impressive progress in bringing the justice system closer to ordinary people.

Not only did he succeed in humanizing the Kenyan judicial systems, he also reduced the number of case backlogs significantly. He aimed to use technology as an enabler of justice, as well as to bring about equitable and transparent systems of recruitment, promotions and training.

# India to continue bolstering more bilateral relations with Tanzania

By George Muntu

LAST week, Tanzania received Indian delegation led by its deputy national security advisor Vikram Misri. The Guardian newspaper had an opportunity to interview him on his visit to Tanzania. Excerpts.

**QUESTION: What is the main purpose of your visit to Tanzania? What were your main engagements during the visit?**

**ANSWER:** India and Tanzania share historical and friendly relations. We recently celebrated 60th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations. Over the years, we have developed robust bilateral cooperation in all sectors including political, economic, strategic, cultural and extensive to people linkages. We are proud to be associated in the development of Tanzania.

The waters of the Indian Ocean embrace our shores providing us common opportunities and challenges. We have strategic convergence on peace and security issues including on the emerging situations in the region and global developments. During this visit, I held detailed discussions with the Foreign Minister and Defence Minister of Tanzania. I also met the Chief of Staff from the Tanzania People's Defence Forces (TPDF). We discussed important issues of ongoing bilateral cooperation and areas where we could do meaningful cooperation in future.

**Q: Briefly can you tell us about the current level of de-**

**fence cooperation between India and Tanzania.**

**A:** India and Tanzania have a rich history of defence cooperation in the areas of defence training, capacity building, and supply of equipment during the past decades. A total of 450 TPDF officers have received training in India. We've regular visits by military leadership from both sides. In recent years, we had the visits of Indian Army Chief, Naval Chief, delegations from National Defence College and regular Indian Navy ship visits from India to Tanzania. An Indian military training team is presently stationed at the Command and Staff College, Duluti since 2017. This year, we will be sending a senior officer from the Indian Army to join the training program at the National Defence College of Tanzania. Besides training and capacity building, India has also provided TPDF with military vehicles.

**Q: As an advisor on security matters to Indian government, what the areas where you think cooperation would benefit the two countries.**

**A:** While we are satisfied with the level of bilateral Defence cooperation, I have no hesitation to say that it is much below the actual potential. As maritime countries, India and Tanzania share common maritime security space besides facing common challenges like terrorism and drug trafficking among others. These are areas where we need to work together. India can be a good partner for further cooperation in the areas of train-



Tanzania Foreign Affairs Minister Liberata Mulamula in discussion with Deputy National Security Advisor of India Vikram Misri in her Dar es Salaam office recently.

ing, capacity building, sourcing of defence equipment, working together on issues related to maritime security. We believe that the security challenges cannot be seen from the narrow prism of geographical boundary and countries need to work together to mitigate them. Another area where India and Tanzania have worked together is hydrographic survey of Tanzanian coastline and ports. Years of joint surveys done by the two countries have resulted in updated charts which are useful for better management of the coastal regions and the ports. India takes pride to be the first responder in the region during humanitarian crisis.

**Q: Tanzania has a small Navy to deal with emerging security threats in maritime domain. India is a giant in this field. Is there any cooperation between the two countries in the maritime security area especially to assist Tanzania Navy?**

**A:** Cooperation in areas of maritime security is a priority area for both India and Tanzania. Tanzania has around 1400 km of coastline rich in mineral and natural resources. This region is facing challenges like terrorism, drug and human trafficking, illegal fishing activities among others. We see a lot

of potential for bilateral cooperation for mutual benefit. The Indian Navy has long-standing cooperation and collaboration with the Tanzanian Navy. The recent visit of Navy Commander of Tanzania to India is a reflection of this close partnership. We are prepared to work closely with the Tanzanian authorities to further enhance this blossoming tradition.

**Q: Is there any bilateral agreement that guide the two countries to cooperate in Defence sector?**

**A:** The bilateral MOU on Defence Cooperation signed in 2003 provides a comprehensive

framework for defence cooperation between the two countries. We also have a mechanism of Joint Defence Coordination Committee which is mandated to do comprehensive review of bilateral defence cooperation. Defence cooperation figures prominently during discussions between the leadership of India and Tanzania. Today during my meeting with the Defence Minister of Tanzania, we agreed to implement the MoU of 2003 in both letter and spirit.

**Q: Recently there was a scheduled meeting of India-Africa Defence dialogue. Is Tanzania part of this and what is the status of this dia-**

**logue?**

**A:** You are right; the second round of India Africa Defence dialogue was scheduled to be held alongside the DEF-EXPO in March 2022 in India.

Unfortunately, we had to postpone the event, but it would be organised in near future. Tanzania is an important part of this dialogue and we hope to receive high level participation from Tanzania in this event when it is organised.

**Q: Are you satisfied with the outcome of your visit? What are the future scopes of cooperation between India and Tanzania in security matters?**

**A:** I am satisfied with the outcome of my visit. Besides reviewing different aspects of strategic and defence cooperation, I got a chance to familiarise myself with the priorities and challenges that the government of Tanzania is facing.

I am happy to see that the government of Tanzania under leadership of President Samia Suluhu Hassan has made series of progressive reforms in wide ranging sectors which would bring rich dividends for the country. The government is seized of the regional security challenges.

My meetings with the Tanzanian interlocutors provided good opportunity to review our existing bilateral security cooperation. We also discussed on the roadmap for future cooperation. I see more intense engagement between the two countries in the coming days.



# Elections 2023 will be about Weah/CDC 6 years in power: Love for country and hope for change failed the people

By Racassius Jedekan Weah

I do not know if comprehension or purposeful collective amnesia is an issue here but let me make this abundantly clear, elections 2023 will be about President Weah and CDC record in power and nothing else, though my compatriots from the CDC, celebrate and enjoy privatizing the benefits of winning an election but struggle daily to pass the buck to the excluded opposition and past governments for current public policy failures, bad personnel choices, and botched governance. Folks, take off your blinders, the opposition was not voted in 2017, it was the CDC, and it is President Weah and his CDC that govern our country. The people know this very well. Sometimes the rubbishes, lies, and deceits many of our ruling party brethren spew daily in different for in the name of politics and or strategy, are mostly condescending, obnoxious, nonsensical, irritating, nauseating, and insensitive. I do not know who pays these folks to write and speak such infantile gutter stuff in the name of propaganda and strategy. No matter how you dress the goat, a goat is a goat - it bleats!

So let me endeavor to enlighten my willfully blind friends on the CDC/government side since they assume that all of us who disagree with government policy choices hate the President. We love the president but simply disagree with many of his policies! You all can imagine that if Weah was not the president, many of us would have little or no reason to disagree with him so strongly on policy grounds because he would not have life-changing decisions to make concerning millions of his compatriots. I am sure that the waste they feed our presidents daily to mask their

dismal performances in their respective roles can sometimes be overwhelming and or overbearing. But what they are not reminding the president of is that when they were in opposition and disagreed with the UP and made careers out of insulting President Sirleaf daily (that's how the Kojjees, Morlus, Grays, and others cut their teeth in CDC), they didn't hate the president (or at least nobody considered their very disrespectful and provocative dissent, hate), they were doing the opposition business. Now it should be different. Twisted logic from feeble minds!!! CDC will account for its stewardship for the 6 years and no amount of attempt at shifting blame will help. These are some of the issues the people are already settled on:

When people die mysteriously and there are no conclusive investigative reports or the perpetrators are not brought to book, while the police make repeated rash statements incident after incident, it is fair to imagine that our government is clueless, careless, and even complicit because our collective security is the responsibility of the government and not any imaginary opposition that wields no coercive state power and has no access to the national coffers. It is beyond imprudent to think that the opposition can be blamed for the government's inaction or incompetence on the matter of unsolved crimes.

Further, no one beyond the cool-aid drinkers and their patrons will hold any opposition responsible for alleged unsolved murders, rapes, armed robbers, carjacking, and broad day thievery in the public sector or against private peaceful citizens. Government must provide a sense of security and redress for victims. The people cannot all be expected to sit supinely when nothing is done about their sorrows. Frustration



AMID ONGOING CRISIS AND BACKBITING IN THE COLLABORATING POLITICAL PARTIES, PRES. GEORGE WEAH SAYS THEY'LL ALLEGE VOTE RIGGING IN THE 2023 ELECTION AS HE WILL WIN CONVINCINGLY

"They pronounced that I'll never become President in this country, now I'm the President. They've come again, they say I'll be a one-term President, my work will speak for me. The Liberian people will go to the polls and I'll defeat any individual that will come in that race." - George Manneh Weah, President, Republic of Liberia

may boil over, and when it does, the government's solution, as it is now, should not be to flog the people or arrest them. Government should provide answers. So, this rubbish you all spew daily when you blame everyone else but you for your failures in the name of politics is unhelpful to your cause and counterproductive to your benefactors. You all stop fooling each other and try to solve the problems or at least make an honest attempt. No one expects you to wave a magic wand at the problem, but at the very least, we expect that you will be sincere and give your best efforts. Be honest and accept failures the same way you maximize marginal progress. You are not writing politics or do-

ing politics here when you take responsibility for nothing as governors of the country. And if people are paying you for the incessant junk you write daily, then we should book an appointment for those people with the Psychiatrist... necessary!

When the dim Chinese street lights you celebrated like you had established an endowment fund to secure the future of coming generations can hardly come on because you refuse to appreciate that power supply was a binding constraint and therefore solar-powered lights were the viable option, the people will not blame the opposition for spending stupid millions simply because, as you claimed, UP only setup the HFO plant on Bushrod Island, and rehabilitated the Mt. Coffee instead of rebuilding a new hydro.

their irregular salaries can hardly take "papa home," to quote Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. Do you think they will hold the opposition responsible for this when they know that recurring expenditure, including the public sector wage bill, increased under your watch while their disposable income decreased? The people are feeling the effect of your ill-advised policy in their pockets.

Don't you know that the people understand that the dim Chinese lights you installed in county capitals and the latter-day scholarships you are offering after 4 years in power to students of some counties are all but a charade and electioneering ploy that addresses no bread-and-butter issues? Can't you tell that unless you dig your head out of the sand and change course on both the policy and personnel front, and it might already be too late to do this, the going will get tougher and your words will no longer be soothing, but will become an irritant as they may have already?

Don't you know that the people will be annoyed when the hospitals are without necessary drugs and supplies, but your government, through the Minister of State, can afford to donate \$100,000 to ULAA and promise an additional \$300,000 in annual budgetary support to a people who sustained this economy via their remittances in the difficult years? Don't you think it will be perfectly rational and appropriate that the people consider your government priorities to be upside down and not the opposition? What informs the kind of thinking that led to this donation and the commitment of future resources by a sitting minister of a government that is struggling to meet revenue targets? I should like to read some budget performance reports if there are any.

Don't you know when the community roads are constructed irregularly to signal favoritism, the people understand that the government is not altruistic, authentic, organized, and methodical in its approach. Check the number of roads that were skipped from SKD Stadium going to wherever the community road work stopped on the RIA highway, and you will understand that neighborhoods are frustrated that the so-called bad road medicine has not cured their bad roads.

Don't you know that the people understand that the Somalia drive road (Japan Highway), ELWA to Redlight, the proposed overpass to the Ministerial Complex, the Ganta to Yekepa roads were all negotiated and funds committed before you took over; and if possible the ELWA to RIA road, which is under construction or just starting, everything else you have dedicated and celebrated is reaping where you have not sowed without giving deserved credits?

Don't you know that the people understand that the TRANSCO CLSG or WAPP project that you are highly indebted to was negotiated and consummated before you took over to continue the implementation; and that with your over \$9M in debt, they can hardly see the light beaming? Don't you know that whether it is CLSG or LEC, the problem remains regarding transmission and distribution of the power generated - what innovation have you brought to this long-standing issue?

Oh, I forgot, just blame it on Ellen and her UP government and fold your hands. What if Ellen and her UP government had done as you are doing when they took over a broken country - whining and blaming your predecessor for everything instead of giving it your best efforts, where would our country be by now?

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 276 00--

**3 letters** LOP, KEY, ADE, SRI  
**4 letters** LOUT, KAKA, HARE, EYES, DOOM, MAID, OOSE  
**5 letters** GRADE, FLOOD, OPRAH, OTAKU, DREAD, YIELD,  
**6 letters** EDITOR, INDIAN, STRIPE  
**7 letters** TUESDAY, ENDURED, ENAMOUR, ALLOTED  
**EMIRATE,**  
**9 letters** TUG OF LOVE

**WORD-FIT**  
 G R A B B L E L T A C O T B S  
 R O B E N O U N O A C O M E N T A  
 A G E N T E G G O D D A M N A  
 B U A H O M A G E O E A S A D E N  
 B E M B A Y E S T A T U T E D  
 Y O N O T R Y L O A R I A  
 K A T A N G A O M O T O R R R  
 M A S T E M U E F F W A G E D  
 A I L S T A I N S U F F I X S  
 A D E L E R G I L N Y A S A  
 D U E L E R M I N C E D A G  
 D O F F P E N E M A Y A

**CROSSWORD**  
 1. deflection  
 2. Togo's Capital  
 3. a risky or daring journey  
 4. the size of a dose of medicine  
 5. a person that loads something  
 6. a wooden frame for holding an artist's work in progress  
 7. talk nonsense  
 8. the active male principle of the Universe in Chinese philosophy  
 9. consecrate  
 10. a metal weapon  
 11. a thing that is difficult to understand  
 12. on one's own  
 13. not often  
 14. the intrinsic nature or indispensable quality of something, which determines its character  
 15. bristle  
 16. carbonated water  
 17. a cot  
 18. put, lay

# RATIBAYA MPINDI

## JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS DAKIKA 45 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANIKYO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA SHERIA 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANIKYO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA MICHEZO 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANIKYO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA UKIMWI 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM HIZI NAZO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANIKYO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA KISWAHILI 10.00 AM WATOTO SHOW 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM MIWANI YA MAISHA 11:00 AM MIAA WA MAGOMA 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS CHAGUO LAKO 15:00 HRS MUZIKI NA MICHEZO 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:15 HRS MIDJUNDO MOTO MOTO 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:15 HRS CHEMISHA BONGO 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:03 HRS WEEK END SHOW I 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS WEEK END SHOW II 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS WEEK END SHOW III 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANIKYO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM COMMERCIALS 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.15 AM NEWS PAPERS REVIEW 07.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA - FAMILIA 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.15 AM SUNDAY SPECIAL 11:00 HRS TOP 20 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS NANI ZAIDI 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS MAMBO YA PWANI 18:00 HRS AFRICAN PANORAMA 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS MBAVU ZANGU 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.03 HRS MAMBO MSETO 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS RAFIKI I 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS RAFIKI 01.00 - 05.00 MUZIKI (MCHANGANIKYO)	





# Local government authorities lost revenue collections worth billions

By Francis Kajubi

**M**ISAPPROPRIATION of collected revenue by 10 agents and 19 local government staff has led to a loss of 10.13 billion/- taxpayers' money among other public fund leakages, the 2020/21 Auditor and Controller General (CAG) report shows.

According to the report on local government authorities, the agents were supposed to remit to the Councils a sum of 5.62 billion/- from the collection, while the Council employees were supposed to remit the total amount collected.

Instead, the CAG report states, collectors and staff remitted to the Council a total of 987.76 million/- and 1.8 billion/- only, thus, 4.64 billion/- and 5.49 billion/- was respectively unremitted, making a total of 10.13 billion collected but not banked.

Considering the procedures involved in the collection of the Council's revenues from own sources, the CAG examined the Local Government Revenue Collection System (LGRSIS) information and the Council revenue accounts bank statements maintained with NMB Bank Plc, CRDB Bank Plc, NBC and DCB Bank Plc for the period



from July 2019 to June 2021.

The CAG further asserts that misappropriation of the collected funds was perpetrated through altering LGRSIS information to conceal the facts and producing fabricated receipts.

"I urge the government to take appropriate actions to ensure that it re-

covers the amount from the personnel and agents responsible," states CAG Charles Kichere in the report.

However, the CAG discovered that 16 local government authorities made adjustments of transactions in the LGRSIS for own-source revenues totaling 28.33 billion/-, without observ-

ing the laid down adjustment procedures.

These adjustments were not approved by the respective accounting officers, and did not have any documentary evidence. This anomaly was attributed to weak systems of internal controls over the adjustments of the

transactions in the LGRSIS.

According to Kichere, unauthorized adjustments could be misappropriated revenues or fraudulent transactions made through own sources revenues. Likewise, reconciliations made by means of erasing and correcting transactions of revenue in the system without an approval from proper authorities could facilitate misappropriation of government revenues.

"I recommend to the responsible authorities to take appropriate measures against the officials mentioned in the respective reports who made adjustments in the system without observing proper procedures;

Also, the PO-RALG is advised to improve controls over the Local Government Revenue Collection Information System (LGRSIS) being used by local government authorities," states Kichere in the report.

In another separate audit, the CAG reviewed the management of the implementation of the agreements entered into with agents (revenue collectors) for the collection of its revenue from its own sources and identified various weaknesses.

For instances, the CAG declared to have found that despite expiry of the contract with M/s Pick Trading Ltd

on 30 November, 2019, the company continued collecting revenue without contract for 11 months from 01 December, 2019 to 30 October, 2020, where a total amount of 496.47 million/- was collected, however, only 900,000/- was remitted to the Council leaving a sum of 495.57 million/- unremitted.

CAG Kichere recommends that the government should take appropriate actions against the Agent and staff involved in the misappropriation.

However, during the audit, 7 local government authorities did not submit to me payment vouchers for 1.37 billion/-, in respect of payments made in the financial years 2018/19 to 2020/21.

Following non submission of payment vouchers for auditing, the validity of the payments made could not be verified. The CAG warns that this is contrary to section 15 (2) of the Public Audit Act, 2008 and Order 8 (2) (c) of the Local Government Financial Memorandum, 2009.

"I recommend that the Permanent Secretary PO-RALG take appropriate actions against local government authorities' staff mentioned in the specific audit reports for non-submission of the payment vouchers," underlines Kichere.

# Standard Chartered bank records sterling first quarter performance

The Banker Reporter

STANDARD Chartered Bank Tanzania recorded a 411 percent increase of profits before tax for the first quarter of 2022.

According to a statement released by the bank earlier this week, the performance is attributed to the growth of top line income, efficient management of cost and positive loan recoveries resulted from close credit monitoring and overall execution of the bank's strategy around lending and recoveries.

During the first quarter of 2022, the bank's profits before tax increased by 411 percent to 37.74 billion/- from 7.38 billion/- in the same period in 2021.

The increased profit was a result of the increase in revenues, better cost management and improved asset quality. The bank recorded a total income growth of 71 percent with non-interest income growing at 121 percent to 29.45 billion/- Year on Year.

To further support the government's agenda of financial inclusion, the Bank's total loans, advances and overdrafts totalled to 752 billion/- which is an increase of 17 percent from the last quarter of 2021.

Commenting on the bank's financials, Sanjay Rughani, Chief Executive Officer at Standard Chartered bank Tanzania said, "the bank's great financial performance of the quarter ended March 2022 reflects our disciplined strategy execution and delivery through steadfast determination of our staff and

network colleagues to live our brand promise of Here for Good," he said.

He said the bank's remarkable commitment to collectively support its clients and each other enabled StanChart to navigate the challenges of the period and deliver on its business goals with minimal impact.

"Our results show the significant progress we have made on our transformation agenda, following the introduction of our refreshed priorities in 2018. We have delivered world class digital platforms with increased availability of products and services on our digital channels providing clients with greater convenience and seamless banking experience," he asserted.

According to him, the bank's performance in the first quarter of 2022 provides confidence that it is tracking in the right direction to achieve its priorities which are guided by the purpose to partner and connect people to prosperity.

"This is further guided by our focus on helping Tanzanian businesses become more sustainable and competitive beyond our borders while ensuring accessibility of financial services" he explained adding,

"As the year unfolds, we are committed to continue delivering our strategy by offering sustainable financing for key national infrastructural projects, supporting communities and growing wealth of our clients. Backed by our international network, we continue to offer differentiated sovereign and sustainable finance solutions while

connecting our clients to some of the world's fastest growing economies across our footprint, as a Group.

On part of supporting the bank's communities, he recalled that in March, StanChart had launched the Enhancing Youth Entrepreneurship and Employability project that has been funded by Standard Chartered Foundation with 718 million/- to benefit 400 youths in Mwanza.

H said that the bank is committed to provide financial products to its clients that ultimately support growth of the country's socio-economic development insisting that 2022 holds a lot of promise for Tanzania and the businesses.

"I am confident of the actions the Management team and staff will take to accelerate our recently revised corporate strategy which will deliver more value and impact to our clients through our changed business model" concluded Rughani.

Rayson Foya, Chief Financial Officer at the bank commented "We are continuously sharpening our focus on creating significant opportunities that bring value to our clients. Further to that, the Bank is committed to driving efficiency in line with our strategic priorities;

As a result, the bank's cost to income ratio improved to 26.5 percent in Q1 2022 as compared to 48 percent in Q4 2021. This is a great performance benchmarking to the regulatory requirement of 55 percent. We achieved a Non-Performance Loan rate of 3.5 percent lower than the regulatory target of 5 percent".



Sanjay Rughani, Chief Executive Officer at Standard Chartered bank Tanzania.

# Sanlam and Allianz sign Sh243.7bn joint-venture deal in 29 countries

NAIROBI

SOUTH Africa's Sanlam Group and Germany's Allianz have agreed to combine operations across Africa in a joint venture with an equity value of about Sh243.7 billion to operate in 29 countries excluding South Africa.

Namibia will be included in the deal at a later stage.

The firms said in a statement on Wednesday that the combined operations will create a pan-African non-banking financial services that are expected to be ranked in the top three in the majority of the markets where the entity will operate.

Sanlam Group CEO Paul Hanratty said that the entity will aim to combine Sanlam's understanding of the African market with Allianz's global reach and insurance solutions to increase life and general insurance penetration, accelerate product innovation and drive financial inclusion in high-growth African markets.

He added that the deal will also strengthen the firm's leadership in key African markets core to their Africa strategy.

The chairmanship of the joint venture partnership will rotate every two years between Sanlam and Allianz. The CEO of the entity will be named soon.

"Sanlam's capabilities extend our local reach and market penetration, and the joint venture allows us to establish leading positions in key growth markets for Allianz," said Allianz SE board member Christopher Townsend.

The new entity is waiting for regulatory approvals to start operating.



**Sanlam's capabilities extend our local reach and market penetration, and the joint venture allows us to establish leading positions in key growth markets for Allianz**

# KCB opens new subsidiary in Rwanda after merger

KIGALI

KCB Group is banking on its new subsidiary BPR Bank Plc Rwanda to more than double its regional business in the next two years and support economic expansion in the East African country.

KCB said scaling its regional business was critical for the future, adding that it will bolster its investments in Rwanda. The lender is currently eyeing the newest member of the East African Community - the Democratic Republic

of Congo.

This, said KCB Group CEO Joshua Oigara, will also see the bank invest significantly to support the key economic sectors like housing, agriculture, and hospitality.

The lender merged KCB Bank Rwanda with its newly acquired Banque Populaire du Rwanda (BPR) to form BPR Bank Rwanda Plc last month.

"We are delighted with the possibilities that lay ahead, as this integration has enabled us to buttress our leadership position, giving us a

stronger edge to play a bigger role in driving the financial inclusion agenda in East Africa, while building a robust and financially sustainable organisation," said Mr Oigara during the unveiling of BPR Bank in Kigali on Wednesday.

Rwandan bank BPR Atlas Mara last November finalized modalities to allow local shareholders sell their stake in the lender amid interest by Nairobi-headquartered KCB Group.

Managing director Maurice Toroitich said that time the bank is targeting to

finalise the process before end of year to enable Rwandan BPR shareholders to offload up to 23.7 percent of their shares.

The major beneficiary is expected to be KCB Group, which acquired 62 percent of BPR shares from Atlas Mara Ltd in November 2020 and an additional 14 percent from private equity firm Arise in August this year, bringing its ownership in BPR to 76 percent. It now has its sights on the remaining 24 percent minority stake in the hands of local shareholders to

claim full ownership of the Rwandan lender.

"Some shareholders have been complaining in the media about not having the means to sell their shares, but now in a week or two this will be possible. We already have seen some of them expressing interest to sell," noted Mr Toroitich.

The shares held by the original Rwandan founders of the bank have in the past been a bone of contention whenever majority shareholding changed.



# Kili elders moved by SBL's support

## The Banker Reporter

**S**ERENGETI Breweries Limited (SBL) has given older people in Mwika the chance to enjoy life by offering lifesaving materials to help them live a comfortable life.

SBL demonstrated this by donating 150 blankets to the Mwika Rotary Club of Moshi in the Kilimanjaro region as part of its Corporate Social Investment initiative.

SBL's plant Manager for Moshi brewery, Alice Kilembe, said during the donation handover event that the company was proud to serve the Mwika Rotary Club and old people in the area in particular.

The donation we are providing today to these old individuals expresses our love and admiration for the good job they did for our country in their youthful days. "The community must care for this group, and SBL is delighted to contribute blankets that will keep them warm during the upcoming winter season," she stated.

Beyond the donation to Mwika Rotary Club, Alice added that SBL has been involved in the implementation of other community support projects that have positively influenced the lives of many people all around Tanzania.

She explained about the ongoing Kilimo Viwanda scholarship program, which was launched in 2019, was designed to benefit students pursuing agricultural courses in local colleges in support of the government's effort to



A group photo taken in Moshi during blanket handover event by SBL to Mwika Rotary Club. From the right is Moshi's SBL plant manager, Alice Kilembe followed by club members Exaud Mtei, Ester Towo, Awumhuri Masuki, Anence Kawiche and Neema Tarimo.

increase the existing pool of agricultural experts in the country. "To date, over 200 students have benefited from this program," she said.

"We have undertaken and contin-

ue to undertake other community support initiatives, such as water stewardship, popularly known as 'Water of Life' (WOL), a program that has implemented 22 water projects across the country since 2010, sus-

tainably providing clean and safe water to over two million people," she admitted.

Agribusiness is another program cited by the plant manager, which assists large and small-holder farm-

ers in increasing productivity while also offering a ready market for their crops, according to the manage-

ment. Ex-President Ester Towo, speaking

on behalf of current president Godrick Lyimo, expressed gratitude to SBL for the support, pointing out that the donation was a big boost for the organization, which relies on such donations to remain in operation.

SBL's generous donation of blankets to support 150 older people in Mwika and the surrounding areas is particularly welcome at this time of year, as it will keep them warm enough during the hard cold seasons here in Mwika, adds Ester Towo.

The recipients continue to remain in their houses, but they are in need of assistance because they have no one to care for them. A donation of this magnitude allows them to feel appreciated and recognized for their efforts. "Thank you so much, SBL," she expressed gratitude.

In other community initiative, SBL continues to ensure inclusion and diversity. SBL has taken drastic steps to allocate a budget for gender equality by setting a 50-50 per cent representation of leaders between male and female.

Moreover, SBL has also made significant strides to be a caretaker of its customers, employees, and community by advising against drinking and driving. SBL is working from grassroots to the national sphere by the government, the police and vehicle drivers.

John Wanyancha, the SBL Director of Corporate Relations was once quoted, "the company urges people to drink better, not more, knowing very well that it is for the common good of the society that it should promote moderate drinking and tackle alcohol misuse."

## JOHANNESBURG

By Correspondent Daniel Semberya

FINDINGS have shown that historically, all over the world Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) like the National Audit Office of Tanzania (NAOT) are established to undertake financial auditing functions.

Ultimately providing assurance that a government's financial statements present fairly in all material respects the financial position.

The Controller and Auditor General's (CAG) reports are results of a wide and at times in-depth audit of public funds, systems, laws, regulations and practices related to public funds.

The audits aim at finding out the extent to which laid down laws, regulations and procedures on public financial management are followed.

Analysing the 2020/2021 CAG's report on Public Financial Accountability: Rampant Mismanagement of public resources for financial year 2020/2021 during Policy Forum's Breakfast Debate, over the weekend in Dar es Salaam, WAJIBU - Institute of Public Accountability's Board Chairman Yona Killagane commended the Controller and Audit General for doing an excellent job of his report he handed over to the President on the 30th March, 2022.

"WAJIBU commends the work done by the CAG Charles Kichere and his audit team for completion of the audit and submission of the reports to the President of URT on 30th March 2022 and their subsequent tabling in Parliament on 12th April, 2022 where they became public documents."

Killagane said that despite the increase of implementation of CAG's recommendations by 3 per cent as compared to the previous year 2019/20, the rate of implementation is still below 50 per cent.

"This implies that there is an ineffective monitor-

# 'Involvement of citizens in public projects implementation crucial'



WAJIBU - Institute of Public Accountability's Board Chairman Yona Killagane insists on a point on 2020/2021 CAG tabled Report during PF breakfast debate in Dar es Salaam over the weekend. Photo/Daniel Semberya.

ing system of tracking the implementation of audit recommendations."

For instance, according to audit opinions, in 2020/21 the unqualified opinion was 97 per cent, compared to 86 per cent in 2019/2020. And the qualified opinion was 2 per cent in 2021, compared to 11 per cent in 2019/2020.

He further noted that there is a significant improvement in financial statement preparations. However, there is still an ongoing culture of lack of accountability in the management of public resources.

Instances were noted where an entity having an Unqualified Opinion is still significantly non-compliance to laws and regulations governing public financial mgt.

Non-compliance, mismanagement and other non-financial issues are reported

but not considered as a basis unless it results in financial loss (fines or penalties).

Non-financial factors should be given due consideration to reflect the real position of an audited.

Despite massive social media dialogue and citizens demanding accountability, still the government response is not enough.

Killagane suggested that in order to address these challenges, the government needs to involve citizens in the implementation of development projects, and own them.

"Since citizens are the owners of public resources, WAJIBU recommends that, they should constantly demand for accountability from duty bearers on the collection and use of public resources which are entrusted to the government on their behalf.

Participation in the budget process, village meetings and other dialogue forums," he explained.

WAJIBU has also recommended that in order to enhance the independence and effectiveness of the internal audit function in the country, the internal audit unit should be shifted to the Chief Secretary who is the head of government operations and should be empowered to manage its own vote in-order to enhance its independence.

Furthermore, WAJIBU has called for the Amendment of Article 91(2-b) of the Constitution. This Article undermines the capacity of the Parliament to oversee the preparation process of the national budget.

In order to increase budget credibility and make it as a management control tool, Parliament needs to be free

from the risk of losing their positions/constituencies while exercising their oversight function during the scrutiny and approval of the national budget.

WAJIBU has also said that the amendment of the Public Finance Act and Public Procurement Act 2011 is needed so as to introduce fines, demotion, termination and legal actions to public officers who are involved in non-compliance of CAG's recommendations, non-adherence to procurement plans and general violation of the PFA2001, LGFA 1982 and PPA 2011 and their Regulations.

Further, the government needs to institute and establish a documented fraud prevention plan and fraud risk management. At a later stage explore the possibility of enacting a Fraud Act.

For his part, WAJIBU Pro-

gramme Manager, Moses Kimaro has also urged the government and other key stakeholders to engage citizens from the preparations of budget to its implementation.

President of Internal Auditors Association CPA Zelia Njeza has mentioned some of the factors that have led to an ineffective internal audit as: Shortage of manpower, lack of financial support and working tools, like computers and the like.

She said that instead of throwing and weighing all burdens and blames to the internal audit unit, collective responsibility in an organization is needed.

Another participant to the breakfast debate, Janet Kateti, urged the government to create education awareness to citizens on all matters on budget issues.

Jackson John has called

for independent internal auditors.

Christopher Mageka said that in order to end the similar problems repeating each year, there is a need to know their root causes and address them.

Peter Masige said that poor coordination among public institutions was a major cause of all these financial problems and poor performance of some projects identified in the CAG Report.

Zitto Kabwe suggested that in order to address all these problems mentioned in the CAG report, the CAG should be reporting to the Ministerial Cabinet every three months.

He also suggested that the internal auditors should be empowered by the constitution to authorize the payment of public funds in an organization or institution. Saying, doing so, will minimize embezzlement of public funds.

Commenting further on human resource management as identified in the CAG Report, Killagane said that there were outstanding staff claims of around Tsh 595.7 billion; payment to ghost workers Tsh 556.84 million; and shortage of staff 58,072 in the public sector.

Dr Andrew Mushi of Mzumbe University said "When you employ 58,072 into the public sector, services will improve and hence their salaries will boost the national economy."

He further detailed that poor governance and weak internal controls have led to: Lack of monitoring mechanism which leads to poor implementation of projects, such as loan management of women, youth and people with disabilities (WYPWD), implementation of CAG recommendations, monitoring of projects.

According to the CAG Re-

port, 2020/21, CAG noted that 31 PA and OBs (2019/20: 30 entities had no board of directors which leads to delays or poor decision making.

Killagane further noted that there were a lot of losses of public funds caused by poor project implementation.

There are losses caused by poor management of projects due to poor citizen engagement, major construction weaknesses and poor quality facilities.

This appeared in both completed and uncompleted projects.

Government incurred the loss amounted to 255.61billion/- due to overpricing; 0.59billion/-, interest charge due to delay in payment of contractors 231billion/-, abandoned projects 0.79billion/-, additional compensation 22.35billion/-, nugatory expenditure 0.20billion/-, and incorrect pay of VAT 0.68billion/-.

He mentioned the completed but unutilized projects such as: Completed projects worth 7.68billion/- not in use due to lack of electricity, capacity and staff shortages in 30 LGAs.

Construction of community markets completed and not in use for more than twelve (12) months at Bombom Kiwalani which cost 989.90million/-. Completed health projects worth 3.98billion/- but not in use in 20 LGAs.

According to WAJIBU, Procurement and contract management processes are abused; bank accounts are not well scrutinized; revenue is lost due to failure of systems and transactions are recorded twice, reconciliation of accounts are not performed properly.

Irregular expenditure resulted in red flags of corruption and fraudulent activities.

WAJIBU has identified areas of corruptive/fraudulent transactions amounting to 3.37trillion/- equivalent to 13 per cent of the total spending of 25.92trillion/- of FY 2020/21 and higher than previous 1.77trillion/- of FY 2019/20.



# IMF explains how regional economic recovery can be affected by shocks

KIGALI

**T**HE recovery in sub-Saharan Africa picked up in the third quarter of 2021 and held up despite the onset of a fourth Covid-19 wave at the end of the year with growth estimated to have hit to 4.5 per cent, the International Monetary Fund for Regional Economic Outlook for Sub-Saharan Africa notes.

The release however notes that tragically, the progress has been offset by recent events. The Russian invasion of Ukraine has triggered a sharp rise in commodity prices—straining the fiscal and external balances of commodity-importing countries and increasing food-security concerns across the region.

As a result, economic activity is expected to slow to 3.8 percent this year, and is subject to an extraordinary range of risks, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) said.

Abebe Aemro Selassie, Director of the IMF's African Department



Abebe Aemro Selassie, director of the IMF's African Department during the conference.

noted that the war in Ukraine has already reshaped the near-term outlook for sub-Saharan Africa.

"The shock to global commod-

ity markets will add to inflation, hit the region's most vulnerable households, exacerbate food insecurity, raise poverty rates, and

possibly add to social tensions. Higher oil prices may generate a windfall gain for the region's 8 oil exporters.

But for the other 37 countries, they will worsen trade imbalances and increase living costs. Indeed, over the past couple of months we have increased our inflation projections significantly lifting the regional average for 2022 by a full 4 percentage points, and representing the worst outcome since 2008.

This year, eleven countries will face double digit inflation; almost all of these have flexible exchange rates, and almost half of these are fragile," Selassie added.

For most countries, the new crisis comes at an extremely difficult time—as the Covid-19 pandemic enters its third year, fiscal and international buffers are already under strain, and policy space is limited.

In this context, Selassie pointed to key policy priorities such as needs to accelerate further the pace of vaccination to contain the risk of new Covid-19 waves.

The IMF noted that on economic policy, governments will face three

immediate challenges over the short run.

"First, shielding their most vulnerable households without undermining debt sustainability. Public debt ratios are at their highest level in over two decades, and many low-income countries are either in, or close to, debt distress," the IMF observed.

Among recommendations include that fiscal policy needs to protect vulnerable households from rising food and energy prices, without adding to debt vulnerabilities.

This include targeted transfers to vulnerable households as the first-best response as well as targeted tax reductions or price subsidies (both with clear sunset clauses) may be a second-best alternative, especially for countries with

weak social safety nets.

The second challenge will be to contain inflation without undermining the recovery. With rising inflationary pressures and output levels below pre-pandemic trends in most countries, central banks face a difficult balancing act between curbing inflation and supporting growth.

The third challenge was cited as countries needing to address exchange rate pressures stemming from higher global interest rates and increased uncertainty.

"Looking beyond the pandemic and current geopolitical tensions, creating jobs and meeting the Sustainable Development Goals will require strong, inclusive, and sustainable growth in sub-Saharan Africa," Selassie observed.

## Africa focused VC firm raise US\$20m to boost investment

CAPE TOWN

CAPE Town-headquartered venture capital (VC) firm HAVAIC has announced the third and final close of its second pan-African investment fund of US\$20-million.

According to the company, the fund invests in start-ups born in Africa that use technology to solve real-world local, regional, and international challenges and make an impact in the markets they serve.

"The Fund invests in- and supports early-stage, post-revenue seed investments up to later-stage growth Series A investments," the VC firm added.

Ian Lessem, Managing Partner at HAVAIC, said, "The Fund's institutional investors bring new international relationships and capital. Coupled with our experience in investing in Africa, this makes for a winning combination of local expertise, networks, and follow-on funding internationally. These are all necessary ingredients when scaling businesses."

Since launching in 2020 under a joint venture with Universum Wealth, the Fund has invested in several South African, Kenyan, and Nigerian technology start-ups.

HAVAIC stated that following its second close in 2021 and the inclusion of leading institutional partners such as South African-based Fireball Capital, the third and final close allows it to "execute on its exciting pipeline of investment opportunities and leverage off its partnerships with existing and new investors in both Africa and across the globe."

Lessem added, "The escalating interest from local and international



Ian Lessem (center), managing partner at HAVAIC, Justin James (L), investment partner at Fireball Capital and Jonathan Sieff (right) Co-managing partner at Universum Wealth.

investors supports the growing prominence of African venture capital as an asset class. This is off the back of an influx of increased investment in recent years spurred on by growing awareness for these enticing African investment opportunities for local and international investors. And with the investment demand for African tech-enabled companies showing no signs of slowing down, this is just the tip of the iceberg."

The Fund is on track to complete up to 25 investments over the next three years. A third of the funds have already been deployed into early-stage African technology companies in the FinTech, HealthTech, and SafeTech industries, including Aura, Kuda, Crowdforce, Mobiz, Comparisure, Tanda, RecoMed, and HearX.

Justin James, Investment Partner at Fireball Capital, "We are drawn to HAVAIC's track record of supporting businesses that use technology-enabled solutions to solve real-world problems," said Justin James, Investment Partner at Fireball Capital. The impact of our smart capital allocation will result in sustainable job creation in South Africa and on the rest of the continent. And we look forward to working with our partners to successfully internationalise these businesses onto the global stage."

According to the VC firm's 2021 results, its portfolio companies now serve a combined five million customers in over 180 countries. Last year, HAVAIC's portfolio companies raised US\$110-million in fresh capital and increased revenue by 160%. To date, HAVAIC has achieved three international exits,

delivering annualised returns to its investors of 155%.

Jonathan Sieff, Co-Managing Partner at Universum Wealth, added, "Investing in private markets has become an increasingly important consideration for private clients, and the continued success of our joint venture with HAVAIC has ensured that we deliver the investment needs of our clients in this fast-growing asset class."

HAVAIC announced the latest addition to its diverse 15-strong portfolio of companies in February 2022, Crowdforce, which empowers Nigeria's underserved and unbanked population. In the coming weeks, the VC firm is set to finalise investments into leading pan-African communications platform Talk360 and Nigerian e-commerce player ShopEx.

## Kamonyi female entrepreneur turning dry cassava waste into livestock feed

KIGALI

FOR many years, cassava peels were considered waste and an environmental nuisance in rural communities.

However, the situation is changing thanks to innovation and entrepreneurship to turn the waste into revenues.

Cassava is a major staple crop in Rwanda as a source of calories and income for rural households and over 200,000 hectares are used for cassava growing in the country.

Besides household consumption, cassava is processed into various products to supply urban areas.

Such consumption of cassava generates a significant quantity of peels as cassava peels make 20 per cent of harvested cassava tubers meaning that when farmers reject peels as waste they lose a lot.

Akanoze Nyamiyaga Ltd, a small cassava processing firm located in the Kamonyi District is changing the narrative about cassava waste by turning it into revenue.

Founded in 2018, and owned by Alice Nyirasagamba, her business is processing cassava into flour for cooking and baking.

The female entrepreneur, following exposure to the High-Quality Cassava Peel (HQCP) technology developed by agricultural research, added a processing unit to the existing business to produce and sell HQCP mash to poultry farmers.

High Quality Cassava Peel (HQCP) mash is a perfect animal feed ingredient in cassava-producing countries.

"We use between 12 and 15 tonnes of fresh cassava daily in the first processing unit, and waste generated is processed into animal feed ingredients in the new unit constructed," she said.

The firm also relies on cassava farmers and cooperatives to secure raw materials for the HQCP unit.

"We started buying 500 Kilogrammes of peels from farmers per day but today we are buying about four tonnes of them per day. We have a machine that turns the peels into livestock feed livestock species namely poultry, cows, pigs, goats and others," she said.

She said the feeds can be fed to livestock without any other blending or can be mixed with other animal feeds to feed animals, she said adding the feed prices ranges between Rwf150 and Rwf250.

"I am building another Rwf 70 million processing unit from revenues from turning peels into livestock feed. As an estimation, I have already generated about Rwf25 million. I am also expanding the operating place," she said.

The new processing unit employs eight casual staff; five men and three women.

**BANKING & FINANCE**

## Malawi's TNM challenging economy outlook

LILONGWE

MALAWIAN mobile operator, Telekom Networks Malawi (TNM) is anticipating a "challenging" economic environment exacerbated by foreign currency shortages, a volatile exchange rate and sustained cost pressures on margins and revenue.

The company raised mobile money revenue by 23% in the financial year to the end of December, in addition to uplifting data income by 21%. However, it now anticipates a worsening of the economic environment as inflation ravages Malawi's economy.

"The macro-economic environment is expected to remain challenging putting pressure on revenue and margins," TNM said as it released its 2021 full year financials. "The volatile exchange rates and foreign currency scarcity will continue to increase the cost of our operations."

Despite these headwinds, TNM says it will "continue" with its "innovative model" aimed at minimising the effects of inflation and exchange rate volatility.

"TNM has embarked on a recovery plan that will grow the revenues for future profitability. Management will continue to pursue cost containment initiatives in order to protect margins and improve performance," explained George Partridge, outgoing chairman of the board of TNM.



On the back of a 14% rise in subscribers, TNM posted a 25% rise in after tax profits for the period to about US\$9.4-million. This was after the company lifted revenues by 9% to US\$122-million.

TNM disclosed that it has a revolving credit facility with Standard Bank amounting to US\$20-million. It said the "purpose of the facility to finance or refinance" capital expenditure.

"The facility has a tenor of 24 months and attracts an interest at a rate of Standard Bank reference rate plus 1.9% effectively 14.1%. TNM has covenanted to maintain a USD denominated account with Standard Bank and to channel all its USD receivables to the said account."

Earlier in April, the TNM board of directors appointed Ted Phiri, who served as MultiChoice finance director for southern Africa, as new board chairman.

TNM CEO Arnold Mbwana said Phiri was bringing "diverse experience across many countries to foster world-class standards of service" to the telco.

TNM is looking to boost its mobile money unit. It said last year that "over 55% of Malawi's adult population does not have access to financial services" of any kind.

"This means that the potential for growth of our business is still enormous," it said, adding that it was thus investing in "infrastructure development and continuous improvement of our business" to tap into this potential.



## WORLD

# Putin approves retaliatory sanctions over Ukraine conflict

MOSCOW / KYIV

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin signed a decree on Tuesday on retaliatory sanctions against individuals and entities in response to their "unfriendly actions" over the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

The measures will be taken in retaliation to "the unfriendly actions of the United States, foreign states and international organizations ... which aimed at illegally depriving Russia, Russian citizens and Russian legal entities of property rights or restricting their property rights," and with the aim of "protecting the national interests of Russia," according to the decree.

The document prohibits fulfilling obligations with foreign individuals and entities under sanctions, concluding deals or carrying out transactions with them. Moreover, Russia will ban the export of raw materials and products from Russia

to those it has sanctioned.

The decree does not provide any details of which individuals or entities may be affected by the measures. The Russian government was ordered to compile a list of individuals under sanctions within 10 days.

During a telephone conversation with French President Emmanuel Macron on Tuesday, Putin urged Western countries to stop supplying Ukraine with weapons.

Putin told Macron about Russia's efforts in the evacuation of civilians from Mariupol, the Kremlin said in a statement.

The Russian president urged Western countries to stop arming Kyiv, saying Russia is open to dialogue.

Putin noted that Western sanctions against Russia are worsening global food insecurity, in response to Macron's concerns over this issue.



Russian President Vladimir Putin

## Ukraine may put neutral status on referendum

Also on Tuesday, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky said that his country may put the issue of neutral status on a nationwide referendum.

If Russia's desire for Ukraine's neutral status is one of the provisions of the agreements on ending the conflict, "we are ready to consider this neutral status for Ukraine," the Ukrainian news agency quoted Zelensky as reporting.

However, the referendum would be

possible only after Ukraine receives security guarantees from "specific countries," he added.

At the peace talks with Russia in Istanbul, Turkey in March, Kyiv proposed to sign a new international treaty on security guarantees, which enshrines obligations for the guarantor countries to provide Ukraine with military assistance in the event of an attack.

In 2014, the Ukrainian parliament renounced Ukraine's "non-aligned" status with the aim of deepening cooperation with NATO. **Agencies**

# WTO: Main negotiators reach outcome on virus jab IP waiver

GENEVA / LOS ANGELES / BERLIN / SUVA

THE four main parties to negotiations on an intellectual property waiver for COVID-19 vaccines have prepared an "outcome document" for approval by the broader membership, the WTO said on Tuesday, with its chief hoping for a final deal by June.

WTO director-general Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, who has made vaccine equity her top priority since taking office in 2021, has been working for months to broker a compromise between the United States, the European Union, India and South Africa to break an 18-month-long impasse.

"What the discussions were aiming at was coming up with something workable," Okonjo-Iweala told Reuters, saying she hoped the WTO's 164 members would finalize and approve the proposal by a major conference in June. "This

will advance the discussion and dialogue. For the next pandemic or a flare up of this one, this is hugely important," she said.

The document showed that there were still unresolved areas in the draft deal, including on the duration of the waiver's application, which could be either three or five years.

## Germany

People infected with COVID-19 in Germany were now allowed to leave quarantine after just five days, with a negative test recommended but no longer mandatory, Minister of Health Karl Lauterbach said on Tuesday.

Previous rules in Germany required people infected with COVID-19 to isolate themselves for seven days and then test negative before ending their quarantine.

Infected individuals who continued to test positive after five days



should remain isolated until testing negative. According to Lauterbach, the regulatory mandated quarantine would only apply to infected persons, no longer to first contacts.

The change to the quarantine order was made on an earlier recommendation of the Robert Koch Institute (RKI), the federal government agency for disease control and

prevention.

Germany's seven-day COVID-19 incidence on Tuesday continued to decline to 632.2 infections per 100,000 citizens, down from 909.1 a week ago, according to the RKI. The number of new infections within 24 hours fell to 113,522.

## Mozambique

Mozambique has strengthened the health protocol against COVID-19 at its main border crossings with South Africa due to the recent rise in infections in the neighboring country, the health authorities announced Tuesday.

Health teams are positioned at the crossings to verify the results of COVID-19 tests and ensure compliance with the preventive measures among travelers entering Mozambique, said the Director of Health in Maputo Province Yolanda Santos who spoke to the press in Maputo, the Mozambican capital.

## Tonga

Tonga reported 174 new COVID-19 cases over the past few days, while Samoa has decided to extend its level two lockdown for another two weeks.

According to Matangi Tonga Online news website on Tuesday night, Tonga's Ministry of Health confirmed that the Pacific island nation recorded 174 COVID-19 cases from Sunday to Monday, bringing the total number of active COVID-19 cases to 1,217, the majority of which are in Tonga's main island of Tongatapu.

The ministry also said 9,255 people in Tonga have recovered from COVID-19, and the number of COVID-19 related deaths remains at 11.

Currently, 91 percent of Tonga's target population over the age of 12 have had the second doses of COVID-19 vaccine, at least 98 percent have received the first doses and 56 percent have got their booster shots.

# Zelensky: Ukraine may put neutral status on referendum

KYIV/MOSCOW/ COPENHAGEN

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## Putin tells West to stop arming Ukraine

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The Kremlin said in a statement, Putin told Macron about Russia's efforts in the evacuation of civilians from Mariupol.

The Russian president urged Western countries to stop arming Kyiv, saying Russia is open to dialogue.

He said Western sanctions against Russia are worsening global food insecurity, in response to Macron's concerns over this issue.

## Modi urges 'dialogue and di-

plomacy'

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday urged diplomatic resolutions for the ongoing Ukraine crisis.

"Dialogue and diplomacy should resolve the issue," he told a joint press conference after meeting with his Danish counterpart Mette Frederiksen.

Modi reiterated India's position on the conflict, calling for an "immediate cessation of hostilities in Ukraine."

Modi said his visit to Denmark, the first by an Indian prime minister in 20 years, was part of a process to strengthen ties between the two countries. He voiced hope to make cooperation "more dynamic" in areas such as renewable energy, health, ports, shipping, the circular economy, and water management.

Since Monday, the Indian prime minister has been on a tour of Germany, Denmark, and France. He is expected to attend the sec-

ond India-Nordic Summit on Wednesday alongside the prime ministers of Denmark, Iceland, Finland, Sweden, and Norway.

## Ukraine gets \$4.73b in aid since start of conflict

Ukrainian Prime Minister Denys Shmyhal said on Tuesday that Ukraine has received 4.5 billion euros (about \$4.73 billion) in financial international aid since the start of the conflict with Russia, the government press service said.

Over the past week, Ukraine received \$500 million in grant funds from the World Bank, Shmyhal said. "We are especially grateful for such support. This helps us to maintain all social benefits in full, as well as to open new assistance programs."

He informed that the government had launched a platform which would help raise funds for the country's post-conflict recovery.

# Uganda calls for joint action as world marks Air Quality Awareness Week

KAMPALA

AS the world commemorates Air Quality Awareness Week, Uganda on Tuesday called for joint action to address emissions that lead to detrimental health issues.

Experts told reporters here that urgent action is needed to address air pollution in the east African country, especially in the capital Kampala where some parts register higher levels than those set by World Health Organization (WHO).

According to the 2021 World Air Quality Report, Kampala was ranked among the most polluted cities, with pollution levels exceeding WHO cut-offs by 5-7 times.

The main sources of air pollution include dust from unpaved roads, domestic solid biomass energy use, and exhaust and non-exhaust emissions from vehicles, industrial emissions and open burning of solid waste.

Experts warned that with the ever-increasing urban population, air pollution in Kampala is projected to worsen if no deliberate interventions are implemented. The warnings come at a time when the world is commemorating the 16th annual Air Quality Awareness Week (May 2-6), which aims at sharing information on air quality and how it affects health.

This year's celebrations are held under the theme, "Be Air Aware and Prepared". National Environment Management Authority (NEMA), a state-run environment watchdog, said it is working on new regulations and standards aimed at reducing emissions.

"These standards will regulate emissions generated from vehicles, workplaces, industries, fugitive emissions, indoor air quality and the general ambient air quality," said Akankwasa Barirega, the executive director, NEMA.

Barirega said the regulations and standards will also form a basis for enforcement if one violates the set cut-offs. To reduce on the emissions, KCCA said it will be tarmacking more city roads, increasing the number of signaled junctions and traffic management innovations to streamline city traffic control.

The city will also promote and implement green mobility alternatives including electric mobility, non-motorized transportation and mass-transit alternatives. The public, according to KCCA, also has a role to play in reducing air pollution.

The authority said individuals can walk or cycle as a way of reducing the carbon footprint. Individuals can also among others use alternative transportation (bus or car-pool) to get to work.

Engineer Bainomugisha, the AirQo Project Leader based at Makerere University, Uganda's top university, said the project is continuing to deploy air quality monitors in different urban centers.

Through a phone application, one can see the quality of air in space and time across the country. He said authorities have also been trained on how to analyze, interpret and understand air quality data thereby taking informed policies and actions.

"With this information, authorities have the power to take mitigation actions to reduce air pollution," Bainomugisha said. He said the project has also been carrying out community outreaches teaching the public on the effects of pollution and how they can help protect the environment.

# China sets up world's highest automatic weather station

MOUNT QOMOLANGMA BASE CAMP

CHINESE scientific researchers on Wednesday established an automatic meteorological monitoring station at an altitude of over 8,800 meters, the world's highest of its kind, on Mount Qomolangma on the China-Nepal border.

It has replaced the station sitting at an altitude of 8,430 meters on the south side of the mountain, set up by British and US scientists in 2019, to become the world's highest, according to the Institute of Tibetan Plateau Research (ITP), Chinese Academy of Sciences.

Including the new station, eight elevation gradient meteorological stations have been set up on Mount Qomolangma, one of the main tasks in China's new comprehensive scientific expedition on the world's highest peak.

Zhao Huabiao, a researcher with the ITP, said the monitored meteorological data will support scientific research and mountaineering activities. The new comprehensive scientific expedition on Mount Qomolangma is part of China's second scientific research survey on the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau.

Weather factors such as temperature, wind speed and humidity will directly affect the completion of scientific research tasks and the safety of research personnel at high altitude. Therefore, a meteorological support team has been launched in safeguards of the scientific expedition.

The team is composed of staff members from the Institute of Tibetan Plateau Research under the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Chinese Academy of Meteorological Sciences, and the Meteorological Bureau of Tibet Autonomous Region, etc.

Xinhua

CHINESE President Xi Jinping called on countries to continue developing and strengthening Asia, demonstrate Asia's resilience, wisdom and strength, and make Asia an anchor for world peace, a powerhouse for global growth and a new pacesetter for international cooperation in his recent keynote speech at the opening ceremony of the Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) Annual Conference 2022.

Having been through hot and cold wars, hardships and tribulations, people in Asia deeply cherish the value of peace and understand that development gains do not come easily. Xi's propositions put forward at the recently-concluded annual conference of the BFA charted directions for maintaining peace, promoting cooperation, and enhancing solidarity among Asian countries and pointed the way for their seizing historic opportu-

# Countries should always keep their future in their own hands

nity to build a community with a shared future for Asia.

Over the past decades, Asia has enjoyed overall stability and rapid and continued economic growth, making possible the Asian Miracle.

"Peace and stability in our region does not fall into our lap automatically or come as charity from any country. Rather, it is the result of the joint efforts of countries in the region," Xi pointed out in his speech.

Rising from the misery inflicted by colonialism, militarism, and hegemonism, Asia knows the Cold War mentality would only wreck the global peace framework, that hegemonism and power politics would only endanger world

peace, and that bloc confrontation would only exacerbate security challenges in the 21st century.

The current European security crisis has made more and more Asian countries realize that they can only keep their future in their own hands when they honor such principles as mutual respect, equality, mutual benefit and peaceful coexistence, and follow a policy of good-neighborliness and friendship.

Against the backdrop of weak and faltering global economic recovery, Asia is an important powerhouse for global economic growth.

In 2021, the share of the Asian economy in the world economy rose to 47.4

percent at purchasing power parity, and the growth rate of the Asian economy is expected to reach 4.8 percent in 2022, higher than the global average, according to a report released during the BFA Annual Conference 2022.

Win-win cooperation is a sure path to Asian development and the key to Asia's long-term steady development.

Asia-Pacific countries have always upheld globalization and multilateralism, said Dr. Shamshad Akhtar, member of Council of Advisors of the BFA, former Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations (UN), and former Executive Secretary of the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP).

Multilateral trade agreements signed in the Asia-Pacific region account for more than half of the total signed globally, according to Akhtar, who noted that multilateral mechanisms in the region will inject new impetus into the continuous recovery of the Asian economy and even the global economy.

The entry into force of the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement and the opening to traffic of the China-Laos Railway has generated new opportunities for fostering a more open Asia-wide market. Countries on the continent are bound to make new strides in mutually beneficial cooperation.

The prosperity and stability in Asia

is hard-won and couldn't be cherished too much. Choosing dialogue and cooperation over zero-sum games, openness and inclusiveness over a closed-door and exclusive approach, and exchanges and mutual learning over a sense of superiority: this is the only choice worthy of the broad-mindedness of Asians.

It is the heartfelt wish shared by people in Asia that countries follow the path of peace and development, seek win-win cooperation, and contribute to an Asian family of unity and progress together.

Asian countries are wise and capable enough to cement ASEAN centrality in the regional architecture, and uphold a regional order that balances the aspirations and accommodates the interests of all parties.

People's Daily



## Britons cut back on meat and fish as cost of living crisis bites

LONDON

BRITONS are buying less meat, fish and poultry as they look to save cash, amid a worsening cost of living crisis.

Market researcher NielsenIQ said yesterday, volume sales of meat, fish and poultry fell 13 percent in the four weeks to April 23 year-on-year, a period that included the Easter holiday, and fell 7.8 percent year-on-year on a value basis, indicating that UK shoppers are moderating their purchasing in this category.

Surging prices are causing the biggest squeeze on UK household incomes since at least the 1950s and consumer confidence is at near record lows.

Last week official data found almost a quarter of Britons were struggling to pay their household bills, while the boss of the country's second largest supermarket group Sainsbury's said shoppers were now "watching every penny".

Cash-strapped Britons are looking to make savings. They are buying more cheaper own-brand food from supermarkets, cutting back on subscription streaming services such as Netflix and cancelling repair warranties on domestic

appliances.

NielsenIQ's data also showed a 15.9 percent decline in sales on a value basis of beers, wines and spirits over the four week period year-on-year.

"It is clear that as cost-of-living increases continue, retailers will be under pressure to ensure they have consumer mindsets front of mind, which are set to focus more on economizing on the number of items purchased," Mike Watkins, NielsenIQ's UK head of retailer and business insight said.

NielsenIQ said total sales at UK supermarkets fell 1.8 percent on a value basis over the four weeks year-on-year, with a slight decline in the average number of items in the basket - 11.2 versus 11.5. Echoing data from rival market researcher Kantar last week, Nielsen said German-owned discounters Aldi and Lidl led the market in terms of sales growth on a value basis, up 6.4 percent and 9.1 percent respectively.

Market leader Tesco was the only retailer of Britain's big four grocers to gain market share on a value basis.

Agencies

## Kenya imposes night curfew in northern region amid insecurity

NAIROBI

THE Kenyan government Monday declared a month-long night curfew and security operations in Marsabit County in northern part of the country to enhance security disarmament exercise over rising insecurity.

Interior Cabinet Secretary Fred Matiang'i also said Komu Sub County in neighboring Isiolo County and Sololo area near the Kenya-Ethiopia border will also be affected by the dusk to dawn curfew.

"We have noticed the nexus between the proliferation of the guns in Marsabit and the chaos in Komu where there are illegal mining activities ongoing there," he told journalists in Nairobi, the capital of Kenya.

Matiang'i said the 6 p.m.-6 a.m. curfew that will initially last for 30 days with the option of an extension will run in tandem with a disarmament exercise targeting illegal guns and ammunition.

The official said the government had in the past week mobilized enough personnel for the operation and they are already on the ground.

Matiang'i said the operation may be extended until they get rid of the illegal weapons causing havoc there and blamed the insecurity in the area on some leaders who are arming their militias from their clans.

He said special forces are among those on the ground to conduct the operation to also affect Komu sub-county, Merti, in Isiolo and parts of Sololo near the border.

Xinhua

## Chinese envoy urges biggest contributor to fulfill UN financial duties

UNITED NATIONS

CHINA'S deputy permanent representative to the United Nations on Tuesday urged the organization's biggest contributor to fulfill its financial duties.

"The largest contributor has not well-fulfilled its financial obligations to the UN over the years. This is unfair to other countries," Dai Bing told the second part of the resumed session of the Fifth Committee of the 76th session of the UN General Assembly, which deals with internal UN administrative and budgetary matters.

"Reform initiatives aimed at improving the financial situation of the UN should be strictly in line with the spirit of the UN Charter, adhere to the member states-driven principle, strengthen financial discipline, and improve comprehensive budgetary performance," said the envoy.

Dai urged the Secretariat to strengthen the comprehensive budgetary performance, improve internal control and rigorously enforce financial discipline, so as to "make sure that every penny from member states is well-spent, and enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of peacekeeping operations."

Talking about the UN's financial situ-

ation, the ambassador said "there will never be a real solution to the liquidity difficulty as long as the root cause remains unresolved."

"Any potential solution should not lead to additional financial burden for member states, especially developing countries," he said.

As the largest developing country, China has its own challenges, such as combating the pandemic, developing its economic economy and improving people's livelihood, Dai said. "However, we have still managed to actively fulfill our financial obligations, and recently contributed more than 200 million U.S. dollars to the UN."

"We call upon all member states, especially those with the paying capacity, to pay their assessed contributions as well as the outstanding arrears in full and on time, in order to support the UN in playing its central role in global governance," said the ambassador.

Xinhua

**Reform initiatives aimed at improving the financial situation of the UN should be strictly in line with the spirit of the UN**

## Biden urges voters to protect abortion rights

WASHINGTON

US President Joe Biden on Tuesday appealed to voters to protect abortion rights by backing candidates who support them in November's elections after a leaked Supreme Court draft showed it could soon overturn its 1973 decision legalizing abortion.

Biden said his administration would respond once the Supreme Court formally rules but stopped short of calling for more radical changes - including a push to have the Senate change its rules to allow a simple majority to pass a law guaranteeing access to abortions.

The Senate is split 50-50 between Republicans and Biden's Democrats, with Vice-President Kamala Harris able to break any tie.

A draft Supreme Court decision, leaked late on Monday, showed a majority of justices prepared to overturn the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision that protects abortion rights. The court on Tuesday confirmed the authenticity of the leaked document.

Biden has previously sidestepped calls to expand the Supreme Court to add more left-leaning justices.

Former President Donald Trump, who had promised to appoint justices who would overturn abortion rights, was able to seat three jurists during his four-year term, giving the court a 6-3 conservative majority.

Biden on Tuesday pressed voters to send more candidates to Congress who support women's rights to choose to get abortions.

"If the Court does overturn Roe, it will fall on our nation's elected officials at all levels of government to protect a woman's right to choose. And it will fall on voters to elect pro-choice officials this November," Biden said in a carefully-worded written statement drafted with top aides.

"At the federal level, we will need more pro-choice Senators and a pro-choice majority in the House to adopt legislation that codifies Roe, which I will work to pass and sign into law."



US President Joe Biden

Control of the House of Representatives, in which Democrats have a slim majority, and the Senate are at stake in the November elections, and Republicans have been expected to win majorities in one or both chambers.

Harris, the first woman to serve as vice-president, said opponents of Roe were seeking to take away women's rights to make decisions about their own bodies.

"The rights of all Americans are at risk," she said. "If the right to privacy is weakened, every person could face a future in which the government can potentially interfere in the personal decisions you make about your life. This is the time to fight for women and for our country with everything we have."

Biden said the ruling could reverberate beyond a woman's right to terminate her pregnancy, mentioning same-

sex marriage and other freedoms.

"It would mean that every other decision relating to the notion of privacy is thrown into question," Biden told reporters at Joint Base Andrews outside of Washington ahead of a trip to Alabama. "It's a fundamental shift in American jurisprudence if it were to hold."

The Roe decision recognized that the right to personal privacy under the US Constitution protects a woman's ability to terminate her pregnancy.

Abortion has been a flashpoint between Democrats and Republicans in the United States for decades. Democrats tend to support abortion rights, and Republicans tend to oppose them.

Biden said that as more restrictive Republican-backed abortion laws have been enacted in various states and with the Supreme Court ruling looming, he has directed White House officials to prepare options for an administration response.

The Supreme Court ruling in the abortion case

from Mississippi, due by the end of June, could energize voters on both sides of the issue to turn out in the mid-term elections, read more

"Roe was egregiously wrong from the start," conservative Justice Samuel Alito wrote in the draft opinion dated Feb 10.

Based on Alito's opinion, the court would find that the Roe v. Wade decision that allowed abortions performed before a fetus would be viable outside the womb - between 24 and 28 weeks of pregnancy - was wrongly decided because the US Constitution makes no specific mention of abortion rights. **Agencies**

## Just-concluded online Canton Fair enjoys great popularity

THE online Canton Fair, which is hailed as the "barometer" and "wind vane" of China's foreign trade, has built a unique economic and trade bridge for Chinese and foreign exhibitors and buyers.

The 131st China Import and Export Fair was held online from April 15 to 24. It was the fourth time that the event has been held online.

The latest session of the event, also known as Canton Fair, basically maintained the same scale as that of the previous session. It gathered about 25,500 domestic and overseas exhibitors, who showcased more than 3.05 million exhibits during the event, including 951,500 new products, both record highs.

Fifty exhibition sections have been set up for 16 categories of commodities; the official website of the trade fair attracted 10.09 million visitors and saw 33.9 million pageviews during the event; and 536,000 overseas buyers from 228 countries and regions registered for the exhibition, rising 41.8 percent from the previous session.

The Canton Fair, which has been held continuously for over 60 years, has accumulated a huge number of "fans".

Although it was held online due to the protracted pandemic, the 131st session of the event still saw active participation by exhibitors and buyers and achieved plenty of fruits with the help of new technologies and forms such as image and text, video, 3D, and virtual reality (VR).

Statistics suggest that during the latest session of the Canton Fair, the online exhibition booths of exhibitors registered over 6.22 million visits, and the participating enterprises host-



Marketing personnel with Qingdao Jifa Group Holdings Co., Ltd. in Jimo district, Qingdao city, east China's Shandong province, promote clothes produced for overseas market via the livestreaming platform of the China Import and Export Fair, April 15, 2022. File photo

ed 85,300 livestreaming shows to showcase their products.

"We hosted six livestreaming shows within one day during the trade fair," said Wang Dingying, deputy general manager of Ningbo Peaceport Import and Export Co., Ltd.

The company's products were displayed in 14 exhibition sections of the trade fair, which covered hardware, garments, home decorations, shoes, suitcases and bags, office supplies, consumer electronics, household electrical appliances and other categories.

Livestreaming shows on household electrical appliances were the most popular, according to Wang, who added that new models of small appliances such as coffee maker and high-speed blender attracted

buyers from India, the Philippines and other countries immediately after they were displayed.

One of the highlights of the 131st Canton Fair was high-tech products and new products that made their debut at the event.

More exhibitors showcased products they independently developed and products under their self-owned brands during the 131st Canton Fair compared with in previous sessions.

Shanghai Dragon Import and Export Co., Ltd. exhibited a good number of new products at the event, including exquisite aluminum cookware and stainless steel pot with ergonomically designed bakelite handle. Featuring novel design and high-quality materials,

these products that suit market demands drew the attention of many overseas buyers.

Green and low-carbon products turned out a hit during the event. Foshan Mega Green Products Co., Ltd. based in Foshan city, south China's Guangdong province, brought to the 131st Canton Fair many new environment-friendly bamboo products, including degradable PLA (polylactic acid) cup and eco-friendly lunchbox.

"Bamboos' growth cycle is shorter than trees, and cutting them down won't cause soil erosion. So they can replace trees as a production material and thus help protect the environment and save resources," pointed out Feng Limei, general manager of the company.

"The epidemic has affected

the living and eating habits of consumers, which is reflected in their surging demand for disposable tableware," Fend said, adding that their degradable tableware received a lot of negotiation intentions during the event.

Overseas exhibitors have also reaped the benefits of the Canton Fair. A total of 402 overseas companies from 32 countries and regions around the world exhibited diversified and characteristic products at the international pavilion of the 131st Canton Fair, including Spanish soap, Chilean red wine, Turkish coffee pot, Korean sheet mask, German bearing and Afghan pine nut.

People's Daily



# Why do African goalkeepers get evaded by European big clubs?

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

LAST year's success of Chelsea's Édouard Mendy has shone a light on the abilities of African goalkeepers.

But, in truth, the journey toward global visibility for those from the continent has been a long, winding one.

In recent times Former and present goalkeepers have voiced their thoughts on the development of African goalkeepers in Europe and the continent, Africa has a long history of outstanding goalkeepers.

In its old guise as the European Footballer of the Year award, France Football's Balon D'Or only ever had four goalkeepers finish on the podium in 53 years.

Conversely, there have been six in the African Footballer of the Year vote.

Two have won the award outright, with Cameroonian Thomas N'Kono winning it on two separate occasions.

N'Kono would forge an impressive career in Spain and famously inspire Gianluigi Buffon.

But even beyond the Italian, there are greats like his long-time international rival, Joseph Antoine-Bell, Liverpool legend, Bruce Grobbelaar, and Moroccan Badou Ezzaki, who looked up to N'Kono.

While these pioneers created lasting legacies in the European game that still resonate today, their successes did not herald a shift in perception, African goalkeepers in top-flight European football continue to be a rarity.

This is aberrant and more so considering that, as far back as 2003, a study by the international football governing body, FIFA, estimated that Africans constituted 19.6% of foreign-born players in European football leagues.

That is one in every five players imported from outside Europe. To understand this discrepancy, one need not look far.

There is a long-held and pervasive stigma around African goalkeepers in Europe based on the claim that they are erratic and lack concentration.

It is a stereotype that perpetuates itself by creating a vicious cycle.

A 2017 University of Essex study, titled Examining the Influence of Skin Tone on Playing Position in the Premier and English Football Leagues, found that lighter skin-toned players still dominate the types of positions traditionally associated with organization and communication (cen-

## \*Winning over trust in Europe

Former Nigeria international Vincent Enyeama holds the appearance re-



Former Nigeria goalie, Vincent Enyeama, reacts during a Ligue 1 match pitting Lille OSC against Paris Saint-Germain at Parc Des Princes in Paris, France.

tral and attacking midfield, and a goalkeeper).

Cameroon international, Andre Onana, captured the state of affairs best when, in 2019, he addressed the elephant in the room ahead of that year's UEFA Champions League semi-final.

"We don't have a lot of black goalkeepers at the top and people already have in their minds that black goalkeepers are not confident or they make too many mistakes," Onana revealed in one of his interviews.

"I don't see the difference between white and black goalkeepers. They're the same - they make mistakes. Everyone makes mistakes."

For African goalkeepers, however, these mistakes are considered terminal, indicative of a more fundamental problem than simple human failing.

In believing African goalkeepers to be unreliable - based on the idea of Africans being less equipped for the mental rigours required for the position - European football makes it even more difficult for them to gain opportunities in the first place, let alone thrive.

This happens both directly and indirectly, first, through a lack of representation at the highest level, and second, in the profile of players, European clubs and scouts prioritize the African market.

In the end, to catch the eye, African goalkeepers have to stand out in ways that make them impossible to ignore.

## \*Importance of Mendy's success

The wider impact of Mendy's sterling contributions to Chelsea's UEFA Champions League victory is a social one.

Combined with Onana's improbable run with Ajax Amsterdam in the same competition in 2019, and Yassine Bounou's heroics in the Sevilla goal en route to winning the 2020 UEFA Europa League, it puts together a solid manifesto for African goalkeepers

cord for the Nigeria national team with 101 caps.

He also enjoyed a brilliant career playing in Israel and France with, most notably, Hapoel Tel Aviv, and Lille OSC, respectively.

Widely regarded as one of the best in his position in Europe, he peaked in the 2013-2014 season, winning three Player of the Month awards and coming within 115 minutes of the clean sheets record of Ligue 1's Gaetan Huard, the French keeper who went 1176 minutes without conceding a goal.

However, despite winning consecutive CAF Champions League titles with Enyimba in 2003 and 2004, and being awarded the Golden Glove prize at the 2004 Africa Cup of Nations, Enyeama had to take the scenic route to gain recognition and forge a career in one of Europe's top five leagues.

By the time he earned a move to the north of France, he was already aged 29.

He chalks this up to, among other things, the lack of supporting infrastructure and foundational principles in the development of African goalkeepers.

These factors, in his mind, allow the stereotypes to persist.

"We have raw talent in Africa but no academies to put them through what is obtainable in Europe," Enyeama noted.

"We're just talented and we wake up one day and we put them through what is obtainable in Europe," Enyeama noted.

"If I bring a child and train him on what to do ... by the time he's 10 years old, he already knows where he has to be."

"So he's going into matches with confidence,

while providing crucial representation for young, aspiring prospects.

It also robustly challenges the myth of inadequacy that has held them back for so long.

Enyeama, having similarly been one of the greats of his generation, believes he played his part in doing precisely that and is proud of what the current crop has achieved.

Case in point, so impressive were his performances in Israel that, when Bnei Yehuda accepted a transfer offer from Hapoel Tel Aviv for his sale in 2007, the club still wanted his help.

"After my first year in Israel, the next question they asked was, 'Please, can you bring me another goalkeeper from Nigeria that is as good as you?' That's how [former Enyimba teammate] Dele Aiyenugba came to Israel," he noted.

Similarly, when Mendy left Rennes in the summer of 2020, the club simply signed his international teammate, Alfred Gomis, as a replacement.

Representation and visibility play a vital role in breaking down barriers and opening doors for African goalkeepers in Europe.

"I am not the only one, but I think - along with Tony Sylva and [Carlos] Kameni I contributed massively to paving the way for African goalkeepers," he disclosed.

"We cemented that hole that was created in the minds of people."

"In the minds of a lot of Western Europeans, African goalkeepers were not good. Our performances kind of opened their eyes."

"And that's why I'm so happy for Mendy, because he came from a very humble background, and to achieve that massive feat! It's been wonderful. That would also open the way."

Impressive and trailblazing as they were, Sylva, Kameni, and Enyeama never played for teams with designs on the biggest trophies, which no doubt limited the scope of their influence.

For the current crop, shattering that glass ceiling and competing at the very zenith of the sport will only magnify their achievements and make Africa's case even more forcefully.



Refuelling Solutions (T) Ltd's General Manager, Renatus Mabeyo (R), hands over 34 football jerseys to Twaha John, Youth Chairman of Bwawani Kijitonyama Ward, Kinondoni District, in Dar es Salaam yesterday. The sports equipment donation was part of the company's participation in various socio-economic activities, including backing sports. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT MIRAJI MSALA

## Absa Bank drums up support for Dar City Marathon 2022

By Guardian Correspondent

THE Absa Bank Tanzania has joined the list of sponsors for the second edition of Dar City Marathon 2022, which is slated for the coming weekend.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam, the Absa Bank Head of Marketing and Corporate Relations Aron Luhanga said this is one of the fastest-growing athletics events hence it has attracted Absa's attention.

"We want to join the organizers in promoting a healthy lifestyle culture and also promoting our beautiful city to the entire world," he said.

He said Absa, apart from sponsoring the marathon, will also allow staff and customers to participate in the various races including 5km, 10km, and 21km.

"We are all set and looking forward to the big event. It will be a good opportunity for participants to admire the city of Dar es Salaam and observe fitness," he said.

He said Absa will have a tent at the Mnazi Mmoja grounds where the Marathon will take place hence participants should visit to get the Absa experience.

He called on participants to register on time to avoid a last-minute rush as the tickets are limited.

After the Marathon, there will be the premiering of the Royal Tour Fim, which was officially launched by President Samia Suluhu Hassan in the United States recently to promote various tourist attractions in the country.

## Dar set to host boxing fights

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

THE big boxing night, known as 'Revenge Night', is expected to take place in Dar es Salaam soon, with all participating pugilists having a chance for getting revenge.

Dar es Salaam boxer, Abdallah Pazi 'Dulla Mbabe', may get the opportunity for a rematch with Morogoro's Twaha Kassim after the former was beaten twice and one bout against the latter was declared a draw.

The bouts promoter, Selemani Semunyu, said they will provide an opportunity for boxers who had lost to again come up against their opponents to prove their worth.

"The 'Revenge Night' is one of the fight nights that will take place soon, boxers lined up for the day should prepare,

they will fight those who beat them," said Semunyu pointed out.

Semunyu said he believes that the boxers who will get a chance to revenge against their opponents will not repeat the mistakes that cost them.

The promoter pointed out some of the boxers expected to be in the ring include Mfaume Ahmed, and Hassan Ndonga, whereas others will be made public later.

He said before the fights he hopes to go to various regions to promote them as well as scout for pugilists with talent but are lacking promoters.

The promoter revealed he will start visiting Ruvuma in July this year and organize an international bout that will bring together Selemani Kidunda and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) pugilist, Erick Katompa.

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

AFTER a long silence, traditional dance artist, Revina Kasabila, has said that she is now preparing to come back with new hits that she believes will get her back on the charts.

Revina had, in an interview, mentioned some of the hits as 'Abazaille, Abashaija' which has been sung in Haya, and another song titled 'Wana Senene'.

"The last time I was heard was between 2019 and 2020 singing the song 'Tembelea Kagera', but later I came across challenges that are beyond my control and I had to stop," Revina noted.

Revina said she has now decided to prepare many songs before releasing a new album which she hopes will constitute eight or 10 songs if her plans go well.

The artist noted that traditional music is now lagging considering the

genre's artists are not as popular as was the case in the past due to various factors that have contributed to the genre losing its appeal.

"As you may recall, I held sway for a long time, there were moreover traditional music singers including Saida Karoli and several others from Kagera, but now we have become less popular, a situation that makes traditional music look to have seemingly plunged into oblivion," she said.

Revina said she was planning to come back to make sure she hardly experience setbacks.

The musician disclosed she still intends to continue doing traditional music through composing tracks with a taste of Kagera.

"I am still maintaining the traditions and culture of the region, as my 'Senene' song that I once sang has helped to make many people love Senene that is popular in our region," she said.



Revina Kasabila

# Traditional music star targets to bounce back



## Klopp hails another 'special' final after Liverpool see off Villarreal

MADRID

JURGEN Klopp said reaching a third Champions League final in five years with Liverpool felt just as special as the first after his team saw off a spirited fightback from Villarreal on Tuesday to keep their quadruple hopes alive.

Trailing 2-0 from the first leg of their semi-final, Villarreal sparked hopes of a remarkable turnaround in the return at the Estadio de la Ceramica after Boulaye Dia finished in the third minute and Francis Coquelin headed in another to level the tie at 2-2.

But Klopp threw on Luis Diaz for Diogo Jota at the interval to shake Liverpool into life and it worked, the visitors scoring three times in 12 minutes through Fabinho, Diaz and Sadio Mane to secure a 3-2 win on the night and a 5-2 victory on aggregate.

"It feels like the first final because it's always so special -- it's the best club competition in the world," Klopp said. "Respect to Villarreal. Wonderful stadium and what they are doing here is incredible. It feels so special because it was so difficult for us.

"It was massive from the boys. Before the game I said I'd like to read the headlines that the mentality monsters were in town. I didn't want us to defend the result but go for the win, and the second half was like this."

Liverpool will await the winner of the second semi-final between Real Madrid and Manchester City, who meet at the Santiago Bernabeu on Wednesday with City leading 4-3 from the opener last week.

"To be in a final is never easy and to make this a third in five years is incredible from this group of boys," Liverpool's Andy Robertson said. "As fans and players, we should never take days like this for granted."

Either City or Madrid will offer a sterner test than Villarreal, but after a chastening experience at Anfield last week, Unai Emery's side delivered a spirited performance that rattled Liverpool and showed why they knocked out both Juventus and Bayern Munich to reach the semi-finals.

"I have no regrets," said Emery. "We have learned how to compete with the best teams. There were some answers we just couldn't find."

Liverpool were careless, perhaps complacent even, in the first half but sensational in the second. Diaz, who started on the bench, was integral to the fightback, and may soon have to be an automatic starter for Klopp.

"He's been special," said Robertson. "The talent he has, the will he has to win. He fits us perfectly. He made a big difference."

A banner draped behind the Villarreal goal at one end read "90 minutes from our dream" while before kick-off the stadium announcer shouted "it's possible, the comeback is possible!"

And if anyone inside the ground was still sceptical, they were given an early injection of belief as Pervis Estupinan swung in a cross from the left and Etienne Capoue's skewed finish was turned in by Dia.

Liverpool lacked their usual control and precision, with Villarreal's second goal coming four minutes before half-time as Pau Torres launched a long ball from deep for Capoue to run onto.

Capoue's first touch cannoned away from him but he recovered, controlling and twisting away from Robertson before hanging up a superb cross with his left foot for Coquelin to head in.

- Smarting -

The half-time whistle prompted huge cheers from the home fans, whose team were level in the tie, and a change from Klopp, as Diaz replaced Jota.

Liverpool looked like a team smarting after the break. They were rushing now to take throw-ins, eager to find the intensity they had previously lacked.

AFP

## Shakhtar move to UCL groups after Villarreal loss

ZURICH

SHAKHTAR Donetsk will be allocated a group stage spot in the next Champions League after Villarreal were eliminated in the semifinals on Tuesday.

Amid so much turmoil in Ukrainian football, the upgrade should guarantee tens of millions of euros in Champions League prize money next season for Shakhtar, who have been touring Europe playing charity games in exile from Russia's invasion.

Villarreal's 5-2 aggregate loss to Liverpool ensured the title will be won by a team that already qualified for next season's Champions League through their domestic league finish. Real Madrid and Manchester City play in the other semifinal second leg on Wednesday.

The entry in next season's competition that UEFA protects for the defending champion can now pass to the highest-ranked national league that does not already have a direct place in the group stage starting in September.

That country is No. 12-ranked Ukraine and their top club are Shakhtar, who had been scheduled to enter the playoffs round in August.

Shakhtar led the Ukraine Premier League standings when the season was abandoned last month with no official title to be awarded. Russia invaded Ukraine on Feb. 24, one day before the league was to resume after a two-month winter break.

UEFA should formally confirm Ukraine's allocation of European competition entries within weeks.

The financial security offered by Champions League football should help Shakhtar find stability amid uncertainty for Ukraine soccer. It is unclear how many players, especially from abroad, they can retain and sign for next season, or where the squad will practice and play.

(Agencies)

# 'We'll beat England in that one': How Diego Maradona's 'Hand of God' jersey reached auction

By Tom Hamilton, ESPN Senior Writer

**H**AD you given Diego Maradona's jersey to any England fan after that 1986 World Cup quarterfinal, chances are they'd have either torn the blue Argentina jersey to shreds, or set it on fire. Now the one worn by Argentina's Maradona when he scored two of the most famous goals in World Cup history will set a world record price at auction for a match-worn jersey.

Those two goals, in Argentina's 2-1 victory over England, are etched in World Cup history. The second, where Maradona snaked from the halfway line, through England's defense, was voted Goal of the Century by FIFA. The first is infamous. Maradona got ahead of goalkeeper Peter Shilton and, as the two jumped, Maradona palmed the ball into England's empty net -- known as the "Hand of God" goal. On April 22 it was put up for auction by England midfielder Steve Hodge, who swapped shirts with Maradona after the game.

Auction house Sotheby's put an estimated £4-6 million price (approximately \$5-7.5 million U.S. dollars) on the item and within hours, the first bid had come in at the £4 million mark. When the additional buyer's premium, overhead premium, and Value Added Tax are factored in, the shirt will, on May 4, likely sell for an item of sports memorabilia in history.

This listing hasn't been without controversy. Maradona's own family claim it's not the right shirt, saying the one Hodge has kept since 1986 was in fact the one Maradona wore in the first half of the match, instead of the one he swapped into for the second half when he scored both goals. Sotheby's, in turn, says it has gone through "extensive diligence and scientific research on the item" to prove it is in fact the correct shirt.

"There has been interest, I can't say any more than that," Sotheby's Brahm Wachter, vice president, and head of streetwear and modern collectables, told ESPN. "You could have Maradona fans who will be interested, but you could have traditional sports memorabilia collectors -- I think it's an amazing moment in football history."

"So, you could have someone who really loves that sport, who wants the item and feeling like they own the moment as when you look at it, it does invoke some emotion. It could be as simple as that."

The shirt was made specially for that quarterfinal, played on June 22, 1986 in the blistering Mexico City sun. The story goes that Argentina's cotton jerseys were too heavy for the heat, so manager Carlos Bilardo and Ruben Moschella, the team's technical assistant, searched for an alternative option. "We ran from one side of the city to the other with a backpack," Moschella later said in the book *Maradona: The Boy, The Rebel, The God*. He came back with two choices, one a darker blue and the other a lighter shade. The decision was made by Maradona who strolled in,



Diego Maradona outjumps England goalkeeper Peter Shilton to score with his 'Hand of God' goal.

saw the lightly striped, blue number, saying: "We'll beat England in that one."

Then it came down to local seamstresses. They had to sew on the Argentina badges and, because Moschella could only find numbers made for American football uniforms, iron on the numbers. If you look at the Maradona shirt in Sotheby's, you can see the badge looks like it's only loosely attached to the fabric -- the edges slowly peeling away because of the rushed, hand-stitched sewing. The numbers on the various shirts are also uneven and are a bizarre, sparkly silver color.

"The numbers were a joke," Maradona wrote in his book, *Touched by God*. "When we went out on to the field, some of the guys had sparkles on their face because the numbers were silver and sparkling. If it had happened to rain, like it had in our match against Uruguay, it was going to be a real disaster: we wouldn't know who was who or what position the others were playing."

After a nervy first half, Maradona's infamous goal gave Argentina the lead in the 51st minute, following it with that astonishing solo effort four minutes later.

After scoring the goal, Maradona beckoned for his teammates to come and celebrate so they could mask the dubious nature of how it came about.

"I couldn't reach [the ball], and Shilton was there, and I couldn't head it," Maradona said to the BBC. "I started running, and Shilton didn't realize, and the one who told him was the sweeper [Terry] Butcher as he saw my hand. When I see the linesman running, I go out shouting 'goal!' And I looked behind and the referee had taken the bait."

Maradona later said his first came "a little from the head of Maradona, and a little with the hand of God." But there was a wider significance behind this, according to Maradona. The match came four years after the end of the Falklands War, between Great Britain and Argentina, over disputed territory in the south Atlantic Ocean. After a 74-day conflict, Argentina surrendered to the British, and Maradona would later say this goal was revenge

for that conflict.

It was Hodge's hooked clearance that gave Maradona the opportunity to palm it beyond Shilton, and Hodge later wanted to get the Argentinian captain's shirt.

"I thought, 'I won't be here again, I'll try and get a shirt,'" Hodge told FIFA. "I shook Maradona's hand but he was being mobbed so I thought, 'I'll leave it.' As I went down [to the changing rooms] Maradona was walking with two of his teammates. I looked him in the eye, tugged on my shirt as if to say 'any chance of swapping?' He came straight across, motioned a prayer and we exchanged shirts."

The shirt stayed in Hodge's possession and was put on show at the National Football Museum in 2002. There it sat, among some of the greatest memories and mementos of English football, as the thorn in this national sport's side. England finished fourth in the 1990 and 2018 World Cups, but haven't won the tournament since 1966.

Hodge was consistent in rejecting offers for the shirt. Speaking in December 2020, just a month after Maradona died, Hodge told the BBC, "I have had it for 34 years and have never once tried to sell it. I like having it. It has incredible sentimental value. I've had people knocking on my door non-stop and the phone's constantly ringing from every TV and radio station, and even foreign stations."

"It has been uncomfortable, and it hasn't been nice. I have seen articles on the internet and there

has been a bit of flak flying around saying I wanted a million or two million and am hawking it around for money. I find it disrespectful and totally wrong. It's not for sale. I am not trying to sell it."

But then 16 months later came the announcement in April 2022 the shirt was finally going up for auction. "The 'Hand of God' shirt has deep cultural meaning to the football world, the people of Argentina, and the people of England, and I'm certain that the new owner will have immense pride in owning the world's most iconic football shirt," Hodge said in the announcement.

When Sotheby's Wachter -- who is in charge of the auction -- was asked by ESPN why Hodge decided to sell the shirt now, he answered: "... Steve had this many years, he felt very emotionally connected to it and I think at a certain point he felt the time was right for him..."

When the auction was announced, Maradona's family questioned its authenticity. Dalma, his daughter, told Agence France-Presse: "This former player thinks he has my dad's second-half jersey, but it's a mix-up, he has the one from the first half. It's not that one. I don't want to say who has it because it's crazy. He [Maradona] said it. He said, 'How am I going to give him the shirt of my life?' We wanted to clarify that so that people who want to buy it know the truth."

Sotheby's refuted Dalma's comments, saying the shirt had been independently verified by Resolution Photomatching,

which looked at the patch. According to that review, there are nuances on the badge, like the black stitching stretching into the yellow of the badge, which is different to the shirt Maradona wore in the first half. The numbers are also far more aligned with his second-half shirt than they are on the first-half shirt.

"There was indeed a different shirt worn by Maradona in the first half, but there are clear differences between that and what was worn during the goals," a Sotheby's spokesperson said. "And so, prior to putting this shirt for sale, we did extensive diligence and scientific research on the item to make sure it was the shirt worn by Maradona in the second half for the two goals."

In his book, Maradona said: "On the way to the locker room, one of the English guys -- it turned out to be Hodge, but I wasn't sure at the time -- asked me to swap jerseys with him. I said yes, and we did."

To date, the most money ever spent at auction on a piece of sports memorabilia was the \$8.8 million paid at Sotheby's in New York in December 2019 for the original Olympic Games Manifesto. Next up on the list is Babe Ruth's 1928-30 jersey with fetched \$5.64 million in 2019 followed by a set of golf irons Tiger Woods used to win all four majors between 2000 and 2001 which sold for \$5.516 million on April 10.

The initial £4 million bid on the Maradona jersey means the final price would be close to £5 million (equating to just under \$6 million, once the buyer's premium, overhead premium, and VAT are factored in).

"Babe Ruth's was a seminal jersey," Wachter says. "Jackie Robinson's jersey went for above \$4 million (sold at auction in 2021), those are hallmark players. When I think about the key moments in the greatest players' careers, like Tiger Woods' best year -- what would Michael Jordan's 'Last Dance' game-six jersey go for?"

"The Last Dance changed the entire sports memorabilia market. I think that was huge -- it coincided with the pandemic and people wanting nostalgia, but that show in some ways created this unbelievable nostalgic feeling from so many people. We saw the trading card market soar, and we're now seeing that people are beginning to see that game-worn is historically undervalued in the market."

"When you're looking at somebody's career, this is the moment for [Maradona]. By many people he's

considered to be the greatest ever, so I felt like this would be the right price."

The previous highest price for a piece of football memorabilia was the Sheffield Football Club Rules -- the world's oldest football rulebook -- which reached £881,250 (then equivalent to \$1.24 million) in 2011. One of the four original FA Cups sold for £478,400 in 2005.

Overall, the most sought-after items in the market are centered around England's 1966 World Cup triumph. The holy grail is Sotheby's spokesperson said. "And so, prior to putting this shirt for sale, we did extensive diligence and scientific research on the item to make sure it was the shirt worn by Maradona in the second half for the two goals."

A replica of the Jules Rimet Trophy went for £254,400 (\$350,000) in 1997, while Nobby Stiles' 1966 World Cup winner's medal was purchased by Manchester United for £188,200 (\$313,000) in 2010. Defender Alan Ball's medal sold for £164,800 (\$260,000) in 2005.

"The 1966 World Cup seems to be having some desire in the market for items from there," Wachter said.

For match-worn football shirts, the £140,000 (\$220,000) paid in 2002 for Pele's 1970 World Cup final shirt was the most spent on a match-worn football jersey, until a jersey worn by Leo Messi went for \$450,000 on May 1 at Goldin Auctions. However, this Maradona sale completely shifts the market.

"Football, considering the global audience, is undervalued," Wachter said. "There is a fanaticism collecting game-worn items in the U.S., but aside from something like this which is like an artifact, that same feeling could still travel to other parts of the world."

At 11:01 a.m. ET on May 4, the online hammer will come down and Maradona's shirt will have a new owner for the first time in 36 years. The buyer will likely be anonymous, but records will be broken. Two years after his death, Maradona will have completely changed the football memorabilia market.

"I hope it won't be the pinnacle of my career, but it will be bittersweet," Wachter says. "I don't think I'll ever get to handle something which is so drenched in historical, personal history or anything like this ever again. And whoever buys it, it'll probably never surface again."

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

Klopp hails another 'special' final after Liverpool see off Villarreal

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Simba SC head coach, Pablo Franco.

## Franco: Simba SC needs good signings in 2022/23 season

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

SIMBA SC head coach Pablo Franco has said his team needs to make good signings next season so that it can compete with the big teams and even win away ties.

The Spanish coach stated this season's CAF Confederation Cup had helped him identify his team's weaknesses so the only way to do well is to make a good signing in the next main transfer window.

"We can't win at home and see ourselves as a big team, we have to register, especially in the attacking position, so that we can challenge the big teams in Africa, otherwise, we will be wasting time," Franco noted.

Simba SC's management recently disclosed it was shocked by the rumors circulating online that the club was fearing meeting Yanga in this season's Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) semi-final.

Simba SC has this season taken on Yanga twice in the NBC Premier League, with the sides finishing the clashes locked to 0-0 draws.

Reports from social media indicate that Simba SC is worried about meeting the age-old rival in the ASFC semi-final.

The Msimbazi Street side may therefore use the ASFC quarterfinal clash against Pamba FC to deliberately crash out to avoid meeting Yanga.

Franco disclosed that the team's failure to do well in major tournaments is caused by a lack of quality players and consistency.

Simba has so far set its sight on performing well in this season's ASFC, as it has been knocked out of the CAF Confederation Cup.

The Premier League defending champion has moreover little chance of winning the top-flight title as it is trailing Yanga.

Franco pointed out that Simba needs to find players with good quality based on the current failure to do well.

The coach noted: "It has been very difficult for Simba to get good results in big games due to the quality in the team being normal, we need to do well and, to do that, we need to increase the best players in the team."

"The quality of the players is important to Simba and we cannot be the best in the leadership and forget the quality in the team."

"We must make plans that will be good for our team and we will continue to fight for success in our plans," the coach revealed.

# Ruvu Shooting holds Yanga to draw in Premier League



Yanga's winger, Farid Musa (R), speeds past Ruvu Shooting center back, Michael Masinda, as the outfits locked horns in this season's NBC Premier League clash that took place in Kigoma yesterday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Guardian Correspondent

THE NBC Premier League leader, Yanga, has failed to widen its points gap with the close challenger, Simba SC, as the former settled for 0-0 with Ruvu Shooting in the top-flight clash that took place at Lake Tanganyika Stadium in Kigoma yesterday.

Ruvu Shooting made a foray into Yanga's penalty area in the second minute of the game, in which midfielder Rashid Juma executed a pass to fellow midfielder Pius Buswita but the latter failed to score, allowing Yanga defenders to clear the ball.

Yanga then made their way into Ruvu Shooting's area in the 11th minute, following a free-kick executed by midfielder Said Ntobazonkiza, his effort found fellow midfielder Salum Abubakar, who fired a shot high over the bar.

The Premier League leading

goal scorer, Fiston Mayele, could have given Yanga the lead in the 22nd minute, his header off a cross by midfielder Khalid Aucho ricocheted off Ruvu Shooting's crossbar.

Ruvu Shooting responded to the attack two minutes later, when forward Saadat Mohamed dribbled past Yanga defenders on the left-wing, before firing a powerful shot that was saved by goalkeeper Djigui Diarra for a corner kick which was wasted.

Mohamed was released by Rashid, a former Simba SC player

who was at the top level in the match.

There was later goalmouth melee in Ruvu Shooting's penalty box in the 49th minute, after fullback Kibwana Shomari's cross found goalkeeper Mohamed Makaka out of position, but the outfit's defenders cleared.

Mayele again hit the crossbar four minutes before the break, as Yanga sought to find Ruvu Shooting's back of the net.

The goal-getter had collected a pass by a teammate inside Ruvu Shooting's area, got the better of

a defender, and cracked a fierce left-foot shot that beat Makaka and came off the crossbar.

After the breather, it was an end-to-end affair, as was the case in the first half, with Ruvu Shooting's Makaka, in particular, turning out to be the busier of the two shot-stoppers.

The experienced shot-stopper was forced to execute several good saves as Yanga was in pursuit of the opener.

Yanga made substitutions, seeking to boost its sharpness, introducing Chrispin Ngushi, Djuma Shabani, and Heritier Makambo, but Ruvu Shooting stood firm to keep their opponents in check.

Mayele came close to finding his way into the score sheet in which the attacker attempted a scissor kick to make the most of substitute Ngushi's ball, the goal-getters effort however flew over.

Ruvu Shooting made few forays into Yanga's box, banking mostly on counter-attacks, thanks to Yanga's series of attacks.

Ruvu Shooting was reduced to 10 men with six minutes to go, as Juma was given marching orders for uttering foul words to the referee.

**Ruvu Shooting:**

Mohamed Makaka, Nathaniel Chilambo, Ally Kombo, Michael Masinda, Iddy Mobby, Abdulswamad Kasim, Haruna Chanongo, Pius Buswita, Saadat Mohamed, Abdulrahman Mussa, and Rashid Juma

**Yanga:**

Djugui Diarra, Kibwana Shomari, Yassin Mustapha, Dickson Job, Yannick Bangala, Khalid Aucho, Salum Abubakar, Farid Musa, Said Ntobazonkiza, Feisal Salum, and Fiston Mayele

## Mpole tipped to win Premier League golden boot prize



George Mpole

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

GEITA Gold FC head coach Fred Felix has backed the club's striker George Mpole to have a great chance to be this season's NBC Premier League top scorer ahead of Fiston Mayele of Yanga.

Mpole is currently chasing Mayele in the race for the golden boot prize scoring 11 goals, while his opponent has 12 goals.

The Geita Gold FC goal-getter, former Real Nakonde FC, Maji Maji FC, and Mbeya City FC player, has been on fire this season.

His displays have earned him a call-up into the senior national team, which has seen him manage to score one goal and execute one assist in his two appearances for Taifa Stars.

Felix, alias 'Minziro', believes Mpole has a better chance of scoring more goals in the remaining games this season and surpassing Mayele and, at the end of the season, turning into the top scorer.

The tactician pointed out: "It is not difficult for Mpole to score a lot of goals this season due to the knowledge and effort he is showing from his ball movements to interchanging plays that he makes room for himself to have more opportunity and receive balls to score."

"Every time he is on the pitch he thinks of scoring, just like Mayele, and it is difficult to distinguish these strikers at the moment

because when they are on the pitch any time you can see them score and that is why I see Mpole doing better despite being two goals short," Minziro disclosed.

On paper and supporting statistics, Mayele has a great chance to take the golden boot prize due to the quality of Yanga as well as the service given to him by attacking midfielders like Said Ntobazonkiza, Feisal Salum, and Jesus Moloko, who surround him and make sure he gets the final passes to score.

His ball movements moreover make a statement, he is, on and off the ball, a goal poacher within the 18-yard box, the quality gives him a chance to get more scoring chances.

Apart from the fact Mpole has been very good since Geita Gold FC was promoted to the league this season and playing as a double striker with Daniel Lyanga gives him the freedom in his style of moving in and out of the box to receive the second ball from Lyanga and score goals.

Unlike Mayele, whose 12 goals have all been scored within the 18-yard box, Mpole has goals scored outside the 18-yard box.

This is the first season for Mpole to play for Geita Gold FC in the Premier League, as is the case with Mayele signed by Yanga from AS Vita of DR Congo during the previous season's transfer window.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

