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TANZANIA

TUESDAY 14 NOVEMBER, 2023

National Pg 3
10bn/-allocated for LPG, gas cylinders

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Dar to host global meet on gender financing

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Construction of Kilwa Fishing port

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Works minister Innocent Bashungwa (3rd-L, foreground, gesturing), Minister of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments Mohamed Mchengerwa (2nd-R) and Dar es Salaam regional commissioner Albert Chalamila (3rd-R) have a first-hand account yesterday of the damage floodwaters due to several days of pounding rain have made to Dar es Salaam's strategic Jangwani Bridge. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Jangwani Bridge flooding: Clear all waste, govt tells Tanroads

The project invests in an integrated set of mitigation measures to resolve persistent flooding in the Msimbazi basin in Dar es Salaam, with a focus on the lower Msimbazi Valley floodplain area

By Guardian Reporters

WORKS minister Innocent Bashungwa has directed the Tanzania National Roads Agency (Tanroads) in Dar es Salaam Region to remove all the mud and waste under the Jangwani Bridge.

Speaking at a visit by a high-powered ministerial team at the troubled spot yesterday, the minister said floods at Jangwani have largely been contributed by the poor waste removal system.

People dump their wastes under the bridge, he said, while his Regional Admin-

istration and Local Governments counterpart Mohamed Mchengerwa asked that regional authorities should help in educating the public on the importance of keeping the drainages clear of wastes.

The visit follows chaos caused by heavy rains pounding Dar es Salaam on Sunday, where flooding at the Msimbazi Valley was especially pronounced.

Properties were destroyed and houses crumbled, leaving scores of inhabitants with no roof above them for shelter.

The government directed regional and dis-

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AU: Concerted efforts vital to eliminate graft

By Correspondent Zuwena Shame

THE African Union (AU) has expressed concern over increased corruption in the continent, calling for concerted efforts to combat it and promote good governance.

Pascoal Joaquim, the African Union Advisory Board on Corruption (AUABC) vice chairman, issued this appeal at a swearing-in ceremony of four advisory board members in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

AUABC board member Kwami Senanu, stood in for the chairman, saying corruption is one of the biggest challenges in many African countries, hence the need to join hands and work together in combating it.

He underscored the need for newly elected members of the board to identify the sources to combat corruption beyond their national boundaries, affirming that AUABC is aware of corrupt leaders on the continent.

The board needs to commit itself to combat corruption, as aspiration to leadership should not be treated as a business enterprise, but those wishing to lead have to focus on "the true essence of leadership," he stressed.

AUABC members need to understand

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TAA set to retain KADCO staff after KIA handover

By Guardian Reporter, Hai

THE government has assured workers of the defunct Kilimanjaro Airport Development Authority (KADCO) that the security of their jobs was not at issue following the handing over of its operations to the Tanzania Airports Authority (TAA).

Transport minister Prof Makame Mbarawa made this affirmation here yesterday at a meeting with the staff now supervised by new management, noting that the government was working to protect their jobs in the course of being shifted to TAA.

He promised there will be no retrenchments or a reduction of salaries, he said, affirming that the handover of KIA to TAA takes the number of airports run by the government to 59.

Yet there are issues to be solved on the issue so the former KADCO employees will be informed on what follows next, "but let me assure you that your jobs are safe," he said.

After the takeover, the government plans to carry out massive changes at the airport, where a new terminal is on the cards, he said, while TAA director general Musa Mbura said the agency was beginning to implement the minister's

directives.

TAA was working on how to accommodate the workers, he said, at an event where handing over the Kilimanjaro International Airport (KIA) to TAA after 25 years of operating under KADCO was being formalized, a shift that occurred in the wake of the legislature directing the government to move KADCO operations to TAA.

Tabling a report on the move in the just ended parliamentary session, the minister said KADCO, a company registered on March 11, 1998 was handed the airport to operate under the privatization policy

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Ecotourism attracts one million visitors

The tourism sector generates over \$2.6bn in economic output, supporting more than 1.5m jobs, accounting for 17.2 percent of GDP, 25 percent of total export earnings and 60 percent of service industry revenues

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE year 2022 was a record year for the tourism sector as more than one million visitors came to enjoy the country's

ecological offerings, the Natural Resources and Tourism minister Angellah Kairuki has declared.

Speaking at an investment gala here over the weekend organized to promote

the country's tourism destinations to potential visitors from the United States, she said that 100,600 tourists came from the US.

She linked the positive trend in visits to Tanzania with greater awareness of its attractions through 'The Royal Tour' documentary starring President Samia Suluhu Hassan, attracting a large audience in that country.

CNN prominently featured Zanzibar in its 'Connecting Africa' periodical and 60-second tourism promotions, she stated, noting that Tanzania was also featured on CNN listing 30 most amazing places to visit.

The government is actively encouraging investments in infrastructure and development of tourism markets, which presents a good opportunity for US companies to increase sales and find a strategic foothold to grow in Africa, she remarked.

US companies need to participate

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SPORTS



FOREIGN-BASED QUARTET JOINS TAIFA STARS CAMP AHEAD OF WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS

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CHELSEA HOLD MAN CITY IN PREMIER LEAGUE CLASSIC, LIVERPOOL UP TO SECOND

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Jangwani Bridge flooding: Clear all waste, govt tells Tanroads

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tract commissioners countrywide to visit flood victims and provide assistance to those severely affected, with the portfolio minister saying yesterday that RCs and DCs need to conduct an evaluation of the impacts caused by the rains.

This would help the government to know the extent of the damage in various places to take the relevant measures, while asking managers of the Tanzania Rural and Urban Roads Agency (TARURA) to see how they can repair damaged roads affected by floods, in the city and elsewhere.

Accompanied by the city RC, the ministerial team visited residents of affected areas on the upward reaches of the Msimbazi Valley "to expedite the second phase of construction of drainages."

The minister blamed the contractor who built the Jangwani Bridge, saying he has let down the government by constructing a structure that has not solved existing challenges, pointing at frequent floods during the rainy season.

Observers, however, pointed out that environmental activists contributed to the problem as earlier there was three meters of flooding space below the bridge but the National Environmental Management Council (NEMC) directed the non-harvesting of sand, starting late 1990s.

The result was a slow accumulation of sand leading to the first overtopping of the bridge with flooding during El Nino rains, late 2011, at which point the government started toying with various scenarios as disparate interests pushed for the control of the area.

The visiting ministers said the government will now construct a stronger and better bridge that can last for 100 years and end flood challenges at the Jangwani area.

Mchengerwa made reference to a directive by President Samia Suluhu Hassan who convened a meeting between PO-RALG, Works, Treasury and the country office of the World Bank to find out how to improve the Jangwani area.

On November 22 last year the government signed 1.24trn/- agreements with the World Bank for soft loans for the development of the Msimbazi River basin, also involving the construction of a modern bridge.

The loan is part of the Msimbazi Basin Development Project that aims to strengthen urban services and institutional capacity in the Dar es Salaam metropolitan area.

It is intended to improve resilience, mobility, livability and service delivery in the low-income areas, where the central business district is slowly expanding to take up the nearby areas.

The project invests in an integrated set of mitigation measures to resolve persistent flooding in the Msimbazi basin in Dar es Salaam, with a focus on the lower Msimbazi Valley floodplain area, officials noted.



The loan is part of the Msimbazi Basin Development Project that aims to strengthen urban services and institutional capacity in the Dar es Salaam metropolitan area

TAA set to retain KADCO staff after KIA handover

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during the third phase, with the government having decided on July 6, 1998 that KIA operations should be offloaded to the private sector.

Running costs for the airport contributed to the decision as the country's total budget stood at 1.1trn/- at that time, with tourist arrivals well below 200,000 visitors.

The government and KADCO entered three contracts for operations, shareholding and a leasing agreement, where in May, 14 2009, the government purchased most shares in KADCO. Another proposal that KIA should be run by TAA was not executed by the government until the contract ran out, observers noted.

AU: Concerted efforts vital to eliminate graft

FROM PAGE 1

that good governance is not readily available as it must be demanded, he said, asking board members to focus on putting mechanisms in place to compel top government officials to establish viable anti-corruption units.

Hard work and dedication is required to realize the vision of the AU in that regard as the continent's resources are not limited, so the newly elected members must grasp the immediacy of their responsibilities, he stated.

Representing their various countries is no longer sufficient, he said, noting that AUABC serves as a forum for member states to compare legislation on combating illicit practices, addressing the absence of such laws in certain countries.

He highlighted the importance of fostering values such as hard work, self-discipline, honesty and integrity, particularly in the upbringing of children. In so doing, ten years from

now Africa shall have a generation free from corruption, he projected.

Principe Ntibasume, a board member from Burundi, said the members will work closely with the AUABC board to contribute more in the fight against corruption.

Corruption is a global phenomenon and a danger to the development of any country but the challenge is worse in Africa, this it is everybody's duty to pull up together and combat corruption, he told the audience.

"Corruption is an obstacle towards any country's development, we should work hard and dedicate ourselves to fight it," he urged.

The AUABC welcomed four new members, comprising three ladies, to fortify their anti-corruption board, designed to take up 11 members, with the newly elected members named as Erica Ndlovu from Botswana, Abeba Menegst from Ethiopia, Marthe Boulangar from Chad and Cheikh Baba Ahmed from Mauritania.



NMB Bank's southern zone manager, Faraja Ng'ingo (R, with microphone), briefs Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa in Lindi municipality yesterday shortly before the PM opened the Seventh Annual General Meeting of the Tanzania Editors' Forum. The bank is among the event's main sponsors. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Ecotourism attracts one million visitors

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in the tourism sector promotion drive, the minister affirmed, telling a group of 150 investors and tourists from various countries.

The visitors arrived in the country on November 4, arranging events for US travelers picking Tanzania for various events, with

the minister vowing cooperation in those initiatives, as part of efforts to enhance economic growth via tourism.

Next month there will be another group of 120 people accompanying legendary US tennis players on the McEnroe luxury safari tour and an exhibition tennis tournament set for the plains of Serengeti National

Park, she elaborated.

She assured US travel agents and investors that their work is part of our efforts to contribute to sustainable economic growth in Tanzania.

The tourism sector generates over \$2.6bn in economic output, supporting more than 1.5m jobs, accounting for 17.2 percent of GDP, 25 percent of total export earnings

and 60 percent of service industry revenues, she asserted.

Tourists visiting Tanzania will always be drawn to the buzzing Serengeti, Ngorongoro Crater and world class beaches in Zanzibar. However, there's so much more to see and do in between, from the emerging southern and western circuits, she added.



Geophrey Pinda (L), Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development deputy minister, addresses a meeting at Mwadila village in Maswa District yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Fears of ethnic cleansing mount in Darfur

DARFUR

SEVEN months after the start of the war in Sudan, civilians still bear the brunt of the conflict that pits the paramilitary group RSF against the nation's armed forces. Fears of a repeat of a genocide in Darfur, a region in western Sudan, are mounting.

The European Union con-

demned Sunday "ethnic cleansing" of Darfur's Masalit people by the RSF paramilitary.

The bloc cited reports that over 1,000 people had been killed.

The Masalit people are a non-Arab group who reside mainly in Chad and Darfur a region about the size of Spain.

Citing local monitors, Al Jazeera reported that about 1,300 Masalit

Sudanese were killed by RSF fighters in early November.

The UN Human Rights Office said in July it obtained credible information stating that bodies of Masalit Sudanese and others, allegedly killed in June by RSF and their allied militia were buried in a mass grave outside West Darfur's capital.

Fighting rages in Sudan despite

the warring parties signing a statement after talks in Saudi Arabia.

The resident U.N. humanitarian coordinator for Sudan, said on Friday that the b l d . r . n t s committed to establishing a Humanitarian Forum, with U.N. participation.

She added that 25 million Sudanese, half of the population, require assistance and protection.



Ruvuma regional commissioner Col Labani Thomas pictured at the weekend exchanging greetings with Tanzania National Roads Agency (Tanroads) engineers and other staff who have recently rehabilitated Tunduru District's Muhuwesi bridge, which was swept away by floodwaters last year. Photo: Correspondent Gideon Mwakanosya

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

REA sets aside 10bn/- for LPG, gas cylinders and stoves distribution

THE Rural Energy Agency (REA) has allocated 10bn/- for distribution of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) gas cylinders, stoves and their equipment in rural areas in the form of subsidies for this financial year.

Speaking here yesterday, REA Director General, Engineer Hassan Saidy when presenting the agency's report to the Deputy Minister of Energy, Judith Kapinga, said that between 200,000 to 500,000 cylinders are expected to be distributed in rural areas, depending on the level of subsidy that will be provided.

"The goal of the government to implement the project through REA is to encourage citizens to use clean, safe and natural energy for cooking in their areas," he explained.

He explained that REA is imple-

menting a project to supply natural cooking gas in Lindi and Coastal regions through the Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC), where the agreement has been signed and the application for initial funds is at the Ministry of Finance for review.

"This agreement has a total of 6.8bn/-, where it is expected to connect 980 citizens with cooking energy in the areas of Mnazi Mmoja in Lindi Region and Mkuranga in Coast Region," he said.

He said that, in this financial year (2023/24), REA has allocated 18.5bn/- to enable TPDC to con-

struct natural gas supply infrastructure in the areas around corridor of the main pipeline to transport natural gas passing through the regions of Mtwara, Lindi and Coast, so that people living in those areas can use natural gas for cooking.

He said that the agency also aims at building a project to install cooking systems in institutions that serve more than 300 people, where 100 institutions will benefit with this system.

Eng. Saidy also said that the project is part of the implementation of the instructions given by President Samia Suluhu Hassan, when open-

ing the Cooking Energy Conference held in Dar es Salaam, November 2022.

He noted that the government through REA expects to distribute 70,000 stoves made with innovative technology to reduce the use of wood and charcoal as well as reduce environmental destruction through a grant of six million US dollars provided by the World Bank.

Deputy Minister Kapinga visited the REA Headquarters in Dodoma and spoke to the agency management, this being her first visit to the agency since she was appointed to the post.

Power cuts a big headache to Dar's business operators

By Shukuru Manyama

A CROSS-SECTION of small and midsize enterprises (SMEs) in Dar es Salaam have expressed concerns over power outage, saying it affects their businesses.

In separate interviews, traders complained of making losses as their shops remain without power most of the time.

According to them, power cuts have resulted in low sales, thus becoming difficult for them to pay rent and other utilities.

Belfasti Moshi, owner of a welding workshop at Boko area in the outskirts of the city said that power outages contribute to delayed completion of customer's work.

"Lack of power increases production costs as workers need to be paid on a daily basis," said Moshi, whose life depends solely on the welding workshop.

Emmanuella Massawe, a resident of Kibada in Kigamboni District and owner of a beauty salon, called for the government to look into possibilities to compensate traders.

"Beauty salons are a massive industry and rely on sustainable power. But, when the power goes out, revenue is lost, this affects our daily operations," she said, noting that the challenge frustrates their business.

Masawe added: "We have families and we are required to pay various levies and rent for places where we operate our businesses. With reliable electricity services I can earn up to 80000/- per day on Saturday and Sunday, with no power, I hardly get 20,000/- a day."

A butchery owner at Mwenge area, Mohammed Juma said that power outages increase operation expenses due to use of a generator, saying generators require maintenance and fuel to run, thus adding to daily operation costs.

"Most of my products need to be refrigerated; cutting power for 16 hours forces me to use a generator

which is expensive considering fuel prices at the market," said Juma, adding that since the government banned the use of logs in cutting meat, they also had to use electrical machines.

Akida Mnyenyelwa, Confederation of Tanzania Industries (CTI) Director of Policy said power cuts affect both large and small businesses.

When asked whether it is a good idea to seek tax breaks for businesses, he said tax is vital for national development and that it has to be paid whether there is power or not.

Mnyenyelwa added: "Issues of tax relief must be channelled through proper ministries. Paying government taxes is mandatory and cannot be avoided."

The official appealed to the Tanzania Electric Supply Company Limited (TANESCO) to work on power cut challenges to rescue small businesses and stimulate economic growth.

When contacted for comment, Richard Kayombo Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA)'s director for taxpayer services and education said tax is based on sales and not on individuals' opinion. "It is unfortunate that power outages and tax have no relationship whatsoever," he stated.



Issues of tax relief must be channelled through proper ministries. Paying government taxes is mandatory and cannot be avoided

TREES FOR THE FUTURE TANZANIA



INVITATION FOR BIDS TENDER No. PVS/003/THQ/2023/G/NC/02 FOR PROCUREMENT OF VEGETABLE SEEDS

- Trees for the future Tanzania has set aside the funds for the operations during the financial year 2023. TREES is intending that part of the proceeds of the funds will be applied to cover eligible payments under the contract for the Procurement of Vegetable seeds.
- TREES FOR THE FUTURE TANZANIA now invites sealed bids from reputable company/suppliers to supply vegetable seeds as shown below:

S/N	DESCRIPTION OF GOODS	UNITY	QUANTITY
1.	Tomato 10g (Rio Grande improved)	Packet	5,556
2.	Okra 25g (Clemson spineless)	Packet	3,717
3.	Onion 25g (Red Bombay)	Packet	5,556
4.	Beetroot 25g (Detroit dark red)	Packet	1,704
5.	Cabbage 25g (Glory of enkuzen)	Packet	3,543
6.	Spinach/swisschard 25g (Ford hook giant)	Packet	2,533
7.	Chinese 25g (Michihili)	Packet	3,023
8.	Carrot 25g (Nantes)	Packet	3,852
9.	Green pepper (improved) 10g (Big bell)	Packet	3,852
10.	Cucumber 10g (Ashley)	Packet	829
11.	Eggplant 25g (Black beauty)	Packet	2013
12.	Amaranths 25g (wa kungoa/lishe)	Packet	2013

Bidder should quote for Procurement of vegetable seeds, in each case Bidder must quote for all vegetable seeds and quantities specified in No.1. Incomplete bid will not be accepted. Trees for the future Tanzania will evaluate the bids and award the contract to the most competitive bidder.

- Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the Bidding Documents at the office of Trees for the future Tanzania, P.O BOX 1624 N.H.C. Singidani Commercial Complex Building, Second Floor SINGIDA or via email pendo.magagura@trees.org Mondays to Fridays except Public holidays.
- A complete set of the bidding Documents and additional sets will be offered free by interested Bidders on the submission of a written application to the address given under paragraph 3.
- 3 copies of bids 1 original and 2 copies, properly filled in enclosed in plain envelopes must be properly addressed to the Trees for the future Tanzania, N.H.C Singidani Commercial Complex Building, Second Floor, P.O BOX 1624 SINGIDA. All bids must be delivered by hand to the Trees for the future Tanzania before the deadline for submission of bids.
- The deadline for the submission of bids is on Tuesday 28th November, 2023 at 10:00am. Bids will be opened in public and in the presence of Bidders representatives who choose to attend in the conference room of the Trees for the future Tanzania, N.H.C Singidani Commercial Complex Building, second floor at 10:00 on Tuesday 28th November 2023. The outer cover must be clearly marked.

HERI RASHID
COUNTRY DIRECTOR.
TREES FOR THE FUTURE TANZANIA.



for a living planet

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REQUEST FOR TENDER

Construction of Visitors' Waiting Lounge at Pugu forest nature reserve

- WWF Tanzania is an international non-governmental organization dealing with Environmental protection in Tanzania since 1990 and it has supported the Government of Tanzania in implementing various projects on Marine, Forest, Fresh Water, Energy and Wildlife. WWF global mission is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by:
 - Conserving the world's biological diversity;
 - Ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable and
 - Promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption
- World Wide Fund for Nature - Tanzania Country Office (WWF - Tanzania) through the forest program has set aside sum funds to construct the tourists' waiting lounge at Pugu/Kazimzumbwi Nature Forest Reserve as it is now known, is a result of upgrading three forest reserves of Pugu, Vikindu and Kazimzumbwi to a nature forest reserve status, through Government Notice No. 190. Pugu Hills Forest Reserve attracts considerable number of visitors each year, mainly due to its proximity to Dar es Salaam and Julius Nyerere International Airport (20-minute drive from the park). The proposed building among other factor will boost the increase of tourist arrivals and activities within the reserve which in turn will increase number of tourist and revenue to the reserve and contribute to reaching the set target of 5 million tourists and 6 billion receipts by the end of 2025. It is on this background that WWF is seeking potential interested parties to participate in the bidding of constructing one (01) visitors' waiting lounge at Pugu entrance gate
- The tourism infrastructure development project for Pugu/Kazimzumbwi aims at strengthening the tourism infrastructure as a preferred ecotourism destination for domestic tourists mainly Dar es salaam residents and also for international tourists who use Dar es salaam as their stopover transit destination enroute to other tourist destinations within Tanzania. This goes with other objectives as to construct 1 visitors' waiting lounge at Pugu entrance gate
- The proposed assignment will be undertaken in a maximum of three months, including submission of the inception report and final work delivery. It is anticipated that within this period all works as well as handing over of the final report to the WWF TCO shall be completed.
- Full terms of reference and other details as scope of work for this tender are available on WWF website at https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs_and_opportunities/consultancies_and_tenders/ Interested parties should submit Only full proposals to procurement@wwftz.org not later than 10:00am, Monday 27th November, 2023. addressed to;

Secretary, Procurement Committee
WWF Tanzania
White Star Street, Off Mwai Kibaki Road Plot 252, Mikocheni
P. O. Box 63117, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Tel: +255 22 277 5346/277 2455/270 0077 Fax: +255 22 277 5535;
[website. www.wwf.or.tz](http://www.wwf.or.tz)

- Evaluation of the tender will be done based on WWF procurement guidelines and that WWF Tanzania is not bound to accept any lowest or highest proposal/bid. Only Successful candidate(s) shall be contacted.
- WWF has a principle of zero tolerance on fraud and corruption, if you encounter such an incident, then report it by sending an email to fcci@wwftz.org

Tanzania to host international conference on gender funding

By Henry Mwangonde

TANZANIA is set to host an international conference on gender financing which will see ministers of finance and gender from 22 African countries attend.

The conference which will take place on 15th to 17th November, this year, has been prepared by the government in collaboration with the United Nations- Women (UN Women) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) through Africat East (AFE).

Speaking at a press conference to announce the conference, Minister for Finance Dr Mwigulu Nchemba named countries whose ministers have confirmed attendance as Burundi, Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mozambique, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

"The aim of the conference is to offer a chance to participants to address gender gaps, (macroeconomic) and women empowerment to achieve Sustainable Development Goals-(SDGs)," he said.

He said the first day of the meeting on 15th will bring together ministers of gender and finance from countries which are members of the IMF Africat East.

The minister will discuss implementation of the Generation Equality Forum, economic justice and rights and a promise to finance the matters in respective countries.

Director Africa Regional Technical Assistance Center (AFRITAC) for East Africa Xiangming Li hailed president Samia Suluhu Hassan, for her leadership in the Generation Equality initiatives saying this guides the country towards a more inclusive, equitable, and prosperous future.

She said the collaboration between the ministry of finance and the ministry of Gender was a testament to your joint commitment to the financing of gender equality.

"In co-hosting this conference, you have laid the foundation for constructive dialogue, innovative solutions, and tangible actions to boost gender equality and, ultimately, economic growth potential. Currently, only 47 percent of women are active in the labour market, compared with 72 percent of men," she said.

She said there is a lot of untapped potential in emerging and developing economies, adding that the IMF estimates that narrowing this gap even by 6-percentage points could boost GDP by about 8-percent.



In co-hosting this conference, you have laid the foundation for constructive dialogue, innovative solutions, and tangible actions to boost gender equality and, ultimately, economic growth potential. Currently, only 47 percent of women are active in the labour market, compared with 72 percent of men

Villagers in Chunya District want government to fast-track construction of Lualaje bridge

By Guardian Correspondent, Chunya

RESIDENTS of Lualaje and Mwiji villages in Lualaje ward, Chunya District, Mbeya Region have appealed to the government to fast-track construction of the Lualaje Bridge to ease transportation services between villages within the district.

They said construction of the bridge has to be completed before the coming of the heaviest rains (Masika) that usually fall from mid-March to May because it will be difficult for them to transport their agricultural goods to market places.

The villagers made the appeal over the weekend when Mbeya District Commissioner, Juma Homera visited the villages to inspect implementation of various development projects.

One of the villagers, Yusuph Mwangoka thanked the government for providing funds for construction of the bridge that connects them with Mapogoro ward.

He said most of the people in the two villages engage in agricultural activities whereas they are currently spending too much money to transport their crops to the market.

Mwangoka said most farmers cultivate tobacco whereas they spend 5,000 to transport a single package of raw tobacco from their farms to

warehouses. He said completion of the bridge would reduce the cost to 1,400/-.

"This bridge is useful to us; we depend on it to transport our crops. Delays in its completion would paralyse our businesses starting March next year when the rains began," he added.

Meanwhile, the RC called upon the contractor to work day and night to ensure the job is completed in accordance with signed agreement. He said the bridge is only important to farmers, but also primary and secondary school pupils who cross it on a daily basis to and from school.

Homera urged local government leaders in the two villages to cooperate with the contractor in enhancing security at the site to control theft of construction materials.

Earlier, Tanzania Rural and Urban Roads Agency (TARURA) Manager in Chunya District, Engineer Emmanuel Kayola said construction of the bridge has reached 75 percent and that it will cost 200m/- upon completion.

Eng.Kayola said the contractor is expected to complete the work by December this year. He said the agency is closely monitoring the contractor to ensure construction of the bridge is completed within schedule.



Jubilee Life Insurance CEO Helena Mzena and other staff in jubilant mood after the company was presented with a Consumer Choice Awards Africa 2023 trophy at a ceremony held in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. It emerged the most reliable life insurance firm in Tanzania. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Manyara

A TOTAL of 40 kindergarten school teachers in Babati District, Manyara Region have been trained on best ways to ensure children are competent on reading, writing and counting as they join primary schools.

Education Officer from World Vision Tanzania, Akaunsia Munuo told this paper that they have introduced learning camps for kindergarten pupils in villages where the organization works.

The move is aimed at improving both the literacy and numeracy skills of young learners.

She said the organization has professional teachers with skills to teach young learners on how to

40 nursery school teachers in Manyara drilled on 3Rs

read, write and count. She said previously, they were running the programme using teachers from public schools who were trained on how to teach young children.

"Children at our kindergarten classes are more competent compared to others," she said, linking children's inability to read, write and count with lack of professional teachers on early childhood education.

Davis Gisuka, early childhood development specialist and techni-

cal advisor with children in cross-fire (CiC) Tanzania called upon the government to invest in producing more teachers for provision of early childhood education.

Manyara Regional Education Officer, Halfan Masukira said each of the primary schools has a special kindergarten class and a professional teacher.

Iddy Haji, a resident of Magugu village in the region said the presence of such classes helps children to get the required basic education

before joining Standard One.

According to the National Five Years Development Planning 2021/2022 - 2025/2026, the country faces a shortage of skilled teachers to provide early childhood education.

2018 data from the Ministry of Education, Science and Education shows that the country's shortage of kindergarten teachers at public schools is 31.7 percent. The number has increased from 5,367 in 2017 to 7,861 in 2018.



Tanzania Chamber of Mines executive secretary Benjamin Mchwampaka (L) makes a briefing yesterday on a workshop on the monitoring of the tailings storage facilities and water dams monitoring scheduled to be held in Mwanza city from November 28 to 30. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Melting African glaciers an early casualty of global warming, say experts

By Melissa Chemam

EXPERTS and political leaders meeting at the One Planet - Polar Summit launched an appeal for urgent action to address the collapse of "all frozen surfaces on a planetary scale".

Among the world's most vulnerable spots are African glaciers. The continent still has around 30 glaciers in four countries: Uganda, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya and Tanzania.

They are among some 3,000 tropical glaciers distributed along the equator at a height of at least 5,000 meters, where it is very cold.

Protecting the world's icy regions is crucial for climate regulation and preserving biodiversity, organisers at the Elysée said - adding that accelerating melt would have "absolutely major impacts" such as the submersion of coastal communities and loss of access to drinking water.

At the initiative will host from November 8 to 10 the first interna-

tional summit dedicated to glaciers and poles.

"The main reason Kilimanjaro's glaciers are retreating is because there is so much deforestation around them," glaciologist Heidi Sevestre told RFI. "The lack of vegetation dries out the mountain and the glaciers receive less and less precipitation because of this."

Increased rains instead of snow over glaciers was another factor.

A report from UNESCO shows that glaciers across the globe would

be unavoidably lost by 2050 due to climate change. Most would disappear in less than 20 years; others in just a decade.

Mount Kilimanjaro's last glaciers will vanish as will glaciers in the Alps and Yosemite National Park in the US, and they will melt regardless of the world's actions to combat climate change, experts said.

Africa's rare glaciers on Mt Kilimanjaro, Mt Kenya & Mt Rwenzori will disappear by the 2040s because of climate change. Between

2014 and 2020, Furtwängler, Mt Kilimanjaro's largest glacier, has shrunk 70%. Since 1906, more than 80% of Rwenzori's ice has melted.

A UN report in October warned about the irreversible impacts of climate changes on melting glaciers.

It identified six thresholds called "risk tipping points" - the moments at which natural systems, including those governing our food and water supplies, and technological systems are either destroyed or permanently altered.

One tipping point was glacier melt. Mountain glaciers that store vast amounts of freshwater are disappearing twice as fast as they have over the past two decades.

Melting water from mountain glaciers is a vital water source. Once glaciers reach "peak water", when they provide the maximum amount of water run-off, the supply will slowly decline.

This threshold has already been passed in many glaciers around the world.



Kerry's Global CEO, Edmond Scanlon (C), cuts the ribbon in Dar es Salaam yesterday to launch KERRY Factory in Tanzania. He is with Peter Dillane (3rd-L), Vice President of Kerry Middle East, India, Sub-Saharan Africa; Jad Neaime (3rd-R), general manager of KERRY Greater Africa; and other senior KERRY executives. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Varsity lists progress in executing HEET project

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE Open University of Tanzania (OUT) has recorded major progress in implementing the Higher Education for Economic Transformation Project (HEET) aims to strengthen the learning environment and labour market.

OUT is out of 23 higher learning institutions selected to implement the HEET project at US\$425 million funded Project approved by the World Bank in May 2021, implemented over 5 years and closed in July 2026.

Prof Deus Ngaruko, Deputy Vice Chancellor and Coordinator for HEET project at OUT said that yesterday in Bagamoyo District, Coast region when giving a report of the project implementation to the directors and heads of departments.

He said on specialization, the varsity up to date; has trained 23 out of 24 in master degrees and PhD courses as per agreement.

"OUT has recorded major progress in implementing the HEET project and you all as leaders are supposed to know the implementation of the projects step after step," he said.

The don said that varsity has also evaluated environment assessment and social issues and the varsity has consulted the transaction adviser adding that next step is to get the building contractor in laboratories in seven zones.

"Indeed this is remarkable success. Let's collaborate in order to complete the project on time," he said.

Prof Ngaruko added OUT is also implementing a center for research, innovation and invention that will be constructed at Kibaha in coast region

According to him, the Centre will have factories, aqua farms, water treatment plants, livestock and modern science and tourism

laboratories that will be used in practical training.

"Our research centre will have a number of projects and investments. Students and lecturers will do their research and come up with solutions to the community challenges. Students performing their field and interns will operate the centre and get funds that will enable them to pay for their studies," he said.

He said specialists and scientists from other institutions within and abroad are invited to use the centre in their professional and research work.

HEET Project Coordinator at OUT Dr Timothy Lyanga said that project was doing well adding that environment and social impact assessment was in the final stage adding that the project of getting the contractors was going on.

OUT signed the Higher Education for Economic Transformation Project (HEET) on June 19, 2022 The OUT expects to reap 23bn/-

The HEET Project aims to strengthen the delivery of higher education through a combination of university-level investments in improving the quality of learning environments and programs, and Ministry-level interventions that enhance the management of the higher education system and support a conducive policy environment.

There are 23 institutions that implement the HEET project include, 14 high learning institutions and these are University of Dar es salaam, University of Dodoma (UDOM), Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), Ardhi University (ARU) and Open University of Tanzania (OUT)

Others are Tanzania Institute of Accountancy, Institute of Finance Management (IFM) and Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Science (MUHAS) to mention the few.



Our research centre will have a number of projects and investments. Students and lecturers will do their research and come up with solutions to the community challenges. Students performing their field and interns will operate the centre and get funds that will enable them to pay for their studies

LATRA calls upon public to make sure the vehicles they travel in are insured

By Guardian Reporter

THE Land Transport Regulatory Authority (LATRA) has called upon passengers using motor vehicles including buses, motorbikes, taxis and hired cars to make sure the vehicles are insured for them to be compensated when accidents occur.

The statement was made recently by LATRA Director General, Habibu Suluo during the signing ceremony of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the authority and Tanzania Insurance Regulatory

Authority (TIRA) for improvement of transport services in the country.

The MoU will among other things simplify insurance payment procedures to people who have been involved in accidents that are associated with the use of motor vehicles.

Suluo said that through the signed agreement, victims of road accidents will be paid on time. He also said that all vehicles that are licensed to transport passengers by the authority must be insured.

"This is why we are emphasizing passengers to use insured

motor vehicles; travelling with vehicles that are not insured would complicate compensation payments. Before booking a ticket, passengers should satisfy themselves whether the car in question is insured by visiting TIRA website," said Suluo.

He added: "We also continue to insist passengers to properly keep their tickets while traveling as the documents will be used as a contract between passengers and vehicle owners when it comes to compensation payment."

Commissioner of Insurance from TIRA, Dr Baghayo Saqware, said

the cooperation with LATRA will be based on various fields including public education, facilitating the access to information of service providers and enabling insurance agents in the country to issue transportation licenses.

"It is our belief that our cooperation will bring many benefits to both transporters and passengers since it is going to simplify various procedures required in acquiring licence as well as facilitating provision of education to Tanzanians, thus increasing awareness among stakeholders," said Dr Saqware.

MUHAS to celebrate 60th anniversary on Thursday

By Correspondent James Kandoya

PROF Adolf Mkenda the Minister for Education, Science and Technology, is on Thursday expected to grace the symposium to commemorate 60th anniversary of the Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Science (MUHAS).

Prof Appolinary Kamuhabwa, MUHAS Acting Vice Chancellor, told reporters in Dar es Salaam yesterday that the symposium which will be conducted on November 16, will bring together participants from inside the country and abroad including academicians, scholars, officials from the government, alumni, private sector, parents and development partners.

Prof Kamuhabwa said that during the symposium, MUHAS will present its journey of success and its contribution in areas of academics, research and consultancy to mention the few.

He said currently, the varsity enrolls 4000 students every year and teaches 101 programmes where out of those 81 are master degrees and PhD programmes from 10 students 60 years ago.

"Since its inception, we have recorded a number of achievements which our stakeholders and partners would like to hear," he said.

The don said that during the symposium, there will also be exhibitions of scientific innovations followed by the Alumnae convocation general meeting.

Prof Kamuhabwa further said that as part of the commemoration of the 60th anniversary, the varsity has also organized a charity walk of one, 5 and 10 kilometres on November 18.

He said during the commemoration, the varsity will conduct free medical checkups for the public to diagnose diabetes and hypertension.

Since its inception, there are over 100 degree programmes offered at the university, including 20 super-specialty level programmes, the East African Center of Excellence in Cardiovascular Sciences at Mloganzila Campus and plans for further expansion outside Dar es salaam to Kigoma region in Tanzania.

According to him, all these efforts support MUHAS core functions: teaching, research, and consultancy.

MUHAS started as the Dar es Salaam medical school in 1963. The school then transformed into the faculty of medicine of the University of Dar es salaam that in 1991 was upgraded and became a college—the Muhimbili University College of Health Sciences (MUCHS).

In 1996, the Faculty of Medicine was upgraded to a constituent College of the University of Dar es Salaam, with the aim of

nurturing it to a full-fledged university later on was merged with the Muhimbili hospital to create the Muhimbili Medical Centre (MMC).

The Parliament Act No 9 of 1991 that established MUCHS was repealed in 2005 through the universities Act no 7 of 2005. Subsequently, in 2007 Article 1 of the Charter of Incorporation established MUHAS; in line with the Universities act no 7 of 2005.

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA



IN THE FAIR COMPETITION TRIBUNAL AT DAR ES SALAAM

APPEAL NO. 7 OF 2023

BETWEEN

RASHAL PETROLEUM LIMITED APPELLANT

AND

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY RESPONDENT

(Notice pursuant to Rule 16 of the Fair Competition Tribunal Rules, 2012)

TAKE NOTICE THAT an appeal has been lodged in the Tribunal against the whole decision of the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) dated 15th September, 2023 in which EWURA suspended appellant's Petroleum Products Retail Licence number PRL-2019-034 for the period of six months for engaging in activities resulting in the creation of artificial shortage of petroleum products in Mkamala, Singida contrary to the law and licence terms and conditions.

The appeal is based on the grounds, among others, that EWURA erred in law and facts in suspending the licence without proof of alleged violation and according the appellant the right to be heard. Thus, the appellant prays that EWURA's decision be quashed and set aside with costs.

BY THIS PUBLIC NOTICE any person who considers that he has sufficient interest may apply to intervene in the proceedings within seven days of the first publication of this notice to the Fair Competition Tribunal, 2nd Floor, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology Building, Jamhuri Street, Dar Es Salaam.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL of the Tribunal this 14th November, 2023.

REGISTRAR

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA



IN THE FAIR COMPETITION TRIBUNAL AT DAR ES SALAAM

APPEAL NO. 9 OF 2023

BETWEEN

RASHAL PETROLEUM LIMITED APPELLANT

AND

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITYRESPONDENT

(Notice pursuant to Rule 16 of the Fair Competition Tribunal Rules, 2012)

TAKE NOTICE THAT an appeal has been lodged in the Tribunal against the whole decision of the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) dated 29th September, 2023 in which EWURA suspended appellant's Petroleum Products Retail Licence number PRL-2023-041 for the period of six months for engaging in activities resulting in the creation of artificial shortage of petroleum products in Mlimba, Morogoro contrary to the law and licence terms and conditions.

The appeal is based on the grounds, among others, that EWURA erred in law and facts in suspending the licence without proof of alleged violation and according the appellant the right to be heard. Thus, the appellant prays that EWURA's decision be quashed and set aside with costs.

BY THIS PUBLIC NOTICE any person who considers that he has sufficient interest may apply to intervene in the proceedings within seven days of the first publication of this notice to the Fair Competition Tribunal, 2nd Floor, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology Building, Jamhuri Street, Dar Es Salaam.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL of the Tribunal this 14th November, 2023.

REGISTRAR



Since its inception, we have recorded a number of achievements which our stakeholders and partners would like to hear

21711401

21711401



REQUEST FOR QUOTATION (RFQ) FOR PROCUREMENT OF TABLETS

RFQ Title: Procurement of Tablets
RFQ Number: 2023-PACT/01/11
Date of Solicitation: November 14, 2023
Closing Date and Time: November 30, 2023, 11:00 am (Dar es Salaam, Tanzania)
Questions and Clarifications: Due by November 29, 2023
Estimated Delivery/ Performance Date: December 20, 2023

Introduction to Pact and ACHIEVE Project

Pact is an international non-profit that works in nearly 40 countries building solutions for human development that are evidence-based, data-driven, and owned by the communities we serve. Founded in 1971, Pact works with partners to build resilience, improve accountability, and strengthen knowledge and skills for sustainable social impact.

The Adolescents and Children HIV Incidence Reduction, Empowerment, and Virus Elimination project, or ACHIEVE, is a five-year global effort to reach and sustain HIV epidemic control among pregnant and breastfeeding women, adolescents, infants, and children. The project is funded by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and implemented by a Pact-led consortium of top global HIV/AIDS partners, including Palladium, No Means No Worldwide, and WI-HER.

Overall Objective

The overall objective of this assignment is to solicit eligible vendor(s) who will supply 125 units of tablets with screen protectors and covers to support general project data management activities.

Requirement/ Scope of Work

Item and Quantity	Specifications	Other
125 Tablets	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Built: Aluminum body Display: 8.7" Internal memory: 32GB RAM: 3 GB CPU: Octa-core (4x2.3 GHz Cortex-A53 & 4x1.8 GHz Cortex-A53) Chipset: Mediatek MT8768T Helio P22T (12 nm) Network: GSM/HSPA/LTE OS: At least Android 11 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Built in camera: 8 MP Resolution: 800 x 1340 pixels, 5:3 ratio (~179 ppi density) Wi-Fi 802.11 a/b/g/n/ac, dual-band, Wi-Fi Direct Dedicated microSD Card slot USB: USB Type-C 2.0 GPS, GLONASS, BDS, GALILEO
125 Screen protectors and covers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Battery: Non-removable Li-Ion 5100 mAh battery Glass screen protector Silicon cover 	

Delivery Point

Pact Tanzania Head Office,
 Msasani Peninsula
 Plot No 1486
 P.O. Box 6348,
 Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Scope of Work

The specific scope of work includes but should not be limited to the following:

1. Work with the Procurement, ICT, and M&E team to verify if the tablets adhere to the agreed-upon quality and specifications.
2. Procuring and delivering the tablets per the standard and specifications agreed upon.
3. Comply with Section 889 of the US National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA).

Interested vendors should download the full Terms of Reference (ToR) through <https://www.pactworld.org/country/tanzania/procurement>

All questions and requests for clarification should be directed to ProcurementTZ@pactworld.org with the subject line "Request for Clarification: Supply of Tablets" before COB November 29, 2023.

Eligibility

To be considered for the award, vendors must currently be legally operating in Tanzania, and the quotation must include all the following information:

- Ability to meet or exceed the outlined requirements/technical specifications.
- Prompt delivery of the specified items/services on or before the required date(s).

Submission Instructions

The following information is to be included by a vendor in the proposal:

- Quote, valid for at least 60 days.
- Current company profile.
- Valid and relevant business License
- Copies of registration, certificate, and address of their registered office, VAT, TIN certificates, and Tax clearance certificate.
- Item's specification is fully addressed in the quotation.
- Manufacturer authorization certificate for the quoted item/s.
- Evidence of similar assignments, and at least three (3) PO and names and addresses of clients served.
- The quote should explicitly state the brand/make and model and highlight the quoted item's full technical specifications.
- Current Audited financial statement – for two consecutive years.
- Delivery time must be specified.
- Payment terms 100% after delivery.

Interested bidders should submit their bids electronically to Pact Tanzania via email at tendertz@pactworld.org, addressing to: -

The Tender Committee,
 Pact Tanzania,
 Masasani Peninsula
 Plot 1486
 P. O. Box 6348,
 Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.
 Email: tendertz@pactworld.org

Note:

1. Pact will open all bids on Thursday, November 30, 2023, at 11.30 am in the presence of Bidder's Representatives who choose to attend.
2. Quotes must be in Tanzanian Shilling and must include taxes separately.
3. Proposals must be submitted electronically to Pact Tanzania.
4. Quotations received after that time or at a different address may not be accepted.
5. As mentioned above, all quotations and delivery dates shall be valid for at least 60 days following submission.

Terms and Conditions - Disclaimers

- i. Late or incomplete bids will not be accepted.
- ii. Pact reserves the right to modify by written notice the terms of this solicitation at any time in its sole discretion.
- iii. Pact may cancel the solicitation at any time.
- iv. Pact may reject any or all proposals received.
- v. Issuance of solicitation does not constitute award commitment by Pact.
- vi. Pact reserves the right to disqualify any quotation based on the vendor's failure to follow solicitation instructions.
- vii. Pact will not compensate vendors for their response to the solicitation.
- viii. Pact reserves the right to issue an award based on the initial evaluation of applications without further discussion.
- ix. Pact may choose to award only part of the scope of work in the solicitation or to issue multiple awards of the scope of work.
- x. Pact reserves the right to waive minor proposal deficiencies that can be corrected before award determination to promote competition.
- xi. Pact may contact vendors to confirm the contact person and address and that the proposal was submitted for this solicitation.
- xii. Pact may contact listed past performance references without notice to the vendor. Pact also reserves the right to contact other past performance information sources that the vendor did not list in the proposal.
- xiii. The vendor confirms they understand the terms and conditions by submitting a proposal.
- xiv. Information pertaining to and obtained from the vendor because of participation in this solicitation is confidential. The vendor consents to the disclosure of the documents submitted by the vendor to the reviewers involved in the selection process. Please note that non-disclosure agreements bind all reviewers.
- xv. The resultant award will be governed by Pact's standard terms and conditions and any applicable funder requirements.

Katanga Primary School in Kisarawe needs more push

By Guardian Correspondent, Kisarawe

KATANGA Primary School in Kisarawe district in the Coast region is facing dilapidation of infrastructure, a move which makes pupils postpone classes during the rainy season.

Out of the six classrooms, five are in bad conditions, a move which makes pupils and staff to sit in one class as shelter.

School headteacher, Rhobi Nyamuhanga made the sentiments while speaking to journalists after a meeting with Coast regional commissioner Abubakar Kunenge

which was aimed at listening to challenges facing the school.

He said currently the school needs at least eight classrooms because the existing ones are six of which five are in bad conditions and when it rains, they leak and thus the lessons are suspended.

Residents of Katanga Village Mariam Hassan asked the RC to help repair some of the rooms, so that the students can study in a good environment.

Another resident, Elizabeth Johnson said that the students of the school are currently studying in a bad environment due to the

dilapidation of many of the school's buildings while the head teacher of the school had to move out of the house due to its conditions.

District Executive Director for Kisarawe, Beatrice Dominic said the school has been allocated 25m/- saying engineers have inspected the school and determined the buildings that will be repaired and others that will need to be demolished to be rebuilt.

Kunenge urged parents to manage education for girls, while warning them to abandon traditions that prevent girls from missing school.



Esther Maruma (2nd-R), Absa Bank Tanzania's director of global markets, submit documents when presenting the bank's donation of 10m/- to SOS Children's Villages acting director Dorothy Ndege in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Looking on are Absa acting corporate director Nellyana Mmanyi (L) and head of marketing and corporate relations Aron Luhanga. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

THE Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH) in collaboration with the Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO) and Swedish partners have launched a special book for innovation hubs that will help innovators and researchers produce quality works and products.

Speaking during the launching event in Dar es Salaam yesterday, COSTECH director general Dr Amos Nungu said the book will greatly guide innovators, researchers as well as helping the commission to reach the public cooperating with them to solve various challenges facing the society through innovative measures.

He said that by producing quality works and products, will facilitate them to penetrate and succeed in the market.

By Guardian Correspondent, Lindi

MINISTRY of Works, Livestock and Fisheries have been tasked to administer the construction of the Kilwa Fishing port in Lindi region so that it is completed on time.

Seleman Kakoso, chairperson of the Parliamentary Committee on Infrastructure made the directives yesterday here after touring the project in Lindi region and said there is a need to put deliberate strategies to ensure value for money.

"The government issues a lot of money to implement projects, but the challenge is that the contractors who implement these projects are not closely supervised. You have enough experts to bring them here to inspect the work that is going on

COSTECH, SIDO, Swedes launch special book for innovation hubs

He also said through innovation hubs, the commission supports various groups of people to address challenges they face in the society.

Dr Nungu said the government through COSTECH has been supporting various innovators by providing them with advice, funding, and even connecting them with various government institutions and universities to enable them to achieve their dreams.

"Apart from stakeholders that were working together, there are some higher learning institutions that have been sending their students to learn in our innovation hubs," he added.

Dr Nungu said that they are working with the Swedish partners to finalise Swahili version of the

book in order to ensure that the message reaches more people in the society.

Dr Athuman Mgumia, one of the book authors said that COSTECH feels proud to create guidebook, which shows how people can produce sustainable innovation.

"We have written the book in order to bring people together to know technologies that are produced by various researchers for them to be used by entrepreneurs in producing quality products to compete well in the market," he explained.

He said that the country is facing a challenge where innovators and researchers are not working together but through the book, these people will be working in synergy to bring out quality work.

Ministries tasked to better manage construction of Kilwa Fishing port

every day because we want to see the value of the money invested in this project" said Kakoso.

Kakoso also said that along with the works ministry, ministries should ensure that the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) projects that are planned to be implemented take into account the needs of the people so that the people can get more benefits in areas outside the port investment.

Deputy Minister of Transport, David Kihenzile said that the completion of the project will enable fishermen to do business easily as it has taken into account all the needs including the infrastructure for storage of fish

products before being shipped to domestic and foreign markets.

Juma Kijavara, Tanzania Port Authority (TPA) deputy director general assured the committee that TPA was already planning to ensure that the project is completed in accordance with the standards set in the contract.

The Fishing Port Construction Project in Kilwa District is expected to cost 250bn/- and is expected to be completed in February, 2025 where its completion will make Tanzania have the first fishing port which will be a stimulus for the economy, increase employment and the availability of food fish and increase government revenue.



Tanzania Ports Authority deputy director general Juma Kijavara briefs members of the Parliamentary Infrastructure Committee at Kilwa Masoko in Lindi Region yesterday on areas being considered the construction of Kilwa Masoko Fishing Port. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



PanAfrican Energy Tanzania (PAET) Downstream manager Sabas Oisso (L) pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday with TAQA Dalbit Country manager Amr Abou Shady (C) and Primefuels CEO Africa Nikesh Mehta at the launch of TAQA Dalbit's compressed natural gas filling station, which is supplied with the gas by PAET from the Songo Songo gas field in Kilwa District, Lindi Region. PAET has been supplying CNG for industrial use since 2009. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Kenya declares public holiday to plant trees

NAIROBI

KENYAN government declared Monday a public holiday to encourage residents to plant 100 million trees across the country, a call to which hundreds of people in Nairobi responded.

President William Ruto has pledged that 15 billion trees will be planted by 2032 to boost Kenya's forest cover following the Horn of Africa region's worst drought in 40 years.

Civil servants, students, and families gathered at various locations in the capital Nairobi on Monday to plant trees despite torrential rain.

"I planted about 50 trees today. I think this is a powerful and necessary initiative for the planet, especially after experiencing a dramatic drought for several consecutive seasons," government official Joan Kirika told AFP.

"I hope we will continue to celebrate this day every year, not necessarily as a public holiday but as an annual reminder to take care

of the environment and think about the planet," he added.

William Ruto claims to care about climate change but drew the ire of environmental groups after announcing in July that logging would resume after a five-year ban.

At the time, he claimed that the resumption of logging was aimed at creating jobs and developing sectors of the economy dependent on forest products and that it only concerned mature trees in forests planted and managed by the state.

Last month, a Kenyan court suspended this decision to lift the logging ban but authorized the felling of 5,000 hectares of mature trees.

The forestry industry contributed 1.6% to Kenya's GDP last year, according to official statistics, which also indicate that forests currently cover 8.8% of the country.

The timber industry employs around 50,000 people directly and 300,000 indirectly, according to government figures, in this East African country hit by unemployment and inflation.

Goma scientific institute reports intense volcanic activity in DRC

GOMA

THE Goma Volcano Observatory (GVO), the scientific institute in charge of monitoring Nyiragongo and Nyamuragira volcanoes, has said that there has been intense lava lake activity in the central crater of the latter since November 4th but noted that the situation is not critical.

The activity is said to be concentrated in its crater at a depth of around twenty meters, according to the statement.

Nyamuragira is a volcano located in the western end of the Virunga volcanic province, in North Kivu. Its last major eruption was in 2011 - its

biggest eruption in 100 years.

Given these observations, the GVO said the alert level remains yellow, and to this end, the population is asked to remain calm and vigilant.

There are currently no threats to the city of Goma, where around 670,000 people live according to UN estimates.

Although, this comes at a time where the region is afflicted by ongoing armed conflicts between the M23 armed group and Congolese government forces which has intensified since early October, particularly north of Goma, according to NGO Human Rights Watch.

Somalia floods death toll rises to 31

MOGADISHU

SOMALIA floods death toll rises to 31. Floods caused by torrential rainfall have killed at least 31 people in Somalia, authorities said Sunday. The previous death toll stood at 29.

Various parts of the east African country including Hirran state in the centre or Gedo region in the south, have been affected.

Since October, floods have

displaced nearly half a million people, Daud Aweis told reporters in the capital Mogadishu.

Water has also caused extensive damage to infrastructure notably.

The lives of some 1.6 million people in Somalia could be disrupted by floods during the rainy season that lasts until December, with 1.5 million hectares of farmland potentially being destroyed, the U.N. Office for the Coordination of

Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said.

In a statement unveiled Thursday (Nov. 09), OCHA warned of "a flood event of a magnitude statistically likely only once in 100 years, with significant anticipated humanitarian impacts."

The organization released \$25 million to help mitigate the impact of the natural disaster. "While all possible preparatory measures are being pursued, a flood of this

magnitude can only be mitigated and not prevented," OCHA said, recommending "early warning and early action" to save lives as "large-scale displacement, increased humanitarian needs and further destruction of property remain likely." Floods are also affecting neighbouring Kenya, the port city of Mombasa and the northeastern counties of Mandera and Wajir are the worst hit.

JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH Africa's biggest supermarket group Shoprite has said its first quarter sales rose by 13.2% as it opened 81 new stores and continued to grow market share.

Many African households remain constrained by tight budgets amid a surge in living costs. But Shoprite's chains that service either low-income groups or middle-high income shoppers has to an extent insulated it from these shocks.

Contributing to group sales for the three months ended September was its largest business Supermarkets South Africa, which grew sales by 13.3%. Internal selling price inflation in the quarter measured 8.3%.

South African supermarket Shoprite's Q1 sales rise 13.2%

Its rest of Africa supermarkets business, which trades from nine African countries, reported sales growth of 9.7% in rand terms and grew by double digits in constant currency.

Shoprite said its market share for the 52 weeks ending September 2023 increased by 124 basis points versus the year-earlier period, extending to 55 months of uninterrupted market share gains in its core South African supermarket business.

On a net basis, the group opened 81 stores, the majority in South

Africa. Shoprite, which did not give its total number of stores, added that it was on track to open a planned 314 new stores during its 2024 financial year ending June.

With national electricity cuts continuing, the diesel expense to operate generators across its South African supermarket business during its first quarter amounted to 281 million rand (\$15.03 million), the retailer said.

The increased cost resulted in the business incurring an additional 90 million rand charge, Shoprite added.



Residents of Singida municipality's Sanga suburb fetch water yesterday at one of 38 shallow wells rehabilitated by Empower Society Transform Lives under Mo Dewji Foundation sponsorship. Photo: Correspondent Tobias Mwanakatwe



INVITATION FOR BIDS

TENDER FOR PROVISION OF INTERNAL MATERIAL HANDLING SERVICES

MBEYA CEMENT COMPANY LIMITED (MBEYA CEMENT) is a subsidiary of the Holcim Group with its industrial operations based in Mbeya, **TANZAM** Highway, Songwe Industrial Area, Plot No. 1/1, Mbeya. **MBEYA CEMENT** now invites sealed bids from eligible tenderers to provide internal material handling services to the company. Bidders are required to submit their bid both electronically and physical couriered to Mbeya. Electronic receipt shall be sent through **mcc.tender@lafarge.com** Cc; **tza-m-procurement@lafarge.com**, Subject **"TENDER SUBMISSION - PROVISION OF INTERNAL MATERIAL HANDLING SERVICES"**. Physical receipt shall be sealed of 2 bid document (1 original and 1 copy), properly enclosed in an envelope marked **TENDER FOR PROVISION OF INTERNAL MATERIAL HANDLING SERVICES**, and delivered to:

THE SECRETARY, TENDER COMMITTEE,
MBEYA CEMENT COMPANY LIMITED,
PLOT NO 1/1, SONGWE INDUSTRIAL AREA
P.O. BOX 529, MBEYA,
Tel: +255 (0) 767 737 382
TANZANIA

At **MBEYA CEMENT CO LTD's RECEPTION** located at Administrative Building, Songwe Mbeya. Kindly request electronic **Tender Documents** via **mcc.tender@lafarge.com** Cc; **tza-m-procurement@lafarge.com** with subject **REQUEST FOR TENDER DOCUMENTS - PROVISION OF INTERNAL MATERIAL HANDLING 2023.**

In case of delay of getting the tender document, please call direct line +255 (0) 767 737 382

SITE VISIT at plant: 21st November, 2023 10:00 HRS A.M.

DEADLINE FOR TENDER SUBMISSION: 28th November, 2023 4h30 PM.

Taking off of shift to natural gas for vehicles a policy plus

CHANGE was in the air as the first two compressed natural gas (CNG) refuelling stations were being opened in Dar es Salaam at the weekend, one at the airport and another in the city's Sinza suburb.

It was a bit of an international event at least in that the companies involved are Egyptian and Japanese, while countries with an interest in the CNG vehicle conversion project were also present.

By all accounts, it was a significant step in the use of natural gas to start changing some aspects of reality in the lives of our people.

What was also noticeable for some observers was that the event represented a clear affirmation of the government's intention to speed up things by inviting foreign investors to take up substantial openings in what we wish to do.

At times it is just the fact of discovering what those financiers want to do, on the basis of wider regional strategies as beefed up lately with the start of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) altering trade dynamics in the region.

And we are very much in it, with the effect that policy making dynamics are different as well - just as are the results.

What is especially laudable is that the key players in the CNG motor vehicle conversion project are a consortium of Egyptian and Japanese firms, implying that efficiency will be the hallmark in the business.

When Tanzanian firms take charge, and in most cases they are public agencies, the competition is less noticeable and adds on also likely to be significant, leading to price pressures and, often, shortages. There will thus be a role for public firms building partnerships with incoming foreign companies.

All the same, several challenges

remain with respect to spreading the use of natural gas at household level, as prices are still relatively high compared to average wage levels or daily incomes in city suburbs.

A while ago it was said that piped natural gas was being sold at an equivalent of 3,000/- what now costs 20,000/- with gas cylinders, a price level that would make a huge difference.

But why should it need a pipe facility to do that when cylinders can be put on a moratorium and issued relatively freely? Is it not possible to make cylinders a subsidy input for gas to be taken up?

When government cars and other public service vehicles shift to using natural gas, a keen source of inflationary pressures will be reduced or altogether ended, as hoarders of fuel will have fewer customers later on.

What remains to be seen is the way the motor vehicles fuel conversion process will be undertaken but, as the CNG refuelling station firms are involved, it will likely be competitive. Where relevant, other companies can do the same, as the technology isn't complex.

Equally important is converting industries to using natural gas, and here it appears there is greater progress than with motor vehicles, with some new industries geared to using natural gas from the start, apart from national grid electricity.

In the past few years the matter was uncertain as to its regulatory format, whether it was a matter of being licensed to conduct such alterations or a service that a garage or workshop posts on its own, without a regulatory format to be observed.

In that aspect as well, the idea was to privilege statutory stakeholders, shielding them from competition. The onus is now on us to decide especially carefully and judiciously how we move ahead.

Complex issues arising in sorting out unsafe mining activities countrywide

DECISION makers in the Minerals ministry are said to be working to stave off dangers facing small miners in a Shinyanga mining zone, where rocks holding the roofs of a mine are said to be veering towards collapse.

The matter is being studied by the national mining commission, with the Minerals minister having demanded an extensive examination of small miners' work contracts and the safety arrangements guiding their operations.

What is a bit surprising is that it isn't the small miners who are worried by the prospects of such rocks collapsing but, rather, commission experts - which might "invite" disputes.

The main issue raised is the legal aspect of small miners' employment, or how far they are assured of their safety, which restores the issue of responsibility for safety.

It is evident that it is employers who ought to ensure the safety of their miners. Yet this outlook isn't exactly aligned with the realities of informal sector work arrangements - that each of them is an entrepreneur of sorts and thus indirectly taking his or her own risks there.

One issue the report mentions, that is, the need to cut out the hanging rock in the mines inspected, was tied up with rectifying the lease area so that small miners can conduct the work more safely.

Even for those not technically proficient on the issues, the matter appears to be two-fold in its legal and technical character. It is as if the report is suggesting that the rocks cannot be eliminated (or cut, whichever is appropriate) without altering the boundaries of the specific mines.

That will be hard in that any such alteration would involve rectifying the concessions by merging or cancelling

some licences so that retained licences are used in a better environment.

Can small miners realistically merge their work plans, including harmonising technology to operate more efficiently?

The report raises a format to be supervised by the Minerals ministry, as this will 'increase the pace of mining and its contribution to the national income'.

It is hard to fathom how far this idea would be in the interest of small miners or could be merged with their statutory expectations - that is, rights and obligations - in being handed the licences. It is vital that problems be resolved by offsetting costs, pushing accords.

It remains unclear whether the directive that elimination of the hanging rocks and the reworking of mining circles or block drawings will not raise hitches among the miners themselves or between them and the agency supervising the work.

In the final analysis, though, what needs to be observed is a commercial way of doing things so that rational transactions and realisation of obligations are observed. If the licence is an impediment to safety-based operations, the regulator can demand compensation.

It would be the right technology firm solving the problem and thus compensating (rather than paying out) the one who surrenders the licence. Alternatively, they could agree on a voluntary merger.

There is a notion of 'coexistence' that the report relies upon, but it doesn't quite square up with altering anything as it implies that one company alters the rock situation and the other 'coexists' with the changes - rather than working together for that purpose. That would require formal business agreements.

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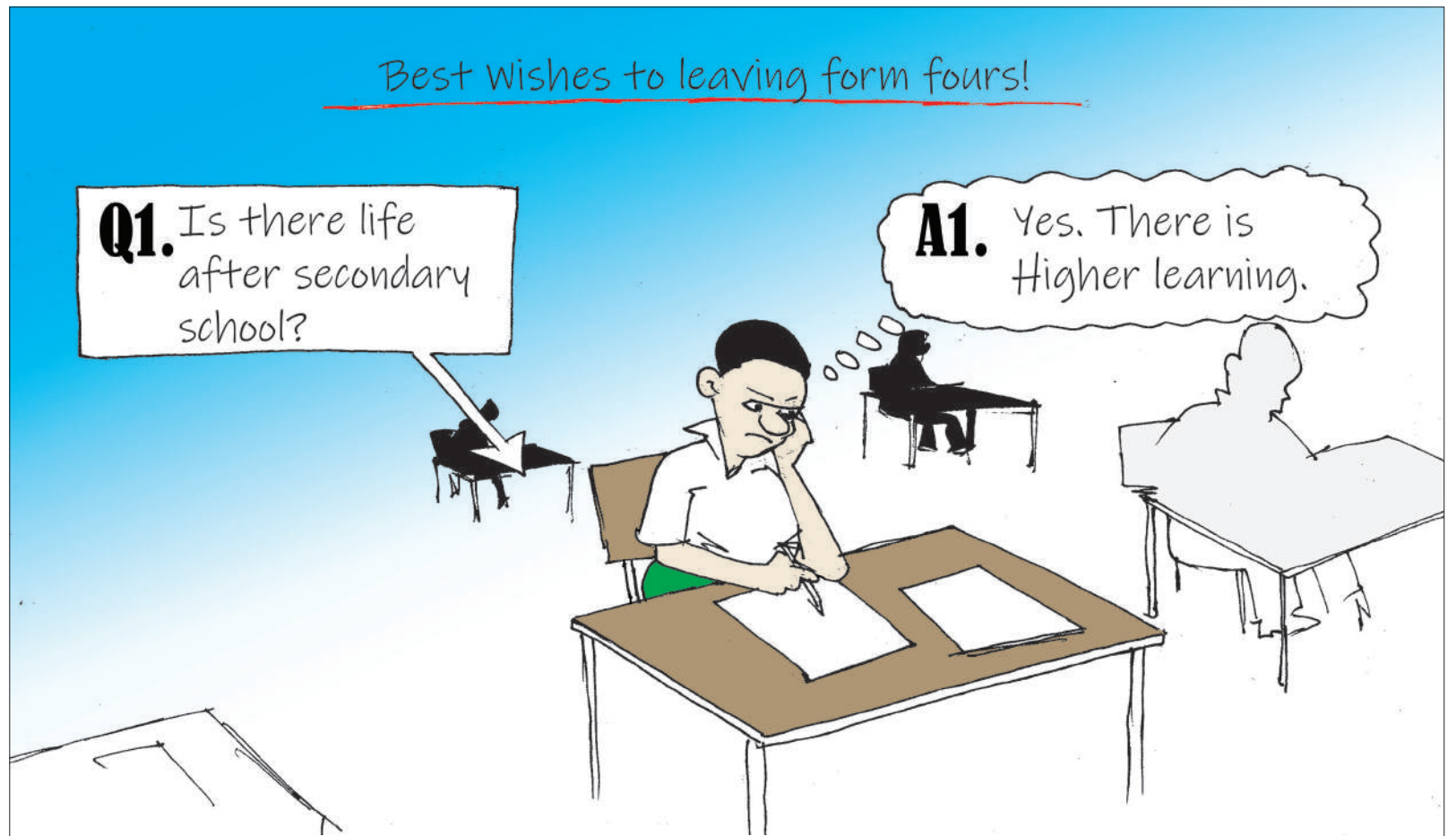
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By Special Correspondents

THE world is rushing headlong into a climate catastrophe. Temperatures are reaching scorching new highs, droughts are imperilling millions of lives, and rising seas are threatening the very existence of nations.

Research shows that, to ward off a deeper crisis, the world needs to make informed decisions about how to lower planet-warming greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to an already changing climate.

That is why the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) produces two regular climate-related assessments, the Adaptation Gap Report and the Emissions Gap Report, while partnering with other groups on a third one - the Production Gap Report.

The three reports analyse the state of the climate and provide policymakers with a roadmap for action, often being cited by heads of state and negotiators at the annual UN Climate Change Conference.

"In order to tackle the climate crisis, we need policies that are rooted in science. That is the only way humanity is going to be able to save itself from the storm that is coming," says Maarten Kappelle, the head of UNEP's Thematic Assessments Unit.

Earlier this month we witnessed the launch of the Adaptation Gap Report, followed by the Production Gap Report on November 8 - and to be followed by the Emissions Gap Report on November 20 - all released in the run-up to the UN Climate Change Conference (COP28).

The 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference or Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC, more commonly referred to as COP28, will be the 28th United Nations Climate Change conference.

It is scheduled to be held from November 30 to December 12, 2023 at the Expo City in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates.

Here is a closer look at the three reports and why they are important.

What do the reports cover?

The Adaptation Gap Report, published every year, examines how well the world is preparing for climate change. It looks at the ways countries are planning, financing and implementing the projects they will need to endure droughts, floods, rising seas and other climate-related challenges. It also explores options for ramping up these climate adaptation efforts.

These reports were first published in 2014, its goal being to inform policymakers and drive national and international adaptation

What are UNEP's climate-related 'Gap' reports and of what importance are they?



efforts.

The annual Emissions Gap Report meanwhile charts the difference between national pledges to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the reductions required to keep the global temperature rise well below 2°C by the end of this century, in line with the long-term goals of the Paris Agreement.

The Paris Agreement is a legally binding international treaty on climate change. It was adopted by 196 Parties at the UN Climate Change Conference (COP21) in Paris on 12 December 12, 2015, and entered into force on November 4, 2016.

As already noted, the overarching goal of the Paris Agreement is to hold "the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels" and pursue efforts "to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels".

However, in recent years, world leaders have stressed the need to limit global warming to 1.5°C by the end of this century.

That's because the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change indicates that crossing the 1.5°C threshold risks unleashing far more severe climate change impacts, including more frequent and severe droughts, heatwaves and rainfall.

To limit global warming to 1.5°C, greenhouse gas emissions must peak before 2025 at the latest and decline by 43 per cent by 2030.

The Paris Agreement is widely considered a landmark in the multilateral climate change process because, for the first time, a binding agreement brings all nations together to combat climate change and adapt to its effects.

But just how does the Paris Agreement work? Implementation of the Paris Agreement requires economic and social transformation, based on the best available science.

The Paris Agreement works on a five-year cycle of increasingly ambitious climate action - or,

ratcheting up - carried out by countries.

Since 2020, countries have been submitting their national climate action plans, known as nationally determined contributions (NDCs).

Each successive NDC is meant to reflect an increasingly higher degree of ambition compared to the previous version.

Back to the annual Emissions Gap Report. The report - first published in 2010 - also features solutions for bridging this emissions gap. It has gained a reputation as an authoritative source of timely, policy-relevant information that has informed the global effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

For its part, the Production Gap Report tracks the discrepancy between planned fossil fuel production and global production levels consistent with limiting warming to 1.5°C or 2°C.

First published in 2019, the report is published by the Stockholm Environment Institute, UNEP and other organisations.

Why are these reports important?

A growing body of evidence shows that climate change is accelerating, leaving almost no corner of the world untouched.

This crisis is being driven largely by the burning of fossil fuels, which act like a blanket, trapping the sun's heat, raising global temperatures and altering sensitive climatic patterns.

Countries need to act fast to ensure that the planet remains liveable for all, underlines the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, a UN-convened body of climate scientists from around the world.

How do the 'Gap' reports help?

All three reports provide a clear picture of where the world is when it comes to both mitigating, and adapting to, climate change. However, they do not just tell

humanity where we are; they chart where the world needs to go and, crucially, how to get there.

What are key findings from previous reports?

The 2022 edition of the Emissions Gap Report found that current government policies put the world on the path to warm 2.8°C by century's end.

To meet the most ambitious targets of the Paris Agreement, which calls for limiting warming to 1.5°C, the world needs to cut greenhouse gas emissions by 45 per cent by 2030, it said.

The 2022 Adaptation Gap Report meanwhile found that humanity will need up to US\$340 billion annually to contend with climate change by 2030 and up to US\$565 billion by 2050. It also warned that many developing countries are facing a major shortfall in adaptation financing.

Finally, the last edition of the Production Gap report in 2021 found that the world's governments plan to produce more than twice the amount of fossil fuels in 2030 than would be consistent with limiting warming to 1.5°C.

What role will these reports play at COP28?

The three reports provide a scientific foundation for negotiating parties and stakeholders working towards meeting the Paris Agreement goals.

The reports will also provide consolidated input to the Global Stocktake, which is the formal process of measuring how the global community is delivering on the Paris Agreement.

COP28 is expected to drive action on climate change, reducing emissions and halting global warming. It will discuss the results from the first-ever Global Stocktake, assessing progress towards achieving the ambition of the Paris Agreement to limit global temperature rise to below 1.5°C.

A cavalry of pick-up truck warriors deals 'catastrophic' blow to Sudan's army

By Phillip van Niekerk

THE more than six-month war in Sudan has taken a decisive turn.

The Rapid Support Forces militia under the warlord Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo (Hemedti) is poised to take control of the entire Darfur region, having captured several key cities abandoned by the Sudanese Armed Forces in the dead of night.

The RSF has taken control of Nyala, the capital of South Darfur and the country's second commercial hub, and Zalingei, the capital of Central Darfur, since last week.

The RSF also completed its hold on El Geneina, the capital of West Darfur, by clearing out the garrison of the 15th Infantry Division this weekend.

Geneina was the scene of ethnic cleansing earlier this year when Arab Reizegat militias associated with the RSF killed thousands of "African" Masalit tribespeople.

"The survivors - several hundred thousand - just walked to Chad," said one former resident of West Darfur. "There's none left there now."

Despite grave concerns expressed by US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, the RSF is ready to attack El Fasher, the capital of North Darfur and the last stronghold of the army in the region, where tens of thousands of refugees fleeing the fighting have sought sanctuary. Fasher has been spared from the conflict until now.

The Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) have offered little resistance, appearing to cede Darfur to the RSF in the hope of consolidating their forces in the rest of the country.

RSF's victories have created a de facto partition between the RSF in the west and Khartoum, and the SAF in the east and north of the country.

There was also heavy fighting in Khartoum on Sunday, 5 November, with unconfirmed reports that the RSF had attacked the Armoured Corps base in the southwest of the city.

Cameron Hudson, a senior associate at the Centre for Strategic Studies in Washington, described the developments as "catastrophic" for Abdel Fattah al-Burhan's Sudanese Armed Forces.

The independent news website Middle East Eye quoted RSF sources as saying they were now considering setting up their own government in Geneina, creating a Libya-type situation where Sudan is "ruled" from two centres.

Burhan has talked about moving his capital to the Red Sea city of Port Sudan as the contested and shattered tricity capital of Khartoum, Bahri and Omdurman is mostly in RSF hands and destroyed as an administrative centre.

The RSF, backed by the United Arab Emirates, has moved aggressively to carve out its fiefdom.

The question is whether this highly mobile pick-up truck cavalry of tribal warriors from Chad, Niger and Western Sudan will be content with Darfur.

Hemedti's brother, Abdelrahim Dagalo, the deputy commander of the RSF, intimated that they would keep going until they controlled the entire country.

RSF troops have already reached White Nile state. "I think at this point there's no reason for the RSF to think that they should be limited to Darfur," said Hudson.



"I would guess they have an ambition to take everything west of the Nile, to include all of Khartoum and Omdurman - that would be two-thirds of the country." And 100% of the gold.

The Sudanese people as bystanders

The RSF moves coincided with the return of the warring parties to peace talks in Jeddah last week, brokered by the US and Saudi Arabia, this time including African representatives from the East African Intergovernmental Authority on Development.

But the talks are limited to matters of humanitarian assistance and another ceasefire, which will probably be ignored like the ones before. On the ground, everyone is talking about the break-up of the country.

According to conservative estimates, more than 10,000 civilians have died since the fighting erupted in April, mostly in crossfire, and there are seven million displaced people - more than a million of them refugees in the neighbouring countries of Chad, South Sudan and Egypt.

Three million kids have been forced to flee their homes, the largest displaced population of children in the world.

"A feature of this war which hasn't happened on this scale in recent memory, I think in African wars, is the level of looting and abuse of civilian populations, largely by the Rapid Support Forces," said Dr Sul-

man Baldo, executive director of the Sudan Transparency and Policy Tracker.

"They have occupied private residences, looted all valuables and engaged in a campaign of carjacking. I would say tens of thousands of vehicles have left Khartoum to areas of constituencies of the fighting forces of RSF," Baldo told the International Crisis Group podcast, "The Horn".

Neither the SAF nor the RSF has shown much interest in actual governing, which raises the question of who runs the country if the RSF does succeed in winning the war.

Baldo said that currently at the local level, essential services have been taken over by volunteers: professional associations, neighbourhood committees, resistance committees and so on.

"Local, ordinary people are volunteering to look after displaced people who fled to areas less affected by the conflict, so the state is registering a stark absence.

"The police have all but disappeared." One former Sudanese official speaking from Ethiopia said that "the country is completely down". There is no administration working on either side - not in health, education or anything else.

"There is no more country outside of the armed groups," he said.

A better word for what is happening is decomposition rather than fragmentation.

World turns a blind eye

The powerlessness of the inter-

national community to stop the destruction of Sudanese society and protect its most vulnerable citizens is a sign of the diseased state of the global security regime.

The most noted silence has come from African countries. They have not raised the issue at the UN Security Council nor been particularly vocal about promoting a ceasefire or securing humanitarian corridors into the country.

Just four weeks ago, several African countries, including Sudan, opposed a UN Human Rights Council vote to investigate rights violations in Sudan. The vote narrowly passed thanks to support from Western countries. South Africa abstained.

Alex de Waal, the executive director of the World Peace Foundation, blames the international response on the low priority given by the US to the Horn of Africa and an increasing assertiveness by the powers in the Middle East.

"[Former] President Donald Trump authorised his favoured intermediaries - Egypt, Israel, Saudi Arabia and the UAE - to pursue their interests across the Horn of Africa. The Biden administration has not pulled that back." The UAE has become the RSF's strongest backer.

A recent Wall Street Journal exposé revealed how the Emiratis have been moving weapons to Sudan under cover of humanitarian assistance to the refugees in Chad.

The UAE is also motivated by the fact that an increasingly desperate

Burhan is leaning on the Islamists from the former regime of Omar al-Bashir to help him. This relationship comes with other alliances: Turkey, Qatar and even Iran, who signed a deal with Burhan a few days before the Hamas attack on Israel on 7 October.

The RSF is allied with its kindred organisation, the Russian mercenary group Wagner, which mines gold alongside it in Sudan and operates in the RSF-friendly territories of the Central African Republic and Libya.

Saudi Arabia and Burhan's main backer, Egypt, while supporting him, are trying to wean the SAF away from the Muslim Brotherhood.

It does show that international politics has become more and more of a jungle; what De Waal describes as a "deepening crisis at the mercy of ruthless transactional politics".

De Waal said that despite a rhetorical commitment to a rule-based international order, Washington had failed to protect Africa's painstakingly constructed peace and security architecture.

"Those African countries most in need of principled multilateralism are paying the price."

Mafia rules

The extension of RSF Reizegat tribal control over Darfur, a region of multi-ethnic diversity, could bring the conflict to places that have been relatively peaceful up till now and threaten other groups in an ethnically diverse region, and beyond.

In Darfur and neighbouring Kordofan, there are at least three factions of the "African" Sudanese Liberation Movement, who have so far stayed out of the fighting, but who could get drawn in or be forced to defend their communities against the militias.

Many Sudanese view the RSF as a Mafia-style organisation, a money-making venture whose military campaign has been based on systematic plunder and rape.

The United Nations Human Rights Office said on 3 November that it was "deeply alarmed by reports that women and girls are being abducted and held in inhuman, degrading slave-like conditions" in RSF-controlled areas in Darfur.

Cameron Hudson said all of Darfur was now set to fall to a "genocidal militia group".

"With control over multiple borders, RSF will have uncontrolled access to new weapons and an ability to raise forces."

Meanwhile, apart from relying on fighters from the Sudan Islamist Movement, the SAF has revived units of the former security services and there has been a general mobilisation of the population, largely on ethnic lines.

"It doesn't bode well for Sudan that the population is being trained and armed to use weapons along ethnic lines, on both sides. This is a recipe for a disaster that, if not contained by an immediate end to the current war, could lead to further disintegration," he said.

Baldo reflected with sadness that the core of Sudanese society has been uprooted and dispersed to Egypt and elsewhere.

"Its writers, its artists, its musicians, its politicians, civil society, its actors. What is state failure if not the uprooting of an entire society?" **DM**

Julius Malema: Why the South African politician touched a nerve in Kenya

By Joseph Warungu

Nairobi

ON 9 November, two men stood before Kenyans to deliver long-awaited speeches, separated by just a few hours and a few kilometres.

They were both live on television.

Both men are sworn pan-Africanists and both were after the hearts of a nation weighed down by heavy economic burdens.

But that's where the similarities ended. One man, President William Ruto, wore a formal blue suit.

The other man, South African opposition leader Julius Malema, was clad in a black safari suit, with his customary red beret perched on his head.

While the president's State of the Nation Address delivered amid pomp and ceremony in parliament was received with sombre and weary looks, every other sentence of Mr Malema's explosive speech was met with wild cheers from his audience during the launch of the Pan-African Institute at a Kenyan university.

Since that day, the two men and their speeches have been the centre of much comparison and plenty of lively debate in Kenya. Mr Malema's speech was rebroadcast by a number of Kenyan digital channels and clips of it were shared widely on WhatsApp.

Mr Malema's decision to attack President Ruto on a number of issues, including a failure to deliver on his election promises, hit the spot with many Kenyans.

The South African firebrand also condemned Mr Ruto for not challenging King Charles on colonialism during his recent visit to Kenya, as well as his support for Israel in the current conflict with Hamas.

Media analyst Elvis Ndekwe says that to understand why Kenyans embraced a leader who broke a common African etiquette that dictates a visitor should not speak ill of his host, you have to go back to the events of March this year.

"This was the day angry citizens from four African countries took to the streets in

simultaneous demonstrations, to fight the high cost of living. The protests in South Africa, Kenya, Nigeria and Tunisia were led by opposition leaders, including Julius Malema."

Mr Ndekwe adds that Kenya was already experiencing periodic demonstrations led by opposition leader Raila Odinga, protesting against what he felt was a stolen 2022 election.

"Many Kenyans, especially the younger generation, identified with Julius Malema who was fighting a cause similar to their own. They saw it as a show of solidarity against oppressive or insensitive regimes."

Prof PLO Lumumba, chair of the new Pan-African Institute that invited Mr Malema to Kenya, echoes Mr Ndekwe's argument.

"Malema represents a younger generation of Africans who are now beginning to articulate Pan-African issues in a manner that appeals to critical masses," he told the BBC.

"Remember, this is a very young continent," he said, adding that Africa needed a younger generation of leaders.

Although Mr Ruto, 58, campaigned last year as the candidate of the next generation against 78-year-old opposition leader Raila Odinga, at 42 Mr Malema is better placed to articulate the concerns of that large cohort of young voters.

But even before the four-country demonstrations in March, Mr Malema was a well-known figure with a sizeable following in Kenya, mainly arising from his heated contributions in the South African parliament, where his Economic Freedom Fighters are known for wearing red overalls, giving fiery speeches and occasionally disrupting proceedings.

Compilations of his comments in parliament are popular and have been doing the rounds in Kenya. In the comments section of one such video last year, one person wrote: "Still can't get enough of Hon Malema.....love you ambassador of pure truth.... LOVE FROM KENYA."

So, when Mr Malema landed in Kenya, he found an audience in waiting.



South African opposition leader Julius Malema

Mr Ndekwe says that Mr Malema represents a challenge not just for President Ruto but also for his rivals.

"For some Kenyans, Malema symbolises the opposition leader they do not have and many make comparisons with Raila Odinga. Malema is young, energetic, bold and fearless. He speaks his mind even though it may annoy others. The young people don't see these qualities in Raila."

"When the president's State of the Nation Address merely repeated the same promises the government has made before, no-one questioned it," agrees one senior editor in Kenya who did not want to use his name.

"Malema gave an alternative voice, castigating the government. It's a welcome break from the usual talk."

Unsurprisingly, Kenya's government has reacted angrily to Mr Malema's comments and Deputy President Rigathi Gachagua has given him this advice: "We'd like to appeal to visitors to respect the leaders of their host countries. We travel overseas and we don't insult the leaders of those countries. We don't interfere with their politics."

"This man who came here is all-knowing. By the afternoon he seemed to know more about Kenya than us. I visited his own country in December and they ration electricity for seven hours; yet we don't discuss this because we respect them."

The government is not alone in its reaction. Many ordinary Kenyans have found his comments distasteful, saying a foreigner should not teach them how to run their affairs. Others felt offended with his decision to give his critical speech on the same day as the president's State of the Nation Address.

Given the many feathers he's ruffled in one short visit, why did the organisers of the new Pan-African Institute invite Mr Malema to Kenya?

"The choice was defined by some fundamental things," said Prof Lumumba, a well-known and deeply passionate Pan-Africanist.

"One is that Malema has spoken and continues to speak boldly about issues that concern the continent of Africa, including unhindered trade in Africa, free movement of people within Africa, and having Africans take charge of their affairs.

"Malema in South Africa also represents a generation that is saying: 'Even when you say we have killed apartheid, apartheid is still alive and well'. And that to me resonates with us. He is also courageous and says these things without fear of consequence. Many of us mince our words because we fear the consequences."

So why does Prof Lumumba think that so many Kenyans embraced Mr Malema?

"There is a silent, critical majority of Kenyans who feel let down by what is happening and what has been happening in the Kenyan political arena, because Kenyans in the public arena are generally hypocritical. They don't say what they mean. So there is a sense in which Malema as a visitor came and said the things that we want to say, but we don't want to say them."

And what did Malema himself make of his visit? He told Prof Lumumba: "I am very happy that I have a group of Kenyans and by extension, Africans, who are beginning to embrace the agenda of Africa and doing it for themselves and beginning to recognise that ultimate decolonisation, ultimate freedom is economic freedom."

Despite many Kenyans' embrace of Mr Malema, back home in South Africa he's a controversial figure who has faced accusations of stirring racial tensions.

He has been repeatedly accused of hate speech, and opinion polls show his EFF trailing a distant third nationwide, with the support of about 13% of voters.

With the man in the red beret having left Kenya, the blue-suited president has the tough task of winning back those looking for solutions to their economic and political problems from without, instead of from within.

Joseph Warungu is a media and communication trainer based in Nairobi

Drone firms fly higher with versatile models

By Fan Feifei

STAKES are high and Chinese manufacturers of unmanned aerial vehicles, commonly known as drones, are seeking to fly higher with their latest models that are multipurpose and smarter, promising to grab as much share as possible of what is estimated to be a double-digit multibillion dollar market globally already and set to grow further rapidly.

With drones finding applications in a wide range of fields – farming, cargo transport, aerial photography, surveillance and security operations, power line patrolling, emergency rescue work, surveys and cartography, to name a few – the future for this market is going to be exciting, experts said.

A report from market tracker Mordor Intelligence said revenue of the global delivery drones market is expected to grow from \$1.97 billion in 2023 to \$11.66 billion by 2028, at a compound annual growth rate of 42.65 percent.

Data from the Shenzhen-based Qianzhan Intelligence Co Ltd said the industry-level drone segment has witnessed explosive growth in China, with sales revenue projected to increase from 27.3 billion yuan (\$3.73 billion) in 2020 to 265.8 billion yuan in 2026.

Industry-specific drones, market experts said, are expected to see their value surge as they could help address labor shortages, besides enhancing all walks of life.

In August, DJI, the world's largest commercial drone manufacturer by market share, unveiled the FlyCart 30, its first cargo drone, thus foraying into the burgeoning delivery and logistics sector.

The FlyCart 30, which may be available only in the China market initially and whose price is 125,000 yuan, has a four-axis, eight-propeller multi-rotor configuration that allows a maximum range of 16 kilometers on a maximum payload of 30 kilograms in dual battery mode, DJI said.

It can be used to move cargo to mountainous regions, ports and rural areas, with flight altitude reaching 6,000 meters, which means it can serve a range of needs.

DJI said trials of the model have been underway in the mountainous areas of Qinghai, Sichuan, Guizhou and Anhui provinces and Xizang autonomous region. It has successfully transported daily supplies, photovoltaic panels, building materials and emergency supplies so far.

The Huangshan Mountain Scenic Area in Anhui province has taken a lead in using DJI's cargo drones to deliver supplies. Initial reports suggest the FlyCart 30 drones have helped improve transportation efficiency in the mountainous region, besides relieving labor shortage. They have transported more than 96 metric tons of materials like daily necessities and garbage since they started operations, DJI said.

"We are bullish on the prospects for aerial transport and hope to effectively solve the challenges arising from complex terrain and last-mile transportation for the industry," said Zhang Xiaonan, strategic director of DJI.

Zhang said DJI has invested heavily in industry-level drones, which have been widely used in the fields of agriculture, energy, mapping and public security, and become an indispensable productivity tool.

"The emergence of industry-level drones has reshaped people's lives and production modes, as well as promoting the development of various industries," Zhang said, highlighting that although such drones are still in the initial stage of development, their applications will be more extensive in the future as related technologies advance.

Delivery drones have become increasingly widespread in recent years, helping increase the reach of e-commerce companies. Chinese e-commerce giant JD and courier and logistics company SF Holding have been exploring the application of drones to logistics,



Farmers use farm-specific drones to help spray pesticide in Bozhou, Anhui province, on April 19, 2023. (LIU QINLI / FOR CHINA DAILY)

especially last-mile deliveries.

JD said it has used innovative drone technology to reach consumers in some of China's hard-to-reach remote areas. The drones are developed by JD-X, JD's research and logistics innovation lab, which is focused on developing smart logistics solutions to make the passage of goods from warehouses to Chinese consumers quicker, cheaper and more efficient.

SF Holding said it has rolled out several types of drones for delivery services, with a maximum payload of 25 kg and flying distance of 100 km.

In the global delivery drones market, the Asia-Pacific region will witness the highest growth and China is the largest market already. Increasing support from the authorities concerned for commercial drone operations is propelling the growth of drone delivery operations in the region, the Mordor Intelligence report said.

Pan Xuefei, a senior analyst at market research firm International Data Corp, said applications of delivery drones are still nascent, adding such drones are mainly used to improve delivery efficiency in remote mountainous areas and sparsely populated regions.

Civilian drones are basically consumer- and industry-level equipment. In the consumer electronics sector, drones are mainly used in aerial pho-

tography, while industrial applications of drones are for patrolling power lines and similar operations, which will see immense demand in China, potentially boosting their worth, industry insiders said.

Jason Low, an analyst from market research company Canalys, said major drone companies are concentrating on professional and industry-level drones, spending a large part of their investment on developing software and hardware platforms, and attracting developers to create apps and new use cases for their drones.

The industrial drone market has huge growth potential, said Yang Jincui, director of the Shenzhen Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Industry Association in Guangdong province. "However, we still need time to see the large-scale application of drones in various sectors."

Experts also said China is at the forefront of state-of-the-art agricultural drones, the fastest-growing, most widely used and mature industry-level drones.

DJI has been devoting a great deal of attention to farm-specific drones in the hope of helping farmers improve the efficiency of sowing seeds and spraying fertilizers and pesticides, as well as increasing the use ratio of intelligent agricultural equipment.

Its agricultural-use business began

in November 2015 when it launched its first farm drone, the MG-1, marking its diversification into the segment. The Shenzhen, Guangdong province-based company is bullish about the prospects for farm drones as demand for such gadgets has surged and the whole industry is expanding rapidly.

The company has also used drones to carry out three-dimensional digitization of national cultural heritage, a move that will make contributions to the preservation, restoration and research of cultural heritage and historical relics.

XAG Co Ltd, China's largest agricultural drone maker, is ramping up efforts to develop farm-specific drones, step up investment in research and development, and expand its footprint in global markets as part of its broader drive to build a smart farming ecosystem.

Justin Gong, co-founder of XAG, said agricultural drones have been widely used for spraying pesticides, sprinkling fertilizers and sowing seeds to help farmers improve efficiency and reduce costs.

The company has trained lots of young people who went back to the countryside and became drone pilots and robot operators instead of directly selling the devices to farmers, Gong said.

Drones and robots can replace manpower for labor-intensive and tedious

farm work, Gong said, adding that reduced use of chemicals and fertilizers could eventually help lower farming costs.

The Chinese authorities have released a guideline to promote digital technologies in rural areas, as part of their efforts to advance agricultural and rural modernization.

"Our ultimate goal is to create a smart agriculture ecosystem in which all the repetitive, tedious and dangerous jobs are assigned to drones and robots, allowing farmers to focus on decision-making with the aid of big data and artificial intelligence," Gong said.

He further said digital technologies help accelerate the industrialization of the Chinese agricultural sector. Lower production costs can improve the competitiveness of agricultural products. The company aims to expand its global footprint in Southeast Asia, Eastern Europe and South America in the next few years.

Chen Shengdou, director of the China Agro-tech Extension Association, said farmers have high expectations for modern agricultural equipment that can transform, upgrade and develop traditional agriculture. Farm drones, which have the highest technical content and the largest market demand, have been increasingly used to safeguard a wide range of crops, he said.

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Many S. African children still have to walk long to reach school, return home

JOHANNESBURG

EARLY on a summer's morning, their chores are done, Luyandi Hlali and her friend Mimi Dubazane set off on their 10 kilometre walk from the village of Stratford to their school in Dundee.

The girls face a dangerous journey during which thieves and bad men could accost them, a situation made even worse in the darkness of winter.

They are some of the 200,000 schoolchildren in South Africa's KwaZulu Natal province who have to walk more than three kilometres to get to class each day.

And are among the hundreds of thousands of children in the poorest and most remote rural communities who struggle to get to school.

"I wake up and start my day at around half past four so I can get the fire going. I then bathe and get dressed to leave a little after five," said Luyandi.

"I usually get to school at around seven and I arrive tired. I often struggle to concentrate on what the teacher is saying and I sometimes fall asleep."

Government policy states that the

authorities are required to provide transportation for children who have to walk more than three kilometres to school.

But with poverty soaring and unemployment at over 25 per cent, school buses are low on the list of priorities.

A school principal in the region, who wished to remain anonymous for fear of reprisal, spoke about his battle to get more buses approved after some of his girl students were raped by local thugs.

His school has two old buses that can take about 65 children each, nowhere near enough for his more than 400 students.

"There are those who can't get on the bus and are forced to walk close to 20 kilometres to get to school. Many of them decide not to come on those days," he said.

Psychologist Melinda du Toit said the problem of inequality means those who cannot afford to live in urban areas struggle to improve their lives.

"They start very early, so they haven't had enough sleep. What happens in the brain when you are tired,



the neurotransmitters, those things that must carry the messages to your prefrontal cortex, they do not work," she said

"And it doesn't matter how smart you are, how in-

telligent you are, the brain is like a computer, and it works in a specific way."

At the end of the school day, for those lucky enough to live nearby, with parents or relatives, it's

a taxi ride home.

For Luyandi and Mimi, like many other youngsters in South Africa, it's a tiring journey on foot back to chores and homework.

Chinese technology, expertise help advance Africa's digital transformation

NAIROBI

FROM constructing internet infrastructure to launching e-commerce, and mobile payment to creating digital entertainment platforms, Chinese companies have been actively participating in Africa's digital transformation, helping the world's second most populous continent catch up with other regions of the world.

In December 2022, high-speed internet connection was for the first time made available at Uhuru Peak, the top of Africa's highest mountain, Kilimanjaro, at nearly 5,900 meters above sea level, as well as in camps and huts along the way. Visitors and climbers have since been able to share social media posts. More importantly, they can now call for help in case of an emergency.

"It used to be dangerous to climb when there was no network coverage on the mountain. Now, we can check information about weather and routes at any time when mountaineering. It increases tourists' sense of security," said Sebastian Mbilinyi, a local guide.

As part of the Tanzanian government's key National ICT Broadband Backbone Network project, the Mount Kilimanjaro internet network was built by the Tanzania Telecommunications Corporation in partnership with Chinese technology giant Huawei, with the latter providing most of the telecommunications equipment. Botswana's Digital Delta Data Center, undertaken by the Botswanan branch of China Jiangxi International Economic and Technical Cooperation Co. Ltd. (CJIC), is another case of Chinese companies' involvement in African countries' digital infrastructure construction.

Located in the Botswana Innovation Hub in Gaborone, the country's capital, the data center housed in a two-storey building equipped with ancillary facilities will become the country's largest data center when delivered at the end of this year.

Zhu Yahan, the project manager, said the data center is vital to ensuring Botswana's network data security.

"The internet speed is also expected to be greatly increased, which will promote the development of digital economy in the country."

"This center is a facility that we believe will transform the ICT ecosystem in Botswana," said Keabetswe Segole, acting chief executive officer of BoFiNet. Compared with other places in the world, the internet infrastructure in Africa is still weak.

The "Measuring digital development: Facts and Figures 2022" report released by the International Telecommunications Union shows that two-thirds of the world's population uses the internet, while the average for Africa is just 40 percent of the population.

Since the founding of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) in 2000, Chinese companies have helped African countries build a communications backbone network of 150,000 km and a net-

work service covering nearly 700 million user terminals, according to the "China and Africa in the New Era: A Partnership of Equals" white paper.

"China has actively participated in the construction of Africa's internet infrastructure and provided ICT support to help African countries accelerate their integration into the global digital economy," said Humphrey Mushi, a professor of economics at the University of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania.

As the "Black Friday" shopping season approaches, the Kilimall headquarters located on the outskirts of Nairobi, the capital of Kenya, is already in full swing.

The shelves, towering several meters high, are filled with a diverse array of goods from China and other countries. Established in 2014 by an information technology company based in Changsha in China's Hunan Province, Kilimall has now become a major e-commerce platform in East Africa and one of the most popular shopping websites among Africans.

As of the first half of this year, over 8,000 enterprises and individuals from African countries and China were running a total of 12,000 shops on the platform, selling about 1 million varieties of commodities. "China's experience in e-commerce brings inspiration to African entrepreneurs," said Dickson Nganga, marketing supervisor of Kilimall.

Alibaba.com, Kikuu, Shein and other Chinese platforms have also entered the African market. As e-commerce has become an engine for the fast-growing economic and trade cooperation between China and Africa, both sides have also made efforts in talent training to help African young people acquire relevant skills.

China Merchants Foundation and the Djibouti government have jointly invested in setting up the Center of Innovation and Maritime Excellence, a non-profit capacity-building project aimed at enhancing the leadership and entrepreneurship of Djiboutian and East African youths. Arafo Hassan Barbad from Djibouti, who attended the first training camp last September, said the courses were "very interesting, practical and insightful" and helped lay a solid foundation for her to start her own business.

Since 2019, China has set up a dozen Luban Workshops across Africa, offering training in telecommunications, smart manufacturing, electrical automation technology, and e-commerce.

In April 2021, the professional teaching standards of e-commerce developed by China's Jinhua Polytechnic and its Rwandan partners were incorporated into the country's Educational Qualifications Framework.

E-commerce is only a microcosm of the quickly expanding China-Africa digital cooperation. A growing number of Chinese companies are also sharing their expertise in digital payment and entertainment, boosting people's living standards here.

A daily practice for John Chukwuemeka, an auto spare parts dealer from the Nigeri-



Staff members of Kilimall work at a warehouse in Mlolongo, Kenya, Nov. 10, 2023. Xinhua

an capital of Abuja, is to make quick financial transactions at an OPay agent near his shop. "I can't remember the last time I was in the bank," said Chukwuemeka.

OPay, started by a Chinese entrepreneur in Nigeria's economic hub of Lagos in 2018, has seen quick growth in its mobile payment services in the country. For Chukwuemeka and many other traders in the market, the OPay agent enables them to deposit, send, and receive money and pay bills in a safe and convenient way.

Founded in 2021, beU Delivery is a Chinese-invested on-demand food delivery service provider, whose partners now include almost all major restaurants in the city. "I am happy that with the help of beU, I am now reaching a far greater people irrespective of the geographical limitations we had," said Birhan Gebremedhin, a restaurant owner partnering with beU Delivery, who singled out the maximum assurance, delivery speed, and constantly growing customer base as a distinguished quality in working with

the delivery platform.

Transsion, a China-based smartphone manufacturer, has been Africa's number one smartphone seller for years.

The company is now expanding to the area of mobile applications, attracting more and more users with its music streaming media Boomplay, news aggregator Scooper News, short video-sharing platform Vskit, among others.

During the 2022 FIFA World Cup held in Qatar, Scooper News launched the "World Cup" column, featuring live updated results and online interaction, which won popularity among African football fans.

"With the youngest population in the world, the African continent is undergoing rapid urbanization and regional integration, which makes the digital economy in Africa promising. It is believed that with the help from China, Africa will accelerate the pace of digital transformation," said Costantinos Berhutesfa, a professor of public policy at Addis Ababa University



Photo taken on September 17 shows a man doing transaction at an offline agent of OPay Nigeria in a suburb of Abuja, Nigeria. Xinhua

South African divisions exposed by Israel-Hamas conflict

By Mohammed Allie, Cape Town

THE war between Israel and Hamas has exposed deep divisions in South Africa, with the government's staunch support for the Palestinians coming in for criticism from leaders of the country's Jewish community, among others.

The government has announced the withdrawal of its diplomats from Israel, and suggested that the position of Israel's ambassador to Pretoria was becoming "untenable".

This has been sharply criticised by the country's Jewish Board of Deputies which has called for an urgent meeting with President Cyril Ramaphosa.

South African sympathy for the Palestinian fight for an independent state goes back to the days of late anti-apartheid icon Nelson Mandela.

He famously said in 1997, three years after he became the country's first democratically elected president after decades of struggle against white-minority rule: "We know too well that our freedom is incomplete without the freedom of the Palestinians."

The unprecedented Hamas attack on Israel, which killed some 1,400 people, has not changed the position of the country's ruling party, the African National Congress (ANC), even though two South African nationals were among the dead and another is among the more than 230 people taken hostage.

President Ramaphosa has pledged the ANC's solidarity with the Palestinians, saying their history had echoes of apartheid - and South Africa's struggle against white-minority rule.

Although he did condemn the Hamas assault, a week later he led 60 party leaders as they waved Palestinian flags, while wearing the traditional chequered black and white Palestinian scarf, the keffiyeh.

"They are people who have been under occupation for almost 75 years," he said of the Palestinians. "They have been waiting and waging a war against a government that has been dubbed an apartheid state."

"We have always pledged our solidarity, and have always insisted that the only solution, especially with the issues of Palestine, is a two-state solution."

South Africa's foreign ministry has gone even further, suggesting that the Israeli air strikes on the Gaza Strip, which the Hamas-run health ministry says has killed more than 10,000 people, might amount to a genocide.

In the statement announcing the withdrawal of its diplomats, Foreign Minister Naledi Pandor accused the Israelis of imposing "collective punishment" on Palestinian civilians - an allegation rejected by Israel.

The government has not commented on the South African hostage, or named them.

Its pro-Palestinian position has been condemned by the country's Jewish Board of Deputies, the South African Zionist Federation and the largest opposition party, the Democratic Alliance (DA).

Because of the passionate views on both sides, some South African talk radio stations have deliberately limited airtime around taking calls from listeners keen to discuss the war between Israel and Hamas.

Large pro-Palestinian protest marches have been held around South Africa since the conflict began.

Smaller pro-Israel marches and rallies have been held in Johannesburg and Cape Town. Last Friday members of the Jewish community hung up 221 big red balloons across Johannesburg's Nelson Mandela Bridge to bring attention to the Israeli hostages and call for their release.

One ANC official, Gabriella Farber, resigned from the party, accusing it of "supporting Hamas".

"It has been made very clear to me that there is no space for a proud Jew to belong to the ANC no matter how hard I tried," she said in her resignation letter posted on X, formerly Twitter.

"It took the ANC nine days until they condemned Hamas for the atrocities they committed against the Jewish people. When the ANC condemned Hamas in the very next sentence they stated that Israel is committing a genocide," she said as she stepped down as spokesperson for the ANC Women's League in the Gauteng region.

The government's stance has also drawn stinging criticism from Warren Goldstein, chief rabbi of The Union of Orthodox Synagogues of South Africa.

"I want to tell the president and I want to tell the ANC, you are not South Africa," he told an SA Zionist Federation rally for Israel.



This pro-Israel demonstrator was removed by police at a protest in support of Palestinians

"This president, his party and this government is supporting an evil savagery that has shocked the hearts of all decent human beings in the world. How dare they?"

But South Africa's Jewish community, believed to number around 65,000, is not united in its condemnation of the government's support for the Palestinians.

Award-winning cartoonist Jonathan Shapiro, who identifies as a "secular Jew", says it is important to remember that many senior ANC figures during the fight against apartheid were Jewish and they did not support Israel.

"I think Farber must be very blind to the fact that most significant Jewish heroes of the anti-apartheid struggle were to a great extent very much against the Israel colonial project," Shapiro, better known by his pen name Zapiro, told the BBC.

He pointed to top ANC officials such as Joe Slovo, Arthur Goldreich, Rusty Bernstein, Ronnie Kasrils and Amy Thornton, saying they had a "background as socialists or communists or, in general, people who want to see justice in struggles wherever they are fought".

He said that Ms Farber could not pretend that "the ANC was somehow neutral on the issue of Palestine".

During the struggle against white-minority rule, the ANC developed close ties with erstwhile leaders such as Cuba's Fidel Castro, Libya's Muammar Gaddafi as well as Yasser Arafat of the Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO).

They all helped with material or moral support and saw one another as fellow liberation movements.

Arafat was one of the first leaders Mandela met after being released from prison on 11 February 1990.

The late PLO leader was among a group of leaders from South Africa's neighbours who had helped in the fight against apartheid who met Mandela in Zambia just two weeks after his release from 27 years in prison.

Although Mandela never set any conditions for the meeting, Arafat had already moved to accept Israel's right to exist and a few years later he signed the Oslo Accords. Under these, the PLO recognised Israel's right to exist and renounced terrorism in exchange for moves towards Palestinian self-rule for the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Foreign Minister Pandor has come under particular fire for having a telephone conversation with Hamas leader Ismail Haniyeh just a few days after

the 7 October attack.

Ms Pandor shrugged off the criticism, telling national broadcaster SABC that the ANC's experience of fighting the apartheid government was that the only way of finding a solution to a conflict was by talking to your enemies.

"South Africa is always dedicated to finding solutions and to promoting peace. When the Hamas leadership asked to speak to me, I agreed and I conveyed the wish of South Africa that there be peace. This is my responsibility to do."

"When the apartheid state wanted to speak to our leaders we didn't say: 'They've been harming us, they've imprisoned our fathers and grandfathers.' We said: 'Let's talk.' This is the South African character," she said.

Mr Ramaphosa, who played a prominent role in securing a negotiated settlement in Northern Ireland, says South Africa is ready to help mediate in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, drawing on its experience of conflict resolution.

However, South Africa's Jewish Board of Deputies points out that if it were to expel Israel's ambassador that would "be a decision contrary to everything that the government claims it stands for, that is talking to both sides of the conflict".

Agencies



A few months after stepping down as president in 1999, Nelson Mandela visited Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat in Gaza

RADIO One RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:30 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 NEWS BRIEF 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 10:30 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 11:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 11:30 HRS DJ SHOW 12:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 12:30 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:00 HRS HOJA YA LEO 13:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 14:00 HRS SPOTI LEO 14:30 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 15:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 15:30 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 16:30 HRS AFRO TIZI 17:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 17:30 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00 - 05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:30 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 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 10:30 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 11:00 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 11:30 HRS DJ SHOW 12:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 12:30 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:00 HRS HOJA YA LEO 13:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 14:00 HRS SPOTI LEO 14:30 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 15:00 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 15:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 16:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 16:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 17:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 17:30 HRS AFRO TIZI 18:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 18:30 HRS AFRO TIZI 19:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 19:30 HRS AFRO TIZI 20:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 20:30 HRS AFRO TIZI 21:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 21:30 HRS AFRO TIZI 22:15 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:00 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00 - 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E-commerce platforms help build digital Silk Road

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Halotel clinches consumer choice awards Africa 2023

By Guardian Reporter

HALOTEL Tanzania has been named the “Most Affordable and Consumer Friendly Telecom Service of The Year 2023” at the prestigious Consumer Choice Awards Africa.

This marks the fourth consecutive year, from 2020 to 2023, that Halotel has secured this esteemed title in the same category.

The Consumer Choice Awards Africa, founded with the mission of promoting business excellence through consumer choice, serves as a testament to Halotel’s unwavering commitment to providing top-notch telecom services. Halotel faced stiff competition in the Telecoms category, but its dedication to affordability and consumer satisfaction set it apart from the rest.

Abdallah Salum, Halotel business director expressed his gratitude to customers for their unwavering belief and trust in Halotel’s services.

He remarked: “We are deeply honored to receive the Consumer Choice Awards Africa for the fourth consecutive year. This achievement is a direct result of the faith our customers place in us and the votes they cast. We appreciate their continued support and pledge to maintain the highest standards in delivering telecom services.”

The award is a testament to Halotel’s ongoing commitment to excellence and customer satisfaction. As the telecom landscape continues to evolve, Halotel remains dedicated to providing innovative and affordable solutions that meet the diverse needs of its customers.

Salum also emphasized that Halotel will continue to focus on delivering the best services, ensuring that every customer’s needs are not only met but exceeded.

“Halotel is committed to being ‘Better Together,’ and we will persist in our efforts to enhance connectivity, affordability, and overall customer experience,” he added.

Halotel extends its heartfelt appreciation to the Consumer Choice Awards Africa for recognizing its contributions to the telecom industry. The company looks forward to continuing its journey of excellence and innovation, guided by the invaluable support of its customers.



Most Affordable and Consumer Friendly Telecom Service of The Year

Be job creators, not job seekers, PS challenges college graduates

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

COLLEGE graduates have been challenged to use the acquired skills to create jobs and not job seekers.

Dr Hashil Abdalah, permanent secretary in the Ministry of Industry and Trade threw the challenge in Dar es Salaam over the weekend during the 58th graduation ceremony at the College of Business Education (CBE), whereby 1,226 graduates were conferred with diploma, degree and master’s degree.

Dr Hashil said the entrepreneurship skills they have received at the college should be utilized accordingly through creativity, thus contributing to economic growth.

“With the acquired skill; you are in a better position to start your own businesses,” he said, adding that since globalization has resulted in rapid changes that affect every aspect of life, they should find ways to deal with the changes.

He commended the management of the college for their good vision that led to establishment of apprenticeship and incubation programs where students learn practically.

Dr Hashil also commended the management of the college for introducing Master’s Degree in Business Management (MBA) which is conducted online.

He said the move affirms the college determination in providing quality education that meets local and international employment needs.

“The launch of these programs sets new standards for quality and access to higher education. I commend you for offering the courses online as it provides chances for many students and professionals to further develop their career,” he said.

He said the government will continue to work on the challenges of the infrastructure at all higher education colleges including CBE. He applauded the college for developing its teachers and investing in modern teaching facilities, learning methods and curricula.

Rector of the college, Prof Edda Lwoga said the college has managed to train graduates in a way that they can employ themselves after completion of their studies.

“We started offering business and entrepreneurship programs to our students in 2022. They bring ideas and we assist them in nurturing them. This helps them to start doing business while at college,” she added.

Angola envoy urges public to explore investment prospects

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

THE Ambassador of the Republic of Angola in Tanzania, Sandro De Oliveira has urged citizens to take advantage of the available investment opportunities in both countries for mutual benefits.

He was speaking in Dar es Salaam over the weekend on the occasion of the celebration of Angola’s 48th independence anniversary, the event that brought together the Angolan community in Tanzania.

Amb Oliveira said they have been working tirelessly to strengthen the fraternal ties that unite people in the two nations.

“We should take advantage of the available opportunities on both sides to engage in mutually beneficial exchanges, among others, in the domains of trade, business, culture, science and

technology and tourism,” he said.

He said that later this year the first session of the Joint Permanent Commission between Angola and Tanzania will meet in line with the first business and investment forum.

“We would like to once again urge the business sector from Tanzania not to hesitate in investing in Angola in various sectors because the business environment has improved significantly since 2017. There are attractive incentives for key areas and an enormous potential for profitable businesses,” he said.

He also said this year, contrary to the usual diplomatic reception; they decided to join the Angolan community in Tanzania in a more social event, to enable them to exchange ideas more openly. “We should use this occasion to pay homage to our fearless fighters who sacrificed themselves fully for the cause of the Angolan People and achieved the freedom that we enjoy today,” he said, adding that their patriotism, solidar-

ity, bravery and courage serves a permanent compass in the struggle for economic liberation and sustainable development of their magnificent nation.

On the other hand, he said they pay singular homage to the late Dr. António Agostinho Neto, founder of the Angolan nation and national hero, whose vision and courage led the liberation struggle.

The envoy said Tanzania played a decisive role in Angola’s independence, having given immeasurable political, technical, moral and material support which included hosting Angolan fighters Dar es Salaam, Mbeya, Dodoma and other regions.

On November 11th, 1975 at the independence square in Luanda, the late President Neto, solemnly proclaimed, before Africa and the world, the independence of Angola, ending a difficult armed liberation struggle from the Portuguese colonial yoke.

Premier tells banks to support SMEs with loans for gas, oil sector growth

By Guardian Correspondent, Lindi

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has advised banks in the southern regions to continue providing loan services to small and midsize enterprises (SMEs) who are engaged gas and oil sector.

The premier made the call yesterday when visited the NMB Bank’s pavilion at the Ilulu grounds in Lindi municipality in Lindi Region, shortly before launching the 7th Tanzania Editors’ Forum (TEF) annual general meeting (AGM).

He said SMEs in Lindi and Mtwara regions who are closely engaged in gas and oil sector need to be encouraged.

“That’s why it is imperative for the bank to offer them loans, so that attract investors to continue investing in the southern regions,” he said, adding: “Continue to empower investors to invest in the gas sector and even SMEs are in your wheel, serve them for the better future.”

Faraja Ngingo, the bank’s southern zone manager said that in supporting the oil and gas sector, NMB is proud to have resources worth 11.5trn/- with deposits of about 8.2trn/-, where their capacity is up to 420bn/- for one cus-

tomers.

“As you know, the oil and gas sector are at a stage of great growth whereby the bank decided to enter with one force to ensure that this sector grows and stimulates oil and gas exploration activities and thus help increase the income of the Tanzanian government through royalties or inspection charges and service tax,” he said.

“The bank provides asset financing services which are cheap loans for specific equipment for the private oil and gas sector where we provide loans according to their needs, for expanding and improving services,” Ngingo said.

He added: “Until September 2023, we have given loans worth \$330 million, about 842bn/- to small oil and gas stakeholders, while large customers. Our target is to reach more customers with criteria and needs to strengthen the oil and gas sector and grow the country’s economy.”

“We are confident that oil and gas stakeholders in Lindi will continue to take advantage of these opportunities and thus see our oil and gas sector grow more efficiently,” said Ngingo



Tanzania Revenue Authority board chairman Uledi Abbas (R) welcomes visiting Ghanaian counterpart, Prof Peter Kyei, in Dar es Salaam yesterday. GRA delegation visited TRA to learn about various tax issues, including sharing experiences. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.



Abdulmajid Nsekela, CEO of CRDB Bank Group, delivering insights during the leaders' dialogue at the 7th AgriFin Learning Event in Nairobi, Kenya, concluding a week of impactful discussions. Alongside him on the left is Dr. James Mwangi, CEO of Equity Group.

CRDB calls for partnerships to transform farming in Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

CRDB Bank Chief Executive Officer Abdulmajid Nsekela has called for collaborative partnerships among stakeholders to fund agriculture in a shared commitment to uplift farmers and secure the nation's food future.

Speaking at the 7th AgriFin Learning Event, Nsekela unveiled his vision for a transformative agricultural sector saying it is characterized by the seamless availability of funds and agricultural inputs to empower farmers.

Born and raised in the farm area in Nyakatuntu, Kyerwa district, Bukoba region, Abdulmajid Nsekela, Group CEO of CRDB Bank Plc, has a deep-rooted passion for agriculture. His childhood and teenage memories are filled with the sights and sounds of the farm, and this passion is driving a transformation in the agricultural sector in Tanzania.

"Growing up on a farm instilled in me a profound love for agriculture, and I know the struggles they face. It's not just a sector; it's a way of life, and it's this connection that drives our mission at CRDB Bank. We are dedicated to being their partner in progress, bridging the gap between aspirations and opportunities."

Nsekela emphasized that building a thriving agricultural sector, collaboration was paramount, adding that there is a need to unite governments, businesses,

and communities in a shared commitment to uplift farmers.

With a commanding 43percent market share in agricultural financing, Nsekela said CRDB Bank's approach to agriculture is nothing short of strategic, adding that the bank has been working closely with the government to provide farmers access to vital resources, including funds, fertilizers, and agricultural equipment.

He said furthermore, that the bank collaborates with suppliers to guarantee reliable access of essential inputs to the farmers.

In an effort to effectively reach individual farmers, CRDB Bank has established partnerships with Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Societies (AMCOS) and cooperative unions.

Among the notable initiatives resulting from this collaboration is the Warehouse Receipt system, allowing farmers to access funds against their stored crops.

According to Nsekela, CRDB Bank's steadfast commitment to agriculture is prominently displayed in its substantial agricultural portfolio, boasting a total commitment of 801bn/- (\$334 million), making it the largest in the country.

This expansive portfolio extends support to a wide spectrum of agricultural sectors, ranging from input suppliers to agro-processors, agro-commodity traders, and beyond.

"Our financial commitment speaks volumes about our dedication to agriculture. We invest in the entire agricultural ecosystem, from suppliers to processors, ensuring a thriving future for all. Through our collaborations, we have created pathways for farmers to access financial support when they need it most. We stand by them in times of plenty and scarcity," he said.

In a pioneering move to make banking services more accessible to farmers, Nsekela noted that the Bank's FahariKilimo account empowers over 50,000 farmers, while also providing access to loans and health insurance through a collaborative effort with the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF). The bank also facilitates farmers' access to banking services through AMCOS or individual agents, CRDB Wakalas, offering additional income opportunities.

Distinguishing itself as the first bank in Sub-Saharan Africa accredited by the United Nations Green Climate Fund (GCF), CRDB Bank launched the Tanzania Agriculture Climate Adaptation Technology Deployment Program (TACADTP) this year.

This visionary program allocates \$200 million to finance climate-resilient agriculture, with the aim of empowering over 1.2 million direct beneficiaries and 4.9 million indirect beneficiaries. It stands to make a significant impact on the nation's climate adaptation in the agricultural sector.

"Climate adaptation is no longer a choice but a necessity. With TACADTP, we are sowing the seeds of resilience, benefiting millions of Tanzanians," he added.

He exuded optimism regarding the potential for digitized farming and ongoing partnerships with government institutions, fintech solution providers, and stakeholders across the agricultural value chain.



A shopper walks past a Vodacom shop in Johannesburg

Vodacom profit hit by Ethiopia losses but Egypt lifts revenue

JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH African telecoms operator Vodacom's (VODJ) earnings took a hit in the first half from start-up losses in Ethiopia but revenue growth benefited from the inclusion of Vodafone Egypt, which prevented further profit decline.

The company, the biggest telecoms operator in South Africa which is majority-owned by Britain's Vodafone Group (VOD.L), bought a 55% stake in the Egyptian arm of Vodafone for about 43.6 billion rand (\$2.3 billion) in 2021, the largest deal in the telecoms operator's history.

The business was consolidated from Dec. 8, 2022.

Vodacom launched Safaricom Ethiopia last year with a consortium led by Kenya's Safaricom, which is part-owned by the South African company and Vodafone, betting that the populous nation will power growth after about five years of investment.

Group Chief Financial Officer Raisibe Morathi told reporters that the Ethiopian business was expected to break even in year four, with peak earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortization losses expected in this fiscal year ended March.

Group headline earnings per share (HEPS), a profit measure, fell 4.2% to 438 cents in the six months ended Sept. 30, from 457 cents a year earlier. HEPS were also dragged down by a prior year deferred tax asset recognised in Tanzania and higher interest rates.

By 1046 GMT, Vodacom shares were down 4.26% at 103 rand.

Group service revenue grew 42.2% to 59.3 billion rand, thanks to the acquisition of Vodafone Egypt and rand depreciation against a basket of

international currencies.

Vodafone Egypt contributed 16 cents to HEPS and 14.3 billion rand to group service revenue, Group CEO Shameel Joosub said.

Excluding the contribution of Vodafone Egypt, group service revenue growth was 7.9% or 4.1% on a normalised basis, supported by a resilient performance in South Africa, he added.

In South Africa, its largest market, investments to keep the network running during power cuts helped lift service revenue by 4%. Data traffic growth accelerated to 45.2% in the period.

After investing 4.5 billion rand over 4-1/2 years to mitigate the impacts of power cuts, Vodacom will spend about 1 billion rand in this fiscal year.

Telecom companies in the country have been spending heavily to install diesel generators, batteries and solar panels to keep their networks running in the face of struggling state utility Eskom's power cuts of up to 10 hours a day.

Stanbic Bank launches cyber security skills growth scheme

By Guardian Reporter

STANBIC Bank Tanzania has launched a ground-breaking ICT Skills Development Programme aimed at developing talent in Cyber Security in order to bridge the Cyber Security skills gap in the market.

The launch took place at the University of Dodoma over the weekend and was witnessed by students and lecturers.

Speaking during the launch, Stanbic Bank Head of IT, Mussa Ally said the bank as an institution recognizes the need to contribute to the community in a meaningful and lasting way.

"We are proud to launch the ICT Skills Development Program (ISDP) in partnership with the University of Dodoma," He said.

Through the programme, the bank aims to equip the top 10 students with advanced knowledge and skills, providing them with professional recognition in the cybersecurity domain.

The initiative opens doors to diverse career opportunities, enhancing practical skills and knowledge - creating experts that are more competitive in the job market.

Vice Chancellor of the University of Dodoma, Professor Lughano Kusiluka, urged the students to work hard and join the programme, recognizing the university's ambition to become an ICT hub in the country.

Commenting on the programme, Stanbic Bank Head of Cyber Security, Jumanne Makame said, "We are witnessing a surge in cyber threats and challenges that require a new breed of skilled professionals to safeguard our digital landscape."

"This opportunity as a steppingstone to becoming leaders and influencers in the cybersecurity space. Your expertise will be crucial in safeguarding our digital landscape, and we believe in your potential to make a difference." He said.

He added that the ICT skills development programme goes beyond basic learning as it is a commitment to nurture true experts who, armed with recognized certifications, will play a pivotal role in fortifying our digital defenses.

"We've chosen to partner with University of Dodoma because we believe in your ability to produce not just graduates but leaders in the field of cybersecurity." He added.

The bank aspires to sponsor even more students in the future, creating a ripple effect that will contribute to a more secure digital environment for us all, shape a future where our community is braced against cyber threats, and our students emerge as leaders in the ever-evolving field of cybersecurity.

The Acting Principle of the College of Informatics and Virtual Education at the University of Dodoma, Dr. Florence Rashid, hailed the bank for choosing the university to launch the ICT Skills Development Programme.

Afreximbank to launch \$1bn African film fund

By Melanie Goodfellow

CAIRO-based African Export-Import Bank, also known as Afreximbank, is gearing up to launch a \$1billion African Film Fund in 2024 to support the continent's burgeoning film industry.

Kanayo Awani, Executive Vice President of Afreximbank's Intra-African Trade Bank, announced the initiative in the opening speech of the 2023 Canex (Creative Africa Nexus) Summit in Cairo on Friday.

She said the fund would oversee film financing, co-finance with large studios, finance African filmmakers and finance producers and directors of film projects across the continent.

Awani noted that Afreximbank had already announced the doubling of financing it was making available to the creative sector in Africa to \$1B at the 2022 edition of Canex, and currently had \$600M invested in film, music, visual arts, fashion, and sports projects.

"The very first film we financed recently premiered at the Toronto Film Festival," Awani said, adding, "The Bank has several in the pipeline from Nigeria, South Africa, and Kenya, which should be on streaming platforms in 2024." Awani said the film and audiovisual industries in Africa currently accounted for \$5B of the African continent's GDP and employed an estimated five million people, with the potential to create over 20 million jobs and generate \$20B in revenues annually in the future.

She noted, however, that sector faced several challenges, including limited access to financing and copyright infringement due to weak copyright laws, enforcement mechanisms and a lack of awareness. Other issues included infrastructure and technology gaps, lack of capacity and shortage of skilled professionals and limited market access and international exposure, as a result of which African creative and cultural products often struggle to gain exposure and access to international markets.

In an earlier address, German-Ghanian actor Boris Kodjoe, whose credits include Grey's Anatomy and Station 19, told the summit that African creativity was increasingly influential on the world stage but that Africa faced branding challenges due to external perception fuelled by traditional media's depiction of poverty, famine, civil wars and migration on the continent.

Africa Investment Forum secures \$34.82 billion in investor interest



Dr. Akinwumi Adesina, President of the African Development Bank (R) and Mohamed Benchaâbou, President of the Mohammed VI Investment Fund, signed a letter of intent to support the private sector, especially small and medium-sized enterprises and infrastructure in Morocco.

MARRAKECH

THE Africa Investment Forum's 2023 Market Days generated \$34.82 billion in investment interest for infrastructure, agriculture, health, and creative industry projects.

The three-day global event, with the theme "Unlocking African Value Chains," ended on Friday in the Moroccan city of Marrakech, the event drew over 1,000 delegates from more than 60 countries.

"We are building a formidable powerhouse around investments in Africa, that will deliver transformative impacts on the lives of people. That is the bottom line of the Africa Investment Forum: investing to improve lives," said African Development Bank Group President, and Chairperson of the Africa Investment Forum, Dr. Akinwumi Adesina.

Among delegates were several African heads of state and government, including President Azali Assoumani of Comoros and current chair of the

African Union, President Samia Suluhu Hassan of Tanzania, President Julius Maada Bio of Sierra Leone, Rwanda's Prime Minister Edouard Ngirente. Also in attendance was the Prime Minister of Barbados, Mia Mottley.

The Africa Investment Forum is a multi-stakeholder platform focused on continental deal-making and project facilitation between project sponsors, policy makers and investors. With this edition, the Forum has attracted nearly \$180 billion in investment interest since it was launched in 2018.

Morocco's Minister of Economic Inclusion, Small Business, Employment and Skills Younes Sekkouri, said the Forum underlined the critical importance of South-South partnerships and the crucial issue of financing infrastructure.

"Africa is at the forefront of international attention as one of the most dynamic and promising markets in the world...The Africa Investment Forum has been a turning point to explore

these opportunities, discuss challenges and solutions and strengthen the partnerships necessary to realise our aspirations," Sekkouri said.

Deals covered several sectors including the Mtwara-Mbamba Bay standard Gauge railway line in Tanzania, and the Mangapwani II Integrated Port in Zanzibar. There were also deals in agri-business, renewable energy, creative industries and healthcare.

President Julius Maada Bio of Sierra Leone discussing his country's Rice Industrial Complex project during a presidential boardroom.

Adesina thanked Moroccan King Mohammed VI who placed the event under his high patronage.

"Morocco is the right choice. We have been treated to incredible hospitality. The decision of the Africa Investment Forum founding partners to hold the 2023 Market Days in Marrakech two months after September's devastating earthquake, and the support and resilience of

the Kingdom and government of Morocco is highly commendable."

The Africa Investment Forum showcased several key side events including regional transport corridors, a roundtable with a Japanese business delegation, and a Mayor's Forum on leveraging cities and municipalities to unleash growth and development. The Mayoral event included mayors and governors from Lagos, Nairobi, Addis Ababa, Abidjan and ministerial representation from Rwanda.

At the launch event of the Alliance for Special Agro-Industrial Processing Zones, the African Development Bank, the Africa Export-Import Bank, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, committed \$3 billion to the alliance.

The Chief Executive Officer of the Islamic Trade Finance Corporation Eng. Hani Salem Sombol, representing the President of the Islamic Development Bank Dr. Muhammed Sulaiman Al Jasser, said Africa was a land of boundless possibilities and a

dynamic engine of growth.

"As a founding partner of the Alliance for Special Agro-Industrial Processing Zones, IsDB committed \$300 million to fuel Africa's agro-industrial growth. We are ready to partner with investors, businesses, and development partners to unlock the full potential of the continent," he said.

Trade and Development Bank Group President Emeritus and Group Managing Director Admassu Tadesse said, "As a founding partner, we as TDB Group are pleased to see the Africa Investment Forum continuing to attract diverse financiers and institutional investors for greater engagements on investments and co-financing opportunities."

European Investment Bank Vice-President Ambroise Fayolle also said: "A strong, innovative and resilient private sector is essential for the growth of Africa's economies. We are happy to see how the creativity and vision of African innovators is making an impact, particularly

in the area of technology."

Development Bank of Southern Africa CEO, Boitumelo Mosako, said: "It has been a positive outcome to see the engagement with several partners on a number of transactions. Our boardroom meetings had significant interest and we look forward to receiving commitments thereafter."

Some 50 African firms attended the Africa Investment Forum to explore investment opportunities in Africa.

Africa Finance Corporation President and CEO Samaila Zubairu said Africa's rich and diverse value chains serve as the backbone of the African continent's vast potential.

"Our commitment to add value across the economic spectrum is unwavering as we urgently strive to foster jobs for our youth through innovation and growth. Collaboration through strategic partnerships like the Africa Investment Forum is key to unlocking these value chains for a brighter and more sustainable future."

Alain Ebobissé, Africa50 CEO, said, "Once again, this year, the Africa Investment Forum has been a testament to the founding partners' dedication to initiating projects that tap into Africa's rich potential across diverse sectors."

AfDB also signed a Letter of Intent with Morocco's sovereign wealth fund, the Mohammed VI Investment Fund, to support the private sector, especially small and medium-sized enterprises and infrastructure in Morocco.

The Africa Investment Forum was launched in 2018 to leverage the collective resources of its co-founders and reduce the continent's infrastructure investment gap.

The Africa Investment Forum founding partners are the African Development Bank Group, Africa50, Afreximbank, the Africa Finance Corporation, the Development Bank of Southern Africa, the European Investment Bank, the Islamic Development Bank and the Trade and Development Bank.

E-commerce platforms help build digital Silk Road

CHANGSHA

NAIROBI resident Susan Wangui has been shopping on Kilimall, a Kenya-based e-commerce platform operating between China and Africa, since 2018.

"I have never been disappointed with their products, and I have always loved their dis-

counts," said Wangui, who recently made her third purchase on the site this month.

"It saves me time because I don't need to go to shopping centers in the city. It's convenient as everything is delivered to my doorstep. And the prices are fair compared to other platforms," she said.

In East Africa, many like Wangui believe that

Kilimall has good-quality products, a vast selection, affordable prices and efficient service.

Founded in 2014 and based in Nairobi, Kilimall is representative of Silk Road e-commerce and has become the top-ranked e-commerce app in the region. It has successfully built a digital bridge between China and Africa, creating close to 10,000 local jobs.



A Chinese staff member and a Kenyan staff member of Kilimall work at an office in Mlolongo, Kenya, Nov. 10, 2023.

VIEW FROM THE TOP

Kilimall's name comes from Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest mountain in Africa, according to Yang Tao, its founder and CEO. "We wanted to create a localized company and a local brand, and hope to scale the heights of e-commerce in Africa," he said.

"Our biggest advantage is China's huge supply chain," said Xie Bin, Kilimall's co-founder and vice president that the team's original intention was to facilitate Chinese businesspeople in Africa and simultaneously give African people greater access to Chinese commodities at better prices.

In order to reduce costs and increase efficiency, the team explored what it calls an "African overseas warehouse" business model. Under this model, Chinese merchants send their products to warehouses in African countries before local consumers place their orders, enabling buyers to receive their purchases as quickly as possible.

Under the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative, and with the "Nine Projects" of China-Africa cooperation put forward at the Eighth Ministerial Meeting of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, Kilimall has received great support and grown rapidly.

Its next-day delivery rate has reached 82 percent, and its successful delivery rate has reached 98 percent. Kilimall delivery workers can now be seen from the Masai Mara National Reserve to the shores of Lake Victoria.

With major Chinese e-commerce companies currently busy with Double

11 shopping promotions, Kilimall is also working hard through the Black Friday promotional season.

Kilimall brand director Liao Zhengrong recently said that goods totaling tens of millions of yuan in value, including home appliances and fashion products, have been included in these promotions.

While winning over African consumers with its speed and quality, Kilimall is also providing job opportunities for more and more locals.

From sales managers and couriers to local merchants and agents, Kilimall has created more than 5,000 new jobs in Kenya alone. At the same time, Kilimall is actively looking for local, quality partners.

Silas Musyoka, a Kenyan in his 20s and Kilimall's seller growth manager, joined the company five years ago. Today, he has a steady income and mentors friends who are thinking of starting their own businesses.

"Here, I have learnt a lot of advanced e-commerce knowledge and skills, and have become more familiar with the Kenyan market and supply chain, and better understand how to develop the e-commerce industry in Kenya," Musyoka said. He believes that China's successful e-commerce practice can help Kenya fill a void in its market.

Other Chinese e-commerce giants like Alibaba and Pinduoduo have also launched cross-border platforms, such as Lazada and Temu, to help more Chinese goods "go global."



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and his wife Kyoko Jaishankar calls on United Kingdom Prime Minister Rishi Sunak and his wife Akshata Murty at 10 Downing Street, the official residence of UK PM, on the occasion of Diwali festival, in London on Sunday. ANI

US remains top choice for Indian students to pursue higher education, says report

WASHINGTON

THE United States remains a top-notch destination for Indian students to pursue higher education abroad, the US Embassy release said citing the Open Doors Report.

According to the Open Doors Report (ODR), the number of foreign students from India to the United States climbed by 35 per cent, reaching an all-time high of 268,923 students in the academic year 2022-23, the report added.

The US Department of State funds the Open Doors report, which is a definitive annual survey produced by the Institute of International Education (IIE) of foreign students and scholars in the United States and of US students studying abroad in credit-bearing courses.

Apart from highlighting the rate of growth of the international student population in the United States, the report also provides data on places of origin, sources of financial support, fields of study, host institutions, and academic level.

According to the data provided by the Open Doors Report, India has surpassed China to become the largest source of international graduate students in the United States for the first time since 2009-10. Moreover, the number of Indian students pursuing higher studies from the US skyrocketed by 63 per cent to 165,936 students, leading to an increase of nearly 64,000 students, compared to last year.

Indian undergraduate students also increased by 16 per cent, as per the report.

Indian students account for more than a quarter of the over one million international students studying in the United States.

The publication of the Open Doors Report heralds the start of International Education Week (IEW), which promotes the global advantages of international education and interaction.

According to ODR statistics, India also has the highest number of people (69,062) who pursued optional practical training (OPT), a sort of temporary work licence that allows qualifying students to gain real-world experience in their field of study, the US Embassy press release read, citing the ODR report.

During the major student visa season of June-August 2023, the US Embassy and Consulates in India granted

a record-high number of student visas. In India, consular staff granted 95,269 visas in the F, M, and J categories. This marks an 18 per cent surge increase over the same timeframe.

The Ambassador of the US to India, Eric Garcetti had said that the Indian students studying in the US as well as their families deserve recognition for the achievement and success they have got.

"You did it, India! Each and every Indian student in the United States and the families supporting their success deserve recognition for this achievement. The decision to study abroad, and your choice of the United States, represents a valuable investment by you and your families. You are bringing our countries closer together and leading us towards a bright future. We celebrate the strength of the Indian educational system that prepares students to compete globally and look forward to seeing India continue to lead. We also look forward to balancing these record numbers. We want to see equal numbers of women pursuing studies in the United States and see more U.S. students coming to experience all that India has to offer," Garcetti remarked, according to the US Embassy release.

In order to help Indian students choose the ideal study opportunity, the US Department of State provides free advising services to prospective students, both digitally and in person, at six EducationUSA advising centres in India: New Delhi, Chennai, Kolkata, Mumbai, and two in Hyderabad.

The Institute of International Education (IIE) publishes the Open Doors report. IIE conducts an annual statistical survey on international students in the United States since its founding in 1919 and in partnership with the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs since 1972.

Open Doors also reports on the number of international scholars at US universities and international students enrolled in pre-academic Intensive English Programs.

The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) of the U.S. Department of State builds relations between the people of the United States and the people of other countries through academic, cultural, sports, professional and private sector exchanges, as well as public-private partnerships and mentoring programmes.

ANI

Moscow starts evacuating Russian nationals from Gaza Strip

MOSCOW

THE first Russian nationals have been evacuated from the Gaza Strip, the press office of Russia's Emergencies Ministry reported on Sunday.

"The Emergencies Ministry of Russia jointly with Russian diplomats has organized work for the evacuation of civilians from the Gaza Strip. As of now, Russian citizens who have expressed their desire to leave the conflict area are crossing the border point," the press office said in a statement.

The Emergencies Ministry's staff who are receiving Russian nationals are rendering them medical and psychological assistance and providing them with food and potable water.

The evacuated citizens will be subsequently sent to Cairo where the Russian Emergencies Ministry has set up its emergency operations center and will also receive help in restoring their documents, the press office said.

Two Russian Il-76 transport planes of the Russian Emergencies Ministry have been in a state of readiness in Cairo since November 5 to evacuate Russians from the Gaza Strip.

Tensions flared up again in the Middle East on October 7 when militants from the radical Palestinian



Hamis movement staged a surprise attack on Israeli territory from the Gaza Strip. Hamas described its attack as a response to the aggressive actions of Israeli authorities against the Al-Aqsa Mosque in the Old City of Jerusalem.

Israel announced a total blockade of the Gaza Strip and began delivering missile strikes on the besieged Palestinian enclave and some areas in Lebanon and Syria. Clashes are also taking place on the West Bank of the Jordan River.

IDF (Israel Defense Forces) Spokesman Daniel Hagari said on October 27 that Israel was expand-

ing its ground military operation in the Gaza Strip.

It was earlier reported that almost 600 people with foreign or double citizenship would be able to leave the Gaza Strip on November 10 through the Rafah crossing on the border with Egypt.

However, the border crossing's operation was blocked. Special Russian Presidential Representative for the Middle East and Africa, Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Bogdanov said earlier that the evacuation of Russian nationals through the Rafah crossing would take no more than three days.

US Republican Senator Tim Scott quits 2024 presidential race

WASHINGTON

TIM Scott, US senator from South Carolina, announced on Sunday night that he was dropping out of the 2024 Republican presidential campaign.

"When I go back to Iowa, it will not be as a presidential candidate. I am suspending my campaign," said Scott, the only Black Republican senator, on a Fox News program.

The announcement came as a surprise for many of Scott's aides and donors although the South Carolina Republican was already struggling with poll numbers stagnating.

According to CNN, following last week's third Republican presidential debate, the super political action committee supporting Scott decided not to make a new investment.

"Tim Scott (pictured) is a strong conservative with bold ideas about how to get our country back on track. I respect his courage to run this campaign and thank him for his service to America and the US Senate. I look forward to Tim continuing to be a leader in our party for



years to come," Florida Governor Ron DeSantis responded with a post on X, formerly Twitter.

Scott's departure from the Republican presidential race came roughly two weeks after former vice-president

Mike Pence suspended his campaign in late October.

The race has been dominated by former president Donald Trump, who is facing four criminal indictments.

Xinhua

Kremlin dismisses Bloomberg's 'Putin's backyard' phrase about Kazakhstan as absurd

MOSCOW

KREMLIN Spokesman Dmitry Peskov (pictured) has dismissed the claim by the US news agency Bloomberg that Kazakhstan is a 'backyard' for Russian President Vladimir Putin as an absurdity and an information war.

"All this is a foolish thing. These are all information wars and so on," the Russian presidential spokesman stressed in an interview with the Moscow Kremlin. Putin program on the Rossiya-1 television channel.

A fragment of the interview was posted by journalist Pavel Zarubin on his Telegram channel.

Kazakhstan is a sovereign country that develops cooperation in all possible directions and does not do it in the "either side with these or with those" mode, the



Russian presidential spokesman said.

"This is a self-sufficient country but is our strategic ally. And, being guided by these relations of advanced strategic partnership, we develop our own relationships with Kazakhstan," he pointed

out. Moscow values these relationships with Astana, Peskov said.

"They are very broad: both mutual investment and trade are growing. This also relates to cultural interaction and

Protests held across Spain over proposed Catalan amnesty

MADRID

TENS of thousands of people protested across Spain on Sunday against acting prime minister Pedro Sanchez's plans to grant amnesty to Catalan separatists in exchange for support for another term in office.

The government secured a deal with Catalan separatist party Junts on Thursday which includes passing a contentious law granting amnesty to those convicted over Catalonia's attempt to secede from Spain in 2017.

The deal sent shockwaves around the country, with Sanchez's conservative opponents accusing him of putting the rule of law on the line for his own political gain.

"We will not shut up until there are new elections," People's Party (PP) leader Alberto Nunez Feijoo told a cheering crowd packed into Madrid's Puerta del Sol square.

Authorities said 80,000 people turned out in Madrid while the PP, which had called for protests in cities across Spain, put the total closer to one million.

Many held Spanish and EU flags, as well as banners with slogans including "respect the Constitution".

"He (Sanchez) has betrayed co-existence, democracy...he can't keep governing," said banker Tomas Perez, 38, holding a sign reading "Sanchez traitor".

"Many people that I know who vote for the Socialists feel absolutely disappointed because... Sanchez never said the amnesty would be part of his program," said Inmaculada Herranz Castro, 64.

In Barcelona, local police said 6,000 people demonstrated, while numbers reached 30,000 in Granada and 50,000 in Seville according to authorities. Other protests took place in cities including Malaga, Palma and Valencia.

After an inconclusive July 23 election, the Socialists spent weeks negotiating with smaller parties including far-left platform Sumar and Catalan, Galician and Basque nationalist parties.

The confirmed support of Junts, as well as the Basque Nationalist Party, last week, would give Sanchez an absolute majority in the 350-member lower house in a vote due to take place in the coming days.

Agencies

CHINA'S first prefabricated high-rise vertical factory, the phase-1 project of the Pingshan New Energy Vehicle Industry Park in Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong province, was completed and delivered in April this year.

Thanks to the application of smart technologies, the construction period of the factory was saved by 15 percent, water and electricity usage by 20 percent, and waste discharge by 20 percent.

The high-rise vertical factory enables intensive land use and is conducive to resource recycling

China sees bright prospects in green development

China's first prefabricated high-rise vertical factory, the phase-1 project of the Pingshan New Energy Vehicle Industry Park in Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong province, was completed and delivered in April this year.

Promoting green and low-carbon economic and social development is a key part of achieving high-quality development. In recent years, China has made significant progress in fostering new growth points for green and low-carbon development.

In the manufacturing sector, the production of solar cells and charging piles increased by

63.2 percent and 34.2 percent respectively in the first three quarters of this year, while the production and sales of new energy vehicles grew by over 30 percent year-on-year.

In the energy industry, as of the end of September, the installed capacity of solar power generation increased by 45.3 percent compared to the previous year, and wind power installed capacity by 15.1 percent.

Green technologies and products continue to emerge in

various sectors and industries, effectively promoting the optimization of industrial structure and demonstrating a strong momentum for industrial upgrading.

As a new driving force, the growth of the green industry can create a broader space for economic development. Green, circular, and low-carbon development is the direction of today's technological revolution and industrial transformation, and the most promising field

for development. A better grasp of the opportunities for green transformation can take the initiative and gain a favorable position in future competition.

According to data from the General Administration of Customs, the total exports of electric vehicles, lithium-ion batteries, and solar batteries reached 798.99 billion yuan (\$109.83 billion) in the first three quarters this year, a year-on-year increase of 41.7 percent. China's leapfrog development in green

industries fully demonstrates the importance of pursuing sustainable economic growth.

Green development is sustainable. Only by laying a solid foundation for green development can China achieve high-quality development in the future. China has great potential in this regard and can build a number of growth points.

Currently, the country is actively promoting concerted efforts to cut carbon emissions, reduce pollution, expand green

development, and pursue economic growth. It prioritizes green transformation and upgrading of industries, accelerates the cultivation and expansion of green and low-carbon sectors, actively develops green technologies and products, and makes the economy greener, so as to enhance the potential and momentum of development. China's renewable energy industry is developing rapidly, and the country leads in various fields such as energy equipment, water-saving equipment, and pollution control technologies. **People's Daily**

UK PM brings back Cameron, sacks interior minister

LONDON

BRITISH Prime Minister Rishi Sunak brought back former leader David Cameron as foreign minister on Monday in a reshuffle triggered by his firing of interior minister Suella Braverman after her criticism of the police threatened his authority.

It was the latest reset for a prime minister whose party is badly lagging the Labour Party before an election expected next year, and the return of Cameron to government suggested Sunak wanted to bring in more centrist, experienced hands rather than appease the right of his party which supported Braverman.

Under fire from opposition lawmakers and members of the governing Conservative Party to eject Braverman, Sunak seemed to have brought forward a long-planned reshuffle to bring in allies and remove ministers he felt were not performing.



Britain's Home Secretary Suella Braverman listens to Britain's Prime Minister Rishi Sunak as he hosts a policing roundtable at 10 Downing Street, London, Oct 12, 2023. File photo

Sunak's hand was forced when the ever-controversial Braverman defied Sunak last week in an unauthorized article accusing

police of "double standards" at protests, suggesting they were tough on right-wing demonstrators, but easy on pro-Palestini-

an marchers.

The opposition Labour Party said that inflamed tensions between a pro-Palestinian demonstration and a far-right counter protest on Saturday, when nearly 150 people were arrested.

She was replaced by James Cleverly, who had relished his job as foreign minister but who is seen as a safe pair of hands.

In a surprise move, Cameron, who was ousted from power after his gamble to call a referendum on Britain's membership of the European Union in 2016 backfired, was made foreign minister.

His appointment was welcomed by more centrist Conservatives, who say his international experience will help steady the ship.

But Braverman's removal and Cameron's return angered some Conservatives on the right of the party. One lawmaker said her removal was disappointing and Braverman could become a vocal force on the so-called backbenches in parliament.

Agencies

WWF: China's plastic measures will contribute to global treaty

GENEVA

CHINA'S measures to tackle plastic pollution can set a standard and a model for other nations, which may contribute to helping reach a United Nations global plastic pollution treaty, a World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) official has said.

The third session of the UN's Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee (INC-3) to develop a globally binding treaty on plastic pollution will run from Nov 13 to Nov 19 in Kenya's capital city of Nairobi.

"China is a very important country and actor in these negotiations," Eirik Lindebjerg, global plastics policy manager at the WWF, told Xinhua in a recent virtual interview from Nairobi.

Lindebjerg noted that China has put in place many domestic policies to cut plastic production and use, develop alternatives, and reduce plastic waste, which is significant to curb white pollution and protect the environment.

In October, China's program to process marine plastic waste,

based on the collaboration of more than 6,000 individuals and over 200 enterprises from the eastern province of Zhejiang, won the 2023 Champions of the Earth Award, the UN's most prestigious environmental recognition, for its innovative efforts on marine pollution reduction.

"The Chinese approach of the full value chain to plastic pollution is something that will be very valuable and very needed in these negotiations," he said.

Lindebjerg said the treaty negotiations will bring an important opportunity for gathering the rest of the world behind the same policies. He extended hope to see "a great majority of countries aligning around some very concrete, targeted, binding and common global measures" to end plastic pollution.

According to the WWF, the treaty is expected to include those contents such as banning, phasing out or phasing down high-risk and avoidable plastic products, polymers and chemicals of concern.

It also calls for global require-



Zhang Jun, China's permanent representative to the United Nations Security Council at the UN headquarters in New York on Oct 16, 2023. XINHUA

ments for product design and systems that can secure a safe and non-toxic circular economy, which prioritizes reuse and improvements in recycling.

"I think that China can play a constructive role in all of these measures," Lindebjerg said.

Considering that plastic use

and pollution have a crucial impact on climate change, Lindebjerg believed that it is expected to be a popular topic during the 28th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP28) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change scheduled to be held in Dubai, the United Arab

Emirates from Nov 30 to Dec 12.

The treaty negotiations will have important spillovers on the COPs, he added.

Based in Gland, Switzerland, the WWF is an independent conservation organization with a global network active in over 100 countries and regions.

Kenya grapples with El Nino rain effects as floods kill 38

NAIROBI

KENYA is grappling with the aftermath of floods caused by ongoing El Nino rains that have killed at least 38 people and displaced about 30,000 across the east African country in the last two weeks, according to the Kenya Red Cross (KRC).

The most affected are residents in arid and semi-arid areas like Tana River, Makueni, Wajir, Isiolo, Marsabit and Mandera counties, who were still recovering from the effects of the worst drought in 40 years. In Tana River County, River Tana broke its banks and flooded

homes, farms, schools and places of worship, displacing hundreds of residents, who have sought refuge along the roadside waiting for the water levels to subside. A similar situation has engulfed Garissa County, where businesses, farms and homes are submerged, disrupting lives. "Our business premises have been flooded for the last three days after heavy rains. We are stranded and sources of livelihoods have been cut off," Jacob Otieno, a mechanic, told a local television station.

The KRC put the number of those displaced by floods in the main town at 2,000, and across

Garissa County at 20,000, a majority of the people currently living in camps.

Mohammed Abdikadir, KRC regional manager, said the number of those affected is growing faster. "We are facing a humanitarian crisis as thousands in northern Kenya are in need of assistance."

The number is growing faster as rains continue," Abdikadir told the local television station, adding that in some areas, road access has been completely cut off by floods, marooning entire communities.

The KRC noted that 18 counties out of the 47 in Kenya have been affected by the floods. In Isiolo Coun-

ty, hundreds of residents have lost their livestock that include goats and sheep, to raging floods, which also rendered them homeless.

It is a double tragedy for the residents in the county and others like Makueni in eastern Kenya, who were rebuilding their lives after a prolonged drought that ended in April.

Some 2 million animals, including goats, sheep, cows and camels, died during the drought, according to the National Drought Management Authority (NDMA).

In its October report, the NDMA said at least 2.8 million people in 23 regions that were severely hit by

drought were still in need of food assistance.

The number had declined from the initial 4.4 million due to heavy rainfall recorded during the March-May season, which boosted food production. The NDMA had expected conditions in the arid areas to improve with the onset of the October-to-December rainy season. However, with the ongoing heavy rains, the situation is likely to worsen as the crisis transitions from drought to floods.

As the rains grow in intensity, more areas are expected to be affected, leading to more deaths, destruction and displacements.

CIIE to provide new opportunities for world with China's development

On Nov. 5, the first day of the sixth China International Import Expo (CIIE), the National Exhibition and Convention Center (Shanghai) was bustling with "old friends" and "new friends" who gathered to discuss cooperation.

Walking through the exhibition areas, visitors were often overwhelmed by the vast array of exhibits on display. At this year's CIIE, the Business Exhibition covered approximately 367,000 square meters, featuring six main exhibition areas and an innovation incubation zone.

In the Consumer Goods exhibition area, a 4.6-meter-tall Lego model was quite eye-catching. Heart shapes, smiley faces and wood ducks imbued with childlike wonder were dotted throughout the structure.

According to a staff member at the Lego booth, this large 3D model was specifically built for the CIIE, which took 18 builders 491 hours to put together.

At the previous five sessions of the CIIE, the Lego Group debuted many new products. This year, it once again launched its latest products at the event, hoping to bring more surprises to Chinese consumers.

The multinational medical device group Elekta brought its latest generation of the Gamma Knife stereotactic ra-

diosurgery system. The group's founder and board chairman Laurent Leksell told People's Daily that the CIIE is a platform for the company to showcase its latest innovative technologies and clinical applications, adding that the group looks forward to exchanging ideas and explore new opportunities with industry partners.

It is reported that at this year's CIIE, exhibition areas for cutting-edge technologies like energy, low carbon, and AI, as well as lifestyle and consumer goods have grown 30 percent. More than 400 new products, technologies and services were exhibited.

Many agreements on practical cooperation were inked on the first day of the event.

One was signed by the multinational pharmaceutical company AstraZeneca and the Wuxi National High-tech District in east China's Jiangsu province. According to the agreement, AstraZeneca will expand its production capacity of small molecule drugs in Wuxi.

The pharmaceutical company also inked an agreement on the phase-two project of an inhaler production supply base in Qingdao, east China's Shandong province. It announced to launch a rare disease cooperation project in the Jinan



A foreign journalist covers the sixth China International Import Expo outside the National Exhibition and Convention Center (Shanghai), Nov. 4, 2023. (People's Daily Online/Wang Chu)

Innovation Zone of Shandong, to develop more innovative medicines.

Wang Lei, global executive vice-president of UK company AstraZeneca and president of its China branch, said this year marks the 30th year of AstraZeneca's entry to the Chinese market, and China has become an important growth engine for the company in the global market.

"We are honored to be able to share

the opportunities of the Chinese market through the CIIE," he noted.

On Nov. 5, Sinochem Holdings held a special signing ceremony at the CIIE, at which it inked agreements with clients from the United States, Brazil, Chile, and other countries in multiple industries such as crude oil and refined oil, food and agricultural products, chemical products, chemical equipment, and service trade.

"Through the CIIE, a global exchange platform, Sinochem Holdings has strengthened cooperation with global energy, chemical, and agricultural companies, effectively expanding the channels for accessing upstream resources in related domestic industries, achieving diversification of import channels, and ensuring the stability of the industrial supply chain," said Yang Shihao, vice president of Sinochem Holdings.

The CIIE has leveraged the strengths of China's enormous market, fulfilled its platform function for international procurement, investment promotion, people-to-people exchanges and open cooperation, and made positive contributions to creating a new development pattern and promoting world economic development.

"The 'CIIE effect' continues to unfold, allowing China's enormous market to be shared by the world. This has strengthened the confidence of multinational companies in long-term investment and development in China.

At this year's CIIE, General Mills, an American food company, announced the full-channel entry of its pet food brand, Blue Buffalo, into the Chinese market. Blue Buffalo made its debut in China at the fourth CIIE and has since

benefited from various preferential policies in pilot free trade zones, successfully entering the Chinese market through cross-border e-commerce platforms.

"Over the past two years, we have seen the vast prospects of the pet market in China, which has brought new growth to our business in the country," said Su Qiang from General Mills.

"We hope to exchange with other players in the industry via the CIIE and build more partnerships," Su added.

"Through our participation in the CIIE over the past few years, we have fully experienced the powerful spillover effect of this platform. Shiseido's new skincare brands and products have garnered extensive attention and recognition from consumers after being exhibited at the CIIE," said Toshinobu Umetsu, president and CEO of Japanese company Shiseido's branch in China.

He said the CIIE is an epitome of China's high-level opening up, providing foreign companies operating in China with more market opportunities, investment opportunities and growth opportunities, and allowing enterprises to share the dividends of China's opening up.

People's Daily

Collapse of healthcare system adds to Gaza's suffering

GAZA

DOZENS of Palestinians were killed in the ongoing Israeli attacks on Gaza in the past 24 hours, amidst a collapse of the healthcare system in the enclave.

The government media office in Gaza on Sunday announced that the casualties from Israeli attacks climbed to 11,180, including nearly 8,000 children and women, with more than 28,000 injuries.

Intense clashes continued between the Israeli army and Hamas fighters in northern Gaza, while milder clashes were reported in the central strip. The Israeli ground forces maintained an effective separation between the north and south, except for the "corridor" leading to the south.

According to the media office, Israeli airstrikes persist around the Al Shifa Medical Complex in Gaza City, which has been out of service since Saturday, jeopardizing life-supporting devices, including those for infants.

The Palestinian Red Crescent warned that Palestinian infants in Gaza are also suffering from dehydration due to the interruption of baby formula under the current siege.

Gaza's health ministry spokesman Ashraf al-Qedra said at least five casualties died in the past hours as a result of power outages after the hospital ran out of fuel. Spokesperson of Israel Defence Forces (IDF) Richard Hecht denied targeting or besieging the Al Shifa complex.

Israel is still trying to "facilitate and assist" in the evacuation of babies from Al Shifa hospital but Hamas "meddling" is holding it up, he said. He said that 300 liters of fuel had been delivered by the IDF to the Al Shifa hospital while indicating that Hamas was preventing it from being delivered.

On the release of hostages, two Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) officials denied the group had suspended negotiations with Israel regarding the release of hostages and prisoners.

A Hamas source speaking to Xinhua on condition of anonymity said, "I have not heard of the matter," referring to media reports that the faction is suspending negotiations due to the Israeli targeting of Gaza hospitals.

Separately, Zaher Jabarin, a Hamas official overseeing prisoners affairs told Xinhua that the movement is "open to concluding an agreement regarding the hostages in Gaza if appropriate security and field conditions are available for that."

The Rafah crossing on Saturday witnessed the entry of 53 trucks carrying food, medicine, health supplies, bottled water, and blankets, raising the total number of trucks entering Gaza since Oct. 21 to 914, far below the required quantities to meet the needs of over two million people besieged in the enclave, according to the United Nations.

In the past 24 hours, five Israeli soldiers were killed in Gaza, bringing the total number of soldiers killed since the start of ground operations to 43, according to official Israeli sources.

Xinhua

Palestinian presidency rejects Israeli attempts to 'separate Gaza from West Bank' - spokesperson

RAMALLAH

THE Palestinian presidency on Sunday rejected the Israeli attempts to "separate Gaza from the West Bank," saying they "will not achieve security and stability for anyone."

Nabil Abu Rudeineh, the spokesperson of the Palestinian presidency, stressed in a statement that Gaza is an integral part of the Palestinian territory under the jurisdiction of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

Abu Rudeineh said the Israeli attempts to separate Gaza from the West Bank will fail and will not be allowed, regardless of any pressure or threat.

He urged Israel to stop aggression against Palestinian people in Gaza and the West Bank, calling on the United States to immediately act to halt the conflict in the enclave.

The spokesperson emphasized that security and stability in the region and the world "will only be achieved by ending the Israeli occupation and establishing an independent Palestinian state on the 1967 borders."

Moreover, he reiterated that any international efforts would be futile as long as the occupation of the West Bank, Gaza, and East Jerusalem persists. Earlier in the day, Hussein Al-Sheikh, secretary general of the PLO executive committee condemned Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's declaration on retaining security control over Gaza once the ongoing conflict ends.

In a televised speech on Saturday, Netanyahu announced that Israel would work to establish full security control over Gaza after the conflict, aiming to "eliminate security threats" while refusing to allow the Palestinian Authority to return to Gaza.

SPORT



Tanzania and Uganda players vie for the ball during their CECAFA U15 Boys Championship semi-final match held at the FUFA Technical Centre in Njeru, Uganda yesterday. Uganda won 2-1. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TFF

Tanzania U-15 fail to reach CECAFA championship final

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA's national team have failed to advance to the CECAFA U15 Boys Championship final following a 2-1 defeat from Uganda in the semi-final match held at the FUFA Technical Centre in Njeru, Uganda yesterday.

Uganda sailed through after skipper Abubaker Walusimbi and defender Samuel Mubiru scored a goal each for the hosts while Tanzania got their consolation through Feisal Juma.

Walusimbi opened the scores in the 12th minute to give Uganda a perfect start while Mubiru scored the second few minutes before half-time.

Juma registered the consolation goal for Tanzania in the second half.

Uganda now will take on either South Sudan or Zanzibar in the final on Thursday, this week.

It should be noted that Uganda won the inaugural

edition in 2019 in Eritrea without conceding a goal.

This tournament has not only offered valuable experience to young players but also fostered a spirit of competition and camaraderie among the participating nations.

Following the U-15 CECAFA Boys Championship, the footballing spotlight will shift to the CECAFA U-18 Boys Championship, scheduled to be held in Kisumu, Kenya from November 25 to December 9.

The 2023 season will conclude with the Pan African Schools CECAFA Zonal qualifiers, taking center stage in Nairobi from December 10 - 15.

Azam set to face Gor Mahia in international friendly match

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

AZAM FC chief executive officer Abdulkarim Amin, alias Popat (pictured), has confirmed that they are on the verge of playing a friendly match against Gor Mahia of Kenya during this international break.

The Chamazi-based side are enjoying a fantastic brand of football under Youssouph Dabo with a more possessive game style in the cards for the 2014 Tanzania Premier League champions.

Azam hope to take advantage of the league break as they are slated to return to action on November 24 at home versus Mtibwa Sugar, and they are currently second in the league with 19 points after nine games.

Gor Mahia, alias K'Ogalo, are second in Kenya's Premier League standings with 21 points, a point behind leaders Posta Rangers while Seals are third in similar points but with an inferior goal difference.

"We have made contact with Gor Mahia of Kenya. We have agreed that we will play them in Nairobi, but we have not yet arranged the date of the friendly match. I hope it will be this week, in order to be able to fulfill the coach's needs as

we promised him and the technical bench," said Popat.

"We chose Gor Mahia due to their resume in the CECAFA region football competition and we want to make sure we use this game to our advantage and make sure we secure more advantages in other friendly games we plan to play."

Popat said that the problem of not being able to win away games this season does not exist and they have put in a lot of effort this season to win the NBC Premier League championship.

"The league is still at the early stages and all teams are eager to do what they have to do, and win big or do their best. Something that is even on our cards and we have to do what we can to perform well in the league this season.

"We know it's going to be a tough and competitive league, but we are determined to do our best in everything. We need to keep winning games as we only have domestic competitions this season," he added.

Azam FC have enjoyed a goal-scoring spree this season scoring 19 goals from nine matches with a 2.1 goal ratio per game and allowing only nine goals in the process.



SPORTS

Tanzania seeking an unprecedented spot at the upcoming World Cup



Taifa Stars squad. (Agencies)

By Lloyd Elipokea

REGARDED by all and sundry as the most consequential and hallowed football championship in the realm of football, the World Cup is a doubtlessly quadrennial competition, which unfailingly provides breathless excitement and seemingly endless dramatic twists and turns.

Unfortunately though, despite being a country which is packed to the gills with football fanatics, Tanzania has frustratingly never booked a spot at the unique festival of football.

Viewed against this disappointing backdrop, then, Tanzania will soon embark upon another quest to qualify for the upcoming 2026 World Cup, which will take place in three co-hosting countries, that are: Mexico, Canada and the USA.

And, it is likely that our path to the 2026 World Cup will be strewn with gigantic obstacles as we have been drawn in a particularly challenging Group E of the World Cup qualifiers.

Indeed, the contestants in Group E are Morocco, Niger, Zambia, Congo, Eritrea and Tanzania.

Excitingly, our campaign to seal a

birth at the next World Cup will kick off this Saturday at the Marrakech stadium in Marrakech, Morocco against supposed minnows Niger in what ought to be a fascinating football battle.

Three days later at the magnificent Benjamin Mkapa Stadium here in Dar es Salaam, our national team, the Taifa Stars, will go toe-to-toe with football powerhouse Morocco in what should be a mouthwatering showdown. As noted earlier, it is crystal clear that the road ahead for the Taifa Stars will likely be especially daunting, particularly with the fearsome presence of perennial titans Zambia and Morocco in our group.

That being said, though, our national team should draw encouragement from the sterling example of underdogs who overcame ginormous giants in yesteryear at the World Cup proper.

For example, at the 1990 World Cup in Italy, the encounter that was used to set the ball rolling was the greatly anticipated clash between then reigning world champions Argentina and the then unheralded Cameroon.

It should be noted here that the skipper of that Argentinean side was the inimitable all-time football great, Diego Maradona, who at the time was renowned for splitting defences apart with mazy dribbling runs.

Nevertheless, in spite of the lethal threat posed by Maradona, the Indomitable Lions of Cameroon played a blinder en route to claiming a historic 1-0 win that left African football devotees overjoyed.

Thus, although the path ahead is treacherous, the Taifa Stars should head into the high-stakes qualifiers

with an immense determination to slay giants like Zambia and Morocco.

Moving on, preparations are gathering pace for the highly regarded East African Chipkizi Cup, which is an annual football spectacle that takes place in Arusha, Tanzania.

This year, the pre-eminent youth football competition in the region will attract more than 300 football teams from across the continent in what will hopefully be a fantastic display of top-notch football.

Indeed, it is hoped that many precocious youngsters will rise to the limelight during the competition, which will also hopefully serve up some thrilling and utterly entertaining football.

Preparations for Ngorongoro Race now at advanced stage

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

MORE than 1,000 athletes are expected to compete in this year's edition of the Ngorongoro Race which is scheduled for the end of this month in Karatu District, race organizers have disclosed.

Meta Petro, who is the director of Meta Sports Promotions, said all preparations for the race are going very well and they expect more than 1,000 professional and social athletes to take part in the event which has three categories of half marathon, and ten and five kilometers.

He said the showdown will be flagged off at Louare Gate station, which is the main entrance of the Ngorongoro Conservation Area and Serengeti National Park, to Rhotia Hill hamlet before turning back and finishing the race at Mazingira Bora grounds in Karatu.

Petro said money raised at the race will be channeled to SOS Villages whom they have partnered with and the theme of this year is "No Child Should Be Left Alone". The slogan focuses on assisting young children and youths.

He further disclosed that all the participants of the race will be awarded medals while the top three winners in the half marathon and 10 km race will be given cash prizes.

He said 1m/- will be given to the first winner in the half marathon, the runner-up will take home 700,000/- and the third winner will get 500,000/-.

In the 10 km race, 500,000/- awaits the winner while 300,000/- and 100,000/- will be there for the second and third winners respectively.

Initially, the race was scheduled for April, then shifted to August, later September and now has been scheduled for this month. However,



Petro assured followers of the race that next year it will be held in April.

SOS Tanzania says the country has an estimated 1,300,000 children who are orphans due to HIV. They have lost either one or both of their parents because of the disease. Due to AIDS, the number of child-headed households in Tanzania has increased significantly in recent years. Growing up without a family or in a dysfunctional family environment often has serious implications on a child's mental and physical development. Many orphaned children experience neglect and discrimination. Children who grow up without parental care often do not attend school.

The organization further said school enrolment ratio in Tanzania has slightly improved over recent years. However, government funding of primary and secondary education is relatively low when compared to many other countries in the region.

As education is often seen as the key element for the economic self-sufficiency of a child in the future, raising school enrolment and attendance figures has now become a priority of the Tanzanian government.

School drop-out rates are often high due to financial constraints. Many children have to work besides school in order to increase their family's household income.

Currently, SOS has four children's villages. They also have youth programs, kindergartens, Hermann Gmeiner Schools, Social Centers and two medical centers.

SOS, in cooperation with local agencies, runs family-strengthening programs that allow families to effectively care for their children.

SOS provides support according to the local needs, but includes food packages, basic vocational training, income-generating projects and legal advice and assistance.

When a child can no longer stay with his or her family, the organization provides care to mothers in one of the SOS families.

Lewandowski double rescues Barca, Atletico beat Villarreal

BARCELONA

BARCELONA striker Robert Lewandowski ended his barren goalscoring spell with a brace to rescue the Spanish champions a 2-1 win over visiting Alaves in La Liga on Sunday.

Elsewhere, Atletico Madrid came from behind to beat Villarreal 3-1 and Ivan Rakitic snatched Sevilla a 1-1 home draw against Real Betis in a pulsating Seville derby.

Samu Omorodion sent Alaves ahead in the first minute against a dire Barcelona but Lewandowski's second half double rescued the hosts three points.

The victory keeps Barcelona in touching distance of shock leaders Girona, who are four points ahead, and second place Real Madrid, who have a two-point advantage, after both won Saturday.

Veteran forward Lewandowski scored a brilliant header early in the second half and thrashed home a penalty in the 77th minute to reach seven league goals.

Catalonia is in drought and Lewandowski was enduring one too, with the striker on his worst stretch of form for over a decade, having failed to score in six appearances prior.

Barcelona are also on their own miserable run of performances, which Xavi said is because the players are nervous, especially the younger ones, due to heavy media criticism.

"We were more tense than normal because of all the noise generated around the team," Xavi told reporters after Barca's comeback.

"It happened to me as a player and it's happening to my players."

Before the match Xavi said the team were not in crisis despite the recent Clasico defeat and a stumble against Shakhtar Donetsk in midweek, and that it was up to him to bring them out of their slump. However it took just 18 seconds for Alaves to strike.

Ilkay Gundogan lost the ball in midfield and with Barcelona's defence in total disarray, Javi Lopez crossed

for Omorodion, who slotted through Marc-Andre ter Stegen's legs.

"We cannot make those mistakes, it's unacceptable," said Xavi. "We're giving far too much away and that takes a toll."

Barcelona were easily pulled apart on multiple occasions on the first half, with Alaves target man Omorodion, on loan from Atletico and only 19, bettering Jules Kounde repeatedly.

Xavi switched the French centre-back to right-back midway through the first half, after the striker barged past Kounde and hit the crossbar.

Omorodion fired wide one-on-one with Ter Stegen on another occasion and Alaves could easily have walked off three goals up.

Fans whistled Barca players at the break and they reacted, levelling early in the second half.

Kounde crossed from the right and Lewandowski arced a brilliant header beyond Sivera's reach and into the net.

Barcelona clinched the win when substitute Ferran Torres was clumsily felled in the area by Abdel Abqar and Lewandowski smashed the penalty into the roof of the net.

An inspired Antoine Griezmann helped Atletico Madrid come from behind to beat Villarreal.

The French forward netted his 300th strike for club and country in the win which keeps Atletico fourth, two points behind champions Barca.

Atletico coach Diego Simeone penned a new deal this week until 2027 and was able to celebrate in style, after Gerard Moreno put Villarreal ahead early on at the Metropolitano.

Axel Witsel, set up by Griezmann, levelled before the break and the Frenchman pounced to turn the game on its head after 80 minutes.

Substitute Samuel Lino wrapped up a 17th home win across all competitions five minutes later, further punishing managerless Villarreal, 14th, who sacked Pacheta this week.

AFP

Leverkusen beat Union to go top and equal best-ever Bundesliga start

BERLIN

XABI Alonso's Bayer Leverkusen equalled the best start to a Bundesliga season in history as they returned to the top of the table with a dominant 4-0 home win over Union Berlin on Sunday.

The victory means Leverkusen have amassed 31 of a possible 33 points after 11 matches, equal to the record set by Pep Guardiola's Bayern Munich in 2015-16.

Bayern's 4-2 victory over Heidenheim saw the Bavarians spend Saturday night atop the standings but Alonso's men were dominant on Sunday, winning with goals from Alex Grimaldo, Odilon Kossounou, Jonathan Tah and Nathan Tella.

Alonso praised his "patient" team, saying "we're very satisfied with what we've done from the previous international break to this one... a lot of away games and every game a win."

"The feeling is great at the moment."

"That was clear -- a clear difference in class," Union manager Urs Fischer said to DAZN, saying his side were in a "relegation battle."

Leverkusen defender Florian Wirtz cut holes in the Union defence early but striker Victor Boniface was off target, blasting wide twice in the opening minutes.

The home side hit the lead after 24 minutes, Grimaldo stopping on the edge of the box before chipping a dipping shot over Union goalie Frederik Ronnow.

Grimaldo, 28, who was called up to the Spain squad for the first time this week, has six goals in the league since moving from Benfica in the summer.

Union lost centre-back Leonardo Bonucci to injury early and struggled to contain the home side's quick passing, a wide-open Boniface heading directly at Ronnow late in the first half.

Kossounou headed in a Jonas Hofmann corner midway through the second-half to double the home side's lead. It was the Ivorian's goal for Leverkusen in his third season at the club.

Germany centre-back Tah hammered in a corner with just over 15 minutes remaining.

Tella scored two minutes after coming on, the winger finishing a length-of-the-field attack for his side's fourth.

Leverkusen have now won 16 and drawn one of 17 games in all competitions this season.

Union Berlin, who finished fourth to qualify for the Champions League last season, finish the weekend bottom of the table, having lost their last nine in a row.

Elsewhere on Sunday, RB Leipzig won 3-1 at home to Freiburg to leapfrog Borussia Dortmund into fourth place.

Paris Saint-Germain loanee Xavi Simons opened the scoring after just six minutes for Leipzig, but Freiburg's Merlin Roehl scored spectacular solo goal to level the scores just before half-time.

Belgian striker Lois Openda gave Leipzig the lead from the spot with ten minutes remaining, Christoph Baumgartner scoring a minute later to seal the win for the home side.

Eintracht Frankfurt came from two goals down to draw 2-2 at Werder Bremen.

Bremen striker Marvin Ducksch celebrated his first Germany call-up with a penalty and Rafael Borré scored to give Bremen a 2-0 lead, but Ellyes Skhiri and Hrvoje Smolic scored second-half goals to claw back a point.

AFP

Chelsea hold Man City in Premier League classic, Liverpool up to second

LONDON

MANCHESTER City were thwarted by Cole Palmer's 95th minute penalty as Chelsea salvaged a 4-4 draw from an incredible clash on Sunday, while Mohamed Salah fired Liverpool up to second in the Premier League.

A share of the spoils at Stamford Bridge leaves City one point ahead of Liverpool, who beat Brentford 3-0, and Arsenal at the top of the table.

Palmer came back to haunt his former club as City three times let the lead slip against the Blues.

Pep Guardiola's men went in front in controversial fashion as Erling Haaland slotted home a penalty after he had been pulled down by Marc Cucurella as the two jostled for position at the back post.

But Chelsea have often saved their best in Mauricio Pochettino's early months in charge for the toughest opposition.

Thiago Silva powered home from a corner to equalise before Reece James pounced on an error from Josko Gvardiol to set up Raheem Sterling to net against his former club.

Chelsea's lead did not last until the break as Manuel Akanji was afforded acres of space to head in Bernardo Silva's cross.

City were back in front less than two minutes into the second pe-



Manchester City's Mateo Kovacic (right) tackles Chelsea's Raheem Sterling during yesterday's pulsating 4-4 draw at Stamford Bridge. Photo: AFP

riod as Haaland slid in to meet Julian Alvarez's cross for his 17th goal in 18 games this season.

The Blues responded once more as Nicolas Jackson snapped up a gift from Ederson after the Brazilian goalkeeper parried Conor Gallagher's shot back into the danger zone.

Rodri's deflected effort on 86 minutes looked to have finally settled the game in the visitors' favour.

But Ruben Dias was penalised for diving in on Armando Broja in added time and Palmer showed no sign of nerves as he hammered home the spot-kick.

"We feel a bit exhausted," said Rodri.

"The level of the Chelsea team has risen and it was not our best

performance today. Individually, we needed to do a bit more ourselves - to concede four goals is not normal for us."

A point edges Chelsea back into the top half, but Pochettino's men are still 10 points off the top four.

- 'Special player' Salah - City face Liverpool in their next match after a two-week international break and the Reds made sure that is a top-of-the-table clash by maintaining their perfect record at Anfield this season.

Salah became the first player ever to score in each of Liverpool's first six home league games of a season when he slotted into the far corner to open the floodgates on 39 minutes.

"In that moment, the composure

for the first goal is insane," said Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp.

"There is no doubt when the ball is in that area, in the end you see it on the scoresheet. A pretty special player."

Salah was then left unmarked to head in Kostas Tsimikas' cross to the back post on the hour mark for his 12th goal of the season.

Diogo Jota fired in the third 16 minutes from time as Liverpool made it nine wins and 27 goals from nine games at Anfield in all competitions this season.

Aston Villa are also unstoppable on home soil of late as Unai Emery's men beat Fulham 3-1 for a 13th consecutive win at Villa Park in the Premier League.

Antonee Robinson's own goal opened the scoring before John McGinn and Ollie Watkins were on target as Villa climbed up to fifth and within a point of the top four.

West Ham snapped their streak of three consecutive Premier League defeats with a thrilling 3-2 victory over Nottingham Forest.

Tomas Soucek headed home a late winner for the Hammers to ease any rising pressure on David Moyes.

Brighton may have enjoyed famous back-to-back victories over Ajax in the Europa League, but the Seagulls' struggles domestically go on after Sheffield United snatched a 1-1 draw from the Amex.

AFP

Mauricio Pochettino apologises for 'crossing the limit' in Chelsea epic with Man City

By Matt Law

MAURICIO Pochettino apologised to Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola, referee Anthony Taylor and the officials for "crossing the limit" at the end of Chelsea's thrilling draw with the Premier League champions.

A stoppage-time penalty from former City academy graduate Cole Palmer clinched a draw for Chelsea, but Pochettino was furious that Taylor blew the full-time whistle when he felt Raheem Sterling, another goalscorer, had been fouled.

Chelsea head coach Pochettino was booked for his reaction in which he stormed towards Taylor and had to be restrained by some of his backroom staff, as he forgot to shake hands with Guardiola on the touchline.

"I need to apologise to Anthony and the referees and the fourth official," said Pochettino. "In this moment, I felt that maybe Raheem could go through and score the fifth. When the game finished, I turned and said 'what the...?' You know, what's going on. I said 'why stop in this moment, the action'."

"Then I turned and said: 'I deserve, I deserve to be booked'. Because I crossed the limit, so I want to apologise because it's not a good image for me and for football, this type of behaviour."

Asked about forgetting to shake Guardiola's hand, Pochettino added: "Yes, I want to apologise to him also because at this moment I didn't see. Only I was focused on this action. So I want to apologise to Pep also."

Guardiola was unconcerned by Pochettino's lapse, saying: "No, no it's not a problem. I don't want to say one word about that. It's fine. Everyone, the emotions, it happens to me sometimes. It's fine. I don't want you to misunderstand me, when in the past, it [things] happened with Pochettino. It's fine. Completely, completely fine."

The last-gasp foul on Sterling was not the only incident that upset Pochettino, who wagged his finger in disagreement at the decision to award City a first-half penalty, which Erling Haaland scored.

"We did not accept the decision," said Pochettino. "It was the



Pochettino was fuming at full time. Reuters

opinion of the Var, as I have said before against Tottenham or when various coaches were complaining, and that is the opinion of somebody who is sitting in a room with cameras. I don't know what I can tell you. Sometimes it is for you, sometimes it is against you."

Chelsea trailed in the game three times before drawing 4-4 and Pochettino was delighted by the character of his team, who are now unbeaten in games against Liverpool, Arsenal, Tottenham and City.

"We showed the character, showed the mentality, showed that we also have tools against a team like Manchester City that we can go for the goal and to dominate and to have the capacity to create chances," said Pochettino.

"I think it's really important today. Like I told you, Monday [after the victory over Tottenham], maybe it's the point to start building our confidence and to believe in the way we are working. Now it's about how we will compete in the future.

"We are still far away in terms of being in the distance in the table. But now there is a different noise in the stadium and this kind of performance we can really use for the future.

"We need to be cautious, though. Although today was a massive occasion and the fans and the crowd were amazing, we also need fans to be excited whenever we have teams here."

Guardiola was impressed by Chelsea and highlighted the fact his team still top the Premier League table by one point, despite losing their lead so late on.

"Always, I give credit to the opponent," said Guardiola. "They played really well and everyone wants to beat us because you know what happened in the past.

"There's nothing to lose for them. If Chelsea lose against City, people

will say it's normal. That isn't the reality, always Chelsea at Stamford Bridge has been tough since I came to this country, since I was in Barcelona, in Bayern Munich. Always really tough.

"So why not give credit to Chelsea? What they have done in the market is to do that. They will be there this season and for sure future seasons because they are built for that. We are top of the League and qualified already for the Champions League knockout stage.

"It's not normal, 4-4. Usually we control more, but I can't remember a game when we came here and had the chances that we had. Even the games we won 1-0 and even last year's game was much worse than we played today by a million times. We created a lot of chances and sometimes you cannot control. Their shape is really good. They have speed and quality. Give credit to both teams."

Levi Colwill missed the game with a shoulder problem and Pochettino and his assistant Jesus Perez hinted that defender may now have to withdraw from the England squad for the final Euro 2024 qualifiers against Malta and North Macedonia.

After Perez had indicated 50/50 with his hand, a Chelsea spokesman said: "We should have an update on that [Colwill] in the next 24 hours."

Palmer did not celebrate his late equaliser from the spot and said: "Very strange, the first time I have played against City, I have the utmost respect for the club I spent 15 years at and it is nice to see some friends.

THE TELEGRAPH

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Chelsea hold Man City in Premier League classic, Liverpool up to second

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Tanzanite Queens' players celebrate their goal against Nigeria during their first leg of the third round of the 2024 FIFA Women's World Cup Qualifiers match held at Chamazi Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Sunday. The match ended in a one-all-draw. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TFF

Yanga set for squad improvements in mini-transfer window

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

YANGA president Hersi Said has expressed their desire to make improvements in some areas in the mini-transfer window after receiving recommendations from head coach Miguel Gamondi.

The NBC Premier League leaders are aiming at defending the Tanzania Mainland Premier League championship and the Azam Sports Federation Cup as well as performing well in the CAF Champions that they last participated twenty-four years ago.

Hersi said that they will improve their squad during the mini-transfer window according to the recommendations made by the technical bench.

It is understood that the window will be opened from December 16, this year and will be closed by January 15, next year.

One of the departments that needs to be strengthened is the forward line and that is based on the instructions of coach Gamondi to need more edge in the striking force.

At the moment, the attack line of Young Africans is led by Clement Mzize, Kennedy Musonda and Hafiz Konkoni who was signed in the last transfer window to fill the place of Fiston Mayeye.

The Ghanaian has not been able to show the edge as expected.

The Jangwani Street side leader has opened that they will make registrations in a few positions and the technical bench has already started the scouting process for the players they need.

Hersi said that despite having a strong team, they still need to improve the squad because they want to do better than last season.

"We have many competitions and time will not be friendly, but we expect to receive suggestions from the coach on what positions he wants us to register.

"After receiving the recommendations, we will go to work on them quickly because we have big matches, including the African Champions League. We must strengthen our team," he expressed.

Regarding the championship race, Hersi said that it is too early to predict, and winning the match against Simba does not mean that they are already on the way to winning the title, but it was a major boast.

"Yes, first we have played nine games. You can't claim that the championship is close, the league is still going on and we have so many matches in the NBC Premier League. We also have three Champions League fixtures which are very competitive with our opener away against CR Belouizdad.

"In January, the AFCON championship will take place, but in December we will have CAF Champions League games and in January we will go for the Mapinduzi Cup.

"After Mapinduzi Cup the league will continue and we will have consecutive matches," said the president.

Yanga are currently on top of the NBC Premier League after nine games with 24 points, eight wins and one defeat, scoring 26 goals and allowing five goals with 21-goal difference.

Foreign-based quartet joins Taifa Stars camp ahead of World Cup qualifiers

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

FOREIGN-BASED quartet of defender Haji Mnoga, midfielder Ben Starkie, goalkeeper Kwesi Kawawa and striker Simon Msuva have linked up with Taifa Stars as the team steps up preparations for the upcoming 2026 FIFA World Cup Qualifiers against Niger and Morocco.

The four players arrived in the country yesterday morning and went straight to the residential training camp at Golden Tulip Masaki to join their local-based teammates who reported on Saturday.

The foreign-based contingent is set to be further bolstered with the arrival of players like Greece-based Mbwana Samatta, Himid Mao, based in Egypt, Novatus Miroshi, who turns out for Ukrainian side Shakhtar Donetsk, and Abdi Banda and Baraka Majogoro, based in South Africa.

The team is expected to depart for Morocco on Thursday aboard Air Tanzania. President Samia Suluhu Hassan has offered Taifa Stars a chartered flight to ease logistics concerns, as revealed by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Culture, Arts and Sports, Gerson Msigwa.

Tanzania will attempt to qualify for the World Cup finals for the first time and are drawn in Group E with Morocco, Zambia, Niger, Eritrea, and Congo.

The group winner will qualify for the World Cup final tournament in the USA, Canada and Mexico.

On Saturday, Taifa Stars will kick off their World Cup qualification campaign with a challenging fixture against Niger that will be played in Marrakech, Morocco.

Three days later, they will host group favourites Morocco in Dar.

Full Squad:

Goalkeepers: Beno Kakolanya (Singida Fountain Gate), Aishi Manula (Simba SC), Aboutwalib Mshery (Young Africans), Kwesi Kawawa (Karlstunden, Sweden), Metacha Mnata (Young Africans).

Defenders: Dickson Job (Young Africans), Bakari Mwamnyeto (Young Africans), Ibrahim Hamad (Young Africans), Lusajo Mwaikenda (Azam FC), Nickson Kibabage



Foreign-based players Haji Mnoga, Ben Starkie and Kwesi Kawawa at the Julius Nyerere International Airport after arriving in Dar es Salaam yesterday to link up with Taifa Stars for the upcoming 2026 FIFA World Cup Qualifiers against Niger and Morocco. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TFF

(Young Africans), Haji Mnoga (Aldershot Town, United Kingdom), Abdi Banda (Richards Bay, South Africa), Edward Manyama (Azam FC), Novatus Miroshi (Shakhtar Donetsk, Ukraine), Edwin Balua (Tanzania Prisons), Abdulmalik Zakaria (Namungo FC), Omary Mvungi (FC Nantes, France).

Midfielders: Ibrahim Joshua (Tusker FC, Kenya), Mzamiru Yassin (Simba SC), Sospeter Bajana (Azam FC), Baraka Majogoro (Chippa United, South Africa), Feisal Salum (Azam FC), Mudathir Yahya

(Young Africans), Morice Abraham (FK Spartak, Serbia), Himid Mao (Tala'ea El Gaish, Egypt), Ladaki Chasambi (Mtibwa Sugar).

Forwards: Mbwana Samatta (PACK FC, Greece), Simon Msuva (JS Kabylie, Algeria), John Bocco (Simba SC), Kibu Denis (Simba SC), Abdul Suleiman (Azam FC), Ben Starkie (Basford United, United Kingdom), Matteo Anthony (Mtibwa Sugar), Charles M'mombwa (Macarthur, Australia), Clement Mzize (Young Africans).

Tanzanite Queens showed Nigeria too much respect

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA U20 Women's National Team (Tanzanite Queens) head coach Bakari Shime believes they gave Nigeria too much respect in the first leg of the third round of the 2024 FIFA Women's World Cup Qualifiers.

In the game played at Chamazi Stadium on Sunday afternoon, hosts Tanzanite Queens came from behind to force a draw against the most successful African nation in the U-20 FIFA Women's World Cup tournament.

Nigeria took the lead three minutes before the hour mark thanks to a goal from substitute Chioma Olise following a scoreless first half.

Thirteen minutes later, Tanzanite Queens responded when Asnath Ubamba scored from a free kick, leaving Nigerian goalkeeper Anderlin Mgebchi helpless.

Despite several attempts from Tanzania, the West African side held on to claim an away draw.

Coach Shime says the first-leg experience will come in handy in relieving the fear among her charges of playing against Nigeria for the first time.

The two teams will square it off in the second leg in Nigeria on Sunday.

"We are at home, we expected to play well and win. Unfortunately, we did not get good results in terms of winning. But we have drawn, 1-1 draw. The tie is still open.

"The youngsters played well by following instructions. We played believing that we were playing against a strong team with a lot of experience on how to attack and defend. Unfortunately, we made the mistake of failing to deal with a loose ball in our area and our opponents used that opportunity," he said.

Shime added: "At the end of the day, we tried to change the game plan. We pushed them into their area and got a free kick and scored. It is 1-1, we believe the tie is still open. We believe we have seen who and how they are and we have a chance to make changes in the next match.

"We didn't know much about them but we gave them a lot of respect to make sure that they don't punish us with a worse result while we are at home. We have seen their style of play, they don't give us chances and they press hard. At the end of the day, we believe we are going to play in their home field and with the result clear, even with a 1-0 goal score we can eliminate them from the competition.

"We believe that in the few days left the girls who were afraid of playing against Nigeria will no longer have that fear. Without fear, we believe we will be free to play our football and get good results."

The FIFA U20 Women's World Cup final competition will take place in Colombia next year, with 24 finalists instead of the 16 that competed in Costa Rica.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

I'M LATE BOSS, I FELL OUT OF THE WINDOW, SORRY

AND THAT TOOK YOU AN HOUR?



We didn't know much about them but we gave them a lot of respect to make sure that they don't punish us with

TO NIGHT @ 9:00

MJADALA

EATV TUESDAY

11:00 DADAZ
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA
13:00 Mpera Mpera
13:30 Kati Za Wana
13:55 Dandao Za Michezo
14:00 SPORTS (I)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Mpera Mpera
16:00 Zote Kuntu
16:55 Dandao Za Michezo
17:00 SSELECT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 Kati Za Wana
18:30 #HASHTAG
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (I)
21:00 MJADALA
21:30 Zote Kuntu
23:00 Kurasa
23:05 EATV SAA 1

MJADALA is a program that brings together stakeholders and the executive elite to discuss timely, national development issues.

The program targets an audience that is aware of current developmental challenges and opportunities and is keen to share, engage and participate in the shopping process.

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05:00 Supa Breakfast
09:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
19:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM