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Members of the Maasai community from Kimokouwa ward in Longido District, Arusha Region, pictured at the weekend undergoing training in the sewing of sanitary pads for needy students under an initiative organised by the Legal Service Facility through Wanawake Tunaweza project. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

'Police can't handle cases of abducting lately rising'

It is protected by armed police as it has vehicles being held by the traffic police, some of them being retained for court evidence

By Guardian Reporters

HUMAN rights advocates have demanded that due to circumstances surrounding reports of abductions, torture and killings, police should not handle such cases as they are in large measure among the suspects.

Onesmo ole Ngurumwa, the Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC) coordinator, said at a training event in Mwanza city yesterday that a special investigation committee ought to be formed by the presidency "to uncover the root causes of these incidents."

Appeals for investigation of escalating incidents of kidnappings, torture and killings across the country were on

the rise as the public reels from a string of incident, one of them recounted recently and extensively involving the police.

At the human rights monitoring, documentation, reporting, and risk management training for its coordinators and field staff, he said that from 2016 to 2024 over 200 people have been reported missing or kidnapped under various circumstances.

He pointed at the case of ex-UDSM student Abdul Nondo and the recent incident involving opposition activist Edgar Mwakabala, also known as Sativa, where those narrating kidnappings or abductions directly implicated state security

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Three left dead, eight injured in second crash at the same spot

By Guardian Correspondent, Manyoni

THREE people died and eight others suffered injuries after a Zube Trans Co. bus was involved in a head-on collision with a truck carrying empty carbonated drink bottles.

Amon Kakwale, the Singida regional police commander, confirmed the accident, noting that it occurred at midnight on Monday at Njiriri village, Manyoni District.

Bodies of the deceased, who include the bus driver and the truck driver, along with another person yet to be ascertained, were preserved at the Manyoni District Hospital.

The Zube Trans bus, T 695 DDJ travelling from Mwanza to Dar es Salaam collided with the truck, T 908 DVX, heading from Itigi to Singida, the police chief noted.

Dr Furaha Mwakafwila, the district chief medical officer, confirmed that those injured in the accident were on

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Open Pugu dumpsite, Magomeni crossroads top in pollution levels

By Correspondent Christina Mwakangale

THE Pugu dumpsite on the southern reaches of Ilala District in Dar es Salaam has been identified as having the highest air pollution levels in the city.

Dr Mbazingwa Mkiramweni, a lecturer at the Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology (DIT), disclosed this situation during the 48th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF-2024) citing DIT research showing that the situation at Pugu dumpsite is worsening, demanding robust measures to address the challenge.

The situation poses significant health risks to the population within the vicinity,



Air pollution remains a major contributor of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) globally, so efforts should also be directed to curb the challenge

the study noted, affirming that the area records more than 100 units of particulate matter (PM), excessively high in comparison with World Health Organisation (WHO) compliant average levels of PM2.5 and PM10.

Other locations with noticeable air pollution include those bordering heavy traffic congestion like Vingunguti primary school and the Morogoro Road intersection with Kawawa Road at Magomeni, Kinondoni District.

"The research project aimed at assessing and monitoring air quality across Dar es Salaam city and its surrounding areas,

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'Industrial capacity key to 2050 Vision'

Unified strategies across government ministries and departments is vital in achieving national goals

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

INVESTMENT in industrial development will be a strategic priority in the Development Vision 2050 to build local production capacity and reduce dependency on imported goods.

Prof Kitila Mkumbo, the Planning and Investment state minister in the President's Office made this declaration a high-level industrial dialogue on Tanzania Vision 2025

in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

Also officiating at the launching of the President's Manufacturer of the Year Award (PMAYA) organised by the Confederation of Tanzania Industries (CTI), he emphasised the crucial role of support for industrial development in shaping the National Vision 2050.

The inclusion of industries at the core of the national vision is essential as prosperous countries are distinguished by their ro-

bust industrial sectors, he said, intimating that the country cannot advance by relying on imports.

"Developing numerous industries and exporting our products in the region and beyond is important and will stimulate national development," he asserted, invoking opinion surveys in preparation for Vision 2050 that involved 7,668 people throughout the country.

He said they were selected in keeping with the rules of sampling, and they identified five priorities to be present in the vision, with industries being number one.

"Investment in industries emerged as the foremost priority in thinking up the national vision, while agriculture, providing 65 percent of raw materials for industries, remains the second priority," he stated.

The need for large investments in human resources to meet the needs of an

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SPORTS

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Gamondi targets fitness gains in friendly clash against TS Galaxy

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Rise of women's sports brings greater emphasis on maternity and parental needs



Open Pugu dumpsite, Magomeni crossroads top in pollution levels

FROM PAGE 1 especially in industrial and residential zones where pollution levels during the night are particularly high," he stated. He said that the institute is mandated to conduct research, where it involved the deployment of 13 cost-effective Purple Air PA-II sensors in various locations across the city, measuring pollution from May 2021 to February 2022.

The sensor sites included the Pugu Dump, DMDP building at Magomeni, Madale, Vijibweni Hospital, Buza Clinic, Makuburi, the Ubungo municipal offices, and Mlimani City complex, he elaborated, citing other locations such as Sinza Hospital, Kigamboni municipal office, DIT, Vingunguti primary school and Temeke District Environment Offices.

The project is focused on measuring microscopic solid particles or tiny liquid droplets (PM2.5 and PM10) that can be inhaled and in excess, may cause severe health complications. "PM levels from 0 to 50 are considered safe. However, levels exceeding 50 can pose health risks, particularly for vulnerable individuals. It is advised not to spend more than 24 unbroken hours in such areas," he emphasized.

Temeke recorded high sensor readings during the night, possibly due to industrial activities, he said, explaining that sensors were strategically placed within a one-kilometre or not less than 500 meters from the target areas for accurate research purposes. Real-time data was continuously transmitted via mobile devices, he said in illustration.

"While Pugu is an open designated dumpsite, DMDP Magomeni station is situated close to a major road intersection and has similar high pollution levels," he affirmed.

The research project was a collaborative effort involving the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI) Africa Centre, C40 Climate Leadership Group, DIT, the Dar es Salaam City Council (DCC), and the regional secretariat, he said.

The project is meant to design an air pollution monitoring system for the city, conducting extensive data collection using ground-based and satellite sensors, he specified.

Dr Mwanada Kilima, a pulmonary and critical care physician at the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) highlighted health complications arising from air pollution, including cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, hormonal disorders, neurological disturbances, pneumonia, eye problems and even miscarriages.

"Air pollution remains a major contributor of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) globally, so efforts should also be directed to curb the challenge," the specialist added.

'Industrial capacity key to 2050 Vision'

FROM PAGE 1 industrial economy of well-educated people was another priority mentioned in the study, in the view of Leodegar Tenga, the CTI chairman. The development vision necessitates substantial investments in quality education, he said, commending the government's commitment to prioritizing industrial development.

"To achieve our Vision, we must strengthen both industries and agriculture, ensuring we capitalize on regional markets such as the East African Community (EAC) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC)," he specified.

Paul Makanza, the CTI vice chairman, emphasized the need for strategic enablers like technology and human capital to accelerate progress, explaining the need to build a solid foundation of peace, stability, unity and self-reliance.

He also underscored a governance structure that supports accountability, transparency and participatory decision-making, along with "reflecting on our past, understanding our present and shaping our future."

"There is no country that has achieved significant economic progress without investing in industries. Effective planning is crucial, hence, investing in industries is key to our development," he further stated.

For industries to function well, the government has to invest in the construction of the roads and railways infrastructure, as infrastructure development is vital to facilitate industrial growth, he elaborated.

Unified strategies across government ministries and departments is essential in achieving national goals, he added.

Three dead, eight injured in second crash at same spot

FROM PAGE 1 the way to recovery, with relatives being awaited to claim the bodies of the deceased.

percent from bad weather and an estimated two percent of road accidents are traced to poor road networks.

Just over ten days earlier on July 11, another bus belonging to the same company had an accident in the same Njirri village area, with local residents baffled at the pattern and seeking answers.

The Global Status Report on Road Safety 2023 issued by the World Health Organisation (WHO) said that road traffic injuries lead to claiming the lives of people aged 5-29 years, every year road accidents claim the lives of more than 1.19 million people, disproportionately featuring the developing countries, the report shows.

Global accident data indicates that 80 percent of accidents arise from reckless driving, 12 percent from mechanical problems, six

Pro- and anti-government protesters clash in Kenya as police hurl tear-gas canisters

NAIROBI ANTI-GOVERNMENT protesters in Kenya's capital clashed with a pro-government group on Tuesday, leading to the burning of a motorcycle that belonged to people who were voicing their support for the president.

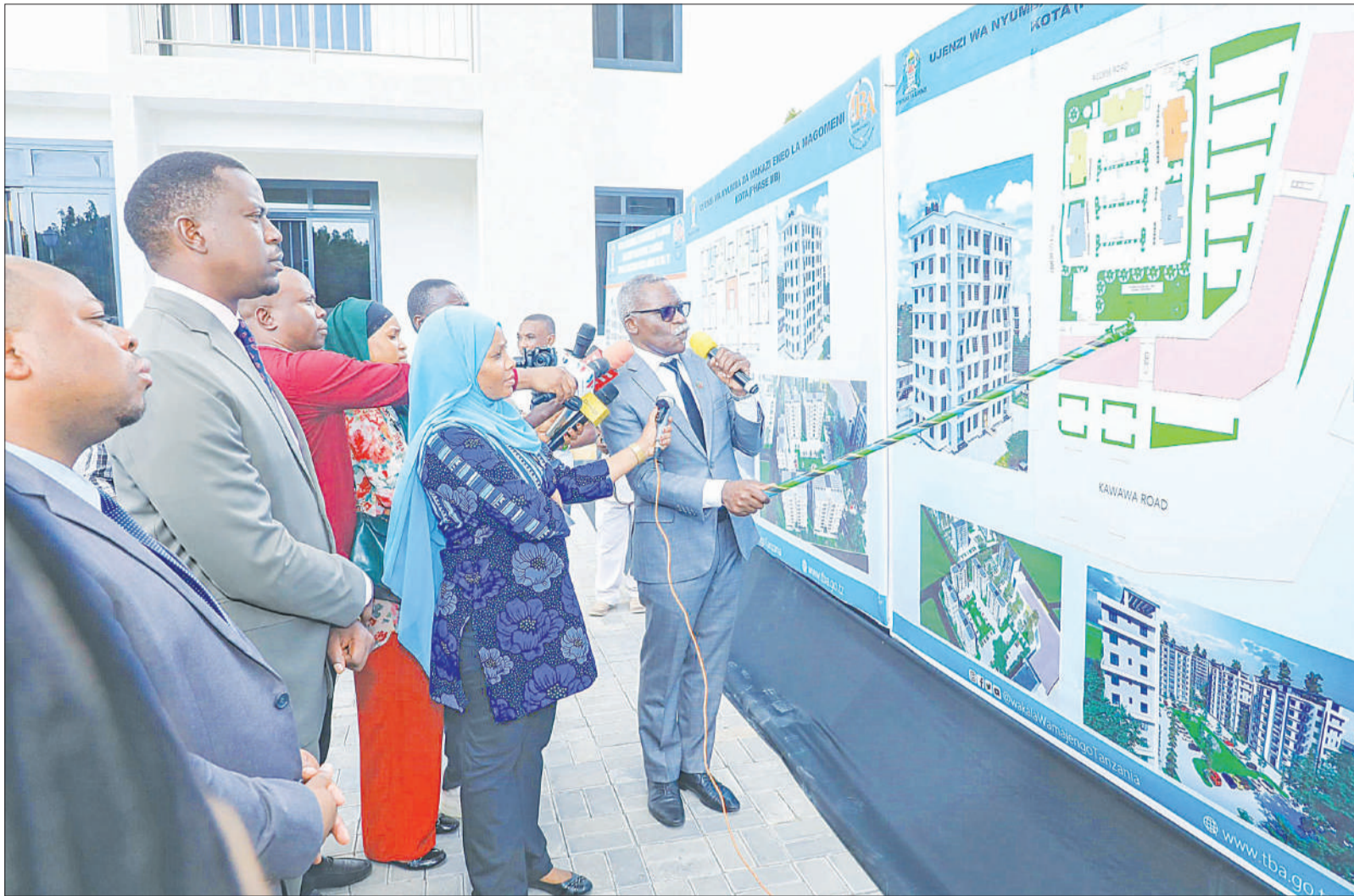
security checks and flight services were continuing as usual. Elsewhere, police hurled tear gas canisters at protesters who had blocked another major road that leads to the airport.

Kenya's anti-government protests entered their fifth week, having started as calls for legislators to vote against a finance bill that proposed new taxes. President William Ruto declined to sign the controversial bill and has dismissed almost all of his Cabinet ministers, but protesters have continued calling for his resignation.

The pro-government group took to the streets of Nairobi on motorcycles on Tuesday morning ahead of a planned demonstration by anti-government protesters.

The anti-government group lit bonfires in the suburb of Imara Daima along the highway that leads to Kenya's main airport, which was to be the site of Tuesday's demonstrations. Airport officials asked travelers to arrive early due to extensive

At least 50 people have died and 413 others have been injured in the protests since June 18, according to the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights.



Tanzania Buildings Agency CEO Daud Kondoro (R) briefs Works minister Innocent Bashungwa (2nd-L) in Dar es Salaam yesterday on a project involving residential buildings which the agency is implementing in Kinondoni municipality. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

'Police can't handle cases of abducting lately rising'

FROM PAGE 1 agencies.

different sources, urging that people with more information on the incidents to avail the same to the governance outfit.

Those cases were not investigated by relevant authorities, the noted activist stated, insisting that thorough investigation is needed for all incidents over the past decade to ensure all suspected individuals are brought to justice, thus preventing further occurrences.

There are lots of reports on abductions, torture and even killings, referring to such incidents happening ostensibly in the hands of law organs, occasioning the need to conduct investigations as there are clear breaches of human rights, he explained.

He all the same asserted that the police need to conduct comprehensive investigations in relation to child abductions and other kidnappings and prosecute those responsible, in a bid to ensure citizens' safety.

He said the commission had received reports from different stakeholders and it was preparing to work on the matter. Various allegations relate to the police and other law enforcers whereas such acts constitute gross violations of human rights and are not acceptable in any society based on the rule of law, he stated.

Law enforcement agencies including the police have to perform their duties professionally and reject any initiatives that undermine their capacity to investigate law violations like those they are now such incidents.

A string of cases of abductions, torture and killing across the country have of late been reported, illustrated by the case of one Edgar Mwakabela who went missing on June 23, and later found alive and well within Katavi National Park.

Meanwhile, Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRAGG) has given notice that it is embarking on a field investigation on cases of abduction, torture and killings said to be rife in the country.

Mwakabela reportedly said he was first taken into the Oysterbay Police workshop, before leaving with his kidnappers to Arusha (600km away) and then to Katavi, a further 1400 km, a shocking revelation when it went viral.

Judge (rtd) Mathew Mwaimu, the commission chairman, made this announcement here yesterday, a decision following an appeal by the Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC) to President Samia Suluhu Hassan to establish a high powered probe team on matter.

In the first video that confirmed he was alive, Edgar is seen sitting in the dust, complaining that his head hurts. "Please help me, my head hurts, my legs are swollen," Edgar

can be heard pleading with the people who found him.

is not a place that anyone can access.

Later when he was taken to hospital, Mwakabela aired more details about his kidnapping ordeal saying that he was shot in the head, but by the stroke of luck, the bullet hit his jaw.

It is protected by armed police as it has vehicles being held by the traffic police, some of them being retained for court evidence, stated, arguing for the resignation of Home Affairs minister Hamad Yusuf Msauni and IGP Camillus Wambura in the wake of this detailed incident.

"I was kidnapped on Sunday at seven in the evening and taken to Oysterbay Police Station. I know the Oysterbay station does not have my records, but they took me to the workshop at the Oysterbay Station where I stayed from eight o'clock until 5:20 in the morning," he elaborated.

The Legal and Human Rights Center released a statement condemning the incident, and called for an investigation, while demanding the protection of Mwakabela until his abductors are apprehended.

He was subsequently left in the middle of nowhere within Katavi National Park, a corridor where all sorts of wild animals often pass, meanwhile as the motive for his kidnapping remains unclear.

Children abduction is an offence of wrongfully retaining, detaining or concealing a child or baby, defined as taking away a person by persuasion, by fraud, open force or violence.

Some social media pundits have associated it with his contributions during the traders' strike in the central business district and elsewhere in the country, "and the tension he had with some pro-government influencers," in his own words.

Sophia Donald, the THRDC co-ordinator for the Lake Zone, highlighted an increase in human rights violations in the zone, including abductions and killings of people with albinism, apart from violence against women.

Several people have come forward to demand accountability for the kidnapping especially following the release of details that police premises were used in the whole episode of abduction.

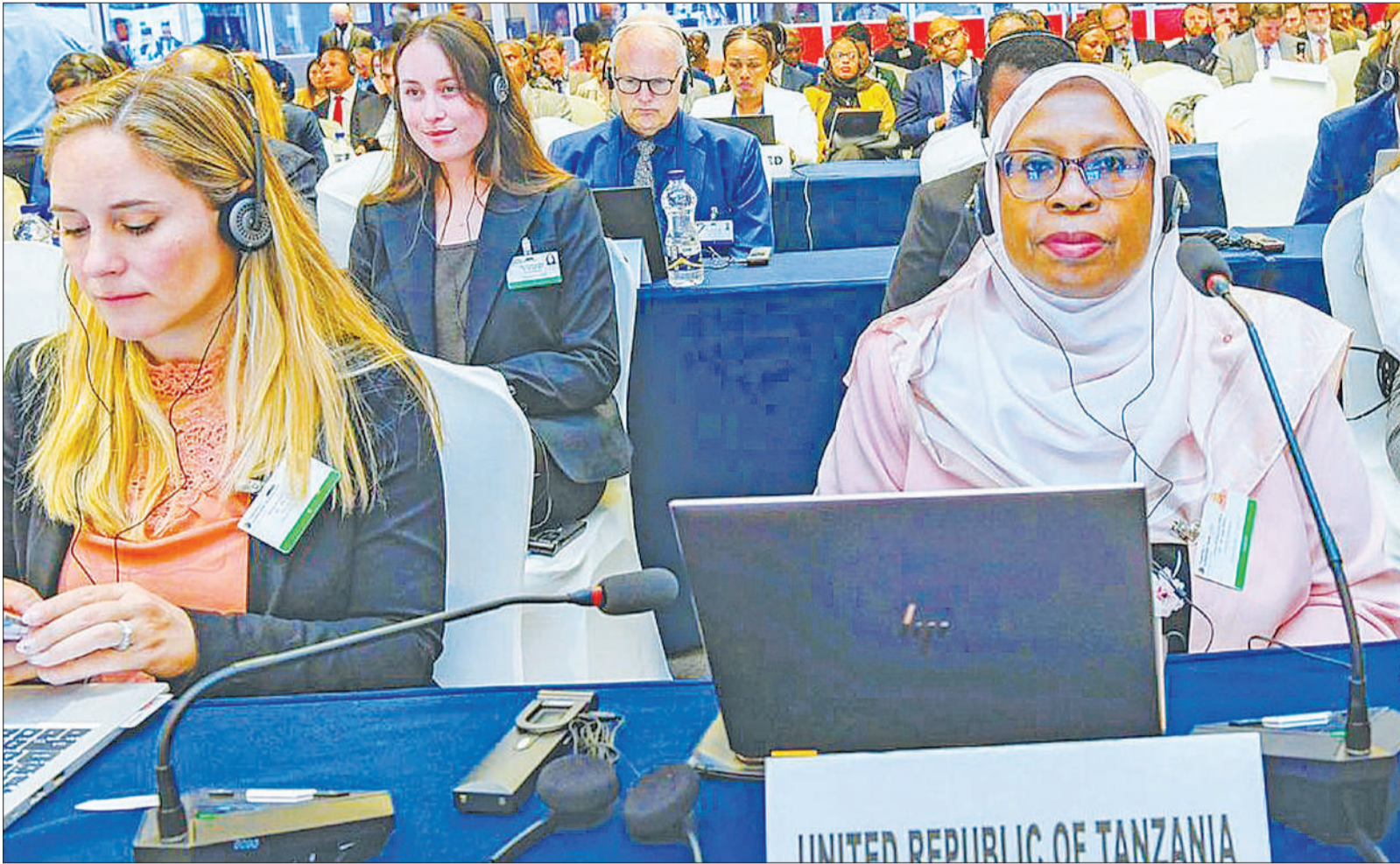
The coalition collaborates with various institutions to provide legal aid and community-based solutions for such incidents where possible, in addition to enhancing members' capabilities to monitor and address human rights violations to overcome operational challenges.

Boniface Jacob, a former opposition mayor for Ubungo, said that he was similarly taken to the same workshop following the 2020 election, explaining that the workshop

THRDC expects to host a stakeholders' conference on the situation after the training session ends, she added.



National Assembly Speaker Dr Tuila Ackson, in her capacity as Inter-Parliamentary Union president and currently on a visit to India, exchanges greetings in New Delhi yesterday with Lok Saba (lower house of India's bicameral Parliament) Speaker Om Birla. Photo courtesy of National Assembly



Amina Khamis Shaaban (R), Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Finance ministry attends the First Session of the Preparatory Committee of the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Sustainable Development in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Minister assures on better use of 54bn/- raised for water projects

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

WATER Minister Jumaa Aweso has affirmed that the 54bn/- raised through a green bond by Tanga Region residents for improving water infrastructure, will be effectively utilized in targeted projects, adhering to government guidelines.

Minister Aweso made the remarks over the weekend here during the signing of contracts for the upgrading and improvement of water infrastructure projects in Tanga, funded through the issuance of the 54bn/- green bond.

The contracts were signed between Tanga Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Authority (Tanga-UWASA) and two contractors, China Railway 7 Group Limited and STC Construction Limited.

He commended Tanga-UWASA for its proactive measures in implementing water projects.

Aweso directed the ministry's Deputy Permanent Secretary, Agness Meena to ensure strict monitoring of the fund's utilization to achieve project objectives aligned with President Samia Suluhu Hassan's vision in the water sector.

"When we speak of residents investing their money in green bonds, President Samia should be acknowledged as a leading citizen who supported the green bond initiative and allocated funds to enhance water supply in Tanga. We must handle these funds with utmost care," Minister Aweso said.

He also emphasized the importance of timely project completion and value for money by contractors awarded the tenders, noting that the ministry will closely supervise all activities to ensure productivity.

"The green bond represents funds contributed by citizens, and Tanga UWASA's board of directors is essentially borrowing this money, hence they must ensure its efficient use and repay with interest through successful project implementation,"

he pointed out. Earlier, Dr Ally Fungo, Tanga UWASA board chair, hailed the historic milestone as Tanga embarked on implementing a significant water project through the issuance of a green revenue bond, the first of its kind by a public corporate body in Tanzania.

He pledged rigorous oversight to ensure the project produced the intended outcomes.

"The Tanga UWASA Water Green Revenue Bond marks a pioneering initiative in Tanzania, aimed at enhancing ongoing efforts to improve water supply infrastructure," Dr Fungo stated.

"We really thank President Samia for endorsing our vision to implement this major water project through citizen participation which has surpassed our target by raising the 54bn/- within a short period," he added.

He assured investors that the funds are secure and will be utilized judiciously according to the designated objectives.

According to current reports, Tanga region is implementing a total of 67 water projects valued at 89.67bn/- under the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (RUWASA) and an additional 13 water projects worth 11.32bn/- under Tanga UWASA.

“The Tanga UWASA Water Green Revenue Bond marks a pioneering initiative in Tanzania, aimed at enhancing ongoing efforts to improve water supply infrastructure”

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

Road accidents leave 17 dead in Zanzibar in just one month

SEVENTEEN people have died in 23 accidents that occurred in June 2024, whereby speeding and drivers' carelessness have been mentioned as the main causes of the traffic accidents.

Asha Mussa Mahfoudh, Head of the Complaints, and Gender Division at the Office of Chief Government Statistician (OCGS) unveiled this here on Monday when presenting a report on the statistics of accidents and road mistakes.

She said that statistics on road accidents necessitate increased awareness about road safety and serious commitment involving all road users, noting that the number of accidents has increased by 15 percent from the 20 accidents

reported in May 2024.

Asha said, the number of deaths has also increased by 21.4 percent from 14 victims who died in May 2024, while the Central Unguja District leads with four accidents equal to 17.4 percent compared to other districts.

She said that out of the 20 accidents reported, 15 accidents were caused by speeding, and eight accidents were caused by driver negligence.

"Although the number of deaths looks small, we do not want to

lose even one person because of avoidable road accidents," she said.

"It is unfortunate that the victims also include children, women, young people, and pedestrians, knocked down by reckless drivers," Mahfoudh said, stressing that on average, in each of the eleven districts of Zanzibar, there are at least two accidents.

She explained that from a yearly perspective, the number of road accidents has been also increasing and that motorbikes (bodaboda), and bicycles, "Violation or

negligence and ignorance about road safety regulations, is highly to blame for the accidents."

Kheri Abdul Hamid, a Police traffic officer from Unguja North Region appealed to members of the public to remain vigilant about all issues that may lead to road accidents such as being careless when using the road and also teaching children how to use the road.

Zanzibar has a population of about 1.8 million people according to the 2022 Population and Housing Census.



Natural Resources and Tourism minister Angellah Kairuki pictured yesterday speaking at the 67th United Nations World Tourism Organisation meeting for Tourism ministers in the Africa region in progress in Livingstone, Zambia. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Biteko: We'll ensure all projects in LGAs completed as planned

By Guardian Correspondent, Bukombe

DEPUTY Prime Minister Dr Doto Biteko has reaffirmed the government's dedication to nationwide development, ensuring that all planned projects in local governments are executed and completed on schedule.

Addressing a rally held at Namonge Ward in Bukombe district, Geita Region, Dr Biteko, who also serves as the Member of Parliament for the area, stated that President Samia Suluhu Hassan is actively working to foster development across the country.

"You must collaborate with the government to ensure timely implementation of all development projects, while also ensuring your children attend school," he emphasized.

During his visit, Dr Biteko had to pause at the headquarters of Namonge Ward to hear from residents who had halted his convoy, seeking an audience with their MP concerning road infrastructure.

Holding banners with various messages, the residents requested the construction of a tarmac road within the district to facilitate the transportation of their produce from farms.

Addressing their concerns, Dr Biteko assured the residents that the government will continue with regular maintenance of infrastructure to ensure year-round accessibility, considering financial availability. He cited recent infrastructure improvements over the past few years as evidence of ongoing progress.

Geita Regional Commissioner Martin Shigella used the gathering to encourage residents to register in the permanent voters' book to participate in upcoming local government elections this year, and presidential, parliamentary, and local government elections in 2025.

"This year, we have local government elections, but next year we will also have elections for

President, MPs, and councillors. From August 5th to 11th this year, we will need to register to choose the leaders we want when the time comes," he informed the attendees.

Residents of Iyamchele Village, Namonge Ward, Bukombe District, commended the government for enhancing various social services in the ward. Speaking at the meeting, Namonge Ward Councillor Mlalu Bundala highlighted the significant efforts of the sixth-phase government in improving social services and elevating the status of Namonge Ward.

He mentioned notable improvements, including the allocation of over 1bn/- for preliminary bridge construction at two primary and secondary school locations, totalling 2.31bn/-.

Other infrastructure enhancements mentioned include the drilling of five water wells under the President's initiative to alleviate water challenges, alongside advancements in the electricity sector.

Bundala also noted the community's request for a health centre at Iyamchele Village, highlighting their contributions and the need for improved service standards at the existing facility.

“This year, we have local government elections, but next year we will also have elections for President, MPs, and councillors. From August 5th to 11th this year, we will need to register to choose the leaders we want when the time comes”

By Guardian Reporter

Pay rent on time, TBA tenants told

MINISTER for Works Innocent Bashungwa has urged tenants residing in houses and buildings owned by the Tanzania Building Agency (TBA) to pay rent on time for the agency to build new buildings improve services and ensure sustainability.

Bashungwa issued this directive yesterday during the inauguration of the Phase Two B residential building for public servants at Magomeni area in Kinondoni Municipality, Dar es Salaam.

"The government will continue its efforts to construct decent housing for civil servants, but it is the duty of tenants who stay in those houses to pay rent on time. Paying rent gives us the ability to enhance the quality of

housing services," emphasized Bashungwa.

He directed TBA to oversee the collection of debts from defaulters by their contractual agreements so that these taxes can complete the construction of the third and fourth buildings (Block C and D) currently underway in the Magomeni area, where progress has reached 15 percent.

The minister mentioned that the government has amended TBA laws to facilitate partnerships with the private sector, aiming to involve private companies and financial institutions in property development to cater to the housing needs of public servants.

Bashungwa highlighted that the

construction of the Phase Two B residential building at Magomeni Kota, costing 5.6bn/- is part of the implementation of the 2020-2025 CCM election manifesto.

He commended TBA for efficient land use and well-planned modern building designs in the 32,000-acre Magomeni area, previously inhabited by over 645 residents, where 9 acres have been utilized to accommodate these residents.

Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner Albert Chalamila stressed the need for comprehensive urban planning strategies involving collaboration with government agencies and the private sector to position the region among Africa's leading

cities by 2030.

Providing project details, TBA's Chief Executive Officer, Daud Kondoro, explained that all innovative, construction, and management tasks in the project were executed by TBA's own experts, leveraging positive economic growth changes, urban planning, construction technology, communications, and infrastructure.

Kondoro highlighted that the building has been equipped with a modern 'Payless' system, where failure to pay rent taxes results in immediate disconnection of electricity and water services, which are reinstated promptly upon payment.

TARI, CATAS agreed on boosting links on tropical agricultural science, technology

By Guardian Correspondent

THE Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) and the Chinese Academy of Tropical Agricultural Science (CATAS) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to foster cooperation in tropical agricultural science and technology.

Under the crucial pact signed over the weekend in Dar es Salaam between TARI Director General Dr Thomas Bwana and He Qiongmei, director general of the Agriculture and Rural Affairs department in Hainan Province, China.

The two parties agree to cooperate in tropical agricultural science and technology within the scope of their respective responsibilities based on equality and mutual benefit.

Briefing journalists during the signing ceremony, Dr Bwana said the agreement will see mutual and joint cooperation for the establishment of a Joint Laboratory (JL) on tropical agricultural science and technology research, among others.

“This MoU will provide a comfortable podium for national cooperation projects in any agricultural (science and technology) fields of mutual interest, within the two countries,” he said, noting that the key areas of cooperation within the new development include germplasm resource collection and conservation, breeding, and promotion of crop varieties.

“We’re focusing also to tie efforts on tropical crops and fruit, as well as vegetable cultivation technologies,” he added.

Other areas of cooperation, according to Dr Bwana are the identification and prevention of plant diseases, insects, pests, and

weeds.

Establishment and promotion of sustainable farming systems, animal husbandry development, fruit and vegetable post-harvest preservation technology, and food and agricultural product processing technology are more areas under the coming cooperation, Dr Bwana added.

He Qiongmei also unveiled that the agreement will also focus on promoting agricultural machinery.

According to him, these will incorporate the agro-economics sector, including exchanging tropical crop cultivation and breeding technical information.

“This intervention will include scientific publications, research methodologies and other relevant experimental materials issued by each party according to respective regulations,” Qiongmei expressed.

He added that the MoU will also major in conducting mutual visits with special mission and personnel training for the long and short term to achieve active cooperation.

“We’re going also to conduct joint research, symposium, workshops, seminars, and training programs on tropical crops,” he said.

Under the signed MoU will be engaging and communicating with each other on international graduate students’ programs and projects, which address fellowships, sharing of research knowledge, information, laboratory facilities, and identifying specific work on tropical crops research which can mutually benefit the cooperation.

“We’re going also to conduct joint research, symposium, workshops, seminars, and training programs on tropical crops”



Deputy Prime Minister and Energy minister Dr Doto Biteko addresses a meeting at Namonge in Bukombe District, Geita Region, yesterday. Photo: DPMO

South Africa due to use BRICS platform to boost trade: official

JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH Africa will attend the 14th BRICS Trade Ministers Meeting later this week in Moscow, Russia, to seek trade and investment opportunities, a government official said on Monday.

“South Africa will continue to identify opportunities for cooperation with BRICS partners, both bilaterally and through the BRICS platform, that would present opportunities for the continent to transition away from its historic role as a commodity exporter toward higher productivity value addition,” said Zuko Godlimpi, South African deputy minister of trade, industry and competition, before departing for the meeting.

He said the BRICS Trade Ministers Meeting

will be preceded by a roundtable discussion under the theme “The Place of BRICS in the New Architecture of the International Economic System.”

The meeting will allow South Africa to build mutually beneficial trade and investment relations that promote value-added trade and economic transformation, said Godlimpi, noting that his country wants to facilitate foreign direct investment into the productive sectors with BRICS partners and coordinate positions on global governance.

The BRICS is the acronym for an emerging-market cooperative mechanism that initially included Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa. In January, the bloc expanded its membership to include Saudi Arabia, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, Iran, and Ethiopia.

UN report: About 40 million people had HIV in 2023

By Special Correspondent

NEARLY 40 million people were living with the HIV virus that causes AIDS last year, over 9 million weren't getting any treatment, and the result was that every minute someone died of AIDS-related causes, the UN said in a new report launched Monday.

While advances are being made to end the global AIDS pandemic, the report said progress has slowed, funding is shrinking, and new infections are rising in three regions: the Middle East and North Africa, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, and Latin America.

In 2023, around 630,000 people died from AIDS-related illnesses, a significant decline from the 2.1 million deaths in 2004. But the latest figure is more than double the target for 2025 of fewer than 250,000 deaths, according to the report by UNAIDS, the UN agency leading the global effort to end the pandemic.

Gender inequality is exacerbating the risks for girls and women, the report said, citing the extraordinarily high incidence of HIV among adolescents and young women in parts of Africa.

The proportion of new infections globally among marginalized communities that face stigma and discrimination – sex workers, men who have sex with men, and people who inject drugs also increased to 55% in 2023 from 45% in 2010, it said.

UNAIDS Executive Director Winnie Byanyima said: “World leaders pledged to end the AIDS pandemic as a public health threat by 2030, and they can uphold their promise, but only if they ensure that the HIV response has the resources it needs, and that the human rights of everyone are protected.”

As part of that pledge, leaders vowed to reduce annual new HIV infections to below 370,000 by 2025, but the report said in 2023 new infections were more than three times higher at 1.3 million.

Last year, among the 39.9 million people globally living with HIV, 86% knew they were infected, 77% were accessing treatment, and for 72% the virus was suppressed, the report said.

César Núñez, director of the UNAIDS New York office, told a news conference there has been progress in HIV treatments – injections that can stay in the body for six months, but the two doses cost \$40,000 yearly, out of reach for all but the richest people with the virus.

He said UNAIDS has been asking the manufacturer to make it available at lower cost to low and middle-income countries.

Núñez said there have also been seven cases where people with HIV who were treated for leukemia emerged with no sign of the HIV virus in their system.

He said injections and the seven cases will be discussed at the 25th International AIDS Conference which began Monday in Munich.

At present, he said, daily treatment with pills costs about \$75 per person per year. It has allowed many countries to increase the number of people with HIV to receive treatment.

Núñez said UNAIDS will continue advocating for a vaccine to prevent AIDS.



World leaders pledged to end the AIDS pandemic as a public health threat by 2030, and they can uphold their promise, but only if they ensure that the HIV response has the resources it needs, and that the human rights of everyone are protected

FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY children RAILWAY No child lost to the streets

Railway Children Africa (RCA) is a Tanzanian based NGO working with street connected children in the country since 2010. Our work to create and enable sustainable change for children living on the streets is underpinned by our values of Never Give Up, Have Courage, Earn Trust, Show Compassion, and Nature Talent. RCA is implementing in two cities in Tanzania (Dar es Salaam and Mwanza) and engaging with Government at the district, and national Level.

RCA's strategy model for safeguarding vulnerable children and young people on the streets focuses on four key action areas:

- Protecting Vulnerable Children and Young People by providing immediate response to the needs of children and young people living without parental care and those at risk,
- Strengthening Community Responses: We strategically collaborate with communities and the transport industry with the aim of prioritizing safety of children in spaces where they are found.
- Strengthening Child Protection Systems: We are working with the Government and other key stakeholders to enhance child protection system for benefit of vulnerable children in Tanzania.

- Strengthening the Evidence Base program models by addressing the lack of data on children in street situations.

RCA announces receipt of approximately TZS three billion (£1 million) of grant from UK Government through the British High Commission, Dar es Salaam, for corridor for growth – Transit Hub Project. The work involved is around upscaling our contextual safeguarding projects in eight bus terminals across the country, advocating for Standard Operating Procedures for the same, and for national policies that mandate safeguarding considerations in the design and construction of transport hubs. The project will be implemented for period of 22 months and in selected cities of Tanzania.

Also, RCA announces receipt of TZS 232,500,000 (£75,000) from Muslim Charity helping the needy – UK to provide support services to 400 children living and working on the streets of Mwanza and Dar es salaam for a period of 12 months.

Mussa Mgata
Executive Director



PUBLICATION OF FINANCIAL INFORMATION children RAILWAY No child lost to the streets

Railway Children Africa (RCA) is registered in Tanzania as an NGO with registration number INGO/R1/00941 and a subsidiary of Railway Children UK - an international charity that fights for vulnerable children who live alone and at risk on the streets, where they face abuse and exploitation.

They run away or are forced to leave homes where they suffer poverty, violence, abuse and neglect. They find themselves living on the streets because there is nowhere to go and nobody to turn to.

However, the problems they face on the streets are often even worse than those they ran from. We aim to reach the children as they arrive on the streets and intervene before an abuser can, and before they become entrenched in streets life.

In accordance with non-government organization (amendment Regulations 2018) Railway Children Africa is pleased to publish its financial statements and funding status for the period ended 31 December 2023 and that ended 30 June 2024.

Statement of financial performance for the period of six months starting 01 January 2024 to 30 June 2024

REVENUE	TZS'000
Grants	1,587,365
Other Income	-
Total Revenue	1,587,365
EXPENDITURE	
Project Expenses	(654,246)
Administrative Expenses	(73,722)
Personnel & HR Expenses	(533,768)
Implementing CSOs Expenses	-
Total Expenditure	(1,261,736)
Surplus/Deficit of the Period	325,629

Source of revenue for the period of six months starting 01 January 2024 to 30 June 2024

Name of Funder/Source	TZS'000
The Railway Children	1,225,665
Af Jochnick Foundation	126,098
Abbott Fund	38,852
Eriks Development Partners	54,306
Muslim Charity - UK	142,444
Total Revenue	1,587,365

Statement of receipts and expenditure for the period of one year starting 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

REVENUE	TZS'000
Grants	2,932,430
Other Income	83,188
Total Revenue	3,015,618
EXPENDITURE	
Project Expenses	(1,571,830)
Administrative Expenses	(166,704)
Personnel & HR Expenses	(1,017,055)
Implementing CSOs Expenses	(48,450)
Total Expenditure	(2,804,039)
Surplus/Deficit of the Period	211,579

Source of revenue for the period of one year starting 01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023

Name of Funder/Source	TZS'000
The Railway Children	1,963,776
Mercy Corps	52,035
Af Jochnick Foundation	117,326
Abbott Fund	71,144
GDI Solutions - Agency Fund	509,732
Other local fund & donations	5,086
Eriks Development Partners	37,726
Muslim Charity - Helping the Neer	76,294
Addax & Oryx Foundation	46,532
Canadian Fund for Local Initiative	52,779
Exchange gain on Forex	83,188
Total Revenue	3,015,618

*consist of exchange gain on foreign currency. **surplus is deferred income planned for next period.



Prof Kitila Mkumbo, Minister for State in the President's Office (Planning and Investment), pictured in Dar es Salaam addressing a high-level meeting on Tanzania Vision 2025 and the upcoming President's Manufacturer of the Year Awards (PMAYA). Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Indian investors exploring opportunities in Tanzania

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

A delegation of 43 businesspeople from Haryana State in Northern India has expressed a strong interest in investing in various sectors in Tanzania, including real estate, minerals, solar energy, agriculture, and tourism. The delegation, led by Kailash Bhagat, Chairman of the Haryana State Cooperative Supply and Marketing Federation Limited (HAFED), recently visited Tanzania to explore potential investment and business opportunities.

During their stay, the Haryana delegation toured several Indian enterprises in Tanzania, gaining valuable insights into their operational strategies. These enterprises included the Hester Biosciences Animal Vaccine Plant in Kibaha District, Parksons Packaging Limited, Kwala Dry Port, and the Modern Industrial Park in Mlandizi.

The delegation participated in the 48th Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF), where Bhagat highlighted their investment intentions during a meeting with their Tanzanian counterparts. They also held productive meetings with key Tanzanian authorities such as the Tanzania Investment Centre and the Zanzibar Investment Promotion Authority.

As part of their engagement, the delegation showcased their services at the DITF from July 9 to 13 and participated in India Day celebrations on July 11 at the trade fair grounds. The inauguration of the Haryana Pavilion and India Day festivities were attended by members of both the Tanzanian and Indian business communities, as well as dignitaries including Dr Binilith Mahenge, Chair of the TIC board, Latifa Khamis, Director General of Tanzania Trade Development Authority (TanTrade), and Manoj B. Verma, Charge d'Affaires at the High Commission of India.

Additionally, the delegation participated in a business networking event hosted by the High Commission of India on the evening of July 11. The event attracted over 100 participants from various sectors, where discussions

focused on the vast potential of Tanzanian industries such as agriculture, pharmaceuticals, mining, hospitality, energy, and oil sectors.

Verma praised the Tanzanian government for fostering a conducive business environment and highlighted Tanzania's strategic advantages, including its rich natural resources, strategic location, and access to regional markets. "The participation of the Haryana delegation at the DITF underscores the growing economic ties between India and Tanzania," Verma remarked. He emphasized that the event provided a platform for both nations to explore new avenues of cooperation and forge enduring business relationships that promise mutual growth and prosperity.

Highlighting the strong bilateral trade relations, Verma noted that India and Tanzania's bilateral trade reached \$7.9 billion in 2023/24, making Tanzania India's second-largest trade partner in Africa. He also highlighted the benefits of duty-free access for 98 percent of Tanzanian products in the Indian market and recent initiatives towards local currency trade settlements.

“He emphasized that the event provided a platform for both nations to explore new avenues of co-operation and forge enduring business relationships that promise mutual growth and prosperity”

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

2,400 people to donate blood to meet annual demand in Arusha

A TOTAL of 2,400 people are expected to donate blood to meet the annual demand of 18,851 litres in the Arusha region through a campaign led by WHOISHUSSAIN—a non-profit organisation.

The organisation is spearheading a campaign for eye screening and blood donation in Arusha aimed at assisting patients at the Arusha Referral Hospital.

During the campaign launch, Regional Medical Officer (RMO) Dr Omary Chande praised the organization for its consistent blood donations in the region, acknowledging the critical role of blood supply in supporting vulnerable groups such as expectant mothers, children, and accident victims.

Warda Kaita, Coordinator for

Blood Transfusion Services in Arusha Region, stated that the region requires 18,851 litres of blood annually, equating to 1,576 bottles per month. The primary beneficiaries of this blood are expectant mothers and accident victims.

Ghullam Hussain Mukhtar, a key partner in the region's development, called on citizens to volunteer for blood donation to save lives, while commending WHOISHUSSAIN for their community support initiatives. "I commend Hussain for their commendable work; today they have organised a free eye screening

camp and are leading in blood donation activities. We pray that God blesses and strengthens all blood donors; we expect 2,400 donors, and we are hopeful as more than 40 have already arrived," said Mukhtar.

Pastor Yohana Mwampamba underscored the importance for Tanzanians to donate blood to save the lives of patients in critical need.

Dr Hamza Sajan, Coordinator for the organisation, explained that donating blood promotes the body's production of new blood cells and helps prevent diseases such as high blood pressure and heart disease. He highlighted that

this initiative occurs quarterly under the institute's supervision.

Several blood donors expressed that donating blood to aid others is a divine gift that brings them joy. Abdulaaziz Hamisi noted that blood donation has no negative effects and strengthens the body against conditions like high blood pressure and heart disease, while ensuring good health after medical tests.

Juma Mbaringo emphasised that donating blood for others is a natural gift from God, asserting that blood is not sold or manufactured in labs but is obtained through the goodwill of donors.

UK school donates teaching, learning equipment to Maweni Primary School

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

UNITED Kingdom-based Hanley Castle Elementary School, has donated modern teaching and learning equipment to Maweni Primary School in Maweni ward on the outskirts of Tanga city.

The donated equipment includes two projectors, laptops, a sewing

machine, nine dozen exercise books, nine dozen pens, as well as pairs of shoes and uniforms for orphans and vulnerable pupils living in high-risk environments.

Speaking during the handover event, Frederick Sagamiko, Tanga City Council executive director, expressed gratitude, attributing the support to a decade-long friendship

between Hanley Castle and Maweni schools.

He said apart from the donation, the friendship school had also allocated 50m/- for the renovation of two classrooms, a pupil's toilet, and a teachers' staff room at Maweni Primary School. "I would like to thank Hanley Castle for their invaluable support in the education

sector. Even this classroom where the handover event is taking place is a result of their financial assistance," he acknowledged.

Sagamiko further highlighted that the longstanding educational partnership had facilitated knowledge and skill exchanges between teachers from both schools, with Maweni teachers

visiting the UK and their UK counterparts coming to Tanzania.

Donald Stanley, representing Hanley Castle Elementary School, affirmed their commitment to continuing support for Maweni Primary School which includes improving academic performance for vulnerable students by providing essential meals daily.

"Recognizing the potential of education for our children, we pledge to support 50 orphans and children from high-risk environments by providing meals, ensuring their health, well-being and academic performance are safeguarded, fostering a smooth and positive school experience," Stanley stated.

Documentary released relating stories about African women leaders

By Special Correspondent

A New documentary has been released to showcase the stories of women entrepreneurs and investors working to solve real problems in African markets.


Released by women in business community Women Who Build Africa (WWBA) in partnership with Madica, the documentary showcases stories and perspectives of women entrepreneurs and investors building in African markets.

One of the first to offer a wide-ranging view of women business leaders on the continent, the video has been released ahead of the upcoming Women Who Build Africa Assembly, which will take place in September in Nairobi.

"There's nothing more powerful than hearing the stories of women that are walking the talk and actively working to build - and support - businesses solving real problems in African markets. I'm excited to share just a few of these stories, and showcase the women behind them, both for the rest of the world to hear and for any women considering taking the leap to walk in their footsteps. We hope to tell even more stories like these in the future," said co-founder at WWBA - and head of marketing at Stitch - Thea Sokolowski.

"We are so excited to partner with WWBA on this powerful film showcasing such incredible women builders on the continent," said Sneha Mehta, co-founder and CEO at Uncover.

"At Uncover, our aim is to empower women to 'uncover' whoever they want to be, confidently. That is so much more than products. It is a movement to inspire women to show up unapologetically. By showcasing more authentic stories, our hope is to show courage, confidence, vulnerability, journeys and the power that really is revolutionary."



MAENDELEO BANK
Together in Progress

DIVIDEND DECLARATION FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2023

The Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Bank, which was held on 22nd June, 2024 approved the payment of TZS 44 per share as scrip dividend for Financial Year 2023 as submitted by the Board of Directors. Pursuant to the dividend payment declaration, the Share Register details shall remain as follows

Announcement Date	24th July 2024
Trading of Share cum Dividend	24th July 2024 – 13th August, 2024
Trading of Share Ex Dividend	14th August, 2024 onwards
Closure of the Members Register	16th August, 2024
Dividend Payment on or by	18th September, 2024

Scrip dividend will be distributed to shareholders for every shares held in the register. Shareholders are advised to update their details by visiting or sending their details to the Company Registrar on the address below:

The Registrar
CSD & Registry Company Limited
2nd Floor, NHC Corporate Office
Kambarage House, 6 Ufukoni Street
P.O Box 70081
Dar es Salaam
Mobile 0746 160 516
Email: registrar@csdr.co.tz

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

TANZANIA INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM RESERVES LTD (TIPER)


**TENDER No: TP/07/2024/NCB/G/025
SUPPLY OF GASOIL (DIESEL) FOR STAFF VAN AND GENERATORS**

24 July, 2024

1. Tanzania International Petroleum Reserves Ltd (TIPER) is a bulk fuel storage facility with its share divided equally between the Government of Tanzania and Oryx Energies SA. The Company office is located at Kigamboni Industrial Area, Depot site-plot 1, Dar es Salaam-Tanzania.
2. TIPER hereby invites via National Competitive Bidding (NCB) technically qualified and reputable suppliers to bid for **SUPPLY OF GASOIL FOR STAFF VAN AND GENERATORS.**
3. Bidders who don't meet conditions in part 2 above are not be eligible to bid for this tender.
4. Interested and eligible bidders may request electronic copy of tender document through the following email: tiper.procurement@tiper.co.tz by sending an application letter (signed and stamped) and business license(s) or may obtain a hard copy of tender document at TIPER PROCUREMENT OFFICE on **Mondays to Fridays from 24 July, 2024 to 1 August, 2024 at 10:00AM to 16:00PM.**
5. Bidders are encouraged to visit the site. Site visit will be conducted on **Monday, 29 July 2024** from 10:00hrs to 11:00hrs.
6. Bidders are required to come with their own Personal Protective Equipment PPE's during the site visit. The minimum PPE requirement are steel toe safety boots, worker's helmet and cotton reflector vest / cotton over coat / cotton overall. Bidders who will not come with correct PPE's will not be allowed to enter onto site.
7. Bids **MUST** be submitted in hard copies only in envelopes sealed with postal seals or fire seals. Softcopies of bids should be submitted via a USB flash driver embedded in the hardcopies of bid submitted. No bid should be submitted by email.
8. All bids must be properly filled in and hardcopies enclosed in plain envelopes marked **Tender No: TP/07/2024/NCB/G/025 FOR SUPPLY OF GASOIL FOR STAFF VAN AND GENERATORS.** All bid documents must be addressed and delivered to **Tanzania International Petroleum Reserves Ltd, P.O. Box 2608, Kigamboni, Dar es Salaam.**
9. The deadline for submission of Tender documents will be **1600 hours local time on Monday 5 August, 2024.**
10. Bids opening will be conducted in the presence of tender committee only, formed by the company. There shall be **NO** public opening of bids.
11. Late bids, portion of bids, electronic bids will not be considered for evaluation irrespective of circumstances.
12. TIPER reserves the right to accept or reject any tender and does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any bid.

THE SECRETARY, TENDER COMMITTEE,
TANZANIA INTERNATIONAL PETROLEUM RESERVES LIMITED (TIPER),
P.O. BOX 2608, KIGAMBONI, DAR ES SALAAM



Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition coordinator Onesmo ole Ngurumwa, pictured in Mwanza city yesterday standing as a facilitator at a three-day seminar on the monitoring of human rights records and risk management meant for THRDC coordinators in the Lake Victoria zone. Photo: Vitus Audax

CCM supports 600 commuter bus drivers to undergo driving course

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

THE ruling CCM in Tanga Region has issued 30m/- to support 600 commuter bus drivers to undergo a one-month driving course at a Vocational Education and Training (VET) registered college.

The initiative aims to equip drivers with essential skills, knowledge and confidence to operate vehicles safely and efficiently.

CCM Chairman for Tanga region, Rajab Abdulrahman said with nowadays transportation industry changes and innovations, it is better for drivers to regularly go back to driving schools not only to refresh with up-to-date road safety rules but also to keep up with the latest trends, technologies and standards in the field.

Abdulrahman, emphasized the importance for drivers to regularly go to driving schools to increase their knowledge amidst

changes and innovations in the transportation industry.

"This will not only update the drivers on road safety rules but also keep them informed about the latest trends, technologies and standards in their field," he said.

He also urged them to avoid making unnecessary mistakes that could lead them to bribe traffic police to evade legal consequences.

"I believe that the training will have a significant impact on your business as this can reduce the risks of accidents, injuries, fines and lawsuits," he said.

Dr Batilda Burian, Tanga Regional Commissioner, commended the initiative, acknowledging its potential to reduce conflicts between drivers and traffic police and minimize claims related to traffic violations and license confiscations.

"I have been receiving claims from commuter bus drivers whose

licenses were confiscated and buses impounded due to various traffic offenses. I however appreciate the swift response by the regional CCM leadership to address this issue by supporting this important training for drivers."

He assured of the regional government's commitment to collaborating closely with the ruling party on socio-economic matters, particularly those affecting the daily income activities of drivers.

Responding to the issues, Acting Regional Traffic Officer (RTO) Inspector of Police, Rajabu Ngumbi, highlighted a significant number of drivers operating buses without valid licenses, which endangers both their safety and businesses.

He stressed that according to traffic regulations, possessing a valid driving license is mandatory and requires attending a recognized driving school and obtaining a certificate of attendance.

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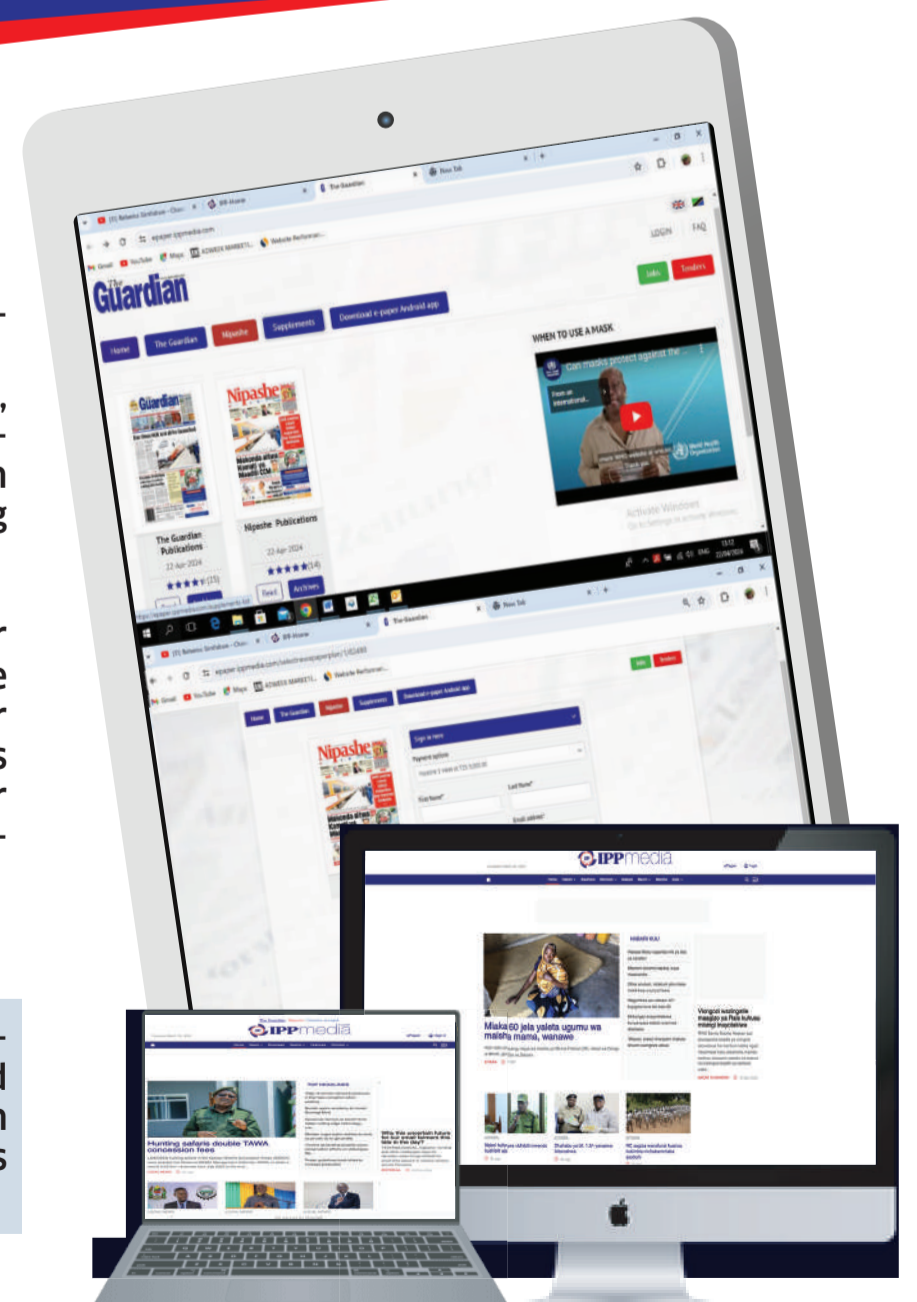
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Tanzanian tourists take time viewing tortoises on Prison Island at the weekend. This is one of the 17 Indian Ocean islands, just off Malindi town, the Zanzibar government has leased out to investors. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

Kenya gets 20 new passenger coaches from China to boost transport capacity

MOMBASA

KENYA has received 20 new passenger coaches from China to increase transport capacity and improve passenger experience.

They include 10 revamped economy-class coaches, four premium-class coaches, one dining car, one power car, and four first-class coaches.

"This development is a significant milestone for the ministry as we continue to improve operational efficiency and service delivery in the transport sector," Mohamed Daghar, principal secretary in the Ministry of Roads and Transport, said during the flagging off of the coaches in the coastal city of Mombasa.

He noted that with these developments in passenger services, Kenya is on course to transport 8.8 million passengers annually, comprising 6 million commuters and 2.8 million long-distance passengers.

"The business and commerce sector is constantly growing, driven by the need for mobility. The government is committed to ensuring that this growth is matched with adequate transport and logistics infrastructure. This will secure Kenya's growth locally and enhance our competitive advantage globally," Daghar said.

The new economy-class coaches have several features designed to enhance passenger comfort and inclusivity, including charging points at each seat, baby-changing areas for freshening up babies during the journey, and fold-out tray tables.

The first-class coaches feature reclining seats arranged two by two across the width of the coach, while the premium-class coaches feature optimized seating arrangements with each coach limited to 28 passengers, ensuring ample legroom and personal space and enhanced luggage solutions for travelers with extra baggage.



This development is a significant milestone for the ministry as we continue to improve operational efficiency and service delivery in the transport sector

ADDIS ABABA

Death toll in southern Ethiopia mudslides rises to at least 157

AT least 157 people were killed in mudslides in a remote part of Ethiopia that has been hit with heavy rainfall, many of them as they tried to rescue survivors of an earlier mudslide, local authorities have said.

Young children and pregnant women were among the victims of the mudslides in the Kencho Shacha Gozdi district of southern Ethiopia, said Dagmawi Ayele, a local administrator.

The death toll rose from 55 late Monday to 157 on Tuesday as search operations continued in the area, said

Kassahun Abayneh, head of the Gofa Zone communications office. Gofa Zone is the administrative area where the mudslides occurred.

Most of the victims were buried in a mudslide on Monday morning as rescue workers searched the steep terrain for survivors of another mudslide the previous day.

At least five people have been pulled alive from the mud, Ayele said.

Another official in Gofa, Markos Melese, said many people remained unaccounted for among the group that was covered by mud while trying to rescue others.

"We are still searching for the missing," said Melese, director of the disaster

response agency in Gofa Zone.

"There are children who are hugging corpses, having lost their entire family, including mother, father, brother and sister, due to the accident," he said.

Landslides are common during Ethiopia's rainy season, which started in July and is expected to last until mid-September.



Twenty-four Diploma in Nursing and Midwifery graduands at Moshi municipality's St. Theresa College, owned by the Sisters of the Congregation of Our Lady of Kilimanjaro, take oath of allegiance before the Registrar of the Nursing and Midwifery Council of Tanzania, Agnes Mtawa, on Monday. Photo: Correspondent James Lanka

IMF cautions Zambia over de-dollarisation

LUSAKA

THE International Monetary Fund (IMF)'s Zambian representative, Eric Lautier, has expressed concerns about Zambia's de-dollarization proposals.

According to Lautier, these measures could inadvertently undermine efforts to contain inflation. He argues that successful de-dollarization requires an economic environment characterized by low and stable inflation rates, as well as limited external pressures—conditions that Zambia currently lacks.

The IMF representative's remarks were made shortly after the Bank of Zambia announced proposals that promote local currency use. Notably, the central bank's guidelines propose severe penalties, including up to 10 years in jail, for Zambian businesses that demand U.S. dollars for local transactions.

Zambian officials contend that the widespread use of U.S. dollars hampers the effectiveness of the Bank of Zambia's monetary policy. However, businesses have criticized the proposed penalties, labelling them as punitive and warning that they could exacerbate inflation.

Lautier's remarks, which appear to align with sentiments expressed by Zambian businesses, emphasize the need for a comprehensive macroeconomic stabilization plan alongside any de-dollarisation efforts. The IMF is evaluating Zambia's initiative, considering country-specific conditions and implementation modalities.

Forced de-dollarisation measures are likely to prove ineffective and could even be counterproductive. We are in the process of evaluating those.

Like many African countries, Zambia, the world's second-largest copper producer, grapples with foreign exchange shortages and a high inflation rate. To mitigate these challenges and cope with a depreciating currency, Zambian businesses have turned to quoting or demanding U.S. dollars for local transactions.

Although the Bank of Zambia has expressed its intention to discontinue this practice, a recent Bloomberg report indicates that consultations are ongoing.



Notably, the central bank's guidelines propose severe penalties, including up to 10 years in jail, for Zambian businesses that demand U.S. dollars for local transactions

ADDIS ABABA

AU calls on regional trading blocs to strive for stronger cooperation

African Union (AU) Commission Chairperson Moussa Faki Mahamat has called on regional economic communities in Africa to strive for stronger collaboration.

The AU Commission chief made the remarks on Sunday during the sixth AU Mid-Year Coordination Meeting, which brought together heads of regional economic communities in Africa, and representatives of other regional mechanisms and AU members in Accra, the capital of Ghana, according to an AU statement issued on Sunday.

Addressing the meeting, Faki called on regional economic communities in Africa to boost their activities by

working closely with the AU toward the realization of continental development initiatives and aspirations.

"Our regional economic communities are not doing well. Their effectiveness, their credibility, and their weight in the general enterprise of unity have, unfortunately, been greatly eroded," Faki said, as he called for stronger cooperation between regional organizations and the 55-member continental organization.

"What would the AU be without the regional economic communities? A locomotive without wagons. And what would the regional economic communities look like without the Union? A disparity of regional entities without cement, without anchoring, without reference or common global vision," he added.

The AU Mid-Year Coordination Meeting is a principal forum for the AU and regional economic communities

to align their work and coordinate the implementation of the continental integration agenda.

The sixth Mid-Year Coordination Meeting was held under the theme "Educate and Skill Africa for the 21st Century" in line with the AU's theme of the year 2024, "Educate an African fit for the 21st Century: Building resilient education systems for increased access to inclusive, lifelong, quality, and relevant learning in Africa."

The Guardian
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WEDNESDAY 24 JULY 2024

**Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995**

Rights defenders need realism on these reports of abductions

EACH creed of faith has its acknowledged rituals and no-go areas, where only a few enter in secret to practise what they are commonly known for.

This is well known in history and in the contemporary world and when we see fingers being pointed at an auxiliary parameter, many of the discussants avoid that particular route.

One critical ingredient of keeping activist groups together is to keep points of discussion simple enough or low-level enough to reproduce the basic theses and feelings driving them.

That is why it isn't surprising for an array of human rights groups to have met and issued a declaration recommending that the government investigate recent reports of what are believed to be abductions of children.

The stated purpose is to halt these cases, implying removing that cause when it is identified.

There is in the first place a feeling that the NGOs were avoiding to do the job and pushing it to the government, whereas public administrators might have presumably far less inclination to do such work.

The issue the NGOs referred to was to find the facts behind the cases in question, and asking the government to 'investigate' that appeared needless as law-enforcement agencies are there for exactly that.

In this instance, the NGOs avoided admitting that there is a broad feeling in various sectors of society that the incidents concerned were linked with much wider expectations, mainly political, not ordinary criminality.

By contrast, there was a criminal wave in the suburbs of Kigoma municipality in the wake of a fishing stoppage on the Lake Tanganyika shores for three months that left hundreds of able-bodied youths

stranded, looking for a quick buck.

They say that nature hates a vacuum; this particular vacuum in daily earnings was reportedly directed at kidnappings.

Perhaps there was no reason for sociology to investigate the link as the cash motive was all too apparent, and limited concern by the police at the start, when families reported the kidnapping of a family member and mysterious phone calls for cash as ransom to save his life.

With the children said to have been abducted, there have been no such conditions, and in the case of a two-year-old victim whose case rattled public conscience all over, the mutilated body was found weeks later.

The trouble here is perhaps that activists have used up most of their energy combating practices such as female genital mutilation, admittedly with laudable success.

In view of their own social base, government agencies are both expected and supposed to fare much better in reining in more serious crimes such as abductions and killings.

It is understandable that these are classified as constituting criminality, and hence the appeals to the government to investigate, so that the criminals can be dissuaded.

Proposing that protection of children be enhanced from the family level to the national level was but a cry of despair, refusing to condemn the underlying societal beliefs, habits and practices.

But, of course, we stand convinced that police and all other law-enforcement agents know only too well that what they are officially there for can only be performed to satisfaction with full support from the larger public.

It is also of crucial importance, however, for the public to extend to these agents as much support as practice in enhancing peace and harmony across the country.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

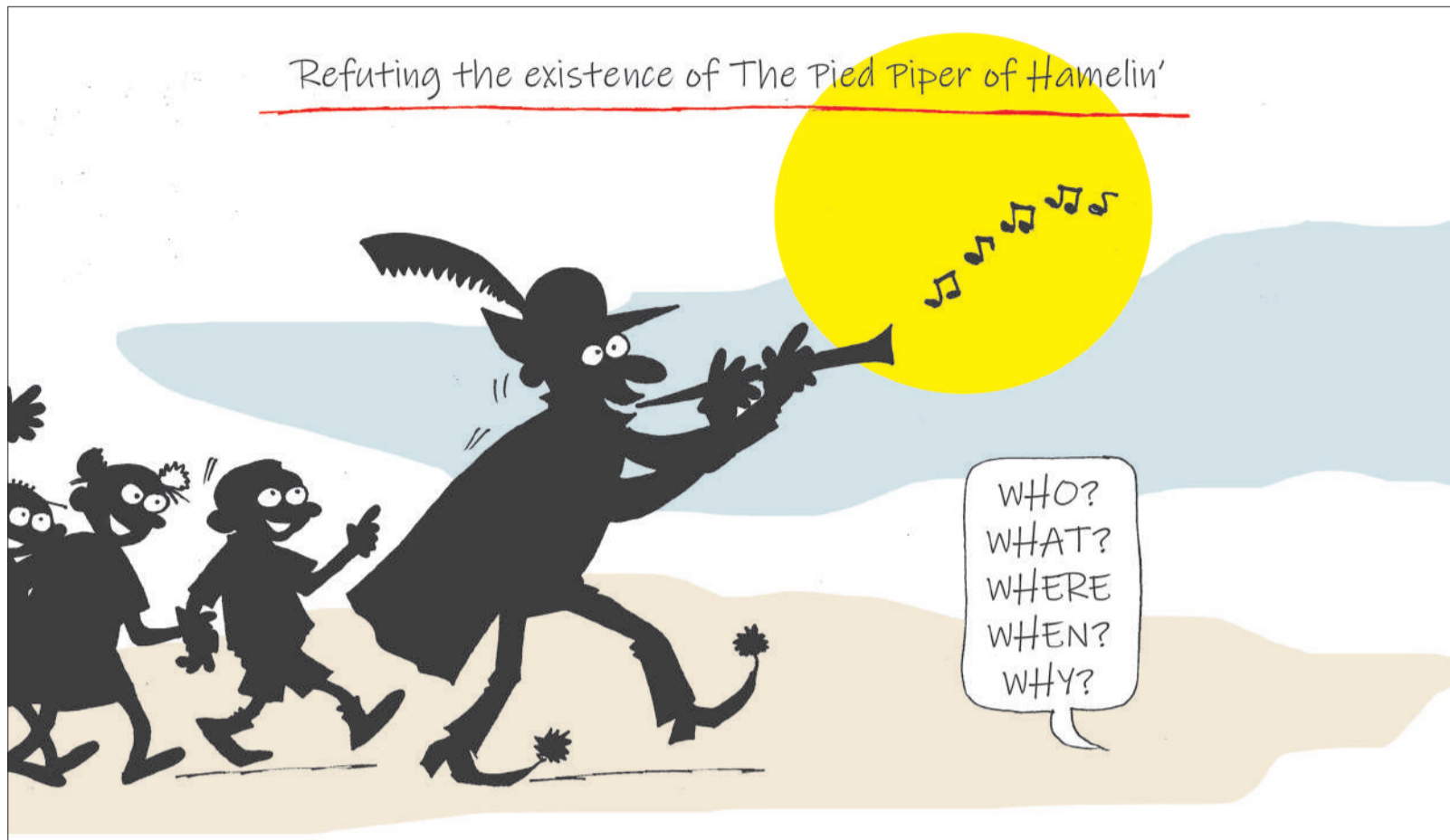
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Is independence of SOE boards an issue in Tanzania?

By David N. Manyanza

I have read with interest Kettie Chipeta's article as published in the July 13 issue of The Guardian newspaper, headlined: "Beyond compliance: Ethical leadership in state owned enterprises" - and it has prompted me to write this sequel.

Kettie argues that a monumental struggle is unfolding concerning the independence of governing boards in state-owned enterprises (SOEs).

Tensions arise, on the one hand, from the need by owners to over-regulate and demand high-level compliance. On the other hand, governing boards are demanding autonomy and more latitude for setting organisational policies and making crucial performance-related decisions.

Kettie argues that strict compliance has failed to create desired governance systems free from bias, undue influence, corruption and mismanagement. Consequently, strict compliance is being replaced by virtue and ethical leadership - and this is re-defining board independence.

According to Kettie, this new governance system focuses on broader responsibilities to public trust and societal impact.

The difficulty I have with Kettie's thesis is that, while I agree that ethics are important, basing accountability on virtue and ethical leadership is very difficult to measure and track. So abstract is this argument that it is difficult to subject board performance to objective scrutiny and evidence-based accountability.

Like many other management experts, Kettie focuses on board members' personal attributes rather than the manifestation of those attributes in the achievement of real results - results that would be easier to measure than personal attributes.

Dealing with personal attributes

is taking an input or process-based approach to assessing board performance and accountability, which is virtually impossible to do objectively.

The alternative is to have a system that enables both boards and the government to use results-based criteria for assessing boards' - and, therefore, organisational - performance.

It ought to be remembered that the purpose of boards is to collectively act, on behalf of shareholders, to ensure organisations' prosperity and meeting business interests of shareholders and relevant stakeholders sustainably.

Essentially, boards are created to provide central management and group decision-making aimed at monitoring the actions of the Management to mitigate agency risks that may stem from the misdeeds of corporate officers.

To achieve this, boards need to use the right performance measurement data and information to correctly assess achievement so as to provide organisations with necessary guidance and direction.

A challenging task for boards is to ensure that they set correct strategic objectives and use the right metrics for measuring organisational performance. This is not easy because most organisations have traditionally worked focused on functions or processes instead of results.

Many organisations still set process-based strategic objectives. In fact, such objectives are not strategic at all. It is estimated that over 80 per cent of organisations fail because of not using the right performance data for organisational assessment and accountability.

If boards and the government could agree on performance measures, a big step towards a harmonious working relationship would be made.

That would eliminate the need for higher levels to look at activities

and open the way for boards' independence. Boards would then have to set organisational policies and procedures to manage performance activities and their requisite resource inputs.

Focusing on the right performance measures constitutes business intelligence governance. It is founded on data and analytic governance, which is driven by three pillars: people, process and technology.

Here, boards must set the right organisational business processes and ensure deployment of technology to correctly and efficiently implement them - which is the basis of formulating policies and procedures.

Effective business intelligence governance can be achieved if boards ensure that the three pillars are well aligned and running in unison. In addition to policies, such alignment would have to be guided by organisations' results-based governance goals.

The power of setting results-based objectives and having correct performance measures would seek to ensure that both boards and the government focus on the right things that truly matter for organisational prosperity, public value delivery and sustainability.

Achieving this demands that boards ensure effective data and process governance in order to avoid the sort of things that happened to the organisations Kettie mentioned in her article.

Central to this is the setting of the right organisational policies and procedures and maintaining vigilant and continuous monitoring. Focusing on results also minimises wastage, misuse of resources and micro-managing that would be caused by those at higher levels of accountability focusing on processes.

Considering that SOE boards are appointed by the government and have a fiduciary relationship with government, the question of

lack of management autonomy can only arise from lack of shared understanding of performance expectations.

The existence of prior understanding between the parties of expected results would front-load accountability by clearly setting expected results and their delivery timelines beforehand.

'Front-loading' in this particular case would mean spreading the costs involved in an endeavour so that more of the money is spent in the earlier stages. What happens in most cases is that accountability tends to creep in at the tail end of activity implementation.

It should also be remembered that boards are made up of individuals from diverse backgrounds. Their experience and knowledge diversity can be an asset if utilised in a knowledgeable way.

To assume that all the individuals in question come to the board knowing exactly what to do and, more importantly, how to do it would be fallacious.

Likewise, not every decision maker in government is conversant with results-based accountability and effective public value delivery.

Therefore, it would be invaluable to have a well-designed ongoing training programme for boards and key government officials in order to provide them with the skills they would need for working together harmoniously and effectively achieve shareholder interests as set out in organisations' mandates.

• Dr David N. Manyanza is a management consultant with Development Solutions Consultancy (T) Ltd. He boasts extensive experience in the leadership of SOEs, takes keen interest in institutional transformation for effective performance and is an ardent student of leadership. Contact: Phone: +255 784 319 686. Email: rm@dsc.co.tz.

Unanimous salutation of reshuffle consolidates the 4Rs key mindset

POLITICAL debate will not be long on the mini-reshuffle of the cabinet. President Samia Suluhu Hassan made at the weekend, which some observers have said was largely a move meant to enhance accountability.

The president was yet to 'cross the t's and dot the i's' as was generally expected at the swearing-in ceremony, but much of what occasioned the change may not have been a surprise.

The issue about the ex-Information minister was loud and clear while for the ex-Foreign minister the context may have been less vivid.

Political and various other experts interviewed said that the president sought to strengthen accountability in the face of a public uproar arising from unguarded comments from one of those removed from the cabinet.

Perhaps it was less about accountability than cohesion that the sentiment, whatever its merits and demerits, did not represent wide-ranging convictions within the cabinet, the government at large or the ruling party.

It sort of wished to give credence to tricks or trafficking of results by candidates' agents, as it at times occurs.

So, if the former minister did not err in the commission - that is, in actually seeking that the formal election results differ from what the ballot boxes showed - there was doubtless a problem of omission, namely, the lack of a feeling that this sort of trafficking is inappropriate.

It was a feeling that such trafficking was 'part of the game', which all those who descended upon them would

definitely admit. But to appear to be condoning it crossed the proverbial 'red line'.

A number of experts were of the view that the reshuffle would improve cabinet cohesion for greater focus on the country's development.

That is undeniable, as electoral situations often lead to contending loyalties among top administrators, which were radically divergent.

The issue here is hence not whether the former minister was right or wrong but whether such electoral reversal incidents will happen or not.

What the reshuffle underlines is not that specific candidates won't seek to buy out agents if a candidate's oversight and that of his or her supporter is low enough - but that this isn't government policy.

This is where the 4Rs philosophy comes in - that the government and the national electoral body have to be above board, bent on observing democratic dispensation and cutting corrupt initiatives to zero.

While critics have hailed the reshuffle as a welcome move showing that democratic conduct will not be tainted in the next polling season, that is just part of the story.

It was indeed outlandish that the then minister's remarks were indicative that previous cases of alleged electoral derailing were about to be played out again, just as per 'dreams' by one of the ministers sidelined at the weekend.

Axing the minister may have meant to show that his dreams were not part of party or government policy, meaning that vigilance in the face of the possibility of cases of electoral mischief should - and will - continue.

By the kidultwriter

IF there is one thing that I take pride in about myself, and everyone who is struggling just like me, it is the fact that we try.

We try to get out of bed even when it pulls us stronger than gravity. We try to choose the best outfit for the day even if all we ever want is completely different.

We push ourselves to socialise even when isolation gives us more comfort. We try to live even if living feels like a waste of time.

The small things that we do just to see if there's even an ounce of hope left are also the source of hope

Trying exposes us to the marvels of life

world has offered is the freedom to be who we want to be, the freedom to control what goes on in our minds, and the freedom to let go of what's weighing us down.

If today you don't want to try, then so be it. The sun will shine again, and the moon will always show up, even half full. So, when things get a little bit easier, even just a little, let's show up for ourselves.

Trying exposes us to the marvels of life. It gives us a glimpse of what it is like to just ... live.

It's however easier said than done especially on our most vulnerable days. We will trip and fall, ending up

more wounded than we already are. Still, I believe that the most remembered soldiers are the ones who stood their ground despite the massive number of bullets.

We'll never know where this takes us, but I am pretty sure that it's far from the streets of regret. Trust me, you wouldn't want to be there.

Leave a mark; let your legacy be passed on as the person who survived by trying and truly lived before dying. As long as the earth continues to spin, we will try and try again.

• medium

Tuberculosis: Gene editing could add new power to a vaccine over 100 years old

By Bavesh Kana

TUBERCULOSIS dates back more than 9,000 years. It is the most infectious bacterial disease and in 2022 an estimated 10.6 million people fell ill with it. Of these 23 percent occurred in Africa.

The only vaccine against tuberculosis, the Bacillus Calmette-Guérin (BCG) vaccine, is more than 100 years old and is primarily effective for infants and young children.

Researchers at the University of the Witwatersrand School of Pathology have made a significant breakthrough in vaccine development by gene-editing the BCG to make it more effective.

Mice vaccinated with the modified BCG vaccine were better able to limit tuberculosis growth in their lungs than mice that had received the original vaccine.

Microbiologist Bavesh Kana, one of the lead researchers, explains to Nadine Dreyer from The Conversation Africa the science behind this breakthrough and the potential it holds for other vaccines.

How do vaccines work?

Vaccines primarily work by mimicking dangerous infectious agents. You want your immune system to recognise the vaccine as an “invader” and then mount an immune response to it. But you don’t want the invasive agent to make you sick.

To understand how vaccines work, it helps to look at how the immune system works, because vaccines harness the natural activity of your immune system.

The immune system

There are about 100 trillion bacteria and viruses in the gastrointestinal tract.

The proteins and sugars on the surface of bacteria, viruses or other disease-causing pathogens have different shapes to any of the ones in the human body. These markers are pathogen-associated molecular patterns, commonly known as PAMPs. Think of the spikes on coronavirus.

So, your immune system quickly recognises the invaders. And the body fights back with a complex chain of events involving many different types of white blood cells working together. See video below on how the immune system works.

One type of white blood cell is able to make antibodies to fight the invaders. These antibodies can stick to the proteins or sugars on the bacteria’s surface, and this kills the bacteria or disables them. They have to be exactly the right shape, a bit like a key fitting a door. These white blood cells are known as B-cells.

Producing antibodies of the right shape can take several days. By this time there could be billions of disease-causing bacteria in your body.

Once the right cells are activated, they quickly divide and turn into a production line, making masses of antibodies that stick to the invading agents and disable them.

Eventually, your body gets rid of all the invaders and you recover.

Antibodies remain in the blood, and some white blood cells may also become memory cells for specific bacteria in case they invade the body again.

So with this stored arsenal of tools the immune system will respond quickly to future invasions.

Vaccines

Vaccines work in the same way as the immune system. They contain weakened or dead bacteria or viruses or even just a few proteins or sugars from the surface. This is enough to convince the immune system that a real invader has entered the body.

So the same process takes place as when real bacteria or viruses invade our bodies, except you don’t get ill afterwards. Vaccines are engineered to look like pathogens but are made in such a way that they do not make you sick.

When you do encounter the real agent, you have immunological memory, because your body has been exposed to something that looks very similar.

And that immunological memory allows you to withstand the infection or even prevent establishment of full infection, or to manage the infection without getting too sick.

How did you go about modifying the TB vaccine?

TB vaccines are very challenging to develop. The bacterium that causes the disease is complex. It is also proficient at evading the human immune system, which is why there is only one vaccine that has been developed against the disease in 100 years.

Our laboratory does a lot of TB research and for a long time we’ve been interested in the cell wall of these bacteria. We noticed that the cell wall has a small chemical decoration on the surface and that chemical decoration allows the bacteria to hide an important marker (PAMP), called the NOD-1 ligand, from the immune system.

Both the tuberculosis and the live bacteria used in the BCG vaccine are able to hide the NOD-1 ligand from the immune system, making it harder for the body to detect them.

We thought that modifying the BCG bacterium so it cannot hide this NOD-1 ligand might lead to a new, more effective vaccine.

To investigate this possibility we turned to CRISPR, a gene editing technology that allows scientists to modify DNA.

We used CRISPR to develop a modified version of the BCG bacterium which is unable to hide its NOD-1 ligand.

JOB VACANCY



ABOUT GEITA GOLD MINING LTD

Geita Gold Mining Ltd (GGML) is Tanzania’s leading gold producer with a single operation in Geita Region. The company is a subsidiary of AngloGold Ashanti, an international gold producer headquartered in Denver, USA. AGA has operations in more than ten countries across four continents. The mine is situated in the Lake Victoria Gold fields of Northwestern Tanzania, only about 120 km’s from Mwanza City and 20 km’s Southeast of the nearest point of Lake Victoria. The company has its main office and operations in Geita, only 5 Km’s west of the fast-growing town of Geita, and a supporting office in Dar es Salaam. Applications are invited from ambitious, energetic and performance driven individuals to fill in vacant position(s) mentioned below:

Position : **Manager – Underground Mine Production**
Contract type & Duration : **Unspecified time**
Department : **Underground Mining**
Reporting to : **Senior Manager – Underground Mining**
Number of Positions : **One (1)**

GGML is an equal opportunity employer.

PURPOSE OF THE ROLE:

Underground Production Manager is highly needed to support the Senior Manager – UG Mining at our Nyankanga and Geita Hill Underground mining projects. This will include working with and managing UG Mining Contractors at these two mines for achieving production KPIs, managing CAF filling processes to ensure Stope CAF filling plan is achieved to support ounce profile/business plans. The incumbent will also be responsible to build, develop, and lead an effective team capable to deliver the strategy to transition Geita Gold Mine to a major underground operation, to be executed in line with specific instructions from Senior Manager – Underground Mining and requirements of relevant Tanzanian Mining Legislation.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Relevant tertiary qualification.
- BEng Mining / Engineering Degree or equivalent - preferred but not essential.
- Underground Mine Managers Certificate – preferred.
- Site Entry requirements which may include Mines Health Surveillance.

EXPERIENCE:

- Eight (8) to ten (10) years’ operational experience within an underground mining environment of which, at least three (3) years is at mine management level.
- Experience working with International UG mining contractors who operate underground mechanized trackless equipment will be highly regarded.
- Proven experience and ability to create and manage budgets for a UG operation.
- High skill level with UG mine planning experience.
- Demonstrated experience in an underground mining production environment.
- Proven track record of managing and leading large and diverse teams.
- Hands on approach and service orientated outlook.

MAIN OR KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES:

Safety:

- Identify and interpret safety risks and resolve emerging issues; and ensuring that appropriate focus and resources are available to achieve safety objectives.

Mining Production Processes & Practices:

- Understands key underground production and development processes in large scale trackless mining environments.
- Knows when to engage Specialist’s support.
- Understanding of safe and effective underground production practices, management, support systems.
- Establishing Paste and CAF infrastructure in Underground environment.
- Commissioning Underground Paste and CAF operations in underground environment.
- Able to manage performance based on interpretation of data and can initiate and drive the operational improvements as required.
- Demonstrated ability of delivering to production and cost targets.

Operational Management:

- Ability to effectively lead and communicate to all levels of the team.
- Understands key processes and systems to drive the best performance from all team members.
- Training and developing new and inexperienced workers to become safe and effective underground.
- Understanding of the key skills & knowledge required by all team members in order to carry out their roles effectively and safely.
- Demonstrated ability of being able to identify and develop emerging talents within a multi-discipline team.
- Strong understanding of mining cost drivers and their impact to the overall financial results of the operation.
- Ability to develop operational budgets in consultation with Senior Underground Manager and other service departments.

Planning:

- Understanding of good mine planning processes and the ability to drive the establishment of required planning systems and approaches.

Contract Management:

- Strong knowledge in underground contract management practices and demonstrated ability in managing underground mining contracts.

Project Management:

- Understands AGA project management standards and has applied them in a minor project to conceptual level.
- Ability to lead a minor project and interact with test work and engineering consultant service providers.

Innovation:

- Thinks creatively to develop multiple, workable options.
- Generates innovative solutions, which continuously improve the performance of existing assets, products, services or processes.
- Demonstrating an openness to new ideas and new ways of working.

Leadership:

- Build, develop and lead the mining team in line with instructions given by the Senior Underground Manager.

Environmental:

- Establish and maintain processes to ensure that all environmental risks and emerging issues are identified, and mitigation plans to put in place.

Planning:

- Establish and maintain processes to ensure the development of optimized short-term, and medium-term plans that ensure delivery of the budget requirements and the operations strategy.

Delivery:

- Ensure that the use of all resources is optimized to ensure delivery of the plan.
- Identify areas for improvement in operational blueprints (systems, processes, procedures and tasks) to ensure adherence to plan, reduce variation and maximize cost effective utilization.
- Develop and implement systems to collect and manage operational data and to monitor performance.
- Establish and maintain systems for identifying opportunities to drive operational excellence.
- Ensure collaboration with all departments to achieve streamlined delivery to plan.

Compliance Accountabilities:

- Awareness/management of declaration of conflict of interest of direct reports.
- Awareness/management of SOX control accountabilities.
- Awareness/management of Delegation of Authority.
- Awareness/management of reporting (weekly/monthly/quarterly/annual) requirements.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

- Ability to lead senior technical specialists.
- 1 to 2 years’ experience working with the P500 and Operational Excellence (OE) initiatives or equivalent.
- Worked in highly mechanized Underground operations.
- Advanced knowledge in contract management practices, technical consultants, and operational mining contracts.
- Advanced understanding of project management standards and has applied them in a minor - medium project to conceptual level.
- Demonstrate advance level of knowledge of planning systems and practices from long term to short term mine planning.
- The ability to work across all disciplines, where rigorous engagement and interaction is expected.
- The ability to handle conflict resolution.
- The ability to utilize equipment, office software -MS Office (Excel, Word, PowerPoint) to prepare correspondence, reports, forms, mailings.
- The ability to communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing with good presentation and facilitation skills.
- The ability to use statistical methods to analyze, validate & verify analytical data with a strong attention to detail.
- The ability to work and communicate with people at all levels/good interpersonal skills.

MODE OF APPLICATION:

- Please apply through our recruitment portal by following the link below. Please click the link or type the URL address on a website browser to access the application portal.
- On the portal you will be required to upload your detailed CV, copies of relevant certificates, e- mail and telephone contacts, names, and addresses of three referees. Please do not attach certificates that are not related to the qualifications stated above.

You will also be required to upload a cover / application letter addressed to “Senior Manager Human Resources” Geita Gold Mining Ltd”. Subject should be “**Manager – Underground Mine Production**”

Application Link: <mailto:https://careers.anglogoldashanti.com/job-invite/24685/>

- If you struggle to apply via the link provided, please head over to our website <https://www.geitamine.com/en/people/> for a step-by-step guide on how to apply for jobs on our recruitment portal (SuccessFactors).
- You will be required to present original certificates if you are contacted for interviews.
- Internal Applicants (those currently employed by AngloGold Ashanti) must have their application letter endorsed by their Head of Department (HOD) or Manager once Removed (MoR).

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

- Applications should reach the above on or before **06th August 2024 at 5:30 PM**
- Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews.

BEWARE OF CONMEN! GGML does not receive money in exchange for a job position. Should you be asked for money in exchange for a job offer or suspect such activity, please report this immediately to our Security Department, Investigation Unit, by calling +255 28 216 01 40 Ext 1559 (rates apply) or use our whistle-blowing channels by sending an SMS to +27 73 573 8075 (SMS rates apply) or emailing speakupAGA@ethics-line.com or use the internet at www.tip-offs.com

By Circles Robinson

Food production in Cuba seen going through worst moments



If anything became clear this Monday after the analysis in the National Assembly of the performance of the Food Industry and Agriculture so far this year, it is that none of the sectors - very dependent on each other - is progressing at a good pace.

No improvement is expected either, since the problems that hit them the most persist: fuel continues to be scarce; wages are insufficient to prevent workers from leaving; and producers, who are owed millions of pesos, prefer not to do business with the State.

As acknowledged by Alexis Rodríguez Pérez, Director General of Economy and Agricultural Development of the Ministry of Agriculture, of the ten fundamental categories, only four have met their targets since 2023 and so far this year: produce, vegetables, corn and rice; whereas, meat, milk and egg productions are in a critical state.

The official warned that "the indices of beef and horse meat production have been affected by the poor organizational work between the companies and the slaughterhouses for the hiring of producers, the insufficiency in the transport of animals to the slaughterhouse due to lack of fuel, the low weight of the animals slaughtered due to the deficit in animal feed and the drought in some territories."

Of a plan for 20,400 tons of beef for the first half of 2024, only 15,200 were achieved. For pork, only 3,800 tons were reached in the same period, out of the 11,300 projected. The figures are alarming when compared to those of 2022, when, for beef alone, 172,300 tons were produced in the year.

Eggs remained at 94,070,000 units, below the 231,900,000 units agreed. "Other products also reflected the downward trend with respect to the plan: beans, tobacco, milk, coffee, cocoa and honey," adds Cubadebate without mentioning figures.

With such numbers, it is not surprising that 74 companies in the sector have closed the semester with losses of 1,199,946,100 pesos, with the worst situation being Avicola (poultry), Tabacuba (tobacco), Agroforestal (agroforestry), Ganadera (livestock), and Labiofam (pharmaceuticals). Likewise, the non-payments to farmers, due to the huge debt of Acopio - Cuba's State Procurement and Distribution agency - is another burden. The two most critical cases are the debts of Artemisa province, 167,694,630 pesos, and Mayabeque province, 15,166,378.

"The fundamental cause is the debt of Acopio-La Habana with the companies," explains the official press, which says that to "solve" the problem, the Central Bank of Cuba approved a credit of 400 million pesos, in addition to a revolving credit line (which can be re-requested if paid on time) of 100 million that will allow Acopio to "pay for the current purchases from the marketing agricultural companies, among other credits approved to other companies that carry debts from the year 2022."

The measure, however, is far from making the real problem disappear: the lack of the State budget and the failed business models that do not guarantee production. "The Government seems to have normalized that

great 'distortion' of the Cuban economy called Acopio, which continues with its eternal mania of not paying its debts, a bad practice that today is rewarded with generous credits from the state bank," the economist Pedro Monreal laments on his X account.

It's not just the salaries for the producers that put the food industry at stake. In the first quarter of the year, 6,723 state workers and 7,418 cooperative members abandoned jobs related to the harvest, mostly in search of "job opportunities with higher remuneration and the demand for skilled labor by the new economic actors," according to the authorities.

"To conclude the last harvest and fulfill the plan, extra personnel had to be sought, including 113 inmates who joined the work," they add. The "discovery" that wages are insufficient is, at the very least, "absurd at this point

in the game," Monreal says.

The sugar campaign not only lost an important part of its workforce, but the shortage of fuel, the lack of fertilizers and the burning of cane - 750,000 tons were lost for this reason - in addition to about 16,000 hectares that remained uncollected, also weighed down production. The poor quality of the plant was also a cause for complaint among the producers.

During the first months of 2024, the laws and resolutions implemented, such as the Fisheries and Food Sovereignty Law, have not managed to improve the situation either.

The greater flexibility to deliver licenses to fishermen, among other measures, have managed to increase permits by 48% compared to 2022, but fewer and fewer fishermen enter into contracts with the State - since

it is no longer mandatory to obtain authorization. As a result, "the catches declared by these economic actors amounted to 1,029 tons in 2023 and 214 tons up to April of this year, but fishing companies have only bought 104 tons, 48.8 percent of the declared catch," the authorities calculate.

"The catches and industrial production [targets] are also not complied with, reaching only 68 percent of what was planned," which has its main cause in the shortage of fishermen, "the lack of better living and working conditions for them" and neglect of the reservoirs.

The Island's assessment is exactly what the deputies warned about from the beginning of the sessions about the Agriculture and Food Industry: in the Cuban economy there is a "tendency to non-compliance" and very few clear solutions.

Civil war turns bread procurement into deadly adventure for Sudanese

KHARTOUM

DESPITE over nine months having passed since his eldest son was killed in a missile shelling at a local market in the Al-Salama neighborhood, south of the Sudanese capital Khartoum, Abdulsalam Suleiman, 50, still feels the pain from the tragedy.

"On the morning of September 22 (2023), I sent my eldest son Mohamed, 16, to a bakery next to us in search of bread, but I didn't expect that I should never see him again," Suleiman, who has a family of six, told Xinhua.

"This is one of the most senseless

and tragic images of war," Suleiman said with a trembling voice and tear-filled eyes.

Sudan has been embroiled in a deadly conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces since mid-April 2023, which had claimed at least 16,650 lives, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs said in an update last month. Suleiman's family is an epitome of the millions of Sudanese who have endured and still bear the brunt of the war's toll.

The scarcity of bread and the dangers in acquiring it signify just one of the many ways the war has affected

the daily lives of locals.

As conflict erupted, numerous bakeries in south Khartoum ceased operations, either due to direct bombing or owners being compelled to shut down amidst insecurity, flour and gas shortages, or power interruptions.

"Before the war, there were about seven bakeries in the Al-Salama neighborhood where we live, but now there is only one still operating with weak production capacity," Suleiman said.

Suleiman described the lives of the residents in the area as "a daily battle" characterized by fear and hunger.

The bakery owners' days are even tougher. Abdul-Aziz Khalid, a 65-year-old bakery owner in the Al-Salama neighborhood, said he has been in the bakery business for more than 25 years, and the current war has presented his business with unprecedented challenges.

"Before the war, we used to bake 30 bags of flour per day, each bag producing about 1,200 pieces of bread. ... But now on average, we produce about 2,000 pieces of bread a day. In some days, it could be less than 500," Khalid told Xinhua.

He said the power outage and gas shortage constituted the main obstacles, noting that they had started us-

ing the traditional wood-fired ovens, which have a much lower production capacity.

Sarah Al-Fadil relates to Khalid's experience. The 38-year-old public sector employee has not received any salary since April 2023.

To support herself and her three children after her husband's passing two years ago, Al-Fadil started a small bread kiosk next to her home.

Because of the shortage of bread flour, Al-Fadil is also unable to make an adequate amount of bread.

"I now make food that does not require much effort, including falafel, beans, and egg sandwiches," she told Xinhua.

According to the World Food Program, more than half Sudan's population (nearly 26 million people) are now facing Crisis levels of hunger, and 14 areas have been declared "at risk of famine." Sudan also faces the worst displacement crisis in the world.

According to the figures released in June by the UN International Organization for Migration, over 7.7 million people had been displaced internally within Sudan since the outbreak of the conflict, while about 2.2 million others had crossed borders into neighboring countries.

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

COMESA, EAC, SADC tripartite free trade area to become effective from tomorrow

By Guardian Reporter

THE Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), East African Community (EAC) and Southern African Development Community (SADC) Tripartite Free Trade Area (TFTA) Agreement, will come into force tomorrow following the attainment of the required threshold.

For the Agreement to take effect, at least 14 out of the 29 Member/Partner States needed to deposit their Instruments of Ratification.

The entry into force of the Agreement follows the depositing of Instrument of Ratification by the Republic of Angola on 25th June, 2024, bringing the total number of the Instruments of Ratification deposited to 14, the number required for the Agreement to enter into force.

The update was announced during the 37th Tripartite Task Force Meeting, which took place over the weekend on the sidelines of the 6th African Union Mid-Year Coordination Meeting in Accra, Ghana.

The meeting was attended by the Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) of the three Regional Economic Communities (RECs); Elias Mpedi Magosi, Executive Secretary of SADC and Chairperson of the Tripartite Task Force; Veronica Nduva, EAC secretary general and Chileshe Kapwepwe, COMESA secretary general.

During the meeting, Magosi, SADC executive secretary and current Chairman of the Tripartite Task Force, said that the Member/Partner States that have deposited their Instruments of Ratification include Angola, Botswana, Burundi, Egypt,

Eswatini, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Namibia, Rwanda, South Africa, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe. These countries together accounted for 75% of the Tripartite GDP in 2022.

Magosi also informed the meeting that on 20th June, 2024, the Republic of Djibouti notified the COMESA Secretariat that it had ratified the Agreement.

The SADC Executive Secretary recalled that the Tripartite Summit of Heads of State and Government decided on 22nd October, 2008 to establish a Tripartite Free Trade Area (TFTA) among the COMESA, EAC and SADC blocs.

"The objective of establishing the COMESA-EAC-SADC FTA was to enhance market access, address the issue of multiple memberships and further the objectives of cooperation, harmonisation, and coordination of policies among the three Regional Economic Communities (RECs)," he said.

The 29 Tripartite Member/Partner States represent 53% of the African Union's membership, more than 60% of continental GDP (\$1.88 trillion), and a combined population of 800 million.

The Executive Secretary of SADC also committed to continuing engagement with the Tripartite Member/Partner States that have yet to ratify the Agreement.

"We urge the Member/Partner States to mobilize resources and support the implementation interventions, including setting up the necessary implementation structures," he said.

The Tripartite framework is based on three pillars: Market Integration,



EAC Secretary General Veronica Nduva speaks at the Tripartite Task Force meeting

which involves trade liberalisation through the creation of a Free Trade Area and arrangements for the movement of business persons; Infrastructure Development, which focuses on enhancing connectivity and reducing business costs; and Industrial Development, which aims to create a supportive environment by improving regulatory and legal frameworks,

adding value, diversifying industries, increasing productivity and competitiveness, and implementing programmes for structural change.

EAC Secretary General, Veronica Nduva, highlighted the need to consolidate the Tripartite FTA through the Agreement's implementation, to harness potential benefits, preserve gains and strengthen the participa-

tion of Member/Partner States in the AfCFTA.

"The fact that we have reached the required ratification threshold of 14 ratifications, developed modalities for implementing the Tripartite Agreement, finalised most aspects of the Rules of Origin, continued with engagements on tariff offers and developed the Tripartite Protocol on

Competition Policy demonstrates that the Member/Partner States are committed to the process," she said.

Nduva reaffirmed the EAC's commitment to continue playing its part towards operationalising the Tripartite Agreement and maximising the opportunities it offers, informing the meeting that the EAC was continuously engaging EAC Partner States that are yet to ratify the TFTA Agreement.

"The United Republic of Tanzania reported that it was in the process of ratifying the Agreement, while the Republic of South Sudan reported that it had begun the process of signing and ratifying the Agreement," she added.

Chileshe Kapwepwe, COMESA SG expressed appreciation for the efforts that have achieved the required number of ratifications for the Tripartite FTA. "To support the AfCFTA, we must ensure the Tripartite works effectively. I urge the Tripartite RECs to lead the work under their respective pillars to avoid duplication of efforts," said Kapwepwe.

Kapwepwe added that the COMESA Secretariat is leading the Market Integration Pillar; SADC Secretariat is leading the Industrialisation Pillar while the EAC Secretariat is leading the Infrastructure Pillar.

Kapwepwe also called for a careful examination of progress and strategising to upscale implementation levels, ensuring that benefits are realised by stakeholders in the Tripartite Member/Partner States.

Progress has been made with the online Non-Tariff Barrier (NTBs) reporting and elimination mechanism being under implementation by 25 Tripartite Member/Partner States.

The meeting concluded with an agreement on a roadmap for launching the TFTA's entry into force at the 4th Tripartite Summit of Heads of State and Government, planned for later towards the end of the year.

Drought wreaks havoc on Morocco's cereal harvest

RABAT

THE wheat has grown and is ready to harvest in Morocco's Amer Soufflia Commune. But these golden fields are a disappointment.

As combine harvesters whirr into life to collect the crop, farmers are certain the haul will be far less than they wanted. A drought means the yield has dropped compared to previous years.

"In the past, we used to have a bounty, lot of wheat. But during the last seven or eight years, the harvest has been very low because of the drought. This year, the harvest is much lower than last's year. Last year was OK, but this year, the harvest is very low," says Al Housni Belhoussni, who runs a small farm.

In some regions, the water shortage has been so severe that farmers have not even bothered cultivating their lands.

Kenitra Province has been spared the worst of the conditions, so farmers have continued to grow wheat.

But it's becoming less and less viable.

"The agriculture yield decreased a lot. Today, a hectare of land gives us no more than 10 bags. What's going on? In the past, we used to have 40, 50 or even 60 bags of wheat, but today, the harvest is very low," says Driss Mamma, another small farmer.

Farmers have been trying to navigate delayed rains, reduced precipitation and significant variations between minimum and maximum temperatures during the growing season.

All these factors have disrupted the agricultural sector. This harvest comes from a large, modern farm run by Mohamed Krata.

But even up-to-date strategies and techniques can't mitigate the challenging weather.

Abdelkrim Naaman is chairman of Nalsiya, an NGO specialising in development, environment and social welfare. He lays the blame on climate change.

"Lately, Morocco is suffering from the dire consequences of droughts and climate change as well as from poor rainfall. Annually, Morocco devotes some five million hectares to cereals, but because of climate change, only around 2.7 million hectares were cultivated with cereals. The late rains during the autumn season affected the agriculture campaign. This year, only the spring rains, especially during the month of March, managed to rescue the crops," he says.

Krata says he follows advice but doesn't understand the root cause of the problems his industry is facing.

"We farmers, we work according to the weather conditions and follow the instructions we receive from the Agriculture Ministry. The ministry tells us what kinds of diseases we have to fight but questions about climate change are known only to the scientists who are experts in this area," he says.

Rachid Benali, chairman of the Agriculture and Rural Development Confederation, (COMADER), an official organisation that represents Moroccan farmers in all sectors, is adamant that the main threat to the agricultural sector in the Kingdom is not drought, but climate change. "Morocco witnessed droughts in the past. In some cases, we had droughts that lasted more than ten years. The problem we have lately is mainly climate change which is radical. We could feel it. We could feel



the climate changes," he says.

"They are very high temperatures in general, especially temperature peaks. We could have very high temperatures in December, which is abnormal. We could also have low temperatures in March or even in May. This means that there are climate changes. In the past, we used to have hail storms every ten years. Today, we can have up to three or four per year."

This year, Morocco's Agriculture Ministry estimates the wheat harvest will be around 31.2 million quintals, a drastic drop of 43 percent compared to the previous campaign.

The last harvest was 55.1 million quintals, which was

still considered low.

Furthermore, the area sown to major cereals decreased by 33 percent, from 3.67 million hectares to just 2.47 million hectares.

It will have a huge impact on the country's economy, according to Driss Aissaoui, an analyst and former member of the Moroccan Ministry for Agriculture.

"When you have less than 50 million quintals, you are then in a crisis. When we say crisis, this means that you have to import more and this is why Morocco is a major importer of cereals from the futures markets," he says.

The Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations ranks Morocco as sixth among the top ten

wheat importers in the world this year.

Quoting FAO, the Moroccan publication "L'Observateur du Maroc et d'Afrique" said that imports could increase by 19 percent to 7.5 million tonnes in 2024.

According to statistics from the National Federation of Cereal and Pulguité Dealers (FNCL), Morocco was active on the international wheat market in the first half of this year.

Moroccan traders imported nearly 2.5 million tonnes of common wheat between January and June with France remaining the largest supplier followed by Germany, Russia and Ukraine.

By Anicet Kimonyo

DRC's Ituri: It's uncertainty for coffee farmers amid conflicts, climate woes

EARLY each morning, 50-year-old Kavira Matsetse walks for two hours to reach her coffee plantation in Biakato, in northeastern Democratic Republic of the Congo's (DRC) Ituri province.

The widow and mother of eight inherited the plantation from her late husband nearly a decade ago, and has worked hard to cultivate it ever since.

"My husband was killed in 2015 during attacks in Oicha in the neighbouring province of North Kivu," she told Al Jazeera, recounting how the family fled to Biakato where it was up to her "to erect a home and a life from scratch in a new locality with new people".

Lush green rows of coffee trees cover rolling hills and valleys in Biakato. But in striking contrast, the area has also witnessed decades-long conflict and violence.

Ituri, like most of eastern DRC, has been overridden by interethnic and religious tensions, conflicts over land resources, and violence fuelled by political and economic factors.

DRC has some of the most fertile land in the world and has often been dubbed a "paradise for coffee" for its high-quality produce.

The eastern part of the country was once lucrative for coffee production and a significant cash crop for residents.

But the conflict, which has spurred massive waves of displacements, has negatively affected the region's agriculture, contributing to DRC losing almost 75 percent of its coffee production in 40 years.

The conflict has also made it difficult to gauge the exact amount of coffee production happening in eastern DRC, and challenges in the region continue to embitter farmers towards growing coffee.

For women, who make up 80 percent of the labour force in coffee farms as the fighting draws men to the front lines, working on farms amid conflict means multiplied dangers and challenges, with little support.

Coffee cooperatives

In Ituri's communities, where men are traditionally the breadwinners, earning money to support her family after her husband died was uncharted territory for widowed Matsetse.

When the family first arrived in Biakato, she improvised a tent to shelter her children as she slowly discovered her way around growing the beans.

But she knew she needed help

Three years later, that help came in the form of a cooperative of local coffee growers called the Association Solidarite des Cooperations pour le Developpement et la Vulgarisation Agricole (SOCODEVA).

The association, formed in 2014, had begun registering coffee growers, raising awareness and bringing them together.

"With the help of SOCODEVA, I was able to buy a new plot of land and build a house of my own," Mastsetse said.

The group, along with other grassroots associations and cooperatives, helps support smallholders and women farmers by providing them with knowledge and resources on sustainable agriculture and how to maintain their coffee fields in the face of climate change, economic shocks and other challenges facing the sector.



Women sort coffee in Democratic Republic of the Congo [File: Guerchom Ndebo/AFP]

SOCODEVA also has coffee nurseries where they grow coffee seedlings, "which are then distributed to coffee growers for free", the cooperative's coordinator Jean Louis Kathaliko said.

The association is funded by membership fees and the profit margin on group sales - a system that brings together large quantities of coffee from different farmers to sell to buyers. This allows the coffee buyer to avoid the expense of going to each small farmer independently to buy a small amount of coffee, while increasing farmers' chances of selling their crops, Kathaliko said. She added that a profit margin is added to the price of coffee to further empower the growers financially.

With their support and advice, Matsetse said she was able to ramp up not only the amount of coffee she grows to up to 2.1 tonnes but also the quality of her coffee.

"I was able to expand my coffee field from the three hectares [7.4 acres] I had initially inherited from my husband, to five hectares [12 acres]," she said.

Supportive networks

As a group, SOCODEVA has brought together 3,000 coffee farmers in Ituri. Meanwhile, other regional and international organisations - including CARE and Women for Women - also intervene to support widowed and destitute women, Kathaliko said.

"They provide training and resources for them, but the conflict in eastern DRC poses a challenge to the work of organisations," she added.

Fighting has plagued eastern DRC for decades, and has escalated recently. In resource-rich Ituri, there has been recurring conflict between government forces and more than 120 armed militias for decades. Over the past two months, there

have been attacks by CODECO and Zaire fighters over gold mining sites in the Djugu district. Additionally, six Chinese miners and two Congolese soldiers were killed early this month in the village of Gambala.

When fighting spills over, it can affect farmers' ability to access their fields and harvest enough coffee to sell to the market, hitting them financially. Poverty is also rampant in villages in the region.

To help farmers, particularly the women who make up the bulk of the labour force, better endure these challenges, SOCODEVA has also enabled a system where members lend one another a helping hand when times are tough.

As part of its endeavours, the association brings farmers together in groups of 25 people - creating a mutual aid system between the members.

Group members make contributions - typically 2,000 Congolese francs (less than \$1) - which are then held in a common fund to help members who need financial assistance.

"This money is used to pay bills in the context of solidarity when a member, for instance, is sick or in need," Kathaliko said.

'Bleak' situation

On the coffee farms, the association also incentivises farmers who succeed in producing a tonne or more of coffee per season. In return, they get materials that help them in the field, including hoses, tarpaulins, machetes and watering cans worth up to \$25.

Such incentives encouraged Francoise Mbambu Desi, a 56-year-old mother of four, to take on the challenges of coffee growing with the help of the cooperatives.

She arrived in Biakato in 1997 from Beni in North Kivu - another province in the east plagued by decades of conflict. Many of Biakato's other inhabitants also initially came here searching for land to farm.

Desi had nothing but her children, her husband and a chicken when she first arrived, she said.

The Pygmy people, an Indigenous community native to the Congo basin, generously gave her two hectares of coffee to cultivate in exchange for the chicken.

"Until 2016, coffee was the main income-generating crop for me and I was faithful to this crop, which enabled me to acquire five more hectares," Desi said.

Over the years, she was able to acquire and grow more coffee fields thanks to the help she received from SOCODEVA and others to get seedlings and sell her coffee to the market at a fair price.

According to Kathaliko, the association has provided coffee growers with some 30,000 seedlings to grow and expand their fields, along with technical support on best practices for soil management and yielding more coffee from their land.

However, even with the initiatives, the support cooperatives provide falls short of addressing bigger challenges brought about by the years-long conflict.

Matsetse, citing longer growing seasons and lengthy cultivation periods due to climate change, said her profits have slumped as the market is volatile because of the conflict and a lack of profitability.

In theory, she can sell one kilogramme of coffee for \$2.6 compared with \$0.7 in previous years; but in practice, she is not selling as much coffee as she used to, she lamented.

"It is a bleak situation now," Matsetse said.

An uncertain future

Not only has the conflict affected coffee prices, but it has also led to a significant increase in the smuggling of coffee outside DRC - an exploitative practice that deprives local producers, predominantly women whose families have been affected by the conflict, of vital income.

Speaking to Al Jazeera, several local coffee sellers said that about 10,000 tonnes of coffee in the territories of Mahagi and Djugu in Ituri province are fraudulently smuggled out of DRC to neighbouring Uganda and Rwanda annually. Several farmers prefer to deal with smugglers to sell raw products to be smuggled to avoid high taxes levied by the state.

Amid the challenges, Desi, like many coffee growers in Ituri, has considered the obvious alternative - farming cacao instead.

"It requires less manual labour, unlike coffee which needs rigorous upkeep and constant maintenance," she noted, adding that many other farmers she knows have either abandoned their coffee trees or are seriously considering the move.

Having coffee as her key source of income for years, Desi has finally made money but she feels the volatility in market prices caused by the conflict, and the effort required to preserve the coffee fields, is not worth it.

"Today, I'm left with just a quarter hectare, where I grow a small quantity that I consume as coffee in the morning, and the mere memory of a crop that has enabled me to become who I am today," she added.

No longer as strong as when she was young, she grows a hectare of cacao [2.5 acres] and a quarter hectare of coffee, and can no longer care for the rest of her field.

Constantin Ali, an agricultural engineer in Ituri, explained to Al Jazeera that cacao cultivation poses a significant risk to the survival of coffee farming, despite coffee having been the dominant crop for many years.

"Coffee and cacao cultivation have the same production period. It takes three years to have the first production. Cacao differs from coffee in the price on the market, it is double, or even triple the price of coffee," Ali said.

Matsetse is also considering an alternative course.

"Cacao cultivation is gaining popularity. There is desperation and I think if these conditions persist, I might give up. Sometimes, the coffee seedling dries up, and cacao has become a promising crop given its market value," Matsetse said.

THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORDS/WORD FIT - 133

By Felix Magezi: Phone: 0787 00 97 94 // felixmagezi@gmail.com @february2024

Across:
 1. the frame and front fork of a bicycle 8. Capital of Togo
 9. Sick 11. leave out
 12. recent times 13. edema
 15. The wife of Adam

- 16 large trees which bears acorns
 - 18 tribe living in Ruvuma
 - 19 clever or skilful
 - 21 Australian
 - 22 to or at a distance
 - 24 an owl in Kiswahili
 - 25 past tense of Eat
 - 26 "Land of the War God"
- Down:
 1 an overflow of a large amount of water 2. Capital city of Italy
 3 surrounded by
 4 "shooting star"
 5 Fish in Kiswahili
 6 rising and falling of the sea
 7 before the time in question
 10 the imposition of a tax
 14 a member of the aboriginal People of New Zealand
 17 look fixedly at someone
 19 share a boundary with
 20 no longer happening or existing
 21 American Bar Association
 23 a large tuna in Hawaii

In this Puzzle you have no clues, only a list of words that all fit into the grid. The Guardian have given you a head start.

- ASIA
- DENSE
- ADRIFT
- ISA
- MAN
- OSAGE
- MAYA
- AMENDS
- NANA
- BAG
- AMASSED
- YEN
- ANABASIS
- ADAM
- INRI
- EFA

Yesterday's solution

RATIBA YA VIPINDI

JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
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BUSINESS

ICSID suspends case between Tz, British property developer

By Guardian Reporter

The International Centre for Investment Disputes Settlement (ICSID) has extended the suspension of the proceeding between Brian Malcolm Thomson, the British real estate developer and Mauritian Pennyroyal Limited against the government of Tanzania until next year.

This is the second suspension of the proceeding, which under the Irish presiding arbitrator Michael Collins, since the matter was registered at the ICSID on July 20th last year.

According to the details available at the ICSID website, the first suspension was made on April 29th this year to July 16th, pursuant to parties' agreement.

The development notes of the case No. ARB/23/26 reads: "the suspension of the proceeding is extended until January 12, 2025, pursuant to the parties' agreement".

Since July last year when the case was registered, the tribunal held its first session by Video conference on December 14th, 2023, before February 15th, 2024 when the tribunal issued a decision of the claimants' request to

address quantum in a separate phase of the proceeding.

A UK real estate developer filed a claim against the government of Tanzania for alleged breaches of bilateral investment treaties that Tanzania entered into with both the United Kingdom and North Ireland in 1994 and Mauritius in 2009, over a terminated lease for an island resort project in Zanzibar.

In 2014, the Mauritius registered Pennyroyal Limited and its predecessor acquired consolidated leasehold for 411 hectares, from Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar (SMZ), for purposes of developing the Blue Amber Resort.

Pennyroyal reported to have spent a reported US\$54 million at the site to develop the Blue Amber resort, worth a reported US\$1.6 billion.

It included plans for five-star hotels and thousands of villas and apartments, as well as a private airport, school, underwater nightclub and sleeping pods.

The resort construction, which was planned to take at least 15 years, also would have consisted five global leading hotels - including the Ritz Carlton



Architectural design of Pennyroyal's project

and Anantara - an aqua park.

However, Pennyroyal says that it was informed in 2021 by the government of Zanzibar that it planned to give some of the land under its leasehold to "investors from Dubai".

This was followed by a letter from the Zanzibar government that it was seeking to execute a High Court decree where a third party company had won a dispute involving Plots No. 1107 and 1118.

Pennyroyal claims that the two plots were part of its leasehold as approved by the investments promotion authority.

"It later transpired that in the case that was being referred to, the government abandoned the case, failed to appear in Court, and the court had issued a one-sided decision," Pennyroyal said in a statement.

"The Government has failed or refused to take any action to assert its rights or at least to appear in Court, to date. No explanation has to date been given as to why Pennyroyal Limited, being the registered Leasehold owner, was neither joined to the case nor informed of the proceedings."

According to Steptoe & Johnson, the law firm representing Pennyroyal at the ICSID, the breach concerns the revoking of the title deed on which the Blue Amber Resort was being constructed, claiming what is termed as hundreds of millions of dollars.

Early in 2022, the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar, through the ministry of land terminated a land lease held by Pennyroyal Limited in Matewe, after it claimed that an area of 20 hectare out of 411 hectare inside the project was owned by another third party.

The Blue Amber Resort project was under construction with first phase delivery of units initially set for December 2022.

The termination was followed by a letter on July 25, 2022, from ZIPA informing Pennyroyal Limited that it will not renew its construction permit following termination of lease hold by the ministry of land.

The company said in 2022, it had abandoned operations at the site when both leases were terminated entirely by the land ministry in January that year.

CRDB Bank scoops Tanzania's best SMEs bank award

By Guardian Correspondent

The UK based Euromoney Magazine has awarded CRDB Bank with the Tanzania's best bank for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) awards for Excellence in 2024.

The 30th Euromoney awards ceremony was organized to recognize banks and financial institutions in the world for their contribution to financial services, which helped improved social welfare and stimulate economic development.

"Euromoney is the largest magazine in the world for researching and recognizing banks with the experience of more than 30 years on organizing awards. We feel proud for winning this award for the third consecutive years," said Bonaventura Paul, the director of retail banking, CRDB Bank after receiving the award.

The director said CRDB Bank has enhanced efforts to finance small and medium businesses in the country, through innovative products, which have enabled them to improve incomes and develop projects, that have contributed to stimulation of the growth of the economy and job creation.

He said the bank is financing SMEs by using only the reports of their businesses cash flows, without necessarily asked for collaterals.

"With the collaboration of various stakeholders, we are financing business owners with only purchasing order. For last year, we collaborated with Silent Ocean to enable importers of goods to secure loans of up to US\$63,000 (170m/-



CRDB Bank Director of retail Banking, Bonaventura Paul (R) and head of business banking Toy Ruvumbagu (L) hold the Tanzania Best SMEs Bank award issued by the UK based Euromoney Magazine during the awards ceremony held in London recently. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

) to finance transportation, port charges and taxes," he said.

In 2023, the bank issued loans amounting to 8.9trn/- of which 12 percent were allocated to small and medi-

um enterprises, which was an increase of 11 percent compared to loans issued in 2022, he said.

Paul said the bank has improved payment technology for many small and

medium businesses through connecting them with digital payment systems including QR Code, internet banking and SimBanking which has made ease for them to manage their business accounts.

He said through its five year strategy 2023-2027, the bank has given priorities to MSMEs as during the first half of this year, total financing to amounted to 1.5trn/-.

Each year, 600 banks and financial institutions from across 100 countries participate in the Euromoney awards.

According to World Economic Forum (WEF), despite of being critical to economic growth in Africa, Small and medium enterprises (SMEs) are facing the financing challenge.

"A healthy and expanding small business segment in Africa increases employment, broadens the tax base, grows national revenue and frees African governments to fund social and economic infrastructure," says WEF.

According to WEF, SMEs account for 95 percent of all registered businesses and contribute about 50 percent to the total GDP of sub-Saharan countries.

Lack of infrastructure, is another challenge that isolates SMEs from markets, opportunities and access to capital.

"SMEs must get access to funding, markets, skills and resources if Africa is to achieve its desired socioeconomic expansion. They must leverage banking technology, digital skills, market insights and relationship ecosystems to enable them to overcome business hurdles," says WEF.

First-ever nickel, copper, cobalt mined at Kabanga

By Guardian Reporter

Lifezone Metals Limited has produced nickel, copper and cobalt cathode samples via the semi-continuous pilot scale refinery test work underway at the Company's Simulus Laboratory in Perth, Australia.

The metals were produced from flotation concentrate derived from borehole core samples at the Kabanga Nickel Project, located in north-west Tanzania.

Lifezone Metals Chief Executive Officer, Chris Shwalter stated: "Achieving the first-ever production of refined nickel, copper and cobalt cathode from the Kabanga Nickel Project marks a historic milestone for the Project and for Lifezone. This accomplishment, resulting from extensive test work at our in-house laboratory, reflects our commitment to innovation and bringing this world-class resource to market. It lays a strong foundation for the future of Kabanga and the Kahama Refinery to ensure high-quality, sustainable metals production in Tanzania."

The company Chief Technology Officer, Dr. Mike Adams says the production of nickel, copper and cobalt cathode samples from the Kabanga Nickel Project is a groundbreaking achievement by the company's team at Simulus Laboratory.

He explained that this success highlights the effectiveness of our hydrometallurgical techniques and the company's commitment to sustainable metal production.

"The pilot plant's performance has been exemplary, closely matching our process simulation models, and we are optimistic about the positive impact this will have on the Kabanga Nickel Project and the future operations at the Kahama Refinery," he said.

He said extensive batch, locked-cycle and semi-continuous pilot plant test work for processing of Kabanga flotation concentrate into refined nickel, copper and cobalt metals has been undertaken to confirm design criteria for the Kahama refinery.

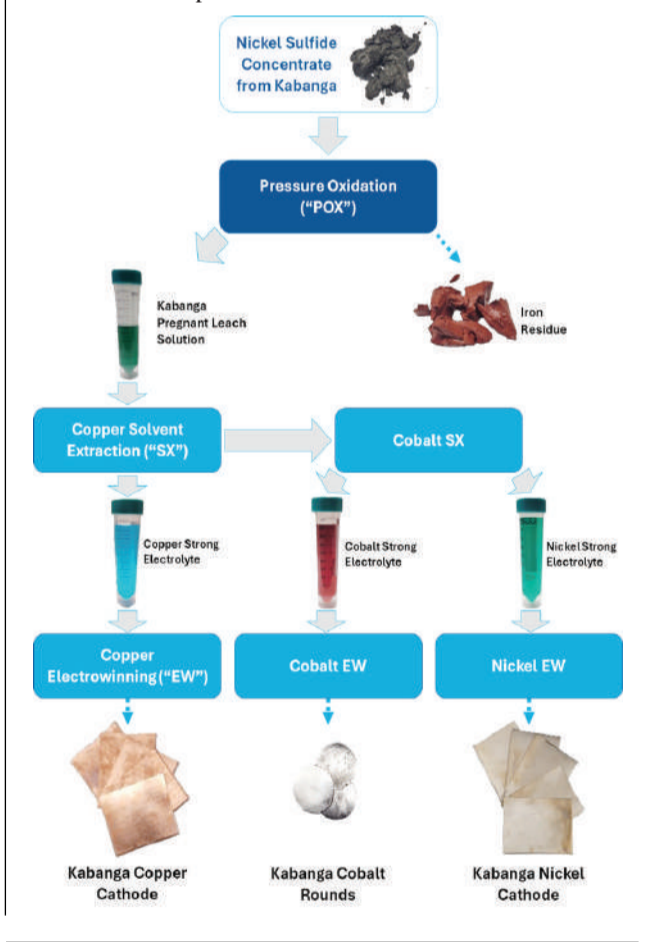
"The pilot plant has performed as expected and is consistent with various process simulation models, both internal and vendor supplied," he said

"Leach extractions were high and consistent with previously announced figures, with data analysis, mass balancing and Quality Assurance / Quality Control activities ongoing. Full product assays are currently pending."

By bringing their highly trained technicians and engineers and assets into Lifezone in 2023, Dr Adams said Lifezone has been able to shorten laboratory testing times, avoid regular delays that can occur when using external laboratories, maintain IP confidentiality, and better control costs.

This milestone marks the first metal ever produced from Kabanga mineralization since the deposit's initial discovery in 1975 by the United Nations Development Program.

Kabanga Nickel Project in Tanzania is believed to be one of the world's largest and highest-grade undeveloped nickel sulfide deposits.



NBC emerges Tanzania's best bank for CSR

By Guardian Reporter

NBC Bank has been named Tanzania's Best Bank for Corporate Responsibility in the Euromoney Awards for Excellence 2024.

This recognition highlights the bank's commitment to the economic and social empowerment of the communities it serves.

NBC Bank Managing Director Theobald Sabi stated, "This accolade reflects our stewardship role as a solution provider and catalyst for community empowerment and economic growth. Driven by our motto, 'conveniently everywhere', we offer a blend of traditional and digital financial solutions to meet our customers' needs and enhance their economic and social well-being."

Sabi emphasized the bank's impact on education, health, youth enterprise, and environmental conservation.

"Our purpose of empowering our communities' tomorrow underscores our commitment to financial and social empowerment for sustainable development," he said.

"Being named Tanzania's Best Bank for Corporate Social Responsibility is a testament to our progress and motivates us to continue building a better Tanzania. Our first Sustainability Report for 2023 highlights our Environmental, Social, and Governance impact and our commitment to sustainable actions."

NBC Bank was honored for its ethical business conduct, innovative community outreach, financial inclusion efforts, and environmental initiatives.

Banking products like NBC Shambani, Kuanasi, Akaunti ya Wafugaji, and Johari have promoted financial inclusion, while programs like NBC Business Clubs, the NBC Dodoma Marathon, NBC Mobile Clinic, Wa-

jibika Scholarships, and youth internships have had significant social impact.

Over 45,000 women screened for cervical cancer in collaborations with the Ocean Road Cancer Institute, 100 midwifery scholarships awarded in collaborations with the Benjamin Mkapa Foundation, 1,000 Wajibika vocational scholarships provided, and numerous internships and field attachments offered.

Through NBC Business Club, over 1 million women and youth received financial education, 20,000 MSMEs trained in entrepreneurship, and participants attended the China Canton Fair for business exposure and networking.

NBC Bank was also recognized by the EMEA Finance Banking Awards as the Best Sub-Sovereign Syndicated Loan in Africa 2023 for its role as Mandated Lead Arranger in a USD200 million credit facility for the Zanzibar government.



NBC managing director Theobald Sabi holds the Tanzania's Best Bank for Corporate Responsibility 2024 issued by Euromoney in London recently. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

New agreement to smooth Tanzania's exports to UK

By Guardian Correspondent

TANZANIAN goods exporters to the United Kingdom will now have a smooth trading path, following the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between FREMU UK Limited and the Tanzania Trade Development Authority (TANTRADE).

The signing ceremony which took place yesterday at TANTRADE offices in Dar es Salaam marked a significant milestone in the trade relations between the two countries.

David Mukisa, the chief executive officer (CEO) of Fremu UK Limited, and Latifa Khamis, the Director General (DG) of TANTRADE formalized the agreement which aims to create new opportunities for Tanzanian exporters under the Developing Countries Trading Scheme (DCTS) program.

Speaking shortly after signing the agreement, Mukisa, the CEO of Fremu UK Limited said they're thrilled to enter into the eagerly-awaited partnership with TANTRADE.

"This MoU will serve as the

foundation for Tanzanian exporters to gain unprecedented access to the UK market, promoting economic growth and development in Tanzania. Our goal is to increase the volume and variety of Tanzanian products available in the UK, thereby supporting local industries and creating jobs," he expressed.

He added that the strategic partnership, among others is a reflection of the strong bilateral relations between Tanzania and the United Kingdom.

"The Tanzanian government, through its Embassy in the UK and Tantrade, has been instrumental in fostering this collaboration. Their efforts to promote Tanzanian businesses on the global stage have been pivotal in bringing this MoU to fruition."

"We extend our heartfelt thanks to the government of Tanzania for their unwavering support," Mukisa added.

He said thanked the 70 companies that have registered and shown interest in supplying Fremu UK Limited.

"This level of engagement is a promising sign of the potential impact this MoU will



David Mukisa (L) CEO of Fremu UK Limited and Latifa Khamis, Director General of TANTRADE sign agreement on boosting Tanzanian exports to the UK in Dar es Salaam. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

have," he appreciated.

Speaking for her part, TANTRADE director general (DG), Latifa Khamis expressed that the sealed agreement was of prudent in help expanding Tanzania's export capabilities.

"By working closely with Fremu UK Limited, we can provide our exporters with the resources and support they need to succeed in the competitive UK

market," she said.

She unveiled, the signed MoU FOCUSES to achieve an array of objectives.

"One of the objectives is to increase exports, whereby the primary goal is to significantly boost the volume of Tanzanian exports to the UK," she said.

Moreover, the TANTRADE chief boss said the other objectives was to enhance market access, through facilitating easier

access for Tanzanian products to enter the UK market through the DCTS program.

The other, according to her is to attain business support through providing Tanzanian exporters with the necessary support, including market information, networking opportunities, and compliance assistance.

The signed MoU represents a significant step forward in realizing Tanzania's trade potential and leveraging international markets to drive economic development.

As the partnership unfolds, both Fremu UK Limited and Tantrade are committed to ensuring that Tanzanian exporters have the tools and opportunities they need to thrive.

Tanzania urged to build more one-stop border posts

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

TANZANIA has been urged to establish more official One Stop Border Posts in porous borders to stop smuggling, prevent tax avoidance, ease facilitate grains trade and security.

Milton Manyara, economist, Ministry of Industry and Trade, made the statement recently when speaking staple foods traders, government agencies and regulatory authorities from nine countries who attended two-days Eastern and Southern Africa Public-Private Policy and Grain Trade Business to Business (B2B) forum.

"As ministry we have heard your concern and all recommendations you made to the Tanzanian government, we will take action on it to ensure you facilitate grain trade in a conducive environment as well as review trade policy, export and import strategy that you think it affect your businesses," he said

He called on Tanzanian businesspersons to export grains and pulses in Eastern and Southern Africa region.

The forum brought together participants from Tanzania, Kenya, Ethiopia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Uganda, Zambia, Burundi and Malawi and was meant to discuss issues hampering grain export including trade restrictions, border processing and logistics constraints.

Gerald Masila, The Eastern Af-



rica Grain Council (EAGC)'s executive director added that "Grain exports will not happen if we will close cross-borders and businesspersons harassed, let us focus on grain trade to be happened," he said

Also stakeholders engaged in the staple foods export value chain, we need to communicate, talk each other and develop platform for regulations to share information.

The governments in Eastern and southern Africa region should also review policies to make grain trade happen and the private sector are the ones who will make sure happen.

The forum brought together participants from Tanzania, Kenya, Ethiopia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Uganda, Zambia, Burundi and Malawi and was meant to discuss issues hampering grain export including

trade restrictions, border processing and logistics constraints as well as Non-tariff Barriers (NTBs) that restrict trade with the aim to agree on solutions and approaches to address the bottlenecks

Rose Kadewere, assistant director of Trade, Ministry of Trade and industry in Malawi, invited Tanzanian traders to export grand nuts, pigeon peas, chick peas to Malawi.

"The market is available for you, the ministry of trade is there for you, anytime you need any support please see our ministry, so far there are number of initiatives that has been designed to support businesspersons," she said

Kadewere, said the ministry of Trade in Malawi has improved business environment to attract investment in commercial grains and food security.

"It is our interest as a country we need to take of this to be a nation that can feed ourselves and facilitating grain export in other countries across the world," she said

They encourage investment in farming because drought has affected Malawi, million people were facing high levels of acute food insecurity associated with the El Nino weather phenomenon that have adversely affected crop production.

The late onset of rains and prolonged dry spell in February 2024 at the crucial vegetative and flowering stages for the staple food crops resulted in crop failure leading to a staple cereals supply gap.

Ndore Cleopas, Uganda- Ministry of Trade, Industries and Cooperatives, commissioner external trade say they have put export zone, "We want to have a place where exporters can do exporting, sorting, grading, packaging and other issues relating to grain trade," he said

Gold price slips as traders absorb Biden withdrawal

WASHINGTON

GOLD edged lower on Monday as traders mulled President Joe Biden's decision to end his re-election campaign – and what it means for Donald Trump's chances of returning to the White House.

Spot bullion traded just under \$2,400 an ounce, erasing earlier gains. Biden said he would serve out his term and endorsed Vice President Kamala Harris to replace him as a candidate, though she still must secure the official nomination at the Democratic National Convention next month.

The fresh uncertainty helped boost the precious metal's safe-haven appeal while a reversal of the Trump trade could catalyze additional selling activity, according to TD Securities commodity strategist Daniel Ghali.

At the same time, traders are also weighing signs of buying fatigue in Asia, a key pillar in gold's rally in the first half of the year. The premium gold on the Shanghai Gold Exchange held against its London counterpart since late last year has flipped to a discount, signaling falling demand from the Asian nation.

This along with liquidations on SHFE signals that "the window for downside is open in the yellow metal," Ghali said in a note.

Gold has surged by more than 15 percent this year, hitting an all-time high last week. The precious metal has been supported by expectations of interest rate cuts by the US Federal Reserve, strong buying by central banks and haven asset demand amid ongoing geopolitical tensions.

Trump's odds of winning the US election race have edged lower since



Biden announced he would step aside, but he remains the front runner.

If successful, his administration could unleash both bullish and bearish forces on gold. For instance, the possibility of tax cuts, tariffs and duties could push up inflation and force the Fed to increase rates more than it otherwise would.

Higher interest rates are typically bearish for non-yielding gold. But Trump has also signaled a preference for the dollar to weaken, which is potentially bullish for commodities – including the yellow metal – priced in that currency.

Meanwhile, China's gold imports plunged last month – the nation has increased support for the economy with surprise interest rate cuts, seeking

to prop up growth after a lack of short-term stimulus.

Exchange-traded funds added 87,612 troy ounces of gold to their holdings in the last trading session, with total gold ETF holdings registering a fourth weekly gain, the longest winning streak since November.

And money managers' net-long positions in gold futures recently hit the highest since early 2020, according to data from the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

Spot gold was down 0.1 percent to \$2,397.80 an ounce by 3:43 p.m. in New York. The Bloomberg Dollar Spot Index was down 0.1 percent, while US 10-year Treasury yield edged higher. Silver and platinum fell while palladium rose.

WORLD

Rwanda's electoral commission confirms Kagame's re-election

KIGALI

RWANDA'S incumbent President Paul Kagame of the ruling Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) won the presidential election held on July 15 with 99.18 percent of the vote, according to the final results released Monday by the National Electoral Commission (NEC).

His challengers, Frank Habineza of the opposition Democratic Green Party of Rwanda, and Philippe Mpayimana, an independent candidate, garnered 0.50 percent and 0.32 percent, respectively, of the vote.

The RPF and its coalition also won 37 seats of the parliament's 53 seats representing political parties and independent candidates, the results showed.

The opposition Liberal Party led by Donatille Mukabalisa, the outgoing Speaker of Parliament and the Social

Democratic Party led by former Foreign Minister Vincent Biruta got five seats each.

Other parties, including the Democratic Green Party of Rwanda, the Ideal Democratic Party and the PS Imberakuri that fielded parliamentary candidates, got two seats each, according to the final results.

About 9 million voters took part in the elections on July 15.

A total of 589 candidates contested for the 80 seats in the Chamber of Deputies, the lower house of the bicameral national legislature of Rwanda.

Besides representatives from political parties, other lawmakers come from special groups (youth, women, and people with disabilities).

"We would like to thank all Rwandans for their active role in organizing and participating in the elections both



Rwanda's President Paul Kagame waves as he arrives for an election campaign rally on the hills overlooking Kigali, Rwanda, Friday, July 12, 2024. AP

in the country and abroad," the NEC extends its gratitude to all involved.

"In particular we would wish to express our appreciation to the political parties and independent candidates for their exemplary conduct throughout the election period," the NEC said in a statement.

At the cocktail reception to thank key contributors to the successful RPF presidential campaign on Sunday night in Kigali, the capital of Rwanda, Kagame said: "For our friends, we are very good friends, you should rely on us. We won't disappoint our friends. For our adversaries, for those who don't wish us well, we will always extend a hand of cooperation. We will always show them that we can work together..."

"When we start with our strengths and work together with our friends and partners, we achieve a lot. In our culture as the RPF, we do not become complacent. We work very well with those who are willing," he said.

Kagame, 66, assumed power in 2000. He is credited with spearheading the country's liberation war of the then Rwanda Patriotic Army (RPA), an army wing of RPF which ended the 1994 100-day genocide against the Tutsi, an ethnic group of the African Great Lakes region, fostering unity and peace restoration in the country. About 1 million people were killed in the genocide.

Kagame won the 2017 election for a third term with more than 98 percent of the vote. **Agencies**

Zelensky's statements about negotiations better than war to last Ukrainian - Kremlin

MOSCOW

UKRAINIAN President Vladimir Zelensky's statements about the possibility of talks with Moscow are better than refusing them, Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters.

"In general, of course, this is better than statements that any contacts with the Russian side and with the Russian head of state are excluded," the spokesman said. In his opinion, "of course, talking in one tone or another about dialogue is much better than talking about the intention to fight to the last Ukrainian."

"But we cannot yet judge what exactly is behind these words [Zelensky's words about the possibility of negotiations], what concrete plans are being talked about and what actions are being taken in this direction, if the conversation is serious," Peskov said. He suggested that "here we should wait for some concrete actions, if any."

Earlier, in an interview with the BBC, Zelensky said that talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin were possible, despite the decree in force in Ukraine banning such talks. On July 15, Zelensky also said that Russian representatives should participate in the second conference on the settlement of the Ukrainian conflict.

The Russian authorities have repeatedly stated that they are ready to negotiate with Ukraine on the settlement of the conflict.



Biden's exit from campaign to have serious impact on Ukrainian crisis, says diplomat

MINSK

THE decision of incumbent US President Joe Biden to quit the presidential race will seriously affect the Ukrainian crisis, Russian Ambassador to Belarus Boris Gryzlov said.

"President Biden's statement will inevitably have serious international political implications, first of all in the context of the crisis around Ukraine. Amid unresolved problems in the US economy, including inflation and rising unemployment, it will be increasingly difficult for politicians to explain to voters why their country is spending countless billions of dollars to support a military conflict in faraway Eastern Europe," Gryzlov (pictured) said in comments that were released by the Russian Embassy in Belarus.

"The last aid package to Kiev was just barely agreed and not at the first try, and doing it in the future it will be much more difficult, if not impossible," the ambassador said.

"The populist and moralizing slogans about 'fighting for justice and human rights around the world,' which sound so familiar to the Democrats, simply do not work today," Gryzlov said.

"But the main problem of the Democrats on the Ukrainian track is not even in their failed rhetoric. By giving up the fight for the White House, Joseph Biden deprived himself and the party of the levers of influence on the elites, downshifting from the leader of the superpower into an honorary retiree, who warms the chair for the next holder of the Oval Office."

According to the diplomat, a lame-duck president is a symbolic, figurehead politician that doesn't merit to be approached for serious political bargaining.

"From now on, Biden's influence on politicians and institutions both inside the US and on the international stage will rapidly decline," Gryzlov said. "For the Kiev regime as a whole and specifically for [Ukrainian President Vladimir] Zelensky, this state of affairs may become fatal."

"In the coming months, his main sponsor, the United States, will focus solely on domestic political issues and the election race. Ukraine will drop off the agenda. No candidate in his right mind will actively lobby for a multibillion-dollar aid package for Kiev from the pocket of American taxpayers in the middle of the campaign," Gryzlov said.

"The European Union and NATO, for their part, will be waiting for the outcome of the US election before taking any serious steps."

"Even in the best-case scenario for the Ukrainian regime, that is, if military supplies and cash injections continue, the most that the leadership of Ukraine, the US and NATO will be able to achieve is to delay for some time the inevitable success of Russia in achieving the goals of the special operation," the ambassador said. **Agencies**



Harris says secured delegates needed to be Democratic nominee

WASHINGTON

US Vice-President Kamala Harris will campaign in the critical battleground state of Wisconsin on Tuesday for the first time as a presidential candidate after enough Democratic delegates pledged to endorse her, clearing her path to the nomination.

Harris has become the party's presumed nominee after President Joe Biden withdrew from his reelection campaign on Sunday, following weeks of party acrimony and internal polls showed his support collapsing in a battle against Republican rival Donald Trump.

Less than 36 hours after Biden endorsed Harris, she secured the nomination on Monday night by winning the pledged support of a majority of the party's delegates who will determine the nomination, the campaign said.

"Tonight, I am proud to have secured the broad support needed to become our party's nominee," Harris said in a statement late Monday night. "I look forward to formally accepting the nomination soon."

An unofficial survey of delegates by the Associated Press showed Harris with more than 2,500 delegates, well over the 1,976 needed to win a vote in the coming weeks. Delegates could still, technically, change their minds but nobody else received any votes in the AP survey; 54 delegates said they were undecided.

The Wisconsin trip offers another opportunity for the 59-year-old former California prosecutor to reset the Democrats' campaign and make the case that she is best positioned to beat Trump. Harris is scheduled to deliver remarks at a political event in Milwaukee at 1:05 pm CDT (1805 GMT).

She offered a sense of how she plans to attack Trump on Monday, referring to her past of pursuing "predators" and "fraudsters" as San Francisco district attorney and California attorney general.

"So hear me when I say I know Donald Trump's type," she said of her rival, a



US Vice-President Kamala Harris waves as she boards Air Force Two at Joint Base Andrews in Maryland on Monday. AFP

convicted felon who was found liable for sexual assault in civil court. Other courts have found fraud was committed in his business, charitable foundation and private university.

Wisconsin is among a trio of Rust-Belt states that include Michigan and Pennsylvania widely considered as must-wins for any candidate, and where Biden was lagging Trump.

"There are independents and young people who did not like their choices, and Harris has a chance to win them," said Paul Kendrick, executive director of the Democratic group Rust Belt Rising, which does routine polling in the battleground states where voting preferences can swing either way.

Fundraising windfall

Harris has also been raking in campaign contributions. Her campaign said Monday she had raised \$81 million since Biden stepped aside on Sunday, nearly equaling the \$95 million that the Biden

campaign had in the bank at the end of June.

Hollywood donors ended their "Dem-bargo" on political donations, as fundraisers and celebrities from rapper Cardi B to Oscar winner Jamie Lee Curtis and TV producer Shonda Rhimes endorsed Harris.

Meanwhile, Trump and his allies have tried to keep Harris tethered to some of Biden's more unpopular policies, such as immigration.

"Kamala Harris' dismal record is one of complete failure and utter incompetence. Her policies are Biden's policies, and vice versa," Trump spokesperson Steven Cheung said.

Whether she can turn around slumping polls in key states remains an open question.

In interviews with half-dozen leading Democrats in Wisconsin, they said Harris offers the party the opportunity to push the reset button and animate voters who were unenthused about Biden

and Trump.

Milwaukee County Executive David Crowley said Harris, the first Black American and first South Asian American to be elected vice president, will also help bring back crucial Black voters.

"Many of them didn't come along because they were distracted by his age, distracted by his appearance," Crowley said.

Replacing Biden atop the ticket has also revved up speculation about who might join Harris as a vice presidential candidate.

The short list of people being discussed included Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear, US Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg, North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper, Arizona Senator Mark Kelly, Pennsylvania Governor Josh Shapiro, Illinois Governor JB Pritzker, and Michigan Governor Gretchen Whitmer, according to people familiar with internal policy discussions. **Agencies**

The formulation of the CPC's landmark reform resolution

BEIJING

THE Communist Party of China (CPC) has unveiled a comprehensive set of reforms in a document adopted at a key policy meeting that concluded on July 18.

The resolution on further deepening reform comprehensively to advance Chinese modernization details meticulously crafted reform plans that will have a profound impact on the future of the world's second-largest economy.

As early as November 2023, the Political Bureau of the 20th

CPC Central Committee decided that the third plenary session would primarily explore the issue of further deepening reform comprehensively to advance Chinese modernization.

To facilitate this, a document drafting group was established, led by Xi Jinping, general secretary of the CPC Central Committee.

Xi straightforwardly pointed out that the chosen theme serves as a strong message to both domestic and international audiences, underscoring China's unwavering commitment to reform and opening up.

In late November last year, the CPC Central Committee issued a circular to solicit opinions on the agenda of the third plenary session of the 20th CPC Central Committee from within the Party. The opinions and suggestions of some non-CPC personages were also solicited.

To make reform measures more targeted and problem-oriented, the drafting group had conducted extensive research and studies.

The resolution's drafting process took over seven months.

On Dec. 8, 2023, Xi chaired the first meeting of the document

drafting group, officially starting the drafting work.

In that month, the drafting group initiated research into 38 key subjects that involved 55 central departments and relevant agencies, and formed 78 research reports thereafter. It also dispatched 16 teams to various regions and departments to conduct research.

The opinions from leaders of the Party and the country, as well as provincial and ministerial-level leading officials, were recorded as exclusive interview reports, with each of the reports reviewed by Xi.

Xi expected the resolution to play an overarching and guiding role in further deepening reform comprehensively, give prominence to key areas, and focus on major reform measures that are of strategic significance to Chinese modernization.

The text of the draft resolution was distributed on May 7 to select Party members for consultation.

On May 20, Xi chaired a symposium to listen to views and suggestions of non-CPC personages on the resolution.

A few days later, he convened another symposium attended

by scholars and representatives from state-owned enterprises, private companies and foreign firms when he inspected east China's Shandong Province. Xi listened to views and opinions on various issues.

By May 30, 1,911 suggestions from various regions, departments and sides had been gathered. A total of 221 revisions had been made accordingly.

During the drafting process, Xi convened a series of meetings of the Political Bureau of the CPC Central Committee and its Standing Committee.

He also studied and edited

each version of the draft resolution and made important instructions.

The 20th CPC Central Committee started its third plenary session on the morning of July 15.

During the session, Xi made an explanation of the draft resolution, and the plenum's attendees, including 199 members and 165 alternate members of the Central Committee, were divided into 10 groups to conduct in-depth exchanges and discussions on revising the draft resolution, with 205 suggestions proposed. **Xinhua**

US business leaders upbeat on prospects

By Zhang Yunbi

A delegation from the board of directors of the US-China Business Council became the first United States business delegation to visit China following the conclusion last week of the third plenary session of the 20th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China.

In a meeting with the delegation on Monday, Foreign Minister Wang Yi said its members "can be the first to experience the fresh developments of China's further comprehensive deepening of reform, so it can be said that they have come at the right time".

Members of the delegation include FedEx President and CEO Raj Subramaniam, United Family Healthcare founder Roberta Lipson, Boeing Global President Brendan Nelson, and Educational Testing Service CEO Amit Sevak.

The US-China Business Council celebrated its 50th anniversary last year, and President Xi Jinping sent a congratulatory message at that time encouraging it to build more bridges of friendship between China and the US.

In Beijing on Monday, Wang listened to the guests' remarks and responded to their questions.

Wang elaborated on the key measures adopted at last week's plenary session regarding deepening reform, especially about high-level opening-up.

Beijing is "willing to strengthen exchanges and better blend with countries in the world on the basis of equality and mutual respect, and walk hand in hand on the road to world modernization", he said.

The US delegation said it welcomes

the key signals released by the session. It also said the consistency, coherence and stability of the Chinese government's policies are crucial for foreign companies, including those from the US, to continue investing and prospering in China in the long term.

Wang expressed his hope that the US business community will continue to move forward hand in hand with China, not only to realize its own greater growth, but also to make contributions to advancing China-US ties and the friendship between the two peoples.

"The past 45 years have taught us that when the climate for China-US relations is favorable, all parties will benefit; when the climate is bad, the space for exchanges and cooperation is bound to be narrowed," he said.

He called on the council and its member enterprises to tap into their connections and influence, and take advantage of their experience in China to present the US government, the US Congress and various sectors with a real, comprehensive picture of China, and to speak out in an objective, positive and rational manner. They should encourage the US side to foster a correct perception of China, and to stop suppressing China's economy, trade, and science and technology, and facilitate people-to-people exchanges, he added.

China is one of the top five export markets for 43 US states, is among the top three for 32 states, and is the top export market for three states, according to the Chinese embassy in the US.

The visiting business leaders said the economic and trade relationship is a stabilizing factor in bilateral ties.



The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China holds a news conference on the guiding principles from the third plenary session of the 20th CPC Central Committee on yesterday. (PHOTO / CHINA.COM.CN)

They voiced their commitment to building a strong and balanced US-China relationship, which is fully in line with the common interests of the two countries and their peoples.

The council is willing to tap its own influence and role and remain a stabilizing force in the development of US-China ties, they

added. Wang said China's US policy has been consistent, maintaining stability and continuity, and the country has always handled its affairs with the US in accordance with the three principles of mutual respect, peaceful coexistence and win-win cooperation.

Beijing is committed to strengthening dia-

logue, controlling differences and expanding cooperation, striving to stabilize and improve the relations and move them forward, he said. At the same time, China also has interests that must be safeguarded, principles that must be defended, and a bottom line that must be observed, he added. **Agencies**

Video of Illinois deputy shooting Black woman sparks outrage in US

THE Illinois State Police released video on Monday of a sheriff's deputy killing a woman in her home this month, revealing details of a shooting that some likened to high-profile cases in which law enforcement has used excessive force on Black Americans.

Sean Grayson, a white deputy who was dismissed from the Sangamon County Sheriff's Office and charged with three counts of first-degree murder last week, fired three shots at the woman, Sonya Massey, according to the indictment. He also faces a charge of aggravated battery and one of official misconduct.

"Sonya's death at the hands of a police officer reminds us that all too often Black Americans face fears for their safety in ways many of the rest of us do not," President Joe Biden said in a statement on Monday.

"I commend the actions taken by the Springfield State's Attorney's office. While we wait for the case to be prosecuted, let us pray to comfort the grieving," he said, calling



This booking photo provided by the Sangamon County Sheriff's Office shows Sean Grayson, on July 17, 2024, in Springfield, Illinois, United States. AP

on lawmakers to pass a stalled police reform bill named after George Floyd, who was choked to death by a white officer in 2020.

Grayson, 30, and the second officer were called to Massey's home in Springfield, about 200 miles (322 km) outside of Chicago, to investigate a report of a suspected "proowler" on July 6 at 12:50 am, according to the indictment.

The video, recorded by cameras worn by the officers, shows Massey, 36, in her

kitchen removing a pot of boiling water from the stove at their request. As she was doing so, the accompanying officer, who has not been named, backed out of the kitchen into the living room. He said he wanted to put distance between himself and the boiling water.

Massey then said: "I rebuke you in the name of Jesus," after which Grayson aimed his gun at her and threatened to shoot her in the face.

As Grayson instructed her to drop the

pot, Massey said, "I'm sorry" and began to duck. Grayson again instructed her to drop the pot. The second officer then drew his firearm.

During this exchange, Massey made no apparent verbal threats nor any movement in the officers' direction.

Grayson made two steps toward the kitchen, yelled at her to drop the pot again and began shooting. He then alerted his superiors that he had shot Massey in the face and turned on his body camera. The entire incident was caught on the second officer's camera.

The second deputy began rendering aid to Massey two minutes and six seconds after she was shot.

"It is shocking. I mean, every part of the video," Ben Crump, a prominent civil rights attorney who is representing Massey's family, said at a briefing.

Crump said Massey may have appeared to have mental health issues, but the officer was not justified in using deadly force. The video shows she was neither aggressive nor threatening to the officers, he said.

"Just imagine if there wasn't a video, what the narrative would have been," Crump said.

Grayson's attorney, Daniel Fultz, did not immediately respond to a request for comment. The defendant was jailed until his next court date on Aug 26. **Agencies**

Barrick pays tribute to late Isiro Bishop Julien Andavo Mbia

KINSHASA

BARRICK Gold Corporation President and Chief Executive Mark Bristow has paid tribute to The Most Reverend Julien Andavo Mbia, late bishop of the Isiro-Niangara diocese of Kisangani in the Democratic Republic of Congo, describing him as a visionary leader and a loss to the Durba community.

Monseigneur Andavo played a key role in engaging with communities and the parish of Saint Barbe during the development of the Kibali mine which resulted in the successful resettlement of residents to the model township of Kokiza that still provides amenities and services to the community.

"Thanks to the enabling influence of The Most Reverend Julien Andavo Mbia, Kibali's robust and engaged partnership with local stakeholders delivered several key infrastructural developments



during the resettlement process, including a 1,500-seat parish for the local diocese, making Saint Barbe the largest Catholic parish in the region," said Bristow.

"This partnership extended long after the resettlement to a number of community development initiatives including agriculture, education and health projects," he said. **Agencies**



This partnership extended long after the resettlement to a number of community development initiatives including agriculture, education and health projects

Xiplomacy: Far apart, close in heart : China-LatAmerica cooperation embarks on new voyage

BEIJING

A decade ago, Chinese President Xi Jinping put forward the initiative of building a China-Latin America community with a shared future for the first time at the China-Latin American and Caribbean Countries Leaders' Meeting in Brasilia, Brazil.

"The fact that the leaders of China and so many Latin American and Caribbean countries are gathering here is in itself of historic and global significance," he said.

Recalling Xi's speech, Fausto Pinato, president of the Brazil-China Parliamentary Front of the Brazilian National Congress, said China's proposal to build a community with a shared future has demonstrated its important commitment to the region, based on a multilateral vision of the world.

"The partnership between China and Latin America is a clear example of how international cooperation can generate important benefits for all parties involved," he said.

PARTNERS FOR COMMON DEVELOPMENT

The shared dream and pursuit have brought China and Latin America closely together, said Xi ten years ago. Ever since then, both sides have been constantly moving even closer to each other.

Both China and Latin American states are developing countries and emerging economies at an important stage of development and revitalization.

China prizes its relations with Latin America, and has always regarded Latin American countries as important partners in consolidating the unity of developing countries and promoting South-South cooperation.

In June this year, Peruvian President Dina Boluarte paid her first state visit to China, bringing a delegation of key cabinet members and representatives from the economic sector.

In an interview, she talked about her vision for Peru's development -- "a country where children have a future," "reduce poverty," "no more hunger" ... After visiting Shenzhen, Shanghai, Suzhou and other places in China, she gained a personal experience of the achievements and prospects of the Chinese modernization, and also saw hope for her country's future.

Over the past decade, China and Latin America have maintained close high-level exchanges and strategic communications, injecting constant impetus into the China-Latin America comprehensive cooperative partnership featuring equality, mutual benefit and common development.

Since 2023, Xi has interacted with the heads of state of Brazil, Venezuela, Chile, Argentina, Colombia, Peru and other Latin American countries, either in face-to-face meetings or through letters, messages and phone talks. "Cooperation" and "development" have been the most frequently used words on these occasions.

In recent years, five Latin American countries,

namely Panama, Dominica, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Honduras, have established or restored diplomatic ties with China. China and an increasing number of Latin American partners are working together to create a new pattern of China-Latin America relations featuring sincerity and mutual trust in politics, win-win cooperation in economy and trade, mutual learning in people-to-people exchanges, close coordination in international affairs, and mutual enhancement of overall cooperation and bilateral relations.

For Penildon Silva Filho, a professor at the Federal University of Bahia, the intense visits of heads of state and senior officials from Latin American countries to China confirmed once again the trend of "Looking to the East."

"China's relationship with Latin America is part of a new framework, in a new situation, in the creation of a multipolar world. Asia is today the great economic engine of the planet. So, in this sense, a greater relationship is justified between Latin American countries and China," said Silva Filho.

BOOMING TRADE TIES

China and Latin America have enjoyed strong economic and trade complementarities, making them natural trade partners. China has been Latin America's second-largest trading partner since 2012. The trade volume between China and Latin America last year exceeded 489 billion U.S. dollars.

In recent years, China-Latin America economic and trade cooperation has expanded from traditional fields to new energy, digital technology, and cross-border e-commerce, among others.

China has inked free trade agreements with Peru, Chile, Costa Rica, Ecuador and Nicaragua. So far, China's number of free trade partners in Latin America is second only to Asia.

This year, China held the fifth round of negotiations on the China-Honduras Free Trade Agreement and completed substantive negotiations on upgrading the free trade agreement with Peru.

China-Latin America financial cooperation continues to deepen, and the internationalization of the Renminbi is steadily advancing in Latin America. China has signed bilateral currency swap agreements with the central banks of Argentina and Chile.

Chinese banks, including the Bank of China and the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, have opened branches in many Latin American countries.

Renzo Burotto, a historian from the University of Chile, said that the economic and commercial relations between China and Latin America are highly complementary.

China is one of Latin America's main trade partners, a supplier of goods and capital, and a strategic partner for the development of industries such as renewable energies, Burotto said.

Xinhua

SPORT



Park Mobile Lions outfit's Mohamad Jawed (R) is pictured getting the Ras Logistics Man of the Match prize from Park Mobile's CEO, Andrew Muga, after the completion of the 2024 Petrofuel TCA Caravans T20 Cup's third-place duel between the squad and Balakrishna Foundation Aces in Dar es Salaam last weekend. PHOTO: COURTESY OF CARAVANS CRICKET CLUB

Park Mobile Lions garner bragging rights over Balakrishna Aces in Petrofuel TCA Caravans T20 Cup

By Correspondent Japheth Kazenga

PARK Mobile Lions' cricketers have ended their run in the 2024 Petrofuel TCA Caravans T20 Cup with their heads held high, having garnered a 22-run thrashing of Balakrishna Foundation Aces in Dar es Salaam last weekend.

After both teams were eliminated from the Petrofuel TCA Caravans T20 Cup, Park Mobile Lions came up against Balakrishna Foundation Aces in a match that served as a third-place playoff and a chance for pride.

Park Mobile Lions, still in high spirits despite missing out on the Super 4 qualification the day before, were eager for the challenge ahead.

Balakrishna Foundation Aces won the toss and chose to field first. The outfit's disciplined bowling attack posed difficulties for Park Mobile Lions' batsmen and consistently took wickets.

However, Mohamad Jawed, a stalwart for Park Mobile Lions, once again stood tall with a defiant 73 runs off just 51 balls.

Medium pacer Salum Jumbe and pace bowler Ally Mpeka starred with three and two wickets for Balakrishna Foundation Aces as Park Mobile Lions reached 153/5 after 20 overs.

In response, Balakrishna Foundation Aces, whose batting had been inconsistent throughout the tournament, struggled to build partnerships and lost wickets regularly.

Nassib Kelvin Mapunda was the top run-getter with 31 runs from 28 balls for the batting side. Salum Jumbe (20 runs), Aisah Chibanda (22 runs), skipper Asif Butt (18 runs), Hamza Ally (12 runs), and Ankit Baghel (13 runs) as well

concluded with two digits.

Kashif Ahmad, Akhtar Shaikh, and Mohamad Jawed claimed two wickets each for Park Mobile Lions, as the side's bowling unit efficiently thwarted Balakrishna Foundation Aces' charge.

Balakrishna Foundation Aces ultimately fell short by 22 runs, having so far amassed 131/9 in their allotted 20 overs.

Jawed's all-round performance earned him the Ras Logistics Man of the Match award. Kashif Ahmad's superb bowling spell of four overs, conceding just 14 runs and including a maiden over, was recognized as the Medinova Moment of the Match.

The is an annual T20 cricket showdown organized by Caravans Cricket Club, seeking to raise the game's standard domestically.

Alliance Caravans, Aurobindo AKSC, Delaware Upanga SC, Balakrishna Foundation Aces, Flashnet Strikers, Park Mobile Lions, Harab Motors Pak Stars, Econo Lodge Lions, Azania Bank Pak Stars, and Generics Gymkhana are taking part in the showdown.

Petrofuel is the title sponsor of the Petrofuel TCA Caravans T20 Cup tournament. Other sponsors of this tournament include Alliance Insurance, Ras Logistics, Medinova Healthcare, Automark, Pepsi, Ashton Media, MFI-Vertiv, Jiuzhou, SmarDTV, Intek-Korea, ASAS, Colourflex, and Delaware.

Aurobindo, Balakrishna Foundation, Park Mobile, Harab Motors, Flashnet, Generics, Econo Lodge, Azania Bank, Horizon Teleports, TATA, The Works, MO Bajaj, and Seacraft Hotel are also the showpiece's sponsors.

TGU to introduce golf training courses in primary schools

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

TANZANIA has announced the introduction of golf training courses in primary schools to familiarize pupils with the sport from a young age.

This initiative was revealed by Enock Magile, a representative from the Tanzania Golf Union (TGU), during the 2024 Arusha Open golf event organized by the Gymkhana Club.

"The Tanzania Golf Union has also started providing golf training to teachers and students," said Magile, adding that the TGU will soon release a special curriculum for this purpose. This effort aims to instill sporting skills in younger generations.

Magile praised the Arusha Gymkhana Club for consistently organizing golf tournaments over the years.

He noted that Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa recently directed the introduction of golf in primary and secondary schools. The Prime Minister made this statement in Tabora while attending the national secondary schools' sporting competitions.

Meanwhile, the Arusha Open 2024 golf event ran for three consecutive days for the first time.

"We should get used to the fact that all Golf Open tournaments will be held for

three consecutive days as per directives from the International Rules of Golf (R&A) for participants to qualify for the global amateur ranking," said Magile.

The Arusha Open, an annual golf tournament organized by the Gymkhana Club, saw Jay Nathwan emerge as the overall winner with a gross score of 221.

Felix Mrema, with a net score of 150, was the Junior Winner of the Arusha Open 2024.

Arusha Member of Parliament Mrisho Gambo presented prizes to the winners, emphasizing that golf tournaments could boost domestic tourism in Arusha.

As usual, the three-day Arusha Open 2024 was sponsored by Reliance Insurance Company, featuring a highly competitive 36-hole stroke play format.

Ravi Shankar, the CEO of the company, expressed appreciation for sponsoring the annual golf tournament in Arusha and committed to maintaining their support for sporting events in the country.

Participants competed for coveted golfing titles, including overall gross winner, overall gross runner-up, overall net winner, and divisional winner.

The women's category also competed for similar honors, with an increased number of prizes to boost women's participation in golf.

SPORTS

Ahmed Ally's unwavering spirit: A beacon for Simba

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

IN a season that has seen Simba endure a series of crushing defeats, including a humiliating 5-1 loss to arch-rivals Young Africans, one man has stood out for his unwavering optimism: the club's information and communication manager, Ahmed Ally.

While the club has faced unprecedented challenges, Ally has become the embodiment of resilience and positivity. His ability to maintain a cheerful public face in the face of adversity has been nothing short of remarkable.

Known for his quick wit and infectious laughter, Ally has managed to inject humor into a situation that would have many others reaching for the tissues. His role extends beyond mere public relations; he has become a symbol of hope for Simba fans, proving that even in the darkest of times, there's always a reason to smile.

As Simba works to rebuild and recover from a tumultuous season, Ally's contributions cannot be overstated. He has shown that in the world of sports, where emotions run high, a positive attitude can be just as important as talent on the field.

It's no secret that Simba have been going through a rough patch. With the team struggling to find its footing, the pressure is on those tasked with managing the club's public image. These are challenging times. The team is rebuilding, and fans are understandably frustrated. The pressure to spin a positive narrative is immense.

Tanzanian football fans have high expectations. They want to hear about their players being world-class. They want to believe Simba can compete with European giants. It's a tough balancing act for the club's PR team.

This is where the importance of someone like Ally becomes evident. He has a knack for managing expectations while keeping fans engaged.

Ultimately, the true test of his ability will come when Simba returns to winning ways and is competing for continental glory.

Since taking the reins as information and communication manager, Ally has overseen a tumultuous period for Simba. The club's performance in major tournaments has been consistently underwhelming, a stark contrast to the team's usual dominance.

Haji Manara, Ally's predecessor, is a legendary figure in Tanzanian football, renowned for his ability to shape public perception and elevate the profile of the club. His charismatic leadership and strategic communication skills have inspired countless young people.

Stepping into Manara's shoes was no easy task. Ally recognized the immense pressure and expectations placed upon him and made a conscious effort to connect with the fans on a grassroots



Simba Sports Club's information and communication manager, Ahmed Ally. Photo: Courtesy of SSC

level.

By visiting Simba's branches and engaging with supporters directly, he aimed to build a strong foundation for rebuilding the team.

Despite Ally's efforts, Simba have endured three consecutive disappointing seasons. The club's recent transfer activity has raised eyebrows, with many fans questioning the signings of relatively unknown players.

While rivals Young Africans and Azam FC boast talented rosters, Simba's squad appears less promising on paper. However, time will tell upon their rise to dominance and leaving a mark.

On their rise to dominance, arch-rivals Young Africans signed the majority of unknown players that contributed to the team's success. Fiston Mayele, now trading with Pyramids Egypt, arrived in the country unknown to many and left after two years of service known across all borders of Tanzania.

However, history has shown that football is unpredictable. In the past, Simba has overcome adversity by assembling a core group of exceptional players. The club's success in the aftermath of rebuilding its squad around players like Erasto Nyoni, John Bocco, Aishi Manula, and Shomari Kapombe is a testament to this.

Football is unpredictable. Simba's new signings could dramatically alter the team's trajectory. Underestimating them is a

mistake. Their young recruits have already showcased their potential in other teams.

The coach is tasked with forging a united team, while Simba must empower their players. Their history of winning titles commands respect. Don't be deceived by unfamiliar faces; Simba know how to build a championship roster.

Success isn't guaranteed. Simba have reached a crossroads, forced to rebuild after a peak that included a fortunate Champions League quarter-final appearance. This new-look Simba may require time to gel, but their promising young talent gives cause for optimism.

If the league remains competitive, they could be a formidable force next season.

Already Ally is once again in his element, a passionate and vocal official to the supporters. His unwavering loyalty and infectious enthusiasm make him a role model for aspiring sports journalists and broadcasters.

Uncertainty surrounds Gabriel Geay competing at Paris Olympics

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THERE is uncertainty that marathoner Gabriel Geay will compete at this year's Paris Olympics as he has not fully recovered from his injury.

Geay (pictured) is one of four local marathoners who qualified for the Paris Games. The others are Alphonse Simbu, Jackline Sakilu, and Magdalena Shauli.

The athlete was notably absent on Friday in Dar es Salaam during the team flag-off event, as it has emerged that he is still nursing an injury.

This prompted the Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC) to send its doctor to monitor Geay's condition.

The team's doctor, Elisa Mkongo, reported that Geay is dealing with an Achilles tendon stress injury.

"I went to Arusha to monitor how he is progressing. His situation is mild to moderate. On the day I visited him, I found him coming from his daily exercise. I think it's not that bad," Dr. Mkongo said. Dr. Mkongo mentioned that the athlete can still travel to Paris as there are chances that he may recover before the marathon event on August 9.

He added that while at the Olympic Village, the athlete will be attended by different specialists, which could help him recover quickly and compete.

"While in France, he (Geay) will be attended by different specialists and this can help him with a quick recovery, allowing him to compete. But if he fails



to compete, the doctors who will treat him there will still follow his progress even when he returns home," he said.

TOC Secretary General Filbert Bayi confirmed that despite Geay's injury, he will still travel to France as all necessary arrangements have already been made. "The team's doctor went to Arusha to visit Geay and he has informed us that

his situation is not bad. He can recover and compete. Currently, he is doing some training," said Bayi.

At the Paris Olympics, Tanzania will be represented by athletes from athletics, swimming, and judo. The athletes representing the country include swimmers Collins Saiboko and Sophia Latiff, and judoka Andrew Mlungu.

Arsenal nearing deal for Italy defender Calafiori

LOS ANGELES

ARSENAL manager Mikel Arteta says the club are trying to strengthen "certain positions" as they close in on the signing of Italy defender Riccardo Calafiori.

Speaking in Los Angeles at the start of Arsenal's three-match tour of the United States, Arteta told reporters there was "no update" on a deal for the 22-year-old Bologna man, who is valued at about £34m.

However, sources have said talks are progressing well and are expected to reach a positive conclusion.

Arsenal are also looking to strengthen in central midfield as they try to do better than the past two campaigns, when they have finished second to Manchester City.

"We have to," said the Gunners boss, when asked if his side have to improve despite two almost flawless seasons. "When you are so close you want to grab it."

"Perfection in this league requires different standards when you relate that word to winning the Premier League and that is what we have to do."

"There is still a lot of time left in the window and while that is more a question for the board, obviously we know there are certain positions that we want to improve and give the squad better resources in terms of numbers but the main thing is to focus on falling in love with the players we have."

Arsenal's players are returning for pre-season in stages.

They will have returned to London after matches against Bournemouth, Manchester United and Liverpool before others, including Declan Rice and Bukayo Saka, link up given their Euro 2024 campaign with England did not end until 14 July.

One of the tournament's abiding memories was Saka scoring in the penalty shootout victory over Switzerland in the quarter-finals, banishing the memories of his failure in the previous tournament's final defeat by Italy.

"I was very nervous," said Arteta. "What happened a few years ago plays back in your mind but he showed a lot of guts and determination and composure to take it the way he did."

"Bukayo's role is constantly growing and evolving, he is a super important player for us and one of the main players for the national team."

Meanwhile, Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola has said influential midfielder Kevin de Bruyne will stay at the club.

De Bruyne has been heavily linked with a summer move to Saudi Arabia.

He has one-year left on his Blues contract and said last month he would have to consider an offer from the Saudi Pro-League because of the "incredible money" available.

Aguirre returns as Mexico's head coach for a third time. Rafael Marquez will be his assistant

MEXICO CITY

JAVIER Aguirre has been appointed head coach of Mexico's national team for the third time and will replace Jaime Lozano, the Mexican soccer federation confirmed Monday.

Rafael Marquez, who played in five World Cups for Mexico and was the coach of Barcelona's reserve team, will be Aguirre's main assistant.

The 65-year-old Aguirre led Mexico to the Round of 16 at the 2002 and 2010 World Cups. Mexico was knocked out in that round at every World Cup between 1994 and 2018, then was eliminated in the group stage in 2022. "Aguirre is without a doubt the Mexican coach with the longest and most recognized career abroad and he also has in-depth knowledge of the processes in national teams," said Duilio Davino, director of national teams.

Davino said Marquez will be Aguirre's assistant for two years under a plan for him to take over as head coach for the 2030 World Cup.

"Rafa" is one of the most important players in Mexican history with a great national and international career who began his coaching career with an emblematic team. We have offered him to be the assistant until 2026 so that he can contribute his knowledge and then assume the leadership," Davino said.

Lozano was hired last year to replace Diego Cocca and led Mexico to the 2023 Gold Cup title. He was fired two weeks after Mexico's group-stage exit at the Copa America.

Aguirre is the only Mexican who has coached at the elite level in Europe. He has led six teams in Spain, including Atlético de Madrid and Mallorca, with which he reached the final of the Copa del Rey this past season.

He has also coached the national teams of Japan and Egypt.

Aguirre's first games back in charge will be in September when Mexico plays friendlies against New Zealand and Canada in the United States.

The 45-year-old Marquez played in his last World Cup in Russia in 2018.

However, Guardiola is unconcerned.

"Kevin isn't leaving," he told reporters before his side's opening pre-season game against Celtic in Chapel Hill, North Carolina, on Wednesday (00:30 BST).

De Bruyne helped inspire City to the Premier League title last season, the club's fourth in a row and his sixth in total at the club.

Crystal Palace's England Euro 2024 squad member Ebereche Eze has been linked with a move to City, while Brazil goalkeeper Ederson has also been the subject of interest from Saudi Arabia.

But Guardiola feels it is more likely he will have the same squad as last season.

"If someone leaves, we are going to talk about that and, of course, until the last day [of the transfer window] we have chances," he said.

"I don't rule out new players as an option, but I think there is an 85, 90, 95% chance we will have the same squad."

City begin their Premier League title defence at Chelsea on 18 August.

Meanwhile, Manchester United had a helping hand from legendary defender Rio Ferdinand in persuading highly-rated Leny Yoro to join them.

Yoro was coveted by many of Europe's top clubs, including Real Madrid, this summer.

In the end, he plumped for United, signing a five-year contract after agreeing a £52m move from French club Lille.

Ferdinand sent Yoro a social media message welcoming him to Old Trafford and, speaking to in-house club media, 18-year-old Yoro explained the former England star had already adopted a more direct approach.

"Two weeks ago, he called me," said Yoro.

"We spoke for 10 minutes about Man United, so he helped me a lot to make my choice."

"He mainly spoke about the club and what it's like. That this is a historic club with a big story, and if I go there I need to fight for the club, to be ready, because this is the biggest club in the world."

"It was really good to speak about this."

Yoro impressed on his debut in the pre-season victory over Rangers at Murrayfield.

And, judging by his assessment of his own abilities, there are similarities between Yoro's style and that of Ferdinand, who joined United for £29.1m from Leeds 22 years ago.

"The football of today, you need to read the game," he said.

"You need to understand the opponent and I try really to be focused on that. After that, I'm really comfortable with the ball. You know, I'm not afraid to play."

BBC

Rise of women's sports brings greater emphasis on maternity and parental needs

BY ANNE M. PETERSON

THE support being provided at the Paris Olympics for athletes who are also parents is just part of a larger trend as the rise of women's sports puts greater emphasis on maternity and parental needs.

In France, a nursery is available for athletes' children in the Olympic village for the first time and private rooms will be provided by organizers for nursing mothers. But the Olympics aren't alone.

FIFA, soccer's global governing body, recently added new policies that expanded on ground-breaking regulations adopted in 2020 that gave athletes access to a minimum of 14 weeks of paid maternity leave. The new rules expanded benefits to coaches and gave periods of paid leave to adoptive parents and non-biological mothers.

Likewise, USA Track and Field unveiled a program in April that gives athletes greater financial support and insurance coverage in working their way back from giving birth.

For athletes in other sports, the U.S. Olympic Committee has introduced the USA New Family Fund, which distributes grants to help parents with things like childcare, infant supplies and feeding support.

U.S. national soccer team defender Casey Krueger welcomes the greater attention sports is paying to both pregnancy and the needs of athletes who are parents of young children.

For Krueger, it's personal. When she's competing in France beginning this week, she'll have a place to nurse her son.

"I just actually had a conversation with the coaching staff and U.S. Soccer, because they've been in contact with FIFA, just trying to get some logistical things figured out," Krueger said. "I'm still breastfeeding my son so he comes to the stadium with us. And so they've been very accommodating, and they're making sure he has a room, and I'm able to (nurse) before the game. So, I felt incredibly supported."

Benfica president reveals offer for Arsenal and Man Utd target Joao Neves

By Callum Rice-Cootes

BENFICA president Rui Costa has revealed that a bid has been made for Arsenal and Manchester United target Joao Neves.

The 19-year-old midfielder is among Europe's most in-demand players this summer after an exceptional season in Portugal's top flight.

Arsenal and United are expected to face competition from other European clubs for the gifted youngster, who has earned comparisons to Manchester City's Rodri.

Costa has now admitted that Neves could be sold for less than his £101m release clause, potentially initiating a bidding war between the interested parties.

"I never said that Joao Neves would only leave for his release clause and therefore, those claims are false," he told A Bola. "What I can say in relation to Joao Neves is that there is an offer on the table. That has been in the news in the last days but I'm not going to say where this proposal stands."

"There is a proposal on the table which is being evaluated and is being discussed. But at this moment, Joao Neves remains a Benfica player. It's not that I want to hide the ins and outs because I understand that Benfica fans want to know whether Joao will be leaving or not."

"But at this moment, there are ongoing negotiations, so please allow me to be reserved about this subject so we can take care of what will be the best outcome for Benfica."

The offer in question is reportedly from Paris Saint-Germain, with the French champions clearly willing to spend big to strengthen their midfield.

Arsenal and Manchester United have repeatedly been linked with a player who now has 75 Benfica ap-



United States defender Casey Krueger walks on the field during a send-off ceremony after an international friendly soccer match against Costa Rica, Tuesday, July 16, 2024, in Washington. The match ended in a 0-0 tie. (AP Photo)

By and large, however, efforts to accommodate parental needs both within domestic leagues and at large international events like the Olympics are piecemeal, differing between both sports and the nations represented.

Because FIFA oversees the largest women's only global sporting event, the Women's World Cup, and sets the standards for the game internationally, it is in a unique position compared to other sports to set standards for its athletes.

The Women's World Cup last year in Australia and New Zealand gave FIFA a chance to introduce new policies for tournaments that require athletes to be away from home for weeks at a time. Among the changes were allowances for nannies in traveling contingents, and even the availability of child car seats in official transport.

FIFA's new guidelines also require teams to allow for time off for issues that might arise during menstruation. Additionally, player transfer rules were changed to give teams greater flexibility to sign players in the event of an athlete's pregnancy or leave.

"If we want to include women in football, we have to include them

in every aspect of the game. ... We need to ensure that they are protected from a labor perspective, that they can earn a living playing football and that they're not penalized if they want to start a family, whether that be biologically, whether they want to adopt, whether they are the biological mother or not," said Sarai Bareman, FIFA's chief of women's football. "And if we want more and more women around this planet to be playing the game and earning a living playing the game, these measures are absolutely necessary in order to ensure that."

But for most athletes, the landscape for navigating maternity and childcare can be confusing and daunting – it can often hinge on their country's laws, or lack of them. Many athletes in Olympic sports aren't covered by traditional labor contracts.

Track athletes have traditionally been supported by corporate sponsorships. Former sprinter Allyson Felix, an 11-time Olympic medalist, in 2019 called out Nike for the company's treatment of her when she was pregnant. She eventually parted ways with Nike, but pushed the shoemaker to change its policies.

Hurdler Christina Clemons, a

new mom who competed recently at the Olympic trials, said she felt supported by USATF and the US-ATF foundation, as well as corporate sponsor Doritos. But the experience hasn't always been positive.

"I was with adidas 12 years, had a baby and they didn't re-sign me. But I'm one of the best hurdlers in the world. So how does that make sense? For what reason? The only thing we can look at is that I had a child," she said.

Maternity leave and child care have long been a part of the collective-bargaining agreements that women have had with the U.S. Soccer Federation. The players' landmark agreement for equal pay with the federation in 2022 included a provision that gave fathers child care during matches and camps.

Other nations, including Australia, have similar provisions in their labor agreements.

The National Women's Soccer League and the WNBA have also recognized the needs of parents in its labor agreements. The WNBA's collective bargaining agreement in 2020 adopted fully paid maternity leave, as well as a stipend for childcare.

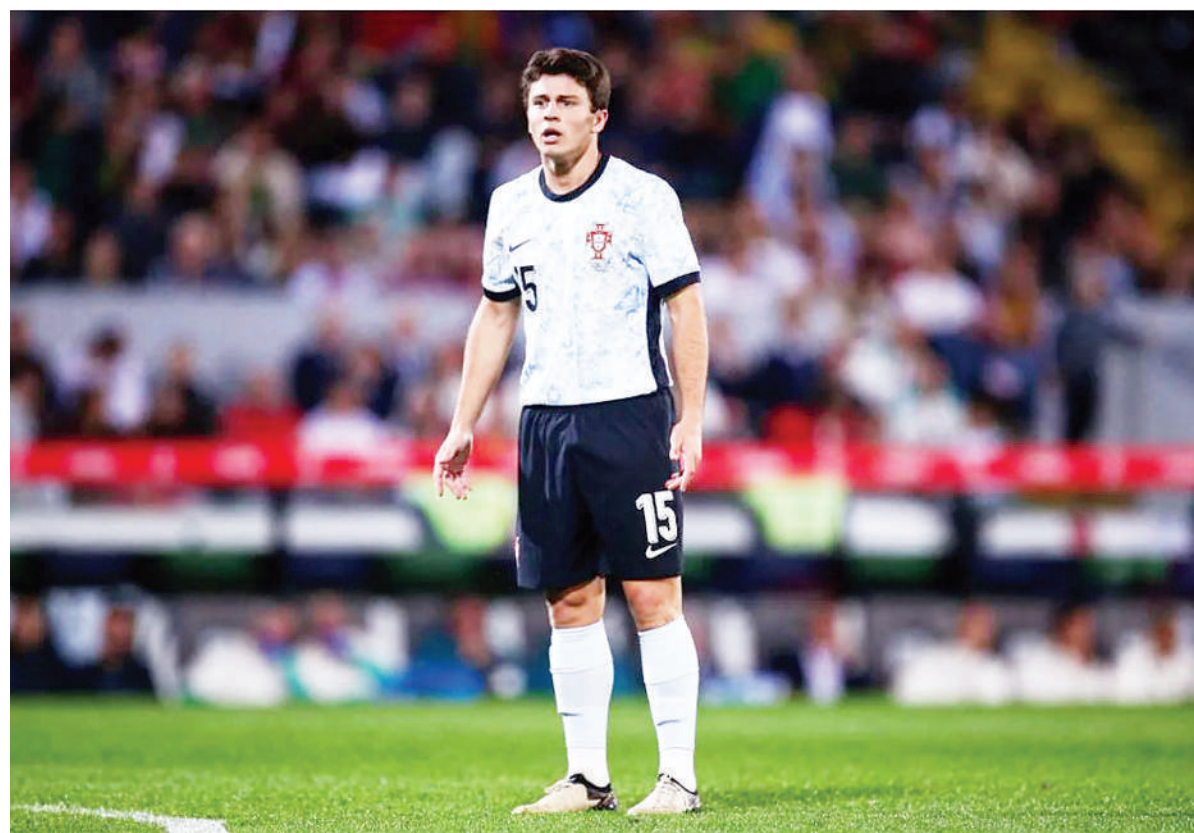
Often, reforms are driven by the players themselves, as was the case with Felix. Serena Williams' return from pregnancy spurred the WTA to adopt a new ranking rule that didn't penalize women for absences while having children.

England's Rugby Football Union gives athletes a full 26 months of paid maternity leave.

In many parts of the world, however, such policies have yet to be adopted. That's what makes efforts like FIFA's important.

"Maybe this message will not have a big impact in the United States because the players are well-protected. It is the same in France, for instance, or in Spain. We are not reinventing the wheel in some countries, the message is already there in a certain way," FIFA's chief legal officer Emilio Garcia said. "But we govern for 211 territories. So these measures can have a big impact in certain countries."

AP



Neves has had a breakout season for Benfica, and is rumoured to be on the radar of several top European clubs. Agencies

pearances to his name and nine caps for Portugal, two of which came at Euro 2024.

But Portuguese outlet Record claim that negotiations between PSG and Benfica could be concluded

by the end of this week.

THE INDEPENDENT

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Rise of women's sports brings greater emphasis on maternity and parental needs

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

Simba announce 'Simba Week' schedule and ticket details

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

AHMED Ally, the information and communication manager for Simba Sports Club, has unveiled the much-anticipated schedule and ticket details for Simba Week, set to take place on Saturday, August 3, at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium.

In a press conference, Ally highlighted the meticulous preparations and special arrangements made to ensure a spectacular event, touted as one of Africa's largest entertainment festivals.

In his address, Ally underscored the club's commitment to accommodating as many fans as possible.

"We have organized various entry points to ensure a smooth flow and to provide many fans the opportunity to witness this grand celebration," he said.

Tickets for the event are now available, with prices tailored to suit various preferences and budgets. Fans can purchase tickets for the Round stands at TSh 5,000, Orange stands at TSh 10,000, VIP C at TSh 20,000, VIP B at TSh 30,000, VIP A at TSh 40,000, and Platinum at TSh 200,000.

Ally urged fans to purchase their tickets early to avoid disappointment.

"Last season, we sold out two days before the event. This year, we aim to finish ticket sales five days in advance. The demand is exceptionally high, so I encourage everyone to buy their tickets as soon as possible," he stated.

He also highlighted the improved transportation options available, particularly the ease of travel from regions like Dodoma and Morogoro, thanks to the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR). Tickets can be purchased at TTCL offices or via M-Pesa.

Simba Day promises to be a memorable occasion, running from 6 am to 10 pm. The festivities will feature a blend of entertainment and community engagement, showcasing Simba SC's dedication to their supporters and the broader community.

Leading up to Simba Day, the club has organized a series of events under the banner of Simba Week, starting on July 25.

The schedule includes a break day in Morogoro with significant activities planned on July 25, followed by the Simba Week Bonanza involving all branches of Simba SC on July 26.

The celebrations will continue with the Simba Week Bonanza at Mwembe Yanga grounds in Temeke on July 27, and then move to Mbagala on July 28, where Ally emphasized: "We cannot do Simba Week without coming to Mbagala. We are going to wake it up."

Throughout Simba Week, the club will focus on community outreach and entertainment, encouraging fans to participate and give back to the community.

"We will provide entertainment and community aid. I urge everyone to come together and contribute," Ally said.

The Simba Week Bonanza at Mwembe Yanga will feature various games, a barbecue, and refreshments, ensuring a fun-filled experience for all attendees. Branches wishing to participate in the bonanza are required to register in advance, with further instructions to be provided by the club.

Simba Day and the preceding Simba Week are set to be monumental events, celebrating the spirit and unity of the club. With an array of activities, entertainment, and community engagement, the festivities promise to uphold the club's legacy and bring joy to its devoted fan base.

As the countdown begins, fans are encouraged to secure their tickets early and prepare for an unforgettable celebration of football, culture, and community at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium.

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Last season, we sold out two days before the event. This year, we aim to finish ticket sales five days in advance. The demand is exceptionally high, so I encourage everyone to buy their tickets as soon as possible

TPLB announces no extra time for Community Shield matches

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

THE Tanzania Mainland Premier League Board (TPLB) has announced that no additional minutes will be played in the upcoming Community Shield matches, set to begin on August 8.

This decision was confirmed by TPLB information officer Karim Boimanda, who emphasized that all matches will adhere strictly to the 90-minute regulation time. Should any match end in a draw, the winner will be determined by penalty kicks.

Boimanda shared this update while outlining some of the regulations that will guide the Community Shield, as well as the Tanzania Mainland Premier League, which is scheduled to start on August 16.

He stressed that only players who have completed their registration for the Mainland Premier League will be eligible to participate in the Community Shield matches. This measure is to prevent issues experienced in the past, such as the 2022 incident where Fiston Mayele, who played for Young Africans against Simba, was later found to be unregistered.

"Players allowed to play in the Community Shield are those whose registration has been completed, who have already been registered to play in the Tanzania Mainland Premier League and international championships," Boimanda stated.

"There will be no overtime for any match, starting from the semi-finals to the final. After 90 minutes, if the scores are tied, the match will go straight to penalty kicks."

This ruling will apply consistently across all matches in the competition.

In the 2022 Community Shield, Young Africans striker Mayele scored twice to secure a 2-1 victory over Simba, but subsequent discoveries that he had not completed his registration led to his ineligibility for earlier matches in the African Champions League that season.

Additionally, Boimanda clarified disciplinary carryovers from the previous season. Any player who ended last season with a red card or a suspension for accumulating three yellow cards, and who did not serve that suspension because the league had ended, will not be allowed to play in the Community Shield tournament. They must serve their suspension during this competition.

"These rules also apply in the Premier League. Therefore, a player who hasn't served a suspension will have to do so during the Community Shield tournament. Moreover, any red cards received during these matches will be served in the subsequent league games," Boimanda elaborated.

The TPLB has decided to update these rules to avoid confusion among fans, especially during knockout stages. Fans often do not understand the next steps after a draw, and these clarified regulations aim to address that issue.

The Community Shield matches will commence on August 8, with Azam FC facing Coastal Union at 4:00 pm at the New Amaan Complex in Zanzibar. Later that day, at 7:00 pm, Simba SC will clash with Young Africans at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

The final of the Community Shield is slated for August 11.

In preparation for the matches, the TPLB has been stringent about player registrations. Only those players who are fully registered for the upcoming Premier League season will be allowed to participate, preventing any discrepancies that could lead to disputes or disqualifications.



Karim Boimanda.

Gamondi targets fitness gains in friendly clash against TS Galaxy



Young Africans fans in South African are pictured during their international friendly match against the Bundesliga side FC Augsburg at Mbombela Stadium in Mpumalanga Province, South Africa over the weekend. Photo: Courtesy of YASC

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

YOUNG Africans head coach Miguel Gamondi has asserted his desire to raise the level of fitness by awarding minutes to all players in an international friendly against TS Galaxy today at Mbombela Stadium in Mpumalanga Province, South Africa.

The defending Mainland Premier League champions will be playing their second international friendly after facing Bundesliga side FC Augsburg in the Mpumalanga Premier's International Cup opener, where Young Africans went down 2-1 to Jess Thorup's side.

Gamondi has highlighted these games as excellent preparation ahead of the upcoming season, which is filled with fierce competition in domestic and international competitions. These competitions include the CAF Champions League, Mainland Premier League,

Federation Cup, and mini-tournaments slated in Zanzibar for the Mapinduzi Cup and Muungano Cup.

Gamondi insisted that his side gave a good account of themselves in the match against Augsburg despite being in the early stages of their pre-season. The Argentine coach has now said he will give minutes to all players to boost their fitness and rhythm.

"We have had limited time to prepare, but we will have a better idea of things after our next game on Wednesday. I plan to give every player at least 45 minutes to build their fitness and match sharpness, which are crucial in pre-season."

"We are making steady progress, and I'm pleased with the players' development in terms of physicality, technique, and tactical awareness," he said.

Gamondi still has a lot of work to do to ensure that the new players are in competitive condition, mentioning Prince Dube and Jean Baleke, who still need time to develop their competitive level in terms of fitness.

"We have a lot of work ahead to get the

new signings match-ready. Players like Prince Dube and Jean Baleke, in particular, need more time to reach the required fitness level.

"I believe they have met Young Africans' standards. Dube hasn't played in six months, so he is lacking fitness. Baleke is also quite unfit and needs to find his rhythm. Other players look better physically, but they still need to adapt to our playing style and tactics," said Gamondi.

In their first friendly match, new signings Aziz Andabwile, Duke Abuya, Clatous Chama, Dube, and Chadrak Boka all started against Augsburg, with Baleke scoring the consolation goal.

TS Galaxy will provide Young Africans with the level of competition needed before facing Kaizer Chiefs under their former coach Nasreddine Nabi.

Galaxy finished the DSTV Premiership in sixth place last season after 30 games, boasting 44 points from 12 wins, eight draws, and 10 losses. They will play in the MTN 8 Cup next season.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

