



### REGULATIONS



**INVESTMENTS MUST ABIDE BY ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION LAWS PAGE 4**

### MINING



**PM DIRECTS MINERALS MINISTRY TO CURB SMUGGLING PAGES**

### TRADE



**GOVT TO TRANSLATE SMALL TRADERS BY-LAWS INTO KISWAHILI PAGE 6**

### ACCOUNTABILITY



**SIX WORKERS FIRED OVER INDISCIPLINE PAGE 7**



Barrick Tanzania staff in buoyant mood while holding awards presented to the firm at Wednesday evening's 'night of mining' ceremony held in Dar es Salaam for emerging the leading taxpayer in the country's mining sector. Barrick oversees the management of its assets in Tanzania - the Bulyanhulu, North Mara and Buzwagi mines - through Twiga Minerals Corporation, a joint venture formed in 2019 between it and the government of Tanzania. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Treasury unveils format for bonds, investment funds in social projects

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

THE government has come up with alternative project financing involving the private sector in implementing strategic development projects nationwide.

Lawrence Mafuru, the Treasury deputy permanent secretary for economic management policies, unveiled this approach here yesterday, launching the national facilitation team coordinating the implementation of alternative project financing (APF).

The meeting is themed "Implement APF that gives relief to the government budget," with the Treasury administrator explaining that the process will enable the government to finance social projects lacking a commercial thrust, especially those that affect the community.

Funding requirements for government projects are high compared to the revenue generated from its sources, he said, noting that execution of the second five-year development plan (FYDP II) was expected

to cost 107trn/-, and this objective was not achieved.

Implementation of the third five year plan will cost 114.9trn/- where 74.3trn/- is expected to be disbursed by the public sector and 40.6trn/- mobilised from private sector sources, he stated, underlining that alternative financing is vital during this period as the government is implementing major strategic projects.

ADF implementation will facilitate a reduction of pressure on the government budget in project financing, securing the contribution of the private sector in financing key projects. It will speed up the implementation of projects, enhancing efficiency and effectiveness of project implementation, he stated.

He called on stakeholders in the financial sector to take up this mechanism, specifying that public institutions with projects that meet APF criteria need to use this method instead of expecting all projects to be deployed as usual through the government

TURN TO PAGE 2

## TPA delegation woos Zambian traders to start using Dar port

By Guardian Reporter

IN efforts arising from a strategy to attract more transporters to use the port of Dar es Salaam in particular, the Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) has sent a technical team to Zambia to promote services offered by the port.

Hassan Simba, the Tanzanian High Commissioner to Zambia, is leading the team, representing the permanent secretary for Works and Transport, with its main business as highlighting improvements at the port conducted over the past year.

This effort is part of the open door policy of the sixth phase government under President Samia Suluhu Hassan, with the team first attending a conference opened by the Zambia Minister for Transport and Logistics, Frank Tayali.

It brings together a number of transport stakeholders moving cargo from Zambia to the outside world, where High Commissioner Simba assured participants that TPA has made major strides in improving services offered at the Dar port and elsewhere.

Successes include major investment in modern equipment and machinery, enhancing the quality of service, he said, explaining that improvements in services offered at all major ports in the country will benefit Tanzania and neighbouring landlocked countries having to use the country's ports, including Zambia.

Zambia is a key destination in transit

TURN TO PAGE 2

## Court frees three terrorism suspects

### DPP okayed move after court queried 'endless' investigations

By Correspondent Abdallah Bakari, Mtwara

IN a rare decision, the Mtwara Resident Magistrate's Court has set free three persons charged with terrorism-related offences after the prosecution failed to complete investigation since 2017.

Mussa Esanju, the magistrate told reporters here yesterday that the decision was reached on Tuesday under a special programme to decongest inmates in remand prisons.

Ramadhani Kakoso, Omari Bumbo and Waziri Mkaliaganda were set free under the condition of not getting involved in any criminal activity within three years. The magistrate explained that the case, filed as number 09 of 2017 was brought to the court on terrorism charges but the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions has not completed investigations.

A special decision has been made that the accused persons be freed and wait for

investigations to be completed while at home, he told the audience.

"This court decided to set them free under the condition that they maintain peace by not getting involved in any criminal activities and state organs will monitor their movements. If they fail to abide by the condition, they will be brought before this court for legal action," he declared.

In case of failure to comply with the conditions within three years—from the date of their release to March 2025—the court can resume even the terrorism charge, he stated, highlighting that within those three years, the three will be required to report to Regional Crimes Officer on the last Friday of the month, beginning next month.

Clarifying the decision, principal resident magistrate Lugano Kasebele said that the provisional liberty arrangement was reached

TURN TO PAGE 2

## Telcoms facing law suits if data passed on to criminals

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

CONSTITUTIONAL and Legal Affairs minister George Simbachawene has called on the National Prosecutions Service (NPS) to investigate and take legal action against mobile phone firms and their workers who disclose customers' data and monetary transactions to online criminals.

The minister issued the directive when opening a training session on online crimes for state attorneys, saying it is surprising to see some online criminals possessing data of customers making online transfers or other transactions.

It is possible that some technical staff in mobile phone firms are not faithful, disclosing customers' transactions to online criminals, causing many people to lose money.

"How can an online criminal know that money has been transferred to a mobile phone customer in his money account if he has not been provided with the data by mobile phone service providers?" he demanded.

Sylvester Mwakitalu, the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), said that the training will help state attorneys start working diligently on the issue, to remove complaints from the

TURN TO PAGE 2

Form 281d

**THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA  
BUSINESS REGISTRATIONS AND LICENSING AGENCY**

Advertisement of Winding-up Petition  
Pursuant to Rule 99(1) of the Companies (Insolvency) Rules 2005  
Misc. Commercial Case No.42 of 2021

**IN THE MATTER OF: BAHDELA CO. LIMITED**

A Petition to wind up the above-named Company of:

Address: The Registered office of the Company is at Plot No.186053/23, Upanga Street, P. O. Box 5950, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

presented on: **31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST, 2021**

by: **PETROFUEL (T) LIMITED**  
(name and address of petitioner) OF P.O.BOX 14525, PLOT NO.33/1 & 34/1, MBAGALA INDUSTRIAL AREA, DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA

Claiming to be a [creditor] of the Company, is fixed for orders at (Name of Court) **THE HIGH COURT OF TANZANIA, COMMERCIAL DIVISION AT DAR ES SALAAM**

on (date): **10<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2022**

at (time): **9:00AM IN THE MORNING**  
(or as soon thereafter as the petition can be heard)

Any person intending to appear on the hearing of the Petition (whether to support it or to oppose it) must give notice of his intention to do so to the petitioner or his/its Advocate in accordance with Rule 104(1) of the Companies (Insolvency) Rules 2005 by 16:00 hours on the business day before the date of the hearing given above.

The Petitioner's Advocate is: **S. Ishengoma, SA Law Chambers, Advocates, PPF Tower, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Ohio /Garden Avenue Street, P.O. Box 22691, Dar es Salaam**  
Mobile: 0786222242  
Email: [adv.ishengoma@gmail.com](mailto:adv.ishengoma@gmail.com), [s.ishengoma@salawchambers.co.tz](mailto:s.ishengoma@salawchambers.co.tz)  
(REF: SI/108/PFL)

**Dated 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2022.**





## Treasury unveils format for bonds, investment funds in social projects

FROM PAGE 1

budget.

Dr Charles Mwaumwaja, the Treasury commissioner for financial sector development, said that in financing government projects, traditional finance such as tax and non-tax revenues is expected to improve, but these sources can't adequately finance project expenditure needs.

More spending done on development projects requires that the recurrent budget also increases, while development projects like the construction of hospitals, schools and water projects maintained, adding weight to the recurrent budget, he elaborated.

With persistent financial constraints during the implementation of various development projects, alternative

financing is of paramount importance, he emphasised.

As an alternative financing strategy, APF as a resource mobilisation tool will cover projects as indicated in national development plans and any other viable projects as per set criteria, he stated.

Alternative financing has been growing globally, as in 2018 alternative finance platforms facilitated \$304.5bn flows into public sector projects, where China, the United States, Britain and Germany top the list of countries extensively using such mechanisms.

In Europe, alternative finance sources have grown by 144 percent since 2015 while global impact investment was projected to grow by more than \$3trn, with crowding investment reaching \$37bn, global data indices show.

## Telcoms facing law suits if data passed on to criminals

FROM PAGE 1

public.

Among challenges that hinder the prosecution of such cases is the little understanding for state attorneys on its handling, despite that it has triggered many complaints often brought to state law offices.

Monica Mbogo, an assistant director for online crimes in the DPP offices

said the training is designed to ensure that prosecutors have the ability to deal with such crimes, as technology has been advancing.

The law on online crimes is not new, but due to technological advances a number of provisions are revisited as regards case prosecution and collection of evidence to tender in court, she added.

## Court frees three terrorism suspects

FROM PAGE 1

after a permit was obtained from the DPP as investigation in such cases takes time.

The resident magistrate affirmed that all three were set free after meeting conditions of having two guarantors

with a bond of 20m/- each.

Saidi Hassan, a relative of one of the freed persons thanked the government for the initiative, noting that it should be promoted all over the country to release people who are not supposed to be in prison and thus decongest correctional facilities.

## New Uganda law to impose fines on those who refuse COVID-19 vaccine

KAMPALA

Only a third of Uganda's population has been vaccinated against COVID-19 and the government is keen to change that.

Uganda plans to impose fines on people who refuse to be vaccinated against COVID-19 and those who fail to pay could be sent to prison under an amendment of a public health law currently being reviewed in Parliament.

Health Minister Jane Ruth Aceng told lawmakers on Monday that the amendment is important to repeal the obsolete provisions, revise the fines for offences committed and protect citizens.

"The bill has a section on vaccination and immunisation as a public health measure to protect the vulnerable," she said. "When we introduce new vaccines, we need to get a mass of people so we create mass immunity. It is important that whoever is supposed to be vaccinated, is vaccinated."

The East African country started administering COVID-19 vaccines nearly a year ago, but only about 16 million jabs have been administered in a population of 45 million. Officials are blaming widespread reluctance for the low coverage.

This has led to the Parliament's Health Committee scrutinising the Public Health (Amendment) Bill 2021, which seeks to make coronavirus vaccination mandatory.

The new law proposes a fine of 4

million Ugandan shillings (\$1,139) for those who fail to get vaccinated.

"According to the proposal, those who do not get vaccinated against COVID-19 will be fined 4 million shillings or [receive] a jail term of six months," Parliament said in a statement on its website.

The Parliament statement on Tuesday did not say when the proposed law was likely to be brought before its members for approval.

Uganda fully reopened its economy last month after almost two years of anti-coronavirus measures that included curfews, businesses and school closures, the shutting of borders and other steps.

The strict measures helped curb the pandemic but drew widespread criticism from Ugandans whose businesses and livelihoods were affected.

The country has recorded about 163,000 cases of COVID-19 and 3,500 deaths, health ministry data shows.



**The bill has a section on vaccination and immunisation as a public health measure to protect the vulnerable**



India's High Commissioner to Tanzania, Binaya Srikanta Pradhan (L), with Defence and National Service minister Dr Stergomena Tax shortly after talks at the ministry's offices in Dar es Salaam earlier this week. They were reported to have discussed ways to enhance cooperation between the two countries. Photo courtesy of Indian High Commission

## TPA delegation woos Zambian traders to start using Dar port

FROM PAGE 1

business starting at the port of Dar es Salaam, with experts qualifying transit activity as the multi-modal Dar es Salaam corridor with railway and road components.

The road, named the Tanzania-Zambia highway, is flanked by the TAZARA railway, starting from the port to the Tunduma/Nakonde border post.

TPA marketing manager Lydia Mallya said that the port is the main cargo gateway to the Tanzanian hinterland and Great Lakes region, similar to countries further inland, like Burundi

and the Democratic of Congo (DRC). Malawi, Rwanda, Uganda and Zambia also use the port but have higher access to ports to the south and north of Dar es Salaam. Dar port registered performance of 17.8m tonnes last year, she stated.

With the capacity of handling 600,000 vehicles annually, the new 320-meter long berth at the port recently broke both its own capacity handling record and other regional ports outside South Africa.

It has so far berthed large cargo ship MOL Tranquil Ace to discharge 3,743 cars on the new roll on roll off berth,

she said in illustration.

Given the rise in maritime trade and ever-increasing market demand, TPA is set to cope with this trend by creating handling capacity ahead of demand, with projects to improve efficiency at the port, the manager asserted.

The Dar es Salaam Marine Gateway Project (DMGP) taking up 336.4bn/- is the first large-scale modernisation of the port, the manager noted, elaborating that the project is well underway, with initial works virtually complete under TPA supervision.

Upon completion it will enable the

port to attain 28m tonnes handling capacity annually, thus playing a vital role in linking the regional expansive hinterland to international markets, she stated.

Initiatives to improve cargo handling at the Dar port and other TPA facilities ports will fast-track the pace of industrialization and wider social and economic development in the region.

The port handles around 90 percent of Tanzania's imports and exports carried on sea surface; it is a key transit port for Burundi and DRC, as well as Rwanda, Uganda, Zambia and Malawi.



(L-R, foreground) Ramadhani Kakoso, Omari Bumbo and Waziri Mkaliaganda, who have been in custody since 2017 in connection with terrorism-related allegations, address journalists outside the Mtwara Resident Magistrate's Court yesterday shortly after being released following failure by the prosecution to complete investigations. Photo: Correspondent Abdallah Khamis

## Huge need as Madagascar hit by fourth cyclone in a month

ANTANANARIVO

THE fourth cyclone to hit Madagascar in a month has damaged houses and crops, and raised fears of fresh floods.

A senior official from the International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC), Denis Bariyanga, says about 160,000 households have been affected by the severe weather.

Cyclone Emnati made landfall late

on Tuesday night, bringing winds of over 100km/h (62 mph), heavy rain and high waves.

More than 30,000 people were evacuated from the country's south-eastern coast before the storm hit.

The IFRC says there is a pressing need to find food, clean water and bedding for the people who've been displaced. Madagascar is prone to seasonal cyclones between November and April every year.





Ally Sajjad (L), a Grade Five student from Academic Achievement Open School, explains how he designs robots for use in science experiments. This was at a Science Talent Exhibition held at the Dar es Salaam-based school yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

## 'Many victims of alternative cure are persons with NCDs'

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has said victims of alternative cure include all those suffering from Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) as they live with them for a long time, whenever they hear there is a new cure around they rush for it.

The remarks were made yesterday by Ministry of Health Assistant Director of Non-Communicable Diseases, Dr James Kiologwe at a two-day training seminar that involved members of the HIV/Aids, TB and Illicit Drugs Parliamentary Standing Committee,

reporters and people suffering from these diseases.

The training that brought together 64 participants was organised by Tanzania Non-Communicable Diseases Alliance (TANCD) and Tanzania Women Lawyers Association (TAWLA) in collaboration with the Ministry of Health through World Health Organisation's (WHO) RECAP project.

Speaking at the seminar, Dr Kiologwe said when a person with NCD hears of an alternative cure on his disease, he prefers to have the cure fast.

"Therefore, the result is that there

are some who abandon hospital treatment for alternative cure, and that alternative cure has delayed some of them to get hospital treatment.

"For instance many cancer patients begin with alternative cure and by the time they reach the Ocean Road Cancer Institute (ORCI), their diseases have reached advance stages," he added.

He said many people who administer alternative cure still do not know the right doses and their effects.

He added that so far there are nearly 40,000 new cancer cases each year, and many of them relate to kidney that need dialysis and kidney transplant.

He said the increase of these patients has necessitated the government to use a lot of money for their treatment.

"In 2019, Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa launched a national programme for the prevention and control of NCDs, and stressed on the education for the need for change of living habits," he added.

For his part, the Chairman of Tanzania Diabetes Association (TDA) who is also TANCD chairperson, Prof Andrew Swai said various stakeholders started researching on NCDs to see how they have spread since 1986.

He said at that time it was found out that many people in rural areas suffered from these diseases, but as for now they are spreading to urban areas, driven by bad living habits especially bad dieting, lack of exercises, drinking and cigarette smoking.

## Govt to cooperate with large companies ready to invest in agriculture sector - minister Bashe

By Guardian Reporter

MINISTER for Agriculture Hussein Bashe has said that Tanzania is ready to cooperate and provide needed support to large companies across the globe that was ready to invest in the agriculture sector.

He said the government will provide full support to the companies that will venture into value addition of various crops and thus ensuring food security.

Speaking at the ongoing International Trade Fair in Dubai (Dubai Expo 2020), Bashe noted that Tanzania has a large and fertile land for agricultural investment with a conducive business climate.

He said the country is currently looking for strategic investors who will support productive investment for Tanzania and the world at large, especially considering that in the coming years Africa will be the main source of food.

"Tanzania loves and recognizes investors working in various sectors including agriculture as it is one of the essential industry contributing immensely in the country's employment and development," Bashe said in the statement availed to the media yesterday.

Bashe said following President Samia Suluhu Hassan's decision to reduce bank's interest rates to below 10 percent, more investors are now attracted to invest in various areas and that agriculture being one of the potential areas.

"The country has a number of agricultural research centres spread across every corner of the country where they conduct researches on what varieties of crops to be grown in the areas, also the country has enough workforces to work in any investment

area while also having many incentives for investors," he explained.

He cited an example of AVOAFRICA Company which has exported over 200 containers of avocado saying that the situation shows how agriculture is paying much for those who are keen to invest in the sector.

He said Tanzania has a number of opportunities in the areas of vegetable, fruits and flowers with reliable markets inside and outside the country.

"With fertile arable land, industrial raw materials, and a large and trainable young population with social stability, Tanzania is an ideal platform to accommodate both local and foreign investors," he said.

The minister added that despite welcoming foreign investors, the government will continue supporting local farmers and had already supported many with loans and equipment to facilitate their farming.

Government institutions participating at this year's Dubai expo include Tanzania Trade Development Authority (TANTRADE), Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA), Tanzania National Parks Authority (TANAPA), Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC), Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB) and Tanzania Forest Services Agency (TFS).



**The country has a number of agricultural research centres spread across every corner of the country where they conduct researches on what varieties of crops to be grown in the areas**



### ADVERTISEMENT

#### REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

**TENDER TITLE: CONSULTANCY – INDEPENDENT EVALUATION OF TRADEMARK EAST AFRICA'S SAFE TRADE EMERGENCY FACILITY**

**TENDER NUMBER: PRQ20210584**

TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) is an aid-for-trade organization that was established with the aim of growing prosperity in East Africa through increased trade. TMEA seeks to appoint a qualified consultant to deliver an independent evaluation of its Safe Trade Emergency Facility (also referred to as Safe Trade). TMEA's Safe Trade work began in April 2020 in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic which affected the movement of goods and people across Eastern and Southern Africa.

Terms of reference for this assignment and the Request for Proposals (RFP) document can be obtained at <http://www.trademarka.com/procurement/>.

All queries quoting the above Tender Title and Number should be emailed to [procurement@trademarka.com](mailto:procurement@trademarka.com). The closing date for submissions is **Friday 18 March 2022**.

Interested and qualified firms/consortiums must submit their bids through TMEA's mailbox using the email address, [procurement@trademarka.com](mailto:procurement@trademarka.com). The email subject line should clearly indicate the tender reference number, and procurement title description. Emails that are not titled as indicated may not be received. All attachments must be 5 MBs or less.

TMEA cannot answer any query relating to this tender seven days or less prior to the submission deadline.

216721601

### ZANZIBAR UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY



#### TENDER No: SMZ/F0118/W/OQ/2021-22/20 FOR DESIGNING AND CONSTRUCTION OF DATA CENTER Invitation for Tenders

Date: 25th February 2022

- This Invitation for Bids follows the General Procurement Notice for this Project which appeared in Zanzibar Leo Issue No.1821-8556-6299 dated 30th July 2021.
- The Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar has set aside funds for the operation of the Zanzibar Utilities Regulatory Authority during the financial year 2021/2022. It is intended that part of the proceeds of the fund will be used to cover eligible payment under the contract for the Designing and Construction of Data Center.
- The Zanzibar Utilities Regulatory Authority now invites sealed bids from eligible contractors registered in Tanzania for the construction of Designing and Construction of the Data Center.
- Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) procedures specified in the Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Assets Act No. 11 of 2016 and is open to all eligible Bidders as defined in the Regulations unless otherwise stated in the Bid Data Sheet.
- Interested Bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the Bidding Documents at the office of the Tender Board, Zanzibar Utilities Regulatory Authority P.O.BOX 2238, Room No. 011 Maisara, Zanzibar from 8.30 am to 16:00 hours on Mondays to Fridays inclusive except on public holidays.
- A complete set of Bidding Document(s) in English and additional sets may be purchased by interested Bidders on the submission of a written application to the address given under paragraph 5 above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Two Hundred Thousand (200,000). Payment should be settled through the following Account details: Account Name: Mamlakaya Udhbitiwa Huduma za Maji na Nishati-Mapato, Account No. 0404 149 000, People's Bank of Zanzibar Limited (PBZ).
- All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Securing Declaration in the format provided in the Bidding Documents.
- All Bids in one original plus three copies (3), properly filled in, and enclosed in plain envelopes must be delivered to the address Tender Board, Zanzibar Utilities Regulatory Authority P.O.BOX 2238, Room No.011, Maisara, Zanzibar at or before 10:00 Am, 17th March 2022. Bids will be opened promptly thereafter in public and in the presence of Bidder's representatives who choose to attend the opening at the ZURA, P.O.BOX 2238, Maisara, Conference Room at ZURA Building Zanzibar.
- Late bids, a portion of bids, electronic bids, and bids not received, Bids not opened and not read out in public at the bids opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstance.

**DIRECTOR GENERAL**  
**ZANZIBAR UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY**  
**P.O. BOX 2238, MAISARA,**  
**ZANZIBAR**

216721701



# ASPIRES Tanzania

## Agricultural Sector Policy and Institutional Reforms Strengthening

SERA BORA, meaning Better Policies in Swahili, is Tanzania's, Feed the Future, 5-year United States Agency for International Development (USAID) funded project. It is awarded to the Michigan State University (MSU) and implemented under the auspices of the Agricultural Sector Policy and Institutional Reform Strengthening (ASPIRES) NGO in Tanzania. The project's objective is to accelerate the adoption of effective policies and programs that promote broad-based economic growth, improve food security and nutrition, and contribute to poverty reduction in Tanzania.

To effectively contribute to this goal, SERA BORA activities are guided by **three** core programmatic components:

### Component I: Policy Research and Data

### Component II: Policy and Regulatory Reforms

### Component III: Strengthening of Policy Institutional Architecture and Capacity

ASPIRES Tanzania invites competent and reputable firms to participate in the pre-qualification process to provide various goods and services for their Dar-es-Salaam and Dodoma offices.

CATEGORY REFERENCE	CATEGORY DESCRIPTION
<b>CATEGORY A</b>	<b>Supply of Goods</b>
ASP/PG/001/22	Office stationery items
ASP/PG/002/22	Electronic appliances/ repair and services
ASP/PG/003/22	Office furniture, fittings, equipment, and occupational safety equipment
ASP/PG/004/22	General office supplies
ASP/PG/005/22	Newspapers and Magazines
ASP/PG/006/22	Supply of project vehicles
<b>CATEGORY B</b>	<b>Provision of Non-Consultancy Services</b>
ASP/PS/001/22	Accommodation, conference facilities, and catering services
ASP/PS/002/22	Vehicle hire services
ASP/PS/003/22	A travel agency - air ticketing services
ASP/PS/004/22	Maintenance and spares of vehicles
ASP/PS/005/22	General insurance/health insurance
ASP/PS/006/22	Printing services
ASP/PS/007/22	Minor contractual office repairs/ maintenance
ASP/PS/008/22	Internet service providers
<b>CATEGORY C</b>	<b>Consultancy Services</b>
ASP/PS/011/22	Organizational audits and tax consultants
ASP/PS/012/22	Legal and Human Resource Management services
ASP/PS/013/22	Media, communication services, and ICT based solutions
ASP/PS/014/22	Event management
ASP/PS/015/22	Facilitator and Translator
ASP/PS/016/22	UI/UX and graphic designer
ASP/PS/017/22	Virtual conference services

### SUBMISSION

Applicant's Solicitation Reference No. (Refer to category references above)	
Applicant's Issuing Office & Address	
Applicant's Point of Contact for Clarifications, Questions, and Amendments	
<b>ASPIRES TANZANIA CONTACT INFORMATION</b>	<b>Email: aspires Tanzania@gmail.com</b>  <b>Tel: 0715 449988: Dar-es-Salaam</b> <b>0742 942010: Dodoma</b>  <b>TIN Number: 130-461-905</b>
Solicitation Issue Date	<b>February 25, 2022</b>
Deadline for Submission of Proposals	<b>March 10, 2022</b>

### PRE-QUALIFICATIONS

1.	Company profile including relevant certification (3 pages only)
2.	Provide at least 3 of the applicant's most recent contracts   works, value, and duration of contracts entered with clients (must be listed) – (1 page summary for each of the 3 most recent contracts)
3.	Provide at least 3 different references from each of the 3 contracts (do not exceed half a page of references for each contract)
4.	Consultancies – CV of a maximum of 3 pages: 2 pages CV + 1-page list of references
5.	Only shortlisted firms will be invited to present their bids

Submit your pre-qualifications in soft copies (scanned documents in PDF) before **March 10, 2022**. Emails are provided above.

### Disclaimer:

All information pertaining to the provision of all goods and services (including but not limited to the participant list, documentary, audio, digital, cyber, project/program documents, etc.) belonging to ASPIRES Tanzania, which the contractor firm may meet in the performance of their duties or service delivery shall remain the property of ASPIRES Tanzania who shall have exclusive rights over their use.

Except for purposes of this engagement, the information shall not be disclosed to the public nor used in any manner without the written permission of ASPIRES Tanzania in line with the National and International Copyright Laws applicable.

The decision on the final award is subject to the availability of funds and conditions of the sponsor.

# Govt: No iodine in 43 pct of salt produced in the country

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

IT is reported that 43 per cent of all salt produced in the country does not contain iodine, thereby threatening the health of consumers who end up suffering goitre and giving birth to premature babies.

In the circumstances, the government has come up with an inclusive plan that will require salt producers to form groups to be provided with equipment for adding iodine to the salt.

This was revealed here yesterday by the Ministry of Health's Permanent Secretary Prof Abel Makubi when handing out five machines for mixing iodine with salt to the Office of the President, Regional administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) for use by local councils whose districts produce salt.

Prof Makubi said Tanzania has a big capacity in producing salt whereby more than 300,000 tonnes of salt is

produced every year in various areas countrywide but 43 per cent of the commodity is not mixed with iodine.

He said the government, in collaboration with various stakeholders have manufactured equipment which are currently obtained at Vocational Education Training Authority (VETA) colleges to help salt producers mix iodine to the salt they produce.

"People should not use salt that has not been mixed with iodine, as doing so can cause many effects including goitre and giving birth to stillborn babies," he stressed.

He called on local councils to fully supervise salt producers in ensuring they add iodine to the salt before sale.

For his part, PO-RALG Permanent Secretary Prof Riziki Shemdoe called on regional administrative officers whose regions have received the equipment to make sure they are used for the purposes intended and not leave them rust in the warehouses.

Prof Caroline Nombo, Education,

Science and Technology Permanent Secretary said due to improvement of technical training in the country, VETA has manufactured the machines to save government funds to import them.

She added that the machines will help in the nutrition guidelines in schools launched late last year.

Earlier, the Director of Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC), Dr Germana Leyna, said the aim of handing out the machines is to make sure that 90 per cent of all the household in the country use the salt that is mixed with iodine.

She said in 2019, research done on salt production and mixing it with iodine and showed that Tanzania was producing over 337,000 tonnes of salt and only 53 per cent is mixed with iodine.

She said in the same year, 2019, five machines were purchased from South Africa that cost 25m/- each and distributed countrywide.



Shinyanga district commissioner Jasinta Mboneko (R) pictured on Wednesday having a word with residents of Maskati village whose farms are to be taken over for use by the Mwanza-Isaka section of the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) construction project. She told them that all would be fairly compensated. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

## 'Investments must conform to environment protection laws'

By Guardian Reporter

AS the government makes efforts to woo investors especially in labour-intensive manufacturing sector, it has been cautioned that all factories must abide by environment protection laws.

This statement was made yesterday by Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment) Dr Selemani Jafo on a working visit to inspect compliance with the environment law at A One product and Bottles Ltd Factory in Dar es Salaam Region.

He said the government encourages investors in the country but it is

important for those investors to adhere to the Environmental Management Act in its entirety.

Minister Jafo commended the factory which produces soft drinks namely soda, water and juice for complying with the timely implementation of government directives not to use plastic sheets on water bottle caps.

"I am so impressed by this factory; it has put into practice the government's directive not to use plastic sheets on the water bottle caps produced by this factory. The factory has also set up a factory to recycle plastic bottles, even the coloured ones whose collection has been challenging. I urge them to

ensure that their bottles do not spread in the environment but return them to the factory and manufacture other products," Jafo insisted.

He said the industry has a huge role to play in boosting the country's economy while contributing to direct employment so the government will ensure the requirements of the law are complied with.

For his part, the Chief Executive Officer of A One product and Bottles Ltd, Chengal Reddy said they have made a concerted effort to ensure that the coloured bottles produced at the factory are back in circulation by making other products.

"We have another factory at Mbagala where these coloured bottles are processed to make other plastic products such as Busati and car parts," he said.

## Tanzania working on new initiatives to benefit from India's pigeon pea market

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE government has embarked on a fresh initiative to promote mass cultivation of pigeon peas among farmers in the regions where the economic cash crop is grown.

The regions include Manyara, Mtwara, Arusha, Morogoro and Kilimanjaro.

To start with, the Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute (TARI) at its Morogoro-based Ilonga centre has in this season planted more than 10 hectares of seed varieties for pigeon pea in order to supply the farmers with enough seed varieties.

National coordinator of grain legume research at TARI, Meshack Makenge told this paper in an interview that the institute was expected to produce around 15 tonnes of seed varieties for pigeon pea from the so far cultivated 10 hectares.

Among others, the strategy incorporates research and mass production of improved seed varieties for pigeon pea, as well as dissemination of agronomic practices towards the farmers.

He noted that the timely development has been triggered by a recent move by the ministry of agriculture to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the government of India for the exportation of the crop.

TARI-Ilonga is the designated centre for the research and production of pigeon pea seeds in the country. "We're working round the clock to ensure farmers are easily accessing improved seeds varieties in order to cultivate and yield bumper crops and thus, enabling the country to cater effectively and benefiting accordingly from the Indian market," Makenge insisted.

He said the pigeon pea was standing among the high-protein crops which currently attract lucrative markets in different countries, urging local farmers to use the endowed economic opportunity to improve their livelihoods.

Makenge expressed that the institute has developed at least seven improved varieties which are in different three categories. "The varieties have been developed through effective collections and maintenance of generic materials, testing elite cultivars and improved

management practices on stations and in farmer's fields," he added.

He named the seeds varieties as mali, kiboko, karatu, Ilonga 14MI, Ilonga 14M2, tumia and kombao.

"Basically, TARI is producing early generation seeds, breeder, pre basic and basic pigeon pea seeds," he stated.

He further informed that few farmers in the country use improved varieties, regardless of its availability, saying: "This could be due to the fact that most seed companies and agencies do not multiply pigeon pea seeds for commercialization."

According to Agriculture Minister Hussein Bashe, the government is well determined to assist local farmers to cultivate commercially in order to cater and benefit from the vast Indian market.

Apart from pigeon pea, he said the parent ministry has also signed MoU with India for the exportation of other crops, including green gram, sesame and avocado.

Records show that Tanzania is producing over 2MT of pulses from its 2.1m hectares, cultivated by 1 million smallholder farmers.





Kilosa district commissioner Majid Mwanga (L) and NMB Bank Plc's central zone manager, Nsolo Mlozi, officiate at the launch of the bank's mobile branch services at Dumila township in Morogoro Region yesterday. The ceremony also saw the bank present desks and chairs worth a total of 10m/- to Lumuma Secondary School. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## PM for closer links by govt agencies in fight on mineral smuggling

By Correspondent James Kandoya

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has directed the Ministry of Minerals to work in synergy with authorities and security organs to arrest mineral smuggling in the country.

He said that smuggling and all related illegal business in the mining sector affects not only revenue collections but also the country's development.

The premier issued the directives in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday during the official closure of the 4th International Mineral and Mining Investment conference 2022.

"We want to know the actual amount of our minerals extracted, processed and refined. I therefore, urge the responsible ministry to collaborate with security organs and work out on the matter to control the illegal business," he said.

He also tasked the ministry to establish a participatory network system that can involve all stakeholders for the wider interest of the country and development of the sector.

Majaliwa urged the President Office's Ministry- Regional Administration and Local Government Authorities (PO-RALG) and the Ministry for Minerals to identify all minerals markets and centres that are available.

He further said that currently, there were 44 minerals' markets and 70 centres across the country.

He said the move should go concurrently with establishing strong coordination of those market centres especially at councils' centres.

He also highlighted the importance of the responsible ministry to ensure the minerals processed and refined meet international standards.

According to him, huge investment in processing and refining of minerals is highly needed to brand the country.

"We invite local and foreign investors

in the sector to invest in processing and refining of minerals to build our country's brand in the world market," he added.

The investors should invest in processing and refineries machines to add more value to their final products.

He said the government target was to see the sector contribute 10 percent to Gross Domestic Product by 2025 from the current one of 7.9 percent.

Minister for Minerals, Dr Ditto Biteko reaffirmed the commitment of his ministry to eliminate challenges facing small scale miners in the country.

Citing the Salt miners' concern, Biteko said that his office was working with them to see possible ways of supporting them.

He however said the government will not prohibit the importation of table salt noting that the demand was still higher compared to supply.

According to him, the country's demand for table salt was 250,000 tonnes while the capacity was 120,000 tonnes annually.



**We invite local and foreign investors in the sector to invest in processing and refining of minerals to build our country's brand in the world market**

By Guardian Reporter

## Urgent measures needed to arrest wanton tree cutting - government

PERMANENT Secretary in the Vice President's Office, Mary Maganga has said urgent steps are needed to control wanton tree cutting that cause destruction of forests.

She also said the situation is to a great extent contributed by unsustainable human activities and effects of climate change and warned that if it is not controlled, 40 to 50 years from now the country will be turned into desert.

Maganga made the remarks Wednesday this week in Morogoro when launching an institutional capacity building project for Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+).

She explained that tree cutting causes climate change which in turn is caused by carbon dioxide emissions up to 20 per cent.

She said the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions due to deforestation is an international protocol that stresses the fight against climate change through the reduction of global warming.

The PS added that Tanzania Mainland is home to an estimated 48.1 million hectares of trees which is 55 per cent of its entire land area.

"Forests are of great benefits for human lives and other living things, and their destruction causes the loss of biodiversity and the danger to the loss of important animal and plant species.

"The biodiversity destruction is estimated to cost the government an

average of five per cent of its GDP and more benefits in rural communities that depend on the natural environment for their daily lives," she added.

She explained that there is a need to continue mobilising the community to participate in carbon dioxide emissions reduction plans by planting trees and preserve forests that suck the carbon dioxide.

For his part, Bjern Midthun, an official from the Norwegian Embassy expressed his hopes in the project saying it will help in reducing the challenges posed by climate change.

He praised Tanzania for its participation in various international

conferences on environmental issues including last year's COP26, saying it was a good step to ensure the effects of climate change are removed.

The director of environment in the Vice President's Office, Dr Andrew Komba said the tree cutting rate is high in the country, hence the project will help to reduce tree cutting for wood fuel and charcoal.

He also said unsustainable farming contributes to the challenges hence through REDD+ a better way will be found to do farming without cutting trees for farming area, instead farmers should use a small area for profitable farming.

## Museveni asks EU to remove market barriers

KAMPALA

PRESIDENT Yoweri Museveni has asked the European Union to open its market to Africa's food produce to improve farmers' income and ensure sustained food security.

This was in a statement released by State House yesterday following the President's meeting with Bjorg Sandkjaer, the State Secretary and Deputy Minister of International Development from the Kingdom of Norway at State House Entebbe.

"If you can help us with the European market; remove the distortion that was introduced by the European Union when they introduced European Agriculture Policy where you maintain artificial farmers in Europe with subsidies," the President said.

"Here, we don't need subsidies. I am

a farmer, I have never got any subsidies from anybody and I produce food cheaply for Ugandans. You wonder why the Europeans could not get cheap food from here instead of having that distortion," he added.

The EU agricultural policy covers a wide range of areas, including food quality, traceability, trade, promotion of EU farm products and provision of financial support to its farmers, according to information from the EU website. Sandkjaer applauded Uganda's efforts to ensuring food security.

The President and Sandkjaer also discussed income generation and social-economic transformation.

The EU has for several instances either banned or threatened to ban agricultural products from Uganda over poor quality. But EU still remains

one of the leading destinations of Ugandan products with an average of \$60.7million (Shs213.7b) annually, according to government statistics.

The President said Europe and Africa would greatly benefit if the market is opened up. "If you are to link Europe and Africa on issue of food, you will be well off. Africa would be well off and Europe would get cheap food. In Uganda we do things easily," he said, hinting at how Ugandan agricultural products are the favourite in Kenya because of affordability.

President Museveni said due to irrigation, Uganda has a surplus of maize, milk, sugar, among others.

"We are one of the biggest producers of bananas in the world, have surplus milk. Everything is surplus, including beef and sugar. The problem is the market," he said.



Simanjiro district commissioner Dr Suleiman Serera addresses residents of Ruvu Remit ward as he made a routine village-to-village tour earlier this week, the thrust being on ways to jointly resolve challenges commonly facing the people. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey




**Advertisement**

**BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED**

Requests the submission of Expressions of Interest from qualifying parties wanting to participate in the below services at Bulyanhulu Gold Mine

Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Limited (BGML) is a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation. Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Site is located 45km south of Lake Victoria, in the Kahama District of Shinyanga Region, northern Tanzania. There are road accesses to the mine from Mwanza, 127km to the northeast and from the town of Kahama, 84km to the south.

BGML, therefore, invites "Expressions of Interest" from reputable, experienced and certified companies interested in pre-qualifying for inclusion in a tender process for the provision of the below goods/service packages.

No.	Reference no.	Description of work/goods to be procured	Pre-Qualification Criteria
1	BUL-22-02-04	Security System Upgrade	i. <b>Telecommunication ICT/Security System</b> Contractor with minimum Class 3 CRB registration ii. Evidence of holding similar contract in last 3 years iii. Past experience working in the mining environment or other similar high security environment. iv. Team with multi discipline members should have sound Knowledge of Mine Health & Safety acts. v. Certified in Security System and surveillance System (Babylon/Dallmeier/Semsey) vi. Technical capability on providing similar services (CVs of key personnel)

The above Services/goods are intended to be awarded through a competitive tendering process in which a restricted number of suitable pre-qualified and experienced contractors shall be invited to receive the tender documents. Please submit an "Expression of Interest" on your company's letterhead referencing the work package reference number should your company qualify as per the pre-qualification criteria together with the following additional information and/or documentation:

- Full company profile;
- Company registration documents i.e. Certificate of incorporation, business licence, TIN, VRN, Tax Clearance Certificate etc.;
- BRELA – Register of Companies detailed information certificate
- Approved Local Content Plan or acknowledgement of submission from the Mining Commissioner
- Applicable certification, accreditation and affiliated registration
- Years' service and experience of key personnel to be assigned to project
- Required equipment availability to perform the specific work

Kindly send your response by email to [bulytender@barrick.com](mailto:bulytender@barrick.com) by latest close of business on the 03<sup>rd</sup> March 2022.

Any responses received after this date shall not be considered.  
Please quote reference number "BUL-22-02-04 - Security System Upgrade" in the subject line of your email.

Pre-qualification of any company submitting an "Expression of Interest" shall be at the sole discretion of BGML.

For and on behalf of **BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED**



## EU-Africa business forum calls for new strategic partnership to spur mutual economic benefits

By Guardian Correspondent

PANELISTS at the European Union-Africa Business Forum 2022 in Brussels called for more strategic cooperation between Europe and Africa to address trade and economic imbalances between the two continents.

Several speakers at the session on integrating EU and African value chains argued that Africa must scale up value chains, especially in the wake of the devastation caused by Covid-19. Recent statistics show that Africa's participation in global value chains remains low at 3%.

Albert Muchanga, Commissioner for Trade and Industry at the African Union Commission, said Africa can improve its stake in the global value chain with the help of a strong EU partnership in a win-win formula.

"Rather than relying just on exporting raw materials, integrating EU-Africa value chains should aim to process goods within Africa. This is where jobs are created and poverty reduced," Muchanga stressed.

Thierry Breton, EU Commissioner for the internal market, called for a more robust economic integration between the two continents. "It is extremely important that we continue, from both sides, to break the barriers to integrating our markets as a very strong booster for our economies," he said.

Breton told the participants that Africa and Europe should follow their harmonized rules and economic partnership agreements to enable value addition for processing in Africa before exporting to European markets. He also highlighted several strategic sectors in which African countries can position themselves, including renewable energy, digitalization, human capital investment, and skills development.

"We are trying to put the tools together from our side with our new global strategy. We will dedicate €150 billion to Africa. We will, of course, support massive infrastructure in Africa, which we know is extremely important and we will help improve the investment climate and support sustainable development," he said.

Breton stated that the European Union will continue to help African countries in the fight against the Covid-19 pandemic, saying the region was pushing hard to support the continent's capacity to produce vaccines locally in South Africa, Rwanda, Ghana and Senegal.

The African Development Bank has a statutory responsibility to support regional integration as a crucial economic development factor for Africa. In remarks during the

discussions, Yacine Fal, the bank's Acting Vice President for Regional Development, Integration and Business Delivery, said: "But we also need to support a more dynamic push to pull African countries and their enterprises into the European value chain," she said, adding that the African Development Bank plans to make available roughly \$2 billion for regional integration initiatives between 2022 and 2023.

Fal said the bank is supporting the establishment of the African Continental Free Trade Area's institutional framework and its secretariat, and funding projects under the African Free Trade Programme. "Boosting regional integration in Africa must involve lower-income countries and not only champions," she said.

To integrate EU value chains, African countries need to increase their involvement in global trade and production patterns, Fal said.

Private sector representatives on the panel highlighted the importance of a fair and equal relationship. This should be built on common goals and aspirations that will lead to a win-win relationship for both regions, according to Mansur Ahmed, President of the Pan African Manufacturers Association.

"Today, the wealth of nations is built on the addition of value to basic endowments. This needs to be transformed and refined to create a more equitable relationship," said Ahmed, who is also the Executive Director of the Dangote Group.



**We are trying to put the tools together from our side with our new global strategy. We will dedicate €150 billion to Africa. We will, of course, support massive infrastructure in Africa, which we know is extremely important and we will help improve the investment climate and support sustainable development**

## Government to translate by-laws on small traders, activities into Kiswahili

By Guardian Reporter

THE government, through its Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups, and in collaboration with the Association of Petty Traders (SHIUMA) has vowed to make sure by-laws on the petty traders (Machinga) are translated into the Kiswahili language to enable them understand.

This resolution was reached at the conclusion of a two-day meeting involving ministry officials and SHIUMA leaders led by the Ministry's Permanent secretary, Dr Aintab Chaula in Dodoma.

Closing the meeting, Dr Chaula called on the petty traders to work together with the government to implement the resolutions reached for their own and the nation's general interests.

"By March 16 this year, SHIUMA lawyers, in collaboration with their counterparts from the Ministry and those from the Office of the President, Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) should finalise the laws' translation into Kiswahili."

She mentioned the meeting's resolutions as including the need for the ministry to improve desks that

deal with issues of the petty traders in collaboration with PO-RALG and down to the local councils to help resolving challenges in their areas.

She mentioned other resolutions reached as the ministry's working together with PO-RALG to make sure local government authorities plan and put in place enabling infrastructures in areas petty traders do their activities in collaboration with their leaders in the relative area, to prepare petty traders database, and for the ministry to regularly visit petty traders' markets to find solutions to any existing challenges.

For his part, SHIUMA National Chairman, Ernest Matondo thanked the government for facilitating the meeting with the petty traders and pledged to work together with the ministry and local government officials in seeing the petty trade sector thrives in accordance to the existing laws.

For her part, PO-RALG Director of Local Government Nuru Namoroma assured petty traders that her office will continue coordinating their issues for better achievement at the local government level by working together with the Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups.



Dodoma district commissioner Jabir Shekimwari leads the planting of tree seedlings in Mtumba, an administrative ward in Dodoma Urban District, yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Peter Mkwavila

By Guardian Correspondent, Iringa

THE Tanzania Electric Supply Company Limited (TANESCO) in Iringa Region has started to connect power to a total of 2,170 customers who paid the 27,000/- connection fees.

The firm's regional public relation officer, Francis Mbwele said the exercise will be carried out by a special task team formed by TANESCO from Mufindi, Kilolo and Iringa districts.

He said all the customers will be connected to power before March 3.

"We are also well prepared to continue improving service provision which include ensuring that any new customer is connected to power within two weeks after filling the application form, we want to ensure that electricity services reach people on time so as to stimulate economic development," he explained.

He said the majority of customers are located in Iringa town and Kihwele

## TANESCO to connect power to over 2,000 customers in Iringa Region

where the task force is currently working and move to other areas in the next few weeks.

Mbwele cited lack of essential equipment as one of the major challenges that thwart exercise commencement.

"We were facing a deficit of equipment but now we have received enough tools, the connection exercise will go well and all the customers will start enjoying the services in their homes," he added.

He urged citizens who want to be connected to power to continue sending their applications as the firm was there to serve them.

TanESCO regional Eng. Twaha Kisaka said as the government has already

issued a timeframe of the exercise, the firm has formed 13 total task forces where each team constructs 20 service lines per day and they all expect to create over 200 service lines.

Mary Kasusange, chairperson of Kitwiro B street, commended the firm for embarking on the campaign which will see more being connected to power and thus stimulate economic development.

She called on the firm to ensure that the exercise engages closely all leaders in the streets and villages so as to avoid misunderstandings.

She said her street has a good number of residents who are yet to be connected to power, so the exercise sounds as a huge relief to the residents

in the area.

Early this year, Tanesco announced an 18 percent increase on electricity connection tariffs after President Samia Suluhu Hassan raised concern over the amount charged by the corporation.

TanESCO's tariff adjustment (amendment) of Nov. 2020, approved connection charges for single phase services within 30 meters, 70 and 120 meters for urban areas to stand at 272,000/-, 436,964/- and 590,398/- respectively.

However, the new tariff changes didn't touch customers who had paid the 27,000/- fee before the government's announcement and were just waiting to be connected.



Tanzania Electric Supply Company (Tanesco) technicians pictured in the Kitwiro section of Iringa municipality yesterday moving to supply power to the over 2,170 people who have paid the required 27,000/- fee. Photo: Correspondent Francis Godwin

By Guardian Correspondent, Kahama

THE completion of construction of classrooms under the Covid-19 relief fund in Kahama district in Shinyanga Region will ease students' congestion in secondary schools, officials have said.

Earlier students were studying while congested a move which authorities believed was behind the region's poor performance in secondary school national examinations.

Speaking during a fundraising for the construction of an administration block at Malunga primary school in the district, a member of Malunga

## Classrooms built with Covid-19 relief funds set to ease students' congestion in Kahama

ward development committee Robert Masunga said students have been travelling long distances to school a move which made many to drop school.

Masunga said the construction of classrooms was one of the successes saying it was going to improve learning in the district.

He hailed the government for the construction of three classrooms which have been completed together

with necessary infrastructure inside.

He said earlier pupils who passed in the ward were those studying at Kishimba secondary school which was occupying 150 pupils in one class, a move which disturbed learning.

For her part one of the residents for the ward Beatrice Peter said the completion of the construction of classes was going to help parents to closely follow their children's progress

in studies.

The chairman for Malunga street Omary Abdala said the classrooms whose construction is underway, will be completed by April this year.

Chama cha Mapinduzi Ward Secretary, Kiteleja Kisika said members of the party's governing committee sat to discuss progress of the construction exercise saying already they have collected 60 bags of cement from well-wishers.



## Letshego explains digitisation of its services to its customers

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIAN business people and marketing personnel have early this week engaged in the latest stakeholders meeting on Twitter with 'Connect Spaces' platform that aims at promoting the inclusive and progressive digital transformation in Africa.

According to Letshego Bank Tanzania's chief executive officer, Omar Msangi, since the bank values digital changes, it believes that it cannot only enhance access and create a seamless experience for the customers, but also deliver more new products in the country.

He said: "In Tanzania, our customers can look forward to new solutions in insurance and payments, all available with a few clicks via our digital mall channels and this twitter discussion is valuable and of more importance to our bank."

Twitter Space is a unique and fast-growing space for widely-known community trailblazers to share personal insights into their own experiences, learnings and unpack the ingredients for success that brought them the opportunities they celebrate and build on today.

Participants had the opportunity to meet LetsGo host, Mpoeng Mpoeng, one of Twitter Space's earliest adopters, and founder of the popular and influential-BWConnectSpaces.

Social enterprise entrepreneurs and recognisable influencers of the likes of Vee Mampwezy and Thabiso Mashaba from Botswana, Demola from Nigeria, Neyma from Mozambique, Tracy Owusu Addo from Ghana and Masoud Kipanya from Tanzania will be joining the live online event.

"In 2021, Letshego progressed its digital strategy by launching the 'LetsGo Digital Mall' in 10 markets across sub-Saharan Africa, The LetsGo Digital Mall is an omnichannel integrated platform that customers can access via web, WhatsApp USSD and mobile,

The reason for the term "mall" is Letshego's insight into the evolution of this platform into a digital platform that will serve to link customers, suppliers, services through a one-stop platform for all regional customers, for now, the digital mall serves as a catalyst to provide customers with a simple and accessible platform to their accounts, as well as a simple easy solution to apply for or top up their personal loans."

Chief marketing officer for Letshego's bank, Chipiliro Katundu clarified: "Our first regional online event celebrates our LetsGoSpirit, and unlocks conversations between our diverse nations and trailblazers who share Letshego's passion and commitment to making a difference in their respective communities to 'improve lives."

The objective of the session is to use Twitter Spaces in unlocking conversations with the depth and power only the human voice can bring. That is how Letshego meets Africa in 2022.



**Our first regional online event celebrates our LetsGoSpirit, and unlocks conversations between our diverse nations and trailblazers who share Letshego's passion and commitment to making a difference in their respective communities to 'improve lives**



Deogratius Minja (2nd-R), director of Mirerani-based tanzanite mining company California Camp, shows the award and small miners taxpayer certificate issued to his firm by the Minerals ministry at a ceremony held in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday. Left is Manyara Region Miners' Association treasurer Nene Lyimo. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

## Shinyanga District Council fires six employees over indiscipline

By Guardian Correspondent, Shinyanga

SIX Shinyanga District Council workers have been fired for indiscipline and being absent for long periods from their work places without explanation.

The council's chairman, Ngassa Mboje announced the sacking of the six workers at the council's meeting on

Wednesday after it transformed into a committee that discussed the issue and reached the decision.

He said the council has unanimously sacked the six who were from various departments due to acts of indiscipline and absenteeism from their work stations.

He named the six as including doctor Fidelis Mushi from Nindo

Health Centre, Andrew Mwakisambwe, a laboratory technician from Salawe Health Centre, Charles Mayunga, the Bukene village executive.

Others are Mercy Kyando, Kilimawe village executive, Omary Omary and Robert Mbuti, the Igembya and Mwabagehuvillage executives respectively.

"We cannot have workers who are

perpetually absent from their work stations and without any information about their whereabouts, and this should act as lesson to other council staff, you applied for work, hence you should work," said chairman Mboje.

He also said two other workers will have their salaries deducted at 15 per cent for three years, due to their unacceptable conduct.



Pendaeli Massay, nursing officer in-charge with Dar es Salaam's Mwananyamala Regional Referral Hospital, makes a presentation in the city earlier this week on the importance of healthcare. It was at a gender and development seminar organised by the Tanzania Gender Networking Programme (TGNP). Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

## Tanzania, Mozambique launch deradicalisation programmes chiefly meant to combat terrorism

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

TANZANIA and Mozambique have been carrying out joint military operations against terrorists along their shared border, and have also teamed up to organize deradicalization programmes using education and other means to prevent youth from falling into the trap of terror groups.

Authorities in the two countries said the terrorist groups like Daesh/ISS responsible for killing hundreds of people and displacing thousands of others are using religion and the vulnerabilities of youth to radicalize them.

Nicodemus Katembo, Acting Mtwara Regional Police Commander said the initiative launched by both countries in January is aimed at sensitizing the population about the dangers of terrorism.

"The best way to fight terrorism is to empower young people at risk of being brainwashed by terrorists," he said.

According to the initiative involving government officials and non-governmental organisations, both countries are aiming to target marginalized young people from Mtwara,

Lindi and Ruvuma regions as well as Cabo Delgado, and Niassa provinces in Mozambique.

"We work closely with our friends in Mozambique to ensure that our young people are sufficiently educated to reject evil," said Katembo.

Besides military operations, authorities in the two countries have also adopted a softer approach to identify and address factors that persuade young people to join the terrorist ranks.

Alves Mathe, the spokesperson of Mozambique's Niassa Province Police Command, said the initiative is in line with the country's new counter-terrorism strategy which has presented major changes in the government approach in fighting terrorism.

"We want to talk to young people about their problems and try to help them to find solutions," he said.

Makonde Youth Group (MYG), a local charity group in Tanzania, which is involved in the project, has launched various skill programmes to train youth to earn living.

George Ndanda, who is working with the group in the region, said the young people who

join terrorist groups are searching for identity and money to address their plight.

"Most young people here feel they're being excluded by the society because they're poor," Ndanda said.

The organisation brings together youth in the terrorist hit areas in Tanzania and Mozambique and arranges discussions to let them openly talk about issues and then find viable solutions.

"The objective of this course is to infuse moral fibre to young people who are still learning what life is about so that they become responsible citizens," he said.

Tanzanian President Samia Suluhu Hassan and her Mozambican counterpart Filipe Nyusi met early this month and announced joint plans to fight cross-border terrorism.

Interviewed, some young people in Mtwara Region said they were approached by radical preachers to join terror groups, but they were rejected.

"What these groups are doing has nothing to do with Islam. I don't feel attracted to them," said 19-year-old Hemed.

According to Ndanda, unemployment and social marginalization are key factors affecting young people.

Another youth, Heri Msemwa, said people also get entangled in the net of terrorists to save their lives.



**VI AGROFORESTRY IS RECRUITING FOUR (4) PROGRAM OFFICERS TO THE RELOCATED COUNTRY OFFICE IN DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA.**

### About Vi Agroforestry

Vi Agroforestry is a Swedish development organization, improving livelihoods of smallholder farmer families through agroforestry and sustainable agriculture land management. The organization has been working in East Africa for over 35 years. Through trainings, counseling and networking, Vi Agroforestry has reached over 2.4 million people and helped planting over 125 million trees. The vision of Vi Agroforestry is a sustainable environment enabling people in poverty to improve their lives. Vi Agroforestry operates in four countries: Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda.

### Details of the Positions

For detailed terms of reference and how to apply visit our **website:** <https://viagroforestry.org/work-with-us/>

OR

<https://www.impactpool.org/jobs/774911>

**Deadline for application is 13<sup>th</sup> of March 2022.**

If you meet the set criteria, please upload your application letter and CV ONLY on IMPACTPOOL

Only successful candidates will be contacted.

### Misconduct

Vi Agroforestry is an equal opportunity employer and canvassing is prohibited. If you want to alert on suspected discrimination, corruption or other serious misconduct during the recruitment process, do not hesitate to use our Whistleblowing System.



## The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO  
Circulation Manager: EMMANUEL LYIMO

## Newsdesk

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

## Advertising

Mobile: 0782253676  
E-mails: advertise@guardian.co.tz  
Website: www.ippmedia.com  
epaper.ippmedia.com

## International Mother Language Day a monument of respect for diversity

**T**HIS Monday (Feb 21) language teachers and students the world over on engaged in activities marking International Mother Language Day.

This is a United Nations memorial or dedication day meant to promote awareness of linguistic and cultural diversity.

Marking the Day may appear to focus on the importance of mother languages as human beings' unique acquisitions, but it also lays emphasis on multilingualism.

This is because the latter is a unifier of humanity and enables us to appeal to a common set of values. If we reduce all values to the mother tongues we each speak, no global community as we know it is possible.

Founder president Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, in whose memory and that of the liberation movement as a whole a new leadership college is dedicated, relentlessly reiterated this during his time.

Mwalimu told an international conference on Kiswahili towards the end of 1982 that the language unified Tanzanians as a nation but that we needed to realise that English was the 'Kiswahili of the world'.

For unique geostrategic reasons, starting from the global spread of the British Empire to the intensity of US cultural influence around the world, English is a sort of global lingua franca. Many may wish to undo its cultural hold, but the going is bound to be tough indeed.

That is why this year's rather subdued activities in the country on International Mother Language Day show both salutary success with regard to increasing the recognition

of Kiswahili on the regional and international stage, and a crying paradox.

Strictly speaking, the day being observed isn't about the glory of regional unifying languages but, rather, mother languages per se.

In this case, it is the 128 tribal language bases and their countless tonal variations across the respective tribal zones that we ought to be elevating if our marking of this day is stark or sincere.

It is thus vital that, in marking this UN Day, we that there is a sense of hierarchy and value in what we take as mother language.

We have shelved claims of importance of tribal languages to focus on Kiswahili as a unifying language.

Marking this Day means that we ought to rekindle interest in original languages that make Tanzania a diverse country, as otherwise we shall have eschewed the essence of a Day devoted to the dignity of indigenous peoples and their languages.

The Day isn't designed for a few languages laying claim to regional supremacy or international roles but those that are 'nearing extinction'.

As economic policies gradually change and Tanzania becomes part of a wider regional and international economy and institutions of public order are more assured, public authorities ought to lessen their fear as regards elevating knowledge or propagation of traditional languages.

That is the real test of this memorial Day - that it is tribal tongues and not Kiswahili that are real focus but tribal tongues. We would be doing much to promote respectability of our national outlook by speaking with ease a series of tribal languages.



## Innovation in local news: A 'survival guide'

By David Tvrdom

**T**HE International Press Institute (IPI) has continued to explore innovation and looks for practical measures to help local media, with case studies from across Asia, Africa, Latin America, Middle East and Eastern Europe.

Local news has been among the hardest hit of all the media segments, says a new report by the Vienna-based global network of editors, media executives and leading journalists dedicated to defending media freedom and supporting independent journalism.

The report, by IPI media strategist Jacqui Park, looks into ways innovation can make local news more sustainable as well as better able to serve local communities and fight against misinformation.

The report - or "survival guide" as it calls itself - compiles success stories involving local news media in more than 35 countries, journalists, editors, media leaders and entrepreneurs.

These people are upgrading legacy media, creating new local media voices in the emerging and developing regions of Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Middle East and Eastern Europe.

### Key to success: Know your audience

The key points apply to almost any news organisations in those parts of the world. To be successful, media organisations need the key that opens the door to their audience.

The basic formula - know your audience, bring value, find a unique perspective, engage them and ask for support - is there in every case study.

El Pitazo in Venezuela is an example of how local news has to innovate in the face of constraints.

The outlet engages disconnected communities outside big cities through flip charts pasted on walls, two-minute newsbriefs before movie showings, and live chat forums through WhatsApp.

They also use **performative journalism** to produce dramatised investigative stories that can reach a broader audience.

Successful local outlets are also innovating the structure, readability and presentation of journalism to make it accessible to, and readily usable by, their audiences.

The survival guide reiterates that local journalism has to embed itself in the community and rebuild trust by listening to the target audience. In short, it should be journalism that

reports for, rather than about, the community.

Red/Acción in Argentina found the innovation sweet spot at the intersection of solutions and participatory journalism. They were after stories underrepresented by other outlets and focused on six issues: the climate crisis, gender equality, social inclusion, health, education, and technology for the common good.

263Chat in Zimbabwe realised that the rural audience was becoming mobile but that data was expensive, so they generated an e-paper, essentially a PDF version of a morning newspaper distributed via WhatsApp groups.

There is no single model that works for all local news media, the guide notes. It is true.

The report's underlying idea is that successful local news outlets are keenly aware of their audiences and serve the community.

In some cases, this is achieved by filling the gaps in national news and bringing local perspectives - also, by becoming an independent and trustworthy news source, as opposed to the rest of the media ecosystem that might be corrupt or state-controlled.

### Key insights from innovative local media

According to the report, local news media constitute a sector most open to experimentation and innovation and with the greatest potential to form the bedrock of a new, stronger media ecosystem.

The main idea behind this reasoning is that local news media outlets have suffered the worst from digital transformation. Also, authoritarian regimes target local media in the first place.

The above-mentioned are just some of the reasons this sector lends itself to be experimented on, and poses a challenge for media builders.

Local context is of the essence. To be successful, local news media ought to reflect on - and create - their communities with a clear sense of their mission. They must have editorial vision and keep a sensitive finger on the intricacies of local culture and diversity by embedding themselves in the community.

Funding is another challenge. This is especially true of poor communities or regions where most media are controlled by the state, with independent outlets having to make do with reader revenue or grants from abroad.

In Hungary, most media are either

owned by or involved with Prime Minister Viktor Orbán's ruling Fidesz party. Therefore, independent outlets like Nyugat are unable to attract private advertisers. Nyugat, specifically, relies on grants from abroad and holds fundraising campaigns a couple of times a year.

Speaking of authoritarianism, the IPI report recommends the generation of trust and the building of an emotional attachment of being "on the same side" with their community - which, in return, acts as a shield against the bad guys.

The report further notes that digital native media have an easier starting position without "the dead weight of the past, including restraints of legacy organisational culture".

Also worth noting is the recently published report from Euromonitor that lists "digital seniors" as a top-ten global consumer trend for 2022.

According to Euromonitor, each of 82 per cent of consumers aged 60-plus owned a smartphone in 2021, and their top three online activities were browsing the Internet, reading news and visiting social media.

Usually, digital seniors are not the first thing that comes to mind when drawing up a plan for a new upgraded media.

### Steps for action

One of the main aims of the report, besides serving as an inspiration for other local media outlets, is to identify practical measures that the global media community or its supporters could take.

Thus, five important measures need to be taken to build a thriving local news environment, **one** being embedding a vision and sense of the mission that meets the needs of the audience/community with an appropriate journalism focus.

**Two:** Levelling up access to information, training, network support, and funding essential to the construction of sustainable local media.

**Three:** Generating a global network to prepare local media to take on the challenges. This will allow them to share, understand and learn from one another's steps and stumbles. This will give them access to expertise, mentoring and community support.

**Four:** Ensure that donors and the media support community (particularly in developing countries and regions) understand that the future is local.

**Five:** Leveraging the relationship

of local trust to rebuild confidence in news media and lead the fight against misinformation and disinformation.

To clarify what has to be done, the report recommends a couple of practical steps - the **first** relating to the fact that there is a lack of knowledge and opportunities for learning and developing new skills for the construction of new sustainable media.

This problem could be solved by boot camps and virtual training with a focus on revenue strategies, product design and audience engagement.

**Second** is the need to help local outlets to understand their audiences, particularly by using that knowledge in designing news products for them.

**Third** is the importance of helping donor organisations and philanthropic networks to realise that some communities cannot sustain a local organisation and therefore need long-term funding commitments.

Finding or building a global network of local news media supporters would provide splendid networking and sharing opportunities.

The report notes that IPI is excellently placed to act as such a connector - that it could build a mentor network and a regular local news summit for exchanging experiences and know-how.

A decisive struggle against misinformation and disinformation is another good point. A team of fact-checking experts would stand a better chance in this than would a one-man outlet.

A similar initiative was announced recently. The Central European Digital Media Observatory (CEDMO) brings together partners in the Czech Republic, Poland and Slovakia, including the French news agency AFP, to create an anti-misinformation hub.

The project, which is co-ordinated by Prague-based Charles University, is also meant to boost public media literacy in the region and develop artificial intelligence tools to detect disinformation.

To sum up, the Local Media Survival Guide 2022 is a must-read for all those working in local news or are interested in this space.

**A What's New in Publishing dispatch. This piece was originally published in The Fix, whose stories seek to shed light on the media, business practices and economic trends - including braking down the success stories and understanding the lessons that people could learn from whatever failures there may be.**

## World Day of Social Justice: Gross statistics on growth blind to welfare

**N**O theme has been more laboured in the social sciences than social justice, which in politics it ranks near the top after themes like national unity, law and order, or harmony.

So that there is a moment of reflection on these issues across the world at a particular moment, the United Nations adopted February 20 as World Day of Social Justice.

Preliminary coverage of the theme asserts that more than 60 per cent of the world's employed population, which comes to two billion women, men and youth, earn their livelihoods in the informal economy.

It is clear that the focus on informal sector activity isn't intended to look at how a country fares in economic growth generally but where poorer sections of the population come into the picture.

Thus, recent economic and social dislocation tied to the Covid-19 pandemic led to a rethinking on the welfare of these groups as lockdowns, less money in circulation and limited or non-existent public assistance wreaked havoc on countless individuals and families.

The story varies from one country to another but hardly any country was immune to these pressures - and, basically, they aren't over yet.

Poverty awareness has always been part of policy making, particularly at the level of multilateral lending agencies.

Commercial lending meanwhile focuses on profitability against the background of positive economic prospects, judging by GDP figures.

Huge social disturbances like Covid-19 add an especially sharp spotlight on the vulnerability of those

tied to informal activities.

Here the fortunes of those people similarly differ greatly, as they range from the marginally affected to those quite simply thrown into misery.

While UN data and activists focus on the plight of the informal activity section of the population, the real poverty is actually worse.

In Tanzania, Covid-19 did not lead to lockdowns but it induced a decline in amounts of money in circulation as international travel was curbed - and, with it, an array of economic activities tied to serving visitors, including in tourism.

Informal sector operators have lately been struck by a policy bombshell of their being cleared from roadsides and pavements to be confined to markets and built structures well within the generally accepted margin of road use and business installations.

It was a shock at the start but, admittedly, many are slowly starting to get used to the situation though with great difficulty.

There are various other instances which have intensified the burden on the shoulders of informal sector operators, including sporadic fires consuming traders' wares at pivotal markets in Dar es Salaam.

A range of explanations are put across, among them "electrical faults" even when tragedy struck deep in the night with scarcely anyone at the market, or a "forgotten" stove, candle, oil lamp.

We should not subscribe to, or buy, just any explanation coming our way and no one really wants to see the facts behind potential sabotage unearthed. We should, rather, seek to see to it that social justice is done and practised.



# To avoid being busy for nothing at work, perform specific tasks

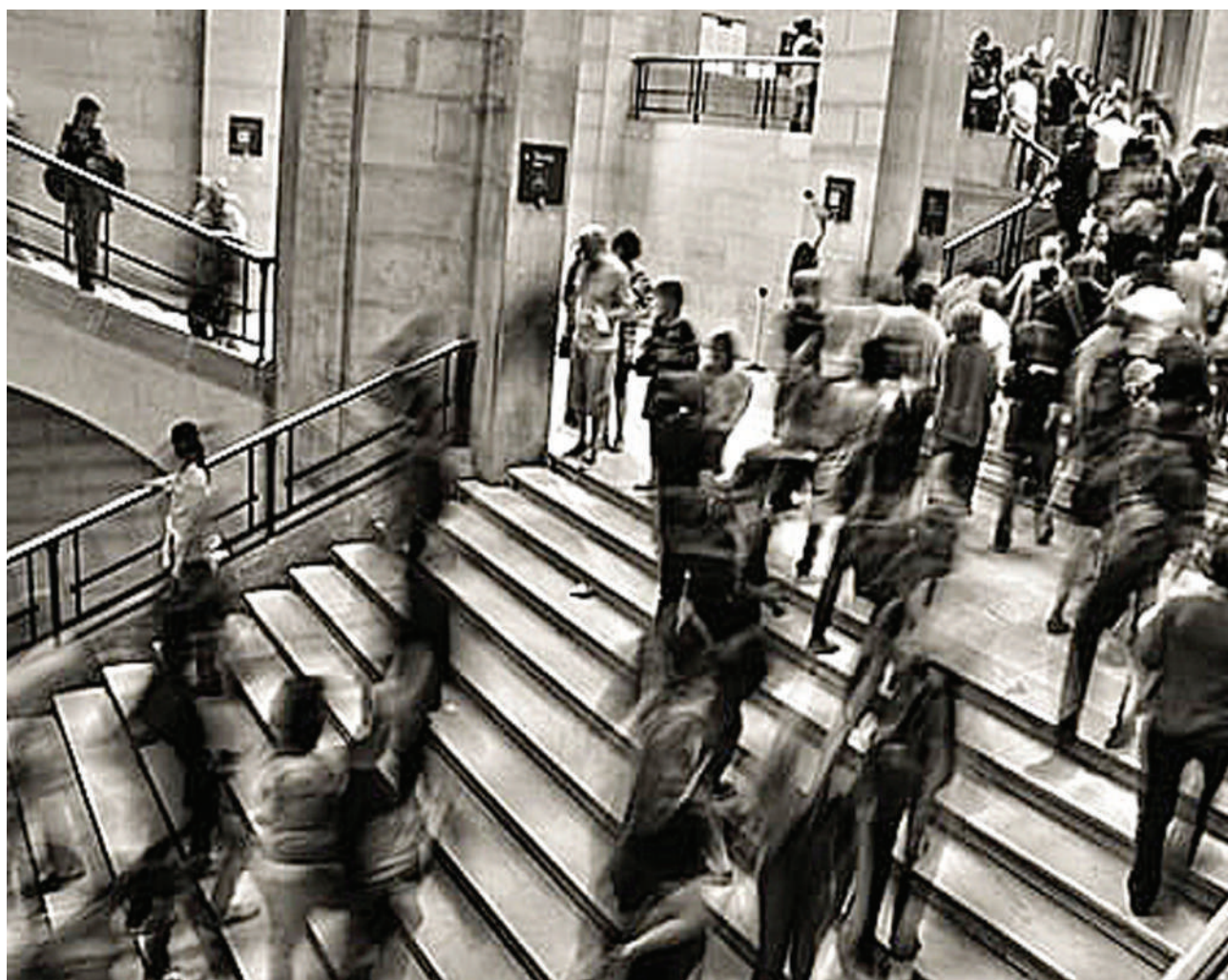
**Y**OU have been running around all day, yet you still feel like you haven't accomplished something after being so busy talking, meeting and taking calls?

In retrospect, think on what you accomplished that day. Despite the fact that you were really busy, I'm going to guess that not much got accomplished. This is a common feature in the workplace, one that I call busy for nothing.

In other words, you are so busy reacting to what is going on, or worrying about the workload you have, or even filling time with meaningless activities hence nothing gets done. It is a pursuit of everything, generally to seek out external validation from those around. Remember: jack of all trades is a master of none. You cannot do everything, be everywhere and claim that you achieved anything.

Personally, I describe my hectic schedule as self-inflicted. Using the phrase "I've got a lot on my plate" is a socially acceptable way to complain about your to-do list, but it isn't truly a compliment.

Being always on the go or at least implying that you are is an interesting measure, to say the least. People are en-



couraged to be the busiest in order to be seen as more important than those who keep their schedules under control. However, how should we be evaluated in terms of our performance? Your labour output or your outward appearance of activity? Because of our output, of course, and it's clear why.

Despite our apprehensions about what might be lying behind the busyness, we must learn to be productive rather than just busy. The last few years, I've focused completely on my output and isolated myself from the busy culture in order to accept being judged only by my output.

I value my time far so much to let the busyness of our society overtake me. As part of my efforts to become more productive, I made certain adjustments.

The following were some of my decisions: to work from home when I don't have to be in the office, to quit using most of my social media accounts, and to avoid being 'busy' just to be busy.

These tiny life changes actually gave me more time to spare to get things done and not being in the office as often gave me more control over my time. It also removed office distractions and I have become comfortable with my performance being judged by my outputs. This means being rated on my actual performance rather than by what looks like I am doing.

Adopting these habits has given me additional time, some of which have been used to learn new skills and expertise. In addition, I've noticed that I'm logging out more frequently. When you were in college, did you ever

feel like you had to be studying at all time? When you were doing anything else, you felt sorry for yourself. Even the thought of watching a movie made me cringe. I felt like I'm always rushing about. Now taking a break is necessary for me to perform at my best, therefore I take advantage of it. I have days when I plan to do nothing at all. In fact, I fix it into my schedule.

Distractions, meetings, travel, and other factors make it difficult for employees to work the allotted hours in a day. To be seen doing things takes a lot of time out of your day. Idleness is also a virtue since it allows us to plan more worthwhile activities in the future. Embrace free time, plan productive activities later on and quit being busy for nothing.

# Decapitating terrorist organisations won't end terror

AMMAN, Jordan

**K**illing terrorist organisations' leaders is no effective way of fighting terrorism – as it's political and economic crises on which terrorism feeds.

At the start of February 2022, the US celebrated the killing of Islamic State (IS) leader Abu Ibrahim al-Qurashi in Syria. The ensuing euphoria, however, failed to disguise the fact that this operation was merely a modest setback for jihadist groups.

It was probably more important for US President Joe Biden, who may hope in anticipation of the midterm elections in November – that such actions will boost his popularity. After all, didn't his predecessor Donald Trump celebrate the killing of the then IS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi two years ago, and Barack Obama before him that of Osama bin Laden?

A brief look at the career of al-Qurashi shows clearly what is happening in the ongoing field of terrorism and counter-terrorism. The emir, on whose head the US administration had placed a bounty of millions of dollars, was once an ordinary unknown officer in the Iraqi army.

He comes from a village in the Tal Afar district, which lies in north-western Iraq in the border region with Syria. His father was a muezzin at the local mosque. Al-Qurashi's life – like that of most IS leadership figures – only started to derail when the Americans invaded Iraq.

Al-Qurashi joined al-Qaida and was then arrested. After his release, he rose up the ranks of the IS and eventually became a 'hidden caliph'.



**Camerounian soldiers patrol parts of Lake Chad that have been affected by terrorist activity. Credit: UN Photo/Eskinder Debebe**

Let us imagine that the invasion of Iraq never happened, and all the ensuing sectarian violence, with thousands dead and millions displaced, never took place. Instead, a political solution was found for Iraq. Would this officer's life have been so profoundly transformed then? And even if he had become radicalised, would this not have remained at worst an internal Iraqi issue?

## Decapitating the IS doesn't work

The example of al-Qurashi is hardly different from the career

of dozens of other Islamist leaders. They all have a turning point in common that arrived with the devastating crises in the Arab and Islamic world.

Their rise as terrorist leaders was the result of state failure, misguided security policies, conflicts between opposing ethnic, religious and sectarian groups, as well as failed development policies and adverse socio-economic conditions.

The ensuing violence became a global threat as the international political community responded with military interventions, drones, and bounty

campaigns – a game that seems to be far from over.

In Iraq and Syria, the IS may be less dangerous today than it was in its heyday.

The spiritual father of the IS in Iraq, Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, was killed by an American air strike in 2006. A whole series of other leaders followed, all more or less equally dangerous. In 2011, Osama bin Laden was killed in a US military operation at his hideout in Pakistan.

Numerous other terrorist leaders were killed in similar fashion both before and after that. But has the danger from extremism

and terrorism diminished as a result?

In Iraq and Syria, the IS may be less dangerous today than it was in its heyday. It is certainly no longer able to attract tens of thousands of fighters from all over the world. That time of magic, and the associated opportunities for propaganda, recruitment, and terrorist attacks, are in the past.

But the IS has not disappeared from Iraq and Syria either and still feeds on the crises there – notwithstanding the US's declaration that the militia has been defeated. Nothing could illustrate this better than the complex and daring operation against a prison in Kurdish-controlled Hassakeh in Syria carried out by the IS just a few days before its leader was eliminated.

It ended with the deaths of hundreds of IS fighters and dozens of Kurdish militiamen – but only after nearly a week of fighting.

## How the IS has globalized

The IS may be under pressure in Iraq and Syria, but it is not in the process of disappearing. Rather, it has become a global brand, maintaining dozens of bases around the world. In Africa in particular, it has been able to spread like a bushfire in recent years.

Africa is rife with religious and ethnic conflicts. Many states are fragile. Their land areas are often so large that IS offshoots have safe areas where they can retreat and spread out. Their conduct there is sometimes even worse than in the original caliphate in Iraq and Syria.

Just as the IS has succeeded in spreading its ideology in Africa, this has also happened in East Asia.

Since 2019, there have been dozens of terrorist attacks in about 15 African countries, with thousands of deaths. IS jihadists are active in central, western,

and eastern Africa, from the Sahara to Congo, Uganda, and Mozambique. There are also cells in North Africa.

So far, the African terrorism problem is confined to the continent and is linked to regional crises. But the more joint international action is taken against it, and the more the local crises become entrenched, the greater is the concern that the African variant of IS terrorism could be exported around the world.

## A foothold in Asia

Just as the IS has succeeded in spreading its ideology in Africa, this has also happened in East Asia, especially against the backdrop of splits within the Taliban in Pakistan and Afghanistan. Since the withdrawal of NATO troops from Afghanistan, there have already been large-scale attacks carried out by the IS offshoot 'Khorasan'.

Among other recruitment sources, this organisation has received an influx of jihadists who have had to flee Iraq and Syria with their families and whose countries of origin no longer want to take them back. But fighters from Central Asia are also flocking to it.

For now, the 'Khorasan' is still fighting against the Taliban, who want to rule Afghanistan and to prove to the world that they are capable of doing so. To that end, they are also trying to avoid the scenario from their first rule, when they offered shelter to al-Qaida and suffered a huge backlash following the attacks of 11 September 2001.

To be successful, then, the fight against terrorism must first and foremost address the root causes of the respective crises. The billions of dollars spent on military operations and bounties should be used for projects to strengthen state institutions, political integration, and economic development. Governments should be supported through projects that aim to build up their societies, integrate citizens into public life, and strengthen democracy and civil culture.

Mohammad Abu Rumman is a political scientist and director of the Politics and Society Institute in Amman. He was Minister of Culture and Youth in Jordan from 2018 to 2019 and is the author of numerous books, including *I am a Salafist*.

**Source: International Politics and Society (IPS), published by the Global and European Policy Unit of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Hiroshimastrasse 28, D-10785 Berlin.**



**Mother and daughter injured during a terrorist attack. Credit: UN News**



SANTIAGO

# Tension over migration awaits new president and new constitution in Chile

The failure of Chile's immigration policy, with its toll of deaths, xenophobic sentiments but also shows of solidarity, will be a pressing matter for the incoming administration of Gabriel Boric, who takes office on Mar. 11, and for the drafters of the new constitution, who will include the issue in the text that is to be ready in July.

Twenty-year-old Brenda, who is 38 weeks pregnant, Jaiden, 23, and their young son are a Venezuelan family who arrived in Santiago on Feb. 3 in one of four buses from the port of Iquique, 1800 kilometers north of Santiago. They came with 200 other migrants who crossed through the Colchane border post from Bolivia without visas.

"The only thing I want is a job to pay our expenses," Jaiden said at the time. Eleven days later, Brenda delivered her baby in a Santiago hospital while Jaiden traveled to the town of Melipilla, 68 kilometers southwest of the Chilean capital, on his first day of agricultural work.

The death of 19 migrants in 2021 and three so far in 2022 while trying to reach the town of Colchane highlights the risk of a journey where they face a "Bolivian winter" with rain and sub-zero temperatures.

The influx from Bolivia - estimated at between 600 and 1000 immigrants per day in January by Colchane's mayor, Javier García - overwhelmed the small town of 1,384 inhabitants, located at an altitude of 3,600 meters in the Andes mountains.

There has also been a rise in xenophobic reactions. In September, in the northern port city of Iquique, demonstrators set fire to tents and personal belongings in a camp where migrants were staying.

"We were there, it was terrible," said Yenire, 27. She and Leonardo, 23, are originally from Caracas and they have two children, 10-year-old Yeimar and one-year-old Yemberlin. In Iquique, Yenire, who was two months pregnant, had a miscarriage, she told IPS.

Tensions flared again on Feb. 10 when a truck driver died at the intersection of the highways linking the northern city of Antofagasta and the city of Mejillones, allegedly at the hands of three migrants. The incident led to a strike and road blockade that lasted several days. Protesters held banners and signs demanding that the borders be closed to immigrants.

On Feb. 12 the outgoing government of right-wing President Sebastián Piñera published an immigration law that replaced the one in force since 1975, during the dictatorship of General Augusto Pinochet (1973-1990).

"The State must push for safe migration, manifested in actions aimed at preventing, combating and punishing the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons," states the law, which gives greater powers to the government and the courts to deport those who enter the country through unregulated border crossings.

Interior Minister Rodrigo Delgado announced that the mass deportations would continue: "We have at least one flight scheduled between now and Mar. 11 and it will take place

Yenire (27) and Leonardo (23), together with their children Yeimar (10) and Yemberlin (1), came from Caracas where Leonardo worked sporadically with Loro, his 74-year-old carpenter grandfather. "We went through Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia. I didn't know it was this difficult to migrate. I lived with my family. Even though it was a difficult country, I was able to support myself. Now I value things a lot," said Leonardo. Venezuelan migrants travel long distances on foot, sometimes through different countries and with few belongings, in search of a place to settle. CREDIT: Orlando Milesi/IPS



specifically in the northern zone, carrying people detained in these operations that we are conducting."

The worsening climate for immigrants in Chile was reflected by Venezuelan journalist Lorena Tasca, a professor at the University of Chile, in Santiago, who said: "I no longer feel at ease as a foreigner in Chile."

Tasca, who arrived in 2014, wrote that she feels "very ashamed of how the Chilean media has handled the issue in recent years. My stomach clenches and I avoid news about migration or homicides and/or robberies involving foreigners."

**Pressure on Boric**

This environment puts pressure on the future president, the leftist Boric, who during his campaign announced "a policy for regular, orderly and safe migration, aligned with international agreements, that recognizes the benefits of interculturality and promotes true inclusion and recognition of migrants and refugees in society."

Luis Eduardo Thayer, a researcher at the Silva Henríquez Catholic University who was a member of Boric's campaign team, said "the first thing will be to recover control of information and the border, which are two very weakened issues."

"We don't know how many migrants have entered, who they are, what their situation is, their background or if they have relatives here," he told IPS.

"The situation has to be urgently rectified, to enable temporary entry. Some can be regularized, others cannot because they have a criminal record or have committed crimes," he said.

Thayer said "the issues faced by local territories must be addressed to

resolve tensions and conflicts in the places where migrants arrive or transit." He also proposed "rational management of migration that takes the labor market into consideration."

"Today the market operates by supply and demand, but this does not work because people have no information, no offers, no networks. We have to do what they do in Brazil, Spain or Canada, which combine migration with the labor market," he said.

In addition, he remarked, "the protection of children and refugees must be a priority."

Chile increasingly became a destination for migrants from other countries in the region starting in 1993. They began arriving from Peru and later from Bolivia, Ecuador, Colombia,

Dominican Republic, Haiti and finally - and en masse - from Venezuela.

María Emilia Tijoux, a professor at the University of Chile's School of Sociology, told IPS that "this is not a migration crisis but rather a crisis of migration policies."

"Migrations could almost be called the new barbarism, because they imply a permanent punishment against thousands of people who move around the world, not only to Chile, but mainly to countries considered safer and more economically successful," she said.

In her view, "migration policies worldwide are in crisis because it is a generalized displacement that is pulled by the strings of global capital. We are talking about cheap labor, mass

expulsions for ecological reasons, wars, persecutions, political conflicts."

Tijoux said "Venezuelan migrants come to Chile for different reasons. One was the invitation made by the president in Cúcuta," a Colombian city bordering Venezuela, where Piñera offered "visas of democratic responsibility" for Venezuelans, in February 2019.

The Venezuelan exodus, mostly to other Latin American countries, became uncontrollable since 2014, a year after the start of Nicolás Maduro's government, according to data from the United Nations refugee agency, the UNHCR, which estimates that more than six million people have left the country since then.

"Then, since the 1990s, Chile

began to be touted as a country that is supposed to be economically secure, with more work and possibilities for residence," said the sociology professor.

Chile, with a population of 19.4 million people, hosted 1.46 million migrants as of 2020. Of these, 455,494 (30.7 percent) are Venezuelans, followed by Peruvians (16.3 percent), Haitians (12.5 percent), Colombians (11.4 percent) and Bolivians (8.5 percent).

Rodolfo Noriega, a Peruvian immigrant who is president of the Fundación Defensoría Migrante, told IPS that "visas should be granted so that people do not come clandestinely or through minefields to join their parents."

"Fortunately, one path that the next administration seems to be preparing to take is regularization in combination with labor insertion," said Noriega.

He said he expects the Boric administration "to be guided by principles...There will be dialogue and we will insist that the rights of migrants be respected. That is part of our struggle in the constitutional reform. What happens in the constituent assembly will be fundamental."

The 154 members of the constituent assembly have the floor

On Jan. 27, several members of the Constitutional Convention, which will draft a new constitution to replace the one in force since the dictatorship, presented a "Migrant Agenda" to recognize and guarantee rights to all those living in Chile, "regardless of their nationality."

The constituent assembly's 154 members, half of whom are women and 17 of whom are representatives of indigenous peoples, were elected in a plebiscite in October 2020, and began their work on Jul. 4, 2021.

Most of them are progressive activists and leaders not linked to political parties,

but to independent organizations and movements. They have until Jul. 4 to draft the new constitution, which will be endorsed or rejected by voters later this year in a referendum.

One of the promoters of the initiative on migrants, Benito Baranda, told IPS that "the right to asylum, which is in our legislation but not in our constitution, and the right to migration, that people must be welcomed in a dignified manner, must be taken into consideration in the constitution."

"Last year only seven people were granted asylum while, given the situation of those leaving Venezuela, it is most likely that the requirements for asylum were met by a large number of the applicants. The government has been resistant," he said.

He proposed recognition of a third principle: "That if you are born in Chile you are not stateless."

"Boys and girls born in Chilean territory are left without a nationality because their parents are undocumented. A person cannot be left without a nationality...it is a right recognized in the San José pact signed and ratified by Chile," he said.

According to Baranda, there is a "favorable" opinion among the constituents regarding these reforms.

"We will get support from two thirds of the members and then we will have to work with the community to get them to understand the substance and vote to endorse the constitution," he added.

Tijoux said "the refusal to regularize leads to many problems, among them that people are left stranded and without rights. Our concern is for families with children, for pregnant women, in extremely precarious and in some cases subhuman conditions. "There are thousands of migrants working in Chile, paying their taxes. But they suffer from xenophobia and racism that negatively target their origins, color, economic condition, nationality. Because of the negative view of Venezuelans we are facing extremely serious situations. Some do not want to speak out so as not to be identified and mistreated," she said.

According to Tijoux, migration "cannot only be addressed by Chile but must also be addressed by the countries involved. Both from where they leave, are expelled or flee, but also where they pass through on terrible journeys during which we do not know how many have died.

"My great hope is the constitution. The constituents are aware of the problem and I trust that a door of humanity will open there," she said.

Egli Managua (26), originally from Caracas, is the mother of Norelis Pedriquez, (10), and Katherine Gutiérrez (22) originally from the city of Puerto La Cruz, "a beautiful place," is the mother of Kalanis Marumar (1). They are cousins and travel companions of Brenda, who had her baby on Feb. 14 in Santiago. "It was a month and four days of hard travel. On Jan. 16 we entered the country through Colchane," Managua said at a shelter where they are staying in the Chilean capital. CREDIT: Orlando Milesi/IPS



## CAPITAL RADIO

# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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



By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

As the preparation of another Voluntary National Review (VNR) gears up, the government has called on all stakeholders to cooperate in the process when time arrive.

VNR is a process through which countries assess and present progress made in achieving the global goals and the pledge to leave no one behind.

Preparations for the VNR report haven't started yet until the next financial year which begins in July this year.

Tanzania last reported the VNR in 2019, since then, it has never reported but now it is warming up for another report next year in 2023. According to the government the preparations begin in July this financial year.

Currently the government and stakeholders are doing capacity need assessment on the implementation of SDG's in the context of the third five year development plan.

Interviewed by The Guardian recently during dialogue organised by Tanzania Sustainable Development Platform and United Nations Association of Tanzania (UNA Tanzania) in Dar es Salaam, Joseph Malekia from planning division of the Ministry of Finance and planning said the government will engage all stakeholders when the time comes of preparing the VNR. He assured the general public that it will be full engagement process.

The dialogue brought together different stakeholders including the government, institutions, civil society organizations, Tanzania Private sector Foundation (TPSF), academicians, the media practitioners to get information from the stakeholders regarding challenges, success, experience and best practices.

Malekia said the government under the national SDG's coordination framework has been engaging all stakeholders throughout implementation of SDG's.

"The national SDG's coordination framework shows institutional arrangement of all key players in the im-



UN Tanzania Executive Secretary and co-convenor of the dialogue, Reynald Maeda, presents the roadmap to the VNR report to stakeholders in Dar es Salaam recently. Photo: correspondent Gerald Kitabu

## Cooperate in Voluntary National Review, govt counsels stakeholders

plementation of SDG's," he said. The whole process of the VNR will compose of all multi-stakeholders starting from the national level meaning from the ministry, department agencies, and sub-national level meaning the local government authorities, civil society organizations and the private sector. "Generally we will get all the views and comments from all stakeholders to see how we are going to prepare the next VNR. "We haven't started yet to prepare the VNR until the next financial year which begins in July but we are doing the capacity need assessment on the implementation of SDG's in the context of the third five year devel-

opment plan," he said.

As CSO's have presented their own VNR roadmap, they will have inputs on the national VNR, I just want to ensure them that they should be ready when the process starts in July, they will get full cooperation," he said.

National youth representative of commonwealth youth council Arafat Lesheve advised the government that on reporting mechanisms, it should real strategize on how to coordinate with the national NGO's registrar because it has a lot of information and reports from a lot of societies including local and international organizations.

"They have every annual reports. If the government coordinates with the national NGO's registrar it will get meaningful information from different sources and this will inform the government while we prepare the national report on SDG's at national, regional and global level.

Lesheve who is the head of programme at Africa Youth Transformation Tanzania noted that the government should align with the national agreements that have been signed in a global perspective, be it African Union Charter, SDG's or Global Compact saying this matters a lot. He said national policies and guidelines should speak one lan-

guage with global agreements.

"So, I think there is a room now to sit and review when we are doing country capacity assessment gaps on SDG's we should also think what are the gaps from the global agreement in terms of guidelines and policies," he said.

The development stakeholders should also be aware on what SDG's we are reporting to. We should ask ourselves what are the current priorities that we are supposed to invest our time and resources and expertise?. There are many goals, the government can narrow down to specific issues that are real concerning the people, the

citizen and the country' development plan.

Presenting the roadmap to the VNR report, UN Tanzania Executive Secretary and co-convenor of the dialogue, Reynald Maeda said the stakeholders know what the civil societies will be up to the time the government decides to report in 2023. In the year 2019, the Tanzania sustainable development platform and the UNA Tanzania collaborated with the government of Tanzania to produce the VNR report and the plan is to do the same in 2023.

So, the road map shows how civil societies and non-state actors will be coordinated in the exercise in the year 2023.

"In 2020 we had about 500 civil society organisations participating in the report and we expect more in the year 2023 this is why we have started coordinating this early. We expect to attract more civil society organizations and more networks this year from Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar," he said. He appreciated the government coordination and support.

Earlier on, introducing the dialogue, UNA Tanzania human rights and SDG's Programme Officer, Goodluck William said the issue of data should be very well integrated into not only national policies but also individuals' strategic plans which at the end of the day they can be able to produce these data.

"On the issue of data, government's relevant institutions such as the NBS, and others which are in a position to come up with a different data should do so as early as possible," he said.

"We are here receiving updates from the government particularly the Ministry of Finance and Planning in terms of developing the Tanzania development vision 2050 as we know the last five year development plan phase III is covering the next five years which will be completing the last part of Tanzania development vision 2025. The ministries are here to give us updates on how stakeholders can engage from different angles to see that no one is left behind

in the formulation, implementation, monitoring the Tanzania development vision 2050," he said.

As Tanzania almost finishing the national development vision 2025, now Tanzania sustainable platform thought it is a very good time for stakeholders to come together and organise on how they can participate to develop the coming national development vision 2025 which covers most of the achievements made by Tanzania for the last decade.

We real need proper implementation of the nation coordination framework for SDG's implementation, monitoring and reporting. This is because one of the setbacks of SDG's since its inception in 2015 is the fact that there was no proper coordinating mechanisms of making sure that all SDG's issues are well coordinated. So after coming up with the nation coordinating framework, the government through the Ministry of Finance and Planning should make sure that it is a proper time for all stakeholders to read the document, understand it, understand their position and roles. I think the coordination issues of SDG's in Tanzania will not be problem anymore and achieving the SDG's by 2030 will be possible.

The Ministry of finance and planning is in the process of reviewing the Tanzania development vision 2025 so that it can get the baseline of starting point. It is also looking to the coming Tanzania national development vision of 2050 while covering some aspect of socio economic, environmental and political aspects of all Tanzanians.

So the ministry of finance as a sole ministry in terms of planning is mandated to come up with Tanzania development vision in line with stakeholders consultation and inputs which will be covering the content of the Tanzania development vision 2050.

Since 2015, Tanzania sustainable development platform has been engaging different stakeholders to make sure that there is a meaningful participation and coordination.

## Stanbic Bank Tanzania keen on supporting growth of mining sector



Stanbic Bank's Corporate Banking Manager, Aboubakar Massinda, highlights the bank's role in supporting the government's vision of increasing the contribution of the mining sector to the national GDP. This was during a panel discussion at the Tanzania Mineral and Mining Investment Conference held at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre in Dar es Salaam.

By Guardian Reporter

ON 22 February 2022 Stanbic Bank Tanzania sponsored the Tanzania Mineral and Mining Investment Conference held at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre in Dar es Salaam. As part of the bank's role to support conversations around initiatives to drive the growth of the mining sector.

We sat with Stanbic Bank Tanzania's Corporate Banking Manager,

Aboubakar Massinda to discuss the bank's contribution to the mining sector and share his perspectives on the other elements that drive the sector's growth and support the government vision to raise mining's contribution to Tanzania's GDP from the current 6.7 percent to 10 percent by 2025. Excerpts...

**Q: The bank has been playing a critical role in supporting the country's key sectors such as mining. What informed Stanbic**

**Bank Tanzania's decision to participate in this year's 4th Tanzania International Minerals and Mining Investment Conference?**

**A:** One of our priorities for the bank this year is to increase our contribution towards the growth of the mining sector, hence our decision to sponsor the conference this year. In addition to this, Stanbic Bank Tanzania is a member of the Tanzania Chamber of Mines, this partnership allows us to be in the front and centre of all matters related to mining in the country. As leading experts in the mining sector from a banking perspective, we are keen to contribute to dialogue that will shape policy and decisions in the mining sector.

**Q: What have you communicated to participants at the congress?**

**A:** Mining is a key contributor to the country's exports - gold alone is 41% - and with the other mineral commodities now coming on board such as Graphite, Nickel, Niobium, and Rare Earths, this sector has more significance to the country's overall growth. Stanbic Bank is here to facilitate the growth of this sector through providing financing and advisory services. We are hands-on to ensure we support key institutions and stakeholders in order to see this sector thrive and the country's vision coming to fruition.

**Q: How does Stanbic take part in large mining projects in Tanzania? What is**

**the role of Stanbic in the mining value chain**

**A:** Being a Universal Bank enables us to service a wide range of clients from individuals at a retail level to large corporates including mining sector stakeholders. We have financed large mining companies that are investing in the country, and facilitated funding arrangements for projects through local and international financiers and security agents. Additionally, from a value-chain perspective we look at the clients and projects in their entirety - the mining company, the contractors and suppliers, employees, and even off-takers of the end-product. Our offering is always bespoke and cuts across the entire ecosystem of each unique operation.

**Q: How do you look at the entire mining sector in the country as a niche market for your banking products?**

**A:** Unlike most industries, mining is quite specific in terms of its unique processes and different mining methods which in turn raise specific opportunities and challenges. As a financial institution we have to take distinctive approaches in ensuring we present the appropriate products which maximize opportunities and mitigate challenges. In 2014 we decided to organize our teams into key sectors that drive growth with mining being one of them. This has allowed us to knit together a team which is fully dedicated to the sector from analysing

market trends, conduct continuous client engagements, build expertise in debt and equity capital markets, working capital, etc. Additionally, with our parent (The Standard Bank of South Africa) being the biggest bank in Africa, Stanbic gets to leverage on learnings and best practices from other teams located in over 20 African countries such as South Africa, Ghana, and the DRC. Our local, Regional, and International expertise enables us to provide solutions to our clients which speak to their exact needs, putting them in the best position to succeed.

**Q: As an expert what can you recommend the state to do in order to speed up investment and growth in the mining industry?**

**A:** Our government has made great efforts to transform the sector and the results are vivid. Investors are excited about our country, new licenses are being issued, existing mining companies are ramping up production, and most of all local companies and small-scale miners are more involved in the overall growth. We have seen the Ministry of Minerals, Ministry of Finance, and Mining Commission actively engage and work alongside stakeholders such as ourselves and our clients to ensure we are all aligned. Continued stakeholder engagement would be the key recommendation especially at the policy making level as we look to take our country to new heights over the next few years.







# FOREIGN MINISTRY: TANZANIA-CHINA BILATERAL RELATIONSHIP PROSPERS

By Property Watch Reporter

**T**ANZANIA China bilateral relationship is here to stay for good as the two countries enjoy successful economic and diplomatic relations initiated by the statesmen of the two nations almost 60 years ago.

The Director of Communications at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Emmanuel Buhohela told this paper that Tanzania has no idea of isolating itself from the fruitful relationship just in the wake of unfounded criticisms by politicians and activists.

He was responding to questions from The Guardian that sought to know the government's position on the two countries bilateral relationship especially in collaborations for mega projects implementation.

He said over the past 60 years China-Tanzania relations have significantly improved in various areas of cooperation including Diplomacy, Economy, Trade, and Investment as well as people-to-people interactions.



Director of Communications at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Emmanuel Buhohela.

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation does not find any problem with Tanzania-China cooperation in projects implementation;

China is basically a major stakeholder in various projects including the international ones being implemented in the country," said Buhohela.

According to him, the government has

been cooperating with China in the implementation of various development projects not only by borrowing money and receiving grants from China, but also by using its local funds to pay Chinese contractors to implement such projects after they had participated and won tenders floated by the government.

Buhohela clarified that Tanzania is an

independent nation whose positions are clear and historic. It is a country that adheres to a policy of non-alignment, and thus, to limit itself to not allowing other countries to decide who should be its enemies or friends

"Given Tanzania's position that has been well defined and respected in the world since Independence, no nation can intimidate it when it comes to international relationships" he asserted.

For example, he pointed out, over the past 60 years of Diplomatic relations, there have been visits by the heads of the two nations whose main goal is to develop the good relations that exist between the two countries.

"This is evidenced by a telephone conversation held in June, 2021 between President Samia Suluhu Hassan, and Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China in which, among others, they discussed how to promote cooperation between the two countries regarding economy, trade and investment

Going by the bilateral rela-

tions, he said, economically, China-Tanzania relations have been beneficial in the area of investment and trade.

In recent years Tanzania has continued to receive many Chinese investors and traders who have invested in various sectors such as Industry, Agriculture, Construction, Natural Resources Telecommunications services, Tourism, Transportation, as well as the oil and gas.

The investment has created employment opportunities for Tanzanians and enabled them to earn income for their personal development and contribute to GDP growth.

With respect to diplomats, the relationship has made Tanzania one of the world's most China friendly countries with strong ties of collaboration for the benefits of the people from the two countries.

Socially, the bilateral relations have facilitated the interaction of people between the two nations especially through the sectors of education, culture, trade and investment.

## Survey highlights on Japan housing loan lending trends for 2021

TOKYO

THE Japan Housing Finance Agency (JHF) announced on February 18th, the results of its "Survey on Housing Loan Lending Trends" for the calendar year 2021.

In August and September of 2021, a questionnaire was sent to 301 financial institutions that deal with housing loans, asking them their attitude towards the future of real estate lending.

The number of responding institutions tallied to 272, and respondents were asked to indicate their status as of the end of June, 2021.

In terms of their stance on new housing loans, 69.9% of respondents classified themselves as "aggressive in lending" (down 1.4 points from the previous survey), while 30.1% were "maintaining the status quo in lending" (up 1.4 points from the previous survey).

In terms of their attitude towards refinancing, 55.1% classified themselves as "aggressive in lending", down 7.4 points since the last survey. 43.8% said they were "maintaining the status quo in lending" (up 3.3 points since last survey) and 1.1% were "negative in lending attitudes", up 0.1 points since the last survey.

In terms of the interest type of mortgage loans that are expected to grow in the future, "variable" (69.3%) was selected the most. This was followed by "10-year fixed-term" (47.0%) and "full-term fixed" (24.4%).

With regard to eco-friendly housing loans, 24.5% of the respondents answered that they were dealing with such loans, 3.3% were considering dealing with such loans, and 72.1% were not dealing with such loans.

Institutions that offer preferential lending on eco-friendly properties are expected to rise as more time marches on to Japan's 2050 goal of being a completely carbon neutral society.

# NBC Bank eyes at financing small-scale miners

Property Watch Reporter

IN a bid to boost investment in the mining sector, NBC Bank Plc is in the process of creating a new system of providing quick loans to small and large scale miners in the country.

Briefing members of the media during the 4th Tanzania International Minerals and Mining Investment Conference 2022 Dar es Sa-

laam on Wednesday, NBC's Director of Business Banking Elvis Ndunguru said soon the bank will start issuing loans to miners placing their metals as their collateral.

He said the initiative will be the first of its kind to be established by NBC in the country which will give miners an opportunity to put their minerals as bond thereby eliminating problems they used to encounter before.

"This system will be the first to be applied in the country which will give small and large scale miners including distributors a golden chance to claim loans easily;

"Hopefully by June this year, the system will begin to be used. For now, everything is in line and soon, we will publicly declare on how miners will benefit from the incoming loans," Ndunguru said.

He added that NBC has scrapped all the challenges that miners used to face when seeking loans saying for now, they are acquiring loans easily without any problems.

He continued: "Even if a customer is looking for mining equipment or vehicles, our bank has come up with good systems to ensure that loans are quickly accessed unlike in the past when procedures were lengthy."

# Six Africa's property legislative, policy changes investors need to know

LAGOS

THE mark of truly investible ready markets in Africa lies in their regulatory landscape. While African countries have ranked incredibly low in the global transparency index over the past few years, key landmark regulations passed in the last two years have led to increased investor confidence in markets such as Egypt.

During the period, there were six major property law changes that have taken place in key markets to watch out for across Africa.

## Real estate registration in Egypt made easier through the amendment of the Real Estate Registration Law No. 114/1946

The amendments of the Real Estate Registration Law aim to facilitate the procedures for registering property, through several steps, including: separating tax payment from registration procedures and fees, reducing the property registration period to one month as well as removing the obstacles of proving the sequence of ownership.

This law aims to transform the status of the real estate market by ensuring that the over 90% of unregistered properties in Egypt are registered, hence transforming and activating the real estate market.

## Enhanced land innovation following the enactment of the Land Act 2020 in Ghana

The Land Act, 2020 was passed into law in July 2021. This Act consolidates the existing laws on land and land administration into a single Act. In addition, it aims to harmonize these laws to ensure sustainable land administration and management as well as effective land tenure.

Furthermore, the new Act brings innovation to the land administration regime as it introduces a few reforms including electronic conveyancing to make it possible to transfer, create or register interests in land by electronic means.

## Tenants relieve through the enactment of Sectional Properties Act (SPA) 2020 in Kenya

The Sectional Properties Act was implemented to



Women working at a commercial property construction site in Lagos.

remove hurdles for developers towards phased development of high-rise buildings by streamlining the process of dividing buildings with shared common areas into sectional units.

The new law seeks to simplify the process of registration of sectional properties and create an enabling environment for investors and property owners. It seeks to guarantee the rights of property owners by conferring absolute rights to individual unit

owners over their units and vest in them the reversionary interests.

Enactment of this act was considered a timely push towards the Government's agenda on provision of over 500,000 affordable homes.

## Enhancing Landlords and Tenants relationships in Kenya

The Landlord and Tenant Bill 2021 seeks to consolidate all the laws on residential and com-

mercial tenancies and to ensure regulation of the rental sector in Kenya.

Among other things the bill seeks to restrict rent increases on commercial and residential premises with consideration of the inflation rate of the previous year. The bill also stipulates that rent reductions should be made upon withdrawal of services that had earlier on prompted an increase. In addition, the bill requires landlords to keep records

of rent on the premises and provide the tenants with a copy.

## Protection of Real Estate Transactions in Lagos State, Nigeria.

On January 10 2022, the Lagos State Government signed the new Real Estate Regulatory Authority Bill (LASRERA) into Law. The law aims to provide transparency in real estate transactions, as well as protect individuals or organizations from fraudulent

operators in the real estate sector in line with global best practices.

In addition, the law mandates that any tenancy agreement less than 5 years be registered with the agency. This would create and maintain a database on real estate transactions in the state. Furthermore, the law seeks to restrict real estate transactions to members of a registered professional body in the State.

## Regulating Property Practitioners in South Africa.

The Property Practitioner Act 22 of 2019 came into effect on 1st February 2022 and is set to bring significant changes to the property sector. Primarily, the Act recognizes the need for transformation within the property sector and the protection of consumers.

In addition, the act expands the definition of "Property Practitioner" to not only refer to estate agents, but also include other role players such as bridging financiers, property developers and property managers, to name a few hence consolidating all role players in the property sector for better regulation of property professionals.

Furthermore, it is set to offer much needed protection to consumers by imposing an obligation on Property Practitioners to request sellers or lessors to produce a duly completed and signed mandatory disclosure form. This is a form that disclose all defects on the property that are known to the seller or the lessor. In terms of Section 67 of the Act, a Property Practitioner may not accept a mandate if this form is not produced.

Overall, as investors hunt for yield intensifies, existing regulations will continue to form a key defining feature of market selection across the different countries. As such, we expect the regulatory landscape across the continent will continue to evolve in a bid to enhance investor confidence.



# ENERGY STORAGE ACCEPTED AS AN ASSET CLASS, BUT HARD IN EUROPEAN MARKET

LONDON

INVESTORS are becoming increasingly comfortable with energy storage as an asset class but numerous regulatory and market design hurdles remain across European markets, according to panellists at the Energy Storage Summit 2022.

All agreed that the UK market was far ahead of its European peers on facilitating the growth of energy storage, in the Summit's opening panel sessions in London this morning.

"It's a very mature market with a lot of capital going in. There was something like 16MW of storage in 2015 and today we're at around 2GW. The market designs and incentives are clearly in place in the UK market and we need to translate those learnings to European markets," said Chris Morrison, managing director of Macquarie Capital's Green Investment Group.

He added that this shouldn't be surprising considering that vibrant energy storage markets tend to be island nations with big renewable energy sources.

The Netherlands is something of an inverse case in point, where huge congestion on the grid is a big barrier to new energy storage and solar projects, said Heleen Groenbergh, Senior Electricity Market Developer at TenneT, the Dutch grid operator with a presence in Germany too.

Storage often also finds itself treated like a power generator and subsequently shut out of the



market. TenneT demands 24-hour availability for frequency regulation services and Groenbergh hopes that piecemeal exceptions to this start being implemented on a regular basis. "Hopefully that will grow the market," she added.

One positive recent change in the Netherlands has been the removal of double taxation on importing and exporting power to the grid,

although double grid charges remain.

Ezio Ravaccia, CFO/CIO at Solar Ventures and Solar Ventures Capital, described Italy as an 'early stage market' with massive price differentials across regional energy markets.

"The key points are a need for contractual revenues and the bankability that can give you. It is currently really difficult to model investment

in storage. The money and technology is there, it's just about finding the right way to be able to invest into this asset class, and part of that is the debt-equity ratio where we still need to find a reasonable balance. I do see a big increase in the sector in the coming years in Italy," he said.

Continuing Ravaccia's point, Chris Morrison added that regulatory structures are a key thing holding back lots

of European markets.

"That's a big problem in Italy where it's hard to get projects accepted," he added, to strong agreement from Ravaccia.

On the subject of bankability, he added: "Investors need to get comfortable with 20-25 year financial models and, it might sound glib, but if you don't have third-party consultants to forecast revenues it's hard to convince your in-

vestment committee. It really is one of the most fundamental things," highlighting the award of five-year Fast Reserve frequency regulation contracts in Italy as a positive sign.

"You also need your energy storage to be able to stack revenues and the UK government has been good at facilitating this," he added.

The discussion then moved on to the colocation of energy storage with other technologies, predominantly solar power. Ravaccia said that colocation was the most effective way to grow in the Italian market and sees it growing in importance in the coming years and months.

Groenbergh said that colocation of solar and storage could allow another 7.5GW of solar power capacity in the Netherlands, equivalent to 1.5-2 megatonnes of carbon reduction. Though he said there was a healthy debate around the extent to which you specifically subsidise collocated storage.

Groenbergh sounded a note of caution that system operators do not view storage as an objective but rather a means to an end, and that batteries can often enlarge the challenge by, for example, all feeding in and charging from the grid at the same time.

Ravaccia expects the cost of battery energy storage, currently around €800k (US\$906k)/MW, to fall in the coming years although not immediately. He had the same answer to a question around the storage capabilities of green hydrogen but said that it would be competing with numerous new technologies and the winner was not clear at this point.

**US lawmakers poised to spend \$400 million on housing projects**

NEW YORK

HUNDREDS, and perhaps thousands of people, could be helped to get off the streets under plans being worked on by the state Legislature.

Democratic lawmakers, who have made homelessness a priority, are poised to approve hundreds of millions of dollars for housing and programs to fight homelessness.

They plan to fund a range of programs, including transitional shelters and affordable housing. The package will be announced on Thursday, but Rep. Pam Marsh, D-Ashland, said it will be about \$400 million.

That's the sum requested by Gov. Kate Brown earlier this month in her State of the State address. Charles Boyle, one of her spokespeople, said Brown has been working with lawmakers on the package "with a focus on the evidenced-based solutions to address housing and homelessness issues we know work." He said they include shelters, housing placement and crisis stabilization services.

"These are strategies that work, and that are being implemented on the ground in our communities right now," Boyle said.

The programs are benefitting from an unexpected windfall of nearly \$1 billion that state economists expect in tax revenue.

Homelessness is often cited by voters as their top concern. The latest estimate by Oregon Housing and Community Services, the state's housing agency, said there were 15,800 homeless people in Oregon in 2019, including nearly 2,600 children. Nearly 5,000 were chronically homeless.

One of the programs that's expected to receive funding is Project Turnkey, which launched last year and helped various organizations purchase buildings for use as shelters and transitional housing.

The program, initially overseen by the Oregon Community Foundation in Portland, received nearly \$75 million. Most of that money was given to nonprofits to purchase 19 buildings for conversion into shelters and transitional housing. It was left up to them to fund the operations and raise money for renovations. Part of the agreement was that they keep the buildings for housing for three decades and provide residents with case managers to help them get on their feet.

"When we provide a stable foundation for people and we surround them with case management and all the support they need during this period of transition to really make changes in their lives, then we are actually turning the corner," Marsh said.

Marsh expects lawmakers to approve about \$50 million to buy more buildings.

"We're aiming for 10," Marsh said. "We have to be a little flexible around acquisition costs."

The first project funded by Project Turnkey was a three-story Super 8 Hotel that was purchased by a Jackson County nonprofit, Options for Helping Residents of Ashland or OHRA. It received \$4.2 million for the building, which opened last April, with 36 rooms that housed 44 people. It is now being renovated, with OHRA adding an elevator, fire suppression system and other amenities.

# ECB has to fight housing bubble with hands tied

FRANKFURT

FROM Luxembourg to New Zealand, global house prices have been surging as pandemic stimulus and a shift to work from home added fuel to a multi-year boom driven by historically low interest rates.

But whereas authorities from Auckland to Stockholm have shown they can pull monetary and regulatory levers to tame property prices, the euro zone's fragmentation into 19 national markets means the European Central Bank's hands are tied.

Five of the 10 countries worldwide that experienced the biggest increase in house prices in 2020 were in the euro zone, according to International Monetary Fund data.

This is raising concerns at the ECB about a new housing bubble that could wreak economic and financial havoc just as memories of the 2008 crash start to fade.

But the ECB cannot jack up interest rates too fast or far to help some euro zone members because it would hammer the most indebted euro zone countries, such as Italy and Greece, and the central bank is keen to avoid another debt crisis.

Instead, it must rely on often reluctant governments to cool off property markets with so-called macroprudential tools, which also have the benefit of targeting real estate directly rather than the economy at large.

They range from making banks build up extra capi-

tal when they make home loans to introducing deeply unpopular caps on the size of mortgages based on the purchase price or the income of the buyer.

"Especially in the euro zone, with one rate for different countries, macro-prudential tools are much better suited to fighting housing bubbles," said Grégory Claeys, a senior fellow at the Bruegel think-tank.

The trouble is the ECB cannot apply these brakes directly and can only issue warnings and recommendations via the European Systemic Risk Board (ESRB), the European Union's financial stability watchdog.

In the latest such move, the ESRB - which is based inside the ECB and headed by Christine Lagarde - urged Germany and Austria to impose limits on mortgages and raise capital demands for banks.

But its prescriptions are not binding. Germany's finance minister, for example, pushed back on the recommendation to introduce a loan-to-value ratio for home buyers.

South Korean authorities were able to slow down house price growth by imposing a debt-to-income ratio in the early 2000s.

And Sweden briefly managed to bring down the cost of a dwelling in 2018 by demanding that homeowners repay at least 1% of their loan balance every year if they took mortgages greater than 4.5 times their household income.

"That would have a very



Vice President Dr Philip Mpango (right) listens to Tanzania Mineral Dealers' Association (TAMIDA) Vice Chairman Osman AbdulSattar at the just-ended International Mining Investment Exhibition in Tanzania 2022 held in Dar ves Salaam. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT MIRAJI MSALA

strong impact and very fast," said Matthias Holzhey, who co-authors UBS's annual Global Real Estate Bubble Index.

Yet it would also require some unpopular choices, like making mortgages all but unaffordable to poorer households.

This is why national regulators in the euro zone, who often include government officials who would pay the electoral price of public backlash, have been dragging their feet.

Germany for example has only just announced plans to apply some brakes, a decade after the start of its housing boom and with house prices already 20%-35% over-valued according to the Bundesbank.

"When you implement tough macroprudential measures, you disturb the party," said Commerzbank's chief economist Joerg Kraemer. "It requires a very independent position."

The ESRB said this month that

Finland and the Netherlands were not doing enough to curb mortgage lending despite its recommendations.

"There's no cost for a politician for not acting," said Bruegel's Claeys. "We need an independent financial stability council that can bite."

Yet research shows monetary

policy still matters and can either make macro-prudential regulation more effective if it supports it or it can trump if it works in the opposite direction.

That could be the case in the euro zone, some economists say, doubting regulation will make much of a difference as long as mortgage rates remain below in-





## CONSTRUCTION

# PORTS TO GET \$450 MILLION TO HASTEN FLOW OF GOODS

LOS ANGELES

**A**S cargo volumes continued to surge at the nation's ports in January, the Biden administration on Feb. 23 announced plans to make \$450 million available in new grant funding as part of the Department of Transportation's Port Infrastructure Development Program.

Administration officials said the funding is the largest investment in this program in history, and the money will help improve the movement of goods through the ports.

"We're proud to announce this funding to help ports improve their infrastructure – to get goods moving more efficiently and help keep costs under control for American families," Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg said in a statement. "President Biden is leading the largest ever federal investment in modernizing our country's ports, which will improve our supply chains and the lives of Americans who depend on them."

Led by a surge of imports, the nation's busiest port, Los Angeles, processed 865,595 20-foot-equivalent unit containers. That's a 3.6% increase over the same month a year ago, when workers moved 835,516 TEUs. It's also a record for January.



The Port of Long Beach also had a record January, moving 4.8% more containers than a year ago. All told, 800,943 TEUs were processed compared with 764,006 in 2021.

"We expect to remain moderately busy into the spring as we make significant progress to clear the docks and process the backlog of ves-

sels waiting off shore," Port of Long Beach Executive Director Mario Cordero said.

Los Angeles and Long Beach have delayed again the proposed container dwell time fee, designed to help remove aging cargo. Since the fee was announced Oct. 25, there has been a 68% reduction in cargo that sits too

long on the docks.

The Port of Oakland processed 193,205 containers in January, and the 2022 volume is down 2.9% from 199,098 in 2021. However, imported cargo surged with 83,860 TEUs, up 8.3% more than last year.

According to the port, strong U.S. consumer spending continues to

spur the import binge.

"As imports rise nationwide, Oakland continues to play a key role in strengthening the global supply chain," Port of Oakland Maritime Director Bryan Brandes said. "We're also working closely with federal, state and industry partners to boost exports that include agricultural commodities."

The Northwest Seaport Alliance, which operates the ports in Seattle and Tacoma, Wash., reported a 5.8% year-over-year decline, processing 272,281 TEUs in January compared with 289,187 a year ago. Port officials attributed that to a 36% drop in export cargo.

In the Gulf Coast, year-over-year container volume at Port Houston surged 27% as the facility processed 323,427 containers in January compared with 255,039 in 2021.

On Feb. 10, the port took delivery of three new Neopanamax STS cranes, capable of processing cargo from the biggest ships now stopping at Houston. The cranes will be operational later this year.

On the East Coast, Port of Savannah, which finished a record-setting 2021 by processing more than 5.6 million TEUs, started 2022 with another record.

The port moved 476,713 TEUs, besting by 4% last January's 459,608. The facility has set monthly records for the past 18 months.

"The steps we have taken to add capacity have broken the logjam in global logistics for our customers and created jobs throughout the supply chain" Georgia Ports Authority Executive Director Griff Lynch said.

According to a University of Georgia-Terry College of Business School study, the increase in volume at the port added 93,000 jobs to the state's economy in 2021.

The Port of Virginia saw a 3.3% year-over-year decline to 262,020 containers compared with 270,969. Meanwhile, a study by the College of William and Mary showed in fiscal 2021 the port contributed \$47 billion to Virginia's gross state product, a \$9.4 billion increase from fiscal 2018, the last time a similar survey was conducted.

South Carolina Port Authority said January set a record for container volume as it processed 226,515 TEUs compared with 216,265 a year ago. That marked the 11th consecutive month of year-over-year container records.

"The global supply chain continues to see great strain from handling unprecedented amounts of cargo," said Jim Newsome, CEO of SCA. "With record throughput volumes, we are experiencing a record number of import containers on our terminals awaiting delivery."

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey and the Port of Baltimore did not have container numbers available at press time.

## Housing loans for govt workers proposed in Pakistan

ISLAMABAD

THE government is planning to arrange credit for lower cadre non-gazetted employees so they can benefit from the Naya Pakistan Housing Programme (NPHP) and to also allow overseas Pakistanis to avail loans under Kamyab Pakistan Programme (KPP), which is expected to be formally launched across the country on March 1 by Prime Minister Imran Khan.

The two proposals were discussed at two separate but related meetings on NPHP and KPP presided over by Finance Minister Shaukat Tarin on Monday.

During the meeting on the housing programme, the finance minister asked State Bank of Pakistan Governor Reza Baqir to work out a mechanism – consultation with banks and insurance companies – for including non-gazetted employees of the government and its various departments in NPHP so that low-income employees could also benefit from the scheme.

According to a statement issued by the Ministry of Finance, Naya Pakistan Housing Development Authority (NAPHDA) Chairman Anwar Ali Hyder had pointed out that some operational and functional constraints impeding the smooth implementation of the government's agenda to provide houses to the low-income segment of society – especially government employees and private salaried class.

Informed sources said the government wanted to extend the financing facility to the low-income government employees. However, various departments were unable to facilitate their employees because financial institutions had reservations over the recovery of their loans and there were questions as to who should provide credit guarantees in case of early retirement of these employees or limited repayment capacity.

The finance ministry statement said the NAPHDA chief also briefed the meeting on the progress and achievements of Naya Pakistan Hous-



ing Authority.

The finance minister explained to the participants representing various government departments and the SBP governor that the housing sector had been the priority sector of the government that would take every possible measure to provide houses to the low and middle-income groups at affordable prices. The sources said the finance minister also asked

the relevant authorities to examine how Pakistanis going abroad or those already overseas could be provided opportunities to benefit from the multibillion-rupee KPP. The meeting was told that the prime minister was expected to launch the extension of the KPP throughout the country on March 1 subject to confirmation of his schedule.

The meeting was told that representative bodies of

overseas Pakistanis had also demanded at various levels of the government that workers going abroad or already working overseas should also be incentivised to participate in various schemes of the KPP so that they could also have their assets and businesses at home by the time they return from abroad.

The meeting of the Steering Committee of KPP was also attended by Adviser to the

Prime Minister on Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resources Development Ayub Afridi who had vacated his Senate seat for the finance minister. Secretaries of Finance, Overseas Pakistanis & HRD, President Bank of Punjab, Chairman SECP and CEO Akhuwat Foundation were also present.

A detailed presentation was given to the meeting on the progress of KPP.

## Taiwan regulators move to curb bank property exposure

TAIPEI

THE Taiwanese authorities' precautionary move to increase regulatory risk weights (RW) for new domestic property loans should help to contain concentration and credit risks for the banking sector, says Fitch Ratings.

"We believe the move is broadly credit positive, although the higher RWs may lower banks' common equity Tier 1 (CET1) ratios to a modest extent," Fitch says.

Concentration risks associated with property-related lending in Taiwan have risen modestly in recent years.

Mortgage and construction loans reached 37% of total domestic loans at end-2021, up from 35% at end-2019.

Construction loans comprised 9% of total domestic loans, and posted 18% and 14% growth in 2020 and 2021 respectively, well above system loan growth of 5.5% and 7.0%.

"We also see higher potential credit risks associated with the property sector. House prices rose by 15% in 2021, after 7% growth in 2020," it says.

"We expect economic growth to remain robust in 2022-2023, averaging around 3% annually, but against a backdrop of accelerated global monetary policy normalisation we are likely to revise our interest-rate forecast to build in a slight rise in policy rates in 2022, from the current forecast of no rise this year. Higher rates may dampen Taiwan's richly valued housing markets."

The Financial Supervisory Commission announced that from 18 February the RW will increase to 50%-100%, from 20%-30%, for new housing loans to retail buyers with more than two properties, as well as to corporate buyers, in a further effort to curb speculative real-estate investment.

The RW will also increase to 150%-200%, from 75%-150%, for new loans to finance land acquisition and housing inventories.

The measures should help to moderate the pace of banks' property lending and contain concentration risks.

However, Fitch says it do not believe they will result in a significant reduction in the sector's share

of total lending.

There is also a risk that concentration could continue to rise if demand and risk-adjusted returns are sufficiently strong.

Small banks with high property concentration are likely to be more exposed to the change. However, we expect such banks to manage down their high-risk property exposures, reducing the impact on their capitalisation.

The latest development follows other policy moves that already helped to moderate the growth in property-related loans in 2021, including stricter loan-to-value (LTV) requirements. Property's share in new lending fell to 49% in 2021 from 58% in 2020.

"We expect total bank lending to grow by 6% in 2022, down from 7% in 2021. Slower growth will largely reflect Taiwanese banks' efforts to prepare for higher capital charges for unconditionally cancellable commitments by 2024. Property lending may slow modestly, although we expect diversification into non-property sectors such as business investment loans for industrial sectors," says Fitch.

The raising of property RWs should have a net positive credit effect for the sector, but is unlikely to drive changes to Taiwan's banking sector operating environment score (a/stable) or individual bank ratings. The operating environment score is constrained mainly by the banking sector's high fragmentation and competition.

Meanwhile, it is estimated that the new rule will have less than a 10bp impact on our banking sector CET1 ratio forecast of 11.5% by end-2022, as the affected exposures will account for just a small portion of total loans.

The regulatory move reinforces our view that Taiwan's capital regime will remain conservative and banks' RWs relatively high.

"We estimate typical RWs for residential secured loans in Taiwan fell to 30%-40% by end-2021, from over 60% at end-2019, after the adoption of LTV-based risk weighting under the final Basel III reforms, but this was still higher than the 10%-30% level typical for other developed markets in the Asia-Pacific region," the rating agency added.





## WORLD

# Prince Harry launches lawsuit against UK newspaper publisher

LONDON

PRINCE Harry is suing Associated Newspapers, one of Britain's biggest newspaper publishers, for libel over a newspaper article alleging he attempted to keep details of his legal battle to reinstate his police protection secret from the public.

Harry, Queen Elizabeth's grandson, and his American wife Meghan quit royal duties in 2020 to forge new careers in Los Angeles. The couple have since relied upon a private security team.

His legal representatives said in January that these arrangements did not give the prince the

level of protection he needed while visiting Britain and he wanted to pay for police protection.

Harry is suing the Mail on Sunday over an article published on Feb 20 alleging that he sought a confidentiality order on documents and witness statements in the case, according to a source familiar with the situation.

A spokesperson for Harry said he was suing Associated Newspapers, publishers of the Daily Mail and Mail on Sunday. But the spokesperson provided no details about which of the titles is being sued or why.

Associated Newspapers declined to comment.



Britain's Prince Harry speaks onstage during the taping of the "Vax Live" fundraising concert at SoFi Stadium in Inglewood, California, on May 2, 2021. File photo

Harry and his wife Meghan, formally known as the Duke and Duchess of Sussex, moved to California two years to lead a more independent life. Harry has previously said he stepped back from his royal duties because the "toxic" British press had been de-

stroying his mental health.

Meghan won a claim against the Mail on Sunday last year, after it printed extracts of a handwritten letter she wrote to her estranged father in 2018.

Agencies

# Putin declares beginning of military operation in Ukraine

MOSCOW

RUSSIA has begun a military operation in Ukraine following a request from the authorities of the Donetsk and Lugansk republics for assistance in repelling Kiev's military aggression, Russian President Vladimir Putin said in urgent address yesterday.

He said that Moscow would seek the "demilitarization and denazification" of Ukraine, called upon the Ukrainian army to lay down weapons and warned there would follow a prompt response to attempts at foreign intervention from outside.

After that there followed reports of sounds of explosions in a number of Ukrainian cities, including Kiev and Kharkov. TASS has summarized the latest news regarding the situation.

## Military operation

After a message from the Donbass republics Putin made a decision to conduct a "special military operation."

"Its purpose is to protect the people who have for eight years



Russian President Vladimir Putin

been exposed to humiliation and genocide by the regime in Kiev. For this we will seek demilitarization and denazification of Ukraine, and also press for bringing to justice those who have committed numerous bloody crimes against peaceful civilians, including Russian citizens."

Moscow's plans to not include an occupation of Ukraine. It is for the right of the Ukrainian people to self-determination. Also, Putin said that Russia could not let Kiev

obtain nuclear weapons and recalled NATO's illegitimate expansion to the east.

## Address to Ukrainians

Putin urged the Ukrainian military to "lay down arms at once and leave for home."

"Those servicemen of the Ukrainian army who will meet this demand will be free to leave the zone of combat operations and return to their families." All responsibility for possible blood-

shed "will rest upon entirely on Ukraine's ruling regime."

In his address to the Ukrainian people, he explained that Russia's actions were taken in self-defense from threats and from a "still greater misfortune than the one happening today."

"However difficult it may be to do this, I am asking you to understand this and calling for cooperation in order to turn this tragic page as soon as possible and to move forward together."

## Warning to others

Putin warned against attempts at foreign intervention in the current developments, let alone foreign intervention.

"Nobody should feel any doubts that a direct attack on Russia would end with the potential aggressor's defeat and terrible consequences for the attacker," he warned.

"Whoever may try to create obstructions to us, let alone pose threats to our country and our people, they should know that Russia's response will follow without delay and entail con-

sequences that you have never encountered in your history. We are prepared for any march of events. All necessary decisions in this connection will be made. I hope that I will be heard," Putin said.

## First western reaction

Immediately after that US President Joseph Biden made a written statement, in which he blamed Russia for what he described as "a premeditated war that will bring a catastrophic loss of life and human suffering," and warned that "the United States and its Allies and partners will respond in a united and decisive way."

Biden said that later on Thursday he would make a special address to announce further measures against Russia Washington and its allies would take.

NATO's Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg has said that a meeting of the alliance's member-countries will consider the effects of Russia's actions towards Ukraine.

Agencies

# US, Chinese economies highly interdependent, win-win cooperation only right choice

NEW YORK

CLOSER economic cooperation between the United States and China is not only crucial but also mutually beneficial as the world's two largest economies are highly interdependent, business leaders, diplomats and officials have said.

"China-U.S. economic and trade relations are win-win in nature," Chinese Ambassador to the United States Qin Gang said in his video remarks to the annual New Year gala of the China General Chamber of Commerce -- USA (CGCC-USA) held here on Tuesday evening.

Noting that China and the United States have "highly complementary economic structures and deeply intertwined interests," Qin stressed that "win-win cooperation is our only right choice."

"We have broad common interests and great potential for cooperation, especially in trade," said the Chinese diplomat.

Qin called on the business community to continue to serve as a "bridge and bond" between the two countries, to cultivate an objective and rational view of both sides, and tell the story of cooperation.

"Our two nations have deep and longstanding inter-dependencies," said Evan Greenberg, chairman and chief executive officer (CEO) of the insurance company Chubb Limited.

"Two-way trade and investment between the United States and China are strategically important, and in the interest of both our countries," Greenberg noted, who also serves on the board of the National Committee on U.S.-China Relations, and the U.S.-China Business Council.

The American business executive believes that it should be a priority for governments and private sectors in the two countries to advance productive economic



Chinese Ambassador to the United States Qin Gang

relations, which will benefit both sides.

During the event, Guan Linhua, CEO at Surge Energy America, a Texas-based production and exploration company, told Xinhua

that China and the United States are quite complementary in the energy sector and enjoy great potential for cooperation.

Calling China and the United States as "amazing partners," New

York Governor Kathy Hochul said in her address that it is vital that "we continue to work together collaboratively and our people are joined together in a common vision of giving people a better life."

"As many speakers at the event suggested, the two countries should enhance collaborations and mutual understanding while managing differences through candid communication and dialogue."

Saddened by the recent years' strains and misunderstandings in the bilateral ties, Ray Dalio, a renowned American investor and founder of Bridgewater Associates, called on joint efforts to promote mutual understanding and improve U.S.-China relationships.

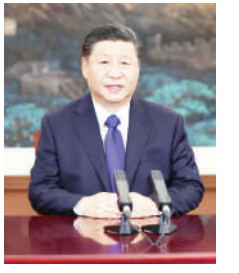
"It is incumbent upon all of us in both the public and the private sector to continue to reach for greater people-to-people interaction between us," Greenberg said.

Xinhua

# Xi congratulates Julius Nyerere leadership school on inauguration

BEIJING

XI Jinping, general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, on Wednesday sent a congratulatory letter for the inauguration ceremony of Mwalimu Julius Nyerere Leadership School in Tanzania.



The leadership school was co-founded by six parties in southern Africa: Tanzania's Chama Cha Mapinduzi party, the African National Congress of South Africa, the Mozambique Liberation Front Party, the People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola, the SWAPO party of Namibia and the Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front.

Noting that the six parties have united and led the people in pursuing national independence, construction and development, Xi (pictured) said the inauguration of the Julius Nyerere leadership school will provide an important platform for the six parties to enhance their governance capacity and better lead their respective countries to achieve development and benefit their people.

As the world is undergoing changes rarely seen in a century, China and Africa need to strengthen solidarity and cooperation more than ever to cope with risks and challenges, promote common development and improve people's well-being, Xi stressed.

The CPC is willing to take the inauguration of the Julius Nyerere leadership school as an opportunity to strengthen the exchange of state governance experience with parties in Africa, support each other in pursuing development paths that suit their own national conditions, deepen pragmatic cooperation across the board, promote the building of a high-level community with a shared future between China and Africa, and contribute more to the building of a better world, he said.

Xinhua

# Global Fund seeks 18 bln USD to restore progress against AIDS, TB and malaria

GENEVA

THE Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and the presidents of five African countries on Wednesday launched a fundraising campaign aiming at 18 billion U.S. dollars to restore progress against AIDS (acquired immunodeficiency syndrome), tuberculosis and malaria that has been disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"In the face of the catastrophic impact of COVID-19 on the fight against HIV, TB and malaria, the choice is stark: We either increase funding, or we abandon hope of finally defeating these epidemics by 2030," said Peter Sands, executive director of the Global Fund.

He thanked the presidents of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Rwanda, Senegal and South Africa for co-launching the campaign. According to the Global Fund's Results Report, significant progress against AIDS, TB and malaria has been lost because of the COVID-19 pandemic and global resource needs have increased, hence a fundraising target higher than that in 2019.

The Global Fund said in a statement that the 18 billion U.S. dollars would save 20 million lives between 2024 and 2026, and would reduce the mortality rate by 64 percent across the three diseases by 2026, relative to 2020 levels. This sum would also help avert more than 450 million infections or cases, and reduce the death toll across the three diseases to 950,000 in 2026, down from 2.4 million in 2020 and from four million in 2005.

In return, the fund would yield 31 dollars for every dollar invested in fighting the three diseases, further contributing to the achievement of the overall United Nations Sustainable Development Goal.

"We must increase support to countries to build more resilient, sustainable and inclusive systems for health. This is crucial for ending HIV, TB and malaria, defeating COVID-19 and protecting people from future infectious disease threats around the world," Sands said.

Xinhua



Kenya's President Uhuru Kenyatta (C) and Global Fund Executive Director Peter Sands (L) pose for a photo at State House in Nairobi May 3, 2019. File photo

# China stimulates smart tourism by improving 5G signal coverage in scenic areas

THE construction of a 5G base station at Xixi'an scenic area, east China's Anhui province, is in full swing. The foundations of the telecommunications tower have already been finished and are now going through the 28-day curing period. After the concrete is fully cured, the cell tower will be erected.

Although the continuous rain and snow lately, the construction progress has remained unaffected, as the rainy and snowy days happened to overlap the curing period of the concrete foundations of the 5G base station, said Yu Falin, an executive with China Tower, constructor of the cell tower. The scenic area would be covered by 5G signals in about half a month, Yu added.

Poor network signal and slow Internet speed has been quite a headache for business owners and tourists at Xixi'an scenic area in Huizhou district, Huangshan city, Anhui.

"Sometimes tourists can't use QR code to pay due to poor network signal", said Xu Ruoxia, who runs a cafe at the tourist attraction.

In response to the scenic area's needs for faster Internet speed and better network signal, China Tower, Chinese telecom operators and the government of Xixi'an township carried out close consultation and then kicked off the construction of the 5G base station last year.

Yu has fully involved himself in every link of the preparations for the project,

from the siting to investigation, blueprint preparation to on-site location.

To achieve 5G coverage in key parts of the scenic area and at the same time minimize the environmental impact, Yu and his colleagues decided to build a bionic tree base station in the maple and poplar forest next to the parking lot of the scenic spot.

Last year, Xixi'an scenic area received a total of 500,000 tourists, according to Wang Weizhi, member of the Communist Party of China (CPC) committee of Xixi'an township. After the 5G base station is completed, the township will develop smart tourism and establish a digital tour guide system for integrated tourism, Wang said.

With the digital tour guide system, tourists will be able to scan QR code with their mobile phones to access a hand-drawn map and travel routes of the scenic area, and various attractions, business forms, activities, etc. will be marked on the map, Wang said.

"When tourists come to the marked points, they will trigger audio tour guide and can check the introduction to and comments on the place," Wang explained.

The official believes that 5G network can not only improve visitors' experience, but ensure their accurate, fast, and direct access to information about the scenic area and create various application scenarios.

So far, Anhui has built over 50,000 5G base stations, and covered 16 prefecture-level cities and Mount Huangshan, Mount Jiuhua, and other major scenic spots in the province with 5G network.

This year, it launched a campaign aimed at building more than 25,000 5G base stations throughout the year to achieve full coverage of 5G networks in industrial parks above the provincial level.

With the application of new technologies, including the Internet, big data, and artificial intelligence (AI), in the tourism sector, smart tourism with digital, networked and intelligent scenarios has become a new driving force for the high-quality development of the industry.

China will promote mass tourism and smart tourism, and promote the construction of smart tourism destinations, according to the country's economic and social development blueprint, the Outline of the 14th Five-Year Plan (2021-2025) for National Economic and Social Development and the Long-Range Objectives Through the Year 2035.

Data from China's Ministry of Culture and Tourism (MCT) suggested that during the week-long Spring Festival holiday earlier this month, up to 60 percent of the tourists who visited tourist attractions across the country made reservations online beforehand; and the proportion stood at 40 percent to 50 percent in ordinary days.

People's Daily



## Canadian PM declares end of 10-day state of emergency

OTTAWA

CANADIAN Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on Wednesday declared an end to the state of emergency invoked on Feb 14.

At a press conference, Trudeau made the announcement to end the use of the Emergencies Act, which was approved by the House of Commons.

"Immediate emergency situation is over," said Trudeau, stressing that the decision was made after careful consideration.

Trudeau said within 60 days a joint committee of Parliamentarians will review the declaration of emergency and that there will be an inquiry into the circumstances that led to the Emergencies Act being invoked.

"It will look at how we got there, and why it was required, it could look at policing. The inquiry could also examine the funding influence and disinformation that supported the illegal blockades and occupations, both foreign and domestic," he said.

Finance Minister Chrystia Freeland, who is also Canada's deputy prime minister, said that the process of unfreezing accounts of those took part in the occupation and the illegal blockades has already begun.

"I would just like to stress that there are bank accounts that will remain frozen, but not because of the emergency measures. There will be other orders, court orders and others. And because of these orders, the bank accounts may be frozen," she said.

Last week, under the Emergencies Act, Canada's banks and financial institutions were ordered to cease conducting business with anyone who was "directly or indirectly" associated with the protests, including the freezing of bank accounts.

However, one emergency provision, which compels crowdfunding platforms and payment providers to register with the Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Center of Canada - the government's financial intelligence unit - will be subject to "measures" to keep them "permanently in place," Freeland said.

On Feb 14, Canada's House of Commons voted to pass the federal government's use of the Emergencies Act in response to the truckers' convoy blockades in Ottawa and at border crossings.

The 185-151 vote was made on a motion put forward by the Liberal government that outlined its decision to invoke the never-before-used emergency powers after weeks-long demonstrations dubbed the "Freedom Convoy 2022."

Since late January, Canadian truck drivers had been rallying against the



government's COVID-19 vaccine mandates, as the truckers were requested to be fully vaccinated for crossing the border into the United States. After being joined by thousands of pedestrian protesters, the rally turned into demonstrations against the government's overall restrictive measures during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In an official statement published on Wednesday, the federal Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) promised to remain committed to working with law enforcement partners to ensure safety and security.

"Today, the declaration of a public order emergency under the Emergencies Act was revoked," said the RCMP. "The revocation of the public order emergency takes nothing away from our resolve to effectively enforce the law and keep communities safe."

The provincial government of Ontario also announced the end of the state of emergency which was invoked in respond to the convoy protests and border crossing blockades on Feb 11, three days before the federal one, or nearly two weeks after the Ottawa protest began.

Ontario Premier Doug Ford declared the emergency and pledged at the time to enact orders that would fine people up to 100,000 Canadian dollars (\$78,528) for blocking critical infrastructures.

His office said in a statement that in alignment with the federal government, the state of emergency of the province has been lifted, confirming that the emergency tools given to police "will be maintained" as they continue to "address ongoing activity on the ground."

"We remain grateful to all frontline officers and first responders that contributed to peacefully resolving the situation in Ottawa, Windsor and in other parts of the province," the statement said.

The provincial government of Ontario is also expected to lift the state of emergency soon.

Xinhua

## Ethiopian minister calls for investments in modern rail infrastructure in Africa

ADDIS ABABA

ETHIOPIA'S Minister of Transport and Logistics Dagmawit Moges has called on African countries to intensify the construction of standard gauge rail lines towards the success of continental free trade aspiration.

The Ethiopian transport and logistics minister, addressing a high-level railway infrastructure-themed seminar, said the Chinese-built Addis Ababa-Djibouti railway, Africa's first fully electrified trans-boundary railway, could be seen as a role model to Africa's aspiration of augmenting railway connectivity.

"One of the reasons Africa has lagged in development is because it's not connected. The African Union in its Agenda 2063 has identified potential corridors across North to South and West to East of the continent and planned to connect some of them via standard gauge railway lines," the Ethiopian minister said addressing the seminar on Monday.

"The objectives of the new African Continental Free Trade Area will not be achieved without the provision of reliable, inter-regional transport and logistics network," she added.

Noting that Ethiopia as a land-locked country accesses the international maritime trade through the seaports of neighboring countries, Moges emphasized that the historical Ethiopia-Djibouti trade corridor is the main gateway of Ethiopia with almost 90 percent of import and export passing through it.

"At this point in time we are harvesting the fruits of our four years of commercial operation of the Addis Ababa-Djibouti railway line," she added. Moges said the Chinese-built 752-km transnational railway mutually benefited the two countries in promoting regional, economic and social integration while at the same time facilitating trade and industrial development and fostering employment and entrepreneurial opportunities for citizens of the two Horn of Africa countries.

She said in addition to improving the efficiency of the Addis Ababa-Djibouti standard gauge railway line, the East African country has planned envisioned to further boost its rail-connectivity over the coming years.

According to Moges, Ethiopia's 10-year perspective plan envisaged to expand the size of national railway network to 4,000-km by building additional cross-country railway lines to connect Africa's second-populous nation to alternative seaports. "The implementation of this plan will tremendously boost the trade logistics of the country and the Horn of Africa as a region," she said.

According to a recent estimate by the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA), Africa's rail network is inadequate, but implementing the Program for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA) and other planned projects will significantly increase its size, in which implementing planned projects will increase the network by almost 26,500 km. The study conducted by experts in the Energy, Infrastructure and Services Section of UNECA to unpack AfCFTA investment opportunity in the transport sector estimated that AfCFTA requires 97,614 wagons for bulk cargo and 20,668 wagons for container cargo by 2030.

Xinhua

## COVID-19 'let loose' in nervy pandemic experiment

LONDON

MORE than once during the pandemic, United Kingdom Prime Minister Boris Johnson has referred to COVID-19 as the "nation's biggest challenge" since World War II, and hailed the British public for its stoicism.

The country's wartime stereotype of a "stiff upper lip" is a useful one to fall back on in times of crisis.

Johnson is now asking much of the population to "Keep Calm and Carry On", when all COVID-19 restrictions in England are to be lifted.

It really is all restrictions. The government is lifting a law that required infected people to self-isolate for a minimum of five days. People in England will have the choice to test positive and go about their business as normal, shopping, taking trains and visiting pubs and restaurants, while knowingly putting others at risk of infection.

That famous "Keep Calm" propaganda poster of 1939 encouraged Britons to carry on with their lives in the face of adversity. But it was also accompanied by huge amounts of government support and intervention when the bombs began falling on British shores.

Vaccines will effectively be the only line of defense left standing against the novel coronavirus in the UK by the end of next month, with the government announcing on Monday that free symptomatic and asymptomatic testing will end in England from April 1, despite objections from several public health bodies, including the National Health Service.

The removal of the self-isolation law does not appear to have much public support.

A survey from pollster YouGov found that 75 percent of Britons are in favor of current regulations. Just 17 percent support the change, which would see individuals and employers make their own decisions over restricted movements,



People walk on a street in London on Feb 22, 2022. [Photo/IC]

as is the case with other respiratory ailments, such as colds or flu.

Some say they will continue to isolate following infection, regardless of the law.

Amber Anderson, 29, an actress from London, said: "I don't think I would take these new liberties if I tested positive for COVID-19. I honestly just wouldn't feel comfortable knowing I could be passing it on to someone more vulnerable than myself. I think if I tested positive I would try to avoid going to work, but stay at home."

Others are unsure if they will have much room for personal choice.

Emily Roberts, 44, a school teacher from West Sussex, recently spent 10 days at home recovering from COVID-19. Due to the legal requirement to self-isolate, her classes were covered by a supply teacher paid for by an insurer. Roberts does not know what would happen in the event of asymptomatic infection once the legal requirement for isolation ends.

"Morally, I would want to stay home to protect the population. But would I be obliged to go back to work, as long as I was feeling well enough, because the school would not be getting the financial support? I don't know the answer to

that," she said.

"I am not looking forward to catching COVID-19 when restrictions are over and such decisions have to be made by individuals, with no clear-cut rule that says stay home when you are contagious."

Rachel McCloy, associate professor at the University of Reading's School of Psychology, said that from a behavioral science perspective, the shift represents a range of risks.

"Although we know that most people have followed guidance to be responsible ... for those who have been more resistant, this change risks signaling they can feel free to take COVID-19 infections less seriously," McCloy said.

### Political move

In justifying its strategy, the UK government said hospitalizations and COVID-19 cases are falling. There is also strong immunity in the population thanks to high vaccination rates and a surge in infections in December brought on by the Omicron variant.

Data support this claim. COVID-19 cases have fallen over the past few weeks, according to the Office of National Statistics. In the week ending Feb 12, just under 2.5 million tested positive in England, or one in 20 people, compared with 1 in 19 the previous week. Meanwhile, more than 82 percent of adults in England have received three or more vaccinations.

However, the timing of the rule change has raised eyebrows. The end to the self-isolation law

was originally scheduled for late next month, but Johnson surprised many on Feb 9 when he revealed plans to bring forward the change by four weeks.

Experts asked if the expedited timeline was based on solid evidence, after it emerged that several major health authorities had not been consulted.

British epidemiologist John Edmunds told ITV News the Scientific Advisory Group for Emergencies, or SAGE, which advises the government on COVID-19 policy, had not held discussions about moving changes forward.

Welsh Economy Minister Vaughan Gething told the BBC that there was no meeting between UK chief medical officers before Johnson's surprise announcement.

Some critics say the move is designed to distract from a number of controversies that have embroiled Johnson and also to appease a faction within his Conservative Party that has long lobbied against COVID-19 restrictions.

Johnson has faced calls to stand down following revelations that several parties and gatherings were held on government properties last year, in apparent breach of lockdown rules.

Christina McAnea, general secretary of UNISON, the biggest union in the UK, said, "Ditching COVID-19 rules while the virus rages suggests public health is less important to the prime minister than saving his job."

Agencies

## East China's Jinan endeavours to spur growth of AI industry

IN the workshop of Shandong SIASUN Industrial Software Research Institute Co., Ltd., a high-tech enterprise in Jinan city, east China's Shandong province, various kinds of robots work in an orderly manner, among which some can flexibly rotate their arms, accurately grab components and then put them on lathe with their human finger-like pliers.

The company, based in the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Building in Jinan Innovation Zone, has developed a smart system that can realize overall control of robots and automated production lines, thus improving the production efficiency and level of intelligentization of the workshop, according to Qi Tiancheng, deputy head of the major project and strategic development department of the company, which specializes in the development of smart manufacturing-related basic software and key components.

Shandong SIASUN Industrial Software Research Institute Co., Ltd. is not the only high-tech company operating from office in the AI Building.

In recent years, Jinan city has won approval for building a national pioneer zone for the innovation and application of AI and a national pilot zone for new-generation AI innovation and development.

At present, the city is making efforts to build an "AI island" to stimulate the construction of the two zones.

"AI Building is the core of the main area of the 'AI island'. It attracts and gathers top AI companies for comprehensive deployment of cutting-edge AI applications," said Peng Shaoyi, head of the industrial development department of the development center of Qilu Softpark, an important industrial park in Jinan Innovation Zone.

Qilu Softpark serves as a demonstration zone of the "AI island", according to Peng, who disclosed that the city will build AI experience hall and AI application demonstration facilities in the industrial park, including financial service facility and business districts empowered by smart technologies.

The "AI island" will also cover Qilu sci-tech innovation corridor and Jinan smart manufacturing corridor, two key projects launched by the city to enhance its role in leading regional sci-tech innovation and man-



A 6-axis robot developed by Japanese electronics company Seiko Epson Corporation that can screen and grow seedlings attracts visitors at the fourth China International Import Expo held in the National Exhibition and Convention Center (Shanghai) in east China's Shanghai, Nov. 6, 2021. File photo

ufacturing development, according to Zhao Wei, deputy director of the intelligent equipment industry development center under the management committee of the Jinan Innovation Zone.

The construction of the China computing valley, a key part of the corridors as well as a major and key project launched by Jinan to build a new highland of global computing industry, is in full swing. The project mainly consists of an industrial park and a sci-tech park.

The industrial park of China computing valley is expected to be completed and put into operation at the end of this year, Zhao said.

"The curtain walls of the plants for the first phase of the industrial park have been basically completed,

and the main structure of the buildings for the second phase of the project was capped," Zhao told People's Daily when referring to the construction of the industrial park, which is a 20-minute car ride from the Qilu Softpark.

The industrial park, together with the sci-tech park, will form an industrial cluster featuring in-depth integration of AI and the real economy, according to Zhao, who disclosed that more than 10 enterprises have decided to set up offices in the industrial park.

"Shandong province is home to more than 600 enterprises engaged in AI or related industries and has built a sound foundation and ecosystem for AI industry," said Ji Peide, head of the Jinan municipal bureau of industry and information technology.

Considering AI industry as one of the key sectors for breakthroughs during China's 14th Five-Year Plan period (2021-2025), Jinan endeavors to create leading areas for demonstration of AI innovation and industrial cluster and accumulate experience for innovative development of AI industry, according to Ji.

As an important part of new infrastructure, AI infrastructure has come under the spotlight as it is crucial to the role of AI industry in empowering economic and social development and serves as a strong driver of the development of digital economy-related industries as well as the application of smart technologies.

A report released by China Academy of Information and Communications Technology (CAICT) in January this year provided

a systematic analysis of the latest trends in the development of AI infrastructure in China in 2021 from three aspects: data set, computing power, and open-source platform.

AI infrastructure is a special system of service facilities and capabilities designed to realize and expand smart economy and build a society with a high level of intelligentization in all sectors, according to the report.

Based on a basic capability platform featuring the three factors of computing power, data, and algorithm, AI infrastructure empowers intelligent transformation of major sectors, such as manufacturing, health, and transport through open application platforms and other means, said the report.

People's Daily





Victorien Adebayor

## Simba SC targets Nigerian attacker

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA'S Premier League champion Simba SC has held preliminary talks with the agent of the 2021/22 CAF Confederation Cup's Group D top scorer Victorien Adebayor's agent.

Nigerien ace striker Adebayor now features for Niger Premier League outfit Union Sportive Gendarmerie Nationale (USGN).

Simba SC Board of Directors' Chairman, Salim Abdallah, made it clear that after returning to Tanzania he will talk to the club's honorary president, Mohammed Dewji, on how to sign the US Gendarmerie Nationale footballer.

The attacker played well in USGN's CAF Confederation Cup match against Simba SC in Niger, which ended in a 1-1 draw.

Adebayor harassed Simba SC's defenders when he had the ball as he is one of the players who can effectively use his left foot when taking the pitch on the right side.

Abdallah said that before Simba SC locked horns with USGN he contacted Adebayor's agent and was told how the footballer was going to harass them every minute.

"I will talk to the president to see how he does something on the signing of Adebayor as he is one of the best and most capable players and the footballer has played in Denmark but he should be a Simba player too due to his caliber."

"That's my belief he deserves to play for Simba SC, not Europe. I will advise the honorary president of Simba SC to break the bank to recruit the Nigerian footballer," Abdallah revealed.

As for whether he would agree to play for Simba SC, Adebayor stated: "Why should I refuse to play for a big club like this?"

The Nigerian international has scored

two goals in the two games he has played in this season's CAF Confederation Cup.

US Gendarmerie is placed last in Group D with one point, whereas Simba SC is leading the group with four points after two games.

Simba SC head coach Pablo Franco has been keeping a close eye on Adebayor ever since the Nigerian footballer's permanent move to Egypt's ENPPI from Denmark's HB Køge collapsed in December 2021.

Adebayor subsequently joined Union Sportive de la Gendarmerie Nationale that summer and has scored nine goals in 15 appearances for the 'Blues'.

Simba SC was thinking about making a move during the last summer window but brought in Senegalese winger Pape Sakho instead.

The 25-year-old started his career in 2014 at 18 years of age with AS Douanes in his home country, before moving to Europe three years later to sign for France's US Raon l'Étape.

However, his stay in France was cut short and he subsequently returned to Niger and was roped in by USGN two months later.

Six months later he moved abroad once again, this time to Ghana where he plied his trade with Benchem United.

The Niger international was snapped by Inter Allies and wowed football-loving fans who accompanied his elegance and artistry with applause.

Adebayor is a goal poacher that would like to play for a successful club but more will be known later.

According to reports, Simba SC's main registration window will enter the market and they will register no less than four foreign footballers with one place already occupied by Zanaco FC's Zambian winger Moses Phiri who has yet to be introduced.

## Olympics say goodbye to Asia after a star-crossed run

BEIJING

THE Olympics have said goodbye to Asia after a star-crossed run, and it's unclear when they'll be back after the continent hosted four of the last eight Games.

The earliest the Summer Games could return is 2036, and the favorite could be the world's most populous country – not China, as you might expect, but India.

India's population is expected to overtake China's 1.4 billion in the next decade, and it is lobbying for the western city of Ahmedabad to be the host city for 2036, with events elsewhere, including New Delhi, the capital.

"India is in a race for hosting 2036," Narinder Batra, president of the Indian Olympic Committee, told The Associated Press. He offered few other details.

In a show of support, the IOC has scheduled the annual meeting of its full membership for next year in the western Indian metropolis of Mumbai. It's a signal the courting has begun.

Delivering the pitch: Indian IOC member Nita Ambani, who is married to Mukesh Ambani, the chairman of India's multinational conglomerate Reliance Industries. The family fortune has been estimated at \$100 billion.

As it did with China, the IOC can envision India as a new frontier that will yield deep-pocketed sponsors, television rights deals and generous government support.

Departing Asia means returning to familiar terrain: the Summer Games in Paris in 2024, the 2026 Winter Games in Milan-Cortina, and the 2028 Summer Games in Los Angeles. Brisbane is also lined up for the 2032 Summer Olympics, a return to Australia 32 years after Sydney.

## 2022's K'njaro Marathon organizers caution late race number collectors

By Guardian Correspondent

ORGANIZERS of the 2022 Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon have reminded participants to observe the timings that have been allocated for race number collection as the exercise starts in Moshi today.

The reminder has come in the wake of some registered participants going to the collection centers late and demanding numbers when the exercise is over.

"We experienced this in Dar es Salaam and Arusha and there was ample time for the exercise in both cities but some people still came in late and it was not easy for them to be attended to as our officials had already shut down their machines and left," the organizers revealed.

The organizers said that once the exercise is over in Moshi at the Moshi Cooperative University (MoCU) on Saturday, no numbers will be issued anymore.

"Registered participants can send someone else to collect their numbers with a copy of their ID and the SMS from Tigo for details of the entries," the organizers noted.



A section of runners battles it out in the recent Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon, which took place in Moshi.

In Moshi, the numbers were expected to be issued yesterday from 12 pm to 7 pm, on Friday from 10 am to 8 pm, and on Saturday from 9 pm to 5 pm.

According to the organizers, entries for the Grand Malt 5km Fun Run are still on sale but runners

are to purchase them on a cash basis.

Sponsors for this year's 20th Anniversary event include the main sponsor, Kilimanjaro Premium Lager, Tigo- 21km race, and Grand Malt -5km Fun Run.

Water table sponsors include Absa Tanzania,

Unilever Tanzania, TPC Sugar, Simba Cement, and Kilimanjaro Water.

Official suppliers for the event include GardaWorld Security, Keys Hotel, Kibo Palace Hotel, Surveyed Plots Company Ltd, Tanzanian Tourism Board, and CMC Automobiles.

The Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon will be held on Sunday at the Moshi Cooperative University (MoCU) venue.

It is organized by the Kilimanjaro Marathon Company Limited and locally coordinated by Executive Solutions Limited.

## Premier League top defenders inch closer to free agency

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA SC and Yanga's two central defenders, Joash Onyango and Bakari Mwamnyeto, have their contracts set to expire at the end of this season and this does not appear to be a big deal for officials, fans, and the media in the country. In Europe, it would have been great news.

Onyango and Mwamnyeto are as good defenders as they are, a person can hardly imagine in just three months the defenders' contracts come to an end.

Their clubs are not worried. There is a big funny joke in it. An individual can hardly see it from the outside. The natives are not worried about the deal as badly as they usually do.

Each is not concerned about the theft of the other. I think Simba SC believes Yanga has little need for Onyango.

Yanga has two talented defenders at the moment. Mwamnyeto and Dickson Job who is now the outfit's fans' favourite as Mwamnyeto is.

In addition, Yanga has Yannick Bangala who despite being a dynamic midfielder, has great potential to play as a central defender.

He has been doing so many times. Simba SC officials could not be bothered by Onyango's departure to Yanga.

Yanga is also unaware of the theft from their rivals. Why? They believe their opponents have calmed down to their two middle defenders.

Treatment by Henock Inonga. This is a story for everyone to keep with their player. Neither outfit should steal each other's players.

A person should try to imagine how Yanga quickly settled Mwamnyeto's transfer while he was at Coastal Union.

It was so because Simba



Yanga's central defender, Bakari Mwamnyeto.

SC also wanted the talented national team defender.

At that time both clubs were looking for center backs. Without that opposition, the situation would be the same now. Technically, the defender is great.

It also looks like the player may not want to risk their chances trying to move elsewhere. For example, can Mwamnyeto play with either Inonga or Onyango? Who would want to risk sitting on a bench for no reason?

But the climate may be

the last days of his contract with the Msimbazi Street side. The situation was tense. Why was it so? Yanga did not have a player of his kind.

Not only did the Jangwani Street outfit did not have a player of his kind but it was also dissatisfied with its midfielders.

The noise was loud and by the time Simba SC wanted to keep him on a new contract the Msimbazi Street squad were really tired.

If an individual is in this situation he should try to imagine what would Yanga officials have done if Fiston Mayele's contract with the outfit would have been three months away as it is the case for Mwamnyeto.

As long as Simba SC attackers are out of form then the sweat have come from the Jangwani Street club's leaders, soccer lovers would just read the headlines 'Mayele concludes transfer to Simba SC'.

It is the story of fullbacks Mohammed Hussein 'Tshalabala' and Shomari Kapombe. Yanga was unsettled in the fullbacks and we saw a heavy march towards the last few months of the two footballers' contracts.

It is different from the current situation for Onyango and Mwamnyeto. Leaders have found themselves breathing heavily and calm.

I think it also exists for fullbacks Kibwana Shomari and Yassin Mustapha. Yanga is not too worried because the side knows Simba SC has Kapombe and Hussein who have new contracts at the club. Otherwise, they would be rushing this time.

As for Onyango and Mwamnyeto there is also something else behind the scenes. The players are not wanted by the opponents but there is a fact the players do not look for opportunities outside the

country's borders. They are satisfied with their current clubs.

Tanzania looks to be Onyango's destination at the age of 29.

Soccer supporters should remind him that at Simba SC he is playing for a foreign outfit.

A football follower cannot blame him for opting out of making another move because he is already paid more than a salary Kenyan outfits could afford to pay him.

Local clubs can turn a footballer into a prisoner if he has a contract.

When the footballer's contract with an outfit expires, it becomes a great opportunity for the footballer.

For players, if there will be no extra tricks from either Simba SC and Yanga or Azam FC then the footballer has to continue to exist.

There is no other market out there. Few players can look at another market out there and use the Bosman rule.

For the club, it becomes cheaper. It is a time when they do not regret giving the player a short contract.

A two-year contract is a major technical error, but a club will not be able to detect the error if it can keep Mwamnyeto.

Football lovers would maybe need another big domestic market for talented homegrown footballers.

Otherwise, it is not very profitable for Onyango to opt for seeking greener at the different side.

A soccer supporter should try to look at other developed countries that also have large economies. The British have Chelsea, Manchester City FC, Manchester United, Arsenal and Liverpool FC.

Now Newcastle United has joined the fray. All these outfits cater to the needs of their clients.



## Liverpool within 3 points of City in EPL after routing Leeds

LONDON

LIVERPOOL hasn't been this close to Manchester City since Christmas Day.

The gap is now down to three points in the Premier League title race – which once looked heavily in favor of City – after Liverpool demolished Leeds 6-0 on Wednesday.

Mohamed Salah, naturally, inflicted most of the damage by scoring two goals from the penalty spot and playing a part in two more. Sadio Mane also scored twice.

Liverpool has finally caught up to City in games – they've both played 26 in the 38-game season – and nearly on points.

With Liverpool still to visit City's Etihad Stadium on April 10, there's little to choose between the top two – the last two winners of English football's biggest prize.

At one stage in the middle of January, City held a 13-point lead, though Liverpool always had games in hand and just needed to keep in sight of the defending champions.

On a run of six straight victories, Jurgen Klopp's team has done just that and looks in prime shape heading into Sunday's League Cup final against Chelsea.

"I think for people outside, it is better to have three or six-point gap than to have a 20 or 30-point gap so it is more exciting," Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp said of the title race, "but we have to win a lot of the games against all the difficult opponents and that will be a tricky task.

"We will give it a try."

Salah's league-high goal total is up to 19 after being gifted two penalty chances by Leeds' frail defense that has now conceded 16 goals in the team's last four games.

Stuart Dallas blocked Andrew Robertson's cross with his hand to give away the first spot kick that was dispatched by Salah in the 15th minute.

Salah slipped in Joel Matip, marauding forward from center back, for the second goal in the 30th and then converted a second penalty five minutes later after Luke Ayling tripped Sadio Mane, who was bearing down on goal.

Mane added two late goals while there was also time for Virgil van Dijk to head home a corner in the third minute of stoppage time.

"It can happen, but I didn't expect it," Klopp said of the big win. "It's really difficult to defend man-marking against us for 90 minutes.

"You cannot defend Mo Salah in all challenges of a game. That is the problem Leeds has and that is why the result is the result." AP

## Conte hints at Spurs exit after 'unacceptable' run

LONDON

TOTTENHAM Hotspur manager Antonio Conte appeared to question his own future at the club after his side slumped to a fourth loss in five Premier League games with a 1-0 defeat in pouring rain at Burnley on Wednesday.

Saturday's 3-2 win at Manchester City briefly lifted the gloom of three successive defeats, but Spurs failed to fire up against relegation battlers Burnley and went down to Ben Mee's 71st-minute header.

Conte described the current run as "unacceptable" and raised doubts about his ability to turn around the club's fortunes, having been hired in November to replace Nuno Espirito Santo.

"We are doing everything to change the situation, but it's not enough. Four defeats out of five is not good enough. This doesn't happen to me," the Italian, a serial winner with Juventus, Chelsea and Internazionale, told reporters.

"Maybe I'm not so good. Tottenham called me to change things but I'm too honest. I could just take my salary, but I'm too honest. We've lost four out of five games. This is unacceptable."

Tottenham huffed and puffed, but a Harry Kane header against the woodwork was the closest they came to scoring.

Defeat left Tottenham in eighth place with 39 points from 24 games, seven points behind fourth-placed Manchester United having played two games less.

Conte knows if his side are to have any chance of making a late run for the top four, performances like the one at City on Saturday cannot just be a flash in the pan.

"Maybe there is something wrong; I want to take responsibility, if I have that, I'm open for every decision," Conte said. "I want to help Tottenham from the first day I arrive. Also to take my salary. It is not right at this moment.

"On Saturday we play another game [at Leeds], it's the moment to see the situation and make an assessment. I'm trying to do everything but the situation is not changing.

"In the last five games, we are playing like we are in relegation, this is the reality.

"I want to try to improve the situation and also to make an assessment with the club. Because if we continue in this way, maybe we have to pay great attention because in this league we can finish 10th, 12th, 13th – the same way that when I arrive here, the same position."

(Agencies)

## Elanga keeps Man United's Champions League hopes alive

MADRID

ANTHONY Elanga is quickly becoming indispensable to Manchester United, and at just 19 years old, he may have kept his club's Champions League ambitions alive with a crucial equaliser to earn a 1-1 draw in their round-of-16 first-leg match against Atletico Madrid at the Estadio Metropolitano.

Prior to Elanga's goal, United had been abject against Diego Simeone's team Wednesday, failing to register a shot on target and being outrun and outfought by their determined opponents, who started without five key players because of injury, suspension or lack of match fitness. Elanga had been on the pitch for only five minutes, having replaced the disappointing Marcus Rashford on 75 minutes, but the Sweden U21 forward produced a nerveless finish to guide Bruno Fernandes's pass beyond goalkeeper Jan Oblak with a first-time shot with his right foot to score his first Champions League goal.

"I think it was my first touch," Elanga said after the match. "I have dreamt of moments like this, scoring in the Champions League against top European teams like Atletico Madrid, a dream come true.

"I told you how calm and cool I am, and whenever I am given an opportunity, I want to repay the manager and give 150% every time I step onto the pitch."

United interim manager Ralf Rangnick has made some pretty effective substitutions in recent weeks – none more so than when seeing Elanga and Fred score twice in quick succession to seal a 4-2 win at Leeds United on Sunday after being sent on in the second half – and he did so again



Manchester United's Anthony Elanga scores his side's first goal during the Champions League, round of 16, first leg soccer match between Atletico Madrid and Manchester United at the Wanda Metropolitano stadium in Madrid, Spain, Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2022. (AP Photo)

by switching Rashford for Elanga against last season's LaLiga champions.

And during his brief appearance, Elanga looked sharper, hungrier and much more decisive than the player he replaced. Rashford appears to be suffering a crisis of confidence right now – hardly surprising considering he has scored just twice in 18 appearances since the end of October – but his lack of form is being exacerbated by his body language, which hints at a growing frustration with himself and his teammates.

Where Elanga was clinical with his finish and energetic in his pressing, Rashford's decision-making repeatedly let him down, and it led to a booking for a second-half foul after one loose pass too many. Elanga and United need to be mindful of Rashford's slump in form, though, because it wasn't so long ago

that he was performing the role that Elanga is doing at the moment.

On Feb. 25, 2016, Rashford burst onto the scene with two goals on his debut in the 5-1 Europa League win against FC Midtjylland at Old Trafford. He scored twice on his Premier League debut against Arsenal and, after eight goals in 18 games, he made England's Euro 2016 squad.

Rashford was 18 at the time, and he played with a freedom that suggested he didn't have a care in the world, just like Elanga right now. Times have changed, and Rashford is now a senior player wondering where his next goal or good performance will come from, so Elanga – who became United's youngest ever goal scorer in the Champions League knockout stages – must be aware of the pitfalls that lie ahead.

"Anthony, in all the

games he has played so far, he just shows that he's playing with all the passion and all the fun, he's just enjoying himself on the pitch," Rangnick said. "He's fully aware of his strengths, of his assets and his weapons. He is always trying to play and show those weapons."

Make no mistake, though, he is bringing a crucial freshness to the United forward line, and Rangnick needs him to keep performing while Rashford struggles and Cristiano Ronaldo – with just one goal in nine appearances in 2022 – searches for the cutting edge he displayed when he returned to Old Trafford at the start of this season. In truth, Elanga's goal against Atletico papered over plenty of cracks that appeared for United in the Spanish capital.

Their inconsistency and appearance of being a disjointed team is why Ole Gunnar Solskjaer

was fired in November, with Rangnick taking interim charge in early December. The former TSG Hoffenheim and RB Leipzig coach has tweaked the tactics and made changes to personnel on the pitch, and United have lost just once in 16 games under his leadership, but they remain a team with significant problems.

Against a top team and elite coach in Atletico and Simeone, United's weaknesses were exploited. Geoffrey Kondogbia dominated in midfield against a United side that lacked bite without the ill Scott McTominay and, without any sense of being in control of the game, Fernandes, Ronaldo and Rashford contributed little of value.

And at right-back, where Rangnick surprisingly selected centre-half Victor Lindelof ahead of full-backs Aaron Wan-

Bissaka and Diogo Dalot, United were repeatedly targeted by Simeone's team, who went ahead on seven minutes when Joao Felix scored with a diving header from Renan Lodi's cross from United's right flank. Atletico failed to extend their lead, although Sime Vrsaljko and Antoine Griezmann both hit the bar for the Spanish champions, and United were fortunate to still be in the game when Elanga was thrown on in the closing stages.

"What we played in the first half I still cannot believe," Rangnick said. "We played without conviction, without aggression, and that is why we were struggling. We have to play better in the first half – I was very disappointed by that performance in the first half.

"We have to play with more conviction on the ball, we need more deep runs, and the way we scored the goal was exactly that. This is how we have to play against them."

By salvaging a draw through Elanga's goal, though, United will face Atletico at Old Trafford next month knowing that a better performance should see them into the quarter-finals and end their miserable run against Spanish opponents. In each of the past four seasons, United's European campaigns have ended with defeat against Spanish clubs.

At times, a fifth successive Spanish exit, this time at the hands of Atletico, seemed inevitable, but Elanga has kept United on course for the last eight.

ESPN

## Benfica battles to 2-2 draw against Ajax in Champions League

LISBON, Portugal

SEBASTIEN Haller can't stop scoring in the Champions League. He now has 11 goals in seven matches for Ajax – and one for Benfica.

Haller scored for both teams Wednesday as Benfica came from behind twice to hold Ajax to a 2-2 draw in the first leg of their Champions League round-of-16 clash Wednesday.

The prolific Ivory Coast striker's 11 goals for Ajax in his first seven Champions League matches are the highest tally ever by a debutant in Europe's top club competition.

But it was not enough to secure Ajax's seventh straight Champions League victory of the season.

Captain Dusan Tadic put Ajax ahead in the 18th minute, placing a volley past Odiseas Vlachodimos in the Benfica goal after a cross from the right by Noussair Mazraoui, who had started the move by winning the ball on right from Alejandro Grimaldo.

Haller deflected a hard, low cross by former Ajax defender Jan Vertonghen into his own net to bring the scores level in the 26th minute but made amends just three minutes later when he tapped home a rebound to continue his scoring streak.

Haller told Dutch broadcaster RTL 7 he blamed himself for the own goal and was glad to have made amends quickly.

"You need to be there at the good moment and this is what I'm training to do," he said. He could have given Ajax a comfortable two-



Ajax's Remko Pasveer fails to save the ball as Benfica's Roman Yaremchuk, background, scores his side's second goal during the Champions League round of 16, first leg, soccer match between Benfica and Ajax at the Luz stadium in Lisbon, Wednesday, Feb. 23, 2022. (AP Photo)

goal cushion shortly before halftime but only managed to steer the ball wide from close range after Edson Alvarez hit the post.

"You are never happy when you don't win a match," Tadic said "But this is Europe, there are two matches."

In the group phase, Haller became the first man to score 10 goals in his first six games in Europe's top-tier competition as Ajax won all of its matches.

Ajax coach Erik ten Hag lamented his team's failure to capitalize on chances that could have put the match out of Benfica's reach.

"We let it slip unnecessarily. We didn't convert chances," he said.

But the Amsterdam club

struggled in Lisbon as Benfica threatened throughout the second half with its

quick breaks. A deflected shot by Everton went wide in the 55th

minute and Darwin Nunez just failed to get on the end of a cross by Rafa Silva five

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

Elanga keeps Man United's Champions League hopes alive

PAGE 19

## Mgunda to replace Makata at Dodoma Jiji FC



Juma Mgunda

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

**F**ORMER Coastal Union's head coach, Juma Mgunda, is being linked to a move to Dodoma Jiji FC to replace the fired coach, Mbwana Makata.

Dodoma Jiji FC had on Wednesday announced that it has parted ways with Makata and according to a source the club is in discussion with several local and foreign coaches that include Mgunda.

The source, who opted for anonymity as he is not the right person to speak for the club, said the majority of the outfit executive committee's members prefer Mgunda for the job.

He said those who want Mgunda to serve as Dodoma Jiji FC head coach said he has a vast knowledge of the local game and a proven track record especially when he is coaching modest outfits.

"The club is discussing with many coaches, some are foreign while the majority are locals but my understanding

is that Mgunda is a favourite, they say he has a vast knowledge of local football and he did well at Coastal Union," he said.

However, Dodoma Jiji FC Secretary-General Fortunatus Johnson refused to comment on either Mgunda or any other coach's move to the squad. He said currently the team

is under caretaker coach Mohamed Muya while they are discussing with various coaches to replace Makata.

"I can't say we have settled for this or that coach, we are still discussing with the coaches, there are many things which we are looking from the new coach but, while the discussions are going on,

Mohamed Muya will be training the team on an interim basis until the time we will name a new coach," he said.

Dodoma Jiji FC was promoted to the NBC Premier League last season, the side performed well in the season but this season the team has been performing badly.

The team sits 11th in the 16-team NBC Premier League having notched 17 points from 15 games.

In the last five games, Makata found himself leading Dodoma FC to collect just one point in a Premier League match against Geita Gold FC.

The Dodoma side suffered four defeats, including three in a row, which seemed to fuel his dismissal.

Dodoma Jiji FC's last win came on December 22, last year, and, since then, the side went down 4-0 to Yanga, 2-0 to Kinondoni Municipal Council FC and Azam FC respectively, 2-1 to Kagera Sugar, and salvaged a draw with Geita Gold FC.

This season's Championship side Pamba FC piled misery on Dodoma Jiji FC, knocking the latter out of this season's Azam Sports Federation Cup's round of 16 with a 2-1 victory.

Despite showing reluctance to confirm the news, Dodoma Jiji FC officials were reported to have been in the final stages of handing over the outfit's head coach post to Burundian, Masoud Djuma, who once coached Simba SC.

**TONIGHT @ 9:00**

**EATV FRIDAY**

11:00 DADAZ LIVE  
12:00 Mid Week Movie (r)  
13:30 Kali Za Wana  
14:00 Bongo Hits  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 Wakilisha (r)  
16:00 Ujenzi (r)  
16:30 #HASHTAG  
17:00 SSELECT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 eNewz  
18:30 Skonga  
19:30 EATV SAA I  
19:45 MJADALA  
20:00 DADAZ (r)  
21:00 Friday Night Live  
23:00 Kurasa (r)

**Friday Night Live** The Weekend begins here! Listen to upbeat mixed music by the hottest DJs. Gossip, showbiz updates and exclusive interviews with celebrities from home and abroad. Don't you dare miss this.

**eastafrica RADIO**

06:00 Supa Breakfast  
10:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 Friday Night Live

**88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM**

## TFF issues local football agents' list

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) on Wednesday mentioned eight football agents who are recognized to handle the interest of players and clubs in the country.

A press release from the federation signed by its information officer Clifford Ndimbo confirmed that the agents are recognized to handle the interest of football players in the country.

The agents recognized by TFF are Ismail Shermohamed, Nassir Mjandari, Kelvin Magadula of Fee Pro, Afif Hassan Afif of Players Soccer Sports Management Limited, Peter Simon of Afri Soccer Consulting Limited, Kambi Zuberi, Salama Jabir, and Abdulrahman Afif of Sportlink Management Group Limited.

"Tanzania Football Federation announces a list of agents who are allowed to work for players and clubs... these are the only ones recognized to work for players and clubs in the country," part of a press release from TFF noted.

However, after TFF had released the names some people took to social media saying that the federation has omitted the names of some agents who are critical to its leadership.

"How can they remove (name withheld) he has been active in promoting football talents in the country, maybe because he does not see eye to eye with TFF leadership," posted one soccer follower.

Since 2001, FIFA has trusted individual associations to handle processes of granting licenses to intermediaries.

According to www.goal.com in football, an agent is a representative and intermediary who handles the interests of either a player or multiple players and clubs.

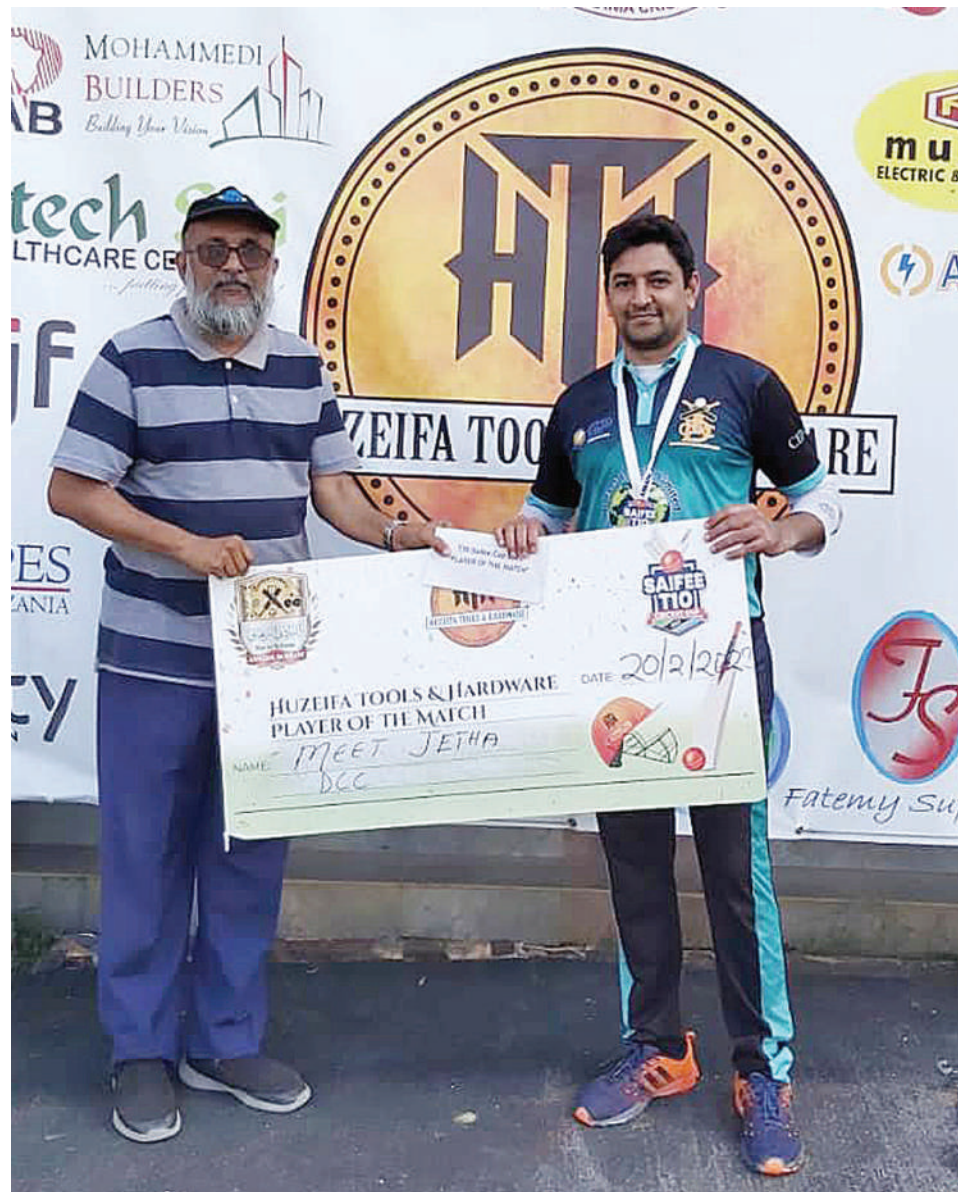
An agent's roles include negotiating contracts to achieve the best possible outcome for their client and also securing lucrative endorsements and sponsorship deals.

For one to become an agent, he or she should have extensive knowledge and understanding of contract law.

The website says agents take a commission from the athletes or clubs they represent.

## Agile Dar Cricket Club hammers GP Pak Stars in DC T10 Saifee Cup tournament

By Guardian Reporter



Dar Cricket Club (DCC)'s Meet Jetha (R) receives Man of the Match prize from a cricket official upon the conclusion of this season's Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Saifee Cup T10 tournament tie between DCC and GP Pak Stars that took place at Annadil Burhani Club early this week. PHOTO: COURTESY OF DAR ES SALAAM CRICKET

DAR Cricket Club (DCC) notched a 29-run victory over GP Pak Stars in the 2022 Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Saifee T10 Cup competition's tie which took place recently.

Experienced cricketer Meet Jetha had an impressive showing at the crease and offered a crucial boost to his side's success.

The DCC cricketers were put in to bat first in the clash and fully exploited the opportunity, amassing 120 runs losing two wickets in 10 overs.

They were not perturbed by a short spell their veteran all-rounder, Adil Kasam, had experienced, thanks to the presence of equally efficient performers.

The cricketer could only execute two knocks before getting back to the pavilion.

The club's skipper, deployed as an opener, is arguably one of the consistent performers but had his efforts to make his presence felt hitting a snag, given the cricketer was dismissed by GP Pak Stars' Sarfaraz Tare within the first over.

The fellow opener, Sufian Usman, had the DCC having an upper hand later on with a series of

well-executed shots which ended with the cricketer just seven runs short of a half-century.

Usman posted seven boundaries and a sixer, pushing the club to 66 runs after 5.2 overs, when he go back to the pavilion, leaving his squad with two wickets taken.

The DCC's efforts to end with a convincing total garnered a tremendous boost after Jetha arrived at the crease.

He made his experience pay off as the cricketer made a good selection of shots, surpassing the half-century mark and scoring 51 runs not out, nailing four boundaries and three sixes.

He put an unbeaten stand with Assad Aziz as DCC wound the innings impressively. Aziz scored 17 runs not out.

Tare was so far the cricketer with meaningful contribution when GP Pak Stars fielded, the cricketer took two wickets, giving away 15 runs in two overs.

The GP Pak Stars are known to be short format masters in domestic cricket tournaments, they surprisingly lost steam when they too the crease to attempt to reach the target.

The Muzamil Hussain-led GP Pak Stars, in

response, fell short of the target given the side recorded 91 runs losing six wickets in 10 overs.

The opener, Humayun Taj, was the batsman with the most runs after notching 24 runs, hitting four fours, and a sixer.

Talha Sayed and Saqib Ul Hassan sought to see to it GP Pak Stars inch closer to the successful chase with several good knocks, the duo was let down by fellow batsmen that made their way back in quick succession.

Sayed posted unbeaten 21 runs, putting an unbeaten stand with tail-ender Harjinder Singh who notched three runs not out, Hassan chipped in with 14 runs.

The showdown's sponsors include Huzeifa Tools & Hardware, Annadil Burhani Club, Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA), Dar es Salaam Cricket, Health, Mohammedi Builders, Multi Cable Ltd, The Furniture Company, and Dar Ropes.

Dar City Promotion, Harab Motors, A.A Power & Tools, Gulamalis, Al-Anwar Hardware, Fatemy Supplies, Emina, Hitech Sai Healthcare Center, Munira Electric & Hardware, Four Points By Sheraton are the other sponsors.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

