



National Pg 3 'Invest more in edible oil sub-sector'



National Pg 4 TBS in public education drive



National Pg 6 Fisheries sector up by 1.9 per cent



Page 13



NMB Bank CEO Ruth Zaipuna stands as one of the first-session presenters at the four-day Africa Food Systems Forum 2023 summit which opened in Dar es Salaam yesterday. She is with the Head of Strategy Alliance and Transition Finance at Rabobank, Ben Valk (L), and the Vice President of Farmer Solution, OCP Africa, Mehdi Filali. Related photo on Page 2. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

VP all for use of indigenous knowledge on seeds, farming

By Getrude Mbago

AFRICA needs to harness existing scientific knowledge including indigenous technology to produce, process enough food for its people and for the world market, Vice President Dr Philip Mpango has declared. Opening the four-day 13th annual Africa Food Systems Summit in Dar es Salaam yesterday, he laid emphasis on the need to scale up digitalization and financing of scientific research. The forum, which has brought together over 3,000 delegates, top leaders and innovators from across the globe, will discuss

policy breakthroughs and innovations in agriculture and transforming food systems. The VP stated that Tanzania is committed to implementing initiatives to achieve the sustainable development goals (SDGs), having put in place policies and strategies supportive of food systems. As a result of implementation of fairly robust policies and strategies, the country has had food self-sufficiency ratios of above 100 percent for over two decades, he told the delegates. "We in Tanzania have also introduced low cost and long-term agriculture financing

TURN TO PAGE 2

BoT: Stop hoarding US dollars for gain in value

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE Bank of Tanzania (BoT) has called on businessmen hoarding US dollars for the currency's value to appreciate and must return the currency back to circulation. Dr Emmanuel Tutuba, the BoT governor, issued this appeal in Dar es Salaam on Monday at a meeting with members of the Confederation of Tanzania Industries (CTI). Finance minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba attended the meeting where the top executives explained the challenges they face in accessing the US currency. The governor said hoarding the currency will not make its value appreciate as hoarders think, after intimating that there are traders who deliberately hoard the currency. This is done despite the fact that they do not have substantial foreign trade transactions expected soon, he said, affirming that it is a matter of anticipation to buy goods from foreign in a few months.

This early collecting of hard currency has contributed to the scarcity of the dollar in the market, "but if you do not have any use of it at the moment do not take it up," he told the gathering. "People have caused the problem that is entirely not necessary, in purchasing huge amounts of the US currency in anticipation of it appreciating in value to reap massive profits," he declared, insisting that definitely the currency will not appreciate in value. "Some businessmen in the country have been coming to BoT offices requesting to purchase the US currency as if the central bank was printing it," he cautioned, whereupon the minister said the government has taken short term measures on the issue/ He said that measures to ease access to

US dollars were endorsed for the current financial year to increase amounts of the currency available for various import needs. "As for producers we have told them that we are making all efforts to make sure the US dollar situation returns to normal," he said, reaffirming that BoT intervention only occurs when we reach a difficult situation. He reiterated the need to increase production for export to earn more of the hard currency, affirming the government's pledge to consult with stakeholders in making sure the challenge is solved. The minister announced that this week the government will bring to the legislature a Procurement Bill that spells out "how to spur the economy and the use of products available in the country." Despite the US currency scarcity challenge the country has adequate foreign currency reserves for its import needs, compared to other countries in the sub-region, he added.

Mwinyi roots for alert immigration controls

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

GOVERNMENTS around the world are strengthening immigration and citizenship laws to curb migratory residence and chaotic emigration, Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi said yesterday. Officiating at a State House event to present citizenship certificates to a group of 3,319 migrants who can't legally be deported, he said control of migration is crucial to protect national borders to ensure internal peace and security. He said that at the moment various nations are making such efforts, urging the Immigration Department to ensure regulations concerning citizenship are observed. "This law has not been reviewed for a long

A total of 3,319 people from various countries of origin who could not be deported are now officially recognized as legal citizens

time, hence this is the time to look at it anew to enhance the country's ability to face various challenges encountered by citizens and visitors to the country," he said. Providing citizenship to people who have been living here for more than 50 years was a vital accomplishment, he said, noting those receiving certificates originate from neighboring countries like Burundi, the Comoros, Mozambique and Rwanda. "I take this opportunity to congratulate these brothers of ours to have attained the status of being recognized as Tanzania citizens after satisfying all requirements according to Tanzanian laws," he declared. The Union and Zanzibar governments are happy to see that at long last the issue has been settled, he said, noting that he had

TURN TO PAGE 2



President Samia Suluhu Hassan pictured in Nairobi yesterday addressing Heads of State and international institutions at the three-day Africa Climate Summit 2023 which opened in the Kenyan capital on Monday. The event is co-hosted by the government of Kenya and the African Union Commission. Its focus is on key issues around climate change, including green growth, carbon pricing, climate financing, climate adaptation and renewable and clean energy. Photo: State House





Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa exchanges greetings with Zimbabwe Vice President Constantino Chiwenga (R) at yesterday's swearing-in in Harare of Emmerson Mnangagwa for another term as Zimbabwe's President. The PM represented President Samia Suluhu Hassan. Photo: PMO

Mwinyi roots for alert immigration controls

FROM PAGE 1

pledged to pursue the matter as he took over the presidency in 2020.

He expressed expectation that those handed citizenship will enjoy the respect accorded to all Tanzanian citizens, alerting them that they have responsibility to express loyalty to the laws and avoid criminal activities.

Such deviation would be to

misuse the government's good intentions, he said, urging them to work together for the maintenance of the country's peace and security.

Home Affairs minister Hamad Yusuf Masauni, praised the decision to waive 2m/- charges for each applicant as costs to access citizenship.

Hamza Hassan Juma, the Policy, Coordination and House of Representatives state minister

in the Second Vice President's Office, saluted President Mwinyi for fulfilling the pledge he made in 2020 to solve challenges facing the migrants.

Dr Anna Makakala, the Immigration commissioner general, said the department coordinates immigration activity regarding those seeking citizenship, periodically presenting its recommendations to the Minister for Home Affairs.

"A total of 3,319 people from various countries of origin who could not be deported are now officially recognized as legal citizens," she stated, highlighting that among them, 3,116 are of Mozambican origin.

Another 147 came from Comoro, five from Burundi and one from Rwanda, with 1,675 children similarly included in that status, she added.

VP all for use of indigenous knowledge on seeds, farming

FROM PAGE 1

for the private sector including establishing a facility at the central bank enabling commercial banks to borrow for onward lending to farmers at single-digit interest rates," he elaborated.

He cited the presence of exploitative practices on farmers that call for enforcing the use of standard weights and measures as well as banning forward market practices to protect farmers.

Underlining awareness of the challenges emanating from climate change, he said Tanzania has embraced climate-smart agriculture including regenerative production systems encompassing soil health technologies.

Other aspects are the use of less on-farm inputs like agrochemicals and fertilizers, while promoting judicious use of off-farm inputs, he affirmed.

Limited access to the right technologies, underfunding of scientific research and limited value addition are other challenges, while inadequate financing of food value chains is still a major constraint, he stated.

This problem is tied to high costs of borrowing for agricultural sector units, and additionally, women and youth tend to be financially excluded segments of the population, he stated.

The government and various stakeholders have scaled up investments in agriculture research and training, which involves working closely with universities and agricultural research institutions, he stated.

They need to develop advanced farming techniques, pesticides, high yield seeds, promoting agribusiness and encouraging the youth to take keen interest in agriculture, he specified.

The summit is held under the theme "Recover, Regenerate, Act: Africa's Solutions to Food Systems Transformation," which the VP said "is a veritable test of our individual and collective resolve to go beyond lofty words and translate them into urgent concrete actions."

Only then shall Africa be able to foster food systems transformation, capitalizing on vast land resources, the demographic dividend and a strong, dynamic force of African women, he further declared.

Earlier, Agriculture Minister Hussein Bashe highlighted the way global crises were affecting African economies, asserting that it is high time that African countries intensify partnerships to exploit opportunities available in the world market.

"In Tanzania we are ready in terms of policies for agricultural transformation as the country disposes of up to 44m hectares of arable land for agriculture, with just 12 to 15 per cent being put to such use," he stated.

Dr Agnes Kalibata, the AGRA president, said the forum will have numerous side events meant to strengthen food systems as experts will be meeting and discussing vital issues.

One such example is the deal room, a matchmaking platform capable of driving new business deals and commitments, she said, elaborating that the deal room provides companies in agriculture and agribusiness with possible access to finance.

The facility includes networking on mentorship and market entry solutions to support growth objectives of various firms, permitting governments to present investment opportunities, promote incentives and engage with interested investors, she added.

Millions of people in Africa are at risk of hunger - report

By Getrude Mbago

THE 2022 Africa Agriculture Status Report (AASR23) has highlighted that millions of Africans are still struggling to access food to meet their daily needs due to extreme poverty.

AGRA president Dr. Agnes Kalibata said at the launch event that the report demands a concerted response from governments, the private sector, specialised institutions and individuals all over Africa to heighten Africa's food systems.

The report was launched at the opening session of the 13th annual Africa Food Systems Summit in Dar es Salaam, with the forum president noting that it shows the repercussions of decades of inaction.

The results are not just confined to hunger and malnutrition but extend to economic, social and environmental domains, with the potential to undermine the progress made over the past half century, she stated.

The study underscores the need to address the challenges affecting African food systems, considering the imminent threat posed by climate change and the potential consequences of inaction.

Titled "Empowering Africa's Food Systems", AASR23 offers an in-depth exploration of the vulnerabilities, challenges, and transformative potential of the continent's food systems.

"The report strives to show that Innovative Finance is not just a buzzword - it is an essential tool for Africa's journey towards sustainable, resilient, and inclusive food systems."

She noted that as the continent faces the dual challenges of rapid population growth and climate change, finding new financing mechanisms will be paramount in shaping a prosperous and food secure future for all its citizens.

According to the report about 650 million Africans - 50 percent of the continent's population - lack economic or physical access to sufficient food emphasizing that if AfCFTA's goals are fully realized,

50 million Africans could escape extreme poverty by 2035.

She noted that out of the 50 indicators outlined in the Food Systems Countdown Initiative (FSCI) framework, sub-Saharan African countries are performing worse than the global average in a total of 32 indicators, mostly related to diets, nutrition, and health.

On the other hand, sub-Saharan African countries are performing better than the global average in the remaining 18 indicators, including those on food systems' greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and biosphere integrity.

"While African governments are committed to tripling intra-African trade in agricultural commodities and services by 2025 as part of the 2014 Malabo Declaration, the aspiration is far-fetched as this kind of trade continues to dwindle from its peak in 2013 to less than 15 percent in 2022," she said.

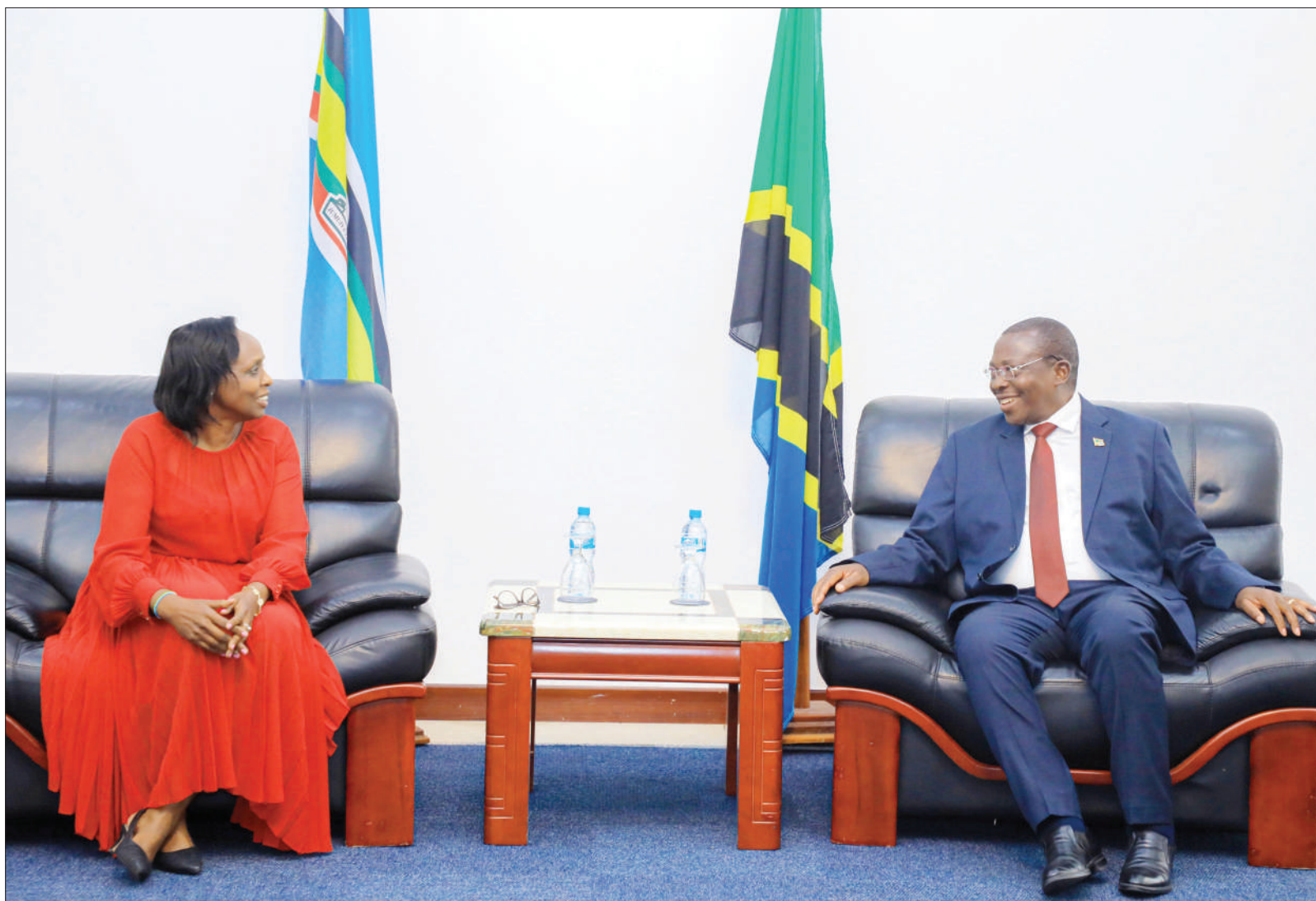
However, if fully implemented, the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) could raise household income by nine percent by 2035 while lifting 50 million people out of extreme poverty," she noted.

Africa could see Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) increase by between 111 and 159 percent under the AfCFTA.

She noted despite progress in food production, processing and distribution, significant challenges and failures persist, leading to an alarmingly poor state of food and nutrition security across the continent.

"The findings in this year's ASR are not just a reflection of the current challenges but also a roadmap for future actions, guiding the continent towards food systems where every African will have access to sustainable, healthy diets," said Dr John Ulimwengu, the report's lead author.

"The report strives to show that Innovative Finance is not just a buzzword - it is an essential tool for Africa's journey towards sustainable, resilient, and inclusive food systems."



Vice President Dr Philip Mpango has an audience in Dar es Salaam yesterday with AGRA - Sustainably Growing Africa's Food System president Dr Agnes Kalibata (L) shortly before opening the four-day Africa Food Systems Forum 2023 summit. Photo: VPO

MNH to start conducting liver transplants by 2025

By Getrude Mbago

THE National Muhimbili Hospital (MNH) is currently implementing initiatives to enable the facility to start conducting liver transplants by 2025.

Prof Mohamed Janabi, the MNH director said in Dar es Salaam yesterday when opening a two-day training for liver experts bringing together specialists from various countries including Gambia, Malawi, South Africa, Nigeria and Tanzania.

According to him, the hospital with close support from the government implemented programmes including sending its experts abroad for further training so as to ensure that the country has enough specialists to perform the medical procedures.

He said that since the training centre was launched in 2012, a total of 13 local experts have been produced after receiving intensive specialised training on Liver diseases. He said the training is part of the forthcoming conference on Liver Disease in Africa (COLD) from September 7 to 9, this year in Dar es Salaam.

The platform aims to facilitate collaboration and networking among experts and stakeholders involved in liver disease research, diagnosis, and treatment.

"Today we are commencing training for the diagnosis and treatment of liver diseases ahead of the conference, this is among very few centres with this status in Africa, others are in Rabat, Morocco, Johannesburg in South Africa and Cairo in Egypt," Prof Janabi said.

He said the hospital will continue investing in modern tools and technology to facilitate provision of efficient and high-quality and specialised medical services for local and international referred patients, as well as providing a conducive environment for training and research.

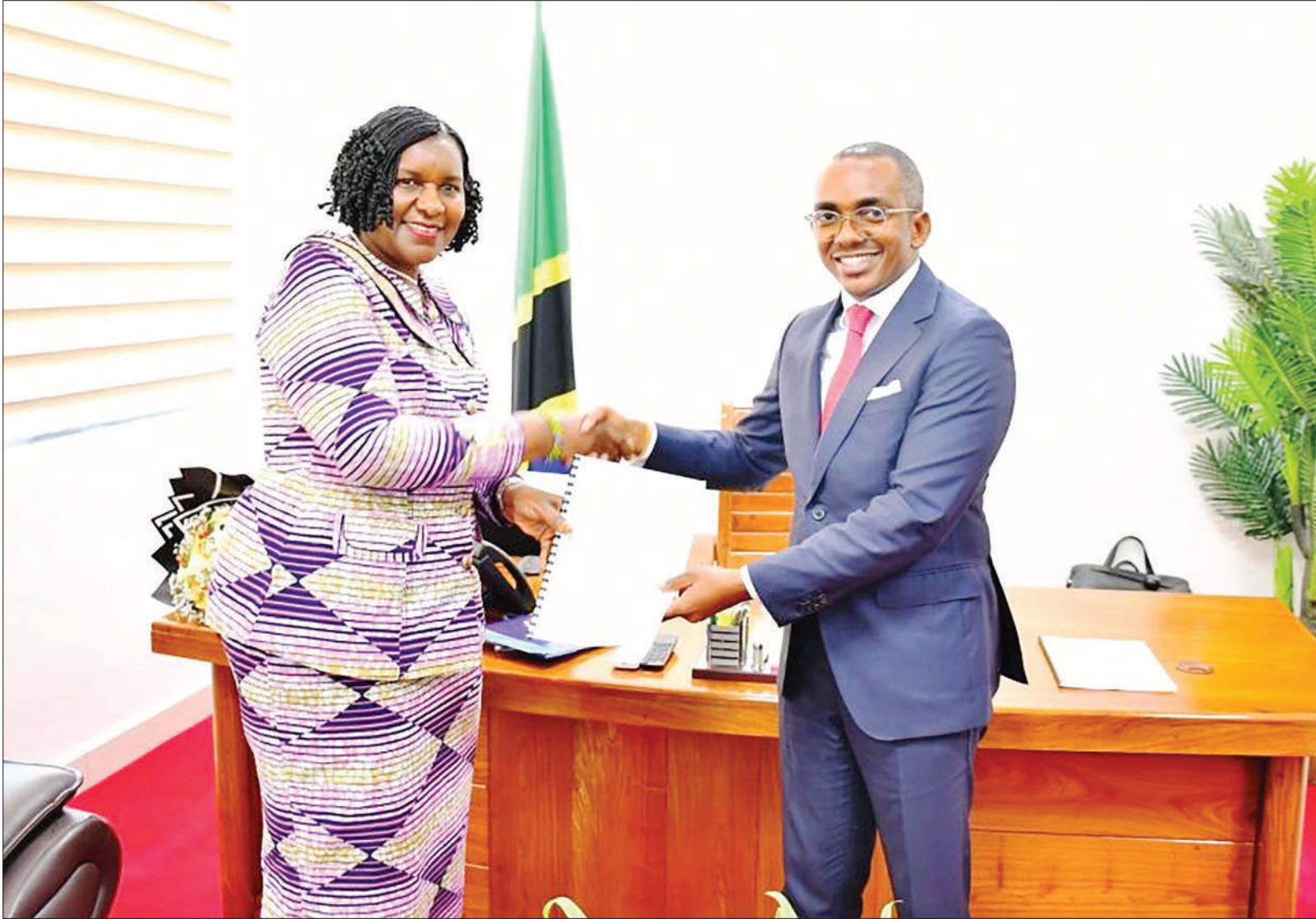
Prof Janabi noted that Liver diseases have many causes but when it comes to the place, an examination must be done to discover the danger indicators that can cause death.

He said that at MNH Liver Training Centre, there are a number of services including treatment to prevent bleeding caused by the liver failure to work properly and finally save the life of the patient.

He said the conference aims to build awareness among local

healthcare providers on the status of liver cancer in Tanzania and the available diagnostic and management options, update healthcare providers on the current standard of care for liver cancer provided in developed countries and recent advancements in liver cancer care and promote an inclusive and multidisciplinary approach in research and the clinical care of patients with liver cancer.

Prof Yogeshi Batra, a Gastroenterologist from India said the training was important to involve both theory and practical to empower the doctors with the latest knowledge and advancements in diagnosing, preventing, treating, and curing liver diseases, with a particular focus on addressing the unique challenges.



Immediate past Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development minister Dr Angeline Mabula (L) hands over office to her successor Jerry Silaa, in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Govt cautions against building settlements in flood-prone areas

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

THE Government has cautioned Tanzanians against building houses or conduct human activities in valleys and other low-lying areas to avoid floods.

The warning was given yesterday here in Dodoma by Deputy minister in VPO (Union and Environment), Khamis Hamza Khamis when responding to a question from an MP.

Responding to a supplementary question from Special Seats MP, stella Ikupa who wanted to know

how was the government set to confront the anticipated El-Nino rains expected beginning of next month, Khamis said education will continue to provided to the people to stop building settlements in floods prone areas.

"It is true in case of unusual heavy rains, destruction from floods ooften occurs including loss of life and property, hence we are advising people not to build houses inlow lying areas including valleys," he stressed.

Earlier, in his original question, Nungwi MP Simai Hassan sadiki

wanted to know about emergency strategies to mitigate the effects of climate change in Nungwi area, Zanzibar, deputy Minister Khamis urged residents in the area to plant mangroves in the coastal areas as measures against the effects of climate change.

He explained that the government continues to mobilise people in the Isles to engage in sustainable activities that do not affect the environment including seaweed cultivation.

He said in recognition of challenges from the effects of

climate change, the office of zanzibar First Viced President has started taking steps to address them.

"In the 2023/24 budget, the Zanzibar government has allocated 650m/- for making assessment for fighting challenges from the effects of climate change," he said.

Recently, tanzania Mtereorological Authority (TMA) announced the start of El Nino rains from October to december tis year that can create adverse effects to the people and the environment including floods.

Investors told to invest in edible oil, sugar sectors

By Getrude Mbago

INVESTORS have been urged to chip in and start utilising opportunities in edible oil and sugar sub-sectors because are among areas with the potential to quickly recover capital expenses due to high demand in the market.

Prof Kitila Mkumbo, Minister for Investments and Planning made the call on the sideline of the ongoing Africa Food systems summit which commenced in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

ProfMkumbo said in many African countries including Tanzania, edible and sugar are among the five most imported products at the same time, agricultural raw materials among the products that Tanzania exports.

"Lack of food security is a global challenge that requires joint solutions, just like climate change. Africa is in a unique position to face this global crisis because it has enough land to produce food," Prof Mkumbo noted.

He said the AGRF platform will provide methods to face the challenges in order to ensure food security for the world.

In the meeting also the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) highlighted its priorities including continuing to monitor to ensure the agricultural sector is stable.

Governor Emmanuel Tutuba said the central bank's strategies include monetary policy for sector stability and resilience and provide funds to other institutions to support farmers.

"Agriculture's land stands about 80 per cent but only 44 per cent of land is utilized. Different institutions looking for financing to see how to

cultivate the land," he said. He noted that they aim to provide resources to different agriculture sector actors.

"We create and monitor policy instruments to attract banks to lower interest rates through a statutory minimum reserve of around 6 per cent to allow agriculture players to access loans at 9 percent interest," he said.

Noting that the country has financial institutions like the Tanzania Development Bank (TaDB) and TIB to support the agriculture sector, especially the value chain.

Rwanda development board, Deputy CEO, Nelly Mkazayire said Rwanda's strategic plan is to transform from subsistence farming to a knowledge base and create values for food security.

She said the government has taken different initiatives including creating a conducive environment in terms of investment for the sector.

According to her, the East African country has a one-stop centre where investors can register in just eight hours and access licence in a few hours among other issues.



Agriculture's land stands about 80 per cent but only 44 per cent of land is utilized. Different institutions looking for financing to see how to cultivate the land

Compensate people meant to pave the way for Msimbazi basin development project - appeal

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

DEPUTY Speaker Mussa Hassan Zungu has urged the government to ensure that people who will pave the way for the development of the Msimbazi river basin are compensated.

The Deputy Speaker was speaking in the National Assembly when the deputy minister in the Vice President's Office, Khamis Hamza Khamis was responding to a question by Segerea legislator Bonnah Kamoli.

The legislator was wanted to know when the government will start construction of the water drainage systems along the Msimbazi river basin in Dar es Salaam considering that experts have warned of heavy rains.

In response the deputy minister said the government has started preparations step by step for the project which involves mobilizing funds for the said products.

He assured the deputy speaker that the government was going to ensure that all the people who will pave the way for the project are compensated accordingly.

Responding to a question by Nungwi legislator Simami Hassan Sadiki who wanted to know the steps in place to serve the people of Nungwi from climate change effects, the minister said the

government was aware of the climate change effects facing the people of Nungwi.

On this, he added that the government through the office of the first Vice President of Zanzibar has set aside 650m/- in 2023/24 financial year for an evaluation on how to mitigate the effects.

He said the government has also taken various steps to mitigate climate change effects which among others includes educating people to plant Mangroves trees and cultivation of Seaweeds that are not disastrous to the environment.

The Msimbazi Basin Development Project will provide an integrated long-term solution on flood control infrastructure through river channeling, river-bank protection works, sediment control, erosion control; widening and raising the Jangwani Bridge to accommodate flash flood events; and developing Msimbazi wetland into Msimbazi City Park.

He said this will include construction of a raised up to 7 meters and widened multi-span bridge and raised embankments as well as excavation of the riverbed during the construction phase.

The plan also seeks to control floods and storm water along Msimbazi basin through extension of Msimbazi drainage system and construction of a bridge.



Constitutional and Legal Affairs minister Dr Pindi Chana responds in the National Assembly in Dodoma yesterday to resolutions by the Parliamentary By-laws Standing Committee on various issues. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

Dodoma National Capital Master Plan to make city green

DODOMA city plans to implement two robust projects aimed at making it green and boost environment conservation efforts.

The projects are part of the 20-year Master Plan (Dodoma National Capital City Master Plan 2019- 2039) that highlights 13 key areas that were identified by a team of experts who suggested that to begin with, the project kicks off with the two crucial sub-projects.

They include the Ilazo-Swasa storm water pond and the CBE-Kilimo Kwanza water

drainage, which are implemented in partnership with other stakeholders.

The Dodoma-based Institute of Rural Development Planning (IRDPP) in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) and the office of Dodoma Regional Commissioner (RC) is implementing the projects aimed at making the city green.

Recently, the Dodoma-based IRDPP

which is the centre of excellence for both academics and professional work in rural development planning, convened leaders from Dodoma's local government authorities to deliberate on the draft proposal of the project.

They aimed at getting a glimpse of how the project will be implemented, as well as airing their views and recommendations on how best the two projects could be well implemented to meet the desired targets.

The event was also attended by a representative from UNDP, Amon Manyama. Others were IRDPP Rector Professor Hozen Mayaya, Coordinator of the Green City Project Dr Bonamax Mbasa and Assistant Regional Administrative Secretary responsible for economy and production in Dodoma region Aziza Mumba, among others.

Speaking at the meeting, Prof Mayaya said that the two projects come as yet another milestone in making the capital city green.

His sentiments were echoed by Manyama from UNDP who said that upon completion of the two projects, Dodoma City will look completely different.

Mumba from the RC's office said that the government was putting up every initiative to ensure that the country's capital was looking superb.

Dr Mbasa said that after preparing the draft proposal of the project, a team of experts from IRDPP was now going to prepare the business plan

for the proposed projects.

"We have enough experts in all sectors, be it environment, investment and project planning, among others and we have been closely partnering with different stakeholders, including UNDP and UN-Habitat," he noted.

Local government authority leaders who attended the workshop paid tribute to the leaders for coming up with the projects, saying the same will decorate the capital city upon completion.

Govt gives Lands ministry 100 days to solve conflicts

By Guardian Reporter

JERRY Silaa, Minister for Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development had directed officials in the Lands sector to make sure within 100 days beginning September 4 this year they solve land conflicts.

He also called on people who invaded open areas to start moving out at once and instructed officials and other ministry staff with authority to implement the laws to make sure that all built up open areas remain open.

The Minister made the remarks when addressing the Ministry's management soon after he was handed the ministry offices by his predecessor, Dr Angeline Mabula on Monday in Dodoma.

Silaa also called on officials in the Lands sector to stand by legal rights when implementing their responsibilities without discrimination and warned against bribery.

He explained the issue of land conflicts on land use in various areas of the country. Wisdom has to be applied in regard to finding solutions on them.

"President samia Suluhu Hassan directed that in solving land conflicts in areas where people inhabit, wisdom should be applied because those living therein are human beings and their removal by force could cause more problems than benefits," he said.

Turning to work performance, Silaa called on great changes in work performance to attain better achievements while pledging to have good systems that will ensure the gauging of work performance by every official.

In regard to the ICT, he said he was unhappy to see people still flocking to land offices to seek services, despite the ICT system in place.

"We are still performing our duties in a primitive way, very manual, and if we go on like this the

ministry's efficiency will continue to go down, we must have a modern ICT system with modern apps to enable the people feel free when communicating with the ministry," the Minister said.

He also touched on the issue of fuel stations, saying there is a 2018 Regulation that requires a fuel station to be 400 sq metres and added that beginning September 1 this year all those who have applied in violation of the regulation, the applications should be halted.

Earlier, the outgoing Lands minister Dr Angeline Mabula said:

"I must thank President samia Suluhu Hassan, she has well developed the land sector and we go on, but we must recognize the fact that she has opened the country for investment that is coming fast and the ministry is the one owning the land."



We are still performing our duties in a primitive way, very manual, and if we go on like this the ministry's efficiency will continue to go down, we must have a modern ICT system with modern apps to enable the people feel free when communicating with the ministry

Mpango calls for timely supply of farming inputs

By Getrude Mbago

VICE President Dr Phillip Mpango has stressed the need for governments and players in the agriculture sector to take requisite measures to provide farmers with affordable inputs, knowledge, skills and finance to enhance productivity along food value chain.

"In particular, we should endeavour to make agriculture enticing to the younger generation through the use of modern technology, easy access to land, start-up capital and markets targeting activities like horticulture which pay off relatively quickly," he said.

"Peace and security are important prerequisites for functioning food systems. Millions of displaced people and refugees in Africa and in the world have had their lives and food production capacities disrupted. These are farmers and livestock keepers who used to be self-reliant but because of wars and conflicts they suffer the indignity of depending on the generosity and good will of others. This must stop, we should embrace peaceful ways of resolving conflicts and ensure peace and security prevail in our continent and other parts of the world," he explained.

The VP further said that the government of Tanzania has scaled up the budget for agriculture by about 70 per cent, over the last two years, from USD120 million in 2021/2022 to USD397 million in 2023/24 in order to catalyze agriculture and food system transformation.

The increased budget is aimed at transforming agriculture into Commercial Agriculture and increase the crop sub-sector growth to 10 percent by 2030 from the current rate of 5.4 percent.

"We have also embarked on using inclusive green growth tools (IGG-Tools), which is a framework for

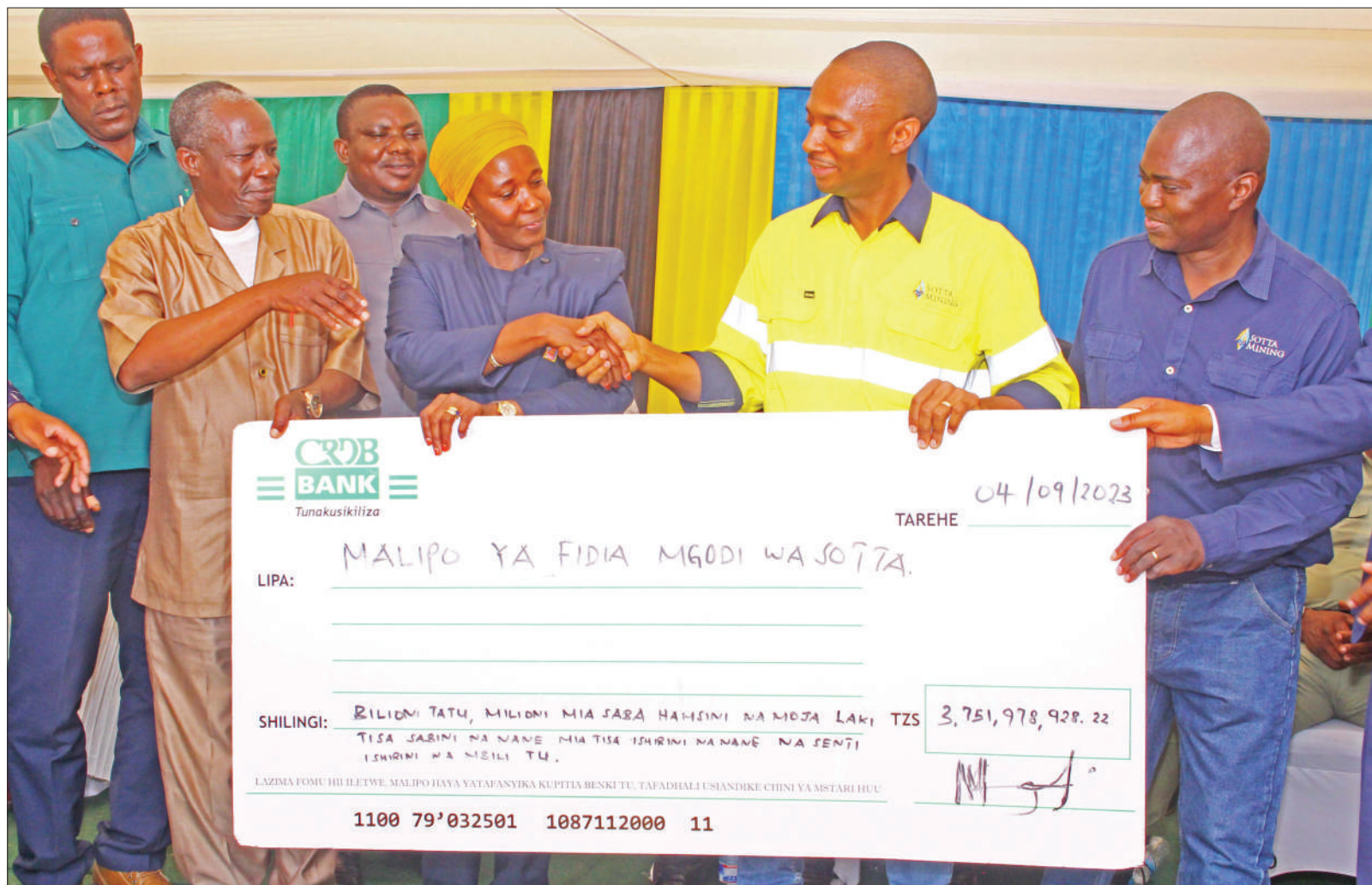
capacity building and measuring the levels of compliance for small, medium, and large-scale producers as well as processors and agribusinesses.

In developing the tools, Tanzania collaborates with local NGOs and international organizations such as the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), Care International, The Nature Conservancy (TNC), and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). This is largely championed under the Southern Agricultural Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT)," he added.

He said that despite various recorded achievements in the sector, Tanzania and many other countries remain vulnerable to adverse effects of climate change, pest outbreaks and soil degradation.



In particular, we should endeavour to make agriculture enticing to the younger generation through the use of modern technology, easy access to land, start-up capital and markets targeting activities like horticulture which pay off relatively quickly



Sotta Mining Company Limited chief financial officer Isaac Lupokela (2nd-R) pictured on Monday presenting to Nyamagana district commissioner Amina Makilagi, in her capacity as acting Mwanza regional commissioner, a dummy cheque for over 3.75bn/- at the start of the payment of compensation to people affected by operations at the Nyanzaga Gold Project in Sengerema District. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Kahama

TANZANIA roads Agency

(TANROADS) in Shinyanga Region has constructed 1,115 kms of roads costing 15bn/- during 2022/23 FY easing challenges facing transport of crops including tobacco, cashew nuts and cotton.

The roads have been built in Msalala, Ushetu, Kishapu and Shinyanga districts including Shinyanga municipality.

The roads included 838 gravel roads and 277 tarmac roads.

TANROADS manager for Shinyanga Region, Eng. Mibara Ndirimbi made the remarks here yesterday during his inspection of the 93 km Mwabomba-Bugomba A-

TANROADS constructs 1,115 kms gravel roads in Shinyanga Region

Ulowa-Uyowa road stretch

He said a total of 15bn/- has been spent on 1,115 kms of roads including bridges, out of which 12.3bn/- from Road Fund and 2.69bn/- from the government development fund.

He added that 222 lights have been installed along Nyandekwa-Nyihogo, Nyandekwa-Dodoma and Nyihogo-Ngaya road stretches.

Ndirimbi added that during the current FY 2023/24 a total of 13.38bn/- has been received for refurbishing and opening new roads out of which 10.69bn/- is from

the Road Fund and 2.69bn/- from

the government development fund. Ndirimbi further said a lot of vandalism has been committed on road infrastructures including theft and or destruction of road signs, invasion of road reserves by constructing shops and livestock using the roads thereby causing destruction thereon.

He called on all those who opened shops on road reserves to remove them before they are forcibly removed and owners fined according to the 2007 road law," he

warned.

For his part TANROADS Maintenance Manager, Midala Yaledi said as for now they expect to construct a modern bridge over Igombe river to connect Shinyanga and Tabora regions to cost 586.5m/-.

Japhat duadi, resident of Ushetu district said before the construction of the roads, traders hiked the prices of their goods claiming high transport costs, but now the prices of the goods have gone down after the construction of the roads.



Lake Energies group marketing and communications manager Matina Nkurli (R) briefs legislators Job Ndugai (Kongwa, 2nd-R), Kenneth Nollo (Bahi, 3rd-R) and George Malima (Mpwapwa, L) during Monday's launch in Dodoma city of the firm's joint campaign with the Rural Energy Agency (REA) meant to spare women the need to use fuelwood in cooking and related activities. Also, under the drive, 13,500 gas cylinders are to be issued to eligible residents of Arusha, Dodoma, Geita, Mwanza, and Morogoro regions in a bid to cut the use of woodfuel and charcoal across Tanzania. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TBS launches public education campaign

By Guardian Correspondent, Malinyi

TANZANIA Bureau of Standards (TBS) has provided education to 2,276 people through its public education campaign in Malinyi, Ulanga, Gairo and Mvomero districts, Morogoro Region on the importance of reading and writing products verified by TBS and mobilising small entrepreneurs to verify the quality of the goods they produce as well as registering shops selling foods and cosmetics.

The public education campaign that started August 21 and ended yesterday in the districts was conducted in various areas

including markets, bus stands, auctions and other open places where many people turned up to get education on the Bureau's various activities concerning product quality.

Ulanga acting district executive Director, Andreas Whero commended TBS for its education campaign and advised to frequently make impromptu inspections on goods in shops, in particular building materials including round bars and roofing sheets as well as using districts' community radios to reach to many people.

Speaking during the campaign,

TBS public relations and marketing manager, Gladness Kaseka said the Bureau's aim is to provide public education at all levels in the districts.

"As for now TBS has decided to reach out to entrepreneurs, businessmen and ordinary people at district level to educate them on procedures required to get quality standards label and to register shops selling foodstuffs and cosmetics," Kaseka said.

For their part, entrepreneurs from various villages in Malinyi District commended TBS for the education given to them as it has opened their eyes on many issues

in regard to quality standards of products they make.

For his part, TBS inspector, Kaiza Kilango reminded the people to understand that the war against substandard products should not be left to the Bureau only, but the entire nation, hence they should not hesitate to report whenever they come across products that have expired and other substandard goods.

He also called on businessmen to abide by correct procedures regarding registration of shops selling foodstuffs and cosmetics at the nearest TBS office.

The TBS public education campaign is sustainable and will continue in districts of Tabora, Mtwara and Lindi regions.



Finance minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba bids farewell in Dar es Salaam yesterday to Isobel Coleman (L), USAID's deputy administrator responsible for the agency's policy and programming. She had just led a delegation during talks with the minister. Coleman guides USAID's crisis response and supports efforts to address the root causes of conflict. Photo: Finance ministry

Tanzania has 226 professors - govt

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

TANZANIA had a total of 226 professors where 63 were full time and 163 were associate professors by May 2022, National Assembly was told yesterday.

Deputy minister for Education Science and Technology Omari Kipanga made the sentiments in the National Assembly when responding to a question by Muleba South legislator Dr Oscar Kikoyo who wanted to know how many professors are produced every year and how many go on retirement.

In response, deputy minister Kipanga explained that professor was a professional level in academic which is accorded to someone who has achieved the highest promotion available on the tenure track, other than special distinctions.

He said promotions and awards of the level depends on someone's effort in teaching, publication and research in global and national recognized journals.

"The increase in the number depends on one's effort to publish

and research but also on the influence of the publications on international journals by considering the standards set.

He said on retirement that the matter mostly affects public universities whose retirement age is 65 saying by 2022 there were 4 full professors who had retired and those who are expecting to retire this year are 5, 2024 (2) will retire and in 2025 (6) will retire.



The increase in the number depends on one's effort to publish and research but also on the influence of the publications on international journals by considering the standards set

Dar residents go for free screening camp

By Correspondent Christina Mwakangale

ABOUT half of the 335 people who underwent heart examination at a 2-day screening camp in Dar es Salaam at the weekend at the Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute (JKCI)-Dar Group Hospital had high blood pressure.

Dr Tulizo Shemu, the hospital's acting director said 'Tibankoba' treatment camp dubbed: 'Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan Outreach Services' was performed to bring specialist heart services closer to the people of Dar es Salaam and neighbouring regions.

The doctor, who is also a heart diseases specialist, said at the camp, people who were examined hailed from within and outside Dar es Salaam Region, many of whom had blood pressure problems and other heart related ailments.

"Half of the people we examined had blood pressure, others had their hearts enlarged, blocked blood arteries, too much fat and chest pains.

"Others had valve complications, problems of heart electric charges, we have also examined children with punctured hearts and blood veins not in proper order," said Dr Shemu.

He added: "For those found with heart problems and various other body complications including ears, bones, skin and eyes we referred to our clinics for treatment, because at JKCI, apart from treating heart diseases, we also treat other diseases, while we referred others to Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH).

In regard to the treatment camp, Dr Shemu said such kind of treatment is conducted frequently at the hospital so that many residents of Dar es Salaam region and neighbouring regions are to be reached for specialist heart treatment services.

Tatu Hassan, Shinyanga resident said she saw through TV the news about the treatment camp and decided to attend for heart examination and treatment.

"I am thankful to the government for recognizing those of us in the low income group to bring to us such specialist treatment.

"I came here and underwent an examination, given advice and medicines to use for a period of one month, as I have a high blood pressure problem," she said.

For his part, Richard John, resident of Tegeta in Dar es Salaam called on other people to attend such camps in future.

JKCI has been providing the "Tibankoba" treatment services through its 'Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan Outreach Services' in various areas of the country and so far it has done so in 12 regions and examined a total of 7,196 people out of who 847 were found to have heart problems that needed specialist treatment.



For those found with heart problems and various other body complications including ears, bones, skin and eyes we referred to our clinics for treatment, because at JKCI, apart from treating heart diseases, we also treat other diseases, while we referred others to Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH)

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'Use MCB effectively to safeguard your dignity, teachers are challenged'

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

TEACHERS have been urged to emancipate themselves through Mwalimu Commercial Bank (MCB) in order to safeguard their dignity when it comes towards acquiring loans.

Romana Kimambo, a shareholder of MCB from the Kisarawe District, Coast Region, aired his remarks during a discussion that brought together the bank's shareholders in Dodoma recently.

"We worked hard to secure capital and finally establish the MCB. However, it is astonishing that some of our fellow teachers are hesitating to join while still being harassed and burdened by these infamous 'bloodsucking' loans," said Romana.

Eliud Ole Mtambala, a Chamwino primary school teacher pointed out that despite the bank's relative youth, he has already started enjoying the benefits of loans.

He said: "Some of our fellow teachers have fallen into strange loans and have been compelled to surrender their bank cards to lenders. As soon as their salaries arrive, the lender extracts their share, and what remains is directed towards the teacher."

Francis Ramadhani, MCB board of directors' chairman assured all shareholders that the bank continues to grow due to the ongoing reforms initiated in 2019.

"I want to assure all shareholders that the significant reforms taking place within our bank are fundamental and have gradually elevated MCB up to the year 2022," he said.

Ramadhani stated that for MCB to perform even better, employees must continue working diligently and wholeheartedly in serving customers. This will be the key distinguishing factor between MCB and other banks in the country, as competition in the financial sector

continues to grow daily.

"We have reached seven years in 2022 since the bank's establishment, and during this period, the bank has managed to grow its assets and value by more than twice, going from having 30 billion to reaching 83 billion," Ramadhani stated.

As MCB's loan portfolio grew fourfold from 16bn/- to 64bn/-, it was observed that customer deposits also increased from 11bn/- to 60bn/-.

According to Ramadhani, MCB's revenues have increased from 2.8bn/- to 7.2bn/-. "This is seen as a significant indicator of MCB's efficiency and growth."

"These are substantial advancements in our bank's growth, and we certainly have every reason to be proud. The stage we have reached, collectively as the board and management leads us to believe that the bank will continue to stand firm and maintain this momentum in business operations, ultimately delivering value to our shareholders by reaching the point of dividend distribution," he said.

In its expansion plan, by December 2022, MCB had two branches in Dar es Salaam. It also established eight regional offices in the regions of Morogoro, Dodoma, Mwanza, Mbeya, Arusha, Kigoma, Rukwa, and Mtwara, enabling easy access for stakeholders in this early stage of growth.

MCB has also reached its clients through user-friendly channels like the mobile app and the Mwalimu Card Visa, available at its more than 1500 ATMs across the country, alongside its 474 agents.

"I want to assure all shareholders that the significant reforms taking place within our bank are fundamental and have gradually elevated MCB up to the year 2022"

Airline, telecom launch new app allowing customers to enjoy their digital lifestyles

By Guardian Reporter

PRECISION Air and Vodacom Tanzania have launched M-Pesa super App launched to simplify the end-to-end flight booking experience.

The partnership will allow customers to book flight tickets via the M-Pesa super App and enjoy up to 20 per cent discount from the normal fare! The collaboration is in partnership with TripSiri, a travel and technology firm in Tanzania, and is set to further through the convenience of the M-Pesa Super App.

Speaking yesterday during the press conference in Dar es Salaam, Epimack Mbeteni M-Pesa Director noted that this partnership reiterates their commitment to make M-Pesa part and parcel of everyone's digital lifestyle facilitating purchases and payments of essential products and services via the convenience of their mobile phones.

"We are delighted to welcome our newest member, Precision Air, to the family of close to 20 service providers on our M-Pesa platform. Through this partnership, customers will be able to secure their flight tickets in one App, from booking to payment. Moreover, customers will enjoy up to 20% discount as an advantage of using the Super App from M-Pesa. Our main objective is to build a culture for customers and Tanzanians to opt for more digital payments since they guarantee the safety of transactions and simplify the ability to track your expenditures," explained Mbeteni.

M-Pesa has revolutionized the purchases and payments for hundreds of thousands of retailers and merchants, driving financial and digital inclusion across the country. Since its inception 15 years ago, it has been a driving

force towards the advancement of a digital and cashless economy, bridging the existing gap of the unbanked population.

Mbeteni added: "Apart from facilitating ease of payments, we aim to simplify business operations for business owners and customers alike. The M-Pesa platform has become a one-stop marketplace enabling customers to shop and make payments while on the go. Through technology and innovation, we are eliminating the hassles of carrying cash as well as having to move around to secure services and thanks to partners like TripSiri, this is made possible. We will continue to leverage partnerships such as the one we are announcing today as a way to bring more services closer to our customers. We believe that as a nation, we will soon reach a stage where people do not need physical cash to access services."

Hillary Mremi, Precision Air marketing and corporate communications manager said: "We are proud to join the M-Pesa family through this strategic partnership that will allow customers to book their flight tickets via the M-Pesa App. The partnership provides us with the advantage of leverage on the platform that has been used and trusted by over 17 million Tanzanians for almost 15 years now. I would like to assure our customers that it is fast and easy to book their flight via the M-Pesa App."

TripSiri Director Gaurav Dhingra said: "We are delighted to partner with Vodacom M-Pesa to leverage our technology and experience in the travel space to provide more convenience to M-Pesa and Precision Air customers. This is just the beginning of our broader vision to transform the travel space in Tanzania across different verticals, and this partnership with M-Pesa and Precision Air sets the right foundation for that path"



Officials from Wildlife Management Areas in Mufindi and Chamwino districts pictured in Singida municipality yesterday attending a workshop organised by the Natural Resources and Tourism ministry and meant to equip them with stepped-up wildlife management skills. Photo: Correspondent Valentine Oforo

Fisheries sector grew by 1.9 per cent last year, says govt

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

THE fisheries sector grew by 1.9 per cent and contributed 1.8 per cent to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2022, the National Assembly was told yesterday.

During the same period, products from the sea were 54,823.23 tonnes which is equivalent 10.68 percent of all 513,525.11 tons of all the products from the fisheries sector.

Deputy minister for Fisheries Alexander Mnyeti made the remarks when responding to a

question by a legislator from the House of Representatives Bakar Hamad Bakar who wanted to know the extent of contribution of the fisheries sector to the national economy.

"To what extent does the fisheries sector contribute to the national economy," the MP queried.

In response, deputy minister Mnyeti said the fisheries sector contributes to a large extent to the GDP through production of products produced within the sector.

He said some of the products from the sector are used as raw materials for producing other products in various sectors such as industries in which the government collected 1.8bn/- in revenue from the sector.

He said products from the sea fishing subsector was worth 356.35bn/- adding that the government was putting in place various sectors to develop the sector further.

Under the blue economy policy, the government was the 'blue economy' is an emerging concept

that encourages sustainable exploitation, innovation and stewardship of our ocean and its life-giving 'blue' resources.

Zanzibar government recognizes the role of the blue economy in promoting socio-economic development through better stewardship of the sea and related resources. This involves the utilisation of maritime and marine resources to support inclusive and sustainable economic growth as well as creating employment opportunities.



Agriculture minister Hussein Bashe speaks at the four-day Africa Food Systems Forum 2023 summit which opened in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

PM's Office to offer apprenticeship training programmes for the youth

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

THE Prime Minister's Office Labour, Youth Employment and People with Disabilities is set to offer apprenticeship training programmes to youth who are out of the formal education and training system.

Deputy minister in the Prime Minister's Office Labour, Youth Employment and People with Disabilities Patrobas Katambi made the remarks in the House when

responding to a question by Special Seats MP Latifaa Khamis Juakali.

The legislator wanted to know what kind of education the government was offering to youth through the Prime Minister's office.

"The Prime Minister's office offers apprenticeship training to youth who are self-employed and are out of the formal training programmes," he said.

Katambi further responded saying his office offers various training including on job skills in various

sectors through apprenticeship in which the trainee spends about 60-percent of time on job.

He said the on job training acquired out of the formal education system facilitates and evaluation on the weaknesses that the youth have but also, strengthens them, then acquire certificates which will help them join high levels of learning.

He said the ministry also offers training to youth graduates whereby graduates of different levels are sent to employment places to learn on

what is required while at work but also learn on the new technology that changes with time.

The deputy minister added that the training on entrepreneurship, business development usually goes together with offering of loans through the youth development fund.

He said the programme supports development and implementation of skills strategy that improves labour market productivity and employability of apprentices.

The deputy minister added that the rationale behind was the desire by the government to add value to the education sector so that youth get the best skills to enhance production in various sectors.



Kilimo Trust CEO Dr Birungi Kotutaro signs on a billboard on the trust's strategic plan inaugurated in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

100+ girls cannot be beneficiaries of loans board, says Yara manager

By Guardian Correspondent

MORE than 100 girls could not be beneficiaries of the loans board who were set to benefit from 320m/- fundraising that aims to support them join higher learning institutions.

Children living in poverty face many barriers to accessing an education and therefore lose the opportunity to realize their dreams.

Sarah Munema, Yara marketing manager, said in the city yesterday

that they have a programme that supports the youth, especially girls from low income families who can access higher learning institutions to learn agronomy, the science and practice of soil management and field crop production. Their role encompasses the study and management of plant genetics, plant physiology, meteorology, and soil science.

"In view of this programme we have joined Rotary to raise funds that will see the youths including girls access this education," she

said. She said the aim is to ensure the country has youths who are skilled in agriculture including agronomy to push the agriculture agenda forward.

For his part, Rotary Goat Races 2023 project manager, Paul Muhato, said the funds raised will go towards education support including girls who have not been able to raise money for their higher learning education. "The funds will also go towards infrastructure support at local schools and other

efforts towards basic education and literacy," he said.

He noted that this year, companies that were supporting the initiative included Vodacom Tanzania Foundation, Pepsi, Auto Mark Toyota, East Africa Radio, among others

Meanwhile, Manager Vodacom Tanzania Foundation, Sandra Oswald, said the foundation values education and hopes the fundraising targets will be reached so that children whose parents cannot afford to take them to higher learning can be reached and ultimately realize their dreams.

"Every child has a right to education and that is why we have been touched to be part of this great initiative," she said.



Tulia Trust information officer Joshua Mwakanolo (L) has a word with Samwel Mwanizuwa (in wheelchair), a resident of Maendeleo B in Kalobe ward, Mbeya Region, shortly after handing over to him the wheelchair on Monday. It was donated by National Assembly Speaker and Mbeya Urban legislator Dr Tullia Ackson. Photo: Correspondent Nebart Msokwa

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo,

Dodoma

TANZANIA is next month expected to host the general meeting of the Chief Justices Forum of member states from South and East Africa.

The forum will take place from October 23 to 27, 2023 in Arusha, the forum will be graced by President Samia Suluhu Hassan.

The annual forum provides a formal platform, structure and framework through which the Chief Justices of Eastern and Southern

Tanzania to host this year's southeastern Africa Chief Justices Forum next month

Africa and Africa at large are able to collectively reflect on critical issues on justice delivery and adopt action plans to address various issues in a systematic and sustained way in order to strengthen justice delivery in the region.

Dr Jim Yonazi, Permanent Secretary (PS) of the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliament and Coordination) unveiled yesterday in Dodoma, when leading

the preparatory session for the meeting.

Dr Yonazi informed that the forum will include members from different countries.

The countries, according to him, include Kenya, Uganda, Namibia, Zimbabwe, Eswatini, Mozambique, Seychelles, Botswana. Others are Angola, Zanzibar, Malawi, Lesotho, Mauritius, Zambia and South Africa. "We have gathered here to share

relevant experience and have a common understanding about the important issues to be discussed during the forum," he said.

He added, the envisage gathering will go under the theme of "The role of the courts of member states in the resolution of disputes under the integration of the free trade area of africa: application of technology modernity for efficiency in the delivery of justice"

NGOs want political parties to give more room for women to express themselves

By Correspondent Carlos Banda

POLITICAL parties have been urged to allow their privileged female members to use their basic right to express themselves within their portfolios as a chance to strengthen their performance and the wellbeing of the society.

Tanzania Media Women's Association (TAMWA Zanzibar), Media Council of Tanzania (MCT) Zanzibar, Union for Journalists who write Development Stories Zanzibar (WAHAMAZA), and Zanzibar Press Club (ZPC) in collaboration with Zanzibar Media Committee (ZAMECO) made the call yesterday in a joint press statement.

In a recent appointment made by the President of Zanzibar and the Chairman of the Revolutionary Council, Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi, two female and five male members were appointed as members of the Zanzibar Electoral Commission (ZEC), a national body that oversees electoral affairs in Zanzibar.

Despite the fact that the press statement which was issued about the appointment did not mention their working identities, it was known that one female member is a member of one political party in the country.

This declaration has come after an unusual event of the female member of ZEC who refused to express her views after the swearing-in ceremony of the new members of the commission held recently at the State House in Zanzibar.

Despite the fact that she had initially accepted to talk to the press, it was alleged that the party top leadership had barred her to talk or express her views about her first time appointment as a member of the election management body.

It is a usual practice for journalists to conduct interviews after leaders are sworn in to express their feelings and a way of making commitments to the general public and the said appointee was expected to follow the suit.

Giving her opinion is a matter of basic right to humanity and not related to the party she comes from; so it was not appropriate and not acceptable to bar her from facing the press.

The result of the matter is that the information that came out about the Commission lacked the voices of women and thus perpetuated patriarchal ideology of male domination in the decision-making bodies and the media where

today the world and the country are striving to raise the voice and representation of women.

In its recent meeting, the media organizations, among other things, discussed the incident and expressed their dismay at the act of depriving a woman and indeed a young woman of the opportunity to express herself in front of journalists.

It should be noted that the number of women in Tanzania, according to National Population and Housing Census of 2022, it is more than 50 percent; therefore, it is important that their contribution be seen and recognized as they are part of the power to achieve that political, economic and social development starting with their representation in planning that development.

The Constitution of Zanzibar of 1984, Article 18. (1) States that "... Without prejudice to the relevant laws of the land, every person has the right to freedom of opinion and expression, and to freedom of seek, receive and impart or disseminate information and ideas through expression any media regardless of national frontiers and also has the right of freedom from interference with his communications".

What does it mean? This means that anyone who tries to prevent another person from using his right prescribed by the Constitution of the country should know that what she/he is doing is violating his civil and other human rights.

For the future of the country and prosperity of all groups including women, who for many years have been left behind, it is very imperative to support the voices of women and other marginal groups, including being given the opportunity to express themselves and express their views on what they see as developmental issues within the country and beyond.

Giving her opinion is a matter of basic right to humanity and not related to the party she comes from; so it was not appropriate and not acceptable to bar her from facing the press

Small-scale miners appeal to financial institutions for getting affordable loans

By Correspondent Wilhelm Mulinda,

Mwanza

ARTISANAL miners have appealed to the government to allocate prospective areas when they apply for mining licences to enable them operate on profitable revenue.

According to them, current allocation of areas is not prospected, which makes them incur huge costs for the process and sometimes totally miss the mineral deposits.

Kasirate Mzaki, one of the miners made the call in an interview here during the 18th East Africa Trade Exhibitions, held at Furahisha Grounds in Mwanza City.

Mzaki noted that there are domestic investors who can make big investments in the mining sector if the government will support them with prospecting as costs for the process are higher than most of them can afford.

He explained that currently domestic investors necessitate prospecting mineral deposits at their own costs and the government takes part of the profit gained on that business in charges while it

does not guarantee them in the prospecting.

"The government should also guarantee domestic investors in banks so that they can get capitals to run mining activities which also contribute to the economy of the nation," he said.

He pointed out that having the government licensed the domestic investors will enable it to know them and be sure of their activities therefore it should see how it can support them to get capital in banks.

The miner thanked a local investor and owner of Busolwa Mine for supporting some small-scale gold miners with starting capitals including prospecting costs and mining tools.

"This helps us to some extent to run mining activities, without the support, we could find it hard to operate as the costs are high," he added.

The just East Africa trade exhibitions organized by Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA) in Mwanza Region, has helped to bring together different miners as well as experts and learn more on how to improve mining activities.

Africa can meet climate change financing needs

CLIMATE change is currently one of the greatest challenges facing all countries worldwide. According to the World Bank, climate change could force about 216 million people to migrate within their own countries by 2050. Still, this unprecedented migration pattern may emerge as soon as 2030, spreading and intensifying after that. A study by German Watch in 2021 revealed that between 2000 and 2019, about 475,000 people lost their lives due to over 11,000 extreme weather events globally, leading to losses amounting to around \$ 2.56 trillion (in purchasing power parities).

In Uganda, climate change has been manifested in rising temperatures, more erratic rainfall, and extreme weather events such as floods and drought. Rainfall has become less predictable, with erratic arrivals and endings of rainfall seasons in recent years.

The individual rainfalls have notably been heavier and more violent; floods and landslides are increasing in intensity, as experienced in most parts of the country in the past year. Additionally, droughts are also on the rise in Uganda, with the western, northern and north-eastern regions experiencing more frequent, severe and longer-lasting droughts than have been seen historically.

These droughts significantly affect water resources, hydroelectricity production and agriculture, among other key economic activities. From the public health perspective, the changing temperature patterns in Uganda have been linked to the increased spread of malaria parasites into additional parts of the country, like the Bukedi-sub region. Therefore, Uganda's signs of

escalating climate change can no longer be ignored. The government of Uganda has undertaken several actions to address the pressing climate change including the development of the National Climate Change Policy and its Implementation Strategy in 2015, aimed at ensuring a harmonized and coordinated approach towards a climate-resilient and low-carbon development path for sustainable development in Uganda.

To implement climate actions listed in the Climate Change Policy (2015), the government is expected to commit 30 per cent of national resources, whereas 70 per cent is expected from international sources. The financing needed to respond to climate change by 2030 is approximately \$3.9 billion or \$258 million per annum. Furthermore, the cost of implementing the country's first NDC was estimated at \$5.5 billion.

According to the National Budget Framework Paper for 2023/2024, the votes mapped under the Natural resources, Environment, Climate Change, Land and Water Management Programme have been allocated a total budget of Shs 547 billion, of which 269 billion is domestic funding and Shs 279 billion is external financing.

The current funding levels are still way below the estimated annual targets. Like many other developing countries, the COVID-19 pandemic has constrained the fiscal space for Uganda, making it more challenging to mobilise the resources for climate change domestically.

There are, however, multiple international sources of climate change funds and instruments available that the government could take advantage of.

Skills level in project plans demands far bigger efforts

CHRONICLERS making periodic assessments of skills in the public service and in the wider economy reported of late that assessment of performance among civil servants shows a higher level of skills. The numbers given weren't too bright even by their own standards, which leaves plenty to be desired, if indeed the level of low skilled performance decreased from 79.0 per cent in 2014 to 76.9 per cent in 2021, on the basis of that assessment. It is evident that the low skills score was predominant, and little would have changed since then.

For instance, it is possible that the reason for the higher score in 2021, given the fact that the base year was 2014, could be assumed to relate to the 2017 fake certificates saga. That exercise may have removed plenty of people who were hanging on to their jobs while not being fully qualified, but the slight reduction in performance assessment doesn't tally with the magnitude of redundancies at that time. It would follow that fake certificates was an auxiliary issue at best.

A deputy minister said the success - or more accurately improvement - was due to implementation of a project aimed at improving skills among the youth. This begs a few questions as one talks about youth in the sense of an age group in the streets or in society generally, not in relation to civil servants. In that case there is an impression that civil servants are picked randomly and then there is a project to improve their skills, thus posting a slightly better performance, later.

Since it is evident that government officials (that is what is meant by civil servants) are not recruited that way,

it means that training in our various higher learning institutions plus vocational education to an extent is still poor. It was not clear from briefly reported remarks what sort of evaluation was made, how it was designed. For instance it is unlikely that the civil service will itself be happy with that assessment, and even their supervisors, individually or by ministerial categories. Only 25 per cent of civil servants obtained a good score.

When a Special Seats MP demanded to know what the government was doing to test the level of performance among civil servants, and the answer is given that the government plans to carry an evaluation aimed at establishing the level of availability of skills among the youth, this position raises problems.

It appears that the question touches both on work performance or availability of skills, whereas they are different things. Testing for skills relates to informal sector efforts, enterprise or suchlike, while civil service is a matter of recruitment, and here no issue of testing arises, but whether the person has the relevant training.

The problem is that it isn't the civil service as such that was being evaluated but a specific development programme, as the MP was seeking affirmations on the 'system' the government was using to test skills in youth in many of the programmes that it was implementing. If there are low scores among youths picked in the streets to bring into government programmes, it is less acute. Still, to say that there is an evaluation plan on various youth programmes is insufficient. Training or retraining has to be instituted.

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Mitigating climate change impact: Time for Africa's action, not talks

By Claude Nyarko Adams

THE Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, Samuel Abdulai Jinapor, has called on world leaders and development partners to prioritise the implementation of commitments and supports aimed at mitigating the effects of climate change.

According to him, despite the many discussions and pledges of support to enable Ghana and other African countries deal with the impacts of climate change, little had been done in that regard.

He said the worsening effects of the menace, especially in developing countries, required that all global efforts were refocused on meeting the commitments and supporting activities designed to mitigate the consequences of climate change.

"What we need now is action and not talk. It is time for us all to walk the talk in relation to commitments and supports needed to mitigate the impact of climate change.

"We've done enough talking. We need to pull the brakes and insist on meeting the commitments that will enable Ghana and other developing countries to deal with the effects of climate change," Jinapor, who is the co-chair of the Forest and Climate Leaders' Partnership (FCLP), stated.

The minister was speaking to Ghanaian Times in Accra yesterday ahead of his participation in the Africa Climate Summit scheduled for September 4 to 6 in Nairobi, Kenya.

The call by the Minister comes off at the back of the failure of developed nations to honour their commitments of making available US\$100 billion annually to help developing countries reduce emissions and manage the impacts of climate change.

Meanwhile, the African Development Bank (AfDB) estimated that Africa will need US\$3 trillion in mitigation and adaptation by 2030 to enable her implement nationally determined contributions as part of measures to curb climate change.

The Summit will be held alongside the Africa Climate Week organised by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in collaboration with the UN Development Programme (UNDP), UN Environment Programme (UNEP), and the World Bank Group.

It is one of the four Regional Climate Weeks which will be held this year to build momentum ahead of the UN Climate Change Conference of Parties (COP28) in Dubai.

President Nana Dankwa Akufo-

Addo is expected to address the summit while Jinapor will participate in a ministerial event which features John Kerry, United States Special Envoy for Climate.

Jinapor explained that the calls for urgent support to Ghana and other African countries to help mitigate climate change effects were premised on the fact that developing countries did not participate in the industrial revolution that resulted in climate change.

Also, he said developing nations contributed only about four per cent to Greenhouse Gas emissions which build up in the atmosphere and warm the climate, leading to many other changes in the atmosphere, on land, and in the oceans.

Despite the little contribution to the causes of climate change, the minister noted that developing countries have been exposed to the harmful effects of the phenomenon, impacting negatively on agriculture and other developmental plans.

"Africa is the least of the contributors to this phenomenon, responsible for less than four percent of the global volume of carbon emissions. However, we suffer the most because our economies are peculiarly susceptible to the effects of climate change, and our capacity to

withstand its shocks is weak," he said.

Describing it as "historical injustice", he reiterated the need for supports to developing countries to enable their efforts in addressing climate change.

In the meantime, Jinapor said the government was currently undertaking various programmes and initiatives, including reducing emissions from forest degradation and deforestation, sustainable management of forests and the conservation and enhancement of forest carbon stocks also known as REDD+ and Green Ghana Day which promotes tree planting through afforestation and reforestation to enhance Ghana's resistance to climate change.

He stated that the summit would provide the country the platform for further deliberations on viable strategies and workable approaches to addressing emissions from degraded lands towards the achievement of Ghana's nationally determined contributions.

The minister urged African leaders to take advantage of the summit to highlight their climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies to attract the needed funding to help address pressing climate, economic and sustainable development challenges across the continent.

Heeding early advice from ECOWAS, UN

By Special Correspondent

INTERNATIONAL partners, specifically ECOWAS and the United Nations are calling on the government of Liberia to investigate reports of recent electoral violence in the country and hold those responsible to account.

"We bring attention to inflammatory rhetoric which has the potential to instigate violence. We therefore urge political leaders to be active peace messengers and promote issue-based campaigns and refrain from incitement of followers toward violent action, especially violence against women in elections and politics and, to resolve any grievance through established legal mechanisms. We further caution against the instrumentalization of the youth", a joint statement issued in Monrovia on 31 August reads.

At the same time, the international partners are calling on signatories of the Farmington River Declaration 2023, particularly political parties and their leaders to abide by their commitment and promote the conditions for peaceful, transparent, and credible elections, prior to, during, and after the polls.

We join ECOWAS and the United Nations in urging all Liberians, including the government to pay keen attention to this early warning call against violence in the 2023 Presidential and Legislative Elections. We can do so with the help of the government by immediately bringing to book, those involved in instigating violence to disrupt the democratic process.

Whether they are from the ruling Coalition for Democratic Change or the opposition bloc, those involved in such behavior need to be told

in clear terms that violence has no place in the 2023 Presidential and Legislative Elections so there should be no place for people bent on instigating violence on the ongoing campaign activities across the country.

We believe strongly that one way to stamp out violence is by promptly taking action rather than just sitting back and condemning it. Unless someone is arrested, brought before the law and if found guilty, punish to deter would-be perpetrators, the beat will go on, which is dangerous for peace and stability of the state.

All signatories of the Farmington River Declaration 2023 should demonstrate leadership they are craving for by abiding by their commitment to promote conditions for peaceful, transparent, and credible elections prior to, during, and after the polls. There have been spate of

violence across the country since official campaign for the October elections started marred by injuries and deaths. These should not go with impunity. Someone has to be held responsible before the law. We cannot go to violence-driven elections and expect the outcome to be peaceful.

It would save this country a lot, given the wave of insecurity precipitated by military coups in the region by doing everything to keep the peace. Zealous party partisans should not be blinded by loyalty to engage in uncouth activities as if there is no tomorrow.

Therefore, we have an opportunity as Liberians to jealously safeguard our peace and democracy and serve as an inspiration for Africa and the rest of the world by heeding the call from international partners to stamp out violence from our elections.

President Samia's efforts: Untangling Tanzania from shackles of economic nationalism

By Hussein Kinoko

THE ascent of President Samia Suluhu Hassan to the highest office in Tanzania followed a period of tragedy. In March 2021, she assumed the presidency following the passing of Dr John Pombe Joseph Magufuli on March 17, 2021.

Two years have now elapsed since she took office as the first female President of the United Republic of Tanzania. In her efforts to move beyond the shadow of her larger-than-life predecessor, President Samia has undertaken a series of transformative measures to reconcile the once-divided nation and heal its wounds.

The initial term of the late Magufuli, known as 'the bulldozer', brought about significant changes that initially sparked optimism among many Tanzanians regarding the country's future. In his first year in office in 2015, he gained global recognition for his uncompromising stance against corruption and irresponsible government spending. However, he later turned towards ultra-nationalistic rhetoric and policies that began to deter investors.

The government's renegotiation of contracts with mining companies and the implementation of new legal frameworks for the mining sector plunged the country into diplomatic crises with traditional allies and major multinational corporations like Acacia Mining.

The seeds of Tanzania's economic nationalism were sown when Magufuli enacted three natural resources laws, including the National Wealth and Resources Contract Law of 2017. Economic nationalism, as defined by Sam Pryke (2012), involves principles to develop, strengthen and safeguard national economies within the global market context.

During Magufuli's first term, Tanzania's economic ideology was marked by the concept of economic nationalism. He enacted laws that granted the government significant power and control over national resources. For instance, the 2017 Natural Wealth and Resources Contract Law authorised government officials to review contracts dating back two decades to assess whether the terms favoured or disadvantaged the government and to compel contract renegotiations.

Acacia Mining, a subsidiary of the world's largest gold mining company, Barrick Gold, was required to pay USD190 billion in revised taxes and fines after a comprehensive contract review. The law also required mining companies to surrender a 16 percent stake in their companies to the government and split profits evenly.

Magufuli's confrontational approach towards mining companies deterred potential investments and endangered existing major investments in the country. For instance, in 2017, Aliko Dangote, one of Tanzania's largest investors, accused President Magufuli of pushing away investors through policies that seemed designed to seize a significant share of assets.

The same year, Petra Diamond, which employed over 1,400 workers, suspended its operations in Tanzania following the seizure of its diamonds. Magufuli even announced the nationalisation of diamonds worth USD29.5 million, alleging that the company



had under-declared its mineral exports. Magufuli's actions created a stifling regulatory environment for foreign businesses and misguided attempts to achieve economic justice and bolster the national industry.

President Samia's economic recovery efforts

Upon assuming office, President Samia's demeanour exuded calm, empathy, and attentiveness, inspiring a sense of hope both within Tanzania and the international community. Faced with the challenge of rehabilitating Tanzania's tarnished international reputation, President Samia took swift action to restore the country's dignity, honour and respect. This restoration journey encompassed healing the wounds of the past five years and normalising relations with the global community.

In stark contrast to her predecessor, President Samia, affectionately called as Mama Samia, espouses a more liberal political approach. This was evident in her remarkable speech at the 76th United Nations General Assembly on September 23, 2021, in New York. Throughout her 15-minute address, she emphasised the term 'multilateralism' five times, signalling her government's resolute departure from her predecessor's isolationist foreign policy stance.

Transforming Tanzania into a fully-fledged capitalist nation has been an intricate task. To this day, Tanzania retains elements of socialism ingrained in its streets, culture, and people's way of life. These sentiments trace back to Mwalimu Nyerere's socialist ideology (Ujamaa), which emphasised self-reliance and protectionism, prioritising domestic industries over international trade and open markets.

The ongoing ideological struggle within the nation stems from President Samia's commitment to practising multilateralism, despite the socialist label that remains in our country's constitution preamble.

Initiatives to break free from economic nationalism

President Samia's strategic framework of the "4R" - Reconciliation, Resilience, Reform, and Rebuild is a robust foundation for multiparty democracy and economic advancement. These four pillars stand as President Samia's gateway to multilateralism, acting as her robust response to her predecessor's authoritarian leadership style.

Her first pivotal step was to restore and fortify diplomatic ties with nations worldwide that had been strained during her predecessor's tenure. President Samia embarked on journeys to Brussels, New York, London, Paris, Malawi, Uganda, and other countries. Notably, her efforts bore fruit in the form of improved relations between Tanzania and Kenya, resulting in the removal of trade barriers between the two nations.

Enhancing relations with various development partners has yielded significant economic benefits, with increased foreign investment and improved domestic business environments. President Samia's initiatives have propelled Tanzania's gross domestic product from USD69.7 billion in 2021 to a noteworthy USD85.42 billion in 2023.

Another critical measure was her commitment to modernising agriculture, attracting substantial investments to the sector, and revising agricultural policies and laws. Notably, the agricultural budget

increased by over 200 percent within her first two years in office, rising from 251bn/- in 2021/22 to 951bn/- in 2022/23.

Reviving investor confidence in Tanzania is a commendable job done by President Samia. This endeavour involved revising investment policies and fostering political and commercial stability.

Investors, particularly look for signs of reform and progressive economic policies that promise stability. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, the initiatives to bolster institutions, incentivise investors and combat corruption had already increased foreign direct investment, growing to USD1.1 billion in 2019 from USD1 billion the previous year. The current FDI stock is estimated at USD21.8 billion.

In March 2023, President Samia extended an invitation to investors across various sectors of Tanzania's economy, aiming to accelerate economic growth further. Sectors such as energy, information and communication technology (ICT), telecommunications, agriculture, construction, real estate, financial services, transportation, manufacturing, extractive industries, tourism, services, and media were invested.

Tourism, in particular has been a consistent focus for President Samia's administration. During her visit to the US in 2022, her government inked significant agreements with renowned sports clubs from major soccer and basketball leagues. These agreements aimed to leverage sports to enhance strategic investments and promote tourism through collaborations with American clubs.

Additionally, President Samia played a central role in 'Tanzania: The Royal Tour', a documentary featuring an Emmy Award-winning journalist as a guest in Tanzania. President Samia was his tour guide, showcasing the country's picturesque destinations. This documentary is expected to contribute to Tanzania's tourism sector for years to come.

President Samia's journey to untangle Tanzania's economy from the shackles of economic nationalism has been a remarkable transformation. Through her adept leadership, she has navigated the challenges left behind by her predecessor and set Tanzania on a path of multilateralism and economic growth.

Her strategic pillars of reconciliation, resilience, reform, and rebuilding have fostered a more open and investor-friendly environment. President Samia has made significant strides in restoring Tanzania's image on the global stage and attracting much-needed investments by focusing on modernisation, international collaboration and stability.

As Tanzania continues evolving towards a more open and globally engaged economy, President Samia's legacy is shaping up to be one of pragmatic leadership, economic progress and renewed international relationships. The story of her presidency is a testament to the power of diplomacy, economic reforms and visionary leadership in shaping the destiny of a nation.

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Mobilisation of resources to enhance education funding timely

By Adonis Byemehwa

ONE of Nelson Mandela's memorable quotes states that: 'Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world'. Education is a fundamental right for everyone and key to the future of any country. However, many miss this right due to inadequate investment.

In a fresh bid to address the persistent budget deficit in the education sector, on August 31st this year, the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology presided over a groundbreaking education summit that saw over 460bn/- mobilised to boost education funding.

Attended by prominent education stakeholders from all 26 regions, the conference aimed to strategize on ways to enhance our country's education system, amidst limited human and financial resources.

The event also featured the esteemed presence of the retired president and chairperson of the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) board Jakaya Kikwete underscoring the significance of the matter.

The theme of the summit revolved around the unveiling of a new education policy draft, poised to reshape Tanzania's education landscape. This development came against the backdrop of consecutive years of education budget deficits, with allocations consistently falling short of the recommended 20 percent benchmark set by GPE.

In a resounding display of solidarity, pledges were made during the summit. GPE also pledged a total of USD50 million (125.2bn/-) to further support education in Tanzania.

This dual funding approach generated optimism and set a promising precedent for the government to execute critical education initiatives. Yes, we might be praising the pledges made under the partnership to augment the government's efforts in improving education sector, but still, a lot needs to be done if we are to catch up with developed countries' education funding.

If comparative education was anything to go by, Tanzania could borrow a fresh leaf from Finland whose expenditure on educational institutions as a percentage of GDP was 5.3 in 2017. The total expenditure on education was 11.8 billion euros in 2017 which was 3 percent less than the year before.

The share of total public expenditure devoted to education was 10.5 percent. Costs of compulsory basic education made up the biggest share of current expenditure on education, according to Finland's education factsheet,



2020. Back to Tanzania, in recent years, with the growth of science and technology, the education provided by local educational institutions seemed to be lagging behind amid current needs in the labour market, an issue that has put the ministry under the microscope for some time now.

Worth taking home is that little investments in education narrow the government's ability to deliver equal and quality education to all. The inception of free education started with adequate allocation followed by a sharp decline in the next year by 93 percent during the entire period review.

Although the scheme provides equitable access to basic education based on this allocation trend, the quality of education is wanting. For example, with the rapid population growth in major cities like Dar es Salaam, it is not uncommon to find children attending class sessions while sitting on the floor due to a shortage of desks, let alone many other infrastructural challenges.

Under such kind of learning environment alongside a lack of free meals in many day primary and secondary schools, there is no way we can boast of quality education.

The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology unveiled a budget of 1.67trn/- for the financial year 2023/24, with five priorities aimed at increasing access,

improving quality and ensuring graduates' employability. The government has been allocating an average of only 14 percent between the fiscal years 2015/2016 and 2022/2023 instead of the recommended 20 percent.

As Tanzania grapples with the 1.67trn/- budget, in Finland, a total of 4.7 billion euros, nearly 40 percent was spent on basic education. This is because the whole age group from 7 to 15 takes part in this level of education.

The second biggest share included university education and research, on which 2.3 billion euros or 19 percent was spent. The next biggest share was devoted to vocational education, on which 1.6 billion euros or almost 14 percent were spent in 2017.

In Finland, education is free at all levels for pupils and students. There are no tuition fees from pre-primary until higher education. Adult education is the only form of education that may have fees in some cases.

While our primary school children scramble for desks and basic books, in Finland's pre-primary and basic education, textbooks, school lunches, health and welfare services, and transport for pupils living further away from the school are free.

However, at the upper secondary level, the students need to buy their learning materials. Students get free meals every day. Also, health and welfare services are free for students. In addition, transport costs are subsidized by the state.

In Finland's higher education, the students need to buy their learning materials or use public library services. Students' meals, health, and welfare services are subsidized by the state.

In Finland, education is publicly funded at all levels. In the official education system, private funding only accounts for 2.6 percent of all expenditures in general.

In the case of pre-primary, basic and general upper secondary education the share of private funding is only 1 percent. In upper secondary, vocational education and training as well as higher education the proportion of private funding is 4 percent.

In Tanzania, many of the setbacks in the education sector are a result of inadequate investment. The country invests around 6 percent of the GDP in education, a trend which not only is against the Education for All (EFA) set and agreed goals but also is against the Dakar commitment and UNESCO's globally accepted target of investing 9 percent of GDP in education.

"If the government were to allocate 20 percent (around 8trn) of the budget to the education sector, it is clear that many challenges could be solved and the quality of education in the country could be raised," Dr John Kalage, HakiElimu executive director, was quoted as saying recently.

To comply with a national requirement of 40 percent allocation of the sector's budget to development projects, the government must devise means of ensuring transparency and effective engagement of the private sector, of course as it had done with the Global Partnership for Education (GPE) and Civil Society Organisations in the budget process.

Another piece of advice worth taking home is that if we want to go the Finland way, the government should have a balanced sectoral investment at all levels of education. Policymakers could benefit from allocating more funding to neglected but critical sectors such as early childhood education where early investments pay off in the long run.

Given the growing role of private learning approaches that expand access to online learning resources to all children, including the most disadvantaged and vulnerable, inter-ministerial collaboration between ministries of education and ICT is a key enabling factor towards this goal.

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El Salvador making little effort to eradicate illiteracy

By Edgardo Ayala

EL Salvador's efforts to improve the educational level in the country seem to be falling short, with rundown schools, especially in rural areas, and little progress in overcoming illiteracy.

In almost a decade, this Central American country of 6.7 million inhabitants has moved just two percentage points in its fight against illiteracy, going from 11.8 percent in 2013 to 9.7 percent in 2021, the last year with available official data.

Illiteracy is higher in rural areas: 15.2 percent. And among people over 60 years of age the rate is 45.7 percent.

Literacy efforts in the freezer

Even more worrisome is the suspension in the last three years of the government's adult literacy program in rural areas, people involved in this effort told IPS.

"It is worrying, the literacy program ceased to exist," Verónica Majano, executive director of the non-governmental Association of Popular Education (CIAZO), told IPS.

Her organization has been working on literacy programs since 1989, during the country's 1980-1992 civil war.

And now CIAZO is perhaps the only organization that still runs adult literacy programs in rural areas of the country.

Other institutions that carried out similar projects have given up because they say the education authorities have abandoned the national effort.

"It is not only stagnation, it is a setback; the COVID-19 pandemic affected initial, basic, middle and higher education, but right or wrong it has continued. But in literacy nothing is happening," Majano stressed.

The cancellation or suspension of the government's Literacy Program has become evident, she said, since Nayib Bukele became president in June 2019.

She added that the effort to teach reading and writing to those who did not have the opportunity to go to school, or who had to drop out for one reason or another, had previously continued regardless of which government was in power, left or right.

She was referring to the administrations of the right-wing Nationalist Republican Alliance, which governed for four terms between 1989 and 2009, and those of the leftist Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front, which was in power for two terms between 2009 and 2019.

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has pointed out that acquiring and improving literacy skills throughout life is an intrinsic part of the right to education and brings enormous empowerment and many benefits.

"Literacy drives sustainable development, enables greater participation in the labor market, improves child and family health and nutrition, reduces poverty and expands life opportunities," the UN agency states.

According to UNESCO, a country can be declared free of illiteracy if less than 3.9 percent of the total population over 15 years of age is illiterate.

It has also stated that illiteracy is another form of modern slavery.

However, it notes that despite the progress made worldwide, 763 million adults still do not know how to read and write.

Academic Óscar Picardo told IPS that part of the problem in El Salvador is that, historically, the arrival of each new government has meant a change of strategy and vision on how to promote education in general and literacy programs in particular.

This has generated discontinuity with some of the achievements or progress made by the previous authorities, he said.

"The country and the Ministry of Education have had a recurring problem that is still present, which is the absence of state policies," said Picardo, director of the Institute of Science, Technology and Innovation, of the private Francisco Gavidia University.

He added: "The education system works with government policies, and every five years the whole system is rebooted, the minister changes and plans change, priorities change, but the major problems remain intact."

The expert pointed out that if progress is to be made in education, and in particular in reducing illiteracy,



Rural women in El Salvador participate in a literacy class in the Santa Rosa canton of the municipality of Sensuntepeque, in the northern department of Cabañas. Education authorities in this Central American country have done very little to continue with programs that teach adults to read and write, especially in rural areas. CREDIT: Edgardo Ayala / IPS

the problem of school dropouts, caused by poverty and the insecurity generated by gangs, must be tackled.

According to official figures, 1.3 million people aged four to 29 (47.4 percent) reported not attending school in 2022.

The poverty rate stands at 26.6 percent of the population, but in the countryside the figure rises to 29.6 percent.

Picardo stressed that the so-called "war against gangs" waged since the end of March 2021 by the Bukele administration, which has succeeded in largely dismantling the operations of these criminal groups, is likely to lower the dropout rates and this is already reflected in the figures for the next school year.

"Of course, if the dropout rates decrease due to improved security that would be very positive; hopefully we will see statistics in that regard," Picardo said.

The "mano dura" or iron fist strategy against the gangs, known here as "maras",

although it has largely dismantled the criminal activity of these groups, has also generated a dynamic of human rights violations and abuses by police and military authority that have been denounced by local and international human rights organizations.

With an average schooling of only 7.2 grades, it will be difficult for the Salvadoran populace to pull out of poverty and for the country to find foreign investment that offers better paying jobs, said the expert.

In El Salvador there are three grades of initial education, up to seven years of age on average. These are followed by nine grades of basic education, up to the age of 15, and three more of middle school, up to the age of 18. Schooling is considered compulsory until the completion of basic education.

Most other Central American countries face a similar problem to El Salvador,

Picardo added, although Costa Rica has always shown better development in the educational and social areas, in general, and is the only country in the sub-region declared free of illiteracy.

The Salvadoran government has made a commitment to reducing the technological gap, with the distribution of thousands of laptops to elementary and high school students, which is an important achievement.

But the Bukele administration has also been criticized for the low level of investment in improving the conditions of most of the more than 5,000 schools in the country, especially in rural areas, and in remedying the deficiencies in teaching.

Blanca Velazco, a schoolteacher, shared with IPS the difficulties she faces every day in teaching essential knowledge to her kindergarten and first grade students, who share the same classroom at the Santa Rosa canton school in the mu-

nicipality of Sensuntepeque, in the northern Salvadoran department of Cabañas.

"My first graders should be reading better by now, but I've had a hard time teaching them, because they are together with the kindergarteners, and that shouldn't be the case," said Velazco, 47.

She added that at 10:30 AM the kindergarteners leave and she only has 45 minutes to teach the first graders Language Arts and Math.

"Forty-five minutes are not enough," she stressed. In the afternoon, she also teaches fourth grade.

Winning the battle against illiteracy

In this canton, where some 50 families live, the Association of Popular Education, CIAZO, is organizing five literacy circles aimed at adults, mostly women, who want to win the fight against illiteracy.

Official figures reveal that of those who cannot read or write in El Salvador, 14.4 percent are women and 7.7 percent are men.

One of the literacy circles is made up of a dozen peasant women over the age of 60. Half of them were present when IPS visited the area on Aug. 28, and several of them are visually impaired due to their age, but they are not giving up.

"Sometimes I would go to the offices in the town of Ilobasco, and I felt bad when I saw signs with messages written on them and I couldn't understand the words," said Carmen Molina, 66, as she worked on a primer, writing words and solving simple addition and subtraction equations.

She said that as a child she attended school but only got as far as the second grade, and what little she learned was forgotten over the years.

"I didn't want to go anymore," she explained, because she had to take breakfast to her father and siblings to the milpa - the traditional agricultural system that intermingles corn with beans and vegetables. "And then coming all the way back to school was very hard," she said.

She got up the courage to go to the literacy circle because some of her younger children would ask her what to write on their assignments.

"Some have a harder time learning than others, but in general they have advanced quite a bit, little by little," said Flor Echeverría, 30, who has been teaching in the circle since the beginning of 2023.

Echeverría commented that she herself only studied up to the eighth grade and did not want to finish ninth grade, the last grade offered at the school she attended.

"At that time the facilities to go to school didn't exist, everything was even more complicated," she said.

"It's nice to dedicate time to share knowledge with people who did not learn to read or write," she said.

Although some men participate in the literacy circle, such as Julio, Carmen's son, the vast majority are women who have come to understand that learning to read and write is in itself an act of rebellion and also of liberation.



Livestock and small-scale and subsistence agriculture are the main economic activities in the canton of Santa Rosa, in the jurisdiction of Sensuntepeque, in northern El Salvador. CREDIT: Edgardo Ayala / 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 UMJUAVYO 16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEVUMA 18:00-21:00HRS BUZUKI TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:00-09:00HRS HABARI NA MATUKIO YA WIKI 09:00-11:00HRS THE SUNDAY 11:00-13:00HRS TOP 20 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CAPITAL MICHEZONI 16:00-18:00HRS UKURASA WA MBELE 18:00-21:00HRS JIACHIE 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-01:00HRS LADHA LAINI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Climate shocks displace 1.85 million children in sub-Saharan Africa - study

NAIROBI

At least 1.85 million children in sub-Saharan Africa had been left displaced within their countries by climate-induced disasters at the end of 2022, a figure that has almost doubled in the past year, a global charity said on Monday.

Some of these children were displaced multiple times, while others only once, but all remained displaced from home at the end of the year, living in camps, with extended family, or other temporary arrangements, said Save the Children, a charity organization founded in London, citing data from the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre.

"When children lose their homes, they lose almost everything: their access to healthcare, education, food and safety," said Kijala Shako, head of Advocacy, Communications, Campaigns and Media for Save the Children's East and Southern Africa Regional Office, in a statement issued in Nairobi, the capital of Kenya.

Shako said she hopes that leaders

participating in the ongoing Africa Climate Summit in Nairobi would acknowledge that the climate crisis is having a disastrous impact on children's lives and response to children's needs and rights.

The charity said five failed rainy seasons in Somalia forced about 6.6 million people – or 39 percent of the population – into critical levels of hunger.

The number of new internal displacements throughout the year across sub-Saharan Africa in 2022 due to such disasters was also three times higher than the previous year, with 7.4 million new internal displacements during 2022 compared to 2.6 million in 2021, it said.

Save the Children said climate change is having a growing impact on the African continent, which has the smallest share of global greenhouse gas emissions of all the world's regions.

With the El Nino weather pattern taking hold, causing even more extreme weather events and pushing up global temperatures further, this figure would increase further this year, the organization said.



Kenyan President William Ruto (C, front) and other officials pose for a photo during the first day of the Africa Climate Summit in Nairobi on Monday.

Renewable energy has undeniable worth: Harnessing Tanzania's limitless natural potential

By Guardian Reporter

THE picturesque landscapes of Tanzania, from the sprawling Serengeti national Park to the imposing Mount Kilimanjaro, are a testament to its natural opulence. But beyond its globally renowned terrains lies another untapped treasure that holds the promise of redefining Tanzania's future: its rich reservoir of renewable energy sources.

The vast plains of Tanzania aren't just a testament to nature's beauty. They represent boundless solar, wind, and hydro potential. As a nation, we stand on the brink of a green energy revolution, notes Winnie Terry, CEO of TAMFI, capturing the sentiment that resonated during a landmark two-day forum in Dar es Salaam.

From the 4th to the 5th of September 2023, the Tanzanian capital played host to an alliance set to shape the nation's energy trajectory. The Tanzania Association of Microfinance Institutions (TAMFI) and the Tanzania Renewable Ener-

gy Association (TAREA) convened to devise a blueprint to make sustainable energy accessible to every Tanzanian corner.

Dr Matthew Matimbwi, Executive Secretary of TAREA, emphasized the tangible growth, stating, "When we say 30.4% of Tanzanian households are powered by solar energy, we're talking about real families, real homes, and real progress. These aren't just numbers. They are stories of hope and transformative change."

With the Tanzanian government's ambitious target of sourcing 50% of its electricity from renewable avenues by 2030, the imperative for collaborative action is evident. And the union of TAMFI and TAREA signals precisely that.

TAMFI, with its sterling legacy in microfinance, recognizes the inextricable link between finance and the realization of renewable projects.

Terry emphasized: "Without financial frameworks and institutions ready to back green initiatives, even the most ambitious renewable

goals remain mere aspirations."

On the other hand, TAREA, since its inception in 2000, has been a formidable advocate for sustainable energy. "We've always believed in a Tanzania powered by its natural resources. This collaboration signifies a future where Tanzanian homes and businesses aren't just powered by energy, but by sustainable, responsible energy," noted Dr. Matimbwi.

Fuelling the dialogues and discussions was an exhaustive study by FinScope Tanzania. Their data, which traces almost two decades of financial trends, offers a panoramic view of the nation's financial landscape and its latent potential.

"The FinScope data isn't just a repository of trends. It's a treasure trove of insights, underlining the transformative power of finance in the realm of renewable energy," observed a senior researcher from FinScope.

Amidst the discussions, the E-LICO Foundation and Don Bosco's initiatives garnered significant attention. Originally christened "Energy

and Livelihoods for Communities (E-LICO)", this non-profit organization embodies the spirit of sustainable transformation.

Tulibako Mwansasu, a representative from the E-LICO Foundation, elaborated on their mission, saying: "Our goal is simple yet profound: power up rural Africa. Whether it's through lending solar setups to farmers or introducing solar refrigerators in electricity-scarce zones, we're here to make a difference."

Mwansasu further highlighted their comprehensive approach: "It's not just about providing tools. It's about empowering our farmers, fishermen, and breeders with knowledge, ensuring that they can harness the power of renewable energy for their trades."

As the two-day forum concluded, there was an unmistakable air of optimism. This collaboration wasn't just a meeting of organizations, but a confluence of visions and ambitions, geared towards a brighter, sustainable Tanzanian future.

"The journey ahead is challenging but filled with promise. Togeth-

er, we can and will redefine Tanzania's energy story," asserted Terry, encapsulating the event's spirit.

Tanzania boasts a wealth of renewable resources that have the potential to significantly bolster its energy mix and economy. Here's a list of some of Tanzania's notable renewable riches:

Hydroelectric Power: Tanzania has abundant water resources, especially along the Rufiji River, where the Stiegler's Gorge Hydroelectric Power Station is located. This provides a huge potential for hydroelectric power generation.

Solar Energy: Being close to the equator, Tanzania receives ample sunlight throughout the year, which is conducive for solar power generation. There's significant potential for both photovoltaic (PV) and solar thermal energy production.

Wind Energy: Areas along the coast and in the highlands present good potential for wind energy. Makambako in the Njombe region and Singida are among places identified with significant wind resource-

es. **Geothermal Energy:** Tanzania sits on the East African Rift system, making it a promising region for geothermal exploration and exploitation. Regions like Mbeya, Dodoma, and Arusha show potential geothermal activities.

Biomass and Biogas: Given the country's vast agricultural production, there's significant potential for energy generation through the conversion of agricultural waste into biomass and biogas. This can also offer a sustainable solution for waste management.

Wave and Tidal Energy: Being a coastal nation along the Indian Ocean, Tanzania can tap into wave and tidal energy, although this potential is yet to be fully explored.

Biofuels: Tanzania has potential for biofuel production, especially with crops like sugarcane, palm oil, and jatropha. Sustainable farming practices are crucial, though, to ensure that biofuel production doesn't harm the environment or food security./sm

Zambian women harness hair braiding skills to earn a living

LUSAKA

HAIR-braiding skills have emerged as a powerful means of income generation for young women in Zambia in recent years.

This traditional art form, deeply rooted in African culture, has not only created employment opportunities but also offered financial independence for women in different parts of the country. Young women no longer see hair braiding as a mere passion or hobby but as a means to earn a living.

Among those who are benefiting from hair braiding skills is 27-year-old Judith Brown who specializes in sister locks braids, a hairstyle appreciated by those seeking to maintain a natural look.

Brown, who hails from Ndola, Copperbelt region of Zambia, has since turned part of her home into a salon and built a substantial loyal customer base through her social media platform called Judy's Sister Locks Zambia.

"I have always been passionate about braiding and styling hair and so I decided to teach myself how to do sisterlocks through online tutorials three years ago," she said.

According to Brown, the demand for hair braiding services has led to an increased interest in braiding techniques, opening up doors of opportunity for young women like her across the country. "I earn money to supplement the income of my household as well for savings," she said.

Barbara Phiri, 23, based in Lusaka, Zambia's capital, expressed her gratitude for the opportunity hair braiding has provided her.

Phiri who operates from Kamwala trading area of Lusaka said that she has been involved in hair braiding since she was a young teenager and the skill enabled her to pay her school fees among other things.

"The income I generate from hair braiding has not only allowed me to pay school fees but also invest in my future aspirations," she said, adding that she



A hairdresser braids a client's hair with synthetic hair extensions in Lusaka, Zambia

started braiding hair in 2015 as a hobby and now she earns an average of 150 Zambian Kwacha (about 7.5 U.S. dollars) per day from the skill.

Emily Nachalwe, who works from an open space within Railway Market in Kabwe town, central Zambia, said hair braiding is not only supplementing household incomes but also helping a lot of younger mothers out of poverty.

"I am able to provide (money) for the needs of children as well as for a few extended family members. My daily income is around 200 to 300 Zambian Kwacha," the mother of three said.

There are several braiding techniques that are currently in high demand among clients in Zambia. Most braiding styles involve adding extensions to the natural hair, thereby creating a thick look.

Zimbabwe opposition appeals to Ramaphosa as human rights lawyers detained

By Peter Fabricius

ON Monday evening, human rights lawyers Doug Coltart and Tapiwa Muchineripi were arrested by police at a Harare hospital and charged with obstructing the course of justice.

They were trying to help Citizens Coalition for Change (CCC) local councillor Womberaishe Nhende and CCC member Sonele Mukhuhlane – who had been abducted and tortured by armed thugs in Belvedere, Harare – on Saturday night and were being treated at the hospital.

Zanu-PF thugs are engaged in a brutal crackdown on opposition CCC members across the country in the wake of last week's election, according to the CCC.

CCC Senator David Coltart, who is Doug Coltart's father and also a human rights lawyer, has called on President Cyril Ramaphosa – who was one of very few leaders to attend Mnangagwa's inauguration on Monday – to condemn the assaults on CCC office bearers and supporters.

Coltart senior said Doug had told the police “these guys are not in a condition to make a statement”, referring to Nhende and Mukhuhlane. The police became aggressive and arrested them. Coltart said he had spoken to his son at midnight and he was ok. He had not been tortured or assaulted. He and Muchineripi were still in detention on Tuesday morning.

“I have received further reports this morning of some 200 CCC members who are in hiding in remote areas because of a general outburst of violence perpetrated by Zanu-PF thugs in retribution for the CCC's election victories.

“It's mainly third-tier, local CCC leadership which is being targeted, not national or provincial leaders.

“They did this in 1985 to Zapu and to MDC in 2008, whenever they have lost an election they have lashed out against opposition structures and they can get pretty brutal.”

Although Mnangagwa was officially declared the winner of the presidential election, beating CCC leader Nelson Chamisa and Zanu-PF officially beat the CCC in the legislative elections, the CCC has claimed widespread abuses.

Coltart said the international community, especially regional leaders like Ramaphosa who backed Zanu-PF had a duty to protect innocent people and to speak out against abuses like those meted out to Nhende and Mukhuhlane.

“While this sort of thing is happening Cyril Ramaphosa comes here, hail-fellow-well-met, slapping Mnangagwa's back for winning the election. If Ramaphosa doesn't speak out against this he will be complicit as he has a responsibility as a regional leader to speak out,” Coltart said.

Daily Maverick asked Ramaphosa's spokesperson for comment but he had not replied before publication.

Meanwhile, president Cyril Ramaphosa's early endorsement of Zimbabwe's general elections held on 23 August has sparked criticism from the latter's main opposition and some pro-democracy groups amid growing concerns of electoral fraud and post-election violence.

On Sunday, the Zimbabwe Economic Movement (ZEM) wrote to Ramaphosa and all leaders in the Southern African Development Community, as well as the African Union and the United Nations, complaining about the closure of the democratic space in Zimbabwe following polls that were condemned by the opposition and regional and international observers.

Ramaphosa is one of the few dignitaries who attended Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa's inauguration for a second term in Harare on Monday, where most regional leaders will not be present.

In a letter to Ramaphosa, ZEM founder Devine Mafa said Zimbabwe was at a crossroads following the disputed elections, and called for Ramaphosa and the rest of the international community to intervene.

“We find ourselves at a pivotal juncture where some leaders who should be champions of democracy and progress within our region are, at times, unintentionally or indirectly, lending support to a regime that has eroded the rule of law and pillaged our nation's resources,” he wrote.

“President Ramaphosa, while you rightfully attend to broader regional matters, we implore you to consider the plight of ordinary Zimbabweans living un-



Human rights lawyers Doug Coltart (L) and Tapiwa Muchineripi were arrested by police. Photos: Agencies

der an oppressive regime. It is disheartening that incidents such as Mr Mumba's recent departure receive less attention than they deserve. Zimbabwe's situation has deteriorated significantly and warrants immediate attention,” he added.

While Ramaphosa and a few regional leaders congratulated the veteran Zanu-PF leader after he was controversially declared the winner by the Zimbabwe Electoral Commission with a 52.6% win against his closest rival, Nelson Chamisa of the main opposition Citizens' Coalition for Change (CCC), on 44%, Mafa called on SADC leaders to take immediate action to ensure peace in Zimbabwe.

“As Zimbabweans, we find ourselves not only disillusioned but also increasingly imperilled. Repression is escalating, with abductions, killings, and acts of retribution becoming alarmingly commonplace under the cover of darkness. Those who dared to voice their concerns bear a heavy burden. The military's iron grip on our nation, coupled with its insatiable appetite for our resources, paints a bleak picture of our future. We earnestly appeal to Your Excellencies, President Ramaphosa, and esteemed leaders of SADC, to heed the information we have presented and leverage your collective influence and resources to usher in posi-

tive change in Zimbabwe. The people of Zimbabwe yearn for a brighter future, free from oppression and violence,” pleaded Mafa.

‘Retributive agenda’

The CCC has claimed that Zanu-PF functionaries have embarked on a retributive agenda, victimising its supporters in the countryside. A CCC youth leader, Womberaishe Nhende, was allegedly abducted together with a party colleague in Harare by suspected Zanu-PF functionaries and the duo was severely assaulted before being dumped several kilometres outside the capital. In Hurungwe West, the opposition claims that houses of its polling agents were set on fire by suspected Zanu-PF goons. Although these cases were reported, the opposition says the Zimbabwean police took no action.

Zimbabwe police spokesperson, Assistant Commissioner Paul Nyathi, said his force would investigate all cases brought before its attention.

“As the Zimbabwe Republic Police we are committed to ensuring that there is peace in the country. We are not going to tolerate any form of disorderly conduct or violence. We are going to arrest anyone who would be found to be on the wrong side of the law,” said Nyathi.

It was not clear whether Ramaphosa would use his visit to Zimbabwe to meet Chamisa following the disputed polls. Chamisa abandoned the legal route in his quest to set aside Mnangagwa's re-election, opting for “political and diplomatic” routes. He has since dispatched a team to meet regional leaders in his push for fresh polls.

CCC spokesperson Promise Mkwanzani told Daily Maverick that congratulatory messages from Ramaphosa and a few other regional leaders were too premature in the face of Mnangagwa's alleged electoral fraud.

“Those congratulatory messages (from a few SADC countries like South Africa and Botswana) are both premature and undermine the SEOM (SADC Election Observer Mission) process which is still under way. SADC cannot abandon the truth which is that there was no election in Zimbabwe and there is a need for fresh, free and fair elections,” said Mkwanzani.

However, Zanu-PF acting information director Farai Marapira said the opposition was good at peddling falsehoods.

“We are busy focusing on the inauguration. Why would we assault the people who voted for us overwhelmingly? That is cheap politics coming from people who lost in the elections,” said Marapira.

In the face of Zimbabwe's economic problems largely blamed on the political crisis, Mafa urged Ramaphosa to deal with Zimbabwe's electoral dispute if there was not going to be an influx of Zimbabweans in South Africa and other neighbouring countries. The huge number of Zimbabweans flocking into South Africa has in the past resulted in xenophobic attacks.

“Furthermore, we are deeply concerned about the ongoing suffering of Zimbabweans residing in South Africa. The dire situation in our homeland has compelled many to seek refuge abroad, and their safety is under constant threat. We kindly request your assistance in preventing further harm to Zimbabwean nationals residing in your country. The need for swift action to alleviate suffering and to ensure that Zimbabwe's potential is not squandered is imperative. We cannot stand idly by while our nation is held hostage by those who have forsaken their duty to serve the people,” said Mafa.

The CCC claimed that several hundreds of thousands of its supporters, especially in its urban strongholds, failed to vote on election day owing to the ZEC's bungling.

The prelude to the 23 August polls was characterised by violence and intimidation of opposition supporters in several parts of the country and other unfair practices, resulting in Douglas Mwonzora, leader of the Movement for Democratic Change formation, boycotting the polls and describing participation in those polls as foolish bravery.

International observers, including the SADC, noted that the opposition did not have access to the voters' roll before the election, among other anomalies, and concluded that the polls failed to meet the requirements of the country's constitution and electoral laws.



Two torture victims, councillor Womberaishe Nhende and CCC member Sonele Mukhuhlane, recover in hospital after being abducted and beaten. Photo: Twitter @TereaiSithole

DM

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

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM MATANGAZO 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM NEWS BULLETIN 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS NIHA YA LENO 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:10 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 23:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 23:05 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 07:00 AM MATANGAZO 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS NIHA YA LENO 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:10 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 23:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 23:05 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 07:00 AM MATANGAZO 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS NIHA YA LENO 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:10 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 23:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 23:05 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 07:00 AM MATANGAZO 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM HIJI NAZO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS NIHA YA LENO 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:10 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 23:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 23:05 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 07:00 AM MATANGAZO 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM HIJI NAZO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS NIHA YA LENO 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:10 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 23:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 23:05 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 07:00 AM MATANGAZO 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM HIJI NAZO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS NIHA YA LENO 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:10 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 23:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 23:05 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 07:00 AM MATANGAZO 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDZOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:00 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM HIJI NAZO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS NIHA YA LENO 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:10 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:05 HRS DAKIKA 45 23:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 23:05 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One **Radio One**

BUSINESS

Kilimo Trust new plan to cover 1.5m farmers in EA

By Guardian Reporter

A total of 1.5 million small holder farmers in Eastern African countries are expected to benefit from unveiled five year strategic plan (2023-2028) by Kilimo Trust, not-for-profit organization working on agriculture for development across the East Africa community.

The launch of the strategic plan, which went hand in hand with the review of the achievements of the organisation's ended plan (2018-2023) was held yesterday in Dar es Salaam on the sideline of the Agriculture Food System Forum (AGRF) which was opened yesterday by President Samia Suluhu Hassan.

Kilimo Trust Chief Executive Officer Dr Birungi Korutaro said the main objective of the plan is to enhance food security

and nutrition in the region, facilitate cross-border food commodities trade and job creation.

The number of beneficiaries is three times of farmers who benefited during the implementation of the 2018-2023 strategic plan.

The plan will also benefit 1,500 Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) involved in agriculture value chain from 532 reached during the ended strategic plan as well as create 12,000 jobs, nearly three times of those created during the implementation of the 2018-2023 strategic plan.

Dr Korutaro mentioned key focus areas of the new strategy as agricultural transformation and resilience, effective and efficient project implementation, resource mobilization and sustainability as well as operational efficiency.



Kilimo Trust Chief Executive Officer Dr Birungi Korutaro

Targeted stakeholders for the implementation of the strategy include small scale farmers, women, People Living with Disabilities (PLWD), youths, entrepreneurs, agribusiness and value chain actors and farmers institutions.

She said the new strategy is expected to benefit six countries including existing Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, Rwanda and South Sudan, as well as Ethiopia and Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) as new entrants. The strategy is centered on the capacity building and technical assistance, adoption of climate smart agriculture, access to finance and business develop-

ment services as well as fostering reliable access to markets. They are all targeting to overcome specific challenges facing farmers in the region.

Speaking on the achievements of the 2018-2023 strategic plan, the CEO said it has resulted into farmers access to sustainability and profitability by transforming lives through agribusiness.

However, access to finance, business development services and mechanization remain the major critical challenge facing smallholder farmers in the region.

Clement Shio, the acting assistant director, policy, research and innovations, the ministry of agriculture

said the implementation of Kilimo Trust strategic plan for 2023-2028 is in line with the government agriculture policies.

However, he said low yields remain the major challenge facing smallholder farmers in Tanzania due to lack of access to fertilizers, improved seeds, extension services and irrigation in a time when climate change remain a major concern in agricultural production.

He said the government has continued to implement various strategies including the newly launched Building Better Tomorrow (BBT), which are all targeting to enhance the country's food security and improved nutrition status.

He further said all agricultural policies implemented in Tanzania are aimed to ensure that the country has sufficient food reserves to cover at least six months of demand.

The ministry is currently building storage capacity, ensure reduced post-harvest losses, promote exports to boost foreign exchange earnings as well as strengthening cooperatives that will enable to smooth the provision of agricultural services such as access to finance and inputs, he explained.

"The ministry of ready to work with Kilimo Trust to align their objectives with the government policies," noted

Chinese ambassador reveals how BRICS attracts global attention

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE Chinese Ambassador to Tanzania Chen Mingjian has expressed three reasons why the BRICS has attracted worldwide attention and gained popularity among the developing World.

Ambassador Chen was reacting to the question from the Guardian newspaper as to why the BRICS cooperation has gained momentum in recent years.

She said the first reason was that the influence of BRICS countries on the world stage has been increasing continuously, especially in the United Nations, the World Trade Organization, G20 and other major multilateral organizations.

"In my views, there are mainly three reasons why the

BRICS cooperation has attracted worldwide attention and gained popularity among the developing countries," she said

She mentioned another reason, saying that the success of BRICS cooperation has greatly enhanced the confidence of developing countries in South-South cooperation, and encouraged them to join hands to advance the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The envoy said that thirdly, BRICS countries are committed to promoting constructive reforms of the existing international system.

According to the envoy, BRICS is a partnership, not an alliance, so you don't have chosen sides when you cooperate with BRICS countries.

The envoy said that due to



the above three reasons, many developing countries are eager to join the BRICS cooperation mechanism, and six of them have realized their goal to attain BRICS membership.

During the BRICS summit, the president of China, Xi Jinping attended and presided over the China-Africa Leaders' Dialogue, in which he once again got together with African leaders to discuss the development of China-Africa relations.

President Xi said "it is timely for us to hold this dialogue to exchange ideas and unite efforts in implementing the important consensus reached by Chinese and African leaders."

This year's summit objective was economic cooperation: encouraging trade, cooperation and growth among members, as well as improv-

ing BRICS economies' access to markets.

Development financing: Creating institutions such as the CRA and the NDB to finance infrastructure and development projects in member nations.

Deliberated under the theme "BRICS and Africa: Partnership for Mutually Accelerated Growth, Sustainable Development and Inclusive Multilateralism, this year's summit was held in South Africa.

During the summit, BRICS took the historic step of inviting six new countries for membership. The grouping of Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa will be joined by Saudi Arabia, Iran, Ethiopia, the United Arab Emirates, Argentina and Egypt as part of an expanded collective.

Tanzania to introduce weight-based cattle selling system

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo

THE government has prepared a new system for the sale of beef cattle in all auctions countrywide based in their weights and not estimated price as it is for now.

The system, which starts next month, will help livestock keepers and cattle traders to realise win-to-win benefits.

Currently, beef cattle are marketed through price negotiations between the sellers and buyers, based on 'eye- estimations'.

Pastoralists Association of Tanzania (PAT), Msafiri Mkunda, the Kongwa District Livestock Officer (DLO) said the ministry

of livestock has already distributed 80 cattle weighing facilities in different districts as part of implementation of new system.

"The government will freely place the cattle weighing devices at all auctions across the country. Before implementation, traders and farmers will be educated over the potential of using the system," Mkunda said.

He is optimistic that the new system will help to improve the sector through professional setting up of indicative prices in selling of beef cattle.

"The current system is unreliable, because the cattle are being sold at estimated prices," he added. He said under the new system, one kilogramme of live

cattle will be sold from between 3,000/- and 3,200/-, basing on the current prices.

"Experience proves that most of the beef cattle in auctions (the local breeds), are weighing 250 and 350Kg, whereby through the currently estimated prices format, they're sold from between 300,000 to 400,000, which is a low price compared to their actual values," he detailed.

Experience further shows that most of the countries that perform well in the beef cattle business are selling through weight system.

These include Brazil, Australia, the United States, India, Argentina, New Zealand and Canada. Tanzania has the third largest



livestock population in Africa, the second largest after Ethiopia.

But despite such endowment, the cattle farmers in the country are however lag behind to benefit from their executives, due to an array of reasons.

For instance, due to the on-going sig-

nificant diminishing of potential grazing areas, due to increasing population and activities as well as effects of climate change, livestock keepers in Tanzania are facing absence of health pastures to feed their cattle.

The Tanzania Livestock Research Insti-

tute (TALIRI) is working to develop and introduce hay bales (grass, legumes, and other herbaceous plants that have been cut and dried to be stored for use as animal fodder) to help easing availability of fodder for the livestock through the year.

However, the majority of local cattle keepers are still far away from benefiting from such useful services.

Moreover, despite increasing efforts to introduce crossbreeds cattle, the majority of cattle keepers are maintaining traditional cattle breeds (Short Horn Zebu).

The 2012/13 National Panel Survey, 50 per cent of all households keep livestock (4.6 million households), 62 percent of which are rural and 23 percent urban, with ownership patterns dominated by chickens (86pc households), goats (48pc), cattle (35pc), pigs (9pc) and other livestock 10 per cent.

Traditional breeds and processes dominate the Tanzania livestock sector with Tanzania short horn zebu is the most widespread cattle breed in the nation.

By Guardian Correspondent

Open University staff urged to build networks

THE Open University of Tanzania (OUT) staffs have been urged to develop and maintain dynamic relationships with several individuals and groups to better position themselves for competitive bids and increase consultancies that benefit them, the University and the community.

This was said by Deputy Vice-Chancellor, academic, research and consultancy of the Open University of Tanzania (OUT), Prof. Deus Ngaruko, when opening training on Basic Consultancy Management Skills for the university staff held recently.

The event was organized by the Directorate of Consultancy Services, at the university's headquarters in Kinondoni, Dar es Salaam as well as virtually.

Prof Ngaruko said that consultancies are a requirement for all university personnel as indicated in

our University rolling strategic plan, as there are several ways to secure them, including the commitment of different resources.

However, he said, networking also contributes highly to the possibility of attracting and winning the bid. Occasionally, we may partner with them in some related activities.

"Despite playing a vital role in academic and non-academic staff endeavours, consulting demonstrates the University's existence and competitiveness," Professor Ngaruko explained.

He also said OUT has the best opportunity to conduct research and consultancy everywhere in the country due to its presence countrywide, so the directors of regional centres and their staffs have a great chance to seek consultancies in their respective areas while teaming with



everyone else.

Closing the training, after issuing certificates to participants, on behalf of the Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Planning, Finance, and Administration (DVC-PFA), Prof. George Oreku, the director of hu-

man resources management, OUT, Francis Badundwa, congratulated participants for their participation in this training that also contributes to their OPRAS, and that management expects to observe changes and catch sight of the increase in

consultancies activities.

"Management believes you've improved knowledge, skills, and attitude in this area; they expect your activeness in doing consultancies that benefit the community, the University, and yourself," said Badundwa.

The manager, Consultancy Bureau, the University of Dar es Salaam, who one of the facilitators in this training, Dr Hezron Makundi, said that the Open University of Tanzania's staff can leverage consultancy opportunities using the knowledge and experience exchanged, including profiling themselves and bidding appropriately.

Dr Emmanuel Mallya, the director of the Open University Consultancy Bureau (OCB), in his presentation and discussion, emphasized time management in consulting activities

and writing competitive proposals and convincing reports together with attractive presentations.

The one-day training that was organized by the Directorate of Consultancy Services (DCS) of the Open University of Tanzania for all OUT staff attracted 47 participants onsite and up to 100 online participants over Zoom.

The training aimed at imparting knowledge on basic consultancy management skills, which included consulting concepts and processes, scheduling of activities, resource mobilization, bidding skills, time management, technical proposal writing, report writing, and presentation skills.

The training facilitators were Dr. Emmanuel Mallya from OUT and Dr. Hezron Makundi from UDSM, chaired by Dr Edephonce Nfuwa, Director of Consultancy Services at OUT.

SPECIAL REPORT:

When anti-poverty grant fails to end rural poverty

By Francis Kajubi, Kisarawe

IT is 6.20am on Saturday when Athumani Mkalule (65), resident of Chale village, Kisarawe district in Coast region wakes up for morning ablutions.

Five minutes later Mkalule carried a hoe and a machete to Lukando hamlet, three kilometers away from Chale for farming activities.

It takes three hours by bus drive from Kisarawe town to Chale village.

Mkalule owns a six acre land, which he grows cassava, sweet potatoes, yams, legumes and maize.

He lives in a four room mud house with no electricity and usually works on his farm nine hours a day, while his 48 years old wife handles household activities.

A father of nine, four of them being under 18 years old; Mkalule and his family are still struggling with poverty.

His two daughters are married and his three sons are struggling in Dar es Salaam streets to make a living.

Being a beneficiary of Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) grants in two decades, Mkalule is yet to afford three meals a day.

"My five children didn't join secondary school due to poverty. I didn't manage to provide them what they needed to stay in school," said Mkalule.

According to him, he used to receive 54,000/- primary student grants after every two months as of 2014, but he now receives 24,000/-.

But receipts seen by the reporter shows that for March and April 2023, he received 124,000/-.

Of this amount, 24,000/- is a two-months primary student grant, 10,000/- is a two-months general under 18 grant and 90,000/- is a three-months' payment for public works programme (PWP).

"I work for 3,000/- three hours a day, ten days a month on TASAF's street road projects. We are supposed to be paid after every 30 days, but it normally goes up to 90 days," said Mkalule.

With 24,000/-, it means that every monthly payment is 12,000/-. If divided among four Mkalule's children it means every child is allocated with 3,000/- a month which is equivalent to 100/- a day.

As of 10,000/- it means 5,000/- a month where each child is allocated with 1,250/- a month an equivalent of 41.66/- a day.

"I need a minimum of 5,000/- and a maximum of 7,000/- for daily household needs. I'm supposed to be paid 34,000/- in total only for the children if I don't work in PWP projects. Is this what you call uplifting people from poverty?" he questioned.

According to him, he doesn't have a poultry farm or livestock. He also works for other people's farms on meager earnings.

"It has been almost 20 years since I became a TASAF grantee and I'm still poor. I know I have no right to question donated money but TASAF grants should transform our livelihoods," he added.

Rajabu Saidi, Chale village chairperson admitted that TASAF grants are not likely to uplift people from poverty.

"TASAF officials have been telling us to encourage people to form economic groups and establish income generating activities. With these meager grants how is it possible? We have asked them to form two beneficiary groups and lend them 25mn/- each for establishing drip irrigation projects along the Kwa Bola perennial stream but they said the Fund doesn't operate that way," asserted Saidi.

According to him, there are 24 TASAF beneficiaries in Chale village. They are supposed to establish collective income generating activities from grants they receive.

"Let's assume that each beneficiary receives a minimum of 120,000/- six months a year which makes 720,000/-. As for 24 Chale village beneficiaries it is 17,280,000/-. Why not invest this money in a sustainable project?" questioned Saidi.

Reports show that income poverty is declining. The government's intervention through TASAF is yet to alleviate it 23 years on since 2000.

Income poverty slightly declined to 25.7 percent in 2020 from 26.4 percent in 2018 according to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS).

The government through TASAF has been allocating an average annual budget worth over 1trn/- through Tanzania Poverty Reduction Project (TPRP) and the Productive Social Safety Net (PSSN II) project that targets at facilitation of families living under extreme poverty.

TASAF grants are sourced from various financiers including the central government, UN Agencies, Open Fund for International Development (OFID), and the World Bank.

TASAF beneficiaries are categorized into five age groups namely zero days to two years, three to five years, six to eighteen years, 19 to 60 years and 61 years and above.

However, TASAF annual reports show that between January and December 2022 a total of 1,371,038 households with 6,596,820 beneficiaries were reached with TASAF grants. That is to say every household had a maximum of five beneficiaries.

Reports show that between January and December 2022 a sum of 1.312trn/- was disbursed through cash transfer to the 1,371,038 households.

With the 1.312trn/- it means that every household received 956,939/-. For the 6,596,820 beneficiaries it means that every beneficiary received 198,883/- that year.

However, for a family with a maximum of five members the disbursed funds translates that every beneficiary was allocated with 39,777/- that year.

Reports further shows that of the total beneficiaries in 2022, about 3,240,199 were male, while female were 3,356,621. However, of the male beneficiaries, 116,461 aged between zero and two years.

211,155 beneficiaries aged between three and five, 1,465,103 aged between six and 18 years, 1,039,249 aged between 19 and 60 years while 408,231 beneficiaries aged 61 years and above.

Of the female beneficiaries, 105,025 aged between



Athumani Mkalule listens to a radio

zero and two years, 185,038 aged between three and five, 1,192,722 aged between six and 18 years, 1,196,722 aged between 19 and 60 while 677,119 aged 61 years and above.

On the other hand, between January and December 2021 a total of 1,279,433 households with 6,396,520 beneficiaries were reached. TASAF disbursed 1.048trn/- that year.

Of the total beneficiaries, 3,150,186 were male while female were 3,246,434. Reports clarify that the increment of beneficiaries in 2022 was due to the introduction of 7,217 new villages with 200,194 beneficiaries.

During the two years under review, TASAF reports show that a total of 222,486 beneficiaries aged between zero and two years (3.4 percent) were reached.

396,188 aged three to five years (six percent), 2,657,825 aged six to 18 years (40.6 percent), 2,235,971 aged 19 to 60 years (33.9 percent) and 1,085,350 beneficiaries aged 61 years and above (16.1 percent).

The above figures show that youths and adults who are energetic to work and earn legit income dominated the stake of TASAF beneficiaries overshadowing children under five years old and elders aged 60 years and above.

Interviewed people are calling upon the central government to invest TASAF funds into serious sustainable income generating projects.

Hermence Christopher, Barrick North Mara Community Relations Superintendent told the reporter recently in Tarime district that funds extended through TASAF are most likely not to uplift people from extreme poverty but assisting them to afford household needs that often doesn't last longer.

For instance, he argued, Barrick Gold Corporation has between January and June 2023 invested 120mn/- through corporate social responsibility (CSR) on a drip irrigation farming project.

The project is intended to facilitate host communities, especially youths to engage in alternative economic activities instead of engaging themselves into illegal mining around the North Mara site.

Christopher said the Agribusiness Development Project in Horticulture implemented on a ten acre land has benefited 50 youths from four villages of Nyabichune, Nyangoto, Matongo and Mjini Kati in Tarime district.

The project, he asserted, has seen the 50 youths generating 70mn/- from fruits and vegetable sales to North Mara mining site and the district market in a space of six months.

"Every young man and lady in this project is likely to generate at least 200,000/- a month from sales of horticulture products," he said.

The Agriculture ministry budget speech for 2023/24 shows that as of April 2023 the irrigated area increased to 727,281 hectares of the targeted 1.2 million hectares come

2025.

It states that during the 2022/23 fiscal year 48 irrigation scheme projects worth 234.13bn/- were initiated by the ministry on 58,807 hectares countrywide.

The ongoing projects are implemented in 15 regions, 31 districts and 32 provinces. The implementation of the projects has by April 2023 generated 298,835 direct and indirect jobs mostly to youths and women.

That is to say each irrigation scheme of the 48 projects has created jobs for 6,226 people of whom the majority is youths and women.

However, the 234.13bn/- investment in the 48 irrigation scheme projects by the Agriculture ministry means that each project fetched 4.875bn/-.

In this regard, the 1.312trn/- which was in 2022 disbursed by TASAF to serve poor households would have been invested in six irrigation scheme projects worth 234.13bn/- each.

As of the 120mn/- CSR investment in a horticulture drip irrigation project by Barrick Gold Corporation in Tarime district that have benefited 50 youths, the 1.312trn/- disbursement by TASAF to poor families would have been used to develop 11 horticulture drip irrigation projects worth 120mn/- each.

In this case, the 11 drip irrigation projects would have employed 550 people. This is only for 2022 disbursement.

Possibilities are the same investments can also be done in the fisheries sector. The ministry of Fisheries and Livestock budget speech for 2023/24 states that the fisheries sector had employed 197,763 fishermen as of April 2023.

However, 34,057 people were employed in the aquaculture sub-sector, up from 31,998 people in April 2022. As a matter of fact 4.5 million people are employed in the fisheries sector value chain.

Private farms for growing fingerlings had increased to 32,878 from 31,407. Fish cages in the lakes had topped 993 from 780.

The speech shows that through Tanzania Agriculture Development Bank (TADB) the government had in 2022/23 disbursed loans worth 3.35bn/- to three fish cage projects implemented in Coast and Mara regions. The projects are estimated to have employed 400 permanent workers.

In this regard, the 1.312trn/- TASAF grants disbursement in 2022 would have facilitated the development of 437 fish cage projects worth 3.35bn/- each.

If each project was to offer 400 permanent jobs, a total of 174,800 people would have been employed.

The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) National Economic Status Report for 2022 shows that TASAF has facilitated the establishment of 43,302 savings and lending groups with 587,397 active members countrywide during that year.

To run these groups, each member of the groups donates a certain amount annually basically from funds obtained from TASAF grants. Breaking down the figures, that is to say each group has 14 members.

The NBS report shows that all groups had a total collective savings worth 7.9bn/- as of December 2022 that means each group had a stake of 184,749/-.

Distributing the 184,749/- to 14 members means each of them had an annual contribution of 13,196/- during 2022. One may argue that this amount is way low to be invested in a project that can hardly employ 10 people.

According to NBS, in 2021, TASAF had registered 30,648 savings and lending groups with 421,353 members. That is to say each group had a maximum of 14 members. The groups had collective savings worth 6.2bn/-.

In this regard, each group had a share worth 195,771/- from the total savings. For a group with 14 members the amount means that each of the members had an annual contribution of 13,983/-.

NBS states that the majority members of these groups are employed in the agriculture sector, pastoralism, poultry and micro-businesses.

According to the Human Development Report 2022 by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Tanzania was ranked at number 160 in 2021 of the 191 countries. However, Tanzania was ranked number 163 in 2019.

According to a study on the contribution of community development initiatives dubbed 'TASAF project in poverty reduction: The case of Urban West Region in Zanzibar-Tanzania 2011' by Naimu Pandu a graduate of masters' degree of Arts in Rural Development at Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), finance management illiteracy is among challenges facing the majority TASAF beneficiaries.

The selected sample for the study consisted of 120 respondents of whom 68 (57 percent) were male and 52 (43 percent) were female.

The age of the respondents ranged from 30 years and above with 78 percent aged between 31 and 44 years, 18 percent aged 45 and 60 years while four percent aged above 61 years.

The findings indicate that the majority of the respondents who participated in TASAF projects are energetic middle aged with an average of 50 years.

It states that these people fall in the category of the economically active group. Respondents' level of education ranged from primary, secondary to college education.

"Results show that only 28 percent of TASAF beneficiaries received orientation training on human capital development issues leaving the 72 percent untrained in 2011;

TASAF training on finance management was not enough to assist beneficiaries to effectively implement their income generation projects," reads the study results in part.

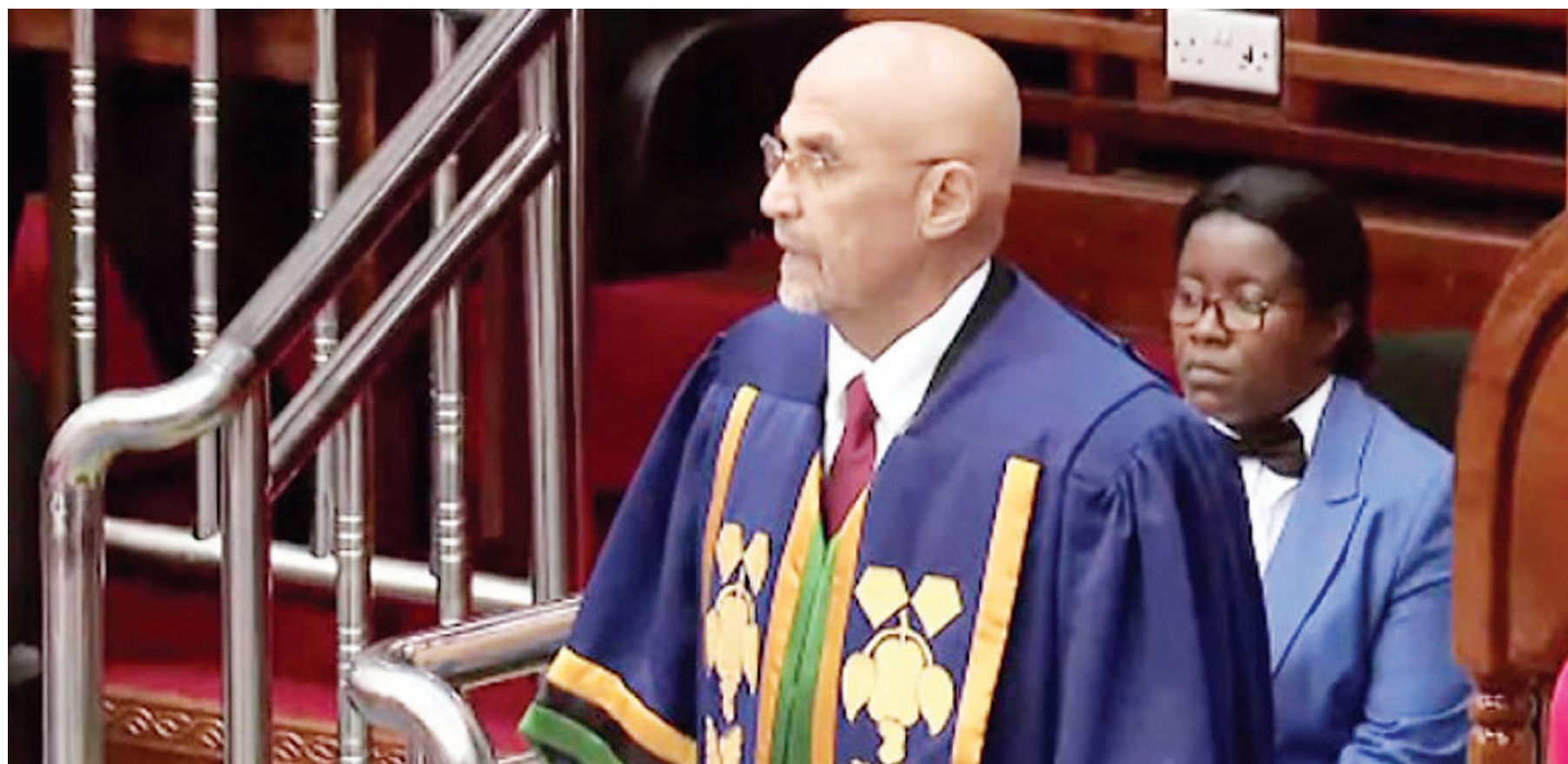
But TASAF reports state that there are training sessions prior to funds disbursement. For instance, between January and March 2023 a total of 11,137 beneficiaries were trained on livelihood basic skills and were facilitated to develop business plans for their identified income generating activities.

The Controller and Auditor General (CAG) report on development projects for 2021/22 reveals that TASAF did not disburse 651.85mn/- which was approved to be allocated to the implementation of nine project area authorities (PAA) in Ludewa and Makete districts in Njombe region.

"The funds were intended to benefit 186 people from most vulnerable households," reads the report.

To be continued next week

Zungu calls for special laws to promote local content



By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

DEPUTY speaker of Parliament Mussa Hassan Zungu has called for formulation of policies that will facilitate participation of local entrepreneurs in economic development.

Speaking at the graduation ceremony for Stanbic Bank's Biashara Incubator (SBI) Zungu (pictured) said there is a need of formulating policies and legislations that favour the participation of Tanzanians Small and Medium Enterprises (SMES) especially those with expertise.

The programme which is being operated by the National Economic Empowerment Council (NEEC) aims at empowering SMEs to access tenders and participate in businesses.

"I am impressed with the kind of collaboration between the public and private sector in stimulating economic activities to bring about inclusive development and allow SMEs to access resources," he said.

He said efforts to empower SMEs helps to expand markets, create job opportunities and increase the participation of small scale businesses in strategic projects.

The deputy speaker called for scaling up of the incubator which he said may turn out to be a game changer in the business development sub-sector.

In his remarks, Stanbic Bank's Managing Director Manzi

Rwegasira said SMEs are the lifeblood of any thriving economy adding that they are the seeds of innovation, the engines of growth, and the catalysts of job creation adding however that, the journey of an entrepreneur is often strewn with obstacles - limited resources, lack of access to knowledge, and the challenges of scaling up.

"We started the Stanbic Biashara Incubator because we believe in the transformative power of entrepre-

neurship, by empowering these businesses, we are investing in the future of our community, we are igniting a ripple effect that extends far beyond individual enterprises - one that stimulates economic growth, creates employment opportunities, and builds a stronger, resilient economy," he said.

He said the bank recognizes the power that lies in fostering Public-Private Partnerships (PPPs) to

achieve even greater strides, adding that the private sector is a catalyst for the growth of any economy.

"The Supplier Development Programme from which the 100 businesses are graduating from today, is a partnership between Stanbic Bank Tanzania and (NEEC), this partnership between the government and the private sector is crucial, more so when the partner has regional and international connections," he said.

ECB says consumer inflation expectation edged up in July

BRUSSELS

CONSUMER expectations for euro-area inflation inched up in July, remaining above the European Central Bank's 2 percent target as officials ponder whether to hike or hold interest rates next week.

Expectations for the next 12 months failed to slow, staying at 3.4 percent, the ECB said Tuesday in its monthly survey. For three years ahead, they rose to 2.4 percent from 2.3 percent.

The results are the last major piece of price data before a Sept. 14 announcement that President Christine Lagarde has said will either extend or pause the ECB's unprecedented campaign of monetary tightening.

Numbers last week showed underlying inflation - a metric officials have been watching keenly - slowed in August, though the headline number held steady. At 5.3 percent, both are significantly above the ECB's 2 percent goal.

Money markets maintained tightening wagers, placing one-in-four odds on a rate increase to 4 percent next week while 15 basis points of hikes are priced by the year-end peak. ECB Chief Economist Philip Lane offered a cautiously optimistic take on prices earlier Tuesday, saying slowing in goods and services gauges are welcome and that underlying pressures will keep weakening.

"We do expect to see this famous core inflation come down throughout the autumn," he told Irish website the Currency. "I would underline the fact that there has been some easing in goods inflation and services inflation, which is a welcome development."

Even so, ECB Governing Council member Pierre Wunsch signaled at the weekend that another increase in the deposit rate - currently 3.75 percent - may be warranted.

"I'm inclined to say we maybe need to do a little bit more," the hawkish Belgian central bank governor said, adding that the "idea that we'll have to come to a pause at a certain point can't be excluded."

With some policymakers fretting about the prospects for the euro zone's 20-nation economy as rates rise, the ECB's poll revealed consumers have become a touch more negative, too.

Foreigners buy Sh668m NSE shares in August

NAIROBI

FOREIGN investors turned net buyers in the Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE) in August having purchased shares worth Sh668.4 million, according to market data, reversing a net selling position of Sh2.8 billion in July.

This marks the second positive month of portfolio inflows from foreigners this year - a rare outcome under depressed market conditions which have seen them dump stocks in emerging and frontier markets in favour of safe haven assets.

The positive flows largely point to returning interest by foreign investors in the NSE after their purchase of stocks worth Sh113 million earlier in June.

Foreign investor net cash flows however remain negative on a year-to-date basis with the foreigners having disposed of stocks worth Sh16.5 billion so far in 2023.

June's positive inflows ended a 15-month run of outflows by foreigners going back to March last year.

The portfolio flows are nevertheless expected to remain under pressure for the remainder of the year based on negative market sentiment.

"We expect further foreign investor sell-offs in the second half of 2023, albeit at a slower rate, driven by continued negative investor sentiment on emerging and frontier markets as well as a negative local currency outlook. The continued hiking of benchmark rates in developed markets has made returns more attractive and this is likely to drive further foreign exits," noted analysts at AIB-AXYS Africa.

The equities market continued to trend downwards in August with the Nairobi All Share Index, NSE 20 and NSE 25 indexes contracting further by 5.9, 2.4 and 5.5 percent respectively.

The year-to-date performance of the three indexes meanwhile stands at losses of 22.9, 8.2 and 18.3 percent respectively.

The performance of the market has been partly driven by losses recorded in blue chips including Safaricom, Equity Group and Bamburi.

Foreign investors have been net sellers in the market over the past three years, recording outflows of Sh28.6 billion in 2020 and Sh10.2 billion and Sh24.4 billion in 2021 and 2022, respectively.

The downturn in the market, alongside the foreigners' exits, has left behind sharply discounted stock prices with the market trading at steep price-to-earnings discounts.

Despite holding modest levels of stocks at the NSE, foreign investors are usually pivotal to the pricing of equities based on their high turnover level.

According to data from the NSE, the average foreign investor's participation in the second quarter of 2023 was 44.95 percent from 41.24 percent in the quarter ended March.

ITV PGM SCHEDULE		THURSDAY 7 Sept		SATURDAY 9 Sept	
MONDAY 4 Sept	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	5:00 Meza huru	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI	6:00 HABARI	6:00 HABARI	6:00 Kijana	6:00 HABARI	6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha	6:40 Kumekucha	6:40 Kumekucha	6:40 Jiji Letu	6:40 Kumekucha	6:40 Kumekucha
7:30 HABARI	7:30 HABARI	7:30 HABARI	7:30 Our Earth	7:00 HABARI	7:00 HABARI
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:00 Kipindi maalum: Soka Bet	8:00 Al Jazeera	8:00 Al Jazeera
8:55 Habari za saa	8:55 Habari za saa	8:55 Habari za saa	8:55 Shamba lulu	8:00 Al Jazeera	8:00 Al Jazeera
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:00 Soap: In Love with Ramon	9:00 Watoto wetu	9:00 Watoto wetu
9:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt	9:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt	9:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt	9:30 Kijana Jobo	10:05 Shika Bamba 5	10:05 Shika Bamba 5
9:55 Habari za saa	9:55 Habari za saa	9:55 Habari za saa	10:05 Habari za saa	10:35 Mjuzi Zaidi rpt	10:35 Mjuzi Zaidi rpt
10:00 Watoto wetu	10:00 Watoto wetu	10:00 Watoto wetu	10:05 Meza huru	11:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt	11:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt
10:55 Habari za saa	10:55 Habari za saa	10:55 Habari za saa	11:00 Ripoti maalum rpt	11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo	11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo
11:00 ITV Top Ten	11:00 ITV Top Ten	11:00 ITV Top Ten	11:55 Habari za saa	12:50 Usafiri wako	12:50 Usafiri wako
11:55 Habari za saa	11:55 Habari za saa	11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:50 Art and Lifestyle	12:50 Art and Lifestyle
12:00 Al Jazeera	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:00 Al Jazeera	13:00 Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt	13:00 Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt
12:30 Jungu Kuu	12:30 Jungu Kuu	12:30 Jungu Kuu	12:30 Our Earth	13:50 Igizo: Mizegwe	13:50 Igizo: Mizegwe
12:55 Habari za saa	12:55 Habari za saa	12:55 Habari za saa	13:30 Shamba lulu	14:00 Igizo: Slay Queen	14:00 Igizo: Slay Queen
13:00 Mjuzi Zaidi	13:00 Mjuzi Zaidi	13:00 Mjuzi Zaidi	13:30 Habari za saa	14:00 Shamesham za Pwani	14:00 Shamesham za Pwani
13:40 Art and Lifestyle	13:40 Art and Lifestyle	13:40 Art and Lifestyle	14:00 Meza huru	14:55 Habari za saa	14:55 Habari za saa
13:55 Habari za saa	13:55 Habari za saa	13:55 Habari za saa	14:00 Watoto wetu	15:00 Meza huru	15:00 Meza huru
14:00 Art and Lifestyle	14:00 Art and Lifestyle	14:00 Art and Lifestyle	14:00 Soap: In Love with Ramon	16:30 Watoto Wetu	16:30 Watoto Wetu
14:15 Soap rpt: Slay Queen	14:15 Soap rpt: Slay Queen	14:15 Soap rpt: Slay Queen	14:00 Habari	17:00 Jiji Letu	17:00 Jiji Letu
14:55 Habari za saa	14:55 Habari za saa	14:55 Habari za saa	14:00 Habari	17:00 Music: The Base	17:00 Music: The Base
15:00 Meza huru	15:00 Meza huru	15:00 Meza huru	14:00 Habari	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:00 Jiji Letu
16:30 Watoto Wetu	16:30 Watoto Wetu	16:30 Watoto Wetu	14:00 Habari	18:15 Mjuzi Zaidi	18:15 Mjuzi Zaidi
17:00 Music: The Base	17:00 Music: The Base	17:00 Music: The Base	14:00 Habari	18:30 Jajina	18:30 Jajina
18:00 Jiji Letu	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:00 Jiji Letu	14:00 Habari	19:00 Kumekucha Michezo	19:00 Kumekucha Michezo
18:15 Igizo: Mizegwe	18:15 Igizo: Mizegwe	18:15 Igizo: Mizegwe	14:00 Habari	8:55 Habari za saa	8:55 Habari za saa
18:30 DW: Afrimax	18:30 DW: Afrimax	18:30 DW: Afrimax	14:00 Habari	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
19:00 Alya ya Jamii	19:00 Alya ya Jamii	19:00 Alya ya Jamii	14:00 Habari	9:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon	9:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon
19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon	19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon	19:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon	14:00 Habari	9:55 Habari za saa	9:55 Habari za saa
20:00 Habari	20:00 Habari	20:00 Habari	14:00 Habari	10:00 Watoto wetu	10:00 Watoto wetu
21:05 Dakika 45	21:05 Dakika 45	21:05 Dakika 45	14:00 Habari	10:25 Jungu kuu rpt	10:25 Jungu kuu rpt
22:00 Bundesliga na DW	22:00 Bundesliga na DW	22:00 Bundesliga na DW	14:00 Habari	10:55 Habari za saa	10:55 Habari za saa
22:15 Mjuzi Zaidi	22:15 Mjuzi Zaidi	22:15 Mjuzi Zaidi	14:00 Habari	11:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt	11:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt
22:30 Soap: Uzalo	22:30 Soap: Uzalo	22:30 Soap: Uzalo	14:00 Habari	11:55 Habari za saa	11:55 Habari za saa
23:00 Habari	23:00 Habari	23:00 Habari	14:00 Habari	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:00 Al Jazeera
23:30 Music: The Base	23:30 Music: The Base	23:30 Music: The Base	14:00 Habari	12:30 Bundesliga na DW rpt	12:30 Bundesliga na DW rpt
00:30 Al Jazeera	00:30 Al Jazeera	00:30 Al Jazeera	14:00 Habari	13:00 Habari za saa	13:00 Habari za saa
02:00 DWTV	02:00 DWTV	02:00 DWTV	14:00 Habari	13:55 Habari za saa	13:55 Habari za saa
TUESDAY 5 Sept	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	5:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo	14:00 Habari	14:00 Kumekucha Michezo	14:00 Kumekucha Michezo
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	14:00 Habari	14:00 Kumekucha Michezo	14:00 Kumekucha Michezo
6:00 HABARI	6:00 HABARI	6:00 HABARI	14:00 Habari	14:00 Kumekucha Michezo	14:00 Kumekucha Michezo
6:40 Kumekucha	6:40 Kumekucha	6:40 Kumekucha	14:00 Habari	14:00 Kumekucha Michezo	14:00 Kumekucha Michezo
7:30 HABARI	7:30 HABARI	7:30 HABARI	14:00 Habari	14:00 Kumekucha Michezo	14:00 Kumekucha Michezo
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	14:00 Habari	14:00 Kumekucha Michezo	14:00 Kumekucha Michezo
8:55 Habari za saa	8:55 Habari za saa	8:55 Habari za saa	14:00 Habari	14:00 Kumekucha Michezo	14:00 Kumekucha Michezo
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	14:00 Habari	14:00 Kumekucha Michezo	14:00 Kumekucha Michezo
9:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon	9:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon	9:30 Soap: In Love with Ramon	14:00 Habari	14:00 Kumekucha Michezo	14:00 Kumekucha Michezo
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WORLD



US President Joe Biden and first lady Jill Biden walk to board Air Force One for departure at Gainesville Regional Airport after surveying damage caused by Hurricane Idalia, Sept 2, 2023, in Gainesville, Fla. AP

Jill Biden positive for COVID, President Biden tests negative

WASHINGTON

US first lady Jill Biden has tested positive for COVID-19 just days before President Joe Biden, who tested negative for the virus, is due to travel to a Group of 20 summit in India, the White House said on Monday.

Biden's 72-year-old wife, whose symptoms were described as mild, last had COVID in August of last year. The president, now 80, last tested positive in July 2022.

"This evening, the First Lady tested positive for COVID-19," her communications director, Elizabeth Alexander, said in a statement. "She will remain at their home in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware."

Biden flew back alone from Delaware on Monday evening.

"Following the First Lady's positive test for COVID-19, President Biden was administered a COVID test this evening," the White House said. "The Presi-

dent tested negative. The President will test at a regular cadence this week and monitor for symptoms."

The White House did not immediately respond to a request for comment on whether Biden's foreign travel could be affected.

But Biden's official week-ahead schedule, released shortly after the announcement of the first lady's diagnosis, showed him traveling to New Delhi on Thursday to attend the G20 summit. Biden is scheduled to fly to Hanoi on Sunday.

Biden is running for re-election in 2024 in a campaign in which the question about his age has loomed as a key issue for voters.

He is the oldest president to seek a second term, and some Republicans have said he is too old to be given another four years in the White House.

Biden's allies say he remains fit to serve as president.

Agencies

WFP cuts rations to 2 million Afghans as funds dry up

The UN World Food Programme (WFP) had to cut rations to another 2 million Afghans this month and is warning of a "catastrophic" winter if funding runs out with little food for remote communities in place, the agency's country director said.

The cut in rations comes amidst growing alarm over shrinking aid for Afghanistan, where a UN humanitarian response plan is only about a quarter funded, even after the budget was downgraded in the face of funding shortfalls.

WFP funding for food and cash assistance is expected to run out by the end of October and the agency has had to steadily cut assistance through the year to 10 million Afghans.

The positioning of food to areas that will be cut off in winter has also been limited. The WFP said if no funding comes through, 90 percent of remote areas in need will be cut off without food and even in accessible locations, people will get no supplies during the harsh weather.

"That is the catastrophe that we have to avert," WFP Afghanistan Country Director Hsiao-Wei Lee told Reuters.

About three-quarters of Afghanistan's people are in need of humanitarian aid as their country emerges from decades of conflict under the Taliban administration that took over as US-backed foreign forces withdrew

in 2021.

Development assistance that for years formed the backbone of government finances has been cut and the administration is subject to sanctions and central bank assets abroad have been frozen.

Restrictions by the Taliban on women, including stopping most female Afghan humanitarian staff from working, are an obstacle to formal recognition and have also put off donors, many of whom have turned their attention to other humanitarian crises.

"What I do in my engagements with them is remind them that at the end of the day, we must focus on those who are most in need," Lee said of donors.

"The cost of inaction is ultimately borne and paid for by the most vulnerable and poor mothers and children.

Lifeline

Almost 20 percent of the people the WFP helps are women heading households who Lee said were getting more desperate as the restrictions on women and the economic crisis meant they had fewer ways of earning.

"WFP is often the last lifeline for those who don't have other options," Lee said.

"It's extremely difficult not only for myself but for our team to have to explain to mothers that we can't help them."

Agencies

Teachers in South Korea hold mass protests over high-pressure on education system

SEOUL

HUNDREDS of thousands of teachers are demonstrating in South Korea following the suspected suicide of a teacher, which has been widely blamed on the load placed on educators in the country, CNN reported.

Angry teachers claim they are subjected to unreasonable requests and even harassment from angry parents, and they are seeking legislative reform and more protections.

According to CNN, up to 200,000 demonstrators took part in a rally on Saturday. According to

organisers, an estimated 50,000 teachers halted work and assembled in the capital on Monday to remember the death of the teacher, despite officials' early warnings that striking would be considered "illegal."

According to an August release from the country's Education Ministry and the Seoul Metropolitan Office of Education, who conducted an inquiry into the incident, the teacher had taught first grade homeroom at the Seo primary school in Seoul and died on campus on July 18. They did not identify the teacher.

ANI

COP28 president: World losing race to meet climate goals

NAIROBI

THE world is losing the race to meet its climate change goals, the president of the upcoming COP28 climate summit said yesterday, as African presidents gathered in Kenya to discuss how to fund the continent's environmental agenda.

The grim assessment by Sultan Al Jaber, who will preside over the summit in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in late November, came three days before the United Nations publishes its first "global stocktake", an assessment of how nations are doing in their efforts to tackle climate change.

"We are not delivering the results that we need in the time that we need them," Jaber, who also heads the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company, told delegates at the inaugural Africa Climate Summit in Kenya's capital, Nairobi.

The summit, which opened on Monday, is focused on mobilising financing for Africa's response to climate change.

"We are not delivering the results that we need in the time that we need them," Jaber, who also heads the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company, told delegates at the inaugural Africa Climate Summit in Kenya's capital, Nairobi.

Specifically, African states plan to



Houses are submerged in flood waters in Blantyre, Malawi, March 14, 2023. File photo

While Africa is suffering from some of the most severe impacts of climate change, the continent only receives about 12 percent of the financing it needs to cope, according to researchers.

Hundreds of millions of dollars of investments in sustainable development projects were announced on Monday, and on Tuesday Jaber announced the UAE was pledging \$4.5 billion dollars to develop 15 GW of clean power in Africa by 2030.

Africa currently has about 60 GW of installed renewables capacity.

African officials say the investments are welcome but that meeting the continent's financing needs will require a transformation of the global climate financing architecture.

Specifically, African states plan to

push at the COP28 for the expansion of special drawing rights at the International Monetary Fund that could unlock \$500 billion worth of climate finance, which could be leveraged up to five times.

The president of the African Development Bank, Akinwumi Adesina, called for the continent's natural wealth, notably its forests which sequester carbon, to be accounted for when calculating its economic output.

"Africa's GDP must therefore be revalued based on its carbon sequestration and biodiversity, which provide global public goods," Adesina said in a speech.

"If this is done, the debt to adjusted GDP ratio of several African countries will lower and they will have greater headroom to borrow more financing to support their development."

International Media Centre stands ready ahead of G20 Summit

NEW DELHI

THE International Media Centre in Delhi is set to host media persons from across the world at the G20 Summit which is taking place in the national capital under India's presidency this year.

It is the hub that is getting ready to host the media persons from across the globe.

Equipped with a high speed internet facility, the media centre has nine work zones and state-of-the-art studios. It also has four media briefing halls, six interview rooms, open workspaces, and designated zones for foreign officials as well as embassy officials.

Giving an overview of the media centre and its readiness, the official spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs, Arin-

dam Bagchi posted a video on X (formerly known as Twitter) and wrote, "Here is a glance of the International Media Centre as it stands ready to welcome media persons for the upcoming G20 Summit. Watch as we take you on a walkthrough."

The International Media Centre also has live reporting positions and over 1300 workstations, the video showed.

The list doesn't end here. It also houses two dedicated lounges, recreational zones and media booths as well.

The 18th G20 Summit in New Delhi will be a culmination of all the G20 processes and meetings held throughout the year among ministers, senior officials, and civil societies.

A G20 Leaders' declaration will

be adopted at the conclusion of the G20 Summit, stating Leaders' commitment towards the priorities discussed and agreed upon during the respective ministerial and working group meetings.

The Delhi Police have started conducting vehicle checking at various locations across the national capital ahead of the upcoming G20 summit on September 9 and 10. Surprise checks were conducted at India Gate and other parts of the city between Monday night and early hours on Tuesday.

The two-day summit will draw leaders and delegates from 40 countries, including the 20 member states. The G20 Summit is set to be hosted at the state-of-the-art Bharat Mandapam Convention Centre at Pragati Maidan.



Li arrives in Jakarta for official visit, urges greater ASEAN role

JAKARTA

CHINA firmly supports ASEAN's central position in regional cooperation and its greater role in international affairs, Chinese Premier Li Qiang said here yesterday.

Li (pictured) made the remarks upon his arrival here for an official visit to Indonesia, where he will also attend the 26th China-ASEAN Summit, the 26th ASEAN Plus Three Summit and the 18th East Asia Summit.

To welcome Li, honor guards marched along the red carpet to pay tribute, and local people in traditional costumes performed Indonesian folk dances. Coordinator for Cooperation with China and Coordinating Minister of Maritime Affairs and Investment Luhut Binsar Pandjaitan, Chinese Ambassador to Indonesia Lu Kang, Chinese Ambassador to ASEAN Hou Yanqi and other officials greeted Li at the airport.

Noting that the visit is his first to an Asian country as premier, Li said that China stands ready to have in-depth exchanges of views with all parties on major issues of regional cooperation, strengthen solidarity and coordination, share development opportunities, work together to meet challenges, and promote East Asia to continuously serve as an important engine for global development.

Li pointed out that in recent years, under the strategic guidance of Chinese President Xi Jinping and Indonesian President Joko Widodo, China-Indonesia relations have developed rapidly, setting an example of developing countries to work together and cooperate for joint development.

China is ready to work with Indonesia to implement the important consensus reached by the two heads of state, build a closer China-Indonesia community with a shared future, promote integrated and mutually reinforcing modernization through high-level and all-round strategic cooperation, and inject more stability and new momentum into international and regional cooperation, Li added.

During the visit, Li will also hold talks with Widodo and attend events including the Indonesia Sustainability Forum 2023.

Xinhua



The 18th G20 Summit in New Delhi will be a culmination of all the G20 processes and meetings held throughout the year among

ANI

China to offer more, better services to world through high-quality development

ON Sept. 2, Chinese President Xi Jinping addressed the Global Trade in Services Summit of the 2023 China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS) via video.

"In developing the services sector and trade in services, China will work with all countries and parties to advance inclusive development through openness, promote connectivity and integration through cooperation, foster drivers for development through innovation, and create a better future

through shared services, in a bid to jointly get the world economy onto the track of sustained recovery," Xi said.

In his speech, Xi announced a series of measures of China to expand the opening up of the services sector and expounded on China's important proposals for promoting the prosperity and development of international trade in services. The speech demonstrated China's willingness and commitment to sharing the achievements of trade in ser-

vices with other countries.

The world economic recovery remains sluggish today, with less than 3 percent growth for the year as estimated by some international institutions.

Trade in services is a pivotal component of international trade, and the services sector plays a vital role in economic and trade collaboration between nations.

At present, the deepening global cooperation in trade in services and the services sec-

tor, the accelerated process of digital-driven, smart and green growth, and burgeoning new technologies as well as new business forms and models would give a strong impetus to advancing economic globalization, reviving global growth and enhancing the resilience of world economic development.

With the theme of "Opening up leads development, cooperation delivers the future," the 2023 CIFTIS aims to build an important platform for ex-

panding opening up, deepening cooperation and leading innovation, and will inject new impetus into promoting world economic recovery through trade in services.

How will China, the second-largest economy in the world, further contribute to global economic recovery?

Noting that this year marks the 45th anniversary of China's reform and opening up, Xi reaffirmed the country's commitment to promoting high-standard opening up and

advancing Chinese modernization on all fronts through high-quality development, thereby providing all countries with new opportunities for openness and cooperation.

China will create a "more open and more inclusive" development environment, strengthen the bond of mutual benefit and win-win cooperation, strengthen innovation-driven development, and share the outcomes of the Chinese modernization drive with the rest of the world.

These proposals demonstrate China's firm determination to follow the development trend of economic globalization, promote development by opening up and seek win-win results with cooperation.

They also manifest China's aspiration to lend new impetus to global development with the opportunities generated by the country's vast market, and to increase the sense of gains of people around the world.

People's Daily

How worrying is a Russia-Kim Jong Un alliance?

SEOUL

NORTH Korean leader Kim Jong Un's reported plans to visit Russia this month have caused concern among the US and its allies.

He and President Vladimir Putin intend to discuss the possibility of North Korea providing Moscow with weapons to support its war in Ukraine, US officials say.

On the surface, an arms deal between North Korea and Russia makes perfect transactional sense.

Moscow desperately needs weapons, specifically ammunition and artillery shells, for the war in Ukraine, and Pyongyang has plenty of both.

On the other side, sanction-starved North Korea desperately needs money and food. More than three years of border closures, not to mention the breakdown of talks with the United States in 2019, have left the country more isolated than ever before.

But below the surface, it opens up the potential for Pyongyang and

Moscow to start working more closely together. The US has been warning about a possible arms deal between the two countries for some time, but a leader-level meeting between Kim Jong Un and Vladimir Putin catapults this into the next realm.

While the priority for the US, certainly in the short-term, seems to be to stop North Korean weapons from getting to the frontline in Ukraine, the concern here in Seoul is over what North Korea would get in return for selling its arms to Russia.

With Russia in a desperate situation, Mr Kim will be able to extract a high price.

Perhaps he could demand increased military support from Russia. Yesterday, South Korea's intelligence service briefed that Russia's Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu had suggested Russia, China and North Korea hold joint naval drills, similar to those carried out by the US, South Korea and Japan, which Kim Jong Un



Is there a burgeoning alliance between Mr Kim and Mr Putin?

so detests.

Kim might also be able to call in Russian weapons in the future.

But by far the most worrying request Mr Kim could make is for Mr Putin to provide him with advanced

weapons technology or knowledge, to help him make breakthroughs with his nuclear weapons programme. He is still struggling to master key strategic weapons, chiefly a spy satellite and a nuclear-armed submarine.

Morocco granted status of sectoral dialogue partner of ASEAN

RABAT

FOREIGN Ministers of the countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) granted Morocco, on Monday in Jakarta, the status of "Sectoral Dialogue Partner", the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates said in a press release.

Morocco thus becomes the first North African country to obtain this status, consolidating its position as a privileged interlocutor of this geopolitical and economic grouping of great importance, the same source points out.

This status consolidates the vision of King Mohammed VI concerning the diversification of partnerships and its opening to new geopo-

litical blocks, underlines the press release, adding that it also constitutes a recognition by this grouping of the role of Morocco, under the leadership of the Sovereign, as a hub of stability in Africa and the Arab world and reflects the momentum of partnerships between Morocco and the countries of South East Asia.

The agreement in principle for granting the status of "Sectoral Dialogue Partner" to Morocco was announced during the 56th Meeting of ASEAN Foreign Ministers, held on July 11 and 12, 2023 in Jakarta.

During that meeting, the same status was granted to South Africa and the United Arab Emirates.

Agencies

China powers up recycling of decommissioned wind, solar equipment

CHINA'S new energy industry is steadily growing. The renewable energy industry, especially the wind and solar power sectors, is becoming an important force in the domestic energy supply.

Wind and solar resources are unlimited given by nature, but equipment components generating the resources have their lifespan.

How should decommissioned wind and solar equipment be recycled? Can equipment recycling be achieved in the green transition of energy? China is finding the answers.

Recently, the National Development and Reform Commission and other departments jointly issued a guideline on promoting the recycling and reutilization of decommissioned wind-power and photovoltaic equipment.

"We have so far recycled about 5,000 tons of photovoltaic modules, and the whole-year figure is expected to reach 7,000 tons," said Zhuang Huliang, vice general manager of PVRC, China's first private company specializing in dismantling and recycling waste photovoltaic modules based in Changzhou, east China's Jiangsu province.

"As the conversion efficiency of photovoltaic modules gradually improves in China, some old equipment in solar plants retired ahead of schedule, bringing more recycling opportunities for the industry," Zhuang told People's Daily.

China has become the world's largest producer and user of wind and solar power, with cumulative and newly installed capacity ranking first globally for many consecutive years.

Zhuang said that generally, a single photovoltaic panel lasts 25 to 30 years, and China is expected to see



A worker walks in a workshop of a wind power equipment manufacturer in Zhangbei county, north China's Hebei province. (People's Daily Online/Wu Diansen)

massive module retirements from 2025 onwards, and the amount of module retirements will increase year by year.

The lifespan of a wind turbine is usually about 20 years. "By 2025, over 1,800 onshore wind turbines in China will be decommissioned. The number will exceed 34,000 by 2030, with an installed capacity of approximately 45 million kilowatts," said Xu Junxiang, head of the China National Resources Recycling Association.

Decommission doesn't necessarily mean that the equipment should be abandoned. In fact, these wind and solar equipment still have high recycling value.

"It's estimated that 35 million tons of waste will be generated in China from decommissioned wind and solar equipment by 2030. These retired equipment contain abundant resources," said Yao Xin, vice dean of the Research Institute for Environ-

mental Innovation (Suzhou) Tsinghua.

According to Yao, preliminary estimates show that decommissioned wind turbines with an average capacity of one megawatt can reclaim 100 to 240 tons of steel, copper, aluminum and fiberglass, while retired photovoltaic equipment of the same capacity can reclaim 60 to 80 tons of copper, aluminum, plastic and other materials.

Establishing a recycling system for decommissioned wind and solar equipment can effectively improve the efficiency of raw material utilization and reduce the extraction of virgin resources, Yao noted.

To properly recycle decommissioned wind and solar equipment, it is important to set up the rule that one is responsible for the waste it generates.

The guideline urges and guides centralized wind and solar power

generation enterprises to dispose of retired equipment according to law. It bans illegal disposal including arbitrary landfilling and discarding, and prohibits abandoning industrial solid waste into domestic waste collection facilities.

It also requests power generation companies to take waste recycling and proper disposal as an important part of wind farm renovation and upgrading projects.

The guideline offers advice on how to recycle. Zhuang said it demands power generation enterprises and other primary waste producers, in partnership with professional recycling institutions, to form specialized recycling systems. It could avoid irregular disposal of retired wind and solar equipment that would lead to resource waste and environmental pollution.

Insiders believe that R&D of related technologies is indispensable for establishing a sound mechanism for recycling decommissioned wind and solar power equipment. The efficiency of component recycling would increase as technology developed, which not only makes recycling more economical, but also drive healthy development of the industry through continuous technological upgrades.

"The guideline will build a solid foundation for efficient recycling of China's decommissioned wind and solar equipment. With the implementation of relevant policies, China is expected to forge a wind and solar equipment recycling industry with a scale of over 10 billion yuan (\$1.08 billion), and provide valuable references for the recycling standardization of other large equipment," said Yao.

People's Daily

President Macron to attend G20 Summit in Delhi, travel to B'desh next for bilateral visit

PARIS

FRENCH President Emmanuel Macron will travel to Delhi to participate in the G20 Summit taking place under India's presidency on September 9-10, and will then travel to Bangladesh for a bilateral visit, the President's office said in a statement.



The G20 Summit will allow France's President to continue his continuing engagement with colleagues from other continents in order to address the threats of global fragmentation the statement said. "The President of the French Republic, Emmanuel Macron, will travel to Delhi to participate in the G20 Summit under India's Presidency on 9 and 10 September, and will then travel to Bangladesh on 10 September for a bilateral visit.

The G20 Summit will enable France's Head of State to continue his ongoing dialogue with his counterparts from every continent, so as to combat the risks of fragmentation of the world. It will also be an opportunity to make progress in implementing joint responses to the major global challenges that can only be tackled effectively through multilateral action: peace and stability, poverty alleviation, protection of climate and our planet, food security, and digital regulation," the President's Office said in an official press release.

The Summit will also serve as a follow-up to the Summit for a New Global Financial Pact, which was convened in Paris in June. "This had led to the establishment of the Paris Agenda for People and the Planet, providing a framework for collective action to ensure that no country has to choose between fighting poverty and protecting the planet," the release read.

After welcoming Prime Minister Modi in Paris this summer and visiting Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, and Sri Lanka, the French President will continue to implement France's Indo-Pacific policy in Bangladesh.

"In Bangladesh, the President of the French Republic will continue to implement France's strategy in the Indo-Pacific region, after having welcomed Prime Minister Modi in Paris this summer, and visited Papua New Guinea, Vanuatu, and Sri Lanka. It will also be an opportunity to deepen our bilateral relationship with a country that is undergoing rapid economic development, with France's support, and is seeking to diversify its partnerships," the president's office said.

ANI

No end in sight for conflict in Sudan amid prolonged stalemate

KHARTOUM

AS the raging war between the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) has lasted for nearly five months, no solution to the conflict is yet in sight amid lingering stalemates in battlefields.

As the clashes continue in the capital Khartoum and some other cities in western Sudan, both sides of the conflict claim control over the battlefields, but territories seized by each party have remained little changed since the war broke out in mid-April.

Sudanese military analyst Mohamed Al-Yaqout told Xinhua on Monday that the RSF still controls large areas in the cities of Khartoum, Bahri, and Omdurman, in addition to the military areas and sovereign institutions it seized earlier.

He noted that the RSF also controls the Republican Palace and the vicinity of Nile Street in central Khartoum, where main government ministries are located, while the SAF is trying to restore control over the symbolic palace.

Meanwhile, an unnamed military source said the SAF controls about 80 percent of the headquarters of the army's General Command, while the RSF controls parts of Khartoum air-

port and the airport neighborhood, as well as the headquarters of General Intelligence.

Over the past two weeks, the SAF and the RSF have intensified efforts to seize each other's command centers. In the meantime, the prolonged clashes have exacerbated the humanitarian suffering of civilians because of impeded movement and lack of food supplies.

The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs on Monday said about 4.8 million people have been displaced inside and outside Sudan due to the conflict.

Also on Monday, the United Nations High Commission for Refugees appealed for one billion U.S. dollars to provide essential aid and protection to more than 1.8 million people expected to arrive in five neighboring countries by the end of 2023, fleeing the ongoing conflict in Sudan.

Efforts toward a political settlement to the crisis in Sudan are still facing major obstacles as indirect talks between the two warring parties in the Saudi Arabian port city of Jeddah were largely suspended after the SAF insisted that the RSF withdraw from civilian homes, hospitals, and other public facilities.

The talks sponsored by the United

States and Saudi Arabia since May have borne little fruit due to numerous cease-fire violations.

A roadmap proposed by the African Union in partnership with European groups also failed to resolve the crisis after the Sudanese government expressed reservations over the roadmap on the grounds of the suspension of Sudan's membership in the African organization since October 2021.

Abdul-Raziq Ziyada, a Sudanese political analyst, said the conflicting parties seem unenthusiastic with regional initiatives, and there was no real political desire for a peaceful solution.

"The two sides are adopting a strategy of military resolution, which is still far-fetched," Ziyada told Xinhua on Monday, adding that "the two parties also seek to strengthen their negotiating positions by achieving military gains on the ground, which prolongs the conflict."

Abdul Jalil Ismail, a Sudanese military expert, told Xinhua on Monday that "it is clear that the army's hands are tied because RSF fighters are stationed at civilian areas where lethal force used by the army against the RSF would also lead to huge civilian losses."

However, Ismail speculated that



Sudanese queue outside a passport office in Gedaref on Sunday, following an announcement by the authorities of the resumption of issuing passports in war-torn Sudan. AFP

"the two parties may eventually agree to a political settlement through a regional or international platform, most possibly through the one led by Saudi Arabia and the United States."

Sudan has been witnessing deadly armed clashes between the SAF and RSF in Khartoum and other areas since April 15, which left over 3,000 people killed and more than 6,000 injured, according to the Sudanese Health Ministry.

Xinhua

SPORT

Yanga in pursuit of qualification for 2023/24 CAF CL Group Stage

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

YANGA's president, Hersi Said, has expressed his club's desire to scale great heights in the 2023/24 CAF Champions League after missing out on the showdown's Group Stage last season.

This month will have Yanga taking on the Sudanese side, Al Merreikh, in the first leg of CAF Champions League's Second Preliminary Round slated for September 16 in Rwanda.

The Mainland Tanzania's NBC Premier League champion was knocked out of the 2022/23 CAF Champions League's Second Preliminary Round via a 2-1 aggregate defeat to Al Hilal SC of Sudan.

The Jangwani Street side then went on an impressive run in the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup-making it to the showpiece's final and losing to Algeria's USM Alger via 2-2 aggregate results.

Yanga is, this season, on a mission to make it to the 2023/24 CAF Champions



Yanga's president, Hersi Said.

League Group Stage, a feat the side has not accomplished for the past 24 years.

Said pointed out that they want to first book a place in the Group Stage to begin their mission of eyeing another milestone.

"The squad is put through intensive drills before final preparations for these knockout stage games, last season we were eliminated in a similar stage by a team from Sudan so we are familiar with these games and what to expect," the leader revealed.

"The leadership and the technical bench target to ensure that the outfit will write a new record in the CAF Champions League, as was the case in last season's CAF Confederation Cup in which we made it to the final," Said noted.

The leader stressed: "If the main goal is to enter the Group Stage of the CAF Champions League then what comes next is (seeking) to achieve bigger heights in the competition."

"Yanga fans have seen the players we have this season, we have signed the best players that we believe will be better than last season, especially in the CAF Champions League," the Yanga president noted.

To reach the Second Preliminary Round of this season's CAF Champions League, Yanga walloped Association Sportive d'Ali Sabieh of Djibouti 7-1 aggregate in the First Preliminary Round.

The Jangwani Street club's Second Preliminary Round opponents, Al Merreikh, defeated AS Otoho d'Oyo of the Republic of the Congo in the First Preliminary Round.

In the 2023/24 NBC Premier League, Yanga has enjoyed a tremendous start, in which the outfit has netted 10 goals in two fixtures whilst boasting two clean sheets.

Dar boxers set for Mandela Cup tourney

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

BOXING Federation (BFT) says it is geared to send boxers to the coming Mandela Cup tournament which is slated for next month in South Africa.

Makore Mashaga, BFT secretary-general, said the country's boxers for the showdown will be announced soon and immediately enter the camp to prepare for the annual tournament which is held in honour of the First South Africa President and Freedom Fighter Nelson Mandela.

He also said apart from participation in next month's Mandela Cup tournament, domestic amateur boxers will battle it out in the 2024 Paris Olympics' Africa Qualifiers, slated for later this month. The pugilists will also honour the Nyerere Boxing Championships that will take place in Butiama, Mara next month and then compete in Club Champion of Champions slated for December.

Makore confirmed Tanzania's participation in the Mandela Cup tournament upon the conclusion of the National Boxing Clubs Championships that took place at Mkwakwani Stadium, Tanga over the weekend.

Nineteen clubs honoured the championships which culminated with JKT Boxing Club securing the title, followed by runner-up Ngome Boxing Club, and third-placed Ngamani Boxing Club. The BFT official said the showpiece's standings were based on the number of gold medals won by clubs.

JKT Boxing Club (six gold medals), Ngome Boxing Club (five gold medals), and Ngamani Boxing Club which won one gold medal secured first, second, and third places respectively. The BFT leader disclosed: "Our boxing team will compete in the Mandela Cup which is held in South Africa in October every year. This year, we have agreed that our team should compete in such a prestigious boxing event."

"Before that, later this year, our team will also travel to Senegal for Africa Qualifiers for the 2024 Paris Olympics. We have also other national boxing events," he said.

The Mandela Cup tournament will be held alongside the election of the African Boxing Confederation (AFBC) president election, which will be held following the resignation of its president Bertrand Mendouga.

On the sidelines of the Mandela Cup tournament, AFBC will also host the Star One course for boxing referees and judges.

Cameronian Mendouga was replaced by Nigerian Azania Omo-Agege Siena in an acting capacity.

Azania assured all boxing stakeholders in the continent that he would make sure that there is unity in the sport and also there are more funds to run the sport.

The official noted: "I want to assure you all and the boxing fraternity in Africa as a whole

that everything is moving on smoothly, and most importantly let's maintain our unity and cooperation." "I will do my best to take boxing to the next level. We have the potential, what we're lacking are resources to be self-sufficient."

"I will therefore strive to bring on board sponsors to complement the support we're getting from the International Boxing Association (IBA) under the leadership of president Umar Kremlev whom we thank so much for his support," he said.

Azania lauded Kremlev's contribution to the prize money for boxers that honoured the Africa Championships.

"For the first time in the history of the Africa Championships, boxers got prize money in last year's tournament in Maputo," Azania disclosed. The official noted: "In this year's championships in Yaounde, Kremlev doubled the prize money to \$1,000,000 with boxers being paid from the quarterfinals."

"This means even if some boxers failed to make it to the medal bracket they will earn \$1,250 for qualifying for the quarters."

"I do understand there are some countries whose boxers have yet to be paid. I am assuring them that AFBC is in the process of sending them their prize money. It's their right."

Azania said AFBC will continue to empower coaches, referees, judges, and ITOs because he appreciates their vital contribution to boxing development in Africa.

The AFBC acting president also said the leadership is also planning to improve the overall operations of AFBC to inject more professionalism in the management of boxing in the continent. "I promise members and all stakeholders I will operate above board to ensure there's transparency and accountability in all that we do," the leader noted.

"Our Secretary-General Andre Basile Kalong will continue serving us in this position and he's also in charge of our headquarters office in Yaounde. So far he has done a commendable job," the leader added.

Meanwhile, Azania has appealed to the International Olympic Committee (IOC) to give Africa more slots instead of the current 18 to be contested for in the Olympic Games boxing qualifiers set for Dakar, Senegal, from September 9-15.

The AFBC leader noted: "We will appreciate if IOC considers our appeal to have more slots. African boxers have been progressive in the Olympics and (should they be) given more slots they will perform better."

Azania said he is planning to meet the president of the Abuja-based Association of National Olympic Committees for Africa (ANOCA) Mustapha Berraf to discuss this important issue.

In the African qualifiers for the 2024 Olympics, female pugilists will fight for 11 slots and seven have been allotted for men.

SPORTS

JKT Queens wonderfully earn a place in 2023 CAF Women's Champions League

By Correspondent Lloyd Elipokea

IT is fair to assert that domestic women's football has come along by leaps and bounds during the last two decades.

Indeed, in the early days of women's football, there had been a constant lament over the non-existence of a Mainland Tanzania Women's Premier League and this call for such a competition frustratingly went unanswered for multiple years.

Thankfully though, the Serengeti Lite Women's Premier League was at last set up a couple of years ago, which was a monumental development that was warmly welcomed by numberless quarters within local football.

This giant stride forward led to other wholly positive steps to be taken such as our senior national women's football team, Twiga Stars clinching the COSAFA Senior Women's Championship silverware a few years ago.

However, while we as a country can rightly feel some measure of satisfaction over the remarkable progress of local women's football, we have still not yet registered the same laudable achievements on the do-or-die continental women's football landscape.

Perhaps, the local women's football side, JKT Queens, can transform our hitherto flagging fortunes in African women's football in the 2023 CAF Women's Champions League (CAF WCL), which is just around the corner.

Indeed, JKT Queens were recently crowned the winners of the CECAFA Zonal Qualifiers for this year's CAF Women's Champions League following a drama-filled penalty shootout in the final against Ethiopian outfit CBE Women's FC, which the former thrillingly won 5-4 in pulse-racing fashion.

Now that they have booked a ticket to continental women's club football's most cherished championship, JKT Queens can set their sights on ensuring that they are



Footballers and officials making Tanzania's JKT Queens jubilate shortly after the side triumphed in the 2023 CAF Women's Champions League CECAFA Zonal Qualifiers, defeating Ethiopia's CBE Women's FC 5-4 in a penalty shootout of the final which took place in Uganda last week. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION

completely prepared for the elite football event.

As they prepare to go toe-to-toe with the continent's most superlative women's football clubs, one would like to advise JKT Queens to be undaunted by the tall order facing them.

Towards that end, JKT Queens should borrow a leaf out of Yanga's book last season in which the reigning Mainland Tanzania's NBC Premier League champions audaciously went on the front foot in the lion's share of their CAF Confederation Cup clashes, only to narrowly lose the final on aggregate against USM Alger.

Granted, there will undoubtedly be many obstacles strewn on the path of JKT Queens at this year's CAF Women's Champions League.

Nevertheless, if they can remain united and adopt a never-say-die spirit, the sky should be the limit for the East African women's football champions.

Let us now dive into the Rugby World Cup, which is due to kick off on September 8 in Paris, France.

In the lead-up to the quadrennial feast of rugby, much attention has been focused on the title prospects

of the sport's leading lights, which are South Africa, New Zealand, and Australia.

Having said that though, only a daft individual would write off the chances of European rugby's pre-eminent teams, which include the hosts France, and the Republic of Ireland.

Thus, as all the contestants continue to fine-tune their preparations for rugby's greatest spectacle, the stage seems set for what should be a fabulous celebration of an entertaining contact sport.

Aucho called-up to Uganda Cranes' squad for must-win Niger clash

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi S Agencies

UGANDA Cranes' head coach Milutin Sredojevic has called up Young Africans SC's defensive midfielder, Khalid Aucho, in his side's final squad that has traveled to Morocco for the 2023 Africa Cup of Nations Qualifiers match against Niger.

The squad made up of 23 players has already arrived in Morocco, and is expected to take the pitch on Thursday evening.

Aucho is set to captain Uganda Cranes in the squad's decisive match after Sredojevic left out winger Emmanuel Okwi.

Former Simba SC combative defensive midfielder, Taddeo Lwanga, is back in the senior national team setup after missing out on the selection for over one and a half years.

Aucho's fellow countrymen at club level, Gift Fred, has been left out of the senior national squad due to lack of game time at his club this season, as Yanga's head coach Miguel Gamondi prefers Bakari Mwamnyeto and Ibrahim Hamad.

The Serbian coach believes the team selected will be able to execute the task at hand.

The coach disclosed: "After days of preparations in Kampala, I believe we are at the best level to go and compete against Niger."

"We already have two foreign players, Taddeo Lwanga and Abdul-Aziz Kayondo, who have been training with us, while the rest will join us in Marrakech," he said.

The game against Niger that will be played at the Grand Stade Marrakech on Thursday evening is the final group game for the Uganda Cranes in the 2023 AFCON Qualifiers.

They are currently sitting third in Group F and must beat Niger to have any chance of securing an AFCON ticket.

Algeria, now leading the rest in Group F with 15 points, has already secured a ticket to the continental showpiece slated for early next year.

Tanzania is positioned second with seven points and needs a draw with Algeria in Group F's tie also slated to take place Thursday to qualify.

For Uganda to have a chance, the squad convincingly beat Niger and hope that Algeria whips Taifa Stars.



Uganda Cranes' midfielder, Khalid Aucho.

Uganda Cranes' traveling squad:

Goalkeepers: Ismail Watenga, Salim Jamal Magoola, and Nafian Alionzi

Defenders: Kenneth Semakula, Elvis Bwomono, Abdul-Aziz Kayondo, Isaac Muleme, Halidi Lwaliwa, Bevis Mugabi, Musa Ramadhan, and Joseph Ochaya

Midfielders: Khalid Aucho, Bobosi Byaruhanga, Taddeo Lwanga, Milton Karisa, Laban Tibiita, Farouk Miya, Ibrahim Kasule, and Moses Waiswa

Forwards: Rogers Mato, Fahad Bayo, Richard Basangwa, and Frank Ssebubu

Officials include leader of the delegation Rogers Mulindwa, head coach Milutin Sredojevic, assistant coach Moses Basena, goalkeeping coach Fred Kajoba, and fitness coach Arthur Kyesimira.

The list further consists of performance coach Franck Plaine, team manager Geoffrey Massa, team doctor Emmanuel Nakabago, and team physiotherapist Ivan Ssewanyana.

Spain's men condemn Luis Rubiales' 'unacceptable behaviour'

By Tom Morgan

THE Spanish men's team has expressed "solidarity" with the World Cup-winning women's side in condemning Luis Rubiales' "unacceptable behaviour".

In a significant intervention which pushes the beleaguered federation president closer to the brink, players said the women's team's triumph over England was "tarnished".

Alvaro Morata, César Azpilicueta, Rodri and Marco Asensio, the team's captains, issued the statement as the kiss furor enters a third week. Rubiales, who reaffirmed his plan "to prove the truth" over the weekend, is refusing to relent despite global criticism for kissing player Jenni Hermoso on the lips on Aug 20. Rubiales is serving a 90-day suspension by Fifa and has been ordered not to contact Hermoso, who says the kiss was not consensual.

In the statement, the men's players have said they wanted to "highlight several issues regarding the latest events that have damaged the image of Spanish football". Their statement went on: "First of all, we want to convey, once again, our pride and our most sincere congratulations to the Women's National Team for the title of world champions in Sydney.

"A historical milestone full of meaning that will mark a before and after in Spanish women's football, inspiring many women with a triumph of incalculable value. For this reason, we want to regret and express our solidarity with the players who have seen their success tarnished."

Antony denies assaulting ex-girlfriend as Brazil drop Man United star

By Richard Jolly

MANCHESTER United winger Antony has denied accusations by his former partner of assault, threats and intimidation, as Brazil dropped him from their international squad.

The 23-year-old winger is being investigated by police in Sao Paulo after Gabriela Cavallin gave an interview to UOL in Brazil in which she claimed that the footballer headbutted her, threw a glass at her and threatened to push her out of a moving car when she was pregnant.

Antony insists he is innocent and labelled the accusations as "false" in a statement released on his Instagram page.

He said: "Out of respect to my fans, friends and family I feel obligated to speak publicly about the accusations I have been a victim of."

"From the beginning I have handled this seriously and with respect, providing the due clarifications to the police authority. The police inquest is under cover of justice and therefore I cannot make its content public. However, I can say with confidence that the accusations are false and that the evidence already produced and more to be produced show that I am innocent of the accusations made."

"My relationship with Ms Gabriela was tumultuous with verbal offenses from both sides but I never practiced any physical aggression. Every time, whether in testimony or in interviews, she presents a different version of accusations. Thus, I come to deny the accusations made and inform that I remain at the full disposal of the Brazilian authorities to clarify what is needed. I trust the ongoing police investigation will reveal the truth about my innocence."

UOL published photos, including those of Cavallin bleeding, and text messages apparently from the Brazil international.

Antony's agent, Junior Pedrosa, told The United Stand: "We are silent because there is an investigative process at a police station in São Paulo, Brazil. Several people that she named as witnesses are

Over the past week alone, Rubiales has learnt he faces a preliminary sexual assault investigation and been told he should resign by regional chiefs in his own federation.

All 11 of the Spanish women's team coaching staff, bar manager Jorge Vilda, have since resigned, citing the behaviour of Rubiales. The men's players have now added: "We want to reject what we consider unacceptable behaviour on the part of Mr Rubiales, who has not lived up to the institution he represents. We place ourselves firmly and clearly on the side of the values that sport represents. Spanish football must be an engine of respect, inspiration, inclusion and diversity and must set an example with its conduct both on and off the field."

"From today, we face a decisive concentration for the future of Spanish football on our way to qualify for Euro2024 with two games against Georgia and Cyprus. We would like that, from now on, we could focus on sporting issues given the relevance of the challenges that lie ahead."

Rubiales, who also grabbed his crotch while celebrating in the VIP area in Stadium Australia, with Queen Letizia of Spain and her 16-year-old daughter standing nearby, said in his latest statement: "On 20 August, I made some obvious mistakes, for which I sincerely, from the heart, regret... Although information about this matter is being subjected to numerous manipulations, lies, and censorship, the truth has only one path, and that's why I repeat, I trust that justice will be served."

THE TELEGRAPH

being heard.

"The investigative process requires great caution to ascertain the facts as carefully as possible. Antony will not pronounce himself until justice has given his opinion about the case, which in our understanding is unfavourable to Gabriela."

"What can be observed is that she always appears in the media when she knows that she can affect Antony. An example of that was the day he was called up for the Brazilian national team, and now on the day of his presentation. But the exposed facts are the same ones that are being treated in the investigative process."

Following the emergence of the allegations, Brazil confirmed Antony had been withdrawn from the squad for their upcoming World Cup qualifiers against Bolivia and Peru, with Arsenal striker Gabriel Jesus called up as a replacement.

"Due to the facts that became public this Monday, involving striker Antony, from Manchester United, and which need to be investigated, and in order to preserve the alleged victim, the player, the Brazilian team and the CBF, the entity informs that the athlete has been withdrawn from the Brazilian team," a statement from the Brazilian Football Confederation read.

"To replace him, coach Fernando Diniz called Gabriel Jesus, who was pre-selected on a list of 36 players, sent to FIFA."

Antony, who joined United for £86m from Ajax in 2023, has started all four of their games this season.

United decided that forward Mason Greenwood would not play for them again after an internal investigation into his conduct.

The England international, who has since joined Getafe on loan, was charged with attempted rape, controlling and coercive behaviour and assault occasioning actual bodily harm after disturbing audio and pictures were made public.

The charges were later dropped when a key witness withdrew their involvement and new evidence came to light.

THE INDEPENDENT

Litigation likely as CAF cancels biggest TV broadcast deal

By Piers Edwards

THE Confederation of African Football (CAF) could well enter another costly legal process after unilaterally cancelling its current biggest broadcast deal with Qatari media group beIN.

On 1 September, Caf's lawyers informed beIN Media Group, which owns the beIN Sports broadcasting division, it was cancelling the 12-year contract, signed in 2017, worth \$415 million with immediate effect.

Caf has accused beIN of a contractual breach and said it wants to recover outstanding payments in the region of \$80m.

The Qatar-based media group has responded by acknowledging 'a number of issues that have affected the contractual relationship' and advising African football's ruling body of its intention to sue unless 'open discussions in good faith [can] resolve this issue'.

"We are, of course, taking all necessary steps to robustly defend our legal position," Yusef Al-Obaidly wrote to both Caf and its Executive Committee members on 2 September.

"I must make clear to you that beIN does not accept this termination and will take all necessary legal steps to challenge and overturn it. In addition, we have significant concerns that this major decision relating to Caf's most valuable commercial contract may have been taken without the necessary scrutiny and approvals required under Caf's internal regulations."

In contrast to Caf statutes which require major financial decisions to be discussed by the body's Executive Committee, BBC Sport Africa understands this did not happen - with Caf having been approached for comment.

BeIN hinted it may cite this unlawful process as one reason to legally contest the termination, as well as fundamentally arguing against the very nature of the decision itself.

It is the second time in four years that Caf has unilaterally cancelled a contract with its biggest financial partner.

In November 2019, the decision to scrap the largest contract in Caf histo-



African football body Caf has cut its biggest TV broadcast deal four months before its flagship Africa Cup of Nations competition. Agencies

ry - a television and marketing rights deal, which guaranteed at least one billion dollars, signed with Lagardere Sports to cover 2017-2028 - cost the Cairo-based body some \$50m, a sum which has been settled in the last year.

Now known as Sport5, Lagardere Sports had originally requested \$90m in compensation.

A source close to the matter has told the BBC that beIN will be chasing a similar amount, albeit before damages are also claimed.

Both cancellations have come at a time when Fifa has wielded considerable control over Caf, which broke the Lagardere deal when Fifa Secretary General Fatma Samoura was overseeing the African body in her unique six-month role as a 'General Delegate for Africa'.

More recently, Fifa has worked to not only engineer the election of Patrice Motsepe as Caf president in 2021 - saying the decision was for 'African unity' - but also to try to drum up funds for the continent through the launch of the looming African Football League.

Earlier this year, former Caf president Ahmad told the BBC that Fifa is controlling African football for 'strategic reasons'.

'Uncertain Future'

The cancellation of the beIN Sports deal means that Caf currently has no major international broadcasters four months ahead of January's Africa Cup of Nations, whose final qualifying round takes place over the next ten

days.

In addition, both Caf's continental club competitions - namely, the Champions League and Confederation Cup - are scheduled to start in November, although the newly-created African Football League kicks off before then.

This tournament, set to feature eight teams, will take place in October in Rwanda but despite its name and location, the competition is largely being run by football's world governing body Fifa, and not Caf.

"This competition is a great and effective way of taking African football to the next level, and that is something I am personally delighted to see," Fifa president Gianni Infantino said last week.

The beIN cancellation means there is no major broadcaster for this tournament, with widespread reports in May - which came shortly after Caf signed a five-year memorandum of understanding with the Saudi Arabia Football Federation - suggesting the latter would put up \$200m per season having never materialised.

As a result, a competition which Caf president Patrice Motsepe said last year would feature 24 teams, and \$100m in total prize money, has been stripped down to just eight (with Petro Atletico's presence uncertain after the Angolan federation recently banned the side for two years for fixing matches).

Matches will be streamed live on the competition's website.

"Claim and counter-claim

Jadon Sancho battling to save Man Utd career with Erik ten Hag let down by outburst

By James Ducker

JADON Sancho faces a battle to save his Manchester United career, with manager Erik ten Hag feeling badly let down by the England forward's extraordinary outburst and behaviour.

Ten Hag and his United staff are understood to have been left stunned when Sancho took to social media on Sunday night and effectively accused his manager of lying about the reasons for his absence from the 3-1 defeat at Arsenal.

The United manager said Sancho had been dropped from the squad because of his "performances in training", a stance understood to have been completely backed by his coaching staff.

But Sancho - a £73 million signing from Borussia Dortmund under Ole Gunnar Solskjaer two years ago - claimed on X that was "completely untrue", that there were "other reasons" for his omission and that he had been made "a scapegoat for a long time which isn't fair".

Telegraph Sport understands that there are unlikely to be any face-to-face talks between Ten Hag - who was not at United's Carrington training ground on Monday - and Sancho in the coming days as a result of the international break which can often see those not involved in games take a little time off.

But sources said Ten Hag is bitterly disappointed by Sancho's actions given the lengths to which the Dutchman has gone to try to help kickstart the 23-year-old's career since taking over as United manager.

Sancho's controversial post was still online as of Monday night and it remains to be seen if the player apologises to Ten Hag or what disciplinary action he intends to take. The previous player to cross Ten Hag at Old Trafford, Cristiano Ronaldo, was gone within days of criticising the manager in an unauthorised interview last November.

Rio Ferdinand, the former United



Jadon Sancho says he has been 'made a scapegoat for a long time'. Agencies

defender, claimed on Monday that Sancho risks being frozen out for the remainder of the season unless he moves to Saudi Arabia this week. Yet sources in the Middle East played down the prospect of Saudi Pro League sides bidding for Sancho before the close of their transfer window on Thursday.

The Turkish window remains open until September 15 but it is unlikely any clubs there could afford Sancho's £250,000-a-week wages.

Ben Foster, the former United goalkeeper, claimed Sancho would never play for the club again if Sir Alex Ferguson was still in charge. "If Sir Alex Ferguson is still the manager, and Jadon Sancho does this, he

will never see the light of day again for Manchester United," said Foster. "He'd never play for the club [again], he'd never be allowed in the training ground [again]."

Ten Hag had given Sancho three months away from United last season to work on his physical and mental condition in the hope the player would rediscover his form and confidence after a troubled period.

Sancho scored twice in his first four games back, earning praise from Ten Hag, before his performances dipped again in the final weeks of the campaign, notably the FA Cup final defeat to his former club Manchester City in June.

A winger by trade, Sancho was de-

In its letter, beIN - which broadcasts African football across 24 countries in North Africa and the Middle East, as well as in Asia, France and the United States - raised several of its recent complaints with Caf.

The Qatari group is unhappy that Caf - unlike other major football bodies - allegedly failed to reduce the amount of the deal in light of the Covid-enforced cancellation of tournaments, such as the Women's Africa Cup of Nations, or the decision to move events at relatively short notice owing to long-established weather concerns.

"For reasons we do not understand, our legitimate concerns have not been recognised so far," the beIN Media Group CEO's letter continued.

"This is a marked contrast to the approach taken to similar situations we have had with other major football rightholders [sic]."

The Qatari group claims it should also have received a rebate following the creation of the African Football League, which Al-Obaidly called "hugely damaging to the value of Caf's existing rights".

Owing to these concerns, the same source close to the matter says this was why a significant amount of money beIN should have paid to Caf was held back.

In response, Caf has asked its lawyers to start a legal process to recover these amounts.

Highlighting its "investment of hundreds of millions", beIN advised Caf that it remains "fully ready for open discussions in good faith to try to resolve this issue and to continue to deliver our long-term financial commitment to African football".

Following the cancellation of the Lagardere deal in 2019, beIN Sports continued to broadcast African football, meaning the north of the continent could still watch games.

However, the decision of South African broadcasters SuperSport to pull out shortly after the shock cancellation meant that sub-Saharan Africa has faced an African football TV blackout ever since.

Both beIN and Caf have been approached by the BBC for comment.

BBC

ployed as a false nine in a number of games during pre-season and was applauded by Ten Hag after scoring in a 2-0 victory over Arsenal in New Jersey in July.

But Sancho has been limited to three substitute performances so far this season and it is believed Ten Hag feels he should have been getting a lot more from the winger.

Frustrations with Sancho's attitude and application in training reached a point this week where Ten Hag and his backroom staff felt it would be wrong to include him against Arsenal.

It was unclear on Monday night what exactly Sancho was referring to when he claimed there were "other reasons" behind his omission.

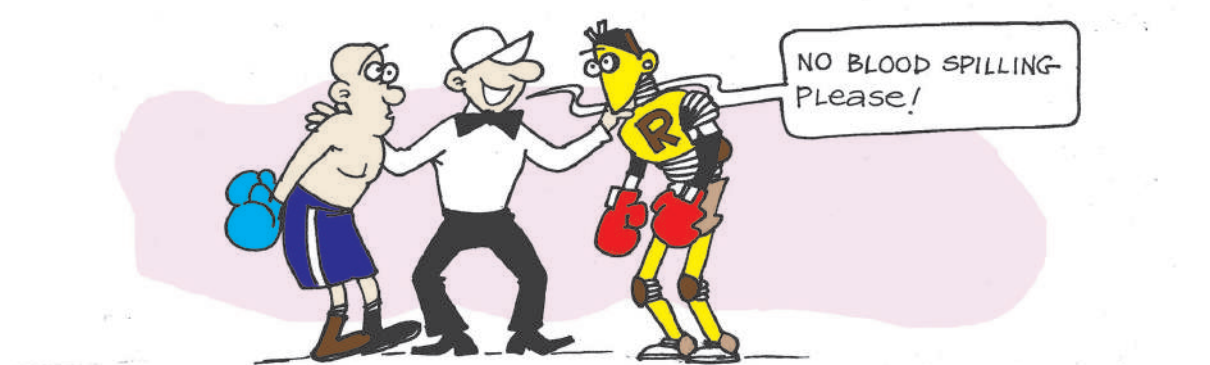
Sancho was one of the players United are thought to have been willing to listen to offers for during the summer and there were reports on Monday that the player's name had been briefly floated during discussions between United and Chelsea over a potential, it ultimately aborted, loan deal for Marc Cucurella.

Sancho's claims that he has been made a "scapegoat" at United has echoes of how the player reportedly felt in the wake of a difficult spell at Dortmund.

In November 2019, it was reported that Sancho felt "humiliated, scapegoated and unprotected" by the German club after a number of incidents.

THE TELEGRAPH

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Litigation likely as CAF cancels biggest TV broadcast deal

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Simba SC players are pictured engaging in training at Mo Simba Arena, Bunju in Dar es Salaam recently to shape up for the 2023/24 NBC Premier League, Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC), 2023/24 CAF Champions League, and African Football League (AFL). PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

Dar volleyballers secure first win in 2023 Men's African Nations Volleyball Championship

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA's national volleyball team's head coach Alfred Selengia has said his side is determined to put up a better performance this afternoon when it locks horns with 2023 Men's African Nations Volleyball Championship defending champions Tunisia.

The coach disclosed so yesterday after his team's resounding 3-1 victory over Mali, with the former triumphing 25-18, 25-22, 17-25, 26-24 in the four sets.

The 24th edition of the Men's African Nations Volleyball Championship is organized by the African Volleyball Confederation (CAVB).

The tournament is the official competition for senior men's national volleyball teams across the continent, with Tanzania's team competing in Group B alongside Chad, Mali, and Tunisia.

Today's game will be the last Group Stage match for Tanzania and yesterday's results came after the team's sloppy start to its campaign on Monday, going down 3-0 to Chad, as the latter won 13-25, 30-32, 23-25.

The Tanzania national volleyball side's coach hailed his charges for fighting from start to finish.

The tactician noted: "Now we have to prepare for Tunisia tomorrow (today), on Monday, we lost 3-0 to Chad... we lost due to mistakes that we made."

"We were good but we were lacking concentration, but today (yesterday) I'm happy that we are back to our winning ways and I'm sure we will do well in our last game tomorrow (today) against the defending champions Tunisia, it will not be easy but we are ready," he said.

In a separate interview that took place yesterday, Tanzania Volleyball Association (TAVA) assistant secretary, Shukuru Ally, said they target a top-five finish in the continental tournament.

Ally noted: "We have good players that are capable of winning any game, I think we lost our opening game on Monday due to fatigue."

"The team arrived in Egypt on Sunday night and played the following day but from what I have seen today (yesterday) our players are good and garnering a top-five finish is possible for us," he said.

On Monday, Selengia said he is confident his side will register a positive result in the ongoing Men's African Nations Volleyball Championship.

The players making Tanzania's national volleyball team are Ezekiel Machunde, Rashid Lazi, Deodatus Mhandiki, Ramadhan Ramadhan, Anthony Mangengu, David Nneke, Ford Edward, Omary Hassan, and Lameck David accompanied by team manager, Riziki Mahenge.

The top three teams in this season's Men's African Nations Volleyball Championship will qualify for the 2025 International Volleyball Federation (FIVB) Volleyball Men's World Championship.

The 2025 FIVB Volleyball Men's World Championship will be the 21st staging of championships and, starting this staging, the World Championship will be expanded to include 32 teams, increasing from 24 teams.

The tournament will henceforth also be held bi-annually instead of quadrennial.

Yanga hits beach for workout ahead of CAF CL clash against Al Merreikh



Yanga's head coach, Miguel Ángel Gamondi, is pictured issuing instructions to his players when they participated in training in Dar es Salaam early this week to shape up for the 2023/24 CAF Champions League Second Preliminary Round. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebi

THE hard work continues for Young Africans SC's players in the training sessions ahead of their crucial 2023/24 CAF Champions League Second Preliminary Round's first leg assignment against Sudan's Al Merreikh scheduled for next week.

Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, will confront Al Merreikh in Rwanda on September 16 for the first leg of the CAF Champions League Second Preliminary Round before hosting the return leg a week later in Dar es Salaam.

To kick-start a busy period of training sessions, head coach Miguel Gamondi took his players down to the famous Coco Beach at Oysterbay in Dar es Salaam.

The Argentinian coach revealed why he opted to train at the beach, saying: "We came back to training after we gave players

Saturday off. They deserved it after we played four games in 10 days."

"We came to the beach to change the area where we do aerobic and power training. I think it is good for the mind as well to change the environment," the gaffer pointed out.

The Argentine noted: "It is very good. I always say we start to win games here, hard work always pays. Today we did circuit training in power and strength before they ran to the beach aerobics."

The tactician stressed: "As you say, the ambiance, the players are happy and I love to work in an environment like that. Work hard but with happiness and the most important thing is togetherness."

He added: "I always repeat the most important thing is the team and we work hard for the team to make 'wananchi' happy."

The training session involved the Jangwani Street side's U-17 and U-20 squads training with the senior side for the first time this season.

Gamondi explained the club's new

approach to developing and nurturing their youth sides.

The coach noted: "I always love to work with the youth development side because it is the future of the club and not only the club but also the country."

"We are working with the president in creating a good organization that will give opportunities to youth players," the gaffer said.

Gamondi pointed out: "Tanzania has many talented players, we need to develop these talents, to guide them into professional football. I strongly believe Tanzania should be a potential country in football because I can say after the months I have been here, I have seen how the local players are very good. They are very hungry to learn and improve."

"This is our idea to train with the youth players. They will know how we train professionally and can adapt. Maybe next season we might begin scouting for players all over the country," he noted.

Simba SC resumes training for CAF CL duel against Dynamos

By Correspondent Michael Mwebi

TANZANIA'S Simba SC resumed training after a short break to prepare ahead of the club's 2023/24 CAF Champions League Second Preliminary Round's first leg against Zambian side, Power Dynamos.

Simba SC's technical team, led by head coach Robert Oliveira 'Robertinho', gave the playing unit a one-day break to rest on Sunday and resume training on Monday.

Robertinho led the session with the entire squad. So far four players, Dennis Kibu, Mzamiru Yassin, John Bocco, and Kennedy Juma missed the training session as they are away with Taifa Stars in Tunisia preparing for the 2023 African Cup of Nations Qualifiers game against Algeria.

Simba SC beat Dodoma Jiji FC 2-0 at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam in the former's second fixture of the 2023/24 NBC Premier League that took place last month.

During the FIFA international break, the Msimbazi Street squad has opted to play friendlies in preparation for the crucial CAF Champions League Second Preliminary Round tie against Power Dynamos.

Last weekend, Simba SC won 3-0 against Zanzibar Premier League club, Kipanga SC, in a friendly game played at Mo Simba Arena at Bunju in Dar es Salaam. More friendlies are expected to be confirmed this week.

The first leg match against Power Dynamos is slated for Saturday in Ndola, Zambia with the return leg coming up a week later in Dar es Salaam.

The aggregate winner of the two clubs' Second Preliminary Round duels qualifies for the 2023/24 CAF Champions League Group Stage.

The team has been boosted by the return to training of goalkeeper Aishi Manula after spending four months on the sidelines after sustaining sustained injury.

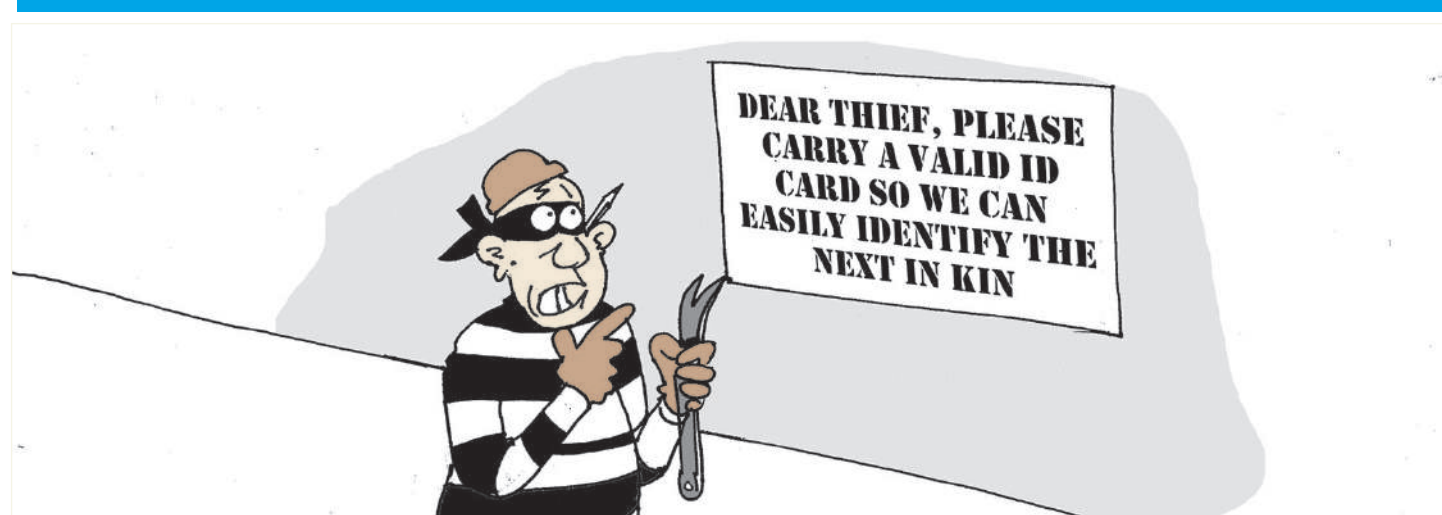
Manula has not featured for Simba SC since April after he had a thigh muscle issue which was initially thought to be a minor injury until further medical screening proved otherwise.

He underwent surgery in South Africa and has now begun light training under the supervision of medical staff.

He could return to action for Simba SC during the African Football League when the Tanzanian representatives welcome Egypt's Al Ahly in a fixture which will take place at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on October 20.

However, Manula, who has been the undisputed first-choice goalkeeper for the club for the last six years now, faces stiff competition from the newly signed Moroccan international, Ayoub Lakred, that was signed from FAR Rabat FC.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



TO NIGHT @ 9:00

EATV WEDNESDAY

UJENZI

11:00 DADAZ
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA
13:00 NJADALA (I)
13:55 Dondoo Za Mchezo
14:00 Mpera Mpera
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Mpera Mpera
16:00 Zote Kuntu
16:55 Dondoo Za Mchezo
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 Kili Za Wana
18:30 #HASTAG
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (I)
21:00 UJENZI
21:30 Mid Week Movie
23:00 KURASA
23:05 EATV SAA 1

UJENZI provides information and ideas on residential construction, interior decor and residential appliance markets values. The show aims to enhance residential construction. It provides free expert advice, news and commentary.

eastafrika RADIO

05:00 Supa Breakfast
09:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Panel Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
19:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM