



The Guardian

www.ippmedia.com

@TheGuardianTz01 theguardiantd paper.ippmedia.com www.ippmedia.com feedback@guardian.co.tz LIKE & FOLLOW US

ISSN 0856 - 5434 ISSUE No. 9188 • PRICE: Tsh 1,000, Kenya sh100 TANZANIA TUESDAY 11 JUNE, 2024



Charcoal technology to save forests in Kilombero Page 3



MP lauds tour operators for offering free meals to pupils Page 4



Govt plants 266 million trees up to March 2024 Page 6

Page 13

Eight die in three accidents, 12 hurt
"Every year road accidents claim lives of more than 1.19m people, disproportionately affecting developing countries"

By Correspondent Jaliwason Jasson, Babati

EIGHT people have died and 12 have been injured in road accidents in Manyara and Kigoma regions.

George Katabazi, Manyara regional police commander, said that three people died and five others were injured in an accident involving three motor vehicles in the Mogitu slopes in Hanang District, Manyara Region.

The accident occurred early yesterday at just after 4:30 early in the morning when a cargo vehicle T 914 CAX hit a car, thus blocking the road. Other vehicles were unable to pass until the traffic police arrived to address the challenge.

When the police officers started to allow vehicles to pass, an Arusha Express passenger bus T162 AGB lost control hitting two other vehicles and a motorcycle.

Two of the three who died there were bystanders anxious over the initial accident and the other was the driver of the car (Toyota Mitsubishi) hit by the passenger bus, he said.

Theo injured were rushed to Tumaini Hospital in Katesh town for treatment, with investigation on the accidents going on, he said, noting that once completed legal measures will be pursued on those responsible.

He reaffirmed the case for punitive measures on reckless drivers violating traffic rules, causing unnecessary accidents.

Philemon Makungu, the Kigoma regional police commander, said that five people died and eight others were injured in an accident involving contractors of the Rural Energy Agency (REA) whose vehicle veered off the road and overturned in Rukoma village in Uvinza District.

The cargo vehicle T 224 BZD (Fuso) belonging to Tropical State Grid Co. Ltd that carries out electricity infrastructure work in rural areas had an accident on Saturday afternoon.

Among the eight injured, three were treated and discharged from hospital, he said, naming them as Saidi Ramadhani (45) the car, Elizabeth Mero (30) the project manager and both residents of Dar es Salaam, as well as Venance Mabula (24), an electrician based in Geita.

Five other injured have been admitted to the Kigoma Maweni Regional Referral Hospital for treatment. These are Hussein Fadhili (24) a project manager based in Tanga, Yasini Athumani (19) a labourer from Uvinza, Mtala Joseph who comes from Mara Region, Victor Joseph (31) from Musoma in Mara Region, along with

TURN TO PAGE 2

INEC and CSOs set out voter register update



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa pictured in Dodoma city yesterday chairing a follow-up meeting on the implementation of the Liganga (iron ore) and Mchuchuma (coal) integrated project in Ludewa District, Njombe Region. Others at the event included Deputy Prime Minister and Energy minister Dr Doto Biteko; Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliament and Coordination), Jenista Mhagama; Minerals minister Anthony Mavunde; Industry and Trade minister Dr Ashatu Kijaji; Minister of State in the President's Office (Planning and Investment), Prof Kitila Mkumbo; Finance minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba; and Attorney General Dr Eliezer Feleshi. Photo: PMO

By Guardian Reporter

STAKEHOLDERS from various civil society organisations (CSOs) have urged the government to amend laws to allow Tanzanians in the Diaspora and refugees to vote in local government elections as well as parliamentary and presidential polls.

This appeal was given at the newly fangled Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) and a range of key CSOs, with participants holding the view that the move will raise the number of voters, while strengthening stability.

Brenda Kifanga, a leader of 'Dignity Kwanza' organisation said that it is hard for refugees to be accessed for civic education.

This prevents them from joining in election processes, she stated, affirming the need to amend legislation to enable these groups to take part in the democratic process, thus stimulating development.

Many refugees and those in the Diaspora are denied their right to vote because during elections they are stranded as there is no voting facilitation, not able to vote where they are or where they come from.

Suriama Hassani, an activist with a city voter education entity, Tosucado registered in October 2020, emphasised increased public awareness on the importance of voting.

This is vital as it helps the nation to get competent leaders, she said, stressing the need to invest efforts to change the mindsets of people towards elections "as many have

TURN TO PAGE 2

EU, stakeholders widening clean cooking energy scope

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE European Union (EU) has expressed intention to finance projects in the clean cooking energy programme with the clean energy fund located in the Ministry of Energy to help push current government efforts.

The overall objective is to ensure that by 2034, more than 80 percent of Tanzanians will be using clean cooking fuel, abandoning charcoal and firewood.

Massimiliano Pedretti, the energy project manager at the EU mission, made this pledge in Dar es Salaam yesterday, participating at a discussion of

energy sector stakeholders, evaluating the direction of energy sector policy.

The stakeholders looked at sources of energy sector policy, background and current situation, with a focus on results after implementation of recent budgetary measures in line with challenges and how they

TURN TO PAGE 2

Census: UNFPA, UK in 1bn/- data analysis links

UNFPA has supported NBS through the census process to the third data phase that proceeds to disseminate the analysis findings to the public

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

UNITED Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) is working with the British High Commission to provide \$461,000 (1bn/-) for post numeration census ac-

tivities. Dr Albina Chuwa, the statistician general and head of the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), told a statistics stakeholders' meeting in Dar es Salaam yesterday that the funding is intended to

strengthen post census data analysis.

She praised UNFPA support for NBS in generating data that has been helpful to decision makers, pointing at a common goal in responding to ongoing national agenda, notably the five year development plan, the 2025 Vision and preparations for Vision 2050.

"The \$461,000 extended to the government makes a difference and we should admit that," she stated, assuring the UNFPA and the UK High Commission that the

TURN TO PAGE 2

SPORTS



HEMED MOROCCO CONFIDENT AHEAD OF CRUCIAL 2026 WORLD CUP QUALIFIER AGAINST ZAMBIA

Page 20



CRISTIANO RONALDO AND MODRIC GO TO EURO 2024 SHOWING AGE IS NO BOUNDARY FOR SOCCER'S MODERN STARS

Page 19



9 770856 542009 >

Eight die in three accidents, 12 hurt

FROM PAGE 1

Claudia Mwilima (31) from Mbeya Region, all of them electrical technicians, he said.

The deceased are Samuel Zakaria (30), Dismas Meshack (21), Juma Bashiru (29) all residents of Uvinza district, Enock Chimanguli (42) from Tanga and Benson Thomas (25) based in Arusha.

Reports show that 80 percent of accidents are caused by reckless driving, 12 percent arise from

vehicle mechanical problems, six percent from weather disturbances while only two percent of road crashes arise from road defects.

The global status report on road safety for 2023 issued by the World Health Organisation (WHO) said that road traffic injuries lead to deaths of people aged five to 29 years. "Every year road accidents claim lives of more than 1.19m people, disproportionately affecting the developing countries," it affirms.

INEC and CSOs set out voter register update

FROM PAGE 1

lost hope, saying that there is no need to vote."

Ramadhani Msele, an activist with the Persons with Disabilities Foundation (PDF) expressed appreciation for INEC efforts in organising the meeting for detailed discussion on electoral processes.

INEC chairman Judge Jacobs Mwambegele opened the meeting, setting out an official update process for the permanent voter register, set to be launched on July 1 in

Kigoma, in view of the 2025 general election.

Biometric voter registration (BVR) kits for updating the register had been secured as it was in the last general election, he said, stating that the BVR kits are portable and will be easily distributed for use in rural areas for updating the register," he said.

During the updating exercise, the commission will ensure that people with disabilities, elders, patients and expectant mothers are well served, he added.

HESLB in Lake Zone collects 7.2bn/- from beneficiaries

By Correspondent Wilhelm Mulinda,

Mwanza

HIGHER Education Students' Loans Board (HESLB) in the Lake zone has collected a total of 7.2bn/- in 2023 from its former beneficiaries, it has been established.

This was revealed here yesterday by Usama Choka, HESLB manager in the Lake zone when addressing journalists on the level of compliance from the beneficiaries.

He said that government institutions comply properly with the loans as compared to private ones.

The act requires beneficiaries to start returning the loans two years after they complete their studies, he said.

He pointed out that those working in the formal sector return the loans by being deducted 15 percent of their monthly salaries and in the informal sector one can remit 100,000/- monthly, but when they are unable they are allowed to repay the amount that he or she can afford at a time.

He said that beneficiaries are required to return the loans so that other students from underprivileged families can also benefit from the money and continue with their studies.

"When the loans are not paid back timely, that situation negatively impacts the government's efforts to continue supporting other students who want to advance with studies," he said.

He also called on learning institutions to ensure that they submit information of their students to HESLB timely to avoid delay in the release of the loans.

Sometimes it happens that students of a certain institution delay getting loans on time due to institutions' delay in providing students information accordingly, Choka noted.

According to him, if HESLB does not get information on students from learning institutions promptly, automatically the loans will also be delayed.

He said that the government gives loans to help students to get an education therefore, learning institutions should submit to HESLB all the required information of students for loans on time.



When the loans are not paid back timely, that situation negatively impacts the government's efforts to continue supporting other students who want to advance with studies

Dar to host East African petroleum conference, exhibition next year

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

DAR ES SALAAM is set to host the 11th East African Petroleum Conference and Exhibition scheduled between March 5 and 7, next year, organisers have confirmed.

The conference, themed "Unlocking Investment in Future Energy: The Role of Petroleum Resources in the Energy Mix for Sustainable Development in East Africa," will offer a wide range of technical presentations reflecting developments in the oil and gas industry in East Africa and around the world, said the East African Community (EAC), a regional bloc based in Arusha.

The conference will also provide a forum for discussing the legal and policy framework and the overall business environment prevailing in the region. "It allows stakeholders

in the oil and gas sector to interact with EAC senior government officials and decision-makers," read the statement.

Given the importance of energy in realizing this vision, the EAC member states have agreed to cooperate in the joint exploration and development of energy resources within the region and promote investment within the sector. They seek to promote the optimal exploitation of both renewable and non-renewable energy sources for the mutual benefit of East Africans, according to the statement.

The EAC is an intergovernmental organization composed of eight countries, namely the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Somalia, Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda and Tanzania, with a combined population of more than 300 million.



Independent Electoral Commission chairman Judge Jacobs Mwambegele pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday opening a meeting the commission had with religious leaders. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

EU, stakeholders widening clean cooking energy scope

FROM PAGE 1

are being handled, officials said.

The EU manager said that in order for Tanzania to achieve its goal, it must take measures to create a good environment for gas cylinder use and manufacturing of electric stoves to encourage people to use clean energy for cooking at low cost and quick access.

The EU clean cooking energy fund is directed at ensuring that institutions such as prisons, schools, hospitals set up clean cooking energy infrastructure in their areas, working with the Rural Energy

Agency (REA), he said.

Aaron Cunningham, the United Nations Development Organization (UNDP) project manager for the efficient use of electricity, said that UNDP decided to support the efforts by seeking policy initiatives for stakeholders' use of improved electricity equipment.

The EU project team has already specified the standards to be used on electric coolers, refrigerators, televisions, fans and electric stoves so that they use less electricity.

The project which started in 2022 is partnered with the Tanzania Bureau of Standard (TBS) so that

standardised equipment provides relief in electricity use for various domestic and institutional needs, he stated.

Ministry officials told private sector stakeholders that the government appreciates its contribution to clean energy for cooking, including electricity, gas and other energy sources that are friendly to environment, health.

Styden Rwebangira, the ministry's assistant commissioner for electricity development said that clean energy for cooking includes various energy sources and not only gas as it is at times perceived.

He praised the European Union for its clean energy financing drive, noting that the government expects to initiate greater cooperation with the EU in setting out strategic plans and policy development.

Top officials of REA, the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA), the Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC), the Petroleum Upstream Regulatory Authority (PURA), the Tanzania Electric Supply Co. Ltd (TANESCO) attended the meeting, along with various development stakeholders and executives of private firms.



Home Affairs minister Hamad Yussuf Masauni (L) and Burundi Government representative Theophile Ndarufatiye sign an agreement in Kigoma municipality at the weekend on the facilitation of the voluntary return to their home country of Burundi refugees currently in Tanzania. Photo: Home Affairs ministry

Census: UNFPA, UK in 1bn/- data analysis links

FROM PAGE 1

money will be spent in line with the work plan,

The NBS is currently engaged in data analysis, she said, pointing at the institutional work plan accessed on the website, citing the need for support by UNFPA in collaboration with the government.

This way NBS can reach out to the district level and the lower scaling to the base level for them

to utilise information generated from population and housing surveys, she remarked.

Data analysis proceeded from having to respond to 'decentralization by devolution' to the district level, this being the main activities where NBS cooperated with UNFPA and the Planning Commission, she further noted.

Anne Makinda, the census commissioner, applauded UNFPA and the High Commission, as having

enabled other donor agencies to engage with NBS.

UNFPA has supported NBS through the census process to the third data phase that proceeds to disseminate the analysis findings to the public, she said.

The third phase is proceeding very well, with NBS facilitators meeting so many groups especially at the grassroots level, who appreciate the data as they can understand it clearly, she stated.

Mark Schreiner, the UNFPA country representative, reaffirmed the long-standing partnership with the NBS, pledging greater cooperation in support of the national development agenda, where statistics is a key component.

UNFPA looks forward to discussion on the pursuit of this engagement "but even more on the national development agenda that statistics is at its base," he added.

Charcoal technology to save forests in Kilombero District

By Guardian Reporter

ALTERNATIVE charcoal technology by a women-led group in Mang'ula B village, Kilombero District, Morogoro Region will save millions of trees in villages surrounding Udzungwa Mountains National Park.

The park had in recent years experienced serious destruction of its forests as villagers encroached in search of firewood and sometimes cut down trees for making charcoal.

Restuta Vitalis is the Secretary of the Mazingira Group; she said they are making charcoal briquettes from rice bran, sawdust and wood shavings which are mixed with molasses.

"We decided to venture into the alternative charcoal making business after realizing that too many trees were cut down by villagers for firewood. Our customers include food vendors and households," said Vitalis, adding a kilo of the product is sold at 500/-.

She said they were trained by a non-governmental organization—Associazione Mazingira based in Ifakara Town Council, Kilombero District, adding they are now capable of producing one tonne of charcoal briquettes in three hours.

"We are selling our charcoal at lower prices to attract more villagers," she added.

A food vendor, Halima Rashid from Mang'ula B village said: "There is a huge difference when using alternative charcoal because its briquettes last longer. I can now spend 2,000/- per day while previously I used to spend up to 10,000/- in buying charcoal every day."

Suzana Fidelis, also a food vendor from the same village said cooking with the newly introduced charcoal briquettes doesn't leave dust on the cooking pot, but the price is also affordable.

Theodora Aloyce, chief conservator at the mountain park, raised concerns over encroachment into the park insisting that assisting villagers with clean energy for cooking would save forests. She said they are looking for stakeholders to partner in distributing gas cylinders to villagers surrounding the park.

"I held a number of meetings with villagers in Kiberege, Mang'ula B, sole and Kanyenja villages; they are all asking for clean cooking energy to stop using firewood," she told members of the Journalists Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET) when the team visited the Nyerere Selous-Udzungwa wildlife corridor to witness the progress registered in the restoration process.

The visit was part of activities under the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) Tuhifadhi Maliasili project—a five-year (2021 - 2026) nationwide project that aims to conserve the country's biodiversity, enhance habitat connectivity and support community livelihoods.

He said that the act of the people asking for renewable energy shows how they understand the

Felister Mwalongo, programme coordinator for Associazione Mazingira said they are also sensitizing villagers to use improved mud stoves that use fewer pieces of firewood. He said a total of 52 households are using the stoves.

Mwalongo said that USAID facilitates environmental conservation education in villages surrounding the Udzungwa Mountains zone and the corridor.

Environmental education will be directed to primary school pupils, with 300 pupils and 45 teachers reached so far, while 60,000 tree seedlings were distributed to the community across four months.

Kelvin Shirima, Project Officer with MJUMITA said the various interventions implemented with support from the USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili project have largely helped to make environmental conservation issues among the agenda of the village meetings.

He said they have been working with different groups that are involved with environment conservation in six zones, 14 regions, 32 districts and 452 villages countrywide.

"We have been working with the groups to add value of products in the forest value chain. Our aim is to ensure villagers are aware of the benefits of forests and take part in its protection," said Shirima, adding they also monitor villages to ensure good governance in execution of forest and environmental related projects which contributes to restoration of the Nyerere Selous-Udzungwa corridor.

Dar pupils to undergo training on child rights

By Beatrice Philemon

OVER 3,000 pupils in Temeke District, Dar es Salaam are set to get training on children's rights as well as gender-based violence (GBV), equipping them with essential skills to fight all forms of abuses impeding them from achieving their goals.

Dr Astronaut Bagile, executive director of the Women in Social Entrepreneurship (WISE) made the remarks in Dar es Salaam recently when speaking to pupils at Keko-Magurumbasi Primary School as part of commemoration of the International Day of African Child slated for June 16.

With this year's theme: "Educate an African for 21st century: Building resilient education system for increased access to inclusive long life, quality and relevant learning in Africa", Dr Bagile said children need to be told openly about violence and how it is implemented to enable them to have wider understanding and be able to protect themselves from various forms of abuse. She said the project which commenced last year is expected to run up to next year.

"We aim to ensure that we furnish the children with proper information and power them to enable them to report and fight violent acts whenever they experience them," she said.

According to her, discrimination and violence are not only confined to women but children as well, thus intensive efforts to fight them as they have adverse impacts on the community and the country as a whole.

She said: "In a bid to help school pupils get their rights, we have been working with more than 50 district education officers, ward education officers, ward executive officers, community health workers, and children and women protection committee members and training them about

children's rights, referral system to police stations, legal aid and social workers to transfer this knowledge to school pupils within their localities."

Sospeter Oyuke, a Gender Desk Police Officer in Keko Mwanga Ward, said that more than 500 school pupils at Keko-Magurumbasi Primary School have been trained about children's rights to get an education to enable them to know their rights from their parents, teachers and even stand up when they believe their rights have been infringed.

"We have come up with the initiative after identifying that the majority of school pupils in Keko Ward are not knowledgeable on how they can claim the right from their parents and teachers when they see violation," he said.

According to Oyuke, when pupils are trained about their rights, what they learn can shape their values, they will also understand its importance and that they are sometimes worth defending.

He further urged pupils that wherever their rights have been infringed they must report to local government authorities, community development officers, ward's police stations, and other people especially if their parents refuse to send them to school.

Elaborating on child abuse, he called upon school pupils to report violence issues that affect them at home, school, police stations, teachers, and parents as well as use local government authorities located in their localities. "Don't allow anyone to call you my fiancé, touch your body inappropriately, or give you any alcohol to drink in all areas where you are because it is very dangerous for children," he told the pupils.

He explained that with the initiative, pupils will be taught how to respect themselves, other people, their peers, and the right to education.



Dr Selemani Jafo, Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and the Environment), contributes to debate in the National Assembly in Dodoma city yesterday. Left is Finance minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

By Correspondent Christina Haule,

Morogoro

Govt pledges to train more veterinary experts, herders

THE government has pledged to provide regular training for veterinary experts and herders across the country to boost the livestock sector value chain.

Dr Stanford Balema, assistant director in the veterinary services unit, Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries made the remarks here recently when wrapping-up training organised in collaboration with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

He said that the idea is meant to increase the value chain of livestock products and the only way to do this is by providing education to all stakeholders from experts to herders.

He tasked training beneficiaries including veterinary experts to use

the training to control the spread of diseases from animals to humans while solving livestock health challenges.

Dr Balema said that through the training, they depend on the participants to ably perform their duties in parallel with getting information about diseases, through which the Ministry can find a way to solve and control challenges for livestock and humans in the country.

Dr Balema also asked the participants to use SUA in their professional development to become the best experts in livestock diseases while thanking SUA and FAO for their solid cooperation with the govern-

ment including continuing to provide continuous training for animal and human health professionals in the country.

Dr Moses Ole-Nesele, FAO coordinator of the In-Service Applied Epidemiology Training (ISAVET) Programme said the training aims to build the ability of professionals to monitor diseases caused by animals but also to report diseases in time and provide information that can protect livestock and society in general.

"When we want to trade in meat and milk, we must ensure that our animals are safe in their health to increase the number of buyers. If

we do not do this, no one will enter our country and make purchases of low-quality products. Epidemic diseases have been recurring and others have entered new ones." "So this training is going to reduce these diseases and provide education to the public to eradicate outbreaks of diseases and arbitrary grazing by herders," said Dr Ole Nesele.

Khamisi Haji Mbembwe, assistant doctor from North Unguja District in Zanzibar said that the training will help him along with other employees and make North Unguja have the best and healthy livestock and the people can get meat and milk that are of high quality.



Zanzibar's Trade and Industrial Development minister, Omar Said Shaaban, pictured in the Zanzibar House of Representatives yesterday responding to views by members of the House on the ministry's Budget estimates for financial year 2024/2025. Photo: Guardian Photographer

NBS: Headline inflation remains at 3.1 pc in May

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE annual headline inflation rate for the month of May 2024 has stagnated at 3.1 percent as was recorded in April, 2024, National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) has revealed.

The stagnation of the headline inflation explains that, the speed of price change for commodities for the year ended May, 2024 remains the same as the speed that was recorded for the year ended April, 2024.

According to the NBS, the overall index went up from 112.72 recorded in May, 2023 to 116.18 recorded in May, 2024.

Food and non-alcoholic beverages inflation rate for May, 2024 has increased to 1.6 percent from 1.4

percent that was recorded in April, 2024. On the other hand, annual Inflation Rate for all items without food and non-alcoholic beverages for May, 2024 has decreased to 3.7 percent from 3.9 percent that was recorded in April, 2024.

"NCPI has shown a relatively stable price movement from May, 2023 to May, 2024 ranging between 112.72 and 116.18. In addition, annual headline inflation rates over the same period have shown a stable trend that ranges between 3.0 percent and 4.0 percent" NBS said in a statement.

The national consumer price Index between April, 2024 and May, 2024 has increased by 0.1 percent. The increase of the overall index is attributed to price increase for some food and non-food items.

Some food items that contributed to an increase of the index include; finger millet grains by 1.0 percent; Sunflower oil by 1.1 percent; vegetables by 1.6 percent; round potatoes by 4.1 percent; fresh cassava by 1.2 percent; dried beans by 4.2 percent and dried peas by 1.2 percent.

Some non-food items that contributed to an increase of the index include footwear for men by 0.4 percent; footwear for women by 0.3 percent; firewood by 1.5 percent; charcoal by 2.4 percent; petrol by 2.0 percent and personal care by 0.3 percent.

However, inflation rate among EAC member states (Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya) has been stabilizing overtime, with Tanzania recording the lowest rate of 3.1 per-

cent in the year ended May 1, 2024 as compared to Uganda 3.6 and Kenya 5.1.

The recorded inflation rates in all three countries are within the EAC target of below eight percent per year and between three and seven percent for SADC member states.

Inflation numbers play a central part in accessing economic convergence within EAC and SADC blocks to realize integration pillars such as Common Market, Custom Union, Monetary Union and ultimately Political Federation.

The overall stability is highly attributed to stability witnessed in food items, whereas, Tanzania's average food and non-alcoholic inflation rate from January to April, 2024 is recorded at 1.5 percent.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	As at 31 December		As at 1 January
	2023	2022 Restated	2022 Restated
	TZS '000	TZS '000	TZS '000
ASSETS			
Cash at bank and on hand	3,167,485	401,889	3,003,920
Deposits with financial institutions	26,739,192	6,807,305	-
Reinsurance recoverables on contracts retroceded	8,027,098	4,051,820	167,619
Other receivables	160,955	78,164	270,873
Government Securities measured at amortised cost	6,966,793	6,996,342	6,651,805
Deferred tax asset	1,147,693	489,899	40,985
Right of use asset	68,584	150,885	233,186
Equipment	369,830	472,810	44,965
Total Assets	46,647,630	19,448,914	10,413,353
Liabilities			
Current income tax payable	221,608	317,078	-
Other payables	11,739,251	887,756	223,119
Liabilities from reinsurance contracts issued	22,583,584	7,115,027	348,389
Lease Liability	70,984	149,736	226,847
Long Term Loan	127,004	160,638	-
Total Liabilities	34,742,431	8,630,235	798,355
Equity			
Share capital	10,000,000	10,000,000	10,000,000
Contingency reserve	610,110	252,758	-
Retained earnings/(accumulated losses)	1,295,089	565,921	(385,002)
Shareholders equity	11,905,199	10,818,679	9,614,998
Total Equity and Liabilities	46,647,630	19,448,914	10,413,353

The financial statements were approved by the directors on the date of this statement and were signed 16 May 2024

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

	Year ended 31 December	
	2023	2022 Restated
	TZS '000	TZS '000
Operating activities		
Cash generated in operating activities	5,462,096	2,583,689
Income tax paid	(1,224,277)	(336,836)
Net cash flows generated from/(used in) operating activities	4,237,819	2,246,853
Investing activities		
Proceeds from sale of equipment	3,077	-
Purchases of equipment	(3,318)	(510,034)
Net cash flows generated from/(used in) investing activities	(241)	(510,034)
Financing activities		
Proceeds from borrowings	-	182,552
Loan Repayments	(57,365)	(31,141)
Lease payments	(92,664)	(90,099)
Net cash flows (used in)/generated from financing activities	(150,029)	61,312
Net movement in cash and cash equivalents	4,087,549	1,798,131
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 January	4,836,373	3,003,920
Effects of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents	150,461	34,322
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 December	9,074,383	4,836,373

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

	For the year ended 31 December	
	2023	2022 Restated
	TZS '000	TZS '000
Reinsurance revenue (gross)	32,679,551	14,732,394
Reinsurance service expenses (gross)	(22,586,748)	(10,656,623)
Net expenses from reinsurance contracts (retroceded)	(7,434,564)	(3,093,477)
Reinsurance service result (net)	2,658,239	982,294
Interest revenue calculated using the effective interest method	1,314,239	714,129
Net credit impairment losses	(304,404)	(90,101)
Net foreign exchange (loss)/ gain	(788,549)	793,841
Net investment and other income	221,286	1,417,869
Net insurance and investment result	2,879,525	2,400,163
Other operating expenses	(1,305,295)	(970,872)
Other finance costs	(16,697)	(20,610)
Profit before income tax	1,557,533	1,408,681
Income tax credit/ (expense)	(471,013)	(205,000)
Profit for the period	1,086,520	1,203,681
Other comprehensive income for the year, net of tax	-	-
Total comprehensive profit for the period	1,086,520	1,203,681

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY

	Share Capital	Contingency Reserve	Retained Earnings/ (Accumulated losses)	Total Equity
	TZS '000	TZS '000	TZS '000	TZS '000
Year ended 31 December 2023				
At 1 January 2023 as previously reported	10,000,000	627,227	15,359	10,642,586
Impact of IFRS 17 application	-	(374,469)	550,562	176,093
Restated balance at 1 January 2023	10,000,000	252,758	565,921	10,818,679
Total comprehensive income for the period				
Profit for the year	-	-	1,086,520	1,086,520
Total comprehensive profit	-	-	1,086,520	1,086,520
Transfer to contingency reserve	-	357,352	(357,352)	-
Balance as at 31 December 2023	10,000,000	610,110	1,295,089	11,905,199
Year ended 31 December 2022				
At 1 January 2022 as previously reported	10,000,000	-	(233,191)	9,766,809
Adjustment on initial application of IFRS 17	-	-	(151,811)	(151,811)
Restated balance at 1 January 2022	10,000,000	-	(385,002)	9,614,998
Total comprehensive income for the period				
Profit for the year	-	-	875,777	875,777
Impact of IFRS 17 application	-	-	327,904	327,904
Restated profit for the year	-	-	1,203,681	1,203,681
Transfer to contingency reserve	-	252,758	(252,758)	-
Balance as at 31 December 2022	10,000,000	252,758	565,921	10,818,679



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The U.S. African Development Foundation (USADF) invites proposals from African cooperatives, producer groups, and enterprises for grant financing and local support for innovative solutions that extend their own capabilities to increase revenues, create jobs, improve farmer incomes, and achieve sustainable market-based growth.

Proposals will only be accepted from registered agricultural cooperatives, producer groups, and agricultural processors in Tanzania working directly in horticulture, coffee, edible oilseeds (sunflower and palm oil), and cereal (maize and rice) value chain sectors. Innovative approaches to agricultural and economic development will also be considered. This includes, but not limited to digitization, information technology, agricultural solutions using renewable energy.

Maximum award US \$250,000

- The organization must demonstrate that it has successfully worked together for a minimum of 2 years, have a minimum of 200 active members or suppliers, and has the capability to effectively use grants funds.
- The ownership and management must be in agreement on the problem to be addressed and have a commitment to benefit their community.
- The organization must have basic functional management and financial controls for a minimum of 2 years to demonstrate capability to account for USADF funds.
- Organizations must be African-owned and led.

Successful Proposals Must

- Have a clearly defined market opportunity to grow revenues that can increase incomes.
- Have a clearly defined plan of how they can increase revenues and incomes in 2- 4 years.
- Be able to make significant cash or in-kind contributions to the project.
- Be able to directly impact hundreds of people and community members.
- Be able to identify a path for growth after the USADF grant ends.
- Special consideration will be given to applications that incorporate innovative strategies to make use of new approaches and technologies, including complementary finance and information technology.
- Special consideration will also be given to women owned organizations and applications that promote youth.

For details go to:

www.usadf.gov/apply/

Submit your application form, financial statements for the last 2 years and a copy of registration document to: Tanzania@usadf.gov by June 30, 2024.



WWF for a living planet®

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT
CARNIVORE ECOLOGY OFFICER

The WWF (World Wide Fund for Nature), an international conservation organization, is seeking a competent and highly motivated Carnivore Ecology Officer, to be based in Masasi, Mtwara

The Carnivore Ecology Officer will play a crucial role in the implementation of WWF-RLS's special species conservation program. This position will focus on securing the survival of lions and maintaining their keystone function in the Southern Nyerere Wildlife Corridor (SNWC). The officer will be responsible for establishing an information base, restoring demographics, addressing human-carnivore conflicts, and promoting community-led initiatives for sustainable conservation efforts particularly on lions' populations

Major duties and responsibilities:

- Establish and maintain an information base and ecological monitoring framework for lion populations in Nyerere NP and southern WMA/VLFR.
- Conduct field surveys, data collection, and analysis to monitor lion demographics, movements, and habitat use.
- Develop and implement strategies to restore lion demographics and enhance connectivity within the SNWC.
- Develop and implement conflict mitigation strategies in collaboration with local communities and stakeholders.
- Promote the growth of lion populations to near capacity in SNWC to benefit communities through eco-tourism and potential Credits.
- Initiate and support a community-led carnivore monitoring initiative to sustain restored lion populations.
- Work with local communities to develop eco-tourism initiatives that support lion conservation and provide economic benefits.
- Conduct outreach and educational programs to raise awareness about the importance of lion conservation.

Required Qualifications and skills: BSc in Wildlife Ecology, Conservation Biology, Zoology, or a related field. At least 3 years of experience in wildlife conservation, with a focus on carnivores. Proven experience in ecological research, field surveys, and data analysis. Strong understanding of human-wildlife conflict issues and mitigation strategies. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, with experience in community engagement and education. Ability to work independently and as part of a multidisciplinary team. Proficiency in GIS, remote sensing, and ecological modeling software is an advantage. Fluency in English and Swahili.

Additional information: Detailed Terms of Reference can be obtained via http://www.panda.org/who_we_are/jobs/. Applications must include a complete Cover Letter & CV with full contact details of three referees with the subject line - 'Carnivore Ecology' and should be addressed to the Head of People & Culture, via email to: hresources@wwftz.org by Monday, 24th June 2024 at 17h00. Only the shortlisted candidates will be contacted, and the interviews will take place in Dar es Salaam. Female applicants are encouraged to apply.

WWF is an equal opportunity employer and committed to having a diverse workforce.

WWF has a principle of zero tolerance to fraud and corruption, if you encounter such an incident, then report by sending an email to fcci@wwftz.org

'Z'bar's govt debt goes up to 1.3trn/- in just three years'

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ACT-Wazalendo Vice Chairman (Zanzibar) Ismail Jussa Ladhu has said that Zanzibar government debt has reached 1.3trn/- in three years from 153bn/- during the eight-phase government.

Jussa underscored this yesterday while addressing a public meeting at Kivumbi grounds in Shauri Moyo Constituency in West Unguja Region.

He said that the debt is derived from local loans, which increase the burden on the government and Zanzibar taxpayers.

"The Zanzibar government debt in just three years has reached 1.3trn/- from 153bn/- in 2020, the taxpayers will be the ones who will pay because they are the one who will continue to be taxed; however, the severity of life will increase," he said.

In addition, he said that the government must re-evaluate the increase in domestic debts to eliminate the hardships facing citizens and businesses who are being taxed to reduce the price on commodities.

Speaking on the construction projects of Chuwini, Mwanakwerekwe, and Jumbi markets, he said the projects should have been managed by the council or municipality because they are the responsible bodies tasked to manage the projects according to the law, but the projects have been taken over by the central government.

He said the cost of the project has increased from 73bn/- to 102bn/- equal to an increase of 29 percent

due to concerns over corruption.

"There are these three markets in Mwanakwerekwe, Jumbi, and Chuwini, the markets are the work of councils and municipalities, how is it that today the central government has suddenly intervened in the construction of markets after the contractors failed to complete the jobs," said Jussa.

Jussa said that the investigation they conducted found that the increase in the construction costs of the markets was due to construction materials being bought at a fraudulent price. For example, one bag of cement is sold for 17,000/-, but in the project, they bought it for 23,000/-, one tonne of construction steel sold at 2.5m/- but was bought for 3.2m/- he said.

However, he said that if the ACT-Wazalendo takes power in 2025, all those involved in corrupt practices will return the money by confiscating their assets and bringing them to justice.

Mansour Yussuf Himid, the party's member of the central committee said the goals of the revolution were to unite the people of Zanzibar to get rid of acts of discrimination, but these goals seem to be disrupted.

He said that, right now there are complaints of people being deprived of Zanzibar resident identification cards and being discriminated against in employment, this is not acceptable.

The ACT continues with its state-by-state meetings, which have been named 'Operation Bandika Bandua', spending a lot of time criticising and exposing acts of corruption in various projects in Zanzibar, including construction.



CCM Secretary General Dr Emmanuel Nchimbi addresses a rally in Tanga city on Sunday. Photo: Correspondent Steven William

MP lauds tour operators for offering free meals to pupils

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

SPECIAL SEATS MP, Minza Mgika has hailed local tour operators for providing free meals to 850 pupils at Makao Primary School in Meatu District, Simiyu Region.

MP Minza made the remarks recently in the National Assembly when debating the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism budget estimates for the 2024/25 financial year.

She said that for the past year, Mwiba Holdings Ltd through its Friedkin Conservation Fund (FCF) has been dishing out funds every month to facilitate procurement

of food for the pupils, something which has greatly helped reduce truancy.

"These efforts should be commended, this firm's contribution to the children's development is big, I remember the company launched the project to provide free lunch meals to pupils at the school and has been doing so every month, you can see how it directly touches development in the health and education sector," the lawmaker said.

Mgika said every month, the school gets 11.5m/- for the procurement of food but it has also constructed a modern kitchen

worth 37.4m/- and rainwater harvesting technology which costs 30.8m/-.

She said that with the new improvements, children are active in class with academic performance also increasing.

The firm has also issued 200 bicycles worth 40m/- to Paji Secondary School to support pupils who reside far from the school.

"We commend this company as it has also built teachers and health servants' houses as well as classrooms," she added.

She also thanked the Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism and its servants for their continued

efforts to promote tourism development in the country.

Mwiba Holdings Ltd conducts conservation and tourism activities within the Mwiba Wildlife Reserve and Maswa Game Reserve.

Aurelia Mtui, the firm's manager said the company has set aside \$793,000 (over 1.9bn/-) to contribute to development initiatives.

"This year's budget is much higher than the last year which was \$525,000 (1.3bn/-)," she added.

Meatu District Council Chairperson, Anthony Philipo has always been commending stakeholders' efforts to support development in the district.

Get involved in environmental conservation, youth challenged

By Getrude Mbago

TANZANIAN youth have been urged to join forces and take a lead in environmental conservation initiatives in order to restore nature and address climate change.

A section of stakeholders made the appeal in Dar es Salaam recently at an event to commemorate the World Environment Day.

Silvana Casavilca, business development manager at Plan International-Tanzania said that the environment is facing worsening challenges due to climate change, pollution and other human factors, a situation which calls for more coordinated and innovative measures to address.

According to her, despite various efforts implemented by the government and stakeholders, there is still a huge need to continue implementing innovative projects to overcome the pressing climate challenges.

"We need vibrant initiatives in this area, investment in renewable energy and environment conservation is inevitable, the World needs these measures now more than ever before," she said adding: "Plan International believes in young people in bringing positive change in the society."

Casavilca said the event, which has been organised by Plan International in collaboration with Youth Survival Organisation (YSO) in collaboration, has attracted over 200 young individuals from various universities, aimed at mobilizing them and empowering them to lead the fight against climate change.

"This year's theme, 'Restoration for a Sustainable Future,' resonates deeply with our shared mission to heal our planet and ensure a thriving world for generations to come," she added.

Caroline Lyimo, Advisor at the Tanzania Youth Organizations Coalition said: "Today, we gather not only to celebrate our natural world but also to reaffirm our commitment to protecting and restoring it."

She said the degradation of ecosystems, loss of biodiversity,

and the escalating impacts of climate change are urgent issues that demand our immediate and sustained action.

She said young people in Tanzania, Africa and across the globe are already stepping up to this challenge with remarkable energy and innovation.

"Planting trees, cleaning rivers, advocating for sustainable practices, and utilizing technology to drive environmental change. These efforts are not just acts of service; they are declarations of our resolve to safeguard our planet," she said.

She hailed young leaders like Sharon Ringo under Sharon Ringo foundation at a young age that began advocating for climate action and continues to lead campaigns for environmental education and nature restoration targeting to plant 10 million trees come year 2027.

"We must continue to advocate for stronger environmental protections and sustainable practices at local, national, and international levels. By working together, sharing our knowledge, and supporting each other's initiatives, we can achieve far more than we ever could alone," she added.

Lyimo further applauded President Samia Suluhu Hassan for her leadership in ecosystem restoration and her role as the Global Champion for the Clean Cooking agenda.

"We should follow her example by actively participating in hands-on activities to innovate clean cooking energy solutions such as Mkaa Salama presented to us today, use of biogas and others," she said.

Beatrix Jingyi, programmes and communications specialist at the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) said climate change has continued to bring a lot of impacts globally and that joint efforts were needed to strengthen environmental degradation.

"Climate change is a global crisis that has no borders, and it is up to each one of us, especially our youth, to lead the way towards a more sustainable and resilient future," she said.



Beatrice Kwayu (36) seated in the Moshi Resident Magistrate's Court yesterday in connection with suspicions relating to the recent killing of her husband, Moshi municipality businessman Evagro Msele, at Pumuni A in Kirua Vunjo ward. Photo: Correspondent Mary Moshia

Observe standards, food crop businesspersons urged

By Guardian Reporter

FOOD crop traders have been asked to strengthen its production systems to protect people's health and access global competitive markets

Dr Ashura Katunzi, TBS Acting Director General, made the call in Dar es Salaam over the weekend during the commemoration of the World Food Safety Day. The day is marked worldwide on June 7, annually. This year's theme is: 'Safe Food: Prepare for the unexpected' which warns about the importance of being prepared at all times to face risks that may affect food safety.

"The government through its institutions implements several initiatives to deal with food safety risks and strengthens the food safety control system, including

increasing monitoring and coordination of cross-cutting issues and communication between the government, food traders and the society in general," she said.

Dr Katunzi added: "Safe food is everyone's responsibility. So, I call on every stakeholder to participate fully in this debate to discuss how each stakeholder is prepared to deal with emergencies caused by food contamination or the effects of eating unsafe food."

The TBS boss said that everyone in their position has the responsibility to assess risks that can cause food contamination and its effects as well as set up infrastructure to deal with the situation in case it happens.

She said consumers also have the responsibility to understand the risks of food safety and the

environment that causes food contamination, the effects of eating unsafe food, and providing information on unsafe food as well as understanding how to deal with incidents caused by eating unsafe food.

"For that reason, stakeholders are encouraged to build capacity in preventing, deciding and dealing with emergencies caused by unsafe food because the effects of unsafe food are dangerous, including health and economic hazards," she said.

She said consumption of unsafe food has been associated with various diseases as well as health challenges such as poor growth in children, poor nutrition for adults and children, as well as an increase in infectious and non-infectious diseases.

Citing some statistics from the World Health Organization (WHO), Dr Katunzi said that it is estimated that every year one person in every 10 people gets sick from eating unsafe food in the world, adding that 420,000 people who get sick die.

Senior Business Officer, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Festo Kapela said that food safety is a long chain and each stakeholder must fulfil their responsibilities to ensure that food does not cause health harm to consumers.

Amina Yasin TBS acting director of quality control called on all stakeholders in the food chain to fulfil their responsibilities to ensure that they prevent risks from the time the food is produced in the farm until it reaches the final consumer.

Govt plants 266million trees up to March 2024

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

THE government through local government authorities has planted 266 million trees countrywide up to March this year.

Dr Selemani Jafo, Minister of State Office in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment) told the National Assembly in Dodoma yesterday while responding to questions by Nkasi North MP, Aida Khenan, who wanted to get information on trees that have been planted countrywide.

Dr Jafo noted that among them, 211 million trees have flourished, which is equal to 79.3 percent, stressing that the CCM election manifesto 2020-2025 has directed every council in the country to plant 1.5 million trees, "so these figures show how the government is progressing with its implementation."

Khamis Hamza Khamis, Deputy Minister in VPO said that the government has formulated and supervised the implementation of policies, laws, rules, and guidelines to prevent reckless tree felling in mountainous and hilly areas.

Khamis was responding to a question by Kalenga MP who asked when the government will enact a strict law to prevent arbitrary cutting of trees especially in mountainous and hilly areas to fight climate change.

Khamis mentioned that the laws include the Environmental Law Chapter 191, the Village Land Law number 5 of 1999, and the Forestry Law Chapter 323 which have specific provisions on environmental protection and protection of mountains, hills, and hills.

He said the government took various measures to ensure that the country's environment is protected and well preserved, including the preparation and implementation of the Strategy for Quick Actions to Protect the Environment of Land and Water Sources of 2006, which sets the goal of each district

to plant 1.5 million trees each year and the five-year National Strategy for Planting and Caring for Trees (2016/17 - 2020/2021).

He added that in order to increase conservation efforts in mountainous and highland areas, the Office of the Vice President will cooperate with the Tanzania Forestry Services (TFS), the President's Office (RALGA) and the Private Sector in providing education and administering the law currently available.

In another step answering the question of Khamis has banned human activities on water sources within 60 meters and elevations and directed the planting of sufficient trees in those areas. He said this while answering the additional question of Kiswaga, who is also the Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Water and Environment, asked about the Government's plan to declare a ban on humanitarian activities in the highlands.

It will be noted that the Environmental Management Act, Chapter 191, Article 58 (2) directs about the conservation of the environment and the protection of mountains, hills and hills and the Forestry Policy of 1998 has directed the procedure for maintaining and preserving mountains and hills. Likewise, the Village Land Law number 5 of 1999 and the Forestry Law Chapter 323, have established a legal procedure to control environmental damage, especially illegal cutting of trees in various areas including mountainous and hilly areas.



...so these figures show how the government is progressing with its implementation



Stock Theft Prevention Squad commander Simon Pasua pictured at the weekend viewing cattle said to have been impounded by police in Longido District, Arusha Region, shortly before being smuggled across the Tanzania-Kenya border. Photo courtesy of Police Hqs

Relief as villagers in Singida get clean, safe water

By Correspondent Thobias Mwanakatwe, Iramba

THE Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (RUWASA) has launched the 246m/-worth water project in Migilango Village in Iramba District, Singida Region set to relieve over 4,000 villagers from water woes.

Speaking over the weekend during the launch and handing over of the project, RUWASA manager in the district

Eng Ezra Mwacha said that the project has been built with the support of Danish-based Poul Due Jensen Grundfos Foundation through the Dar es Salaam-based non-profit organisation--Water Gate Community Link.

Eng. Mwacha said the project

will enable the community to reduce gender-based violence (GBV) where women, children, and students were the biggest victims of searching for water.

Mwacha said another benefit of the project will enable villagers to avoid illnesses caused by the lack of clean and safe water, to get water closer, unlike at the beginning when they had to walk 14 kilometres to follow the water service.

John Mudende, chief executive of Water Gate Community Link, said that the project will have a volume of 50,000 litres and there will be four distribution points (DPs) to fetch water for the people of the village.

He said that for the project to last a long time and continue to provide water services to the people, the government, district water

authorities, and people should ensure that the infrastructure of the project is not damaged.

"This project has been built with the money of people around the world who fought and saved so that we Tanzanians, especially in this village, can get water and thus go with the government's policy of putting a bucket on the mother's head," he said.

Mudende said that the financiers have a procedure to visit the projects for which they have given money, so it will not be a good thing when they come to find that the project is damaged and does not provide water.

Ngusa Breck, manager of Grundfos Foundation in Tanzania said that for the infrastructure of the project to continue to be maintained; the funds that will

be collected during the sale of water should be used to cover the maintenance of the project when there are challenges.

Breck said that the biggest challenge in other areas after the project was launched was the coming out of water. Still, after one year the water is not coming out and the main reason is the lack of money for infrastructure maintenance.

"If the moneylenders come and find that the project does not provide water, it means that the people of Migilango village will be the first to prevent the people of other villages from getting the water project, you will also cause other stakeholders who support water projects to see that Tanzania is not a safe place to send water projects," he said.

How to Buy Nipashe and The Guardian Newspapers at www.ippmedia.com or epaper.ippmedia.com

Through the website epaper.ippmedia.com

1. Open the epaper.ippmedia.com website from your browser, select the version of publication you want to purchase, whether **Nipashe** or **The Guardian** by clicking "Read"
2. It will send you to another page where you need to fill in your information and the package you want to join. Then click "**subscribe**"
3. It will take you to the payment page where you can pay with either **bank card** or **by mobile money** transfer after correctly filling in your required information
4. Through **mobile Money**, choose the mobile network, write your number and tick the box to accept the terms and conditions. The **push SMS** will pop out on your phone to deduct

the amount after allowing the transaction from your mobile account. When the payment is completed, you will receive a payment confirmation **email** and **SMS**, then login into your account and start reading the publication of your choice

5. Through the **bank card**, you enter your card information and allow the amount to be deducted from your account after accepting the terms and conditions. Then log in to your account and finally enjoy the publication of your preference

Through the www.ippmedia.com website

6. Open your browser www.ippmedia.com website on the right hand side you will see "**E-Paper**" click on it and follow the processes same as **number 1-5**



EAC organises TOT to enhance regional integration further

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African Community (EAC) has organized a Training of Trainers (TOT) session for System Administrators and Business Development Experts from Partner States' Revenue Authorities to enhance regional integration.

Held in Mombasa, Kenya, the training focuses on the EAC One-Stop Border Post (OSBP) Performance Measurement Tool - EAC OBMP PMT, an online reporting tool developed to assess the performance of OSBPs in the region.

In his opening remarks, Stephen Analo, EAC Customs and Trade Capacity Building Expert noted that the EAC remains committed to facilitating trade across the region.

"In an effort to increase and facilitate trade in the region, the Community has implemented various interventions, including the construction and operationalization of One-Stop Border Posts (OSBPs)," said Analo.

The EAC official highlighted that, given the substantial investment in bringing the OSBPs to fruition, it is imperative to monitor the performance of these facilities to ensure they deliver the anticipated results.

"This monitoring tool will therefore enable us to track the performance of the OSBPs and evaluate their return on investment," he added.

The EAC OSBP PMT is designed to streamline border operations, reduce transit times, and enhance the overall efficiency of trade across East African borders. By accurately

measuring performance, the tool provides critical data to identify bottlenecks, improve resource allocation, and foster a more seamless trading environment.

Specifically, the OSBP PMT sets out to reduce delays at border posts by identifying and addressing inefficiencies, data-driven decision making; provide reliable data for informed decision-making to improve border operations, boost economic growth; facilitate smoother trade flows, thereby contributing to the economic development of the Partner States as well as promote regional integration; strengthen economic ties and cooperation among the Partner States.

The TOT programme is structured to equip participants with the necessary skills and knowledge to effectively utilize the OSBP PMT. Participants will undergo comprehensive training, including hands-on sessions and practical demonstrations, ensuring they are well-prepared to transfer this expertise within their respective revenue authorities.

The training session marks a significant step towards enhancing the efficiency of cross-border trade in the East African Community. By empowering experts from the revenue authorities, the initiative aims to create a more efficient, data-driven approach to border management, fostering economic growth and regional integration.

The performance measurement tool was developed with support from TradeMark Africa as part of its support to EAC regional integration programmes.



Basil Roman Njau (L) of Mirerani township in Simanjiro District pictured on Sunday presenting foodstuffs to an orphanage based in the township. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

By Guardian Reporter

TEN home-grown Tanzanian EdTech companies have been listed in the first cohort set to receive business and financial support and insight into the science of learning to prepare them for scale, sustainability and impact.

The move is also meant to transform the country's education sector.

It's also part of its inaugural partnership with the Mastercard Foundation EdTech Fellowship—an acceleration programme designed to support promising African EdTech ventures in partnership with innovation hubs and accelerators across the continent.

The Fellowship is implemented by Sahara Consult as part of its inaugural partnership with Mastercard Foundation.

In 2023, solutions by Fellowship cohorts in South Africa, Nigeria, and Kenya reached 2.6 million

ICT firms in Dar to benefit from this year's fellowship

learners. Over the next eight months, Tanzania's inaugural cohort of growth-stage EdTech companies will benefit from mentorship through business and financial support and insight into the science of learning to prepare them for scale, sustainability, and impact.

"Congratulations to the ten EdTech companies. This marks the beginning of a new journey in innovation. Sahara Consult is intentional about growing the EdTech sector in Tanzania, and working with the Mastercard Foundation will see us increase educational opportunities through technology," said Nancy Kiondo,

Sahara Consult, managing director. The work of these 10 companies represents the transformative power of educational technology in increasing access to relevant and accessible education across Tanzania.

Some of the beneficiaries in this year's Mastercard Foundation EdTech Fellowship include Shuleyetu Innovations Ltd, Mtabe—a company that uses artificial intelligence, Smartdarasa, Infotaaluma, ShuleSoft, Smartcore Enterprise, Kilimanjaro Planetarium part of Rada 360 Ltd, and MITZ Group.

Joseph Nsengimana, director of the Mastercard Foundation Centre for Innovative Teaching

and Learning said, "Through partnerships with tech hubs such as Sahara Consult, we hope to increase access to quality, relevant, and accessible learning to Tanzania's and Africa's underserved learners through locally developed, technology-enabled solutions. We look forward to an even greater impact this year."

Alongside training, the fellowship will also offer equity-free funding of up to \$70,000 and post-programme support for up to one year after the acceleration program. By supporting these EdTech innovators, Sahara Consult and the Mastercard Foundation aim to advance the education sector in Tanzania.

African businesses to stand in this year's CCAA Awards

By Special Correspondent

BUSINESSES from South Africa, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, and other countries are expected to nominate their initiatives and brands in this year's Consumer Choice Award Africa (CCAA) slated for November, this year.

CCAA is a springboard for raising consumer voices and satisfaction with various services and products in the market. It is Africa's business and corporate recognition platform for product and service providers through consumer votes.

Speaking about the event, CCAA founder and managing director, Diana Laizer urged companies and brands to participate and engage their consumers during this year's awards campaign.

She said last year's event featured 22 main categories and 70 subcategories in the summit. The categories included logistics, telecoms, aviation, financial services, real estate, insurance, oil and gas, hotel and hospitality, security, fast-moving consumer goods, event and décor, fashion and design, and photography.

She said that she expects the awards to increase competition and motivate entrepreneurs, thereby stimulating economic growth in the country.

"Since the inception of these awards, we have seen great success, with a total of 650 participants in last year's awards," said Laizer.

She mentioned that they expect to have a proper system in place and that winners will be selected based on criteria and the quality of

their products. "Kenya has already held their national awards since March this year, while Malawi is expected to announce their winners soon, along with other countries. This response shows how these awards are continuing to grow," she said.

Laizer pointed out that over the past four years, they had managed to reach thousands of consumers across Africa through digital networks. Commenting on the selection process, she noted that the winners of different categories are obtained through online nominations.

Consumers, she explained, have the opportunity to nominate by filling in the online nomination forms available on the CCAA website, listing the categories and subcategories.

"After receiving suggestions of participants in different categories, our team works internally in sorting the names and categories and evaluates each suggestion made in reference to the criteria for each award. The official date of the event will be communicated later," said Laizer.

She elaborated that voting is conducted over several days and consumers can vote only once for each subcategory.

Laizer further noted that after the voting period is over, the system automatically displays the results according to the majority votes.

Nominations for 2024 will officially be open from June 18, and will be for only one month, and voting will be announced later this year.



Styden Rwebangila (C), Assistant Commissioner for Electricity Development in the Energy ministry, has a quick word in Dar es Salaam yesterday with two of the participants of discussions involving energy sector stakeholders which he had just opened. The focus was on the headway made in implementing the ministry's projects as planned for financial year 2022/2023. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

GENEVA

Gavi endorses five-year strategy to support access to new vaccines

THE Board of Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance has announced a series of decisions that provide a framework for an acceleration of global immunisation - including approval of "Gavi 6.0", the Alliance's 2026-2030 strategy.

It also meant to expand Gavi's vaccine portfolio, and plans to support global health security and regional manufacturing through the African Vaccine Manufacturing

Accelerator and a First Response Fund for use in future pandemics. The decisions were taken during a two-day meeting convened in Geneva from 6-7 June. "Vaccines are one of the most impactful and cost-effective health and development interventions available today," said Professor José Manuel Barroso, Chair of the Gavi Board.

"As we look to 2030 and

progress against the Sustainable Development Goals amidst climate change and other challenges, the message is clear: the world must continue to invest in the transformative impact of vaccines and their ability to save lives and ensure our collective security."

To set the scene for two days of discussions on Gavi's future direction, the Board first reviewed

progress for the current strategic period, noting that the Alliance is largely on track across mission indicators despite the disruptions caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Progress includes critical advances in the push to reach 86 million girls with vaccines against human papillomavirus (HPV), with five new country launches since September 2023, and the new

malaria vaccination programme, where 22 country applications have been approved and deeper collaboration with the broader set of malaria stakeholders, including the Global Fund, is underway. While there has been a 12% reduction in the number of outbreaks requiring a response between 2022 and 2023, it continues to be an area of concern that this remains far above

pre-pandemic averages, primarily driven by surges in cholera and measles outbreaks.

The Board approved the Vaccine Alliance's strategy for the period 2026-2030, known as "Gavi 6.0". The 6.0 strategy will be the most ambitious in Gavi's history: seeking to protect more people, against more diseases, faster than ever before.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO
Circulation Manager: DENNIS NTAITA
feedback@guardian.co.tz

Newsdesk

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

Advertising

Mobile: 0677020701
E-mails: advertise@guardian.co.tz
Website: www.ippmedia.com
epaper.ippmedia.com

Pulling out of plot sale posters might see them reach internet sites, groups

JUST what is the significance of putting up placards, billboards, posters or other signposts that a plot is being sold or, alternatively, pulling down such markers?

Experience shows people or agencies out to sell plots or houses seldom need to advertise on the streets, as word of mouth is enough when a middleman is told.

There was a time Lands ministry authorities were on a campaign against brokers or, rather, middlemen - for they don't create value in the process - which didn't change things. It is unlikely that this new ministerial directive to remove placards will alter anything substantive.

The minister responsible for land issues is understood to have given land officers countrywide a week to ensure that all placards relating to the sale of plots of land are removed.

The officers will not have much to do as plot sellers don't wish to have large numbers of people popping up to ask 'useless' questions but genuine buyers who take the trouble to find 'dealers' in the real estate business for word on any house or plot up for sale.

Trouble lies in selling plots without title deeds being provided to buyers, for then disputes start surfacing.

The ministerial intervention comes only months since the start of mobile land dispute clinics, though they chiefly relate to different sorts of wrangles - those on public land contested between public authorities and local residents.

The sort of disputes the minister was listening to, and about which he issued procedural instructions, in a sense ought to have been inserted in a law amendment rather than a directive to officials.

After all, even directives have channels they take to become

effective rather than depending on voluntary reactions.

One such aspect is whether notices or placards of that sort are registered with Lands ministry or local governments, in which case the way an order to remove them has to take note of the manner in which they were allowed in the first place.

More significantly, there was an issue of rectifying frauds where plots some people had bought from some sellers were found to be disputed in relation to occupancy rights. The problem originally was with ministry but it now appears to be with companies.

Take the minister's 'solution', something like companies or individuals selling land plots having to register such plots at the district and regional land offices, as a measure to avoid cheating.

Definitely, it isn't the companies that register such plots but such buyers, as land titles aren't given by the plot selling firms.

It is thus up to a buyer to find out about the title deed, either from the company or the land authorities concerned, and there are complications.

The minister was quoted as having said that a company cannot sell a plot merely by using a map, laying stress on title deeds.

But he is said to have declared that the government cannot remain silent when poor citizens have their money being stolen by culprits, which critics see as having gone a bit too far.

Surely, all title deed issues would have to be resolved before plots are sold. So, the problem comes back to where it started - that it is possible for title deeds to be duplicated and ironing out the two narratives would need a court of law rather than mobile land clinics.

Launch of a renewable energy project to boost current strategy

THERE are full-blown plans for a national renewable energy rollout strategy, with officials saying the new programme is meant to stimulate investments in the subsector.

The idea is for the launch of the strategy to reflect the National Development Vision 2025, now being rolled out in view of plans for financial year 2024/2025 being in the last stages.

What this means is that the rollout is a precocious measure for Vision 2025 for the country to take up its role in reducing carbon emissions.

That would be apart from carbon trading via expansion of conservation areas eligible for such mechanisms, already a widening trade.

It is not far-fetched to say that, in relation to the 17 global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and emissions reduction generally, we have been seeking opportunities there - including in conserving areas for carbon credits.

Like most other countries, we are hanging out on the coal trade and the national clean cooking energy strategy takes its parameters from health, the cost of smoke or fire specks to eyes, with a vital addition that clean cooking energy reduces tree felling and the clearing of woodlands for charcoal.

Firewood is meanwhile quite often discarded dry wood rather than resulting from tree felling.

At the time that a summit was taking place in the French capital, Paris, on ways of financing the clean cooking energy strategy for Africa, a breadth of activists came up with the slogan 'Don't gaslight Africa'.

It is evident that the focus there was electricity generation -

suggesting that natural gas ought not to be the main focus for getting most villages in Africa connected with the national grid.

Yet each country will adopt strategies related to the resources it has. That would be to say that in East Africa it is Uganda which will likely show greater tolerance for diesel and petrol for cars as it has the resource.

While Tanzania could be said to have natural gas for the preferred clean source of cooking energy, activists and public authorities in Kenya go for renewables.

An official reached for comment talked of moving away from the use of biofuels such as firewood and charcoal for cooking, where we not only reduce pollution but also improve the climate and the lives of millions of people.

There are also institutional bottlenecks that might hinder a proper rollout of a renewable energy strategy, the first being inability to form small companies that can generate power to the local level - for instance, with dumpsites.

There is a belief that all the power generated ought to be sold to the state-own monopoly at a price it would itself dictate. If alternative energy companies are drawn from the private sector and involve some big local investors, plenty will come up as implications.

In other words, a sustainable renewable energy strategy might have to start with a dismantling of the energy monopoly into competing companies, complementing their market share with renewables.

In essence, reform would have to be leveraged in the strategy so that the state monopoly's rights don't dislodge it.



Global water crisis: The responsibility paradox

By Anya Balen

WITH just 10 per cent of the total water intake going to domestic household use, are we the real culprits?

Water has always been not only necessary for human survival but also at the centre of any kind of progress. Yet, its distribution is highly imbalanced.

Nine countries possess 60 per cent of the world's freshwater resources: Brazil, Canada, China, Colombia, India, Indonesia, Peru, Russia and the United States.

But even in these countries, not all the regions are equally covered. Also, Asia, home to around 60 per cent of all human beings, has only 30 per cent of the world's water resources.

Meanwhile, in the Amazon rainforest, which contains 15 per cent of all available water, live only 0.3 per cent of people.

In numerous countries, people live in a state of chronic shortage of water. As of today, two billion people, 26 per cent of the total world population, don't have access to safe drinking water.

Water is also at the heart of the climate crisis and the hunger crisis as well as the centre of many armed conflicts, especially in Africa.

Two or more neighbouring countries often share hydrographic basins. This can give rise to disputes, such as the ones between Jordan and Israel over the River Jordan, or between upstream and downstream countries like Egypt and Ethiopia over River Nile as well as Iraq and Turkey over River Tigris.

Then, there is the excessive usage: America's wheat belt, where a whole sixth of the world's grain is produced,

Tanzania's 'rice town' lights up with new EU-funded substation

By Guardian Correspondent

AN electricity substation funded by the European Union (EU) and meant to address long-standing issues related to the unreliability of power supply was recently inaugurated in Ifakara town in Morogoro Region.

This 25 billion/- project is part of a larger EU-Tanzania partnership focused on improving the country's energy sector.

The journey along the Ifakara-Kidatu road offers travellers a glimpse into the future of Ifakara town. This vital 67-kilometre stretch, which is nearing completion with support from the EU, is a quicker route.

The road is also a symbol of progress for Ifakara, a strategic town nestled in the heart of Kilombero District.

Often called 'mji wa mchele' (literally, the Kiswahili for 'town of rice'), Ifakara is a leading producer of the nation's staple food and a thriving

depends on the large Ogallala Aquifer of the High Plains. However, that aquifer refills far slower than the pace at which the water is withdrawn.

Not to mention that approximately 95 per cent of groundwater pumped is used for irrigated agriculture. 95 per cent!

Well, you might now ask: but isn't water a renewable resource? Of course, it is! Water can be used, and the wastewater generated can be treated and reused. Properly managed, this process can continue indefinitely.

Properly managed - which is not that easy, though. And let's not forget about the energy we need to treat the wastewater.

Also, each stage of the water cycle takes different amounts of time to complete: water can exist in the form of rain or snow very briefly, but water in lakes can take decades to cycle through. Water in oceans or glaciers takes even longer, up to thousands of years.

Besides, in areas of little or no precipitation, water becomes almost non-renewable. Once the water is used up, it doesn't return for a long time.

Generally, 69 per cent of the total water intake goes to agriculture. Another 19 per cent of global usage goes to industry.

Only 8 per cent of the total water intake goes to domestic household use - or 12 per cent for cities.

Should the individual citizen feel responsible for the water emergency? The accepted narrative is that it depends on us. Seriously?

The "global water crisis" is a very important topic today. Unfortunately, the response to the problem remains inadequate.

Hollywood stars invite us to give generously as individual consumers. Bottled water and beer

centre for agriculture and business. However, the town's potential for even greater prosperity has long been hampered by one crucial constraint: reliable power.

This challenge was recently addressed with the grand inauguration of a substation in Ifakara. The event was led by Dr Doto Biteko, Deputy Prime Minister doubling as Energy minister, and Christine Grau, the EU's Ambassador to Tanzania.

Also in attendance were various government officials, religious leaders and residents of surrounding areas. Constructed with a total investment of 25 billion/-, including 18 billion/- from the EU under the 10th European Development Fund, the substation has already begun transforming lives.

Prior to its construction, the area faced frequent outages and insufficient power. In just a year, however, monthly outage time has dramatically dropped from 18 hours to just 49 minutes, significantly enhancing power reliability.

multinationals show off with their advertising campaigns based on their sustainability policies.

Meanwhile, charities acknowledge that they need "real money" to earn from what they do.

There is also the World Water Council, an organisation that has the support of United Nations agencies. Of course, in reality, it is a multi-stakeholder body headed by multinational water corporations.

WWC brings corporations and governments together in order to promote private interests in the management of freshwater supplies. The council organises the World Water Forum, which is this year being held in Bali, Indonesia, from May 18 to 25.

Countries pay 30 million euros for hosting the event. And if you want to take part as an individual, it will cost you around US\$430.

Good and fair management of water is one of the 17 global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that form the core of the UN 2030 Agenda, which was adopted by world leaders in 2015. We are, though, very far from achieving these goals.

Another problem is that water is being privatised. In the 1990s around 50 million people worldwide got their water from private companies. Today the number is between 800 and 900 million.

Strangely, or maybe not, Africa recorded the biggest surge in water privatisation. Huge companies such as the French Suez-Veolia have contracted the water supply in some of the main African cities.

Privatisation of water can include various situations, including partial ownership over resources, control over assets, transport, marketing, billing, collection, maintenance and technology.

This reliable power supply has revitalised 54 commercial projects, vastly improving livelihoods and businesses.

Additionally, the substation has connected vital social amenities like schools and health centres and, most importantly, taken electricity to 1,745 rural households - significantly improving their living conditions.

At the launch, the EU ambassador spoke of the long-standing partnership in energy between Tanzania and the EU, underscoring how the EU considers energy one of the fundamental building blocks for inclusive social and economic growth as well as sustainable development.

"The (Ifakara) sub-station is a critical part of this vision and is just one of 14 energy projects under ongoing cooperation with Tanzania valued at 601.6 billion/-," she said.

She elaborated: "This significant financial support has been instrumental in promoting rural electrification, clean cooking

It is very easy to find some kind of a "Chinese box" structure, where the private companies managing water supplies are so diversified and entangled that it is difficult to make head or tail of who is really responsible for managing a safe and efficient water delivery procedure.

What we get is a market-driven arrangement, where the system, which is largely responsible for the crisis at the same time, is meant to make money by tackling it.

The crisis is one of the system's key elements, and when it becomes structural, what is the answer? It is how capitalism works: the management of the crisis becomes itself a source of profit.

Water, however, is not just a commodity like any other and shouldn't be treated according to the mere rules of the market.

If it stays in private hands, with profit as the final goal, the "water crisis" will always remain part of our lives. If you are lucky, you get the water, the (high) bills, and the guilt. If not, you get neither.

So, what can we do? Of course, exaggerated and inconsiderate water use has never been an option, regardless of its global scale impact. It is simply a matter of personal ethics, like not wasting food, for example.

Also, being aware of all the parts of the water supply chain, from its start to our household tap water, can allow us to address a range of issues - such as high costs or water quality.

Last but not least, if your tap water is safe to drink, consider purchasing less bottled water. By doing so, we can avoid feeding a market that is mostly there to feed itself.

• Anya Balen writes about art, languages, education and identity for Coping with Capitalism.

solutions, renewable energy sources, power generation and transmission upgrades, energy efficiency measures, and crucial sector reforms."

Ambassador Grau reiterated the EU's support for Tanzania's goal of universal electricity access by 2030, stressing the importance of renewable energy and strategic investments through the EU's Global Gateway strategy, whose spirit she said the substation embodies.

Thanking the EU for its support, Dr Biteko reaffirmed the government's commitment to ensuring reliable energy access for its citizens and driving and accelerating economic and social development in the country.

"In the 2024/2025 financial year, the Ministry of Energy will continue to take strong measures to oversee, strengthen and develop the energy sector, determined to ensure that this sector contributes effectively to the development of our nation and its people as expected," he said.



Tender Notice: Disposal of Used Motor Vehicles

Introduction

1. NMB Bank Plc is the largest commercial bank in Tanzania with vast branch network in all parts of the country, providing banking services to individuals, small and medium size corporate clients, as well as large businesses.
2. The Bank intends to dispose its sixteen (16) used motor vehicles. The motor vehicles are being disposed on "as is, where is" basis and the Bank shall have no further liability after sale.
3. The Bank now invites the sealed tenders for purchasing of sixteen (16) motor vehicles. The description of the said motor vehicles is as listed below and are available for viewing and inspection on weekdays from 10th to 12th June 2024 from 9:00am to 3:00pm at their respective locations in various areas across the country as per below table:

SNO	REG NO	TYPE/MODEL	CURRENT LOCATIONS
1.	T197CWG	NISSAN PATROL	NMB MSASANI BRANCH
2.	T286CVW	NISSAN PATROL	NMB MSASANI BRANCH
3.	T636CVM	NISSAN PATROL	NMB MSASANI BRANCH
4.	T591CHU	NISSAN PATROL	NMB MSASANI BRANCH
5.	T640CVM	NISSAN PATROL	NMB MSASANI BRANCH
6.	T188CWG	NISSAN PATROL	NMB MSASANI BRANCH
7.	T466DDF	NISSAN PATROL	NMB MSASANI BRANCH
8.	T191CWG	NISSAN PATROL	NMB MSASANI BRANCH
9.	T468DDF	NISSAN PATROL	NMB MSASANI BRANCH
10.	T538CHP	NISSAN PATROL	NMB MTWARA BRANCH
11.	T470DDF	NISSAN PATROL	HIGHLAND ZONE - MBEYA
12.	T645CVM	NISSAN PATROL	NMB DODOMA NMB
13.	T529CHP	NISSAN PATROL	NMB MIHAYO BRANCH
14.	T807BVJ	TOYOTA L/C HARD TOP	NMB KWA MROMBO BRANCH
15.	T769DDG	TOYOTA PRADO VXL	HEAD OFFICE
16.	T500BVJ	TOYOTA L/C HARD TOP	NMB MSASANI BRANCH

Terms and Conditions of Sale

- a. The Used Motor vehicles are sold strictly on 'AS IS' and 'WHERE IS' basis. NMB is not responsible for undertaking any repairs that may be required.
- b. All Bids may be quoted in either United States Dollar (USD) or Tanzanian Shillings (TZS). Bids must be submitted with a fixed offer. Those who offer certain percentages or amounts over any other bidder will not be considered. Hand delivered bids may be deposited at the "TENDER BOX" located on the ground floor, near the reception desk of Head Office, NMB Head Office at the junction of Ohio/Ali Hassan Mwinyi Road.
- c. All bidders are required to deposit 20% of the bid price through account No. 101-214010003 NMB HEAD OFFICE these will be refunded to all unsuccessful bidders. Application not drawn in the prescribed format, not accompanied by 20% deposits, not presented in the manner prescribed is liable for rejection.
- d. All applicants must indicate the proper address, emails, contact phone numbers and details of their bank account numbers in their application letters.
- e. The closing date for receiving bids is at **1500 Hours on Monday 24th June 2024**. All bids will be opened in public at a tender opening ceremony to be held at the first floor, NMB HQ at the Ohio/Ali Hassan Mwinyi Road on **Tuesday 25th June 2024 at 1500 Hours** from the closing date of the bids.
- f. Successful bidders will be informed of the results immediately after the decision made by the Bank.
- g. Successful bidders should pay the balance of TENDER/BID PRICE amount for the selected within 7 days of being informed of the results.
- h. The buyer/s is fully responsible for paying taxes and any other charges that may arise from the purchase of the Motor vehicles.
- i. NMB reserves the right to accept or reject bids and the right to make the final decision concerning this sale of Motor vehicles. All documents for the Used Motor vehicles must be collected within 5 days from the date of full payment.
- j. All bids should be submitted in plain, sealed envelope(s), clearly marked '**Tender for Disposal of Used Motor Vehicles**' and posted or hand delivered to:

The Secretary, NMB Management Tender Committee
P.O. Box 9213, Dar es Salaam

Artificial Intelligence seen speedily changing global power structures

By Amparo Alonso Betanzos

THE race for dominance of the artificial intelligence (AI) industry is redefining the global geopolitical order. Whoever can master this rapidly changing technology will have an unprecedented level of economic control, and will govern new employment on a vast scale. According to many economists, we are currently in the midst of the "fourth industrial revolution".

In this power struggle, the leading powers are the USA, the Asia-Pacific region (especially China) and the European Union (EU). However, each is following a different model for developing this technology.

China: the highest number of STEM graduates in the world

China is the country making the most investment in AI, with expected investments of over \$38 billion by 2027, almost 9 percent of the world's total. In China, investment is primarily driven by the state, though there are also many private technological platforms in the sector.

Its population is very open to technology, and this grants the state access to a huge field of experimentation: over 700 million internet users. Many US platforms are barred from the Chinese market, and the country boasts a much higher number of STEM (science, technology, engineering, mathematics) graduates than other countries: almost 3.6 million in 2020, followed by India with 2.6 million, and the United States with 820,000.

Trailing far behind, the only EU countries that feature in the top 10 countries by number of STEM graduates are France and Germany, with 220,000 and 216,000 respectively.

The power struggle between China and the US

In August 2023, the Chinese government issued a formal statement of "concern" in response to a US government order prohibiting investment in Chinese semiconductors and microelectronics, quantum technology and AI.

The US claims the limits were put in place are because these sectors play a key role in developing advanced military, intelligence, surveillance and computing capabilities. While the private sec-

tor is the driving force behind the current technological revolution in the US, a significant amount of research funding is provided by Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, the US Department of Defense agency responsible for developing new military technologies.

Microsoft and France's GDP

The largest companies in the AI sector are US-based. They have a virtual monopoly on the current development of the technology, and are global leaders in terms of stock market value.

These macro-companies are beginning to have influence and impacts at state level. Microsoft has recently returned to the top of the global stock market after increasing its stock value by more than 50% in 12 months, becoming the first company to surpass the \$3 trillion valuation, equivalent to the GDP of France.

As of 13 February 2024, Saudi Arabian oil giant Aramco is the only non-technology company in the top seven largest companies in the world. The rest of the global pie belongs to, in order of size, Microsoft, Apple, Alphabet (Google), Nvidia, Amazon and Meta.

The hegemony of these large companies means they can attract talent, and they are expanding into other territories, especially European countries. However, last year's HAI Artificial Intelligence Index Report shows a striking decline in their attractiveness: a noticeable drop in hiring international students in both the US and Canada, especially at master's level.

Decisions are in the hands of private companies

These big tech companies wield indisputable amounts of power, and not just on an economic level. They have access to massive amounts of data (protecting privacy and limiting data leakage with legislation is increasingly complex), global political influence (not just in the US) and an unbeatable public image that allows them to lead innovation.

These businesses dictate the direction of research and innovation worldwide, and they dominate cutting edge AI research, as well as the basic technology that is crucial in strengthening a country's technological independence and sovereignty. Only a few years ago, this "frontier" research was

led by academia, and it is here that Europe still has a relevant role to play.

Europe's research institutions outweigh China.

In Europe the situation is mixed, with strong state support in some member states, mainly France and Germany, and a significant number of startups, especially in the UK. However, none of the world's top technology companies are European, and the continent also lacks the large entrepreneurial platforms of the US and China.

In Europe there is a relative aversion to risk. Another significant factor is talent drain, as many European graduates move away for better opportunities. But Europe does have one major advantage, as it is home to a significant number of top 100 research institutions – just as many as the US, and more than China.

This is mirrored in the ranking of the most prestigious universities in AI research, where the US leads and Europe follows closely behind, with only one Chinese institution in the top ten.

Who will pay to develop GPT-4?

In 2023, 51 notable AI models were developed by private industry, compared to just 15 by academia. However, models developed in collaboration between the two sectors hit a record high, with 21 industry-academia collaborations recorded last year.

One relevant factor here is the substantial increase in the economic cost of developing these models, which consume large amounts of both computing and energy resources. The training costs of Open AI's state-of-the-art GPT-4 and Google's Gemini Ultra models were estimated at \$78 million and \$191 million respectively. Figures like these are beyond the reach of most academic research.

Europe is taking the ethical route

On 13 March 2024, the EU approved the AI Act, the first regulation in the Western world on artificial intelligence. The law is designed to be ethical, aiming to serve the people rather than big business. Other countries such as China and the US are moving forward with their own regulation, but with very different perspectives. While not its intended purpose, some claim the AI act will stifle innovation in the sector.



Public heaving sigh of relief as Ewura announces reduced fuel pump prices for June

By Guardian Reporter

THE general public is excited with last week's announcement of reduced cap prices for petroleum products by the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority.

Ewura announced new ceiling prices for petroleum products with a slush of between 1.5 and 2.62 percent for a litre of petrol and diesel respectively effective June 5 thanks to a combination of factors including falling global market prices.

"It's a big relief for us as commuter bus operators because it lowers running costs of vehicles but it's also a relief to consumers as prices for food and other commodities will stabilise," said Juma Kandowa, a daladala driver plying between Tegeta Nyuki and Kigamboni.

He said although bus fares remain static when fuel price increase, other commodities such as food items have their prices increase to cushion transporters against loss making "Eventually it is the consumer including me that bear the cost," he said while hailing Ewura for playing a key role in stabilising petroleum products for the past decade and a half or so.

Kandowa's observation was shared by Maxwell Mwampiki, a Master's Business Administration student at University of Dar es Salaam who pointed out that over a decade ago pricing of petroleum products was chaotic because of poor regulation.

"Although the price reduction is directly attributed to the falling world market price for petroleum

products, Ewura's role in proper regulation of the downstream petroleum sector is playing a key role," Mwampiki said.

He gave an example of the establishment of the Petroleum Bulk Procurement System (PBPS) over a decade and a half ago as an important milestone that has resulted in the current conducive environment.

"Before cap prices were announced by Ewura over a decade ago, there was chaos in the market with oil marketing companies charging different prices claiming that their sourcing was different," he noted while stressing that bulk procurement has resulted in restoring sanity in the sector.

Mwampiki further noted that resistance made by oil marketing companies when the bulk procurement system was introduced was clear testimony that prices being charged were artificial and hiked. "There was also resistance by oil marketing companies when cap prices were introduced because it reduced profits for them," he underlined.

Established by Ewura Act Cap 414 of 2006, the authority regulates energy and water utilities with additional responsibility for technical and economic regulation of the electricity, petroleum, natural gas and water sectors.

In a statement announcing the new ceiling prices, Ewura's director general, Dr James Mwainyekule said the changes in prices were attributed to a decrease in world oil prices (FOB) by an average of 11.82 percent for petrol, 7.77 percent for diesel and 7.94 percent for kerosene.



Dr Mwainyekule however explained that depreciation of the local currency against the US dollar by 1.4 percent plus another decrease in premiums for the importation of petroleum products by an average of 2.06 percent for petrol and 8.51 percent for diesel at Dar es Salaam Port, also contributed.

While ordering retailers and wholesalers to strictly adhere to the cap prices, the Ewura DG warned those who violate the law against prosecution. "Legal action will be taken against any retailer or wholesaler who fails to comply with these instructions. Ewura would like to remind wholesalers, retailers, and the general public to access cap prices through their mobile phones by dialling *152*00# followed by

instructions provided.

"This service is free of charge and is available to all mobile phone service providers in the country. In line with the prevailing sector legislation (Petroleum Act, Cap. 392 Section 166), prices of petroleum products are governed by rules of demand and supply. However, Ewura shall continue to encourage competition in the sector by making petroleum product pricing information available including cap prices," he said. Dr Mwainyekule further stated that oil marketing companies are free to sell their products at a price that gives them a competitive advantage provided that such price does not exceed the price cap and is not below the floor price for the relevant product.

"All petrol stations must publish petroleum product prices on clearly visible boards. The price boards should clearly show prices charged, discounts offered, and any trade incentives or promotions on offer. Consumers are encouraged to purchase from stations that sell products at the most competitive prices and offer better services," the Ewura DG noted.

In addition to regulating pump prices of petroleum products Ewura also is responsible for licensing, tariff review, monitoring performance and standards with regards to quality, safety, health and environment.

The authority is also responsible for promoting effective competition and economic efficiency, protecting the interests of consumers and promoting the availability of regulated services to all consumers including low income, rural and disadvantaged consumers in the regulated sectors.

'Encouraging local participation is crucial for sustainable mining'

By Guardian Correspondent, Geita

THE government's push for greater local participation in the mining sector has yielded remarkable results, thanks to the Mining Act of 2017/2018 and its subsequent amendments in 2019. This landmark legislation prioritises the involvement of Tanzanian companies and individuals, paving the way for a more inclusive and sustainable mining industry.

Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML), a subsidiary of AngloGold Ashanti, has emerged as a shining example of responsible mining by wholeheartedly embracing these regulations. The company's commitment to local content goes beyond mere compliance, as evidenced by its active pursuit of opportunities to work with local suppliers, contractors, and service providers.

While the implementation of the Mining Code on Local Content has presented its fair share of challenges, GGML's continued commitment to sustainability and community development has been instrumental in overcoming these hurdles. The company has facilitated increased local content through a number of initiatives, including hosting community forums, workshops and capacity building programmes.

These efforts have enabled local businesses, including youth, women, and people with disabilities, to improve their business acumen and effectively compete for opportunities within GGML's supply chain. As a result, the number of active Geita-based businesses contracting with GGML has increased from 73 in January 2020 to 96 in December 2023, and the value of business awarded to Geita suppliers has increased from 7 percent of local spending in Q1 2020 to 9.4 percent in Q4 2023.

GGML's commitment to local content has had a profound impact on the lives of individuals and communities in the Geita region and beyond. In the first quarter of 2024 alone, a remarkable 95 percent of the company's budget was allocated to the procurement of goods and services from Tanzanian companies. This surge in local procure-

ment has led to the establishment of a thriving domestic mining supply chain making a significant contribution to the local economy.

For instance, GGML has entered into a partnership with local businesses to provide oil transport services valued at over 25bn/-. One of the recipients is Blue Coast Investment Limited (transport and haulage), which operates out of both Geita and Dar es Salaam.

Another local company that has benefited from GGML's commitment to local content is AKO Group, a Tanzanian facilities management company that has been providing catering and hotel management services to GGML since 2010.

This goes beyond procurement to include the transfer of technology and skills to Tanzanian nationals. The company's workforce is a measure of this commitment, with 97 percent of the total workforce being Tanzanian and 80 percent of the senior management team being Tanzanian.

As David Nzaligo, GGML senior legal counsel stated during the 3rd Local Content Compliance Forum in Arusha: "Another area is the transfer of technology and skills. For Tanzanians to take up positions that were held by non-Tanzanians. This emphasis on empowering local talent and promoting sustainability is at the heart of GGML's approach to responsible mining."

Through its relentless commitment to local content compliance and sustainable practices, Geita Gold Mining Limited has set a shining example for the mining industry in Tanzania and beyond.

By fostering local participation, driving economic growth, and transforming lives, the company has demonstrated that responsible mining can be a catalyst for positive change and a more inclusive future.

That's why the Minerals minister, Anthony Mavunde declared that a total of 3.1 trillion will be retained locally in annual mining sector procurement by more explicit requirements relating to local content.

Addressing delegates at the third local content forum which focused on the participation of Tanzanians in the

mining sector, he said that these requirements will be part of the country's efforts in attracting industrial investments.

"I know levies exist and have their own procedures, but our priority is more focused on this area: he said, underlining that as purchases in the minerals sector reached more than 3.1 trillion - last year, if this money remains in Tanzania, it will have a sharp impact on the country's economy.

He expressed the view that Tanzanians need to take advantage of opportunities in the mining sector, as the 3.1 trillion - needs to be retained locally.

He further added that interpreting Vision 2030 includes the need for 30 percent of the surface area in Tanzania being put to in-depth surveys, as currently there is expertise to identify areas with minerals "but we are yet to know the quantity. When you know the quantity, it becomes easier to plan," he elaborated.

"So far only 16 percent of the total area has been researched, while local content in the mining sector created a total of 18,853 jobs in 2023, an increase of 2,391 jobs over the previous survey, a 14.5 percent increase, he said.

Meanwhile, Deputy Minister of Minerals, Dr Steven Kiruswa highlighted Tanzania's open-door policy for investment in mining, stressing the importance of collaboration with stakeholders to realise Vision 2030's strategies of "Madini ni Maisha na Utajiri."

"The construction of industries in mines requires more than just starting up. It necessitates equipping Tanzanians with the necessary skills," Dr Kiruswa asserted. "I call for the establishment of industries to go hand in hand with building capacity for Tanzanians.

The Deputy Minister assured that the government would continue to improve the investment climate to attract more investments, particularly in the industrial sector of mining products.

He underscored the importance of the Third Local Content Compliance Forum's theme, 'Investment in the Manufacturing Industries of Mining Products for Sustainable Development,' as a platform for stakeholders to address challenges and stimulate investment.



MSPH Tanzania LLC, 7th Floor, Alfa Plaza, Plot No. G6, Chaburuma Road, P.O. Box 80214, Dar es Salaam.
Email : icap-tz-info@columbia.edu phone: +255 (0) 22 270 0719+255 (0) 22 270 0725



TENDER FOR SERVICES

PROCUREMENT REFERENCE NUMBER ICAP/TZ/04/2024

MSPH Tanzania LLC, known as ICAP, is a non-governmental organization operating in Tanzania since 2004, with funding mainly from the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) through the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

MSPH Tanzania LLC - ICAP is looking to work with a reputable public health leadership and governance expert to coordinate the development of a sustainability roadmap for the national HIV & AIDS response for Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar. The task will involve coordinating stakeholders to plan and successfully develop a comprehensive national HIV sustainability roadmap that outlines strategies for maintaining and advancing the HIV response beyond epidemic control and ensures alignment with national and global HIV goals.

MSPH Tanzania LLC will evaluate the responses based on several criteria that will include, but not be limited to: Experience in the specific assignment described in the Terms of Reference, price – Value for money, delivery capability demonstration and timelines, financial stability/capacity and general qualification and suitability for the task to be performed.

Note:

1. Terms of Reference will be provided upon request submitted via TanzaniaProcurement@cumc.columbia.edu
2. Applicant/bidder is requested to submit Technical and Financial Proposals each be enclosed in a separate document and marked "Technical Proposal" and "Financial Proposal" respectively. The two documents shall then be enclosed in a single email.
3. Bids not received and opened in public at the public bid opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.
4. The tender validity period is 14 days.
5. Selection criteria will be lowest price, technically evaluated/acceptable based on technical specifications and other criteria described above.
6. MSPH Tanzania reserve the rights to disqualify any offer based on failure to follow solicitation instructions.
7. MSPH reserves the rights to waive minor proposal deficiencies that cannot be corrected prior to award determination to promote competition
8. The evaluation of bids will be conducted as per MSPH Tanzania LLC procurement guidelines.
9. All quotes must be in Tanzania Shilling.
10. All tenders should be electronically submitted to TanzaniaProcurement@cumc.columbia.edu

The deadline for the submission is 10:00am East Africa Time on 25th June 2024.

No tender fee charged for this invitation

Bureaucrats and thieves make life difficult for Cuban ranchers

By Julio Cesar Contreras

ERNESTO has had Spanish nationality since 2008 (as many thousands of Cubans have acquired) and in recent years he has travelled to Spain a few times, but he always returns. In Cuba, specifically in Cardenas, Matanzas, he manages a livestock farm in which he also cultivates some land with vegetables which would be very difficult for him to part with. Until now, as a producer, he had been able to get by - although he acknowledges that "it has not been easy" - but the situation that farmers and ranchers are experiencing has led him to consider selling his animals and permanently leaving the country.

"A few years ago, I managed, with a lot of effort, to obtain three caballerias of land roughly 100 acres total. I had to go see the delegate of Agriculture in Matanzas so that they would give me this property in usufruct a form of leasing. After many efforts I achieved it. However my goal developing livestock has cost me dearly," the 58-year-old farmer confesses to this newspaper.

Between cows, bulls and calves, Ernesto has a total of 67 heads of cattle on his farm, distributed in two barns or dairy houses. "I initially thought of dedicating part of the land to livestock production and the other part to the cultivation of some vegetables, but the difficulties in obtaining the necessary resources have prevented me from moving forward," he explains.

According to the rancher, about half of his pasture, with useful land, remains unused. "Where can I buy machetes, rakes or gloves to deal with the weeds? Where are the supplies that guarantee that we guajiros can take care of the land and the animals? These years I have seen everything: campesino stores, projects with foreign financing, sales of some products in MLC (magnetic dollars). But these are just insufficient attempts to help producers and they have all come to nothing.

Other problems keep Ernesto in suspense, and one is that, despite having water for the animals, edible pastures do not grow well in the area and the consequences can be disastrous for the cattle and for the rancher's pocket. "If one of my animals gets sick, I have to buy the medicines on the informal market, at whatever price they want to charge, because either there are none or they are very difficult to obtain from the State," laments



Between cows, bulls and calves, Ernesto has a total of 67 cattle on his farm.

THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORDS/WORD FIT-114

By Felix Mlagezin: 0787.00.97.94 // felixmagezin@gmail.com

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

Across:

- 1 the smaller upper assembly in the US
- 5 rebellion in Kiswahili
- 7 an occupation undertaken for a significant period of a person's life
- 10 Risk Evaluation and Mitigation Strategies

Down:

- 1 a mystery
- 2 conforming to a standard
- 3 monetary unit of Europe
- 4 the central point
- 6 tell someone something positively in order to dispel potential doubts
- 8 an apparatus for aerating water or other fluids
- 9 a member of an ancient Jewish ascetic sect of the 2nd century BC-2nd century AD in Palestine
- 13 "Painting in the sky"
- 16 a feeling of reverential respect mixed with fear

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

KNEES-UP	INANE	RANEE
SKIRTING	DELE	MESS
CEASEFIRE	TREATED	EERIE
KENYA	SECTIONS	SPY
INN	IRE, OIL	AS

Yesterday's solution

D	O	D	O	M	A	A	B	A	R	S	P	A		
R	E	I	L	A	M	B	A	M	I	D	E			
I	S	L	A	N	D	S	B	R	O	M	E	S		
V	E	A	L	E	S	S	E	D	E	L	A	I	E	D
E	N	T	E	R	U	Y	B	A	L	A	T	A		
N	A	E	R	R	C	A	N	E	R	A	T			
T	C	I	N	E	M	A	O	D	R	A	U			
C	O	R	E	S	G	R	E	K	I	R				
R	E	N	D	U	E	E	V	E	N	S	A			

the man. "We cooperative members are required to comply with all production plans but, in the years that I have been here, no one has come to ask me what I need to build the dairy farms, to feed my cattle or to keep the lands healthy and in good condition. I have never wanted them to give me anything, but it is not fair that they abandon the farmers like that," he says, annoyed. Faced with the dilemma between complying with the rules or surviving and saving their business, many ranchers end up making deals outside the normal legal ways. "These years I have been able to escape by selling some animals, but the matter became complicated with the livestock census that began at the beginning of this year. The 'orientation' is that you cannot sell any animals until they finish counting everything, although people always manage to sell one or two cows," he says. Even so, the guajiro reflects, the management of his farm has begun to give him "more headaches than satisfaction," since it has become an unprofitable task and the State "does not give the campesinos much room for action. I supposedly own the cattle, but I can only slaughter two a year, with prior authorization from the cooperative and the Agriculture Delegation. If I make a minor slaughter contract, I have to look for a vehicle to transport the animals to the slaughterhouse. After everything I spend on time and procedures, they pay me per pound of meat at one-tenth of what is

quoted in the informal market," he laments. "Some guajiros end up looking for a veterinarian to certify the death of an animal due to illness, removing it from the livestock registry and selling it," he points out. Ernesto interrupts the conversation for a moment to answer a phone call. He is contacted by a seller who has obtained fencing wire for 1,200 pesos per meter. "Who supports those prices doing everything through the state channel?" But they are expenses that he must incur, since his animals could end up in the hands of an illegal slaughterer. "This is getting as dark as a pitch. In all these years I have been robbed twice and the worst thing is that, when it happens, the authorities blame the farmers for not having the land fenced and letting the cattle roam. But if you are going to cut wood to build a fence, the Agroforestry Company delays your permit or denies it. If you file a report for theft, the Police are likely never find the criminals," claims the guajiro. If you start to do the math, Ernesto has dedicated almost 20 years to a farm that is not actually his, since the land belongs to the State, and the State can take it from him at any time. "I am exposed to shortages and problems of all kinds, including thieves who constantly try to do their own thing. I have grown tired of meetings that solve nothing and bureaucrats who live off the sacrifice of others," he says. "Sometimes they make me feel like getting rid of all this and going to another country. That would be my biggest sacrifice."

RADIO One

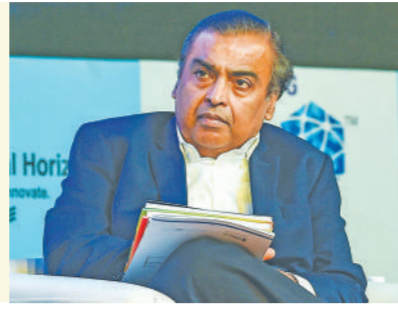
RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS DAKKA 45 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.10 AM MATANGAZO 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One [Instagram] [Facebook] [Twitter] **Radio One**



CURRENT NEWS
Training on sustainable practices creates a positive impact in Dar Page 14



CURRENT NEWS
KTA: Motor vehicle tax will 'kill' transport businesses Page 14



OUTLOOK & ANALYSIS
Parliament's edicts boost fire, rescue preparedness Page 15

Revealed: Oxygen crisis at Lake Babati, solutions required to threat of depletion

By Dickson Ng'hily

THE calm waters of Lake Babati, named after Babati district in Manyara Region hide a dangerous secret - the looming threat of algal blooms. Scientific studies have revealed that these blooms can disrupt the delicate balance of oxygen levels in the lake, potentially causing harm to the ecosystem.

The fate of lake hangs precariously as it confronts the menace of algal blooms. Might this scenic lake eventually transform into a desolate expanse akin to the lifeless Dead Sea, void of any semblance of vitality or biodiversity?

The prospect of Lake Babati resembling a barren wasteland like the Dead Sea is alarming. Algal blooms and decreasing oxygen levels are jeopardizing the rich biodiversity of the lake. Will the lively fish, aquatic flora, and diverse organisms dependent on the lake face extinction in a low-oxygen setting, echoing the eerie silence of the Dead Sea?

As scientific reports draw attention to the detrimental impact of algal blooms on Lake Babati's oxygen levels, a pressing concern emerges; what happens if oxygen levels diminish in the lake? Oxygen is essential for the survival of its inhabitants, and any shortage could upset the fragile ecological harmony of Lake Babati, casting a cloud of uncertainty over its previously thriving ecosystem.

The potential depletion of oxygen in the lake raises concerns about the intricate dependencies that support its diverse flora and fauna. As oxygen levels decline, what impacts will be felt throughout the ecosystem, jeopardizing the very foundation of life in Lake Babati?

As the threat of oxygen depletion looms, one can't help but question its significance. The silent suffocation of oxygen-depleted waters poses a serious risk to the biodiversity and ecological balance of the lake.

Will Lake Babati succumb to a fate shared by numerous water bodies, or will proactive steps and swift intervention secure its natural splendor and thriving ecosystem for the benefit of future generations? The responsibility for the lake's future rests with those who cherish and protect its delicate ecosystem.

This journalist made several attempts to contact Dr. Suleiman Jafo, the Minister in the Vice President's Office responsible for environmental conservation. Despite multiple unanswered calls and a follow-up text message, a response is still awaited.

As emphasized earlier, the alarming escalation of micro-algae proliferation in Lake Babati has stirred scientific concern due to its detrimental effects. Urgent intervention is crucial to address this issue, believed to stem from human activities near the lake.

A study published this month titled "The Effects of Algal Blooms on Oxygen Levels in Lakes Babati and Eyasi,

Tanzania," has unveiled the alarming reality of dwindling oxygen levels in these lakes, jeopardizing the well-being of aquatic organisms.

The research conducted by scientists Amelia Buriyo from the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM), Nyatwere Mganja, and Mary Melchiori from the University of Dodoma (UDOM), boldly points out that algal blooms have detrimental effects on ecology, health, commercial fishing, tourism, and recreation, significantly impacting diverse sectors and ecosystems.

In fact, it unveils the concerning correlation between algal concentration and dissolved oxygen levels in the studied lakes, highlighting the potential risk of persistent nutrient loading on Lake Babati, leading to decreased oxygen levels.

As per the trio of researchers, this significant decrease in oxygen levels serves as a vital early warning signal for aquatic life.

Actions impacting the environment

Dr. Harrison Mndeme, an independent environmentalist, posited that the mounting pressures of population growth and societal advancement significantly amplify the repercussions of human actions on the natural environment.

For instance, he draws a correlation between rising water demand and the influx of wastewater, agricultural runoff, and sewage into surface water ecosystems, all stemming from human activities.

"These inputs further exacerbate the eutrophication of inland waters. Lakes and reservoirs, essential freshwater reservoirs, with their low flow rates, prolonged water residence times, and inadequate self-purification abilities, present optimal conditions for algal growth, exacerbating environmental issues," he affirmed. He therefore affirms that the recurrent occurrence of algal blooms have become pervasive phenomena impacting the Earth's atmosphere due to human activities.

He further elucidates that algal blooms are a consequence of the rapid reproduction of phytoplankton on a large scale in conducive environmental settings.

This phenomenon alters dissolved oxygen (DO) levels, ultimately resulting in the depletion of oxygen, causing fatalities among numerous aquatic species and inflicting severe harm on the health of aquatic ecosystems.

He concurs with the study's findings, acknowledging that certain phytoplankton species also release biotoxins, like microcystin, which pose risks to the safety of drinking water and human health.

In fact, the presence of certain microalgae can disrupt the natural balance of an ecosystem, leading to a degradation in water quality, can cause water to turn green, develop a moldy taste and unpleasant odor, and pose a danger if consumed.

ALGAL BLOOMS

Algae and blue-green bacteria are an essential part of the aquatic food web. But given the right conditions, they can multiply rapidly and cause harmful algal blooms (HABs). Blooms can seriously harm people, animals, fish, and other parts of the ecosystem.

HARMFUL EFFECTS

- danger to drinking water
- kills fish
- makes people and animals sick

CONDITIONS FOR EXTREME GROWTH

- nutrient pollution
- warm water
- stagnant water

TOXINS IN BLOOMS

Some HABs are made up of blue-green bacteria that are more likely to contain toxic compounds.

Chl ≥ 5

chlorophyll RFU

warning level

HAB EARLY WARNING SYSTEM

Chlorophyll measurements greater than 5 Relative Fluorescence Units (RFUs) are well above normal summer values.

Global warming + polluted runoff = greater risk of algae outbreaks. Graphic: Leslie Tumblety/Cary Institute

The report findings showed that the average algae content was markedly elevated in Lake Babati compared to Lake Eyasi, surpassing acceptable levels for domestic water supply and ecosystem health.

On the other hand, the research indicates that an inverse correlation was observed between algae content and DO levels in Lakes Eyasi and Babati, indicating that algal blooms play a role in reducing DO levels.

Dr. Hadija Mohammed, a conservationist, emphasizes the necessity for strict management policies to curb unsustainable practices around Lake Babati and other water bodies that contribute to nutrient loading, fueling the proliferation of algal overgrowth.

Population surge near Lake Babati

Another study titled "Implications of Rapid Urban Sprawl on Water Resources Management: The Case of Lake Babati, Tanzania" confirms the rapid population growth in Babati town and its surrounding areas, particularly noting Bagara ward as having the highest population density in proximity to Lake Babati.

Emmanuel Mitinje, Hussein Omar, and Najum Juma, the researchers behind the study, have identified two primary factors driving population growth: migration (58 percent) and natural increase (37 percent).

According to available data, Babati town experienced a significant population growth from 44,000 residents in 2002 to 93,108 inhabitants in 2012. Projections suggested that the population would reach 105,610 individuals by 2022; however, recent figures from the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) reveal a current population of 375,200 as per the 2022 census.

In their view, the detrimental consequences of rapid urban sprawl towards Lake Babati and its water resources encompass deforestation, soil erosion, flooding, pollution, encroachment on lake shores, eutrophication, and the diminishing size of the lake.

Oxygen depletion tied to al-



Lake Babati seen with scattered algal blooms on its surface. File Photo



LAKE BABATI FACTS:

Situated in the Manyara Region of Tanzania

It covers an area of approximately 61 square kilometers.

The lake is home to a variety of bird species, including flamingos, pelicans, and storks. It also supports a diverse ecosystem of aquatic plants and fish.

Attracts tourists for birdwatching, boat rides, and fishing activities.

It helps the locals by providing essential sustenance and economic opportunities.

Plays a vital role in supporting the livelihoods of the locals, as it provides them with a valuable source of sustenance and economic opportunities.

It holds cultural importance for the local Maasai and Iraqw tribes, who rely on its waters for sustenance and livelihood.

gal blooms Therefore, scientists argue that the decrease in oxygen

plankton species within algal blooms, giving rise to the phenomenon commonly referred to as harmful algal blooms (HABs).

They explain that HABs play a role in depleting oxygen levels as microorganisms consume dissolved oxygen during the decomposition of dead algal biomass. This creates competition for nutrients and overcrowding, ultimately converting organic matter into inorganic forms.

This scenario results in reduced dissolved oxygen levels (hypoxia/anoxia), leading to the formation of dead zones in the deep regions of water bodies, rendering them uninhabitable for aquatic organisms.

Additionally, decreased water clarity during algal blooms causes light deprivation, halting photosynthesis and oxygen production, exacerbating anoxia as organisms deplete the available oxygen in the water column.

In fact, researchers have that different aquatic organisms have varying oxygen needs. Bottom-dwelling creatures like crabs and worms require only a small amount (1-6 mg/L), while shallow water fish need higher levels (4-15 mg/L).

On the other hand, sensitive fish species like salmon won't reproduce in oxygen levels below 6 mg/L, although low oxygen levels may not kill an organism outright, but they can make it more vulnerable to other stresses and diseases.

Moreover, exposure to levels below 2 mg/L for 1-4 days can lead to the death of most organisms in a water system.

Decline in fishing activity In the past few years, there has been a noticeable decline in fish populations in Lake Babati, a trend that has raised concerns among local residents and conservationists.

"It's disheartening to witness the decline in fish numbers in our once-vibrant lake. We depended on a diverse range of fish species for sustenance and livelihood," expresses Richard Muganda, a local fisherman who relocated from Mwanza to engage in fishing activities in Babati.

According to him, the dwindling fish numbers have not only affected the livelihoods of the community but have also disrupted the lake's fragile ecosystem.

Compounding the obstacles for Lake Babati are the persistent occurrences of algal blooms, posing a continual challenge for conservation endeavors and tourism. "The murky water resulting from algal blooms diminishes oxygen levels, hindering the survival of fish and other aquatic life," elucidates Mwajuma Ahmed, a local environmental activist.

The detrimental impacts of these blooms not only harm the lake's biodiversity but also dissuade tourists from visiting the area, negatively affecting the local economy.

How to prevent algal blooms

Conservationists and authorities are grappling with finding sustainable solutions to combat the dual challenges of declining fish populations and persistent algal blooms in Lake Babati.

"We need to strike a balance between protecting our natural resources and promoting tourism in a way that benefits both the environment and the local community," says Mwajuma.

Adding: "Collaborative efforts and innovative strategies are crucial in addressing these issues and ensuring the long-term health and sustainability of Lake Babati and its surrounding ecosystem."

Scientists are of the view that preventing algal blooms requires a proactive approach to predicting and controlling the proliferation of algae.

It includes implementing sustainable algae management practices aimed at reducing nutrient inflow into water bodies is crucial for long-term success. Which involves implementing policy changes and modifying human activities to limit nutrient pollution.

Additionally, real-time water quality monitoring plays a significant role in preventing algae-related issues.

This is done by keeping an eye on specific things like the color of the water, its temperature, how much oxygen is in it, and its clarity. By paying attention to these factors, one can spot any early signs of too much algae before it causes big issues.

Training on sustainable practices creates a positive impact in Dar

By Beatrice Philemon

At least 5842 individuals with disabilities and other community members in Ilala District Council, Dar es Salaam Region, have received training on producing organic fertilizer, charcoal briquettes, and animal feed from domestic and food market waste.

This training aims to empower participants to launch their own projects, combat deforestation, achieve economic independence, and reduce charcoal consumption in their daily cooking practices.

Selemani Bishagazi, a representative of a Dar-based civil society organization (CSO) 'Sauti ya Jamii Kipunguni,' called for action during a recent one-day training session. The event brought CSOs from both Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar for a training on climate justice awareness.

Out of the 5842 individuals trained, 232 have disabilities, 3000 are youth, and the remaining 2610 participants are from diverse backgrounds. The training was organized by Women Action towards Entrepreneurship Development (WATED) and Nandive Feminist Wellness and Coaching Center, with funding from Women Fund Tanzania Trust (WFTT).

Since November 2022, the training has been provided free of charge to assist low-income earners and others in transitioning from charcoal to charcoal briquettes. This shift aims to combat deforestation, mitigate climate change impacts, lower cooking expenses, and reduce the burden on women and girls who often walk long distances to fetch water for their families.

"We are delighted with the

progress achieved so far. Through the knowledge and skills acquired from our organization, beneficiaries have ventured into vegetable farming, organic fertilizer production, and charcoal briquette making in their communities, selling their products to increase income and create employment opportunities for women and youth," shared the spokesperson.

He mentioned that approximately 500 bags of charcoal are transported daily from various regions nationwide to Dar es Salaam Region.

In other regions of the country, women and girls are forced to walk five to six hours each day in search of water due to the impacts of climate change. Consequently, girls are compelled to abandon their education, face increased risks of violence, and find themselves unable to engage in any other productive activities due to the daily struggle for water. Expanding on the production capabilities of charcoal briquettes, he highlighted that they can manufacture 60 kg of charcoal briquettes daily, 14-20 kg of organic fertilizer monthly, and 10-12 kg of animal feed daily.

To date, the organization has successfully utilized organic fertilizer in vegetable farming, aiding farmers in reducing their reliance on chemical fertilizers in their fields.

"We have farms situated in Kipunguni Ward, Ilala District, where individuals interested in purchasing vegetables can visit," he remarked.

In addition to this, the organization advocates for urban farming, provides training on its benefits, and encourages residents to establish vegetable gardens at home to produce fresh food, promoting self-reliance through healthy eating habits.

According to a report by the Community Forest Conservation Network of Tanzania (MJUMITA), more than 469,000 hectares of forest are cleared annually in Tanzania. The

majority of deforestation takes place in unreserved forests within village lands, resulting in the emission of over 44 million tonnes of CO2 per year into the atmosphere, thereby impacting the global climate.

Illegal and unsustainable harvesting in unreserved forests contributes to forest degradation, leading to a decrease in government revenues derived from forests.

Approximately 176 million hectares of unreserved forests, roughly 80 percent of the total 22 million hectares of forest cover within village lands in Tanzania, are not legally reserved or formalized, leading to ongoing deforestation.

Research conducted by the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG) indicates that 89 percent of deforestation in Tanzania can be attributed to agriculture.

The study revealed that bushfires are the second leading cause of deforestation, accounting for 77 percent of cases, with many citing fires as a method to clear land for cultivation.

Livestock grazing is identified as the third major driver of deforestation, accounting for 69 percent of cases.

Fuelwood collection is identified as the fourth significant factor contributing to deforestation, representing 43 percent of survey points, with 41 percent for domestic use and 2 percent for tobacco curing. Interestingly, 89 percent of locations where fuelwood is collected are also used for farming.

The research investigating the causes of deforestation in Tanzania was conducted between June and December 2018 with funding from the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund. The primary objective was to assist policymakers in developing effective strategies and policies to combat deforestation nationwide.



Members of a Dar-based CSO in their horticulture farm utilizing organic fertiliser. Photo: Beatrice Philemon

KTA: Motor vehicle tax will 'kill' transport businesses

NAIROBI

IMPLEMENTATION of the Motor Vehicle Tax proposed in the Finance Bill 2024 will potentially force many transport businesses to reduce their fleet with some shutting down, transporters have warned.

The Kenya Transporters Association (KTA) has "strongly opposed" the proposed 2.5 per cent circulation tax on vehicle value, payable when obtaining insurance coverage (capped at Sh100,000 and a minimum of Sh5,000), saying it would be detrimental to the transport sector.

KTA has since urged the National Assembly to reject the tax.

According to the transport sector lobby group, whose members handle cargoes in the entire East African Community region, implementation

of the tax would significantly increase operational costs.

This will deal a blow to transporters who already face a substantial tax burden on vehicles during purchase, including import duty, excise duty, VAT, and levies for import declaration and railway development, KTA chairman Newton Wang'oo said.

They also pay numerous taxes on the fuel prices at the pump where the government takes up to nine different taxes and levies on the products, which include excise duty, Road Maintenance Levy, Petroleum Development Levy and Petroleum Regulatory Levy.

They are also paying Railway Development Levy, Merchant Shipping Levy, Import Declaration Fee and Value Added Tax, all these charged on fuel products.

"Additionally, transporters pay 30 per

cent corporate tax on profits generated from these vehicles. Adding another tax to an already heavily burdened asset is unsustainable," Wang'oo said.

Speaking during an interview with the Star, Wang'oo said Kenya needs to ensure a conducive business environment, lest it losses to neighbouring Tanzania, which has been seizing the transit market from Kenya through the Central Corridor served by the the Port of Dar es Salaam.

Kenya serves the region through the Northern Corridor which has an entry and exit at the Port of Mombasa.

"The tax increase would significantly raise the cost of doing business for Kenyan transporter. This burden would be particularly damaging for heavy commercial vehicles, critical for regional trade within the East African Community," said Wang'oo.

Higher transportation costs would make Kenyan exports less competitive in the regional market, potentially causing trade routes to shift to neighboring countries with lower operating costs. The economic strain could force companies to reduce their fleets or lay off employees, negatively impacting livelihoods and increasing unemployment."

The tax also discourages investment in the transport sector, hindering growth and modernisation of Kenya's transport infrastructure.

Meanwhile, the tax will also reduce insurance coverage and increase risk, KTA has said.

To avoid the proposed tax, transporters may be forced to choose less comprehensive insurance, like third party only coverage.

This exposes their businesses to high risks, as the financial burden of replacing damaged vehicles or covering out-of-pocket expenses would be too much for many in the industry.

This situation could also lead to increased uninsured vehicles where transporters may skip insurance altogether, leaving themselves financially vulnerable in case of accidents with a potential rise in fake insurance (fraudulent insurance policies), on increased demand for cheaper coverage.

"As transporters opt for cheaper coverage, insurance companies would experience a significant decrease in revenue, potentially reducing tax contributions to the government," he noted.

The requirement to remit taxes within five days of issuing coverage

could also create cash flow problems for insurance companies, as they may not have yet collected the full premium amount.

The proposed prescribed penalties for non-compliance are also "very punitive", transporters have said, with many insurance companies already hesitant to insure motor vehicles due to past losses.

The proposed motor vehicle tax is also based on ownership and not income or transfer of property, which transporters say will discourage investment in fleets.

"The tax unfairly penalises those who own commercial vehicles, even if they are not currently generating income. This could force some businesses to hold onto less efficient vehicles or exit the market entirely," said Wang'oo.

National Treasury targets to collect at least Sh58 billion from the motor vehicle tax in the financial year starting July 1, 2024, which has widely been protested, including concerns that it will overburden private car owners who are not generating any income from their vehicles.

Last week, the American Chamber of Commerce called on MPs to alternatively consider cutting the tax to one per cent of the vehicle's value, and exempt commercial and agricultural vehicles from the tax.

If passed as it is, it will mean an increase in freight costs charged by transporters, translating to costlier goods and increase in the cost of living as additional costs are traditionally passed to consumers.

The Star



Long distance trucks along the Malaba-Bungoma highway. File Photo

AUB to tackle media challenges amidst tech advancements and climate change

By Guardian Reporter

THE African Union of Broadcasting (AUB) will hold its 15th General Assembly from September this year in Gaborone, Botswana, under the theme: "The future of African media facing the challenges of new technologies and changes climate".

A statement issued yesterday by AUB and shared to this journalist, has that this high-level meeting will bring together Chief Executives of the media and broadcasting industry, officials, experts, academics, content creators from across the African continent as well as representatives of sister Unions and partners.

It is said that this year's event aims to explore the challenges and opportunities offered by evolving digital technologies in the audiovisual media sector. For the AUB, it is a question of discussing the place of Africa in the generation and management of metadata for the creation of audiovisual content in the era of artificial intelligence, of working on the transformation of the professions of audiovisual through AI, to find innovative strategies to meet the changing needs of African audiences in an increasingly digitalized media environment.

The AUB General Assembly will also provide a unique platform to strengthen regional and international cooperation to create awareness and engage citizens in the fight against climate change.

The discussion will also focus on the best way to boost the participation of countries not only in sharing of content on the AUBVISION Platform, but also to make it the source of news about countries in Africa.

The 15th general assembly of the AUB will serve as a framework for rewarding journalistic excellence through an AWARDS ceremony organized in partnership with SOLSAN Communications.

It will open a window of solidarity with people who are victims of cancer thanks to fundraising and a benefit concert offered for the occasion.

AUB is the largest organization of media professionals in Africa which brings together national and private radio and television organizations from African states. The AUB is responsible for developing all segments of the television and broadcasting industry in Africa. It works to develop exchanges of authentic African content through its content distribution platform, AUBVISION.

Parliament's edicts boost fire, rescue preparedness

By Francis Kajubi

RESIDENTS and small to medium entrepreneurs in Dar es Salaam have lauded the recent National Assembly resolutions aimed at enhancing the operational effectiveness of the Fire and Rescue Force which were put forth last Thursday, focus on bolstering the force's capabilities in safeguarding both human lives and properties.

The parliamentary decisions come in the wake of a special report published by this paper on April 2, 2024, highlighting the Fire and Rescue Force's struggle to effectively respond to fire incidents. This inadequacy had eroded public confidence in the force's ability to fulfill its mandated responsibilities under the Fire and Rescue Force (Amendments) Act Cap 427 R.E 2021.

Following the widespread dissemination of this report, on April 4, 2024, Geoffrey Pinda, Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Land, Housing, and Human Settlements Development, representing the Minister for Home Affairs, Hamad Masauni, informed the National Assembly about the government's successful efforts in securing a concessional loan amounting to 257.90bn/- (about \$100 million).

According to Pinda, this financial support is earmarked for the acquisition of 150 new fire tenders, thus addressing the critical need for enhancing the Fire and Rescue Force's firefighting capabilities.

Pinda confirmed that the loan was issued by Adex Limited, an international consulting firm based in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

This information was in response to questions from Members of Parliament who were seeking clarification on the government's plans to address the challenges facing the Fire and Rescue Force, such as the shortage of fire tenders.

In a session held on June 6, 2024, the National Assembly convened for nearly two hours to discuss solutions to the challenges faced by the Fire and Rescue Force. The discussion culminated in the adoption of five resolutions aimed at tackling the operational issues plaguing the Force.

The five resolutions were a result of a private motion brought forward by Priscus Tarimo, the Moshi Urban MP, who sought to spark a conversation and find common ground on how to address the chronic operational challenges facing the Fire and Rescue Force.

Residents of Dar es Salaam expressed their satisfaction with the resolutions passed by the National Assembly in interviews conducted with reporters over the weekend. They welcomed the government's commitment to addressing the challenges faced by the Fire and Rescue Force, particularly in ensuring the safety of lives and properties.

Martha Aloyce, a 26-year-old secondhand garments seller at Karume market in the city, expressed her happiness upon learning that the parliament had resolved for the government to table a bill in the National Assembly.

This bill would enable district councils and town councils to allocate funds in their budgets for purchasing fire tenders and other rescue equipment.

Aloyce shared her optimism, believing that this decision would enable local authorities to collaborate closely with the central government in procuring sufficient fire tenders for the entire country.

She recounted a personal experience of losing her business valued at 12 million Tanzanian Shillings in a previous fire incident that engulfed the market.

Geoffrey Milonge, the chairperson of Karume market, also expressed his satisfaction with the parliament's resolutions. He commended the government for recognizing the importance of making Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) happy.

Milonge shared his plans to organize meetings and inform traders at the market about the government's commitment to addressing fire incidents, which often impact SMEs significantly.

Masanja Mabula, a 40-year-old resident of Manzese Darajani in Dar es Salaam, emphasized the importance of the resolutions in guaranteeing the protection of human lives and properties if fire tenders are made widely available.

Mabula, who had read about the resolutions in the newspapers, expressed relief at the prospect of increased access to fire tenders. He recounted a tragic incident where a family in the neighborhood lost two children due to a lack of adequate water in a fire tender during a house fire a year ago.

Overall, the residents of Dar es Salaam highlighted the significance of the government's actions in addressing the challenges faced by SMEs and communities in combating fire incidents. Their reactions reflect a sense of optimism and relief at the parliamentary resolutions aimed at enhancing fire safety measures across the country.

Mabula emphasized the importance of investing significantly in establishing an adequate number of water hydrant stations in the streets. He believes that having these stations readily available would ensure that fire tenders do not waste time searching for water during emergencies.

Mwanahawa Salim, a 24-year-old grain wholesaler at Magomeni shopping mall, applauded the parliamentarians for their resolutions, noting that they came at a crucial time.

She expressed her reaction to seeing the news on TV, describing her surprise and hope that these initiatives would bring lasting relief, despite being implemented after tragic losses of lives and property in previous fire incidents.

On the other hand, Bazil Haji, a 36-year-old vendor at Mwananyamala food market, expressed his approval of the procurement of additional fire tenders.

Haji mentioned reading the newspaper and being pleased that the five resolutions addressed the suffering that individuals had endured due to the devastation caused by fires, leading to loss of loved ones and property.

Andrew Mathew, a 32-year-old electronic devices retail seller at Mwenge market, stressed that simply acquiring firefighting equipment is insufficient.

He suggested that public awareness on the importance of insuring belongings at appropriate premiums is crucial. Mathew believes that educating people, especially small business owners, on insurance is vital for the success of the initiative in preventing losses from fire incidents.

He asserted that one may find a person owning a business worth 100mn/- or a residential house worth 200mn/- he ensures the business and the house at low values expecting to pay low premiums and being paid handsome amounts of claims which is not the case.

During the resolutions debate session held last Thursday in the National Assembly, Reuben Kwagilwa, Handeni Urban MP blamed the treasury for not timely disbursing approved budgets for the Fire and Rescue Force to observe its functions.

"The Treasury has been sluggish in disbursing development funds allocated for the Fire and Rescue Force. For instance, only three weeks have remained to the end of the 2023/24 financial year where the Force was allocated 3bn/- for procuring five fire tenders but as I speak the Treasury has not disbursed the funds," said Kwagilwa.

Abbas Tarimba, Kinondoni MP said that recently a fire outbreak emerged at Magomeni Mapipa suburb which is about one kilometer from the Fire and Rescue Force headquarters but the burned houses weren't rescued due to the fact that water hydrant stations were far away to fill the tenders with water.

"According to the information I have, a total of 1,268 water hydrant stations in Dar es Salaam were not operational in 2013. There were only 74 water hydrant stations which were operational;

As of today, only 108 water hydrant stations are operational in the city. There is a huge shortage of water hydrant stations that needs to be fixed," said Tarimba.

Upon reviewing the resolution outcomes, Dr. Tulia Ackson, the Speaker of the National Assembly, confirmed that they had received unanimous approval from parliamentarians.

She stressed the key points of the resolutions, beginning with the government's directive to draft a bill in the National Assembly. This bill would enable district councils and town councils to include funds in their budgets for the procurement of fire tenders and other essential firefighting equipment.

Dr. Ackson also underlined the significance of the second resolution, which focuses on initiating a bill in the National Assembly to facilitate cooperation agreements between the private sector and the Fire and Rescue Force.

These agreements, outlined in Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs), would enable the private sector to support the procurement of fire tenders and rescue facilities.

Discussing the third resolution, Dr. Ackson highlighted the importance of introducing a bill that would mandate strategic investors to participate in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) projects related to the procurement of fire tenders and other rescue equipment.

This resolution aims to encourage private sector engagement in supporting essential firefighting initiatives.

The fourth resolution, according to Dr. Ackson, involves drafting a bill to establish guidelines for the installation of water hydrant stations in both current and future water projects.

Additionally, this resolution calls for the signing of Memorandums of Understanding between district and town water authorities and the Fire and Rescue Force to enhance water supply provisions for firefighting operations.

Dr. Ackson mentioned the fifth resolution, which directs the government to develop specific protocols for the annual recruitment of firefighters and rescuers to ensure that the Fire and Rescue Force can effectively address the demands for emergency response and rescue operations.

It was noted that the passed resolutions collectively aim to strengthen firefighting capabilities and enhance emergency response efforts throughout the country.

EAC join forces to boost regional tourism appeal

NAIROBI

EAST Africa has revived plans to jointly market the region's tourism as a bloc, in what could end a decade-long of back and forth among member states, as rivalry played out.

The marketing push builds on the 2023 East African Regional Tourism Expo (EARTE) and the Magical Kenya Tourism Expo (MKTE), where EAC member states agreed to enhance collaboration and adopt an integrated tourism marketing strategy, in order to boost competitiveness, attract more tourists and increase earnings.

Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda are leading the drive under a new EAC brand "Visit East Africa - Feel the Vibe", launched in November during the regional expo in Nairobi, aimed at promoting the bloc as a single investment and travel hub.

The latest development come even as rivalry remains between Kenya and Tanzania, the biggest safari and beach destinations in the region.

The two countries share the annual wildebeest migration between the Maasai Mara National Reserve and the Serengeti National Park, recognised as one of the Seven Wonders of the Natural World.

Tanzania has been taking advantage of Kenya's costly products, mainly safari which includes high park entry fees and accommodation packages, to lure international guests to the Serengeti and other destinations.

This, even as the region faces stiff competition from other blocs in Sub-Saharan Africa, which are said to be taking advantage of EAC's lengthy business procedures, insecurity and poor infrastructure to boost their competitive edge.

According to the World Economic Forum, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Tanzania and Burundi have been trailing tourism giants such as Seychelles, Mauritius and South Africa, which have been a threat to EAC's plans to position the region as the continent's most attractive tourist destination, an idea mooted a decade ago.

Under the renewed marketing efforts, the EAC is now targeting to attract over 14 million international tourists annually by 2025, from 7.2 million in 2019.

Kenya, on its part, aims to capitalise on this collective momentum in its quest to achieve 5.5 million arrivals and \$6.3 billion (Sh 827.6 billion) in tourism earnings by 2028.

The Kenya Tourism Board (KTB) has launched a strategic marketing campaign that involves influencers, to bolster Kenya's tourism not only globally, but also within the East African Community market.

The board is partnering with renowned social media influencers and key media outlets from EAC member countries with an aim to elevate destination visibility, ignite travel interests and unearth new growth prospects.

Speaking during an event held to welcome the influencers and media contingent, KTB CEO June Chepkemei said that the EAC market has great potential for growth especially through regional integration.

She added that strategic deployment of marketing assets such as influencer marketing and media outreach can be pivotal drivers to spur demand and unlock new markets.

"The East African Regional Tourism Expo deliberations were a stepping stone to greater regional integration. The launch of the unified EAC tourism brand was an apt embodiment of this vision, and this influencer activation and media outreach is designed to further harness our collective strength for mutual benefit," Chepkemei said.

According to last year's tourism performance report, four of the top ten source markets to Kenya were from the EAC region - Uganda, Tanzania, Somalia, and Rwanda, highlighting the potential for growth.

"With a shared history and cultures, the EAC region is uniquely positioned to offer diverse, multi-country itineraries that capture the imagination of travellers," said Chepkemei.

Popular social media personalities and content creators from target EAC markets will highlight key attractions across various tourism hotspots spanning from Nairobi, Mt. Kenya, the Maasai Mara, Amboseli, Lake Naivasha, Lake Nakuru as well as the Coast.

East African Business Council (EABC) has been pushing for the marketing of the region as a single destination, as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCTA) takes shape.

Tourism, financial sector, manufacturing and hospitality are some of the sectors that EAC member states can package together to the world, according to Chairperson Angelina Ngalula.

"East African countries have abundant resources with unique features from the coast of the Indian Ocean in Kenya and Tanzania, to mountain gorillas in Rwanda, an opportunity for companies to offer regional tourism packages," Ngalula said.

Agencies



Geared up for a rescue mission. File Photo

VIEW FROM THE TOP



WORLD

Israel keeps pounding central Gaza; Palestinian toll hits 274

CAIRO

ISRAELI forces pounded central Gaza anew on Sunday, a day after killing 274 Palestinians during a hostage rescue raid, and tanks advanced further into Rafah in an apparent bid to seal off part of the southern city, residents and Hamas media said.

Palestinians remained in shock over Saturday's death toll, the worst over a 24-hour period of the Gaza conflict for months and including many women and children, Palestinian medics said.

In an update on Sunday, Gaza's health ministry said 274 Palestinians were killed - up from 210 it reported on Saturday - and 698 were injured when Israeli special force commandos stormed into the densely populated Al-Nuseirat camp to rescue four hostages held since October by Hamas militants.

Sixty-four of the dead were children and 57 were women, the Hamas-run

Gaza government media office said on Sunday.

Israel's military said a special forces officer was killed in exchanges of fire with militants emerging from cover in residential blocks, and that it knew of "under 100" Palestinians killed, though not how many of them were fighters or civilians.

Hamas' armed wing said on Sunday three Israeli hostages, including one with US citizenship, were killed during the raid, but provided no names. It released a video of what appeared to be corpses with censor bars obscuring their faces.

A Hamas assertion on Saturday that some hostages had died was rejected as "a blatant lie" by the Israeli military.

Gaza's health ministry said another 798 Palestinians were injured in the Israeli raid, and one of them, 4-year-old Tawfiq Abu Youssef, was in critical condition when visited in hospital on Sun-



Palestinians wounded in the Israeli bombardment of the Gaza Strip are brought to the al-Aqsa Hospital in Deri al Balah on Sunday. AP

day by his father Raed.

The boy was first thought to have died before he moved his hand slightly while in the arms of a relative rushing him to hospital - captured in a video that went viral on social media.

"I had already dug his grave," his father told Reuters, adding that most members of his extended family were among those killed in the raid.

More airstrikes in central Gaza

In central Gaza on Sunday, Israeli airstrikes on houses in the city of Deir Al-Balah and in the nearby Al-Bureij refugee camp killed three Palestinians in each location, while tanks shelled parts of Al-Nuseirat and Al-Maghazi camps, medics said.

The Israeli military said in a statement its forces were continuing operations east of Al-Bureij and Deir

al-Balah, killing a number of Palestinian gunmen and destroying militant infrastructure.

Israel sent forces into Rafah in May in what it called a mission to wipe out Hamas' last intact combat units after eight months of the conflict, in which Israeli forces have bombed much of the rest of Gaza to rubble while advancing against fierce resistance from militants embedded in crowded cities and built-up camps.

Israeli tank forces have since seized Gaza's entire border strip with Egypt running through Rafah to the Mediterranean coast and invaded many districts of the city of 280,000 residents, prompting around one million displaced people who had been sheltering in Rafah to flee elsewhere.

Agencies

BRICS Foreign Ministers' Meeting to be held in Russia's Nizhny Novgorod

NIZHNY NOVGOROD

A two-day meeting of the BRICS Foreign Ministers chaired by Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov begins in Nizhny Novgorod. In addition to the "ten" states, the meeting will be attended by representatives of countries - friends of BRICS.



"During the upcoming meetings, the parties plan to discuss current issues of international relations, international agenda, improvement of the global governance system with emphasis on strengthening the role of developing countries, conflict resolution, and interaction in leading multilateral platforms," Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said.

Within the framework of the Foreign Ministers' Meeting, a separate meeting will also be held with the participation of a number of countries of the Global South and East.

This is the first meeting of foreign ministers since the expansion of BRICS in 2023. Now full members of the association include Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Egypt, Iran, UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Ethiopia. Around 30 more countries want to cooperate with BRICS in various formats.

Agencies

Zimbabwe will have incredible harvest this year thanks to Russian fertilizers - president

ST. PETERSBURG

ZIMBABWE is grateful to Russia for the supply of fertilizers - this year, the harvest will be incredible, Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa said in an interview with TASS on the sidelines of the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF).



"We received both grain and fertilizer from Russia. We are very grateful and as a result of this delivery we will have an incredible harvest, because we have enough fertilizer," he said.

"However, we will need more supplies, and Russia gives us lower prices and convenient payment methods than anywhere else. We are happy with the existing agreements and opportunities," he emphasized.

It was reported in March that a humanitarian shipment of 23,000 tons of Uralchem fertilizers was delivered and transferred to Zimbabwe.

The St. Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF) was held on June 5-8. This year's theme was "The Formation of New Areas of Growth as the Cornerstone of a Multipolar World." SPIEF was organized by the Roscongress Foundation. TASS was the information partner of the event.

Book of Xi's discourses on national energy security published

BEIJING

A compilation of excerpts from discourses on China's national energy security by Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, has been published by the Central Party Literature Press.



Since the 18th CPC National Congress in 2012, the CPC Central Committee with Xi Jinping (pictured) at its core has accelerated the establishment of a new energy system and consolidated the foundation of China's energy security, providing strong support for the country's economic and social development.

Xi's discourses in this regard are crucial for ensuring both the development of new energy and national energy security, promoting the energy revolution, building up China's strength in energy, and securing a safe and reliable energy supply for advancing Chinese modernization.

Compiled by the Institute of Party History and Literature of the CPC Central Committee, the book brings together 217 relevant passages in eight categories from over 130 important spoken and written works between November 2012 and May 2024. Some of these passages are being made public for the first time.

Xinhua

Israel's centrist minister Benny Gantz quits Netanyahu government

JERUSALEM

ISRAELI minister Benny Gantz announced his resignation from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's emergency government on Sunday, withdrawing the only centrist power in the embattled leader's far-right coalition amid a months-long conflict in Gaza.

The departure of Gantz's centrist party will not pose an immediate threat to the government. But it could have a serious impact nonetheless, leaving Netanyahu reliant on hardliners, with no end in sight to the Gaza conflict and a possible escalation in fighting with Lebanese Hezbollah.

Last month, Gantz presented Netanyahu with a June 8 deadline to come up with a clear day-after strategy for Gaza, where Israel has been pressing a devastating military offensive against the ruling Palestinian militant group Hamas.

Netanyahu brushed off the ultimatum soon after it was given.

On Sunday, Gantz said politics was clouding fateful strategic decisions in Netanyahu's cabinet. Quitting while hostages were still in Gaza and soldiers fighting there was an excruciating decision, he said.

"Netanyahu is preventing us from advancing toward true victory," Gantz said in a televised news conference. "That is why we are leaving the emergency government today, with a heavy heart but with full confidence."

Netanyahu responded in a social media post, telling Gantz it was no time to abandon the battlefield.

With Gantz gone, Netanyahu would lose the back-



Israeli minister Benny Gantz announces his resignation from Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's emergency government in Ramat Gan, Israel, on Sunday. AP

ing of a centrist bloc that has helped broaden support for the government in Israel and abroad, at a time of increasing diplomatic and domestic pressure eight months into the Gaza conflict.

While his coalition remains in control of 64 of parliament's 120 seats, Netanyahu will now have to rely more heavily on the political backing of ultra-nationalist parties, whose leaders angered Washington even before the conflict and who have since called for a complete Israeli occupation of Gaza.

This would likely increase strains already apparent in relations with the United States and intensify public pressure at home, with the months-long military campaign still not achieving its stated goals - the destruction of Hamas and the return of more than 100 remaining hostages held in Gaza.

Polls have shown Gantz, a former army commander and defense minister, to be the most formidable political rival to Netanyahu, whose image as a security hawk was shattered by the Oct 7 attack by Hamas on Israel. Warning that the conflict in Gaza could take years, he urged Netanyahu to agree on an election date in the autumn, to avoid further political infighting at a time of national emergency.

Gantz joined a unity government soon after Oct 7 as part of Netanyahu's inner cabinet where he, Netanyahu and Defense Minister Yoav Gallant alone had votes.

On Sunday, Gantz described Gallant, who has sparred with Netanyahu and some ultra-nationalist ministers, as a brave leader and called on him "to do the right thing", though he did not elaborate on what that meant.

Far-right National Security Minister Itamar Ben-Gvir demanded Gantz's now vacant seat at the cabinet soon after the resignation was announced.

Finance Minister Bezalel Smotrich said in a statement Gantz was giving Israel's enemies what they want.

Asked whether he was worried about his departure impacting Israel's standing abroad, Gantz said Gallant and Netanyahu both know "what should be done".

"Hopefully they will stick to what should be done and then it will be okay," he said.

After heavy defeat in EU vote, French President Macron announces snap parliamentary elections on June 30

PARIS

FRENCH President Emmanuel Macron has dissolved the country's parliament, as well as the National Assembly, calling for snap elections after exit polls showcased his party's heavy loss in European parliamentary elections on Sunday, according to CNN.

Preliminary estimates showed that the far-right National Rally (RN) party won 31.5 per cent of the vote, more than double the share of Macron's Renaissance Party, which barely managed to

secure second place with 15.2 per cent of the vote, ahead of the Socialists in third place with 14.3 per cent.

The leader of the RN, Jordan Bardella, called on Macron to dissolve the French parliament in a celebratory speech following the release of the exit poll.

"This unprecedented defeat for the



current government marks the end of a cycle, and Day 1 of the post-Macron era," Bardella said, according to CNN.

Meanwhile, Macron announced in an hour-long national address that he will dissolve the lower house of parliament in France and organise parliamentary elections. According to Macron, there will be two rounds: the first on June 30 and the second on July 7.

"I have decided to give you back the choice of your parliamentary future by voting. I am therefore dissolving the National Assembly this evening," Macron

said in an announcement on Sunday.

"This decision is serious, heavy. But it is, above all, an act of trust. Trust in you, my dear patriots. In the capacity of the French people to make the most just decision," the French President said.

Parliamentary elections are used in the French system to choose the 577 members of the National Assembly, the lower house.

The country's president is chosen through separate elections that aren't expected to take place again until 2027.

ANI

To promote comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of Palestinian question

A strong voice was made to safeguard peace and justice regarding the Palestinian question at the 10th ministerial conference of the China-Arab States Cooperation Forum (CASCF) held in Beijing, capital of China, May 30, 2024.

Chinese President Xi Jinping delivered a keynote speech at the opening ceremony of the conference, expounding on China's position on the Palestinian question.

The conference adopted a China-Arab states joint statement on the Palestinian issue, which demonstrates the important consensus of the two sides in ending the fighting in Gaza as soon as possible and

promoting a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the question.

Since last October, the Palestinian-Israeli conflict has escalated drastically, throwing the people into tremendous sufferings. At the opening ceremony of the 10th ministerial conference of the CASCF, Xi stressed that war should not continue indefinitely, and justice should not be absent forever, and commitment to the two-State solution should not be wavered at will.

The China-Arab states joint statement on the Palestinian issue adopted by the conference expresses deep concerns of China and Arab

states over the prolonged conflict in Gaza, which has resulted in a humanitarian crisis.

It emphasizes the firm stance of the two sides in promoting a ceasefire in Gaza, ensuring humanitarian aid, opposing forced displacement of Palestinian people, supporting Palestine's full membership in the United Nations (UN), and steadfastly working toward an early resolution of the Palestinian question based on the two-State solution.

Varsen Aghabekian Shahin, Palestine's minister of state for foreign affairs and expatriates, said the statement is conducive to strengthening

the international community's support for the just cause of Palestine, and reflected China's position on the Palestinian question.

History has repeatedly shown that the recurrent Palestine-Israel problem is rooted essentially in the failure of actual enforcement of relevant UN resolutions, in the continued erosion of the foundation for the two-State solution, and the deviation of the Middle East peace process.

Restoring justice to the Palestinian people and fully implementing the two-State solution is the only way to break the vicious circle of Palestinian-Israeli conflicts,

to eliminate the breeding ground of extremist ideologies, and to realize enduring peace in the Middle East.

The two-State solution is the only realistic path to resolving the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, with granting Palestine full UN membership being an important step toward this goal.

China firmly supports the establishment of an independent State of Palestine that enjoys full sovereignty based on the 1967 borders and with East Jerusalem as its capital. It supports a more broad-based, authoritative and effective international peace conference.

The National, a daily news-

paper in the United Arab Emirates, said in an editorial that the words from Chinese President Xi Jinping, delivered at the CASCF in Beijing, not only align with the position of the many senior Arab leaders in attendance, but will resonate with millions of people across the Middle East.

Since the outbreak of the latest Palestinian-Israeli conflict, China has maintained close communication and coordination with the Arab countries, built broad-based consensus with relevant parties in the international community, and promoted the comprehensive ceasefire with the greatest sense of ur-

gency. China attaches great importance to the humanitarian situation in Gaza and has provided multiple batches of emergency humanitarian assistance to Gaza through bilateral and multilateral channels. China will continue to provide support and emergency humanitarian assistance to help ease the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and support post-conflict reconstruction.

Chinese representatives have made multiple visits to regional countries and attended relevant international peace conferences to mediate among different parties.

People's Daily

As Modi 3.0 starts, here's list of global events that await Indian diplomacy

NEW DELHI

AS Narendra Modi took oath as the Prime Minister for the third consecutive term, a number of global events are lined up, where India's participation will play a crucial role in shaping geopolitics.

India has emerged as a strong voice in the past decade. PM Modi has prioritised positioning India as the 'Voice of the Global South' with the 'Vishwa Bandhu' approach. The G20 Summit was held under India's presidency with the theme of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'.

Here are the major events that will take place in recent months after Modi 3.0 taking charge:

BRICS Foreign Ministers Meeting

The first assignment for India's foreign policy will come with the BRICS Foreign Ministers' meeting which is scheduled to take place on June 10-11, in Nizhny Novgorod, Russia, with participation from foreign ministers of the member states.

BRICS is an intergovernmental organisation comprising 10 nations. The organisation includes Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa. Four new countries: Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates joined the grouping as full members last year.

Russia took over the chairmanship of BRICS on January 1, 2024.

The Ministry of External Affairs recently said that BRICS is an important platform and India looks forward to participation in meetings organized by Russia as BRICS chair this year.

G7 Summit 2024

The next big assignment for India will come with the Group of Seven (G7) Summit 2024 in Italy, scheduled from June 13 to 15. Prime Minister Modi will himself participate in the event.

Italian PM Giorgia Meloni invited Prime Minister Modi to the summit in April.

The Group of Seven (G7) is an informal forum that brings together Italy, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America. The European Union also participates in the Group and is represented at the summits by the President of the European Council and the President of the European Commission.

Italy assumed the Presidency of the G7 for the seventh time on January 1 this year. The Italian Presidency



Narendra Modi (right) is sworn-in as the Prime Minister of India by President Droupadi Murmu, left, at the Rashtrapati Bhawan, in New Delhi, India, on Sunday.

will last till December 31, 2024.

Swiss Peace Summit

The global peace summit in Switzerland aims to chart a path to the resolution of the Russia-Ukraine conflict. This is another big global event, which is scheduled to take place on June 15-16. It is pertinent to note that India has not confirmed its presence at the event.

The summit is part of Ukraine's ongoing effort to secure diplomatic support for its 10-point peace plan announced in November 2022, which includes the full withdrawal of Russian troops and accountability for war crimes committed by Russia.

The summit is the highest-level event yet in Ukraine's "peace formula" initiative. It follows four lower-level conferences held since June 2023.

Ukraine expects attendees at the summit to develop an action plan on three key aspects of its 10-point peace plan. The first point, free navigation, involves protecting port infrastructure in the Black Sea and global food security. The second focus is energy and nuclear security, which includes an end to strikes on Ukraine's critical infrastructure. And the third focus will be the exchange of captives and the return of children illegally abducted to Russia.

In a recent press conference, the Ministry of External Affairs said that India has received an invitation from the Swiss side, but the decision regarding participation is still pending.

US Vice President Kamala Harris will travel to Switzerland for the summit. China has indicated that it might not attend the Ukraine Peace

Summit set to be held in Switzerland.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy confirmed that they have confirmation from 106 countries regarding participation in the summit.

The Russia-Ukraine conflict -- that started on February 24, 2022, after Moscow launched 'special military operations' against Kyiv -- has dragged on for over three years and has caused heavy damage to infrastructure and civilian casualties in both countries.

US NSA Jake Sullivan's India visit

United States National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan will be coming to India for an official visit.

Recently, during a telephone conversation, US President Joe Biden congratulated Prime Min-

ister Narendra Modi on his third consecutive win in the general elections. The two leaders also discussed about Sullivan's upcoming visit.

Sullivan's visit aims to engage the new government on shared US-India priorities, including the trusted, strategic technology partnership.

SCO Summit in Kazakhstan

The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit is scheduled to take place later this year under the presidency of Kazakhstan.

India participated in SCO Foreign Minister and Defence Minister meetings earlier this year. MEA Secretary (ER) Damu Ravi participated in the SCO Foreign Ministers meeting and Defence Secretary Giridhar Aramane participated in the SCO Defence Ministers' meeting.

The SCO, established in Shanghai in June 2001, is an intergovernmental organization primarily focused on regional security concerns and combating terrorism, ethnic separatism, and religious extremism.

In recent years, the SCO has expanded its priorities to include regional development initiatives.

India, which was the SCO chair in 2023, held the SCO Leaders Summit this year on July 4 in a virtual format last year.

Narendra Modi took oath as Prime Minister of India for his third successive term on Sunday at an impressive ceremony at the Rashtrapati Bhavan which is being attended by leaders from India's neighbourhood and Indian Ocean region.

The Bharatiya Janata Party-led NDA secured 293 seats in the Lok Sabha elections. BJP won 240 seats on its own. In the 543-strong lower house of the Indian parliament, 272 is the minimum majority figure.

Notably, PM Modi is the second Indian leader to win a third term after founding prime minister Jawaharlal Nehru. Several leaders and state heads of neighbouring regions and the Indian Ocean region have been invited for PM Modi's swearing-in ceremony as distinguished guests, a testament to India's 'Neighbourhood First' policy.

President of Sri Lanka, Ranil Wickremesinghe; President of Maldives, Mohamed Muizzu; Vice-President of Seychelles, Ahmed Afif; Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina; Prime Minister of Mauritius, Pravind Kumar Jugnauth; Prime Minister of Nepal, Pushpa Kamal Dahal 'Prachanda'; and Prime Minister of Bhutan, Tshering Tobgay attended the event on Sunday.

ANI

Six, including Parliament speaker Ghalibaf approved to run for snap elections in Iran

TEHRAN

SIX people, including Iran Parliament speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf, are approved to run for the snap presidential election, which are set to take place on June 28 in Iran after the tragic demise of President Ebrahim Raisi in a helicopter crash, according to Al Jazeera.

Former nuclear negotiator Saeed Jalili and Tehran Mayor Alireza Zakani were permitted to run by the Guardian Council, a constitutional screening body; however, 74 other candidates were disqualified.

The 62-year-old Ghalibaf (pictured), a former head of the Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps' (IRGC) air force, served as Tehran's mayor from 2005 to 2017 and as the country's chief of police prior to taking office



as speaker of the parliament for four years.

In 2005, 2013, and 2017, he entered the presidential race; nevertheless, he withdrew in favour of Raisi.

Jalili, the direct representative of Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei to the nation's Supreme National Security Council,

opted not to run in the 2021 election, preferring Raisi, who won almost handily.

The two most well-known disqualified candidates are the moderate contender and former three-time parliament speaker Ali Larijani, as well as the populist former president Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, who was also ineligible to run in 2021, as per Al Jazeera.

The presidential election in Iran were scheduled for 2025, however, due to Raisi's death on May 19 in a helicopter crash in north-western Iran, the election was moved up. Iran's Foreign Minister, Hossein Amirabdollahian, was also killed, along with other Iranian officials, in the tragic crash.

The 63-year-old Raisi was a prominent figure in the succession planning for Iran's 85-year-old supreme leader and was predicted to win another term in office. ANI

China's domestically built large cruise ships drive rebound of cruise industry

AT about 11 a.m., May 26, China's first domestically-built large cruise ship, the Adora Magic City, berthed at a cruise terminal in Baoyang Road, Baoshan district of Shanghai, preparing for its 35th voyage since its commercial maiden journey on January 1 this year.

After a while, passengers started boarding the cruise ship, passing through customs procedures and immigration control, and were warmly greeted by crew members.

The Adora Magic City has received about 150,000 passengers so far since its maiden voyage, with an average load factor exceeding 95 percent, said Liu Hui, general manager of CSSC Cruise Technology Development Co., Ltd. (CCTD), which is the operator of the Adora Magic City and a subsidiary of China State Shipbuilding Corporation (CSSC). This figure indicated a good start for the cruise ship, Liu added.

The cruise industry features a strong catalytic effect, a long industrial chain, and a high degree of internationalization. According to Liu, the cruise ship industry encompasses a full chain of processes, from R&D to design, shipbuilding, operations, and supply chain - every step is crucial.

So far, the CCTD has developed an industrial cluster in Shanghai, covering the entire cruise ship system from R&D and design to final assembly, supply chain, and operations, Liu added.



Photo shows the Adora Magic City, China's first domestically-built large cruise ship. (Photo/Ji Haixin)

Regarding R&D and design, the CCTD, together with Italian shipbuilder company Fincantieri, has established a joint venture CSSC-Fincantieri Cruise Industry Development Ltd. to work on the design of cruise ships. This has enhanced the company's capabilities to offer comprehensive cruise ship design services and provide project management support to its shipyards.

In terms of supply chain development, the CCTD has fully acquired German cruise interior company R&M, establishing R&M Cruise Interior Technologies (Shanghai) Co., Ltd. This has made it the first Chinese general contractor capable of independently completing public area outfitting for large cruise ships.

"Compared to regular home furnishings, cruise ship interiors are subject to more stringent requirements. For example, the materials for making sofas on cruise ships must be lighter and more

environmentally friendly," said Gu Bin, deputy general manager of R&M Cruise Interior Technologies (Shanghai) Co., Ltd.

To enhance its cruise operation capabilities, the CCTD set up a full-capability cruise operating company Adora Cruises Ltd. in 2018, continuously absorbing advanced management experience from international cruise companies and improving its operations and management.

The operating team of Adora Cruises Ltd. comprises globally sourced talents with extensive industry experience, which has helped the company achieve substantial development in areas like marketing, product and hotel management, maritime management, and new ship supervision.

To drive the development of the cruise industry, Shanghai has provided support in manufacturing and port operations, and constructed a ship supply base.

China's cruise industry is march-

ing towards market-based, internationalized and professional development.

The Adora Magic City boasts 1,300 crew members from over 30 countries. Around 8 percent of the cruise ship's passengers are from overseas, originating from more than 20 countries.

The cruise ship has more than 20 international suppliers, and over 1,000 Chinese and foreign manufacturers were involved in its design and construction, which has incubated and cultivated key enterprises in cruise R&D and design, final assembly, and core supporting facilities. This has driven the development of relevant industries such as manufacturing, construction, energy, and transportation, effectively boosting economic circulation.

It is reported that advance ticket sales for the Adora Magic City have extended all the way to September this year. It is leading a new fashion trend among Chinese consumers.

According to statistics released by China's Ministry of Transport on April 29, since the beginning of this year, more than 10 international cruise ships have been operating at Chinese ports. Together, they handled over 190,000 passengers in the first quarter of this year. In particular, the Adora Magic City and Mediterranean operated by Adora Cruises Ltd. accounted for around 70 percent of the total passenger volume. It is expected that the Chinese cruise market will continue to maintain a steady recovery. **People's Daily**



Mining vehicles are seen at a coal mine in Mpumalanga Province, South Africa, March 16, 2023. Xinhua

Lack of mapping, technologies, infrastructure hampers Africa from exploring mineral resources, UN experts say

ADDIS ABABA

fourfold by 2030.

AFRICA is encountering a host of challenges in its mineral sector, with a lack of systematic geological mapping being one of the major ones, hampering the continent from exploring its rich mineral reserves, UN experts said.

A team of experts from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) on Saturday said that Africa holds at least a fifth of the world's metal reserves that are crucial for energy transition including those metals needed for the manufacturing of electric cars.

"Africa boasts some of the largest reserves of world minerals but lacks a systematic geological mapping, which could unveil a much larger resource base and reserves," said Clovis Freire, UNCTAD's Commodity Research and Analysis Section chief, in an interview with Xinhua.

He said Africa presents a promising landscape for potential investment in the extraction and processing of critical energy transition minerals, with the Democratic Republic of the Congo holding about 48 percent of global cobalt reserves and South Africa having about 90 percent of platinum group reserves. "There is a need for detailed geological surveys and advanced exploration techniques to identify unknown or underexplored mineral deposits, which could offer significant opportunities for new mining ventures and investment across the continent," Freire said.

According to data obtained from UNCTAD, demand for critical energy transition minerals such as lithium, cobalt and copper could increase almost

The expert said as the climate emergency intensifies, demand for critical energy transition minerals will continue surging as they will be needed for renewable energy technologies like solar panels, wind turbines and electric vehicles.

Rachid Amui, another expert of UNCTAD, said that African countries heavily rely on a traditional model where they export raw mineral resources with no or minimum value addition, capturing a small share of benefit within the commodity value chain.

"The traditional mining and trading practices have generated small revenues, minimum employment opportunities, little tax revenues and export earnings for mineral-exporting countries in Africa," he said.

Amui said African countries also face inadequate infrastructure such as poor transportation networks that often hinder easy movement of minerals from extraction sites to export points.

"Many mining sites in Africa are located in areas with unreliable and insufficient energy infrastructure, which can disrupt mining operations and increase costs," said Amui, noting that the shortage of finance, skilled labor and technical expertise has hindered mining operations across the continent. According to Amui, limited access to advanced mining technology is another significant challenge, often leading to reduced productivity and increased environmental impacts, further complicating the process of tapping and exporting Africa's mineral resources. **Xinhua**

SPORT



Dallas Mavericks forward P.J. Washington (25) is blocked by Boston Celtics' Derrick White (9) and Jaylen Brown (7) during the second half of Game 2 of the NBA Finals basketball series, Sunday, June 9, 2024, in Boston. AP Photo

Celtics beat Mavericks 105-98, take 2-0 lead in NBA Finals as series heads to Dallas

BOSTON

JRUE Holiday led the scoring. Derrick White added a chase-down block. Jayson Tatum and Jaylen Brown pitched in, too – with their passing and defense.

The Mavericks can stop worrying about who Boston's best player is. Everyone is contributing to the Celtics' quest for an unprecedented 18th NBA championship.

Holiday had 26 points and 11 rebounds, and White sprinted down the court to swat away the Mavericks' last chance on Sunday night as Boston beat Dallas 105-98 to take a 2-0 lead in the NBA Finals.

Tatum made up for a rough shooting night with 12 assists and nine rebounds to go with his 18 points. Brown scored 21 with three steals, White had 18 points and three steals, and Payton Pritchard's only basket of the game was a banked half-court shot to beat the third quarter buzzer and give Boston an 83-74 lead.

"That's why they are the No. 1 team in the NBA with the No. 1 record," said Mavericks star Luka Doncic, who scored 32 with 11 rebounds and 11 assists – the first NBA Finals triple-double in Dallas franchise history. "They have a lot of great players. Basically, anybody can get off."

Doncic, who was listed as questionable to play less than two hours before the opening tipoff, had his 10th career playoff triple-double. But he scored only three points in the fourth, converting a three-point play with 1:15 left as Dallas scored nine in a row to cut a 14-point deficit to 103-98.

After Derrick Jones Jr. blocked Tatum's dunk attempt, White ran down the court, joining with Brown to block P.J. Washington's potential dunk. Brown made a layup at the other end, and then Doncic missed a one-footed, running floater from 3-point range with 28 seconds left, ending Dallas' last chance at a comeback.

"It's not all on him. It's a team," Dallas coach Jason Kidd said of Doncic, who had been battling chest, knee and ankle injuries. "He put us in a position. He was really good tonight. Unfortunately, we just couldn't get over the hump. We've got to find someone to join Luka and (Kyrie Irving) in that scoring category."

Games 3 and 4 are Wednesday and Friday in Dallas; Boston has not lost on the road this

postseason. It was the ninth time the Celtics have won the opening pair in the NBA Finals. They have won the previous eight, and have never been forced to a Game 7 in any of them.

A day after Kidd attempted to sow dissension in the Celtics locker room by calling Brown – not Tatum, an All-NBA first-teamer – the team's best player, Boston showed why it doesn't matter. The two All-Stars combined to make 2 of 12 3-point attempts, but filled up the box score in other ways.

"How they play together is sacred, and something that can't be broken," Holiday said. "I don't prefer one or the other, I prefer both. Because they're both superstars, and they're showing it on the biggest stage in the world."

Kristaps Porzingis limped his way to 12 points for top-seeded Boston. Tatum was 6 for 22 shooting and 1 of 7 from 3-point range; the Celtics were 10 for 39 from long distance overall.

"I'm really tired of hearing about one guy or this guy or that guy and everybody trying to make it out to be anything other than Celtic basketball," Boston coach Joe Mazzulla said. "Everybody that stepped on that court today made winning plays on both ends of the floor."

Unlike their 107-89 victory in Game 1, when Boston went 7 for 15 from 3-point range in the first quarter to sprint to a 17-point lead, the Celtics missed their first eight attempts from long range on Sunday. Dallas led the entire first quarter.

Tatum was scoreless in the first and had only five at halftime, when he was still 0 for 3 from 3-point range. Boston was still just 5 for 30 from long distance when Pritchard banked in a half-court shot at the third-quarter buzzer to give Boston an 83-74 lead.

That excited the crowd, which previously had spent most of its time serenading Irving with boos – and semi-vulgar chants. Before the game, the scoreboard showed Irving's postgame quote from Game 1, where he said he thought the crowd would be louder.

The fans roared. Irving, who scored 16 points, has lost 12 games in a row against the Celtics.

"A little disappointed in myself not being able to convert a lot more of my opportunities in the lane," he said. "My teammates look for me to convert a lot of shots and lessen the burden not only on Luka but the entire team."

AP

“

That's why they are the No. 1 team in the NBA with the No. 1 record," said Mavericks star Luka Doncic, who scored 32 with 11 rebounds and 11 assists – the first NBA Finals triple-double in Dallas franchise history

SPORTS

D-Day for Taifa Stars dawns today

By Lloyd Elipokea

TODAY, the Taifa Stars will go head-to-head with Zambia in a high stakes, all-important football contest that is part of the FIFA 2026 World Cup African Qualifiers.

It should be noted here that the Taifa Stars have never ever qualified for the football World Cup as that lofty goal has perennially proven to be a bridge too far for our beloved national football team.

Regarding our World Cup hopes, the Taifa Stars are perilously in fourth place in Group E, which is made up of wit: titans Morocco, traditional contenders Zambia, small fry Niger and the ever tricky the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Thus far, the Stars have played two games in Group E. The Stars' opening Group E football duel saw them sink lightweights Niger 1-0 and in their second qualifier, the Taifa Stars distressingly suffered a 2-0 defeat to giants Morocco.

As a result, the Taifa Stars have bagged only three points from two matches, which just goes to underscore the sheer gravity of their qualifier against Zambia on the latter's home turf today.

It is hoped then that the Taifa Stars will be on the front foot right from the get-go in their consequential World Cup qualifier against Zambia today and furthermore, that the Stars will ultimately prevail in this hugely weighty battle.

Sticking with football, all Tanzanians are walking with a definite spring in their step following the heartening news that the Tanzanian teenage sensation Kelvin John has now joined the Danish side Aalborg BK from his previous club KRC Genk of Belgium.

Regarded as a precociously gifted forward, John has found it extremely challenging to play regularly for his



Taifa Stars' players during a training session at Dola Hill stadium in Ndola, Zambia on Sunday. Photo: Courtesy of TFF

previous football outfit Genk, which was the source of his motivation to move to Aalborg BK.

One hopes then that John will be able to leave his mark on Danish football once the new 2024/25 football season comes round.

Dear Reader, at the risk of repeatedly commenting on the same matter ad nauseam, this writer would nevertheless still like to revisit the sorry state of our Olympic preparations, which is deeply worrying.

Indeed, with the Paris 2024 Olympic Games set to begin in late July, many Tanzanians must be wondering when our contingent of Paris-bound sportsmen and sportswomen will set up a training camp for the quadrennial, one-of-a-kind festival of sports.

It is utterly frustrating to note that we are likely to engage in eleventh hour preparations for the Paris Olympics, which is in stark contrast to

countless other nations, who started their preparations years ago.

Anyway, there is no use in sobbing over spilt milk. And, all we can do as Tanzanians is to hope that a few of our athletes will prove to be a cut above the rest once the summer games thrillingly commence.

Let us now return to football where there is certainly massive and unbridled jubilation on Jangwani Street following Yanga's impressive league title triumph and most recently their Federation Cup victory.

In what was the clearest sign of their supremacy on the domestic football scene, Yanga clinched both the league and Federation Cup for the third consecutive time last season.

It is patently obvious then that Yanga's rivals will have to be on top of their game if their efforts to bring about the Jangwani Street side's downfall next season are to bear fruit.

Artists ought to fully exploit Feel Free Grant opportunity - call

By Guardian Correspondent

TANZANIA'S visual artists should ensure their profession has a significant impact on people from all walks of life if they are to make the most of the profession.

A Dar es Salaam-based visual artist, Thobias Minzi, issued the call during the signing ceremony for the 2024 Feel Free Grantees which took place at Nafasi Art Space premises at Mikocheni last weekend.

The Feel Free Grant is an initiative implemented by the Dar es Salaam contemporary art center, Nafasi Art Space, and funded by the Norwegian Embassy and Switzerland Embassy in Tanzania.

It is designed to encourage artists, cultural practitioners, organizations, and institutions from all artistic disciplines - who love to create and connect with art - without placing restrictions on either themes or topics that are driven by external influences.

It can hardly be likened to other funds that artists have previously had access to for a long time, which have restrictive rules on how artists should express and create art, leading to projects that are less impactful for artists and audiences.

Minzi, one of the beneficiaries of the 2024 Feel Free Grant, pointed out that local visual artists and their colleagues in the other forms of arts should look into having their knowledge make an impact on needy people in the community so they can have fulfillment financially and professionally.

He insisted that visual artists should

look into getting useful ideas from various groups of needy people so they can successfully carry out their artistic projects based on such ideas.

Minzi turned into one of the 2024 Feel Free Grantees via his project, termed Sanaa na Wanawake (SAWA). It is a transformative initiative aimed at increasing the participation of women in the arts, particularly those residing in the rural areas of Mwanza who lack access to visual arts training.

This comprehensive program is designed to equip young female artists with the necessary skills and knowledge in visual arts, from concept development to exhibition.

The visual artist, also a member of Nafasi Art Space, disclosed that his project will be implemented in Dar es Salaam and Mwanza, conducting workshops on creating artworks via painting, seeking to increase the number of women engaging in the art.

According to him, there had, in the past, been extremely few women who turned up for workshops and exhibitions on painting that he and fellow visual artists had organized and the situation prompted him to come up with the initiative.

Minzi stated he had previously organized exhibitions at Nafasi Art Space and outside the center, adding he had over seven trainees.

The artist disclosed that out of the trainees, four have gone on to operate professionally. The success, he noted, motivated him to apply for Feel Free Grant so he can successfully implement his initiative.

Minzi said there has, of late, been an increasing number of women turning up for workshops and eventually participating in painting exhibitions, thus, he feels the community is now viewing the visual art form as a valuable profession.

Through hands-on training sessions, the SAWA participants will delve into various aspects of painting, learning techniques and methodologies that will enable them to effectively translate their creative visions into tangible artworks.

The Tanzania Arts Council (BASATA) Director of Arts Promotion and Development, Edward Buganda, who graced the 2024 Feel Free Grantees' signing ceremony, congratulated the recipients of the 2024 Feel Free Grant and expressed the council's appreciation to Nafasi Art Space and its partners for coming up with the initiative.

Nafasi Art Space Managing Director, Lilian Hipolyte, mentioned other recipients of the fourth cohort of the 2024 Feel Free Grant as Lilian Munuo, Mihayo Kallaye, Ally Baharoon, Bwagamoyo Africulture, Kijiweni Productions, ASEDEVA, and Ekande Tanzania.

She expressed the center's gratitude to its core donors, the Embassy of Switzerland in Tanzania and the Royal Norwegian Embassy in Tanzania.

The donors' unwavering support, Lilian pointed out, has made the Feel Free Grant a success, and their commitment to fostering artistic excellence and cultural exchange is deeply appreciated.



Nafasi Art Space Board of Directors Chairman Paul Ndunguru (C), speaks at a signing ceremony for the 2024 Feel Free Grantees which took place at the center's premises in Dar es Salaam last weekend. Others are the center's Managing Director Lilian Hipolyte (R) and Tanzania Arts Council (BASATA) Director of Arts Promotion and Development Edward Buganda. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Bumrah helps India hold off archrival Pakistan in a low-scoring T20 World Cup thriller in New York

WESTBURY, N.Y.

INDIA was in a desperate situation, needing a moment or two of genius to defend a low total against archrival Pakistan at the Twenty20 World Cup.

Skipper Rohit Sharma gave the ball to Jasprit Bumrah, relying on his go-to pace bowler to take the wicket Sunday that would swing the match into India's favor.

The noise and excitement lifted in the capacity crowd at Long Island, with India fans outnumbering supporters from Pakistan.

And Bumrah delivered, later saying after returning match figures of three wickets for 14 runs that it felt like he was playing in India.

Chasing a seemingly meager target of 120, Pakistan was cruising at 80-3 after 14 overs before Bumrah cannoned a ball into the stumps to dismiss Pakistan's top-scorer Mohammad Rizwan for 31. He added the wicket of Iftikhar Ahmed off the last ball of a terrific spell.

And so after bowling India out for 119 in 19 overs, Pakistan was restricted to 113-7 in 20 overs in the low-scoring thriller. India's six-run win put Pakistan, the 2022 runners-up, on the brink of a group-stage exit.

"Bumrah is going from strength to strength," Sharma, India's captain, said. "I'm not going to talk too much about him – we want him to be in that kind of mindset until the end of this World Cup.

"He's a genius with the ball."

After being shocked by co-host United States in the Super Over at Dallas in its opening game, Pakistan recovered well to contain India's powerful batting lineup after the start was delayed almost an hour by rain at Nassau County International Cricket Stadium.

The batters seemed to be handling the tricky, uneven pitch conditions well until Bumrah re-entered the attack for his third over.

From there, Pakistan's middle-order batters were squeezed so much in the so-called death overs that it could hit only two boundaries in the last 36 deliveries.

Needing 18 off the last over, Naseem Shah (10 not out) smashed Arshdeep Singh for two boundaries before he left the field with tears in his eyes and was consoled by his batting partner Shaheen Shah Afridi.

It was the second-lowest total ever successfully defended at the men's T20 World Cup. It was the lowest total India had ever defended in a full T20 international, and helped extend its mark to 7-1

in T20 internationals against Pakistan.

India beat Ireland by eight wickets in its opening game at the same ground and leads Group A with four points and a better net-run rate than the U.S. team, which also has four points from its wins over Canada and Pakistan.

Only two teams from each of the four groups advance to the second stage. So Pakistan needs to win its remaining games against Canada and Ireland and also hope results of other group games go in its favor to progress to the Super 8s.

"The pressure was on us," Pakistan captain Babar Azam said. "You can't expect too much from tailenders. We were not up to the mark in the first six overs, we had targeted 40-45 runs, but we couldn't capitalize properly."

Pakistan's bowlers gave their team the advantage, with Naseem Shah and Haris Rauf each returning figures of 3-21 and Mohammad Amir, who came out of retirement for the World Cup, grabbing 2-23.

Rishabh Pant, who was dropped twice in a top-scoring knock of 42 off 31 balls, was one of only three India batters to reach double figures, along with Axar Patel (20) and Sharma (13).

India batting great Virat Kohli lasted just three balls. He struck a boundary off Shah's first ball before he mistimed another big drive off the fast bowler and was caught in the covers.

Drop-in pitches with variable bounce at the purpose-built 34,000 capacity stadium have been in focus since the tournament began, giving little respite to the batters so far in a cricket format that is really designed for high scoring.

Scotland gets second win
Brandon McMullen hit an unbeaten 61 runs from 31 balls as Scotland beat Oman by seven wickets with 41 deliveries to spare later Sunday at North Sound, Antigua, for its second win in Group B.

Oman chose to bat first and scored 150-7 with Pratik Athavale (54) and Ayaan Khan (41 not out) dominating the innings.

Scotland reached 153-3 in 13.1 overs with opener George Munsey scoring a 20-ball 41 with four sixes.

Scotland, which got a point from its washed-out opener against England, also had a win over Namibia and tops the group with five points. Defending champion England has one point – from the washout – after its weekend loss to Australia.

AP

Scheffler holds on to win Memorial for his 5th PGA Tour title of the year

DUBLIN, Ohio

WINNING has become a habit for Scottie Scheffler, except there was nothing typical about his victory Sunday at the Memorial.

He made only one birdie. He closed with a 2-over 74, his highest final round in two years. And victory wasn't assured until Scheffler had the mettle to put a firm stroke on a downhill putt from 5 feet above the hole to take out the break.

It went right in the heart for a one-shot victory over Collin Morikawa, and a handshake with tournament host Jack Nicklaus. Their exchange said it all.

"You're a survivor," Nicklaus told him.

"Thanks," Scheffler said. "Yeah, you made this place brutal today."

Scheffler endured more stress than he wanted and got the victory everyone has come to expect, his fifth of the season – one week into the month of June – as he heads for another tough test next week in the U.S. Open. Muirfield Village was so demanding with its ultra firm greens and swirling gusts throughout the afternoon that only six players broke par and the average score was a fraction under 75.

Scheffler, who started four shots ahead, never lost the lead. He never felt safe, either, not with Morikawa and Adam Hadwin on his heels all afternoon, and on a back nine where making par felt like hard work. Par is what it took on the 18th hole.

"This is a tough place to close out," Scheffler said. "I didn't do a whole lot great today, but I did enough."

Just barely.

Scheffler was leading Morikawa by one shot and both hit approach shots that bounced hard and high off the green and into the rough. Both chipped to about 5 feet. Scheffler buried his putt to win, and the force of his fist pump to celebrate showed how tough this day was on him, and practically everyone.

Making the day even more special was a recent memory with Nicklaus at the Memorial, and cradling month-old son Bennett at his newborn's first PGA Tour event.

Scheffler thought back to 2021, when he missed a 6-foot putt on the final hole that ended any chance of a playoff. Walking off the green, he recalls Nicklaus telling him one day Scheffler will make the putt on 18 "and I'll be walking off to shake his hand."

AP

Cristiano Ronaldo and Modric go to Euro 2024 showing age is no boundary for soccer's modern stars

BY JAMES ROBSON

AGED 39 and about to play in a record-extending sixth European Championship, Cristiano Ronaldo's longevity at soccer's highest levels almost defies belief.

Luka Modric is 38, still performing for Real Madrid and will be expected to provide the X Factor for Croatia at the Euros in Germany, which start June 14.

The best players are extending their careers for longer, despite the increased pace and intensity of the modern game.

Higher levels of fitness and stamina are being demanded of athletes, but that is being matched by ever-improving expertise in how to maximize performance.

"Sports science has had an impact on how we prepare the modern-day player in terms of diet, nutrition, lifestyle, training programs. We've moved out of the 80s and 90s with the increased level of professionalism," Tony Strudwick, a sports scientist with more than three decades of experience in soccer, told The Associated Press.

Strudwick has held prominent roles at Manchester United, Arsenal and England and is currently director of medical at West Bromwich Albion.

He worked with Ronaldo at United when the Portugal forward first established himself as one of the best players in the world.

"He just set himself up for success," Strudwick said. "I said four or five years ago, knowing how professional Ronaldo was, he could play up to the age of 40. That was no problem."

With his 40th birthday in sight, Ronaldo shows no sign of being ready to quit. And with the advancement of sports science, the longevity that the likes of Ronaldo and Modric are achieving could become the norm.



Portugal coach Luiz Felipe Scolari, right, leads a tearful Cristiano Ronaldo to collect his runners-up medal after Greece beat Portugal 1-0 in the Euro 2004 soccer championship final match at the Luz Stadium in Lisbon, on Sunday, July 4, 2004. AP Photo.

ATTITUDE

It's not so much that athletes have changed physically over the years – rather it has been a shift in mentality.

"We have seen a kind of evolution in professionalism as opposed to an evolution in genetics," Strudwick said. "It wasn't that players were unprofessional (in the past), they just didn't know what they didn't know."

"There's a lot more scrutiny on players in terms of accountability."

Improvements in player lifestyle is lengthening careers, with many using the services of fitness and conditioning experts to ensure they remain in prime condition even during the off-season.

Ryan Giggs took on yoga in his later years to help extend his career and allow him to play for United until he was 40.

DIET

Many top players also rely on the services of private chefs who deliver daily meals that are nutritionally balanced, while also being of restaurant quality.

That's in addition to what's provided by elite clubs, which have nutrition departments to help players keep food diaries and provide them with diet coaching. In the past, some players would have pre-match meals of steak. Much has changed, with some managers banning sauces at the table.

Rod Thornley, a masseur who worked with Manchester United and England, can remember when Italian coach Fabio Capello took charge of the Three Lions.

"The first ever pre-match meal was just a massive bowl of pasta. No sauce, just pasta," Thornley told the AP. "The lads were looking round going 'What is this? We can't eat this.' And that's all he offered. That was it."

INJURY PREVENTION

Massage plays a role in avoiding soft tissue injury. Contemporary players will have several massages throughout the week at the training ground or at home.

"With the more exercise you do, the more tight your muscles become," Thornley said. "You are affecting mus-

cles, you're affecting muscle mass, you're affecting your buildup of tightness, your lack of elasticity in the muscle.

"It's a huge part of keeping a player fit, keeping a player healthy, keeping them on the pitch."

Ice baths are also used to help recovery.

MONEY

For all the ambition of players to continue as long as they can, there is also a clear financial incentive at a time when the rewards have never been higher.

It only makes sense for a player to want to extend their earning potential. Ronaldo, for instance, is reportedly paid \$200 million a year playing for Al Nassr in the Saudi League. He is the CEO of the money-making machine that is his playing career. It is something Strudwick calls the "rise of the entrepreneur" soccer player.

And it can apply to players much lower down the food chain than Ronaldo. "There is a big incentive to keep your career going," Strudwick said. "An extra five years at the back end of your career sets up the modern footballer for a very, very comfortable future."

DRIVE

In the case of Ronaldo, a remarkable career that has seen him win five Ballon d'Or awards for the best player in the world is no accident, according to Thornley.

They worked together at United, where Ronaldo won the first of his five Champions League titles.

"Ronaldo just had that mentality where he was just wanting to be the best at everything," Thornley said. "He wanted to be the best player in the world from the second he turned up there. He was just one of those lads that you knew he would do whatever it took to be that person, and he did and he proved it."

AP

Title contenders England and Denmark meeting again in Euro Group C

BY JAMES ROBSON

WITH two semifinalists from the last European Championship, Group C boasts teams that believe they can go the distance this summer.

England, a beaten finalist in 2021, aims to go one better and win its first trophy since the 1966 World Cup.

Denmark was the other team. It was beaten in extra time by England in the 2021 semis. The Danes won Euro '92 with one of the most improbable victories in sports. They failed to qualify for the finals but were given entry when war-torn Yugoslavia was banned.

Serbia and Slovenia will be hoping for their own fairytales after qualifying for the Euros for the first time in more than two decades.

Here's a look at Group C:

ENGLAND

England manager Gareth Southgate has proved himself adept at negotiating tournament soccer having led them to the semifinals of the 2018 World Cup and the final of Euro 2021. Defeat to France in the quarterfinals of the 2022 World Cup was a setback for an England team that looked like it was ready to win a first major tournament since 1966 and prompted questions about whether Southgate was the right manager to get his team over the line. The Euros could well be his last tilt at a trophy because his contract expires at the end of the tournament. He is blessed with some of the world's best players in Harry Kane, Jude Bellingham, Phil Foden and Declan Rice – it is just a case of whether he can come up with a winning formula. Injuries to key defenders Harry Maguire and Luke Shaw could be the biggest obstacle to success.

DENMARK

That 2021 run to the last four will always be remembered after Denmark was galvanized by the shock of star player Christian Eriksen suffering a cardiac arrest on the field in its opening game against Finland. He is playing



Leipzig's Benjamin Sesko celebrates after scoring his side's first goal during the German Bundesliga soccer match between RB Leipzig and Werder Bremen in Leipzig, Germany, Sunday, May 11, 2024. Serbia and Slovenia will be hoping for their fairytales after qualifying for the Euros for the first time in more than two decades. AP Photo

again and in the squad. Denmark will likely be looking to Eriksen's Manchester United teammate Rasmus Hojlund as one of its main inspirations in Germany. Hojlund's seven goals in qualifying were behind only Romelu Lukaku, Cristiano Ronaldo, Kylian Mbappe and Harry Kane. Kasper Hjulmand, the coach in 2021,

was also there when Denmark crashed out of the 2022 World Cup at the group stage without a win. Denmark finished top of its group in Euro qualifying to secure its place at these finals.

SERBIA

A Serbia team blessed with firepower could surprise a few

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Cristiano Ronaldo and Modric go to Euro 2024 showing age is no boundary for soccer's modern stars

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

Simba, Yanga Community Shield derby confirmed

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

DETAILS around the 2024 Community Shield have now been confirmed, as Young Africans and Simba are set to battle it in one of the semi-final in the Community Shield tournament.

The Tanzania Football Federation, TFF, confirmed that the 2024 Community Shield will take place from Thursday, August 8, 2024, to Sunday, August 11, at a yet to be confirmed venue.

The Community Shield will be the first piece of silverware of the new season involving the top four teams in the 2023/24 Premier League campaign.

The concept of the top four teams from the previous league season participating in a start-of-the-new-season competition was introduced last year.

Previously, the Community Shield only involved two teams, the Premier League champions coming up against the Federation Cup winners or a side that finished as first runners-up in the league.

After winning the Premier League title for a third successive time with three games to spare, Young Africans confirmed their place in the 2024 Community Shield.

Simba - who endured the misfortune of finishing third behind Azam - are set to go to war against Miguel Gamondi's side on August 8.

Simba and Young Africans met in the Community Shield final last year.

Simba overcame Singida Fountain Gate via a penalty shootout while Young Africans beat Azam 2-0 in the other semi-final.

A penalty shootout victory saw Simba triumph against their arch-rivals after the two sides had settled for a goalless draw in normal time of play.

With both sides expected to bolster their squads in the transfer window, the traditional curtain-raiser may give the fresh additions a chance to get their first taste of life at the top of the Tanzanian football pyramid.

Meanwhile, the other side of the bracket will see Azam battle Coastal Union in their second semi-final.

Coastal Union finished fourth to guarantee themselves a spot in the Community Shield for the first time as well as a CAF Confederation Cup ticket.



Foti Gwebe Nyirenda hits the ball during the 13th edition of the annual fundraising golf tournament organised by the Rotary Bahari Club of Dar es Salaam over the weekend. The tournament aimed to raise Tsh. 70m to support infrastructure and teaching environment at the Mtakuja Secondary School in Kinondoni, Dar es Salaam. **PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT MIRAJI MSALA**

Hemed Morocco confident ahead of crucial 2026 World Cup qualifier against Zambia

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli



Taifa Stars acting head coach Hemed 'Morocco' Suleiman. Agencies

TANZANIA national football team, Taifa Stars, departed the country on Saturday brimming with confidence ahead of their crucial 2026 World Cup Group E qualifying match against Zambia's Chipolopolo, scheduled for today.

In their recent Africa Cup of Nations Group F encounter, Zambia and Taifa Stars faced off in a closely contested match that ended in a 1-1 draw. Simon Msuva opened the scoring for Tanzania, while Patson Daka salvaged a late equalizer for Zambia with a goal in the 88th minute.

Acting head coach Hemed 'Morocco' Suleiman expressed his confidence in the squad, which predominantly consists of players who participated in the recent African Cup of Nations (AFCON 2023).

Coach Morocco believes the experience and cohesion developed during AFCON will be pivotal in their upcoming match.

"Our team is well-prepared and united," Morocco said. "We've been practicing diligently for this game. We know it will be tough, but I'm grateful to have a squad largely made up of players who played in AFCON."

The match will take place at the Levy Mwanawasa Stadium in Ndola, and Morocco is optimistic about the team's improved performance. Despite the challenge posed by Zambia, he is confident in his players' ability to rise to the occasion.

Morocco also addressed the absence of key players, goalkeeper Aishi Manula and forward Mbwana Samatta. He emphasized that the national team is a collective effort and that the remaining players are ready to step up.

"We recognize Manula's contribution, but we also have talented young players ready to take on the responsibility," he stated. "Veteran players are leaving, and it's essential to give opportunities to those present to prove themselves in major championships ahead."

Team captain Himid Mao echoed Morocco's sentiments, expressing the squad's readiness and determination to secure a positive result.

Mao highlighted the importance of the game and the high morale within the team.

"We are prepared for this game and have given it the significance it deserves," Mao said. "With the good preparations we've had and the high morale, we believe everything will go well."

Currently, Tanzania sits in fourth place in their group with three points after two matches. Zambia is in second place with the same points but has played three matches. Morocco tops the group with six points, having won both of their two matches so far.

In their recent encounter on June 7, Morocco clashed with Zambia, emerging victorious with a 2-1 win. The triumph came courtesy of an early goal by Hakim Ziyech in the 5th minute and a follow-up strike by Eliese Ben Seghir in the 67th minute.

Despite Zambia's efforts, they managed to find the net only once, with Edward Chilufya scoring for them in the 80th minute.

As the Taifa Stars gear up for their crucial encounter against Chipolopolo, the team's preparation and spirit will be vital in determining their success on the road to the 2026 World Cup finals.

“

We recognize Manula's contribution, but we also have talented young players ready to take on the responsibility," he stated. "Veteran players are leaving, and it's essential to give opportunities to those present to prove themselves in major championships ahead

Taifa Stars take aim at Zambia's Chipolopolo



Taifa Stars squad

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA national football team, Taifa Stars, will be looking for another away win in the FIFA 2026 World Cup African Qualifiers when they take on neighbours Zambia at the Levy Mwanawasa Stadium in Ndola in the evening.

The two sides last faced off in the group stages of the Africa Cup of Nations in January, playing out a 1-1 draw in the finals held in Ivory Coast.

With the teams struggling heading into this one, both will view today's contest as a perfect opportunity to get themselves back on track.

Back in November, Taifa Stars kicked off their qualifying campaign with a 1-0 away victory over Niger, with Charles M'Mombwa netting the sole goal of the game early after the restart.

They were, however, beaten 2-0 by Morocco in their second group game with a red card to midfielder Novatus Dismas all but scuppering their chances of a come-

back and now find themselves fourth in Group E with three points from their two opening games.

Since then, Taifa Stars have managed to pick up a solitary victory in seven matches across all competitions, failing to go past the group stage at the Africa Cup of Nations in Ivory Coast.

When you look at the bigger picture, Tanzania have won just two of their last ten games across all competitions, recording four draws and four defeats.

Taifa Stars have struggled for results in recent meetings against Zambia and would need to be at their best to get something out of this game.

Head coach Hemed 'Morocco' Suleiman will make many changes to the side that started against Indonesia last time out, with Bakari Mwanamnyeto and Ibrahim Bacca all expected to come into the defence. There is not much experience in the goalkeeping department, with Abutwalib Msherry, Kwesi Kawawa and Ali Salim having never earned a competitive start for Taifa Stars.

Simon Msuva is comfortably the leading goalscorer in the squad with 23 goals, and the forward could be joined by Clement Mzize in the final third of the field,

while Waziri Junior is also set to be involved at some stage, having been a starter in the team's last match.

On the other side, Zambia kicked off their qualification campaign with a 4-2 victory over Congo Brazzaville last November but have seen results go south since then.

They fell to a narrow 2-1 defeat against group leaders Morocco in Thursday's meeting at the Adrar Stadium in Agadir. That was a second straight defeat for the Chipolopolo who remain second in the group having managed just three points from three outings.

The home side will now look to their decent home record in search of a much-needed win to bounce back from the two defeats.

Chipolopolo boys have won each of their last three competitive home matches since and will head into the game looking to extend this winning run.

In head-to-head records, there have been 33 meetings between Zambia and Tanzania.

The hosts have won 18 of those games while Tanzania have won just five times. There have been 10 draws between the two teams.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

