



National Pg 2 Samia awarded for boosting coffee sector



National Pg 4 Govt to increase compensation



National Pg 6 VETA employs 169 teachers



Regional states admire SGR at Public Service Day exhibition

By Correspondent James Kandoya

BUILDING the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) is raising considerable attraction in the region, hailed lately in Zimbabwe as a showcase project for African integration.

Ridhiwani Kikwete (pictured), the Public Service Management and Good Governance deputy state minister in the President's Office, made this observation yesterday in a statement summing up a visit to Zimbabwe for the 9th Continental Africa Public Service Day (APSD) in Waterfalls.

At an exhibition attached to commemorating the international day, SGR emerged as a singularly attractive project for African countries participating in the continental event from June 21st to 23rd.

Under the theme "The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) will require a fit for purpose African public administration to succeed," participants appreciated the potential the new railway holds for AfCFTA.

The new technology transportation facility invested in SGR promises to bring positive effects in transit and cross border trading, participants noted.

The deputy minister noted that with the strategy to attain middle income status by 2025, the modern railway infrastructure will stimulate growth by offering fast, quality transport services at affordable cost.

"Construction of SGR is a pillar in reducing costs and time passengers spend or cargo takes to be delivered," he said, noting that globally, the quality of infrastructure marks out where a country stands in economic ability.

Good economies are those that can offer rapid services from one city to the other, he said, highlighting that investment in a strong SGR was an opportunity to the country's economy as Tanzania is a gateway to landlocked countries in the region.

He cited expert assessments that railway transport reduces costs by 30 to 40 percent compared to road transport, thus emerging as an economic stimulant. It was the right time for Tanzania to invest in SGR, he declared.

Noting that the government has worked

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AG faults '100 years' port contract claims

■ Cautions on discriminatory undertones as critics want PM's assurances respected

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has an audience at Zanzibar State House yesterday with a delegation from the Christian Blind Mission International led by the agency's Resident Director in Tanzania, Nesia Mahenge (4th-L). The agency has been active in Tanzania for six decades, engaged in efforts to combat blindness and generally helping improve public health and extending support to people with disabilities in accessing education opportunities and earning a living. Photo: State House

ATTORNEY General (AG) Eliezer Feleshi has refuted rumours on the anticipated investment by the Dubai based logistics firm DP World at the Dar es Salaam Port, warning the discussions can make Tanzania look like it is discriminating investors from certain countries.

Judge Feleshi said this yesterday when speaking with journalists at his office, the first time the AG has come out in public to air the government's legal view of the matter.

He cited claims that it is a 100-year contract, noting that the rumours went viral even before the National Assembly endorsed the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between Tanzania and the United Arab Emirate (UAE).

"Others say it is a life contract while there are no such articles," he stated.

He especially objected to using defamatory language against investors from certain countries, saying this may damage Tanzania's reputation as a leading

...the only way the government can do to prove that it does not disrespect the views of its people is to terminate the contract

country in attracting tourists in the Africa region.

"Do we want to create an environment that will scare investors from coming to our country?" he demanded, recalling that Tanzania is famously known as a member of the non-aligned movement. It is thus willing and ready to welcome investors from all over the world, he declared.

"When you start seeing the Arabs as a problem; then where do you want investors to come from?" he pointedly demanded, dismissing the spreading information that the port of Dar es Salaam "is being sold."

There are no such articles endorsed as the IGA clearly explains the areas of cooperation which include development of four berths, he stated.

Herefutedrumours that the government off the Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) will not be able to withdraw from the entered agreement with DP World.

"There are frameworks at the preamble (introduction to the agreement) that cite clearly the agreements that will be signed including the Host Government Agreement (HGA) and project agreement (for the operation of port berths)," he said.

In the contract that TPA will sign with DP World, the investor will be given specific conditions and performance goals, having to perform in accordance with the signed agreement to allow the government to provide the company with other port areas, the AG specified.

In remarks on the agreement, Works and Transport minister Prof Makame Mbarawa assured the legislature that recommendations raised would be examined as the government was

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MPs approve 44.4trn/- Budget, 95pc vote yes

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

THE National Assembly yesterday approved the 44.4trn/- budget estimates for fiscal 2023/24, voted for by 95 percent of the House.

Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba said when winding up debate that the government properly supervise implementation of plans and projects geared to fight poverty, bolster investments and build an inclusive economy.

The estimates represent an increase of 7.0 percent from 41.5trn/- of the current financial year, with three opposition MPs also voting for it, after the minister had emphasized the need for a more conducive

We are well prepared to control informal importation of edible oil so as to protect locally produced oil and boost incomes of farmers and traders

environment for investors and traders to operate.

This will be the government's utmost priority so as to stimulate investments facilitating growth of the private sector in particular, he said, pointing at the 'Single Window Payment System' for collection of fees, levies and penalties to be used by all regulatory institutions facilitating investment.

This will facilitate business without affecting their core functions, he said, admitting that investors have been facing obstacles to access smooth services from regulatory authorities and institutions.

The window will greatly address various challenges including bureaucracy that

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MPs pin down govt on invasive wildlife

By Augusta Njoi, Dodoma

NINE legislators yesterday stood up in the National Assembly querying steps being taken by the government to control destructive wildlife across the country, during the question and answer session.

Mary Masanja, the Natural Resources and Tourism deputy minister was under pressure to show what measures the government was taking on the situation, in the wake of a warning to Iringa Region



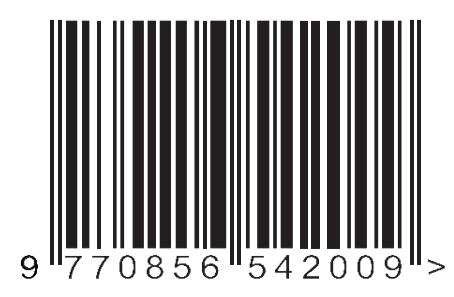
residents not to roam about at night to avoid stray lions from the Ruaha National Park.

The Speaker, Dr Tulia Ackson (pictured) accepted giving speaking opportunities to MPs who stood to ask supplementary questions to the original question from Maimuna Pathan (Special Seats), demanding to know steps taken to control invasive elephants on farms in Liwale and Nachingwea districts.

Grace Tendega (Special Seats-Opposition) said that while elephants invaded various human settlements recently in two wards, lions attacked livestock at about the same time, sowing panic among residents.

Esther Matiko (Special Seats-Opposition) said when fierce animals attack and wound people, they are paid 500,000/-

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MPs approve 44.4trn/- Budget, 95pc vote yes

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traders and investors face in their operations, he said, asserting that all areas of concern will be addressed including revamping roads that MPs highlighted as being in a deplorable state.

He appealed to lawmakers to understand that the government's proposed tax reforms are meant to finance strategic development projects plus wider provision of loans for students in higher learning institutions.

Budgeted loan amounts increased from 400bn/- in the past two years to 700bn/- in the coming financial year, while an additional 100bn/- will be paid to form four leavers selected to join public technical and vocational training colleges.

Taxes and levies claimed to be too high by many stakeholders are contributed by individuals who do not fulfill their responsibility of paying tax or claiming legal receipts. This denies the government the capacity to collect required revenues.

He appealed to the public to play a role in tax or required levy payment by claiming legal receipts, pointing out that duty remission in crops such as wheat and local edible oil is meant to attract traders to purchase local produce.

"We are well prepared to control

informal importation of edible oil so as to protect locally produced oil and boost incomes of farmers and traders," he said.

He objected to what he termed as the negative mindset of Kisesa MP Luhaga Mpina towards the government and its efforts to foster development in the country.

He described the lawmaker as habitually spitting negative and discouraging words on various plans and efforts set out by the government, cautioning MPs not to pushing national leaders to rash action by discussing their personalities instead of focusing on national interests.

Last week, when contributing to the budget estimates, the MP had expressed fear on the government move to allow traders to operate freely without worrying of being arrested or their businesses being closed in case of violations like evading tax.

"We have heard the government's directive to its institutions to stop closing businesses for any reason. This has a huge impact as it will open door for illegal trade to operate.

"It will put the country and even the health of Tanzanians at risk," he stated. The National Environment Management Council (NEMC) will not implement its duties of supervising factories that violate the law," he had asserted.

Regional states admire SGR at Public Service Day show

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out to ensure that the transport infrastructure is of international standard, he said it is designed to link with countries in the Great Lakes zone.

Once the railway is built it will link with Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo and Burundi easily and on time, he said, elaborating on the interest for training on the new technology for those managing railway services in Uganda, Zambia and DRC.

He also hinted at plans to build

a technical college offering the new technology in SGR to develop technicians with a capacity to build, operate and improve in case of changes.

Tanzania's standard gauge railway project, seeking to open up quicker transport corridors towards the vast hinterland of Burundi, DRC, Rwanda and Uganda, is the most advanced on the continent, he stated.

TRC showcased the SGR as one among institutions participating in the 9th APSD at Waterfalls, the statement indicated

TCB awards President Samia for reforming country's coffee sector

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo,

Dodoma

THE Tanzania Coffee Board (TCB) has awarded President Samia Suluhu Hassan for administering a series of efforts which have resulted in major reforms in the country's coffee industry.

The prestigious trophy was received by the Minister of Agriculture Hussein Bashe and was presented by TCB board chairperson, Prof Aurelia Kamuzora during the 13th annual general meeting of coffee stakeholders held over the weekend in Dodoma Region.

TCB director general, Primus Kimaryo said the coffee sector had stagnated for years, but is now rolling back due to several helpful strategies being implemented by the government.

"Coffee production has increased by 23.4 percent from 66,837 tonnes to 82,491 tonnes between 2020/2021 and 2025/2026. This is the first record ever since the country's independence," said Kimaryo.

He observed that the on-going impressive development in the production of the key economic cash crop in the country has been achieved due to increased production and availability of enough improved coffee seedlings among local farmers.

The government is also working to look for more local and international markets to ensure Tanzania's coffee fetches better prices, he remarked.

"TCB is proud and appreciates the numerous efforts being

engineered by President Samia to support the coffee sector through setting friendly policies and working environment that enables us to execute our programs successfully," he noted.

Kimaryo added that there has been major improvement in the influx of key stakeholders who are chipping in the sector to roll out capital loans, such as machines and inputs to coffee farmers.

During the two-day meeting, Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa was also awarded for his support for the general overhaul and advancement of the country's coffee systems, which include a move to stabilize the coffee's cooperative unions and markets.

Agriculture Minister, Hussein Bashe was in recognition of his continued commitment to improve performance of the sector, ranging from the institutional administrations down to farmers outputs.

The Ngara Coffee Farmers Cooperative union and Aviv Coffee Plantation were also awarded for excelling in the sector.

TCB is a government organ established by the Tanzania Coffee Industry Act No. 23 of 2001 to regulate the coffee industry and advise the government on all matters related to the growing, processing and marketing of coffee within and outside the country.

"Coffee production has increased by 23.4 percent from 66,837 tonnes to 82,491 tonnes between 2020/2021 and 2025/2026. This is the first record ever since the country's independence"



Zanzibar First Vice President Othman Masoud Othman speaks at the commemoration of the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in Zanzibar yesterday. Photo: VPO

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committed to transforming port operations and management.

All projects will be reviewed after a certain period of time, varying according to the respective projects, which is pegged at one to five years, he said.

Gerson Msigwa, the government spokesman had over the weekend reiterated the government's position, affirming that substantial revenues are being lost at the port under the current format of operations.

He recalled the promise that port services which beef the

AG faults '100 years' port contract claims

country's budget by 37 percent would enhance budget share to 67 percent when the accord is put to effect.

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa, speaking at 40th anniversary of the International Evangelism Centre in Arusha last week, said that the IGA between Tanzania and Dubai on partnership involving operating sea and lake ports had divided the country between its proponents and its critics.

The government will not ignore

people's views on the matter, he said, to which

ACT-Wazalendo leader Zitto Kabwe had demanded establishing an operating company partnering with DP World at 50 percent shares.

Dr Rugemeleza Nshalla, a former president of the Tanganyika Las Society (TLS) said "the only way the government can do to prove that it does not disrespect the views of its people is to terminate the contract."

He said the pact did not follow

the constitution of the country, so it should be terminated or its process start afresh," declared, echoed by Anna Henga, director of the Legal and Human Rights Center (LHRC), who said "the government must walk the talk on respecting people's views."

Godbless Lema, the Chadema northern zone chairman, said despite the government's statement as to hope in implementing the accord, he demanded that what the premier said be followed up with actions.



Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba pictured in the National Assembly in Dodoma city yesterday responding to views by legislators on the government's Budget estimates for financial year 2023/2024 - which were approved shortly thereafter. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

MPs pin down govt on invasive wildlife

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as compensation but if a person is killed the family is paid 1m/-.

She said that when elephants destroy crops, the farmer is paid 2,500 per acre, querying why the government is not reviewing its regulations to exercise fairness in compensation.

Justine Nyamoga (Kilolo) said that Ruaha Mbuyuni Ward has seen havoc from elephants that led to food shortages, demanding

steps the government was taking to control the beasts.

Charles Kajege (Mwibara) said that elephants, crocodiles and hippos ravage the constituency and kill people, asking what strategies the government has in place to arrest the situation.

Responding, the deputy minister said the government is seeking ways to solve the challenge posed by destructive wildlife, affirming that this includes building patrol points,

hiring village guards and installing electric fencing at park borders to deter animals reaching that point.

She similarly referred to reviewing compensation regulations when invasive wildlife causes harm, admitting that statutory rates are small, not reflecting real damage.

As for lions invading Iringa municipality, he admitted the recurring problem of stray lions invading human settlements in the region, noting that wildlife

authorities send warders to hunt down the beasts.

People should take precautions in walking at night and those with livestock "should light fires near them to keep the lions away," she said.

The government will increase the number of wildlife rangers to patrol the area for possible stray elephants or lions, she stated, reiterating the 2020-24 strategy to control invasive wildlife.



Prof Aurelia Kamuzora (L), chairperson of the Tanzania Coffee Board, represents President Samia Suluhu Hassan in Dodoma city at the weekend in presenting an award to Agriculture minister Hussein Bashe. It was during the 13th annual general meeting of coffee stakeholders in Tanzania. The minister was feted for having ably administered various initiatives which have led to major reforms in the country's coffee sector. Photo: Correspondent Valentine Oforo

TEF fits elephants with GPS devices to track movements

By Guardian Reporter, Same

TANZANIA Elephant Foundation, in collaboration with the government has started taking strategic steps for controlling wildlife invasion human settlements, destruction of crops and property in Same and Mwanza districts, Kilimanjaro Region after tying the jumbos in Mkomazi National Park with GPS Calls gadgets that monitor their movements.

So far the special communication gadgets have been tied on the necks of four elephants and will help to track them, especially fleeing the Park area to cause havoc to human settlements, even killing people.

TEF Director, Lameck Mkuburo told this paper at the weekend that

the gadgets have great ability in tracking the beasts' movements and therefore control them before they cause havoc to people roaming in the park area.

"TEF is engaged in elephant conservation through scientific research and help communities solve conflicts with the elephants in areas surrounding national parks.

"These communication gadgets help in submitting instant reports which help the government and other conservation authorities to take quick measures to help people by removing the elephants from their human settlements, and the aim is to install the gadgets to a total of eight elephants," he said and added that they have postponed the exercise for some time due

to various challenges, but will be resumed next month (July).

For his part, Head of Mkomazi National Park, Emmanuel Moirana said the implementation of the exercise will enhance government plans against destructive elephants and human settlements in areas around national parks.

Dr Edward Kohi, Director of Research from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism said the project will help to eradicate the destruction of crops in farms.

According to Dr Kohi, all elephant herds within and outside Mkomazi national Park will be tied with the gadgets that will enable wildlife officials track their movements before they cause destruction to human settlements.

Finance Bill 2023-24 sails through National Assembly

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

THE National Assembly has passed the Finance Bill, 2023 which has seen amendment of 18 laws and tax reforms to further stimulate investment, bring relief to people as well as increase revenue collections.

The amendments further intend to enhance economic growth particularly on strategic sectors including industries, agriculture, livestock, fisheries, energy and transport infrastructure as well as education and health sectors with a view to improving productivity of Tanzanians.

Winding up debate on the new Act yesterday in the House, Minister for Finance and Planning Dr Mwigulu Nchemba commended MPs for their useful contributions saying that the government will work on their views.

He said the amendments are expected to answer the questions and satisfy the thirst of the Tanzanian society, aiming to stimulate various economic activities in the country by placing emphasis on strategic sectors.

The Value Added Tax Act, Cap. 148, has been amended in section 55A in order to zero rate VAT on supply of fertilizers manufactured locally for a period of one year so as to provide relief to farmers and consumers.

Section 55B has been added in order to zero rate the supply of locally manufactured garments made from locally grown cotton in order to promote domestic production and reduce costs to consumers.

Section 86 is proposed to be amended in order to recognise fiscal receipts issued by devices other than electronic fiscal device.

In the VAT Act also section 6 amended in order to exempt raw materials solely used in the manufacture of packaging materials of pharmaceutical products as well as pre-fabricated structures of HS Code 9406.20.90 to be used solely in poultry farming.

The aim of amendment is to reduce costs to producers and promote the growth of the sectors. Section 11 is amended in order to include deferment of value added tax on locally manufactured capital goods in order to attract new investment in the country, promote domestic production and

increase employment opportunities.

The Electronic and Postal Communications Act, Cap. 306, has been amended in 164A has been repealed by removing airtime levy so as to promote cashless economy.

The National Payment Systems Act, Cap. 437 has been amended in section 46A so as to remove mobile money transaction levy on transfer of money electronically so as to remove the possibility of being double levied in respect of the same amount as well as to encourage the electronic payment transactions.

Therefore, according to the proposed amendments, the levy shall be in respect of withdrawal transactions only.

Section 124(5A) and (5B) has been amended by introducing excise duty rate on imported hybrid passenger motor vehicles aged more than 5 years. The purpose of the amendment is to discourage dumping and safeguard the safety of passengers.

The Fourth Schedule is amended in order to introduce excise duty rates on cement, hybrid vehicles; bituminous oil and other products made of bituminous material; and electronic cigarette, vape products and shisha. The schedule is further amended in order to increase excise duty rate on imported energy drinks.

The Local Government Authorities (Rating) Act, Cap. 289, has been amended to include all the areas within a district council as ratable areas so as to ensure equity in payment of property tax.

Section 7 of the Act has also been amended by widening the scope of rateable areas in District Councils and include in the list of exempt properties mud huts, thatched houses, mud houses and such other similar houses used for residential purposes. The amendment aims at enhancing equity in taxation.

"Section 16 has been amended proposed to be amended by increasing the property rate from 12,000/- to 18,000/- for an ordinary building and from 60,000/- to 90,000/- for each storey building.

The purpose of the amendment is to ensure that tax payable with the actual value of the property.

Export Tax Act, Cap. 196, whereby section 3 is proposed to be amended by exempting 80 percent of the export levy on raw hides and skin exported by investors in Export Processing Zones (EPZ) so as to reduce cost of exporting raw hides and skin and promote foreign market.

The Income Tax Act, Cap. 332 has been amended in section 82 is proposed to be amended to remove obligation of individual to withhold tax on payment of rent in respect of residential premises. This is aimed to remove burden to individual tenants of paying withholding tax on behalf of their landlords.


The Land Act, Cap. 113 was amended whereby section 33A is added to enable local government authorities to collect land rent on behalf of the ministry responsible for land and remittance of 20 percent of the rent revenue collected to the local government authorities to facilitate administration, collection and recovery of the rent.

The Mining Act, Cap 123, section 90A has been amended to exempt refineries from paying inspection fee of 1 percent with an aim to stimulate the growth mineral refining sub-sector in the country, attracting investment, promoting employment and increasing government revenue.

The Road and Fuel Tolls Act, Cap. 220, whereby section 4A and the Second Schedule are amended by increasing the road and fuel tolls by 100/- per each litre of petrol and diesel so as to ensure reliable sources of funds for implementation of strategic projects.

Tax Administration Act, Cap. 438 has been amended in section 36(i) by deleting the words "by using electronic fiscal device" in order to allow issuance of receipt by devices other than electronic fiscal device.

The Schedule to the Value Added Tax Act is amended in order to align the HS Codes with the current version of HS Codes as per East African Community Customs External Tariff Book, 2022. The Schedule is also amended by exempting low cost houses in order to enable citizens to have access to affordable houses and promote their living standards.



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Education: BSc in Project Planning and Management, Community Development, Development Planning and Policy Analysis, Development Economics, or other related relevant fields.

Professional experience: Minimum 3 years' experience in the area of governance

Project Officer Regenerative Agriculture in the "UKIJANI - Women in Green Production" project
Location: Singida

Focus: Responsible community land governance providing women with equal access to natural resources; More climate resilient and diversified farming by women, thereby contributing to restoration of land productivity/soil fertility and biodiversity; Women have access to different services and engage in economic activities in sustainable landscape-based value chains resulting in generation of additional family income

S/he will facilitate women and communities in developing and managing short- and long-term plans for their engagement in economic activities in sustainable landscape-based food value chains resulting in generation of additional household food and income. S/he works as part of the project team based in Singida on project strategies and on monitoring and learning activities, and, in close collaboration with different implementing public and private partners.

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Attacks by wild animals: Compensation set to rise

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government to increase compensation for those injured or affected by the wildlife in the country, the Parliament heard yesterday.

Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, Mary Masanja made the statement in the parliament while responding to questions raised by the lawmakers over the amount of money currently paid in compensation to those injured, killed or whose property are destroyed by the wild animals.

She added that in effort to reduce the ever-increasing attacks by the animals, the government is in the process of putting up electrical fences along the reserved areas.

In her main question, Special Seats MP, Maimuna Pathan (CCM), had wanted to know what the government was doing to help stop attacks by wild animals in Newala and Nachingwea districts.

The lawmaker also in a supplementary question called on the government to review compensations paid to those affected by the animals. "Does the government see it fit to review policies and increase the amount in compensation?"

Tarime Urban MP, Esther Matiku (CHADEMA) in her supplementary questioned the government's commitment to increase the compensation fees.

She argued that currently the government pays 25,000/= per hectare of farmland destroyed, 500,000/= to those injured and 1,000,000/= for those killed by wild animals.

"Why does the government review its policies and others laws regarding compensations on wildlife attacks and ensure those affected get the rightful compensation?" she asked.

In response, the deputy minister said the government has heeded advice from the National Assembly and has started the process to review the compensations fees.

"The government has set aside funds to start erecting electrical fences around some animal reserved areas in order to reduce attacks on human beings and their activities" she said, adding that the review of compensation fees is in the process too.

The government had in the 2022/2023 released about 1.5mn/- for compensation to families of people killed or injured by wildlife across the country, it has been revealed.

The revelation was made last week in the Parliament by the Deputy Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment), Khamis Hamza Khamis, saying the casualties would soon be compensated.

He made the statement in

response on behalf of the ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism.

He was responding to a supplementary question asked by the Manyoni West MP, Yahaya Masare (CCM), who had wanted to know if the government had the intentions of compensating those affected by wild animals.

Earlier in the main question, the lawmaker had also wanted to know what the government was doing to reduce the frequent attacks from the wildlife in his constituency.

"Is the government ready to send away the dangerous and harmful wild animals that regularly attack people in the region, destroying farms and causing injuries to people?" he asked.

The Manyoni West representative also argued that from the look of things, there were few wildlife officers, thus count not provide the desired control of the animals.

In response, the deputy minister admitted that the government was aware of the shortage of wildlife officers but was doing all it takes to increase the number. "In addition to various step being taken, the government has released at least 1.5bn/- for compensations to those affected by the wild animals" said Khamis.

He also explained that the government has continued providing public education to people on how to live with the animals, build officers' stations in different game reserves and put GPS on elephants in different areas, allowing rangers to easily trace their whereabouts.

In recent years, herds of elephants from various National Parks and other areas have been invading farmers' crops in different parts of the country, causing food security concerns in the area.



"Is the government ready to send away the dangerous and harmful wild animals that regularly attack people in the region, destroying farms and causing injuries to people?"

TCCIA-Singida: Hotels pay for needlessly many licences

By Guardian Correspondent, Singida

THE Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture (TCCIA) in Singida Region has complained to the region's local councils imposing numerous licences for investors in hotels, saying the move denies them the ability to compete commercially, therefore keeping away some of customers of international standards.

Kitila Katala, TCCIA Chairman for Singida Region, aired the complaints to the Regional Commissioner Peter Serukamba at the regional Business Council meeting.

Katala said investors in hotels in Singida Region are required to pay for many licences without valid reason thereby creating great burdens that make them fail to compete in business with other regions.

"Hotels in Singida Regions have to pay for licences on halls, bars, restaurants, shops and guest houses, we have no hotel licences, the stream of licences is a great burden to hotel investors," he said.

In the circumstances, the TCCIA Chairman appealed to the local council to review their licensing systems to hotel investors, saying they should charge them only one licence instead of the five they do now.

Katala further said the importation of edible oil into the country has affected the sunflower price as it has created great competition with locally produced oil.

"We recommend that imported edible oil should be charged with tax aimed to protect farmers' prices for sunflower, as Singida Region stands to suffer economically if the situation continues as it is," he added.

In regard to Singida Region's economic growth, he said all areas allocated for investment in various local councils should be known so that TANESCO, TANROADS, TARURA and water authorities should direct their infrastructures to the areas in order to attract investors.

For his part, Regional Commissioner Serukamba promised to work on the issue.



Selemani Bishagazi, director of Dar es Salaam-based CSO Kipunguni Community Voice Centre, conducts a sensitisation session on sexual violence yesterday to members of the CCM women's wing in Ilala District yesterday. The event ran in tandem with basic entrepreneurship training, including the production of alternative charcoal. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

ECSCA-HC, SADC launch TB database

By Henry Mwangonde

THE East Central and Southern Africa Health Community (ECSCA-HC) in collaboration with Southern African Development Community (SADC) has launched a database for statistics on tuberculosis in mining sites within the 16 SADC countries.

Speaking at the launch, SADC programme officer for health and nutrition, Dr Willy Amisi said the new tool for regional data collection process was developed

to guide on TB management reporting.

The database is expected to measure how the region is soaring on TB in terms of whether the region is on the right track or not and if not, what needs to be done.

"TB in the mining sector is a big project that covers 16 member states in the SADC region," he said, noting that nine SADC states including Tanzania ranked among the highest burdened in the region.

According to him, the database

will help the region have collective data as currently each country collects for its own nation. However, the data will be centralized in one server and easy for the region to access.

"With this data the region will be able to determine how everyone is fairing and come to a decision on the way forward," he said, stressing that it is informative to double down on TB programs especially as there has been a setback after the corona virus attack.

ECSCA Research Operations and Institution Development, Subisio Sibandige said they were working with partners to ensure protection of miners and their families.

"The region will come up with policies that will look at issues including gender especially as there are women in the sector who are left behind because they work in small mines," he said.

He said the Database will also help to sought out challenges including budget constraints. The database is prepared by the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM).



Zonnastraal Mumbi, a mine closure specialist with Barrick Buzwagi Gold Mine, addresses women workers at the company at the weekend - mainly praising them for having played a laudable role in the firm's development. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Uhuru Torch Race leader happy with Hai projects

By Guardian Reporter, Hai

SEVEN development projects worth 1.62bn/- have been inspected by the leader of Uhuru Torch race Abdallah Shaib Kaim in Hai District, Kilimanjaro Region, saying he was happy with the projects' quality.

Kaim made the remarks here yesterday after inspecting the 0.79 'Nyerere Road built at tarmac level for 429.32m/- in Bomang'ombe Ward in Hai district.

"You deserve praise for the

level of the quality regarding your projects, especially the roads being built at tarmac level.

"Even if the aim is to ease transportation, I would like others to come here to learn from you because this is a sign of achievements with economic benefits," he added.

While at Hai, the torch also inaugurated the construction of Shiri Njoro dispensary costing 88m/- to serve nearby villages in Mnadani Ward.

The Uhuru Torch leader also inaugurated the construction project for the water tank at Kilimambogo area, Bondeni Ward costing 100m/-.

According to Hai District Commissioner, Amir Mkalipa, the project aims at solving the acute safe and clean water scarcity to 9,500 residents of Kawayu, Rundugai, Chekimaji, Kilimambogo and Chemka villages.

Other projects include the conservation of Njoro water

source that has so far cost 15.8m/-, horticultural project run by Youth Green Movement at Kingereka B village, Bondeni Ward that has so far cost 31m/-.

The Uhuru Torch race also inaugurated the laying of the foundation stone for four buildings and patients' walkways at Hai District Hospital that will cost 900m/- and the project for the construction of three classrooms at Hai secondary school costing 64.28m/-.



Investment, Industry and Trade ministry permanent secretary Dr Hashil Abdallah (2nd-L) is shown around Yisen International Company Factory, which is located at Mufindi in Iringa Region, at the weekend. The factory makes a wide variety of wood-based products. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

By Henry Mwangonde

TAIFA Gas signs joint venture agreement with Zambian firm

TAIFA Gas yesterday signed a \$100 million joint venture agreement with a Zambian Company, Delta Marimba Limited for the construction of a Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) power plant which will add 100 megawatt to Zambia's national grid.

Speaking when announcing the deal, Taifa Gas Hamisi Ramadhan said the company will establish Zambia's first LPG power plant.

"Taifa gas will explore opportunities related to LPG utilization including gas to power solutions," he said.

He said the decision to invest in Zambia was primarily driven by favorable investment climate and policies created by the country's president Hakainde Hichilema.

Rostam Azizi Chairman of Taifa Group said "Tanzania and Zambia share a profound historical connection, and there has never been a better opportunity

to invest in Zambia, we are grateful for contributing to Zambia's energy landscape hence foster closer ties between Tanzania and Zambia."

He said the company has proven a track record of implementing such projects in the East African region saying the expertise and experience gained will help fast track the project.

He added "Taifa Group envisions expanding its presence in Zambia and exploring further opportunities in the energy and mining sectors. We are confident that our investment will catalyze growth and development, and we look forward to a prosperous future for both Taifa Gas and the Zambian power sector."

A representative from Delta Marimba Limited Padmore Muleya said the project

will cater for the country's energy needs after plans to increase Copper production from the current 800,000 tons to three million.

The company recently signed a \$140 (330bn/-) Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) for implementation of a 180 MW scale solar photovoltaic (PV) project with a Mauritian-based firm, Generation Capital Limited (GCL) state-owned Zanzibar Electricity Corporation (ZECO) to generate 180 MW.

The partnership is expected to revolutionize Zanzibar's energy landscape and will ensure the reliable supply of clean and renewable power to the citizens of Zanzibar, the tourism and other industries and will pave the way for a sustainable future.

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

Police officers embark on inspection of drivers' training schools nationwide

POLICE in the country have embarked on inspection of drivers' training schools as a measure to curb the increase of frequent road accidents in many areas of the country, and warned to close all schools that do not meet required standards.

Michael Deleli, Assistant Commissioner of Police and Head of Road Safety Desk made the remarks here at the weekend when addressing owners of driving schools in Dodoma Region.

He said the inspection of the driving schools aims to identify those that meet the criteria and is part of in the implementation of the directives of the country Inspector General of Police (IGP), Camillus Wambura.

He also called on owners of the driving schools in the country to provide training that goes in tandem with modern technology and abide by the work ethics.

ACP Deleli said as for now many road accidents happen due to human errors because many drivers drive vehicles without adhering to road safety laws and sometimes out of sheer irresponsibility.

He said statistics show that during 2022 many drivers whose licences were verified did not pass through driving schools and had no licences.

"About 75 per cent of road accidents were due to human errors, 15 per cent from defective vehicles and 5 per cent

due to poor road infrastructures. "Therefore this clearly shows that human errors by drivers lead in causing many road accidents," he said.

He said the situation calls for owners of driving schools to make sure they look for teachers with vehicles' knowledge so that when students learn they should also learn about various vehicle's systems to make it easier for them to identify the problem instantly when driving.

He further said road safety education is still an obstacle to many Tanzanians, hence it is the responsibility for every

one with an understanding of road safety to provide the education to the public around him.

The Chairman of Driving Schools Owners Association in Dodoma Region, Robert Mwinje said they will abide by the advice from the police to make sure they conduct training by using teachers who satisfy the current market.

He said apart from that, they are also facing the lack of large areas for teaching students to drive and pledged to collaborate with the government to reduce road accidents in the country.



TANGAZO LA MNADA WA HADHARA WA VIFAA CHAKAVU

- i. Wananchi wote mnamtangaziwa kwamba Mfuko wa Maendeleo ya Jamii (TASAF) utaondosha kwa njia ya mnada wa hadhara mali mbalimbali chakavu zilizokuwa zinatumika kwenye maaeneo ya Utekelezaji wa Mpango.
- ii. Mali zitakazouzwa ni vifaa mbalimbali vya ofisi chakavu.
- iii. Mnada huo utafanyika katika mikoa mbalimbali kama inavyoonyeshwa kwenye jedwali hapo chini:

Na	Mkoa na Mali zitakazouzwa	Tarehe	Mahali
1	Dar es salaam	8 th Julai 2023	Ofisi za TASAF Tawi la Dar Es Salaam
2	Mwanza, Dodoma, Iringa, Kigoma na Mbeya	11 Julai 2023	Ofisi ya Katibu Tawala
3	Pwani Tanga Manyara Kagera Tabora	12 Julai 2023	Ofisi ya Katibu Tawala
4	Rukwa, Arusha Njombe Mtwara Simiyu Ruvuma	13 Julai 2023	Ofisi ya Katibu Tawala
5	Morogoro Lindi Katavi Shinyanga Geita	14 Julai 2023	Ofisi ya Katibu Tawala
6	Songwe, Pemba, Kilimanjaro, Mara Singida	18 Julai 2023	Ofisi ya Katibu Tawala

MASHARTI YA MNADA

- i. kifaa kitauzwa kama kilivyo mahali kilipo.
- ii. Mnuuzi atalazimika kulipa asilimia mia moja (100%) ya thamani yote na kuondoa kifaa/vifaa atakavyonunua siku ya mnada.
- iii. Ruhusa ya kuangalia vifaa itatolewa siku mbili (2) kabla ya tarehe ya mnada.
- iv. Mnada utanza saa nne (4:00) Asubuhi katika kila kituo.



Mkurugenzi Mtendaji
Mfuko wa Maendeleo ya Jamii – TASAF
Barabara ya Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete
S.L.P 2719 Dodoma, Tanzania
simu: 255 026 2963866
Nukushi: 255 026 2963871
Barua pepe: info@tasaf.go.tz
Tofuti: www.tasaf.go.tz

Stakeholders want SADC parliamentary forum to identify major priority issues

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

CIVIL society organizations (CSOs) have called on the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Parliamentary Forum and its thematic committee in Tanzania to prioritise issues of health, agriculture and food security in their commitments for the region's sustainable development.

The stakeholders also urge the SADC parliamentarians to strongly push for the formation of Agroecology policy and strategy in the region so as to promote massive production of organic food thus strengthen food security and nutrition.

Speaking during the meeting that brought together Tanzanian SADC parliamentarians, CSOs, youth and other stakeholders on Thursday here, Irene Ngao, advocacy officer at the Eastern and Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers Forum (ESAFF) urged SADC member States to fulfil 7 Malabo commitments and allocate progressively, timely at least 10 percent of national budgets to support agroecology, youth and women.

She noted that to achieve its vision 2050, that envision a peaceful, inclusive, competitive, middle- to high-income industrialised region, where all citizens enjoy sustainable economic well-being, justice and freedom, SADC member states have a huge role to play in ensuring strong food security as well as the health of their people.

She further said that Tanzania need to operationalize the Agriculture Development Fund (ADF) by setting aside \$120 million as approved by SADC member countries so as to enable the Fund to play crucial role as a source of capital and providing financial services tailored to the needs of small-scale farmers, such as affordable loans, grants, and technical assistance.

Abdallah Mkindi, programme coordinator at the Tanzania Alliance for Biodiversity (TABIO) said: "We also urge for the Development of SADC Regional Agriculture Extension Strategy (2024), to support agroecology approaches at scale as well as SADC review Biennial Review Report (PBR) to accommodate Farmer Managed Seed System (FMSS)-indigenous nutrition seeds and plants." he said.

He called for allocation of enough extension officers to all villages, as per national standard and provision of quality extension services to assist women smallholder farmers in the areas including agroecology.

"We also call for increased investment in research to develop agroecological approaches," he added.

The stakeholders also called for speed up transformation of SADC PF to Parliament with full legislative power as well as enhanced linkages between SADC Parliament and National Parliament could allocate one day in a year to receive and discuss issues from Regional Parliaments.

SADC Member States should adopt a gender based right to food and nutrition framework in all future policies and strategies."

The CSOs also wanted Tanzania to increase funding to research for indigenous nutrition seeds and plants and agroecology to comply with Malabo Commitment 4 requirement of 1percent of the budget to agriculture research).


Samwel Mkwatwa, from ActionAid Tanzania said they are currently implementing a project on "Strengthening Social Accountability and Oversight Capacity for Rights-based Public Resources Management in Health and Agriculture in Southern Africa".

This project focused on public resource management (PRM). The project seeks to improve public service delivery in agriculture (food security), and health (HIV/AIDS, sexual and reproductive health, and rights) by strengthening the oversight and social accountability roles of five target groups in the SADC region, specifically: selected parliamentary committees, relevant government departments, issue-based civil society organizations (CSOs), smallholder farmers organizations, adolescents/youths, and the media," he said.

He said the project implementation in Tanzania, particularly in Kilosa and Mbozi, has achieved several outcomes which include establishment of smallholder women farmers (SHWFs) forums from village, ward to district level.

Others are establishment of demo plots for agroecological farming in all the project villages, influence and budget increase to support agriculture in Kilosa and Mbozi districts, specifically on extension services and increased number of extension workers (eight in Mbozi and 7 in Kilosa).

"Mainstreaming of agroecology in Kilosa and Mbozi farmers and local governments, mainstreaming of smallholder women farmers issues in the districts and establishment of youths and adolescents' clubs in both Kilosa and Mbozi.



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Responsibilities :

- Co-ordinate with Branch Managers and Senior Management to develop strategies for Business Development and develop business in both Liabilities and Assets.
- Responsible for achieving bank's annual targets both in liabilities and assets.
- Networking with Retail & Corporate Customers and Liaise with Government Organizations.
- Cross selling of Bank Products and Services to Customers and analyze customer requirements and develop appropriate Banking Products. Provide enhancement to present banking services and products to community.
- Develop and maintain effective relationships with small, medium, and large customers and increase Business.

Qualifications :

- MBA / Bachelors degree in Marketing and 3-5 years of sales & marketing experience, preferably in the Banking sector. Managing and executing campaigns would be an advantage.

- 2. POSITION: BRANCH MANAGER - REF No. 2023/02/2**

Key Responsibilities:

- Supervise operations of the branch and meet branch targets as set from time to time.
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Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree in Marketing /Business administration/ Finance and 2-3 years of experience in financial services/ branch manager /assistant branch manager in a Bank.

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Key Responsibilities:

- Processing and evaluating business and retail loans including mortgage loans.
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Key Responsibilities:

- Ensure adherence to Human Resources policies and procedures, monitor and review the system of performance appraisal, maintain staff records, prepare and maintain proper records of transfer, promotions; manage training needs accordingly.
- Handle disciplinary procedures, address labour related issues. monitor daily attendance, leave roster and medical leave, and provide monthly management reports.

Qualifications:

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SALARY: Would commensurate with Qualifications & Experience

APPLICATION PROCESS: interested and eligible candidates may submit their applications with CV stating the position and reference number to the under mentioned addresses, to be received by **4th July 2023.**

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To: HR Department,
International Commercial Bank (Tanzania) Limited,
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Prohibited goods worth 35 million/- impounded in clampdown by TBS

By Guardian Correspondent, Kigoma

THE western zone of the Bureau of Standards (TBS), incorporating Rukwa, Katavi and Kigoma regions, has seized goods worth 35m/- in a crackdown targeting three types of prohibited goods.

The goods include dot 3 brake fluid, electric cables and secondhand under clothing.

Rodney Alananga, Acting TBS Manager for the west zone told reporters here at the weekend that the crackdown started June 20, this year in the three regions, and that it is according to the laws that prohibited the importation of the items.

He said the Bureau seized 1.5 tonnes of used underclothing, saying they are banned because former wearers could have been infected with skin diseases.

Alananga said as for now they have decided to educate people in the low level of the society against wearing used imported underclothing.

He said the main challenge come from unfaithful traders who import the clothing through unauthorized routes, as they could have been seized at the country's official entry points.

Regarding the dot 3 brake fluid, he said this had been banned in the country owing to its failure to meet the standards, and added that if used, the fluid can cause fire or

brake failure whose result could be fatal.

He said since the three items were banned in the country TBS continues to follow up the issue and remove the same from the market.

According to him, 631 stakeholders were inspected during the crackdown and 154 people were found selling the banned items and were given 14 days to explain their origin, and added that thereafter they will be taken to court as well as paying for the cost of the goods destruction.

He appealed to Tanzanians and users of the banned goods to abide by the education given to them by the Bureau.



He said since the three items were banned in the country TBS continues to follow up the issue and remove the same from the market



Tanga regional acting administrative officer Sebastian Masanja (facing camera) has an audience in Tanga city yesterday with an Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (Ewura) delegation led by board chairman Prof Mark Mwandosya (L). Photo: Hamida Kamchalla

Govt finalising national policy on blue economy

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government is finalising preparations for the blue economy project of the Tanzania Scaling-up Sustainable Marine Fisheries and Aquaculture Management Project (TASFAM) to be implemented in mainland and Zanzibar, it has been revealed.

Blue economy entails the fishing sector, fish farming, establishing fish processing factories, seaweed farming, oil and gas drilling and the utilization of various marine resources as well as seashore tourism.

Deputy minister for Livestock and Fisheries, David Silinde, made the statement in the Parliament, adding that through the project small scale fishermen will be able to access financial support.

He was responding to a supplementary question asked by the Special Seats MP, Angelina Malembe (CCM), who had wanted to know what the government was doing to help small scale fishermen in Zanzibar access loans.

She also wanted to know plans to provide the fishing groups with

education on wise use of finances for modern fishing.

In response, the deputy minister said the TASFAM project to be implemented in both sides of the republic had the training components and is also aimed at providing interest free loans to the small scale fishermen.

"Acknowledging the great demand and importance for financial assistance to fishermen, the government is to implement the project aimed at empowering fishermen in Zanzibar" he said.

He added that it the directives of both President Samia Suluhu

Hassan and President Hussein Ali Mwinyi that before the loans, fishermen should be provided with education on proper use of the loans.

Lusinde explained that the strict requirements for loans have been reduced on this special loan to small scale fishermen as was directed by the two leaders.

He added that through the Deep Sea Fishing Authority (DSFA) whose aim is to manage and develop fisheries conservation and related activities is working together with various institutions to empower fishermen.

VETA employs 169 teachers

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

AT LEAST 169 teachers for the Vocational Education and Training Authority (VETA) were employed out of the 514 the 2022/23, it has been revealed.

Deputy minister for Education, Science and Technology, Omar Kipanga told the Parliament yesterday that the government was aware of the shortage of VETA teachers across the country and was doing all it takes to reduce the shortage.

He said President Samia Suluhu Hassan gave permission for employment of 514 workers in the 2023 financial year and that some 169 have already been employed.

The deputy minister made the explanations in response to a supplementary question raised by the Newala Rural MP, Maimuna Mtanda (CCM), who had wanted to know what the government was doing to ensure enough teachers at the Kitangari VETA centre.

"The centre serves residents from two constituencies of Newala Urban and Newala Rural, thus attracting many students but electricity and tailoring courses have just one teachers each" she said, noting that in case of emergency, students go without being taught.

In response, Kioanga said the government is working to employ teachers for some 25 new VETA centres, old ones and the regional ones.

"The government understand the importance of vocational and technical training in the country, thus will ensure students get the right skills and expertise" said the deputy minister.

The had said that in the financial year 2022/23, it has allocated Shs 100 billion for the construction of VETA colleges in 64 districts where such colleges had not been built.

Kipanga said this in Parliament in Dodoma when answering the question of Buchosha Member of Parliament Erick Shigongo (CCM) who wanted to know when such a centre would be build in his constituency.

Responding to the question, Deputy Minister Kipanga said the government has completed the preparation of drawings and access to areas for construction.

"In the district of Sengerema, the area set aside for the construction of a Vocational College is in Kayenze Village, Nyehunge County and an amount of Sh 45 million has already been provided in March, 2023 for the initial activities of the

construction of the College."

Late last year, government has set aside some 100bn/- for construction of Vocational Education and Training Authority (VETA) colleges in 36 districts in 2022/2023 financial year.

The gesture is meant to churn out a big number of human resources with skills for sustainable industrial development.

This was announced at the weekend by the Deputy Minister for Education, Science and Technology, Omary Kipanga while addressing a public rally at Inyonga Township in Mlele district of Katavi region.

"The government has already allocated over 100bn/- to facilitate building of 36 VETA centers in 36 districts this financial year.

The deputy minister explained that administratively the country has 139 districts, adding that VETA colleges have been built in 77 districts

"So far 62 districts have no VETA colleges of which this financial year the government has set aside 100bn/- to construct 36 vocational training colleges" explained the deputy minister.

He further told the gathering that Mlele district is among the 36 districts which the government is going to construction vocational training colleges in 2022/23 financial year.

"So far I have been informed that Mlele district authority has allocated 200 acres for the construction of the project," said Kipanga.

Equally, the deputy minister further called upon parents and guardians to take their youths to the colleges already built in the country to acquire skills that will enable them get employment or in self employed by establishing small factories.



So far 62 districts have no VETA colleges of which this financial year the government has set aside 100bn/- to construct 36 vocational training colleges



Dodoma regional commissioner Rosemary Senyamule (L) is briefed in Dodoma yesterday by the coordinator (gesturing) of a Heroes Ground being developed in the Mtumba 'government city' in the national capital. It is expected to be completed by this June 30. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Tanzania women called upon to engage in mining activities

By Guardian Correspondent, Kahama

WOMEN in the country have been told to engage themselves in mining activities because the sector is both for men and women.

The call was given at the weekend at the event to commemorate women working at Barrick's Buzwagi gold Mine in Kahama District, Shinyanga Region that is in

the process of closing down.

Opening the event, Zonnastraal Mumbi, Barricks, buzwagi gold Mine representative said the event aims to congratulate all women working in the mine and to encourage them to maintain self-trust.

Dr Martha Jotham, the event's official guest, who is the Administrative Instructor of World Impact Bible Institute (WIBI)

in Mwanza Region called upon women in the country to grab the opportunities in the mining sector and praised efforts done by the Buzwagi Gold Mine by recognizing women's contribution to the mine.

Dr Jotham also called on women to understand that they hold a unique value apart from the hard work and many challenges they face, they are required to maintain

confidence in their pursuits, and that is why the Mine recognized those efforts by organizing the event.

She also told them to put God before them in their work, be confident and daring in their community development plans.

During the event, women in the Buzwagi Mine were presented with various prizes.

Kagera Region launches innovation, tourism expo

By Correspondent Mutayoba Arbogast, Bukoba

KAGERA Region has launched the East Africa Business Agriculture, Innovation and Tourism Expo to unlock economic potentials including tourist attractions.

Chief executive officer of Kiroyera Tours Company, Mary Kalikawe made the remarks recently saying the expo has brought together tourism stakeholders from East African countries to learn and share ideas on how to boost the industry.

The exhibitions kicked off on June 20th and will end on July 8th 2023.

"The national target to attract over five million tourists by 2025 will be achieved with efforts from both the government and stakeholders. Our intention is to make the community a destination for visitors from across the world," said Kalikawe.

She noted that one of her company's activities is to promote Lake Victoria and make it widely known as the largest tropical lake, the second largest fresh lake in the world and the first Africa largest lake by size. The lake is in three nations-Tanzania (49 per cent), Uganda (45 percent) and Kenya 6 per cent. In Tanzania the lake is in Kagera, Geita, Mwanza and Mara regions.

She said Lake Victoria has not been fully utilised to boost tourism in the country, specifically in Kagera. She said on the last day of the expo, participants will take part at the 'Super Kalembera Lake Victoria Tourism Awards' to be held for the first time this year. The award will be held annually to recognise the contribution of individuals and companies that have helped develop tourism in the Lake Victoria region," said Kalikawe.

Lake Victoria supports an

enormous flora and fauna biomass, lush tropical islands, and beautiful beach side, fishing tourism to enjoy indigenous fish such as Ningu (Labeo Victorious), Africa Lungfish (Protopterus), and Catfish (Xenoclaris eupogon). Some tourist attraction honeypots include Islands like Musira, Goziba, and Bumbire.

Ambrose Basizi from the Democratic Republic of Congo is participating at the expo after learning about beautiful national parks to visit in Ibanda- Kyerwa and Burigi- Chato National Parks.

"I also want to inspire Tanzanians to visit our national parks, some of them with mountain and lowland gorillas, some with silverbacks," said Basizi.

Dr Abel Mahanga, Muleba District Commissioner, hailed the institutions for preparing the expo which is attended by over 400 visitors from EAC every day.

Tanzania is a country with many tourist attractions. Approximately 38 percent of Tanzania's land area is protected for conservation. There are 17 national parks, 29 game reserves, 40 controlled conservation areas including the Ngorongoro Conservation Area and marine parks.



I also want to inspire Tanzanians to visit our national parks, some of them with mountain and lowland gorillas, some with silverbacks



Benson Kigaila, Deputy Secretary (Mainland) of the opposition Chadema, pictured in Tabora municipality on Sunday speaking at a meeting on digitalisation enrolment sensitisation. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

'TRA won't close traders' businesses'

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) says it is not responsible for closing traders' shops and businesses.

It also said that in case there is any person identifying himself to be a TRA officer, the trader is supposed to demand his identification.

The remarks were given here at the weekend by Rachel Mkunday,

senior TRA public relations officer at a special seminar for reporters who are members of Arusha Press Club (APC).

For his part, Eva Raphael, Arusha Region TRA manager, said the Authority will have in place a simple tax payment system by improving taxpayers' education, explaining that to be their current strategy.

"You, media people have been a

third hand for us by reporting to the people things that we do and I promise that we shall continue working together including educating the public," Eva said.

She said tax paying is a legal requirement to every citizen and the money collected is used in providing various social services.

"Tax paying is very important issue as it helps in providing the community with social

services including the building of road infrastructures, schools, hospitals, provision of electricity, water supply as well as running the government and public institutions.

"The media is a government voice in transmitting the right message to the citizens, hence I thank you for your being important stakeholders through cooperation in the nation building," she said.

Chanika Health Centre to access clean, safe water

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

CHANIKA Health Centre in Ilala District, Dar es Salaam Region will soon have access to clean and safe water, thanks to a mega project by the Dar es Salaam Water and Sanitation Authority (DAWASA).

DAWASA Project Manager, Eng Erasto Mwakilulele said the authority resolved to connect the health centre with water services to save both patients and workers from using salted water. The facility is connected with water services from the authority's newly implemented project in Kisarawe District, Coast Region.

He said the project is important for enhancing provision of health services to the people, especially patients seeking medical treatment at the health facility.

"We have seen the importance of implementing this project to deliver services to the facility following the great demand for water. The health centre serves many residents in Ilala District, hence the need to ensure it has reliable water services," he added.

"The health centre will get water from our tanks in Kisarawe, Coast Region. The water facilities can store up to six million litres of water," he said, adding the project will also benefit residents near the health centre including 200 households in Nyeburu, New Power and Kilimahewa streets.

According to him, the project has been implemented by 85 percent whereas services will be provided as experts finalize its execution.

Medical Officer at Chanika Health Center, Pascal Nkii said that lack of reliable water service has

been increasing operation costs as sometimes they had to buy water from private sellers.

He said on average, the centre receives 750 patients per day, noting that it is challenging to attend to patients without having reliable water services.

Mwajuma Shomari, a resident of Chanika who received medical care at the Chanika health centre commended DAWASA for connecting the facility with water services as patients were using salted water.

"Water services are important especially when caring for expectant mothers and new-borns. This service will even attract more people to seek medical treatment at the centre," she said.



We have seen the importance of implementing this project to deliver services to the facility following the great demand for water. The health centre serves many residents in Ilala District, hence the need to ensure it has reliable water services



Machano Othman Said, Chairman of the Zanzibar House of Representatives committee on the management of national (Zanzibar) leaders' offices, presents a report in the House yesterday. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

Government urged to ensure youths fully involved in sectoral dialogues

By Correspondent Theresia Victor

THE government has been urged to ensure youth inclusion in the various sectoral reforms and dialogues for them to fully participate in the country's democratic process.

Speaking yesterday at the University of Dar es Salaam, during the 14th Mwalimu Julius Kambarage Nyerere Intellectual Festival themed 'Pan-Africanism and the Quest for Democratization, Security and Development', HakiElimu Board Chairman, Richard Mabala said it is essential that young people are engaged in formal

democratic processes for their views to be incorporated towards pan-Africanism.

"It is important that young people are engaged in formal democratic processes as we formulate laws and policies. Inclusive participation is not only a fundamental political and democratic right, but also crucial towards building stable and peaceful societies," said Mabala, noting their inclusion will lead to developing policies that respond to the specific needs of younger generations.

He added that the country has now embarked on reconstruction and reformulation of education

policy and curriculum to align with the rapidly changing global environment, especially technological developments which threaten to render the current system of education obsolete.

"Our desire is to see these reforms in both form and content which will guide our education to be a tool for attaining democratization, enhancing peace and security and fostering development within a strong pan Africanist perspective", he said.

He noted that one cannot promote democratization while the education system is profoundly undemocratic and also cannot

expect young people to blossom into democratic thinkers and doers without a system to prepare them.

UDSM Acting Deputy Vice Chancellor (Research), Prof Nelson Boniface said the festival has afforded many participants a moment of self-realization and a place for serious reflections on the past and future of Africa's development.

"This year's theme calls for deep reflection on the destiny of Africans as people guided by the African Union and its desire to promote Africa's growth and economic development by championing citizen inclusion and increased cooperation and integration of states. We can plot this dream against the realities of democratization, security and human development," he noted.

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Renewable energy sources offer a way out of import dependency

ABOUT 80 per cent of the global population lives in countries that are net-importers of fossil fuels – that's about 6 billion people who are dependent on fossil fuels from other countries, which makes them vulnerable to geopolitical shocks and crises.

In contrast, renewable energy sources are available in all countries, and their potential is yet to be fully harnessed. The International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) estimates that 90 per cent of the world's electricity can and should come from renewable energy by 2050.

Renewables offer a way out of import dependency, allowing countries to diversify their economies and protect them from the unpredictable price swings of fossil fuels, while driving inclusive economic growth, new jobs, and poverty alleviation.

Renewable energy actually is the cheapest power option in most parts of the world today. Prices for renewable energy technologies are dropping rapidly. The cost of electricity from solar power fell by 85 percent between 2010 and 2020. Costs of onshore and offshore wind energy fell by 56 percent and 48 percent respectively.

Falling prices make renewable energy more attractive all around – including to low- and middle-income countries, where most of the additional demand for new electricity will come from. With falling costs, there is a real opportunity for much of the new power supply over the coming years to be provided by low-carbon sources.

Cheap electricity from renewable sources could provide 65 per cent of the world's total electricity supply by 2030. It could decarbonise 90 percent of the power sector by 2050, massively cutting carbon emissions and helping to mitigate climate

change.

Although solar and wind power costs are expected to remain higher in 2022 and 2023 than pre-pandemic levels due to general elevated commodity and freight prices, their competitiveness actually improves due to much sharper increases in gas and coal prices, says the International Energy Agency (IEA).

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), about 99 per cent of people in the world breathe air that exceeds air quality limits and threatens their health, and more than 13 million deaths around the world each year are due to avoidable environmental causes, including air pollution.

Switching to clean sources of energy, such as wind and solar, thus helps address not only climate change but also air pollution and health.

Fossil fuels, such as coal, oil and gas, are by far the largest contributor to global climate change, accounting for over 75 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions and nearly 90 percent of all carbon dioxide emissions.

The science is clear: to avoid the worst impacts of climate change, emissions need to be reduced by almost half by 2030 and reach net-zero by 2050.

To achieve this, we need to end our reliance on fossil fuels and invest in alternative sources of energy that are clean, accessible, affordable, sustainable, and reliable.

Fossil fuels still account for more than 80 per cent of global energy production, but cleaner sources of energy are gaining ground. About 29 per cent of electricity currently comes from renewable sources.

President Samia Suluhu Hassan has stated that the country has a goal of producing 6,000MW from renewable energy by 2025. The electricity will be produced through renewable sources including hydropower, solar and wind projects.

Laurels on drug trafficking echo a devolving, sober environment

REPORTS affirming that data from United Nations agencies show that imported illicit drugs are no longer a problem in Tanzania but locally grown weeds becoming notorious were not surprising, but a bit sobering. The fact that local drugs are on the rise is nothing to be happy about, even if upper class drug consumption is costly imported grams is declining. On the one hand the situation looks better due to low cocaine and heroin use, then it looks routine.

It is as if the market outlook has changed, where Dar es Salaam is no longer a haven for imported drugs, as it was all the same not so much of a hotspot earlier, despite that drug consumption was rising fast in the past decade. While those in officialdom were feting the relevant agency for the reduction, a range of analysts must have had their minds elsewhere. It appeared in part that the market situation was also to 'blame' for the low consumption of imported drugs.

Sarcastically, one could also say that the collapse of cocaine and heroin trafficking is among the impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic, in the fact that it disrupted tourism as lockdowns took over. In countries where the pandemic had overly numerous casualties, personnel that form the supply chains would also have to be rebuilt, while income lost from drying up of tourists would have lingering effects on market outlays, to say the least. It is market decline as well.

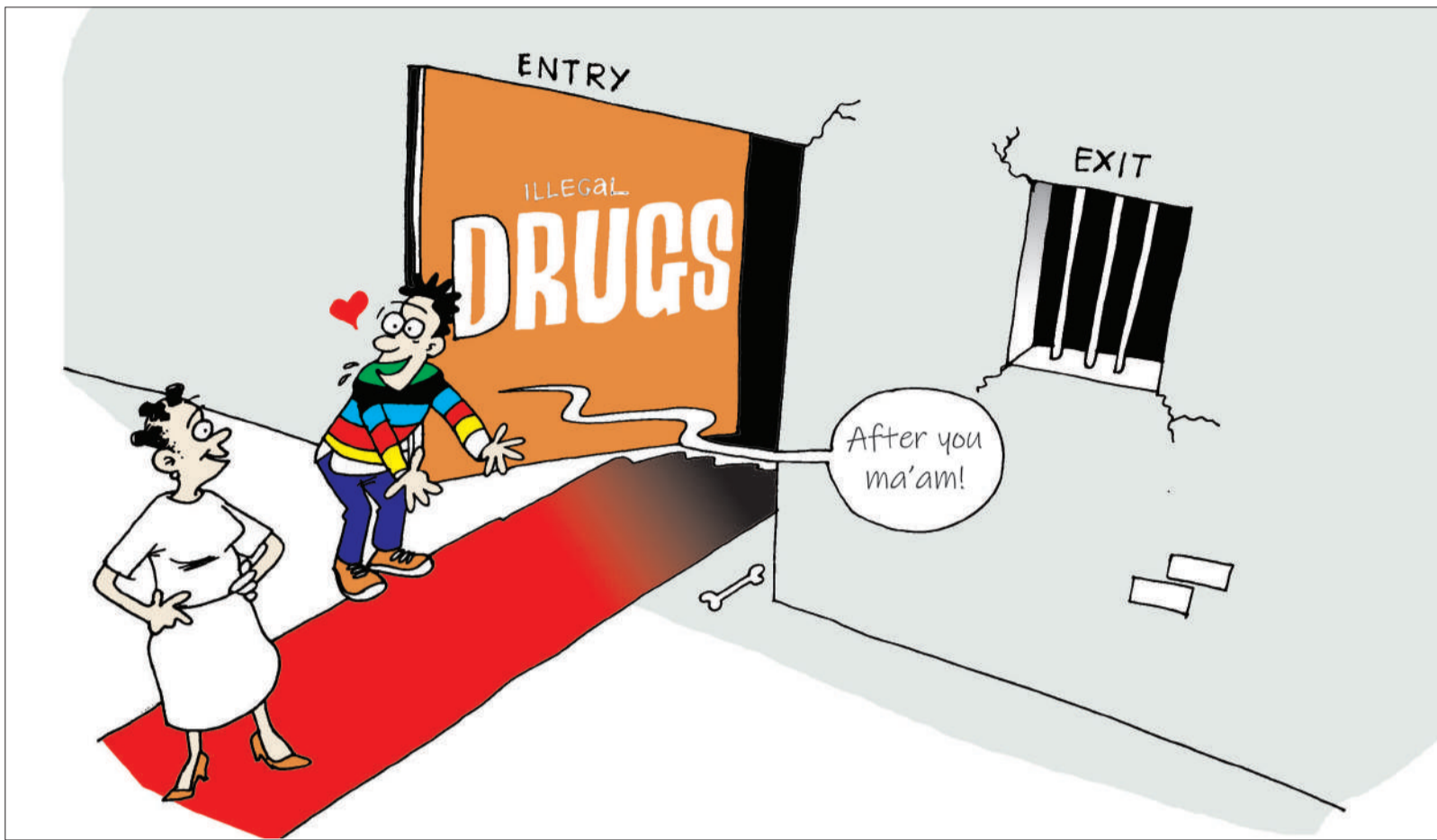
It is also possible that within limits there was effective control action as over the past half-decade there were strenuous efforts to roll back the red tape and corruption besetting

wide areas of law enforcement. To this perception there is an equally persistent feeling that this sense of urgency and even of desperation in some quarters has by and large been eclipsed. In that context the local post-pandemic period is gaining from the lockdowns or lockups of an earlier period.

The moral of the story is that we ought to be a bit on our guard in proclaiming that Tanzania has managed to cut down the infiltration of narcotic drugs into the country by over 90 percent. That formulation has a proviso that theoretical economists wish to bring upfront quite often, reading 'ceteris paribus', that is, everything else remaining equal. Were it that everything was equal, with no pandemic or any other intervening event that sort of achievement is but a dream.

Indeed, the president's observation that when it comes to cases of drug users in Tanzania the gender ratio in 50 to 50, there is more cause to worry. Women are by habit shy and not disposed to indulge in men's excesses like drug abuse or bhang smoking. Yet as this observation shows, the situation is the reverse and parity was attained in drug use, thus scarcely favorable to effective policing.

When there are as many women drug addicts as there are men it implies that use of drugs is more or less normal, thus worrying. Over 615 tons of marijuana consignments on market outlays, and destroyed in the past three months, a top official said, which left a few things being guessed at. If that is the situation for three months, what about one year? Is it policing success or cannabis overdrive?



By Special Correspondent

PLASTIC products or materials can be good or bad, depending upon the use they are put to.

For instance, a plastic carrier bag is better than the paper one because it can save things kept in it from getting destroyed by water.

Besides, even though paper products degrade much faster than plastic ones, they require a large amount of natural resources like trees and water to create and the manufacturing process creates a lot of waste that can be difficult to remove.

However, while plastic products also require resources and energy to be created, they make up for it by being easier to recycle and having a far longer lifetime.

Today, plastic has become an important material in a number of industries like the automobile but experts continue to question its use in the food industry because of its harmful effects on the health of people.

For example, a urologist

Let's fight plastic menace!

consultant at the Tamale Teaching Hospital, Dr Akisbadek Afoko, has stated that chemicals in plastic products used in the food sector account for increased male reproductive disorders, including low sperm count, low libido, kidney stones and malformed penis, particularly among young people in the country.

He explains that the chemicals mix up with water and food preserved in the plastics, which, when constantly consumed, affect the reproductive hormones.

Before Dr Afoko would make this pronouncement, others had spoken about issues like the harm one would suffer for eating hot or warm food from plastic containers or packages.

Some even caution that it is not safe to consume water or drinks in plastic bottles and other containers left on the sun as the heat from the sun causes chemicals to leach into the liquid

food. However, it is commonplace in the country that water in sachets and plastic bottles, as well as drinks in plastic bottles, are left on the sun for as long as these products would be bought.

It is a pity that majority of the people, both young and old and including pregnant women, as innocent as they are, patronise the water and these drinks on daily basis.

No wonder Dr Afoko says babies as young as three, four and six months suffer from reproductive health disorders and that not less than 10 children weekly undergo surgery at the Tamale Teaching Hospital for defects in their male reproductive system.

Dr Afoko appears to be giving the impression that only males suffer the harmful effects of plastics so far as food is concerned, and so we wish to erase that by saying that as any scientist would, he

just concentrated on an area of concern in whole broad and boundless subject, the harmful effects of chemicals in plastic materials or products.

We think he has done a yeoman's job by calling attention to an area of health, male reproductive health, which attracts little attention.

We, therefore, join him in his appeal for equal attention for male reproductive health just as the female counterpart is given.

We also support his call for intensification of public education on the harmful effects of plastics on the health of humans and for legislation to regulate the use of plastics.

Plastics have been creating health as well as environmental problems nationally and globally and it is about time the country fought the plastic menace to safeguard the health of the people and the environment.

By Abshir Aden Ferro

THE reform of the electoral system, drawing from international democratic norms of "one person,

one vote" for elections from 2024 onwards, ushers in a new era for Somalia. In this watershed moment in history, more than 15 million Somalis will finally be able to freely choose their leaders and voice their collective vision for the future. This new dawn is also an opportunity for the upper echelons of power in our country to consolidate a new social pact, a new hope for Somalia that I hope will be both disruptive and ambitious.

Clearly, for Somalis, this May 26th, 2023, will mark one of the most important moments in their lives and in our history. For my collaborators in the political arena and the faithful in our political party, it marks the culmination and realization of a political struggle that we have waged with our hopes firmly anchored in our bodies. For me, it's an immense source of pride to have achieved one of the goals I announced in my book written over three years ago: My life for Somalia.

In this book, I criticised the anti-democratic dispensation, which was in fact an archaic and opaque system that disenfranchised the average Somali voter. It enabled the

One first step for democracy, one big step for Somalia

capture of power by an oligarchy guided not by the interests of the people and the future of Somalia, but by the preservation of business interests and ill-gained profits. This system was based on monetarily sully the conscience of good men and women, institutionalised malfeasance, and tribal divisions. The most important positions, such as Speaker of Parliament, Prime Minister, and President, were split between the main tribes, with complete disregard for the interests of the people. My country, which had not seen elections by one man, one vote on a national scale since 1969, when Siad Barre seized power, was at the mercy of the merchants of disillusionment and the vendors of false hopes.

For any ambitious and honest politician, the fight to abolish this unjust system was vital. It has been one of the most relentless and difficult battles of my political life and that of my party, "Alliance for the Future" (Xisbiga Isbahaysiga Mustaqbalka, in Somali). As a presidential candidate in 2020, I refused, against the tide, to sign the

agreement of September 17, 2020, which perpetuated the holding of presidential and legislative elections by indirect vote. Ostracised, criticised, mocked and threatened, I defended the idea that all Somali citizens, regardless of gender, tribal affiliation, religion or social status, have the right to participate in the democratic process. In reality, universal suffrage is not just a source of legitimization for political authority. It was, in my view, the prerequisite for giving the Somali state the means and tools to put an end to Somalia's mire in extremist violence, poverty and chaos.

Three immediate priorities and challenges must guide us to ensure that universal suffrage sets Somalia on the path to renewal and the restoration of its international legitimacy.

First and foremost, education. To be able to vote and properly decide on the best choices for the future of our country, we need an enlightened people, capable of resisting the power of money and discerning between political alternatives.

Secondly, a fundamental institutional reform is imperative. To this end, I am proposing a major conference of Somalia's dynamic forces for an open, sincere, inclusive, and transparent political dialogue to define the institutional architecture of the new Somalia. Fundamental issues such as the electoral system, the organization of the State, the form of the Republic and public liberties must be discussed seriously and rigorously.

Thirdly, we must act for our youth. A wise man once said: "The politician thinks of the next election, but the statesman thinks of the next generation". We must act for Somalia's youth, who have long been forgotten. The last thirty years have been a waste for our country, with its immense potential but ravaged by war, permanent conflict, and instability. We have offered several generations no other choice than exile or weapons. Let us now offer them the path of hope and renewal, for, united in the same ideal, Somalis will be able to eradicate terrorism and corruption.

Driving expansion of renewable energy

By Daniel Gutman, BUENOS AIRES

WHEN the residents of Armstrong, a town of 15,000 in western Argentina, began to meet to discuss a renewable energy project, they agreed that there could be many positive effects and that it was not just a question of doing their bit in the global effort to mitigate climate change.

“The proposal was to use the rooftops and yards of our houses to install solar panels. And I accepted the idea basically because I was excited by the prospect that one day we would become independent in generating our own electricity,” Adrián Marozzi, who today has six solar panels in the back of the house where he lives in Armstrong with his wife and two children, told IPS.

“Community-based projects, which are feasible, have several advantages: they improve local autonomy in the generation of electricity, they allow money to be saved from the energy that is not purchased, which can be reinvested in the city, and they promote the decentralization of decision-making in the energy system.” – Pablo Bertinat

His home is one of about 50 in Armstrong with solar panels generating power for the community, added to the 880-panel solar farm installed in the town's industrial park. Together they have contributed part of the electricity consumed by the inhabitants of this town in the western province of Santa Fe since 2017.

This is a pioneering project in Argentina, built with public technical organizations and community participation through a cooperative where decisions are made democratically, which has since been replicated in various parts of the country.

With an extensive area of almost 2.8 million square kilometers, Argentina is a country where most of the electricity generation has been concentrated geographically, which raises the need for large power transmission infrastructure and poses a hurdle for the development of the system.

In this context, and despite the financing obstacles in a country with a severe long-lasting economic crisis, renewable energies are increasingly seen as an alternative for clean electricity generation in power-consuming areas.

Marozzi is a biologist by profession, but is dedicated to agricultural production in Armstrong, almost 400 kilometers northwest of Buenos Aires. The town is located in the pampas grasslands in the productive heart of Argentina, and is surrounded by fields of soybeans, corn and cattle.

How to bring electric power to widely scattered rural residents was the great challenge that the Armstrong Public Works and Services Provision Cooperative, made up of 5,000 members representing the town's 5,000 households, grappled with for years.

The institution was born in 1958 and in 1966 it marked a milestone, when it created the first rural electrification system in this South American country, with



A picture of photovoltaic panels in the solar park in the small town of Armstrong, in the Pampa region, the heart of Argentina's agricultural production. The park belongs to an electric cooperative, which until 2017 only bought energy to distribute, but now generates electricity as well. CREDIT: FARN

a 70-kilometer medium voltage line that brought the service to numerous farms.

Once again, in 2016, the Armstrong cooperative pointed the way, when it began to discuss in assemblies with community participation the advantages and disadvantages of venturing into renewable energy production by means of solar energy panels.

“Those of us who accepted the installation of panels in our homes today receive no direct benefit, but we are betting on a future in which we can generate all of the electricity we consume. In addition, of course, we care about environmental issues,” Marozzi said in a conversation from his town.

The 880-panel solar park with 200 kW of installed power is currently being expanded to 275 kW thanks to the money

that Armstrong saved from energy that was not purchased in recent years from the national grid. The local residents who make up the cooperative decided that the savings from what was generated with solar energy should be invested in the park.

A replicated model

In Argentina there are about 600 electrical cooperatives in small cities and towns in the interior of the country, which were born in the mid-20th century, when the national grid was still quite limited and access to electric power was a problem.

These cooperatives usually buy and distribute energy in towns. But the members of dozens of them realized that they too could generate clean electricity, after visiting Armstrong's project, and launched their own renewable energy initiatives.

One of the cooperatives that also has a solar park is the Agricultural and Electricity Cooperative of Monte Caseros, a city of about 25,000 inhabitants in the north-eastern province of Corrientes.

“The cooperative was born in 1977 out of the need to bring energy to rural residents,” engineer Germán Judiche, the association's technical manager, told IPS. “Today we have a honey packaging plant and a cluster of silos for rice, the main crop in the area. Since 2018 we have also distributed internet service and in 2020 we partnered with the province's public electricity company to venture into renewable energy.”

The Monte Caseros solar park has 400 kW of installed capacity thanks to 936 solar panels. It was inaugurated in September 2021 and has provided such good results that a second park, with similar characteristics,

is about to begin to be built by the 650-member cooperative, because it supplies only rural residents of the municipality. “We have done everything with the cooperative's own labor and the design by engineers from the National University of the Northeast (UNNE), from our province,” said Judiche. “It is definitely a model that can be replicated. Renewable energy is our future,” he added from his town, some 700 kilometers north of Buenos Aires.

A slow and bumpy road

According to official figures, the distributed or decentralized generation of renewable energy for self-consumption, which allows the surplus to be injected into the grid, has 1,167 generators registered in 13 of Argentina's 23 provinces, with more than 20 megawatts of installed power.

Electricity cooperatives that have their own renewable energy generation projects operate under this system. In total, in this country of 44 million people, renewable energies covered almost 14 percent of the demand for electricity in 2022 and have more than 5,000 MW of installed capacity, although there are practically no major new projects to expand their proportion of the energy mix.

Most of the electricity demand is covered by thermal generation, which contributes more than 25,000 MW, mainly from oil but also from natural gas. Hydropower is the next largest source, with more than 10,000 MW from large dams greater than 50 MW, which are not considered renewable.

Pablo Bertinat, director of the Energy and Sustainability Observatory of the National Technological Uni-

versity (UTN) based in the city of Rosario, also in Santa Fe, explained that in a country like Argentina it is impossible to follow a model like Germany's widespread residential generation of renewable energy, because it requires investments that are not viable.

“Community-based projects, which are feasible, have several advantages: they improve local autonomy in the generation of electricity, they allow money to be saved from the energy that is not purchased, which can be reinvested in the city, and they promote the decentralization of decision-making in the energy system,” added Bertinat, speaking from Rosario.

The UTN Observatory was in charge of the Armstrong project, in a public-private consortium, together with the cooperative and the National Institute of Industrial Technology (Inti).

The expert said that the cooperatives' renewable energy projects are advancing slowly in Argentina, despite the fact that there is no credit nor favorable policies – an indication that they could have a very strong impact on the entire electrical system and even on the generation of employment, if there were tools to promote renewables.

“Our aim is to demonstrate that not only large companies can advance the agenda of promoting renewable energy and the replacement of fossil fuels. In Argentina, cooperatives are also an important actor on this path,” Bertinat said.

Good morning, Mr President: Peace mediation in Senegal political crisis

By Special Correspondent

LAST week, after judgement was passed on opposition leader Ousmane Sonko, all hell broke loose with 15 people reportedly dead, others wounded, over 100 public buses and private cars vandalised and burnt, shops, government institutions and supermarkets were also looted and vandalised.

Earlier before the verdict was passed, three ministers and other personalities from the ruling party and the opposition had their houses set ablaze. On Friday the Agriculture minister's house in Touba was vandalised.

Mr President, since February this year, several protesters have been arrested and held behind bars, leading to a number of deaths, breaking of supermarkets, and criminals capitalising on the situation to loot people's properties. Some journalists have also been arrested and kept in custody.

The leader of the opposition party PASTEF, Ousman Sonko, was standing trial for two cases: libel against Senegal's tourism minister Mame Mbaye Niang for which he was found guilty and given a six-month suspended sentence with a fine of DM20.4, and a case of rape and attempted murder for which he was acquitted last Thursday. He was, however, given a jail sentence of two years for “corruption of youth”. The ruling means he was found to have acted immorally to a younger individual of 21 years.

Since his rape trial started in March 2021 to date, 31 people have so far lost their lives in protests relating to the issue, official sources say. The protests have caused loss of millions of CFA to business people and the government. The Senegalese minister of Interior Antoine Diome said on Saturday that a foreign power (which he did not name) was involved in the protest while the Senegalese minister of Tourism disclosed that some foreigners were part of the protest with the aim of destabilising the country because of the discovery of gas and petrol.

Mr President, The Gambia as a next-door neighbour to Senegal should mediate between the opposition and the ruling party to help them resolve their differences and live in peace.

Furthermore, when your neighbour's house is on fire, it is always good to help in putting it off to prevent that fire from crossing over to yours.

It will therefore be a step in the right direction to mediate in that matter since the political crisis in Senegal may escalate and cause a problem for The Gambia and other countries in the sub-region, which



Protesters run from tear gas in Dakar, Senegal, March 30, 2023.

could severely affect the region in many ways. Free movement of people and goods and general socio-economic development in the sub-region would be gravely affected.

The Gambia and many countries in the sub-region are struggling to revive their economies following the recent COVID-19 and against the

ongoing Russia-Ukraine war. Thus we should not watch the political situation in Senegal degenerating into an all-out civil strife without mediating to resolve the contention.

Mr President, your timely intervention in Senegal is very important. It is essential for you to meet with the political, religious and opinion

leaders of Senegal to iron out the political tension in that country.

Finally Mr President, as the situation in Senegal continues to escalate, your government should ensure Gambian security forces are on red alert along our borders for any eventuality. President Macky Sall on 4 April this year - the national day of

Senegal - announced the presence of the jihadists near Kidira, eastern Senegal border with Mali. It is therefore essential that we properly secure our borders.

We extend our condolences to families that have lost their loved ones in the crisis, and pray for a speedy recovery of the wounded as well as for peace to return to Senegal.

Good day!

The New Grammy still fails to recognise African music genres

By Yusuf Bangura

It is a great disrespect to African and Japanese music to lump together Afrobeats and instrumental Japanese music under world music.

If the Grammys truly want to be seen as a global institution, there is no reason why music from non-Western societies should be homogenised and accorded only three slots. Even though the introduction of Best African Music Performance represents recognition of the growing influence of African music on the world stage, it still falls well short of what is required for the acceptance of the Grammys as a universal award winning institution.

The decision on 14 June 2023 by the Grammys to add an African category to their yearly awards is an improvement on the grouping of African music under the all-encompassing and nebulous category of Global Music. However, this new category still fails to recognise the rich variety of music genres across Africa.

The Grammys have for decades ignored music genres in non-Western societies by adopting a broad brush categorisation. This lumps all music from such societies into the single category labelled 'Global Music'.

The term Global Music itself is a recent creation. Before 2021, music generated in Africa and Asia, including the Middle East, were categorised as World Music by the Grammys. Criticism of the colonial or exclusionary undertones of 'world music' (or music from exotic lands) in the imagination of Western music consumers led to the adoption of the new name Global Music in 2021.

Artists and ethnomusicologists around the world who campaigned for the change, as well as the Recording Academy of the United States that runs the Grammys, believe that the new name is 'more relevant, modern and inclusive'. One has to stretch credulity to believe that there is a difference in meaning between World Music and Global Music.

African music genres, such as Soukous, Makosa, Afrobeats, Amapiano, Juju, Fuji, Highlife, Hiplife, South African Jazz, Ethio Jazz, Bongo Flava, Kwaito, Township Music, Chimurenga, Mbalax, Isicathamiya, Goombay, Bubu and African folk or traditional music are homogenised and subsumed under Global Music.

If you walked into a music store in Western cities before the emergence of music streaming platforms, which signalled the death of vinyls, cassettes and CDs, World Music had a special corner that distinguished it from the huge spaces occupied by Western music – the only music that was deemed important to be classified into various genres, such as pop, rock, country, classical, soul/R&B, reggae, hip hop, gospel and blues. The Grammys have retained this dichotomy, despite the changes that have occurred in its 64 year history.



The pull of the US market, which tops the world with 38% of global music sales in 2022, accounts for the Grammys' dominant position as an award granting body in the music industry. However, the Grammys are still a long way from becoming a truly global institution. They will have to shed their global and regional music categories for categories based solely on music genres in other parts of the world to achieve their goal.

Established in 1959 as an American music award winning show, the Grammys have evolved as the most important badge of honour in the global music industry. It is an unrivalled reference point for music lovers in the US, Europe, Latin America, Africa and Asia, despite the proliferation of national and regional music awards across the world.

Like the Swedish Nobel Foundation that gives awards for excellence in various scientific fields, the American Grammys have positioned themselves as a universal body, honouring musicians from different regions of the world. Fourteen musicians from Africa have won Grammys, with Ladysmith Black Mambazo of South Africa and Angélique Kidjo from Benin topping the list with five and four awards respectively.

The pull of the US market, which tops the world with 38% of global music sales in 2022, accounts for the Grammys' dominant position as an award granting body in the music industry. However, the Grammys are still a long way from becoming a truly global institution. They will have to shed their global and regional music categories for categories based solely on music genres in other parts of the world to achieve their goal.

The hollowness of the Global Music category was seriously exposed in the Grammy Awards of 2022. Despite widespread expectations that the Nigerian superstar, Burna Boy, would win the best Global Music Album for his highly popular and well-crafted album, Love Damini, he lost out to a Japanese artist, Masa Takuma. Takuma's Japanese instrumental music was excellent, but so was Burna Boy's Love Damini. It is a great disrespect to African and Japanese music to lump together Afrobeats and instrumental Japanese music under World Music.

This kind of brazen anomaly encouraged promoters of African music at the global stage to advocate for a Grammy category that specifically addresses African music. The Nigerian creative industry entrepreneurs, Obi Asika and Adegun Adeosun (aka Smade), founders of Afro Nation, led the way by getting the American Billboard 100 chart to launch a new billboard chart dedicated solely to Afrobeats in March 2022, two years after it removed the reggae and dancehall billboard charts.

In making the announcement on 14 June, the Grammys tried to deflect criticism of the regional label (Best African Music Performance) by listing a number of African music genres that could be considered in the new category, including "Afrobeat, Afro-fusion, Afro Pop, Afrobeats, Alte, Amapiano, Bongo Flava, Genge, Kizomba, Chimurenga, High Life, Fuji, Kwassa, Ndombolo, Mapouka, Ghanaian Drill, Afro-House, South African Hip-Hop, and Ethio Jazz genres."

The Grammys allocated only two out of their 91 categories in 2022 to non-Western music (or Global Music). These are Best Global Music Performance and Best Global Music Album. The new African category, Best African Music Performance, brings the total number to three. However, there is no corresponding Best African Music Album. This suggests that African musicians with good albums that seek recognition will still have to compete with musicians from Asia under the category of Best Global Music Album.

Listing these various genres in the Grammy announcement does not, however, solve the problem. Musicians specialising in any of these genres will still be competing for one slot. The category still homogenises Africa's complex musical heritage.

Compare this decision with that of 1985 to create a Grammy category for Best Reggae Album. The reggae category was treated as unique; it was not lumped with calypso, soca or chutney – music genres that are popular in Trinidad and the Caribbean generally. And the Grammys have five categories for Latin – chiefly Latin American – music: Best Latin Pop Album, Best Musica Urbana Album, Best Latin Rock or Alternative Album, Best Regional Mexican Music Album (including Tejano) and Best Tropical Latin Album.

The Grammys allocated only two out of their 91 categories in 2022 to non-Western music (or Global Music). These are Best Global Music Performance and Best Global Music Album. The new African category, Best African Music Performance, brings the total number to three. However, there is no corresponding Best African Music Album. This suggests that African musicians with good albums that seek recognition will still have to compete with musicians from Asia under the category of Best Global Music Album.

It is, surely, not possible to honour all music genres from Africa with separate Grammy categories. However, over the years, six or so music genres – Soukous, Makosa, Highlife, Afrobeat, Afrobeats, South African Jazz and Amapiano – have had cross-border impacts on the continent. Currently, the two most dominant sounds on the continent are Afrobeats and Amapiano, with Afrobeats enjoying unrivalled hegemony. Through artists such as Asake and Davido, Afrobeats has incorporated the unique percussion (talking drum) sounds of Amapiano, making it difficult to distinguish Amapiano from Afrobeats.

If the Grammys truly want to be seen as a global institution, there is no reason why music from non-Western societies should be homogenised and accorded only three slots. Even though the introduction of Best African Music Performance represents recognition of the growing influence of African music on the world stage, it still falls well short of what is required for the acceptance of the Grammys as a universal award winning institution.

Africa's Afrobeats, Soukous, Makosa, Amapiano, Highlife, South African Jazz, Bongo Flava, Kwaito, Township Music, Isicathamiya and a host of other genres should not be buried in the categories of Best African Music Performance and Best Global Music Album.

Migrant deaths: 'I saw the boat sink under my feet'

BY LIANA BRAVO

THEY were telling stories, laughing. They had set course for the United States from Havana at 03:00 on 16 November 2022. By dawn they were 30 miles off the Cuban coast.

The eight-passenger fishing boat was overloaded: 20 people were on board, among them four children under the age of seven and two teenagers.

Despite the weight, the boat was moving fast. But as the wind picked up, it started to take on water.

"It was a matter of seconds. A wrong turn of the helm, with a wave coming from the front. It came over the bow of the boat, sinking it instantly," says Alexander, one of only two survivors.

"At the speed it was going, it went down like a torpedo. There was no time for anything."

Alexander was sitting in the stern and managed to jump off just before it sank.

He saw the boat disappear into the darkness of the ocean. The waters of the Florida Straits are more than a mile deep.

The adults surfaced, but the youngest children, who had been in the boat's cabin, never did.

Their mothers were screaming.

One boy was briefly kept afloat by a man who placed the child on his shoulders, "but it's impossible to stay afloat with a person on top of you", recalls Alexander.

Alexander had a compass and tried to encourage the adults – all of whom were trying to keep afloat in the Caribbean Sea – to swim in the direction of land. But those who had lost their children did not want to stray from the place where the boat had sunk. Eventually, the group separated.



By nightfall, Alexander had lost sight of the rest. Rather than continue swimming, he decided to let the current carry him, hoping that would give him a better chance of being found by a ship, which may also be following the current.

He was adrift for two days and two nights before he was rescued by Cuban migrants aboard another boat.

Yet this second heavily overloaded vessel would also sink just hours later.

This time, Alexander grabbed a plastic box to help him stay afloat. "The waves were [high as] mountains," he recalls. Overnight, he started hallucinating. Imagining he had reached an island, he let go of the box and almost drowned.

He had lost all hope of rescue when a merchant ship spotted him at around 10:00 the next morning and called the US Coast Guard.

He and eight other survivors

from the second sunken boat were fished from the sea alive. Alexander, who is in his thirties, was so exhausted he was unable to walk or eat for days.

A deadly year

Alexander may have narrowly escaped death twice during his attempt to migrate, but data gathered by the Missing Migrants Project of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) suggests many more have not been so lucky.

According to their data, last year saw the second-highest number of migrant casualties globally and the highest in the Americas since records began in 2014. At least 1,400 people died migrating in the region in 2022. The IOM warns that these figures represent only "a minimum estimate", and that the true number of fatalities is likely higher. Drowning was by far the leading cause of death for migrants in 2022.

The precarious situation in

their homeland often leads people to brave the deadly risks that migration entails.

"Politics and violence are often underneath their economically driven decision", says Andrew Selee, president of the Migration Policy Institute, a non-partisan think tank.

Most of those who died on migration routes in the Americas in 2022 were Cubans, followed by Mexicans and Venezuelans. Worldwide, Afghanistan, Algeria and Myanmar were the main countries of origin for migrants who died. In almost half of all cases the nationality was unknown.

No change on the horizon

So far in 2023, more than 2,000 migrants have died from the start of the year to 14 June.

"People are going to move as long as there is inequality in the world," says Julia Black, a project officer at the IOM.

Most of the migrants head for countries they see as offering greater stability and economic opportunity.

But the journey is often fraught with danger.

"This year already we're documenting more deaths than ever in the Central Mediterranean, more than in 2016. If no action is taken with these numbers of deaths, I don't know what is going to spur action," says Ms Black.

Andrew Selee says that what is needed is "a combination of greater legal channels, humanitarian protection efforts closer to where people live, and enforcement measures at borders".

"If you don't create legal pathways, it becomes very hard to police the border, and irregular journeys become very dangerous, which is what we see in most of the world."

For migrants like Alexander, who says there is "nothing" holding him in Cuba, the drive to leave outweighs the risks even after his 60-hour ordeal at sea.

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Luponde hydro power: A game changer for rural livelihoods, economic progress in Njombe Region

By Guardian Reporter

THE Luponde Hydro and Rural Electrification Power Project (LHREPP), an integrated renewable energy infrastructure project in Njombe District, Njombe Region is a real game changer with immediate results obtained in poverty reduction, improvement of rural livelihood and economic development.

Construction of the LV and HV network for the six villages in the region namely Miva, Lusitu, Luhololo, Iduchu, Igola and Uliwa under the project's licensed distribution area is now complete, and all 6 villages and their sub-villages are electrified. The project has to date connected more than 800 customers. This is inclusive of all 4 dispensaries/clinics, 8 schools in the project area, as well as 14 religious institutions and 101 Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs).

The project which incorporates two adjacent Small Hydro Power sites totaling 2.9 MW and an associated rural distribution network, which is planned to benefit a population of over 14,000 directly or indirectly, has shown a great impact after the first phase was completed in 2019.

"Phase I, the 0.9 MW Luhololo part of the 2.9MW project and the associated 41 km of rural distribution network has already been completed and commissioned since 2019. Phase II, the 2MW Igola part of the 2.9MW project is still under construction," LHREPP's project manager Eng. Maxwell Mugombe told reporters over the weekend during the media tour at the project site.

Eng. Mugombe has further said that the total projects cost is approximately US\$7,000,000 and a total investment to date into Luponde Hydro project has amounted to above USD 4 million which repre-

sents approximately 57cent of the estimated final project capital cost.

"The value includes a total of USD 2,975,000 spend under Phase I, a combination of development costs incurred on the 0.9MW Luhololo project and the rural distribution network and USD 1 million spent on the pre-development and construction of the Phase II hydro structures," he said.

The project engineer has further said that the Phase II (0.9MW Luhololo) part of the 2.9MW Luponde hydro project has been running smoothly in grid operation since the 8th of February 2021 when it was successfully interconnected with TANESCO (having initially been commissioned in island mode in June 2019).

"The plant has to date delivered a total of more than 11.5GWhrs to the national grid. The plant on the other hand over the period has frequently been operating in an 'extended island mode' providing reliable power to both our own customers as well as significant sections of the neighbouring TANESCO Njombe grid during periods of main grid outages and load shedding. The extended Island covers two major factories (Luponde Tea Factory and Unilever Tea Estate) and a lot of SMEs, schools and hospitals," he said.

He noted: "Additionally when grid-connected, the plant continues to provide much-needed voltage support at this 'end of grid' location, and has significantly reduced the voltage fluctuations that have been historically encountered by the industrial customers in the surrounding area, whilst also already measurably reducing the transmission losses within the surrounding TANESCO grid."

He further said that the SPPA for the remaining Phase II (2MW Igola) part of the 2.9MW project was finally closed in November 2022.

"We are currently endeavour-



The Luponde Hydro and Rural Electrification Power Project (LHREPP) project manager Eng. Maxwell Mugombe (L) and Msafiri Kalinga, assistant power plant operator look at the operation of the pelton turbine for the 0.9 MW LHREPP project in Njombe District, Njombe Region.

ing to achieve financial close on a suitable loan facility to fund the remaining construction costs. A shareholder bridging loan amounting to US\$ 595,867 was availed in March ahead of financial close to place an order for the turbine (which forms the critical path for the project implementation)."

He insisted: "Orders for the headrace and penstock pipes will soon be done once financial close with the commercial loan facility has been reached, and this is expected in July."

He underscored that the addition of phase II (Igola 2MW plant) to the network will further increase the extended Island operation to cover a larger TANESCO network during any main grid outage periods as well as further stabilise the grid, thereby providing reliable and quality power supply to the Njombe network.

The project under its sister company Mwenga Power Services Lim-

ited continues to actively promote the productive use of electricity to its customers through the supply of electrical gadgets such as pumps, electric motors, electric stoves, heaters, irons, kettles, blenders and washing machines, amongst other things.

Beneficiaries of the project have commended Mwenga Power Services Limited for bringing the electricity project to their villages, saying that the power has improved their economic activities.

Israel Kiwele and Lemik Sambala are among the carpenters in Lusitu village, Njombe District who benefit from LHREPP, a rural electrification programme that is helping reduce poverty and improve rural livelihoods.

Kiwele and Sambala are planning to expand their workshop after being connected to the electricity through LHREPP. "We are optimistic about

earning more income from timber works after being connected to electricity through Luponde hydro and rural electrification power project." Sambala insisted: "After electricity was connected in the village, we're now using electrical machines and our work has become easier and we're making more money."

Apart from that, the electrification project has also improved individual quality of life, facilitates community services such as health and education and enables business entities to carry out their activities for rural populations.

Luhololo Secondary school assistant head master said that after getting power from the project, their students are now performing better in examinations as they get more time to study. "We don't have division zero after getting the electricity; our students have now enough time for the preparations during the night

hours." Martha Mwasenga, a nurse at Lusitu dispensary in the project area said: "After being connected with the electricity, we are now offering much better health services to our patients - for example, night-time care for maternity and other emergency services and refrigerators for vaccination as well drugs."

Others, like Emela Muhle, a businessman of Lusitu village in the district switched to a more profitable activity after a power connection in his village.

He has opened an entertainment spot at the village and employed young people as his assistants.

Muhle said: "Before we were connected to electricity, we did not have entertainment services such as music, party halls and big bars in this area, when someone needed the services, had to travel a long distance to Njombe town and it was expensive."

EALA in new drive to market tourism in East African region

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

DESPITE the drastic fall in tourism and travel business that was triggered by the COVID-19, tourism still remains to be a backbone of the national economy and peoples' livelihoods in almost all East Africa Community (EAC) partner states.

Owing to a strong potential of the tourism sector to generate financial and social benefits to countries in the bloc, the treaty establishing EAC, underscores the importance of a collective approach in developing and promoting the tourism sector. Pursuant to Article 115 of the Treaty, it is the community's aspiration that the region is promoted as a single tourism destination.

In its bid to achieve objectives in the tourism sector at the community level, the EAC Secretariat prepared a five-year strategy to act as a tool to help member countries market their destinations under a single-destination framework.

This is where celebrities and people with renowned personalities use their influence and position to entice the public visit places of tourism interest.

Members of the Standing Committee for Agriculture, Tourism, and Natural Resources (ATHR) of the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) made a one-day excursion visit to Ngorongoro Conservation Area in mission over the weekend.

The mission was organized by their fellow member of ATNR, Dr Shogo Sedoyeka, through The Fungua Trust, a Non-Governmental Organization to which she is a founder and CEO. He is also the Chairperson of a Sub-committee for Tourism and Wildlife Management established under the ATNR standing committee.

At her remarks that she made during the introduction briefing with the NCAA Management, the Chairperson for ATNR Committee, Francoise Uwumukiza expressed her appreciation to Fungua Trust and NCAA for efforts they took in making this historic mission possible.

"Missions like this provide practical support to lawmakers with the oversight role on the sector, to practically fulfil their responsibility," she said.

Uwumukiza commended the unmatched commitment shown by the Tanzanian government and the Management of NCAA in particular, in conserving and protecting wildlife, geological, and cultural heritage resources found in the Area.

She added that her committee has been informed that NCA is a recipient of three World Heritage Site designations by UNESCO, which by any measure is a significant achievement to be made by one destination site, but with this scale of commitment it is not difficult to see why.

Dr Sedoyeka made it clear that the visit reflects the vision of Fungua Trust which aims at improving the



Members of EALA and Fungua Trust visit Ngorongoro to promote tourism in East Africa

livelihoods of the people of East Africa as a whole.

She pointed to the fact that the number of tourists that the East African Community receives collectively still doesn't match the combined potential that the region has. Citing from statistics published by UNWTO, she noted that in 2019 the year when most countries in the East Africa region recorded their highest visitor numbers, the region only received close to seven million international tourists.

Dr Sedoyeka clarified that the motivation behind this initiative lies on the impact this visit would have on the delegates.

"They are all members of the Committee that is responsible for tourism development matters hence the visit in question was designed to provide them with an opportunity to develop an in-depth understanding of the current developments in the conservation and tourism sectors, as well as achievements and challenges that lead players in the sector are facing," she said.

"As we all know, in addition to its main function of passing laws and creating policies, a legislative organ such as EALA is also expected to oversee that such instruments are effectively implemented on the ground. So, this visit is to also help honourable members to, on one hand, assess implementation of directives propagated by the Assembly, and on the other, take stock of challenges that still impede speedier growth of the sector and

what would be their interventions on the same," she said.

She said: "The choice of Ngorongoro Conservation Area as a place to launch our project was not accidental; NCA is a destination that can only be described with superlatives. It is indeed a magnet for holiday makers from the far corners of the globe. Ngorongoro is also within reach from the headquarters of the East African Legislative Assembly which provided assurances for higher efficiency that is critically needed for the proper launching." She thanked the management of NCAA and Tanzania Association of Tour Operators (TATO) for their support in making this historic visit possible.

Ambassador Fatuma Ndagiza, EALA member from Rwanda noted successes made by the Tanzanian government in promoting tourism to not only Tanzania but the region at large.

"This is certainly a direct result of the country's long-term commitment in conservation of wildlife, its habitat, and cultural heritage," she said.

Eng Joshua Mwankunda, senior assistant conservation commissioner said that engaging strategic missions like this is part of the institution's strategy to promote tourism to the Area. Apart from their law-making role, Members of Parliament are people who attract significant following in the mainstream as well as social media platforms.

Mwankunda added that Ngorongoro's unique mix of nature and heritage assets allow every visitor to fulfil his/her desires and expectations at a single destination site and in ways hard to be experienced in other destinations. The premium quality of landscapes, habitats, vegetation, big five, and traces of evolution of human kind guarantees the unforgettable experience that Tanzania is promoting.

While at NCA the EALA delegation visited Olduvai Museum, the Ngorongoro Serena safari lodge, Ngorongoro crater, among other spots of touristic interest.

EALA is made up of members from the seven EAC partner states—Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, South Sudan, and Rwanda.

The new Gaddafi? Ruto's bold statements on de-dollarisation and a united Africa attract attention

NAIROBI

A standing ovation for Kenyan President William Ruto at the recent Pan-African Parliament Summit captured an increasing projection of himself as a champion for the continent, fighting against perceived mistreatment of its leaders by the developed countries.

In his appearances in regional conferences, President Ruto is emerging as a fierce critic of how the West has unfairly treated the continent, including "loading its leaders in buses like school children."

Dr Ruto has also called out global financial institutions for classifying African countries as high-risk borrowers, thereby charging them higher interest rates compared to developed nations that get cheap loans from the same lenders.

Analysis of his speeches since he assumed office last year portrays Ruto as a leader seeking to unite the continent and lead the countries in dealing with the excesses of their Western counterparts.

Dr Ruto has asked his fellow leaders to address disparities in currencies that he described as a major impediment to intra-African trade.

Prof Gilbert Khadiagala, who teaches international relations at the University of the Witwatersrand in South Africa, says President Ruto has raised legitimate and profound concerns about how Africa is treated by the West, but noted that championing for Pan-African causes is an "expensive and futile exercise."

Prof Khadiagala says convincing 54 African countries to agree on common positions requires significant energies and resources that may not be available to President Ruto.

He says Ruto's remarks in the regional summits 'sound like the previous maximalist Pan-Africanists such as Ghana's Kwame Nkrumah and Libya's Gaddafi, who proposed a United States of Africa (USA) with one government, military, and currency to reverse Africa's asymmetrical position in the global order.'

"President Ruto understandably seeks to make a mark on the Africa and the global stage. What better way than to lurch onto such populist and radical Pan-Africanist platforms to announce his entry into international affairs," says Prof Khadiagala, who is also the director of Wits University-based Africa Centre for the Study of the United States.

The de-dollarisation campaign, Prof Khadiagala says, is a challenging one as most of Kenya's debts are denominated in dollars.

"If President Ruto is serious about de-dollarisation, he should speak to these countries about forging a common voice. I'm, however, not convinced that this should be a priority of Kenya's foreign policy in large part because the de-dollarisation debates are being proposed by countries who may not ultimately implement them," says Prof Khadiagala.

On May 17, while addressing the Pan-African Parliament Summit in South Africa, President Ruto made a passionate pitch for the continent, protesting against ill-treatment of the continent in a speech that saw leaders give him a standing ovation.

In the speech, Dr Ruto spoke of how the presence of African presidents at some global conferences has been reduced to a mere photo session.

"We want to be effective, not just taking pictures, having dinner and then we go home. Good people, we have food in our countries. While we are invited to those summits, we are given limited time, then aligned, all 50 of us, for photos, and unfortunately that is the only thing we



President William Ruto

go back home with," protested Dr Ruto.

He said, "When others want to engage with us, they don't want to deal with a tray card, what kind of outcome do you expect where 50 heads of State are sitting, with limited time to speak, what kind of engagement will one get?"

Analysts believe that Dr Ruto has potential of filling the gap left by the late South African President Nelson Mandela if he plays his cards well without antagonising key players in the global scene.

Mr Mandela was widely celebrated for his role in championing reconciliation. The late Libyan strongman Col Muammar Gaddafi and the late Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe had also tried to unite the continent. Col Gaddafi was a key player in the formation of the African Union (AU). He also pushed for a United States of Africa to rival the United States and the European Union.

Prof Macharia Munene, a professor of History and International Relations, says President Ruto is actively looking for relevance and to establish himself as the spokesman for

Africa.

Prof Munene says Dr Ruto is not the first African head of State to pursue the unity of the continent.

"It is clear that he has intention and ability, but his efforts are being undermined by reckless statements by some of his ministers. His good efforts are undermined by domestic challenges," said Prof Munene, in reference to remarks by some CSs that have potential of triggering diplomatic tiffs with Kenya.

Machakos Deputy Governor Francis Mwangangi, an expert in international relations, says Kenya stands to benefit more from Dr Ruto's ambition to present the continent as having equal potential as the West.

He says the continent has been looked down upon for a long time by Western countries and it would be in the interests of all African Presidents to demand fairness in the global stage.

"We had people like the late Mandela. Right now the continent has no unifying figure. He has taken the mandate of projecting a positive image of the

continent," says Mr Mwangangi. University of Nairobi Lecturer XN Iraki says Dr Ruto's chances of succeeding in this quest will largely depend on how he takes care of strategic interests of some of the world super power nations.

"The death of Nelson Mandela left a vacuum no one has filled in the continent. Remember the founding Pan-Africanists? Who succeeded them? Dr Ruto is filling a vacuum hinging on the perception that African leaders are mistreated because they have no one to advance their cause.

"He can (succeed) by not antagonising the key global stakeholders like the West and lately China and Russia, and not threatening their strategic interests."

In yet another conference - Mo Ibrahim Governance Week-end held on April 29 at the Kenya International Convention Centre (KICC), Dr Ruto ranted about how he and his counterparts from other African countries are sometimes treated like school children, in reference to an instance in September last year when African heads

of State were transported in a bus to Buckingham Palace in the United Kingdom for the funeral service of the late Queen Elizabeth II.

The UK government had issued travel guidelines to the heads of State attending the Monday event, where they were asked to park their vehicles at a site in west London. Leaders from developed countries, among them US President Joe Biden, however, used their official vehicles.

Dr Ruto described the experience as demeaning to African leaders.

"Sometimes we are mistreated. We are loaded into buses like school children and it is not right," he said during the meeting held in Nairobi.

"I am persuaded that our generation of African leadership has the historic mandate to re-iterate this unhelpful profile and in its place articulate a more accurate and compelling portrait of Africa that is both faithful to fact, yet also developmentally aspirational," he appealed to African leaders.

In the same conference, President Ruto appealed for fair interest rates from global lend-

ers, asking them to focus on Africa's underlying potential and not seeing them as high risk borrowers.

"We are asking for a win-win financial architecture that brings everyone on board," he said.

The President challenged the global financial system to charge developing countries just interest rates on loans.

"Developed countries enjoy interest rates of as low as 0.5 per cent as compared to more than 10 per cent rates levied on developing countries.

In his speech while attending the 22nd Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) Summit of Heads of State and Government in Zambia last week, the President pushed for a unified payment system.

He said that although there has been introduction of several regional payment infrastructures in the continent, it still lacks a single system that 'seamlessly facilitates trade among our nations, eliminating the obstacles posed by varying currencies.'

"Without a single payment platform, payment instructions from one African country to another typically passes through several intermediary financial institutions leading to increased costs," he said.



RATIBA YA VIPINDI

JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	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 DAKIKA 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 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA SHERIA 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 DAKIKA 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 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA MICHEZO 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 MATANGAZO / 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 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA UKIMWI 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 MATANGAZO / 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 09.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA UKIMWI 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM HIZI NAZO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.05HRS KIPIMA JOTO 23.00 HRS WEEK END SHOW I 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 COMMERCIALS 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.15 AM NEWSPAPERS REVIEW 07.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA KISWAHILI 09.00 AM WATOTO SHOW 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.15 AM MIWANI YA MAISHA 11.00 AM MTAJA WA MAGOMA 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS CHAGUO LAO 15.00 HRS MUZIKI NA MICHEZO 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.15 HRS MIDUNDO 16.30 HRS BONGOTO 18.00 HRS BONGO TEN 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.15 HRS CHEMSHA BONGO 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21.03 HRS WEEK END SHOW I 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS WEEK END SHOW II 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS WEEK END SHOW III 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 COMMERCIALS 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.15 AM NEWSPAPERS REVIEW 07.30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA - FAMILIA 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.15 AM SUNDAY SPECIAL 11: 00 HRS TOP 20 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS NANI ZAIDI 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS MAMBO YA PWANI 18.00 HRS AFRICAN PANORAMA 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS MAMBO MSETO 21.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:03 HRS MAMBO MSETO 22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS RAFIKI I 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS RAFIKI II 01:00 - 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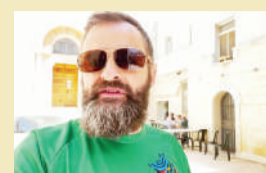





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TTB prepares tourist attractions film for promotions
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Foreigners spur DSE's activity after 2 million CRDB Bank's shares buyout

By Guardian Reporter

FOREIGN investors have continued to consolidate their dominance on the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) activity, following the purchase of 2 million CRDB Bank shares, which were transacted through both the pre-arranged and normal market boards on Thursday last week, sold by local investors.

During the day, CRDB Bank recorded a turnover of 1.19bn/-, following the transactions of 2,537,103 shares, of which 2 million were traded through block trade pre-arranged market board and the remaining through normal trade, at a price ranging from 465/- to 480/- in 35 deals.

This development has also pushed up the share of the largest bank in terms of assets to close at 470/- during the end of the week, from 455/- recorded during the opening of last week, while boosting its market capitalization to 1.22trn/- from 1.18trn/- respectively.

The DSE market report shows foreign investors have so far injected 19.76bn/- through buying shares during the current quarter of the year, which is 62.35 percent of total value of shares bought, five times of total value of shares bought during the first quarter of this year, against 37.65 percent of the value injected by locals.

The amount was higher than 3.4bn/- they injected through purchasing shares, or 17.12 of total value of all shares bought during the first quarter of this year ended

in March, but was still lower than 25bn/- injected during the second quarter of last year.

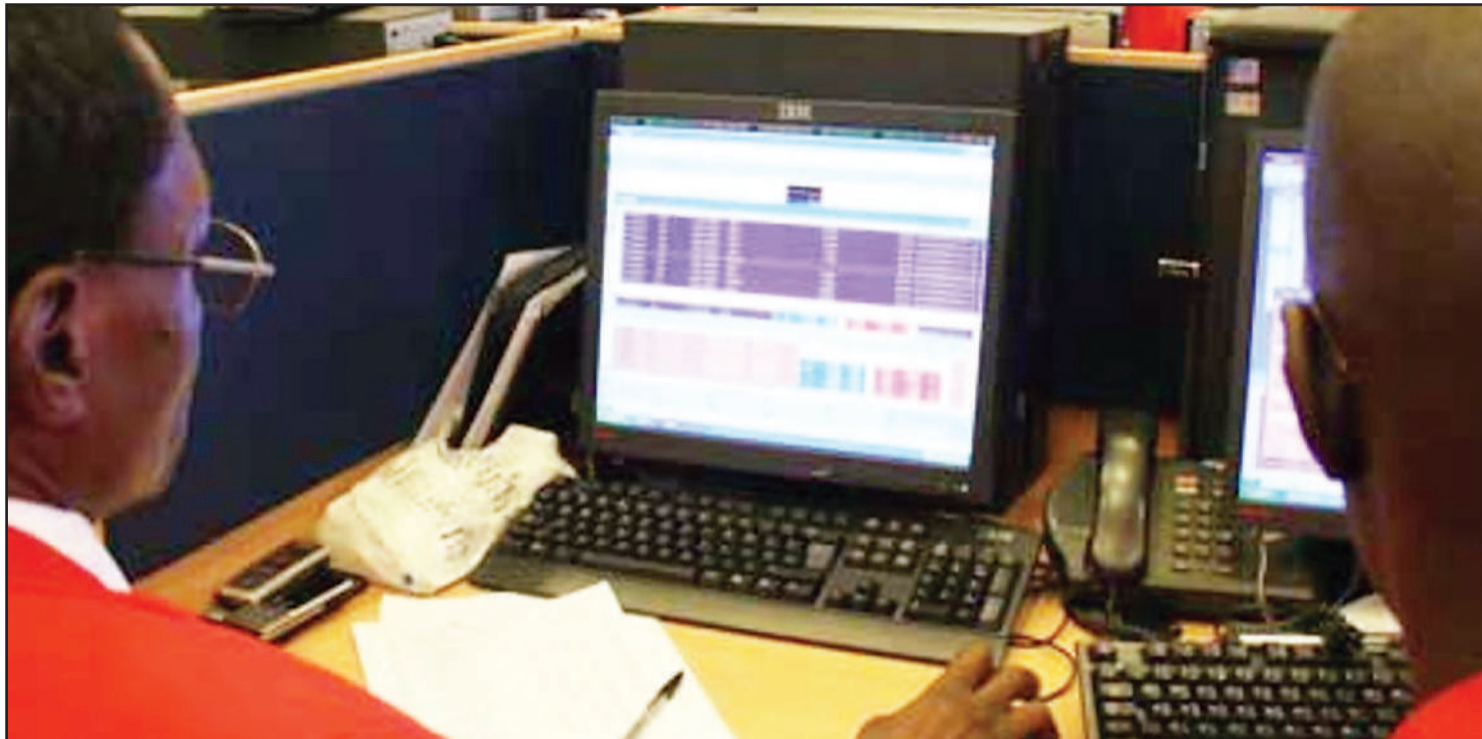
According to the market report, foreign investors have also sold shares valued 17bn/-, which is 61.27 percent of total value of shares sold during the current quarter, against 38.73 percent of the value by local investors participation; and higher than 6.5bn/- recorded during the first quarter and less than 27.15bn/- recorded during the second quarter of last year.

Another largest valued transaction during last week involved NMB Bank on Friday, which recorded a turnover of 643.4mn/-, following transactions of 183,976 shares, of which 171,887 were traded through block trade pre-arranged market board and the remaining through normal board at a price ranging from 3,460/- and 3,500/- per share in 20 deals.

However, the share price of the second largest commercial bank, in terms of assets, remained flat during the reviewed period at 3,640/-.

The third largest valued deal of the week was recorded by Vodacom Tanzania, which on Wednesday, transacted 500,541 shares valued 200.4mn/-, of which 200,000 shares were traded through block trade at a discount price of 740/- per share, against the market price of 770/- in four deals.

The weekly market report by Exodus Advisory, member of DSE and securities brokerage firm said trading activity decreased by 51.81 percent over the week where total market turnover to-



Stock brokers participate in online trading. File Photo

taled 2.28bn/- CRDB accounted for 58.78 percent of the trading activity followed by NMB (30.04 percent), VODA (8.80 percent) and NICO (0.88 percent).

The broking firm's market review says the banking sector performance increased by 1.24 percent where Bank, Finance & Investment Index closed at 4,029.33 points.

The Industry & Allied sector decreased by 0.13 percent closing at 5,102.60 points and Commercial Services closed at 2,155.32 points which remained constant.

Individually, CRDB recorded the highest price appreciation (3.30 percent), followed by NICO (1.19 percent). Tanga Cement Company Limited (TCCL) dropped by 6.52 percent and MBP fell by 2.78 percent.

Exodus Advisory report says total market capitalization stood at 15,079.94bn/- reflecting a 1.41 percent decline from the preceding week while Domestic Market Capitalization increased by 0.29 percent.

The All-Share index decreased by 1.41 percent, while the Tanzania Share index increased by 0.29 percent.

"These patterns suggest that the change in total market cap primarily resulted from the decrease in prices of cross listed shares while domestic market cap increased due to rise of domestic counter prices," says the broking firm's weekly report.

Govt unveils new plan to boost milk production

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE government is embarking on implementing a series of initiatives meant to end an acute shortage of more than 9 billion litres of milk annually.

The country's dairy sector is currently producing only 3.6 billion litres in a year, the low volume compared to the demand of 12 billion litres.

The shortage causes milk processing factories to operate below their maximum production capacity, which is also limiting milk consumptions among Tanzanians.

The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends an individual to consume at least 200 litres of milk annually, but in Tanzania the rate is 74 litres; far behind other countries in the East Africa.

In an exclusive interview to The Guardian, the Registrar of the Tanzania Dairy Board (TDB), Dr. George Msalya unveiled that there are at least 152 milk processing plants, with the capacity of producing 865,000 litres of milk per day, but due to low production and availability of raw milk, the factories are processing only 203,600 litres, which is 23.52 percent of full capacity.

"Besides poor production, the situation is also attributed by the unprofessional trend in which most of the dairy farmers are marketing their milk through the informal sector," he expressed.

According to him, 90 percent of all milk

produced in Tanzania sold through the informal sector, and the remaining are processed.

The Registrar expressed that it was disconcerting that despite having large number of dairy cows, the country is annually spending a total of 15bn/- to import milk products, equivalent to at least 640mn/- weekly.

"The other setback clipping the dairy sector is poor investment in Ultra-high temperature processing (UHT) technology in the country," he said.

"Currently, there are only five major factories that have installed UHT technology facilities including Azam Milk, Tanga Fresh Limited, Milkcom, ASAS Dairies and Galaxy Food- the situation which is thwarting the country to meet the needed milk processing capacity and standards," Dr. Msalya noted.

Ultra-High Temperature (UHT) processing is a technology that sterilizes liquid foods, mostly milk, by heating it above 135 °C, over a short time period - only two to five seconds - to kill microbial spores.

Moreover, he noted that there's no any factor in Tanzania which produces powdery milk and infant technology in milk production.

On top of that, he said many dairy farmers are still far away in access to useful pastures and nutritious supplement, which causes the decrease (about 30 percent) of milk production, especially during dry seasons.

He said the dairy board and the ministry

of livestock and fisheries are preparing a program to increase milk production, which will start in Kagera and Mbeya regions as a pilot project.

The envisaged 'Building a Better Tomorrow Youth Initiative for Dairy Program (BBT-YID)', will base on a specific move to impart the youth with useful knowledge on how to keep hybrid dairy cows, as well as professional processes in milking, according to him.

"The vision is to gather some of the youth with the vibrant livestock background within the regions in special incubation centres, then provided them with freely hybrid dairy cows, and train them how to professionally take care of the cows in order to produce enough milk," he said.

At the centres, the youth will be imparted with key knowledge on the production of silage varieties to help improve milk production.

After Kagera and Mbeya, the program will be extended to other regions, with the priority to be given to the regions with good records in dairy activities.

Apart from the program, TDB was also planning to empower the milk processing plants over proper processing procedures and technologies, to heighten quality of their products.

He said TDB, in cooperation with the parent ministry has already installed a total of 221 Milk Collection Centers (MCC) country-

wide, whereby, out of the number, at least 717 have been established with special milk cooling tanks with ability to safely preserve milk for a weeklong period, and at cooling capacity of 352,098 litres a day.

"Principally, all milk from dairy farmers needs to be channelled to the MCC or processing plants before reaching to the consumers," he insisted.

And to improve milk drinking culture among the Tanzanians, he briefed that the Board and the sector's ministry are working on pending issues to start rolling out milk to schools across the country, under the school milk feeding programme.

US national organizes events to promote tourism

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

AN American national Marie Frances has embarked on special activities as part of promoting Tanzania's tourism destinations across the world, including Mount Kilimanjaro and its sustainability.

The activities include tree planting, Mount Kilimanjaro expedition, the Serengeti safari and special run named MT Kilimanjaro Run that took place in Moshi over the weekend.

The activist from Florida, United States is the founder of MT Kilimanjaro Run that started in 1991 to promote Tanzania tourism.

The tree planting, Mount Kilimanjaro expedition, and the special Run aiming at promoting Tanzania's tourism destinations, have helped to attract domestic and foreign tourists.

Before the special run over the weekend, Marie Francis also organized a special 'Pasta Party' that attracted tourism stakeholders both local and international, to discuss how to promote the country's tourism destinations.

Speaking with this paper, one the participant of the events, a Canadian tourist, Karen Michelsen explained that, Tanzania is good country with good people with very attractive tourism destinations.

"I have enjoyed visiting Tanzania where I saw various unique tourism destinations including Mount Kilimanjaro. I'm happy that I also participated on MT Kilimanjaro Marathon organized by Marie Francis this Sunday," she explained cheerfully.

Dan McBennett from Lorain, Ohio and his fellow Erasmo Nevarez from Pacific Grove, California participated a special Mount Kilimanjaro Climb from 18th to 22nd June this year to raise awareness on Mental illness, promoting the mountain, as well raising funds to support the Moshi-based Catholic owned Upendo Children's Home.

During their humanitarian support of clothes and shoes, as well US\$200 fund and other gifts for the special needy children at Upendo Children's Home, Erasmo who is professional Mental Illness expert explained that, he has enjoyed their special Mount Kilimanjaro Climb where he faced some weather changes challenges.

Further he said he needs to raise awareness for Autism, Mental Health (resilience), and basic education for children through that special expedition organized by Marie Frances, to support the government's efforts aims to promote Tanzania.

"I'm simply putting words into action through raising awareness around Autism, the importance of investing in your own mental resilience and that to break the poverty cycle is to give children the ability to read and write so they have genuine opportunities in life" he explained.

Speaking during the handover of humanitarian support to the Head of the special needy Matrons at Upendo Children's Home, SR Donata Swai, Dan McBennett explained, they are going to make sure that when they go back to their country, they will raise funds and materials to support the needy children at the centre.

"I real love children! In my country I have adopted two kids and taking care of them in collaboration with my wife! When going back to my country I will what I can to raise funds for this children here at Upendo Children's Home as well as promoting majesty of Mount Kilimanjaro," Dan McBennett enlightened.

For her part, the Head of the special needy Matrons at Upendo Children's Home, SR Donata Swai, explained that, her organization is now taking care of 56 children aged between 4-months to 14 years with special needy caring including who are fully orphaned, living in difficult conditions or abandoned.



Tanzania has a deficit of 9 billion litres of milk annually



An American national, Marie Frances (centre) poses for the photo with different gifts she received from the children. Right in a Canadian tourist, Karen Michelsen, who participated the run Photo by James Lanka

Trade liberalisation becomes solution to fiscal uncertainty

By Talal Rafi

THE United Nations estimates that there are 54 nations globally suffering from debt distress. In the face of multiple crises, including the Russia-Ukraine war and a global economic downturn, this is leading some countries to engage in trade protectionism.

But protectionism would lead to a world that is less resilient and more conflict prone. It is not the solution to debt distress and may further exacerbate the problems.

The International Monetary Fund projects that a deep fracture of the global trading system could reduce global output by 7 percent. The cumulative stock of import restrictions up to late 2022 impacted over 9% of the total merchandise imports amounting to more than \$2tn, according to World Trade Organization economists.

Increased inflation

As trade barriers on imports are increased, this results in higher prices due to a shortfall on the supply side. To tame inflation, central banks increase policy rates, which lead to higher borrowing costs and lower profits for businesses.

Domestic producers can sell products at a higher price with lower quality due to the reduction in foreign competitors in the market. Fiscal expenditure of the government increases as the need for social security grows.

As mortgage rates rise, the disposable income of consumers decreases, resulting in less consumption and leading to lower corporate taxes, which affects fiscal revenue.

Higher trade barriers result in higher costs for the importation of capital and intermediate goods needed by the export-focused manufacturing industries.

This makes locally produced exports less competitive, resulting in reduced output. This causes a reduction in fiscal revenue from export-based manufacturing and also decreases foreign exchange, especially for developing markets that need hard currency to import.

This has been one of the key reasons for many developing countries to borrow foreign exchange, which puts further strains on fiscal policy.

Less innovation

As domestic companies are protected from imports through trade barriers and subsidies, local companies tend to have fewer incentives to innovate. This results in lower spending on research and development. Consumers receive inferior products as many businesses become comfortable within a protected economy. Local firms tend to focus inwards and, even if the economy is opened a few years later, they cannot build products that can be exported in a competitive global market. Eventually, exports are affected and fiscal revenue from exports decreases.

There is a correlation between innovation and economic growth. As economic growth slows, it also results in fiscal imbalance. Geopolitical tensions over the last few years have resulted in limited technology transfer and restrictions in investments between nations, which reduces the ability to innovate in a fragmented world with less collaboration.

This will make it more difficult to develop technology and find solutions for key issues such as climate change. Without this, climate change will cause economic damage and result in drastically higher fiscal expenditure and rising public debt levels.

Depressed economic growth

Trade protectionist policies

usually result in a backlash from other countries, resulting in fragmented markets. This means reduced economies of scale for many companies and lower profits as efficiency falters. Fiscal revenue is affected with lower profits from the private sector. As profits drop, many companies may lay-off employees, resulting in a further dip in consumption.

As trade barriers increase, local industries are expected to match the needs of the population. Subsidies, tax breaks and, in certain cases, government financing are provided, which increases fiscal expenditure. This means governments will have to cut down expenditure in other important areas or increase taxes, which further dampens the economy.

The global economy is in a weak position with high inflation, high policy rates, geopolitical tensions, rising public debt and the looming threat of climate change. Trade protectionism leads to higher prices, less innovation, slower economic growth and larger fiscal deficits. But there is an alternative solution.

Free flow of goods and services with increased competition also results in increased innovation, which is essential to driving global economic growth.

Talal Rafi is an Economist at the Deloitte Economics Institute and an expert member of the World Economic Forum.



“As mortgage rates rise, the disposable income of consumers decreases, resulting in less consumption and leading to lower corporate taxes”

NBC Bank Dodoma marathon 2023: Paramount of corporate philanthropy

By Godwin Semunyu

MARATHONERS have a special way of teaching us about endurance and defying limits. Eliud Kipchoge's world record redefined human boundaries, while John Akhwari's superhuman finish in Mexico in 1968, despite injury, a dislocated knee, inspires.

In our everyday lives, we require this resolute spirit and mentality to confront challenges head-on. Ultimately, life unfolds as a marathon, demanding our enduring commitment and steadfastness to reach our goals.

Improving maternal health

We are excited to invite you to the upcoming fourth edition of the NBC Dodoma Marathon on Sunday, July 23, 2023, in Dodoma.

This extraordinary event is dedicated to generating funds for enhanced maternal health through cervical cancer awareness initiatives and providing valuable scholarship opportunities to aspiring midwifery scholars in Tanzania.

Raising awareness for cervical cancer

Cervical cancer claims the most lives among women in developing countries, often due to late-stage diagnoses stemming from limited awareness and inadequate screening.

To combat this dire situation, we have partnered with the Ocean Road Cancer Institute (ORCI) to amplify awareness efforts. Our goal is to reach a broader audience, encourage regular screenings, and offer financial aid for medical expenses.

Through fundraising, we have achieved remarkable milestones, including funding extensive campaigns, facilitating screenings for 23,500 women, and providing treatments for over 1,300 women. Nonetheless, our mission continues.

Provision of scholarships to midwiferies

In addition to raising awareness about cervical cancer, we proudly partner with the Benjamin William Mkapa

Foundation, a reputable NGO, to offer scholarships to aspiring midwifery students in Tanzania. This field is crucial in ensuring the health and well-being of expectant mothers and their children.

Our objective is to actively contribute to the progress and improvement of midwifery services, ensuring that women receive the essential healthcare they deserve throughout pregnancy and childbirth. Every single life is of utmost importance.

Beyond marathon

Whether you're a seasoned marathoner tackling the 42-Kilometer challenge, a half marathon participant, or a social runner doing 10-5 km, there's a distance for everyone. Register now at events.nbc.co.tz.

We also extend an invitation to compassionate individuals who wish to make a difference by contributing financially or materially. Visit our website or your nearest NBC Bank branch for donation details.

Conquer the chilly, windswept morning in Dodoma and emerge as a champion. As you cross the misty finish line, remind yourself that you are – a valiant hero whose actions save lives.

See you at the finish line, champ.

Godwin Jaha Semunyu is Head of Corporate Affairs at NBC Bank Tanzania. He can be reached through godwin.semunyu@nbc.co.tz



Govt to establish 1,000 hectares of wheat seed farm

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE government is expected to establish a farm to produce wheat seed varieties in Makete district, Njombe region, to boost production and reduce foreign exchange used in importation.

The farm will be established by the Tanzania Agricultural Seed Agency (ASA) is expected to produce improved wheat varieties, including 'Juhudi' and 'Sifa'.

ASA's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Dr. Sophia Kashenge said the prospectus seed farm will cover a total of 1,000 which will produce between 2,500 to 3,000 tons of wheat seeds.

"We're very eager to embark on implementing the project in order to help solve the long-standing challenge of shortage of wheat in the country," she expressed.

Dr. Kashenge noted that demand for the wheat seeds in the country was around 30,000 tons annually, but only 500 tons are produced.

As an urgent and short-term measure to help contain the situation, Dr. Kashenge revealed that ASA was running a process to import at least 500 tons of wheat seeds to help assist the local farmers.

"The vision is to assure the farmers are at least getting adequate seeds in this growing season while we're working to expand home production with an eye to ensure sustainable production and supply of abundant seeds in the future seasons," she said.

Moreover, she underscored the need for the accumulation of more lands to enable vast production of the seeds in all areas across the country where the starch-grass crop can flourish.

The government is now resulting in transforming the country's Southern Highlands, especially the Makete district, into wheat production corridor

as demand for the produce heightens locally, as well as in the exports market.

According to her, the government is embarking on a strategy to improve and increasing wheat production in the Makete district.

Wheat production remains significantly low in Tanzania with around 100,000MT annually, compared to the demand of 1,000,000 MT per year. The demand deficit is covered with importation about 90 percent.

The current wheat average yield per hectare is estimated at 1.6 tons, but strategies of increasing productivity through intensification and intensification to attain at least 3.0 tons per hectare is in place.

The Makete district is currently producing 8,242 tons of wheat from the district's estates.

Recently, the ministry of agriculture through the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) has hatched an important initiative in the district, which intends to double the rate of production at the moment, then increase it to reach an output of more than 200,000 tons by the year 2026.

Among others, the timely initiative focuses on increasing the area meant for wheat production in the district from the current 17,120 hectares to a total of 118,000 hectares by 2026.

The development, if it prevails, will see the local wheat farmers earning to 1.73mn/- per hectare of harvests, from the current value of 750,000/-per hectare.

Moreover, the development will also see a single hectare churns out 1.5 tons of wheat, which should be more than thrice the current output peaking at 0.5 tons per hectare, with application of proper farm inputs, including proper fertilizers as well as improved seeds varieties.



The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Tanzania Agricultural Seed Agency (ASA) Dr. Sophia Kashenge gestures during the recent event. Photo by Valentine Oforo

Investors undervalue financial sector stocks despite profits

NAIROBI

INVESTORS have undervalued financial sector stocks at the Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE) despite double-digit growth in profits and dividend payouts, an analysis of price ratios used to gauge stock valuations shows.

The analysis of the price-to-book and price-to-earnings ratios—which measure the value that market participants attach to a company's shares relative to its net assets and earnings—for the 17 listed bank and insurance firms shows that only three have a P/B ratio of more than one, effectively rendering them undervalued by this metric.

The average P/E ratio for the 11 listed banks stands at 3.3 times, and that of the six insurers at 5.17 times, which are lower than an average of 7.33 times for the stock market.

The ratios are used by investors to gauge whether stocks are overvalued or undervalued in the stock market, whereby the lower the ratio the more a stock is undervalued. "If you are looking for the undervalued prospects, you look for the companies that are recording ratios that are lower than the industry or market median," said Genghis Capital analyst Ronnie Chokaa.

Other large blue chip counters have a higher P/B ratio compared to banks, suggesting that their stocks are overvalued by investors.

Safaricom (3.74 times net assets), EABL (4.3 times) and BAT (2.6 times) have share price valuations more than two times their book value, while their P/E ratios are also higher at 11.3, 10.1 and 6.2 times respectively.

In the 2022 financial year, the banking sector made a record Sh244 billion in pre-tax profits, data from the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) shows, raising their dividends in the process. Four of the six insurers also recorded a jump in profits last year, reflecting improved returns from the underwriting business and reduced costs.

Analysis of individual listed banks shows that nine of the 11 raised their dividend payouts for 2022, with only KCB cutting theirs and HF Group not paying a dividend in the period. Three insurers—CIC, Jubilee Holdings and Kenya Re paid a dividend last year.

AGRA Africa's food systems summit 2023: a global rally, transformation investment call to action from Tanzania

By Vianey Rweyendela

A WARM and hearty hello from Tanzania, often fondly referred to as the vibrant heart of Africa! With immense pleasure and pride, I invite global citizens, organizations, and thought leaders to convene at the monumental Africa's Food Systems Summit 2023 (AGRF 2023 Summit).

Scheduled to unfold between the 5th and 8th of September 2023, this transformative event will be hosted in the pulsating, culturally rich city of Dar es Salaam.

Endorsed and hosted by President Samia Suluhu Hassan and the AGRF Partner's Group, this Summit will serve as fertile ground for insightful dialogues, active collaboration and decisive actions, all geared towards shaping the trajectory of Africa food systems' transformation in the coming days.

The central theme of our 2023 Summit, "Recover, Regenerate, Act: Africa's Solutions to Food Systems Transformation," aptly articulates our unwavering commitment to building and strengthening our food systems. We intend to spotlight the critical roles of our youth and women, considering them pivotal drivers and players of sustainable wealth creation across the continent. Smallholder farmers form the very core of Tanzania's agriculture and food systems.

Their tireless efforts and unyielding commitment serve as the vital spark driving this ongoing transformation. As we echo the resonant call, "Kilimo ni Biashara" - Agriculture is Business, we recognize and underscore the pivotal role of these farmers. Not merely cultivators of the land, they are entrepreneurial stewards of our resources, business owners in their own right, operating at the front lines of a shifting agricultural landscape. They stand as testament to the power of agriculture as a viable and important business, capable of steering our nation towards a future of sustainable prosperity.

In Tanzania, the government, private sector, and civil society's commitment go beyond preservation of our food systems; we aspire to lay the foundation for an equitable, prosperous, and sustainable future. This aspiration aligns seamlessly with our country's vast potential as a thriving hub for agricultural investment and source of food at regional and continental level. Our nation boasts diverse value chains that span a vast geographical expanse, thus making Tanzania a veritable treasure trove of untapped opportunities for domestic and international investors.

With a firm commitment to becoming a key food provider in Africa and beyond, Tanzania is steadily strengthening its capacity. Strategic efforts led by the Agricultural sector ministries are paving the way for this transformation, as they set their sights on establishing a strategic production of more than 12M Metric Tonnes of grains. Tanzania's grain reserves have proved a safety net during times of scarcity and as a stabilizer for market prices, reinforcing food security on a national and regional level.

Our agribusiness sector is teeming with a broad spectrum of possibilities, from farming to processing, packaging, and exporting. Tanzania's abundant geographical diversity, ranging from the fertile expanses of Kilimanjaro to the boundless plains of the Serengeti and the picturesque coastal regions along the Indian Ocean, presents a plethora of opportunities for agricultural investments.

Our geographical diversity (seven agro-ecological zones), vast cultivable land, and favourable climate serve as strategic assets that position us not only to fulfil our dietary needs but also cater to the needs of our neighbouring nations. This progress aligns with our steadfast commitment to strengthen food security, stimulate economic growth, and carve a path towards a prosperous future that ensures equity and sustainability.

Tanzania is a virtual cornucopia of agricultural investment opportunities. Our diverse value chains spread across varied geographical terrains, form a sturdy and resilient platform for investors. Whether it's the fertile soil of Kilimanjaro, the coastal areas along the Indian Ocean, or the multifaceted agricultural diversity in between, we offer various agricultural activities and untapped potential for sustainable investments.

Whether your interests lie in horticulture, grains, roots/tubers, livestock, or fisheries, Tanzania is fertile ground for all. The government of Tanzania is particularly keen on fostering investments that prioritize sustainability, resilience, and inclusivity, contributing to the collective welfare of our people and our planet.

Tanzania's diverse agricultural landscape is uniquely enriched with the potential to cater to an extensive variety of crops and livestock, promising a surge in industrial growth that could mark the advent of a transformative era for Africa's economy. Our fertile lands, favourable climate, and rich biodiversity underscore our potential to become the epicentre of Africa's green revolution.

Our agricultural potential is rooted in an already thriving cultivation of various key staples. Our lands yield rich harvests of rice, maize, cassava, beans, and a multitude of other food crops, to mention a few. Each of these crops is embedded within an extensive value chain, offering myriad opportunities for employment and industrialization from the initial steps of cultivation to the final stages of processing and distribution.

In the realm of rice production, for instance, Tanzania has a profound capacity to provide for a substantial part of Africa. Areas like the Ruvu Basin, Kilombero, Kyela, and Rufiji have the potential to produce rice in vast quantities, each capable of



feeding different regions of Africa. Their production, in turn, could feed into mills and processing plants, creating an entire industry around rice alone.

Our maize, another major staple, with annual production of more than 7M Metric Tonnes, is an asset for the whole continent. Cultivating maize provides food security and potential raw material for milling, brewing, and animal feed production industries. Similarly, cassava, a resilient crop that thrives in diverse conditions, can be transformed into multiple products from flour to biofuel, presenting another avenue for industrial growth.

Beans and other legumes, with their nitrogen-fixing properties, enhance our soil fertility while also serving as a source of protein for our population and livestock. Their cultivation supports the food chain and agricultural industries alike, from canning to producing plant-based protein alternatives.

Aside from crops, Tanzania's livestock potential is another promising area. Our cattle, goats, sheep, and poultry can significantly contribute to food security and provide inputs for the dairy and meat processing industry. Further down the line, these sectors link with others, creating logistics, retail, and hospitality industry opportunities.

Let me also highlight the enormous potential within Tanzania's blue economy. The blue economy encapsulates the sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods, and jobs while preserving the health of our ocean ecosystems. With a coastline stretching over 1,400 kilometers along the Indian Ocean, Tanzania is uniquely positioned to leverage this resource.

Tanzania's marine and freshwater resources, including lakes, rivers, and expansive coastal areas, offer vast opportunities for sustainable development. This blue economy could contribute significantly to food security, livelihoods, and economic growth through fisheries, aquaculture, tourism, transport, and maritime logistics industries.

Integrating the blue economy concept into our overall agro-industrialization strategy is key to unlocking this potential. By promoting sustainable fishing practices, encouraging the growth of aquaculture, and investing in the processing and value addition of marine products, we can further diversify our agricultural sector and boost our economic resilience.

The wealth of our agricultural produce not only ensures food security for Tanzania but the region. Tanzania's agricultural wealth provides an enormous opportunity for industrial take-off. By harnessing the power of our lands, we can spur economic growth, enhance food security, and lead the way towards a sustainable and prosperous future for all of Africa.

The rapid progress in Tanzania's agricultural sector can be likened to a meticulously conducted symphony, with various transformative initiatives each playing their unique yet harmonious parts. As we observe the sector's transformation, we see a clear, orchestrated plan taking us closer to becoming Africa's agricultural powerhouse, potentially mirroring China's industrial success story.

The Agricultural Sector Development Program Phase II (ASDP II) is instrumental to this orchestrated approach, operational from 2017/2018 to 2027/2028. ASDP II serves as a roadmap towards amplified productivity, enhanced market access, and bolstered resilience and sustainability within the agricultural sector. This strategic program is effectively steering our nation's journey towards agricultural prosperity.

Cementing the path towards this agricultural renaissance is the Agricultural Sector Transformation Agenda, aptly dubbed Agenda 10/30. This comprehensive framework elaborates the concept of block farming, and expounds on the vision of an intensified agro-processing landscape, the expansion of robust irrigation systems, and the capacity enhancement of agricultural institutions and regulatory mechanisms.

Furthermore, the Tanzania Agro-industries Development Flagship (TAIDF) epitomises our strides towards agro-industrialisation. The initiative, meticulously crafted by the Secretariat of the ASDP II stands as a cornerstone of our journey. The TAIDF, born out of extensive consultation with diverse stakeholders, exemplifies a holistic and inclusive approach to agro-industrialization.

Adding to this robust tapestry of initiatives is the Building a Better Tomorrow-Youth Initiative for Agribusiness (BBT-YIA), a model of successful multi-stakeholder collaboration. The brainchild of a concerted effort by the Government of Tanzania, the private sector, and development partners, the BBT-YIA is empowering the youth with entrepreneurial opportunities in agribusiness. This initiative not only strengthens the agricultural sector but also create employment opportunities for the youth thus securing a promising, sustainable future for our youth, and by extension, for Tanzania.

All these initiatives are leading to the multiplication of local industries for agricultural inputs and, simultaneously, they promote value addition to our products, bolstering their appeal in both domestic and export markets. Through this synergistic approach, we see an agricultural landscape that presents immense opportunities in agro-processing, potentially elevating Tanzania to the China of Africa in terms of industrialization. The commitment shown by the Tanzanian Government, and the unwavering support from development partners, are essential fuel to this transformative fire.

While we aspire to become the China of Africa in terms of industrialization, we also envisage a thriving blue economy that mirrors the success stories of nations like Norway and the Seychelles. By harnessing the potential of our blue economy,

we add a new dimension to our agro-industrial ambitions, strengthening our journey towards sustainable and inclusive growth.

AGRA stands resolutely side-by-side with Tanzania in this pivotal journey. By lending our expertise and resources, we continue to support the realization of a vibrant, profitable, and sustainable agricultural sector. Together, we are shaping a narrative of growth and prosperity that resonates not only within Tanzania but also sets an example for the whole of Africa.

Once again, welcome to the Summit to be held at the famous Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre in Dar es Salaam. In the days leading up to the Summit, we invite you to partake in field visits from 2nd to 3rd of September 2023 and a pre-summit on the 4th. These experiences will offer invaluable first-hand exposure to Tanzania's agricultural sector's diversity, dynamism, and potential.

With warmth and anticipation, I invite you to join us in Tanzania this September. Come to participate in reimagining and reshaping Africa's food systems and discover our beautiful country's myriad agribusiness opportunities. Let's drive change, spark action, and secure a radiant, sustainable future together.

Vianey Rweyendela is the AGRA Tanzania Country Manager

TTB now prepares tourist attractions film for promotions

By Francis Kajubi

THE Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB) has started filming tourist attractions in some part of the country for domestic and international promotions.

Damasi Mfugale, TTB director general told journalists yesterday in Dar es Salaam that the board had organized a 12-day familiarization trip that involved stakeholders and the board's tourism projects ambassador Nicholas Reynolds well known as Bongozozo.

Mfugale said that since the commencement of the implementation of two tourism promotion strategies namely Tanzania's Southern Circuit Marketing and Promotion Strategy 2021/26 and the Tanzania Cultural Tourism Experiences Marketing Strategy launched September last year.

"The national tourism ambassador Bongozozo and stakeholders visited a number of attractions that involved Udzungwa, Ruaha, Nyerere, Mpanga Kipengere Reserve Forest and the world heritage sites of Kilwa Kisiwani and Songo Mnara," said Mfugale.

He asserts that during the trip, Bongozozo was filmed short video clips for creating online promotion content on social media and mainstream.

Mfugale asserted that the projects are intended at realizing the impact of the REGROW project implemented in the southern highlands.

In these two projects TTB is collaborating with safari companies such as UPL Safaris, Oxpecker Tours, Safaris Company Ltd and Bateleur Safaris and Tours Ltd.

The companies are mandated with issuing tourist packages that accommodates different kinds of tourists with affordable costs;

The packages managed to attract 64 tourists of which 63 are domestic tourists from different regions of the country and one tourist from the United Kingdom," said Mfugale.

He further said that the filmed video clips apart from being shared on social media platforms; they will also be to stakeholders for further promotion of the tourism destinations.

On his part, Reynolds a.k.a Bongozozo said that he has already met the Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism Mohamed Mchengerwa and held talks concerning his participation in the promotion of tourism destinations.

"This time around the promotion is not just focusing on attracting foreign tourists but mainly domestic tourists by sensitizing them to visit the attractions;

The message we are trying to convey to the domestic tourists is about the affordability of packages where one can easily plan their trip and the families," said Reynolds.

VIEW FROM THE TOP



Self-made tourism ambassador Nicholas Reynolds "Bongozozo"

WORLD

Sudan welcomes UN rights chief condemnation of paramilitaries

KHARTOUM

THE Sudanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Sunday welcomed the UN human rights chief's condemnation of atrocities carried out by the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in West Darfur State.

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs welcomes the statement by the spokesperson of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva, which directly condemned the rebel militia regarding its atrocities in West Darfur State," the ministry said in a statement.

The ministry called on international and regional organizations to exert more pressure on the RSF by "con-

demning the violations it committed against the Sudanese people."

On Saturday, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) issued a statement calling for immediate action to end the killing of civilians who were fleeing El Geneina, the capital city of West Darfur State.

The statement said horrifying accounts of RSF-backed armed "Arab" militia killing people were heard from those fleeing El Geneina into Adre in Chad.

The OHCHR urged immediate action to halt the "wanton killings," adding that "people fleeing El Geneina must be guaranteed safe passage and humanitarian agencies allowed access



People walk among scattered objects in the market of El Geneina, the capital of West Darfur, as fighting continues in Sudan between the forces of two rival generals, on April 29, 2023. (PHOTO / AFP)

to the area to collect the remains of those killed."

The statement calls on the RSF leadership to "immediately, unequivocally condemn and stop the killing of people fleeing El Geneina, and other violence and hate speech against them on the basis of their ethnicity."

According to the Sudanese Doctors Syndicate, more than 1,000 people were killed in El Geneina in attacks by armed militias.

Sudan has been witnessing deadly armed clashes between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the RSF in Khartoum and other areas since April 15, which left over 3,000 people dead and more than 6,000 injured, according to the Sudanese Health Ministry.

About 2.5 million people have been displaced inside and outside of Sudan, according to an OHCHR update on Wednesday.

Investigation into case surrounding Prigozhin continuing, says source

MOSCOW

THE investigation of the criminal case against Yevgeny Prigozhin, founder of the Wagner Private Military Company (PMC), accused of organizing an armed mutiny, has not been closed, a source in the Russian Prosecutor General's Office confirmed to TASS yesterday.

"The criminal case against Prigozhin has not been closed. The investigation is continuing," the source said.

Kommersant newspaper reported on Monday that as of the morning of June 26, the criminal case concerning the organization of the armed mutiny involving Prigozhin has not been closed and continues to be investigated by the Russian Federal Security Service (FSB).

On Saturday, the Russian Prosecutor General's Office said that, on June 23, FSB investigators opened a criminal case against Yevgeny Prigozhin under Article 279 of the Russian Criminal Code for organizing an armed mutiny.

The case was initiated after Prigozhin's Telegram channel published statements that his units were allegedly attacked and appealed to supporters to come out against the country's top military leaders. The crime is punishable by 12 to 20 years in prison.

The Russian Defense Ministry denied information about Russian strikes on the "rear camps of the Wagner PMC." Russian President Vladimir Putin made a televised address to Russian citizens, servicemen and law enforcement agencies, slamming the ongoing events as a stab in the back.



Global Development Initiative a beacon of hope in turbulent world

BEIJING

THE Global Development Initiative (GDI) has become a beacon of hope and a catalyst for international development cooperation in a world that has faced unprecedented challenges over recent years.

The GDI was proposed by Chinese President Xi Jinping at the 76th Session of the UN General Assembly in September 2021. It was put forward with the hope that countries would work together to overcome the impact of COVID-19 on global development, accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and build a global community of development with a shared future.

China has called on all countries to increase their input in development, and advance cooperation on poverty alleviation, food security, COVID-19 response efforts and vaccines, development financing, climate change, green development, industrialization, the digital economy and connectivity.

Xi hosted the High-level Dialogue on Global Development virtually in June 2022, announcing that China will allocate more resources to global development cooperation.

China's efforts will include up-

grading the South-South Cooperation Assistance Fund to a Global Development and South-South Cooperation Fund, adding 1 billion U.S. dollars to the fund in addition to the 3 billion U.S. dollars already committed, and increasing its input in the UN Peace and Development Trust Fund.

The High-level Dialogue on Global Development yielded 32 deliverables, including the launch of the Digital Literacy and Skills Improvement Initiative, the promotion of connectivity among customs authorities and other supply chain stakeholders, and deepened research and development cooperation on vaccines to improve vaccine self-sufficiency in developing countries.

The GDI has received extensive support from the international community, prompting the world to refocus on development issues and recommit to the 2030 Agenda, according to the Progress Report on the Global Development Initiative released by the Center for International Knowledge on Development on Tuesday. The two funds have become major financial platforms through which China can support cooperation under the framework of the GDI, the report said.

Half of the 32 deliverables have been completed or yielded early



A Chinese expert introduces desert plants to people from central Asian countries at a desert research station in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, June 13, 2023. Xinhua

harvests, it said.

It noted that while supporting food aid programs and post-pandemic recovery in developing countries, China has prioritized enhancing developing countries' capacity to cope with climate change. For example, the China-Pacific Island Countries Climate Action Cooperation Center was unveiled in April 2022. China is also cooperating with relevant international organizations and other developing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America to combat desertification.

"In these times of turbulence

and transformation, the GDI has emerged as a platform for countries to come together, refocus on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and strive for a better future," said Awale Ali Kullane, Somali ambassador to China.

The ambassador said that Somalia firmly believes in the importance of international cooperation in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals and creating a more equitable and just world. He said the GDI aligns perfectly with Somalia's own national development agenda, and the country is eager to actively contribute to its

implementation.

Addressing poverty and food insecurity, mitigating the effects of climate change, and reducing technology and digital gaps require urgent attention, Zimbabwean Ambassador to China Martin Chedondo said. These problems can never be solved by individual countries, thus the proposal for a global partnership under the GDI will surely accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, he added.

Chedondo said that predictable and sustainable financing for development remains a challenge, and it is assuring to note that the GDI offers concrete steps to mobilize multiple stakeholders and pool resources through innovative mechanisms.

With the goal of building a global development community and accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, the GDI calls for international commitment to adhere to development-first, innovation-driven and people-centered approaches and result-oriented actions, said Stephen Bainous Kargbo, the United Nations Industrial Development Organization representative to China.

The GDI holds great promise to address global challenges and the development needs of developing countries, he said. Xinhua

Modi chairs key meeting with Cabinet ministers after his State visits to US, Egypt

NEW DELHI

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi who arrived in Delhi last night after concluding his US and Egypt state visits chaired a cabinet meeting in the national capital yesterday.

Union Ministers Amit Shah, Nirmala Sitharaman, Hardeep Singh Puri along with senior officials attended the meeting.

Earlier today Shah had met with PM Modi and briefed him on the developments in Manipur. On Sunday Manipur Chief Minister Biren Singh briefed Shah about the "evolving situation" in the State and said

the State and central governments have been able to control the violence to "a great extent."

An all-party meeting was held on Saturday by Amit Shah to discuss the prevailing situation in Manipur.

The meeting, chaired by the Union Home Minister, was called to take stock of the situation in the violence-racked state. BJP national president JP Nadda, Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K Sangma and CPI(M) MP John Brittas among other leaders were present in the meeting.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived in Delhi early Monday after



Prime Minister Narendra Modi being welcomed by BJP National President JP Nadda as he returns to Delhi after concluding his visit to the US and Egypt yesterday. ANI

completing his maiden state visits to the United States and Egypt spanning six days.

PM Modi was received at the Palam airport by BJP national President JP Nadda, Union Minister of State Meenakshi Lekhi and various party MPs including Hans Raj Hans and Gautam Gambhir among others.

Earlier in the day, PM Modi took to his Twitter handle to share glimpses of his first visit to Egypt. The video shows his arrival in the African country, meeting his Egyptian counterpart Mostafa Madbouly, Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi and interacting with members of the Indian diaspora.

Sharing the video on Twitter, PM Modi tagged the clip with a message stating, "My visit to Egypt was a historic one.

It will add renewed vigour to India-Egypt relations and will benefit the people of our nations. I thank President @AlsisiOfficial, the Government and the people of Egypt for their affection."

PM Modi was on a state visit to the US from June 21-24 and on a state visit to Egypt from June 24-25.

ANI

Want good political, economic relations with world - Taliban

KABUL

TALIBAN leader Mawlawi Hibatullah Akhundzada in a message on the arrival of Eid-al Adha, said the Taliban wants good political and economic relations with the world, "especially with Islamic countries, and has fulfilled its responsibility in this regard", TOLO News reported.

TOLO News is an Afghan news channel broadcasting from Kabul. The message was released by Taliban spokesman Zabihullah Mujahid.

Mawlawi Hibatullah Akhundzada in a letter published on Mujahid's Twitter, said: "Just as we do not interfere in the internal affairs of other countries, in the same way, we do not allow others to interfere in our internal affairs."

In the economic sector, he said, the "prediction of the country's economic collapse and crisis has been proven wrong."

According to Akhundzada, the economic collapse was prevented as a result of the Taliban's "wise measures, sincerity and transparency."

He also referred to the drugs issue, saying that the cultivation of poppy has been eradicated in the country and that "farmers are looking for alternatives, and legal cultivation is expanding."

"Meanwhile, a ban has been imposed on the production, trafficking and use of all kinds of drugs and now, many citizens, especially the youth, are saved from this harm," Mawlawi Akhundzada said, as per TOLO News.

Regarding the rights of women, he claimed that concrete measures have been taken to save women from many traditional oppressions, including forced marriages and their Sharia rights have been protected.

He said: "Moreover, necessary steps have been taken for the betterment of women as half of the society in order to provide them with a comfortable and prosperous life according to the Islamic Sharia."

"The negative aspects of the past 20-year occupation related to women's Hijab and misguidance will end soon."

There was no mention of the education of Afghan girls and women in the message.

Mawlawi Akhundzada also said he strongly condemns "Israel's brutal act on Palestinian women, children and defenceless Muslims" and asked other countries to "do their duty in order to prevent this great human crime and cruel atrocities."

ANI

Regarding the rights of women, he claimed that concrete measures have been taken to save women from many traditional oppressions, including forced marriages and their Sharia rights have been protected



Summer Davos Forum in China to boost multilateralism, collaboration -- forum chief

GENEVA, June 26 (Xinhua) - The upcoming 14th Annual Meeting of the New Champions, also known as the Summer Davos Forum, is expected to boost multilateralism and collaboration in a fragmented world, World Economic Forum (WEF) President Borge Brende has said.

The forum is set to return to the tradition of its "Summer Davos" and will convene the 14th annual meeting in the major port city of Tianjin in northern China on June 27-29, on the theme of "Entrepreneurship: The Driving Force of the Global Economy."

"I'm very excited to be back in China

and Tianjin with our 'Summer Davos.' It has been well received among our partners and governments," Brende said in a recent interview via video link.

"It will be very interesting to see how we can revive growth and build trust in a fragmented world. The business interest we have received for the summit shows that there is a lot of keenness for opportunities in China in a post-COVID context," he said.

The global economy is at a pivotal moment of transformation, the WEF wrote on its website.

"Since we are living in a fractured, frag-

mented world, World Economic Forum believes that the most pressing global issues can only be solved by collaborating," Brende said.

"We will try to build our meeting in the spirit of President Xi's speech in Davos in 2017 where he so strongly underlined the importance of multilateralism and working together," he added.

The WEF, based in Geneva, Switzerland, is expected to welcome over 1,500 participants from the business community, governments, civil society, international organizations and academia. According to the WEF, nearly 90 countries

will be represented at the annual meeting.

"The Chinese economy is of course extremely important for China, but also for the world," Brende stressed. "China is the second largest economy in the world and almost 30 percent of global growth depends on the success of the Chinese economy."

"China is taking many right steps to support growth. In the medium term, I'm optimistic on Chinese growth. Long-term, I'm very optimistic on China's growth," Brende noted.

"Over the last decade, China has

emerged as a leader in many technology fields, such as high-speed trains, and renewables like wind and solar. China is such a leader. We also have seen a lot of start-ups, a lot of unicorns in China," Brende continued.

He pointed out that it will be fascinating to hear from these start-up communities and unicorns on how they will form partnerships between Chinese and global companies.

The annual meeting's program will include dozens of public and private sessions covering six key topics: rewiring growth, China in the global context, en-

ergy transition and materials, post-pandemic consumers, safeguarding nature and climate, and deploying innovation.

Furthermore, more than 25 initiatives and coalitions will be launched or advanced at the meeting, the WEF announced.

"We are focusing a lot on climate change and climate mitigation and the new technologies," Brende said. "The WEF also formed an alliance of companies and governments looking at how we can make sure that these new technologies including AI work in the interest of humankind." Xinhua

Lavrov slams Biden's, Zelensky's nuclear remarks 'turbulent stream of consciousness'

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov has called statements by US President Joe Biden and his Ukrainian counterpart Vladimir Zelensky on the nuclear threat allegedly emanating from Russia a "turbulent stream of consciousness" not worth commenting on.

"It's hard for me to comment on what the US president has been saying lately, as it is for other observers in general who are wondering how to interpret it all.

I wouldn't put too much weight on verbal escapades that have no basis in fact right now," the top Russian diplomat said in an interview with the "Moscow.Kremlin.Putin" TV program, according to an excerpt posted on Sunday on journalist Pavel Zarubin's Telegram channel.

Lavrov called Zelensky's statements "even more turbulent stream of consciousness." "I have no medical background. [Head of the European Commission] Ursula von der Leyen has a medical degree. I cannot be responsible for the psychological state of people who repeatedly, daily prove their inadequacy," Lavrov added.

Earlier, Biden said during a speech in California that he believed the threat of Russian leader Vladimir Putin using tactical nuclear weapons was real.



Russia endeavors to defuse Wagner rebellion

MOSCOW

RUSSIA appears to have stabilized the situation after the country's Wagner private military group was accused of attempting to launch an armed rebellion.

A compromise was reached between Moscow and Yevgeny Prigozhin, head of the Wagner group, through the mediation of Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko on late Saturday.

Xinhua reporters found that the incident did not cause a major disorder in Russian society and people's life in Moscow and beyond was barely affected.

Charge of armed mutiny

In a surprise move on early Saturday, the Russian Federal Security Service announced that a criminal case was initiated against Prigozhin for incitement to armed insurrection.

This came after several audio recordings were posted on Prigozhin's Telegram channel where he claimed that his units had allegedly come under attack, accusing Russia's military leadership of orchestrating the strikes.

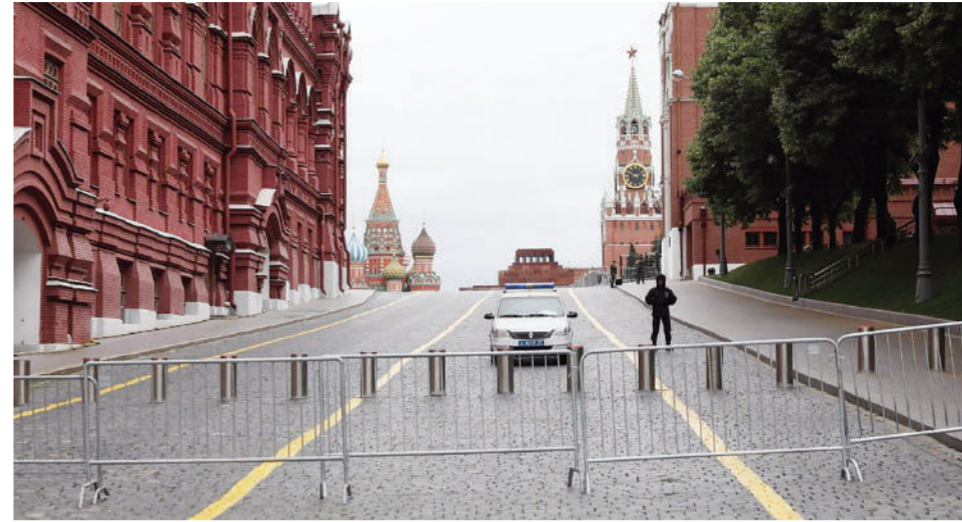
Later, Russia's National Anti-terrorism Committee said that a counter-terrorist operation regime was introduced in Moscow city, the Moscow region and the Voronezh region to prevent possible terrorist acts.

In a statement to Wagner troops, the Russian Defense Ministry said: "You were tricked into Prigozhin's criminal adventure and participation in an armed rebellion."

"We ask you to be prudent and get in touch with representatives of the Russian Defense Ministry or law enforcement agencies as soon as possible. We guarantee everyone's safety," the ministry stressed.

The headquarters of the Wagner group located in Russia's second-largest city of St Petersburg was cordoned off by security forces. A Xinhua correspondent witnessed several police cars parked in or around the compound, with law enforcers on duty.

The Wagner group made its name known to the world by fighting Ukraine on the battleground. It pioneered a prolonged Russian campaign to seize the city of Bakhmut that was hotly



Law enforcers are seen on duty on the Red Square in Moscow, Russia, on Saturday. XINHUA

contested with Ukrainian forces.

Last month, Russian President Vladimir Putin openly congratulated the Wagner assault detachments on the triumph in Artyomovsk, the Russian name of Bakhmut.

'Tough' response

In a televised address to the nation on Saturday, Putin ordered the Russian Armed Forces to neutralize those who organized the armed mutiny.

"Any actions that split our nation are essentially a betrayal of our people, of our comrades-in-arms who are now fighting at the front line. This is a stab in the back of our country and our people," Putin said.

"Any internal turmoil is a deadly threat to our statehood, to us as a nation. This is a blow to Russia, to our people. And our actions to protect the motherland from such

a threat will be tough," he added.

"All those who deliberately embarked on the path of betrayal, who prepared an armed rebellion, who embarked on the path of blackmail and terrorist methods, will suffer inevitable punishment and answer both before the law and before our people," he noted.

"I urge those who are being dragged into this crime not to make a fatal and tragic mistake, but to make the only right choice -- to stop participating in criminal acts," Putin stressed.

The Russian leader had phone conversations with Lukashenko, Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan on the incident. According to the Kremlin, Erdogan expressed full support for the steps taken by the Rus-

sian leadership.

In response to the rebellion charge, Prigozhin said on Telegram: "We are patriots of our motherland."

Successful negotiation

Prigozhin has accepted Lukashenko's proposal to stop the advance of the Wagner troops and de-escalate the situation, according to RIA Novosti news agency reports.

On Saturday morning, Putin informed his Belarusian counterpart of the situation in southern Russia regarding the Wagner group, and the heads of state agreed on joint actions.

"The President of Belarus held talks with Yevgeny Prigozhin. Negotiations lasted throughout the day. As a result, they came to an agreement on the inadmissibility of unleashing a bloody massacre on the Russian territory. Prigozhin accepted Lukashenko's proposal to stop the movement of the Wagner armed persons and take further steps to de-escalate tensions," the press service of the Belarusian president was quoted as saying.

Agencies

'Obama should spend his energy complimenting than criticising'

WASHINGTON

FORMER president Barack Obama should spend his energy complimenting India more than criticizing it, according to a former commissioner of the US Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF) Johnnie Moore.



"I think the former president (Obama) should spend his energy complimenting India, more than criticizing India. India is the most diverse country in human history.

It's not a perfect country, just like the United States, it's not a perfect country, but its diversity is its strength, and we should be complimenting the largest democracy in the world every chance that we can, that we have," Moore, an evangelical leader, in an interview with ANI said.

Moore's remarks come in the wake of an interview by Obama to CNN recently in which the former US President was cited as saying that Biden should raise the religious freedom issue with India, as he would have done had he still been the US president.

In an interview with CNN on Thursday, Obama said if India does not protect the rights of ethnic minorities, there is a strong possibility at some point that the country starts pulling apart. Obama also told CNN interviewer Christiane Amanpour that if President Joe Biden meets with PM Modi, "the protection of the Muslim minority in a majority Hindu India is something worth mentioning".

Asked a question relating to India and China, Obama said he has worked with Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the Paris Accords to deal with climate change.

"By the way, if I had a conversation with Prime Minister Modi, who I know well, part of my argument would be that if you do not protect the rights of ethnic minorities in India, then there is a strong possibility that India, at some point, starts pulling apart.

And we have seen what happens when you start getting those kinds of large internal conflicts. So that would be contrary to the interests not just of Muslim Indians but also Hindu Indians. I think it is important to be able to talk about these things honestly. Things are not going to be as clean as you like, because the world is complicated," Obama told CNN.

USCIRF is a US federal government commission which makes policy recommendations to the US government and was created by the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998. USCIRF Commissioners are appointed by the President and the leadership of both political parties in the Senate and the House of Representatives

The former USCIRF commissioner told ANI that PM Modi's historic visit to the US was an occasion to be celebrated.

"And so I think, you know, it was the time to celebrate a historic visit, you know, rather than leveling some criticism on it, you know, with your friends, particularly when it comes to democracy. With your friends, it's sometimes better to privately criticize and to publicly, publicly praised. That's good geopolitics," Moore said.

"I disagree with the sentiment of the former president (Barack Obama)," he said, adding, "Even in that critique of the former president Obama couldn't help but also complement Prime Minister Modi, and I certainly understand why having spent some time with him," Moore added.

Moore, who served as a spiritual advisor to former President Donald Trump, praised India's "diverse democracy" and said that the country should be complemented every chance the world gets.

Notably, Moore who has served on the US Commission on International Religious Freedom for several years was sanctioned by China for his work in 2021.

Bharatiya Janata Party Vice President Bajjayant Jay Panda slammed Obama for his remarks and said it is preposterous to see the former US President "pander to the anti-India crowd, lecturing India in the same breath as China for its atrocities in Xinjiang".

Obama in his interview to CNN had also said it is important for the US president to say that if China is sending Ughurs to mass camps and they are being "re-educated, that's a problem and a challenge to all of us" and there is a need to pay attention to it.

ANI

Prince William risks row to tackle homelessness

PARIS

Prince William is launching a major five-year campaign to end homelessness, which he says should not exist in a "modern and progressive society".

The Prince of Wales's charitable foundation is putting in £3m of start-up funding to help make homelessness "rare, brief and unrepeatable".

Six locations across the UK will be used to test ideas to cut homelessness.

"Everyone should have a safe and secure home and be treated with dignity," says Prince William.

This "Homewards" initiative is likely to be one of the defining projects for the Prince of Wales - a commitment which he will be aware comes with the risk of being accused of straying into politics.

Ahead of the launch, Prince William has spoken to Labour leader Sir Keir Starmer, Levelling Up Secretary Michael Gove and the first ministers of Scotland and Wales.

It is a cause that is deeply personal to the prince, which he has linked to

the influence of his mother, Princess Diana, who brought him to homelessness charities as a child.

There are more than 300,000 people currently homeless across the UK, which includes those who are stuck in hostels and temporary accommodation, living in cars and sofa-surfing, as well as people who are rough sleeping.

As well as preventing homelessness, there is an aim to change attitudes and show how many people can be affected. Recently the prince opened an affordable housing project for young people with jobs, but who still needed help with accommodation.

Prince William's plan is to bring together local coalitions of housing experts, charities and private industry to develop housing projects and support services, addressing different ways that homelessness occurs, whether in big cities or coastal towns. He will be holding a two-day whistle-stop tour of the UK revealing the locations for the initiative, which is backed by charities such as Shelter, Centrepoint, Crisis and The Passage.



A media briefing was told that success would be measured in terms of lowering homelessness in those places - and finding approaches that could be replicated elsewhere.

He has also drawn international inspiration from Finland, seen as a model for reducing homelessness to very low levels.

The campaign has published opinion polling from Ipsos of more than 3,000 adults in the UK, which suggests the level of public concern and support for an intervention.

But Prince William will also face challenges about how someone with

such wealth and extensive property holdings can make such calls over homelessness.

"The last thing we need is for William to get involved in this issue, a man who has three huge homes and a vast estate gifted to him by the state," says Graham Smith, of the anti-monarchy group, Republic.

He says homelessness is about government policy and investment and will not be "resolved by charity or royal patronage", accusing Prince William of being "hypocritical".

But a Kensington Palace spokesman said it was about the prince using his public platform to make a positive difference.

"This isn't about a PR stunt. This is about trying to change the way that we as a society think about homelessness," said the spokesman.

Matt Downie, chief executive of the charity Crisis, said he had personally spoken to the Prince of Wales about the project and endorsed the authenticity of his commitment.

"People who are experiencing homelessness can smell when someone's not authentic. I certainly can

see the difference between people who want to associate for PR purposes in this issue and people who are genuinely driven by righting one of society's wrongs, and I saw that deeply there," said Mr Downie.

Royal author and academic Prof Pauline Maclaran said such an activist approach was likely to go down well with a younger generation, who were more likely to question the value of the monarchy.

But she said it would need the prince to be seen to make a personal contribution. His Royal Foundation is providing £500,000 in seed funding at each of the six regional centres for the project, but so far there has been no confirmation of earlier reports of social housing plans for his Duchy of Cornwall estate.

Historian Sir Anthony Seldon said Prince William's initiative showed how royal interventions could look beyond short-term political cycles at wider issues such as "the mental health and welfare of the population, the physical and built environment, and the economic condition of the people". Agencies

China-Thailand railway under smooth construction

THE construction of the China-Thailand railway, a landmark project representing the high-quality construction of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), is currently under full swing.

Crossing the most densely populated areas in Thailand, the railway will inject new impetus into the development of the country's economy and transportation.

Upon completion, the railway is expected to boost economic development along its route. It will be connected to the China-Laos railway, forming a railroad artery that crosses the Indochina Peninsula and accelerating infrastructure connectivity in the region.

Pak Chong district in northeast Thailand's Nakhon Ratchasima province is an important gateway connecting central Thailand and the country's northeastern provinces. The Nakhon Ratchasima province is the terminal of the first phase project of the China-Thailand railway. Currently, the construction of the first phase project is in full swing.

At the construction site of the project, piers of viaducts are being erected along the direction of an existing track. To ensure the quality of the construction, Viloth, deputy head of a construction supervising team of the project, takes a boom lift every week to dozens of meters high to inspect the top of the piers.

"The Chinese teams have brought advanced philosophies, modern technologies and management experiences to Thailand's railway construction. The building of the railway not only better connects Thailand and China, but also brings the two peoples closer," said Viloth.

The China-Thailand railway promotes the idea of green transport and has applied green and low-carbon technologies during its construction. It will be built into a green railway that features technological innovation and ecology-friendly development.



Photo shows a construction site of the first phase project of the China-Thailand railway in Nakhon Ratchasima province, Thailand. File photo

Apart from Nakhon Ratchasima province, the construction of the China-Thailand railway has also commenced in Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya, Saraburi and other provinces along the route.

The section 4-3 in Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya province is the largest one of the project. So far, 1,912 foundation piles have been driven, 106 bearing platforms built and 17 piers erected. Prefabricated beams are neatly placed at the site and will be used for the viaduct construction.

"We completed a blueprint for the

civil works of the first phase project in June 2019. The civil works currently underway include bridges, roadbeds, tunnels, and station buildings," said Ma Shengshuang, head of the Thai branch of China Railway Design Corporation.

The first phase project connects Bangkok and Nakhon Ratchasima province, and the second phase will extend the track to Nong Khai province, an important town for border trade in northeast Thailand that faces Lao capital Vientiane just across a river. The second phase is expected

to connect the railway with the China-Laos railway.

The Krung Thep Aphiwat Central Terminal in Bangkok will be made into a transfer station for the China-Laos-Thailand high-speed railway and the Thailand-Malaysia-Singapore high-speed railway.

According to Nirut Maneephan, governor of the State Railway of Thailand, 16.72 percent of the China-Thailand railway's first phase project construction had been completed as of mid-January this year, and the railway is expected to be put into operation in 2027.

The second phase of the project is expected to start in 2024, and aims to open in 2028, he said.

Recently, a delegation of Thai railway and customs officials visited Laos to discuss cooperation. The China-Laos-Thailand railway is likely to cut the cost of cargo transport by 30 to 50 percent in the next three to five years.

Thailand has stepped up its efforts in the past year to integrate itself into the China-Laos-Thailand railway, including upgrading its domestic transport network and railway facilities, and improving the capacity of cargo warehousing, distribution and inspection in its northeast region.

It is believed that the China-Laos-Thailand railway will significantly promote sub-regional development and bring the Indochina Peninsula into an era of high-speed railways.

Nirut noted that the high-speed railway network will not only connect regions in Thailand, but also form a railway system of the ASEAN. When all high-speed railway projects are connected as a whole, they will become a gigantic railway network for passengers and cargo that links China, Malaysia, Singapore, Laos and Thailand.

Surasit Thanadtang, director of the Thai-Chinese Strategic Research Center under the National Research Council of Thailand, said the railway network is expected to strengthen connectivity among Southeast Asian countries and help them gain more market opportunities.

The alignment between the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity 2025 and the BRI will further strengthen connectivity, lower logistics costs, and promote personnel exchanges, thus creating more opportunities for countries along the Belt and Road and promoting regional integration.

People's Daily

SPORT



Dar es Salaam Maritime Institute (DMI) soccer squad's players, Mbaraka Uzia (C) and Shadrak Kapau, participate in training at Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete Youth Park's venue in the city on Monday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Midfielder signs contract extension with Singida Fountain Gate FC

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SINGIDA Fountain Gate FC has successfully extended its contract with Brazilian midfielder Bruno Gomes for two seasons, with the contract set to expire in the 2024/2025 season.

Bruno was pursued by Simba SC, with the Msimbazi Street club having expressed the desire to sign him because he is a footballer the club's head coach Roberto Oliveira admires.

Gomes, Oliveira's compatriot, was also widely mentioned to be closing in on moving to move to Yanga during last season's closing stages based on the stellar showing he displayed while playing for the then Singida Big Stars FC.

Speaking to The Guardian, the midfielder said he does not know anything about joining either Simba SC or Yanga but he has numerous reports linking him with a move to either of the two teams.

Gomes pointed out: "I have signed two more years to turn out for Singida Fountain Gate FC. I am happy to continue with the club with the new hierarchy on board... we expect to achieve a lot."

Bruno scored nine goals in the 2022/23 NBC Premier League and was the top goal scorer for the side, which was recently bought by Dodoma-based Fountain Gate FC.

The player noted: "I ignored every piece of information about being linked with other teams, my focus is ensuring we play in the CAF Confederation Cup competition's Group Stage next season. We have come this far which means we have unfinished business domestically and internationally."

"The club aims to



Bruno Gomes

retain key players and bring in new ones that will make it compete with high ambitions, I feel I can still thrive and reach my ambitions of playing internationally," the performer noted.

Gomes prominently featured for the then Singida Big Stars as it finished fourth in the just-ended Premier League, as well as qualified for Azam Sports Federation Cup last four and Mapinduzi Cup showdown final.

Singida Fountain Gate FC will be making its maiden appearance in the second tier of African inter-club competitions next season, starting on the preliminary stage of the showpiece.

The side moreover will honour next season's Community Shield tournament, set to take place before the Premier League's start, and Azam Sports Federation Cup.

Singida Big Stars finished fourth in the NBC Premier League with 55 points from 30 games, notching 16 wins, seven draws, and seven losses whilst scoring 35 goals and leaking 26 goals to settle for a goal difference of nine.

Dar junior soccer players to benefit from Danish, American scouts

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA'S young soccer talents are set to benefit from scouts from Denmark and the United States of America set to arrive in July this year.

The scouting mission will seek to recruit fresh talents for full-sponsored scholarships abroad that include the Young Boys Academy of Denmark.

The mission is set to jet in early July and engage in a talent showcase event scheduled to take place in Arusha from July 8-9.

The event will mark the first phase of the exercise, which will witness the scouts working with the Future Stars Academy of Arusha to identify talented Tanzanian youths vying to be future football stars.

"The Young Boys Academy of Denmark targets to recruit young Tanzanian footballers between 11 and 12 years old," the Director of Future Stars, Alfred Itaeli, clarified.

According to Itaeli, the training will be staged at the Arusha Campus of the United World College (UWC) East Africa in the first week of July.

The recruitment theme of the exercise, according to the

Future Stars Academy Director, is 'Incorporating Sports and Education'.

He said more than 100 young footballers in Arusha will attend the talent showcase in the city on the mentioned dates.

Those who will excel in the exercise, Itaeli revealed, will be enrolled for studies overseas (Denmark and the United States) with a full scholarship.

The official pointed out that such a scholarship will cover education, school fees, boarding and hostel, and sports training sessions.

The USA scholarships, Itaeli noted, are for older boys, aged between 17 and 19, and include those who have completed secondary school and are ready to join either colleges or universities.

"Recruitment will depend on the individual talents and competence in this category," Itaeli briefed.

After the Arusha sessions, the talent scouts from USA and Denmark will travel to other regions, beginning with Dar es Salaam and later moving elsewhere.

The successful teams' final selection, Itaeli disclosed, will be revealed in Arusha in September 2023.

SPORTS

Kikwete urges former athletes to back athletics revival



Retired President, Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete (front row, middle), flanked by Speaker of the National Assembly Tulia Ackson (L), and Minister of Defense and National Service Innocent Bashungwa (R), are pictured taking part in a 5km event of this year's JKT Marathon held at Jamhuri Stadium in Dodoma last weekend. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT RENATHA MSUNGU

By Correspondent Renatha Msungu, Dodoma

RETIRED President Jakaya Kikwete has instructed former Tanzanian athletes to cooperate with Athletics Tanzania (AT) to ensure that the body successfully revives the sport.

He noted athletics seems to be declining, insisting the former athletes' cooperation with AT will help athletics bring fame to the country.

Kikwete appealed to the former athletes when he graced the 2023 JKT Marathon held at the Jamhuri Stadium in Dodoma last weekend.

It involved three races, 21.2km, 10km, and 5km aiming to celebrate the 60th anniversary of National Service, also known as JKT.

The former President pointed out that athletics is the first sport to have won Tanzania medals and brought forth competent athletes that held sway in various international races, going as far as breaking records that are still remembered today.

He cited an example of former popular athletes including Filbert Bayi, Juma Ikangaa, and Suleiman Nyambui, saying the former athletes are until today well-known internationally.

He appealed to athletics legends to equip the current runners with tactics so the latter hold sway in high-profile showdowns.

According to Kikwete, athletics has surprisingly declined lately and athletes look like orphans.

He noted athletics state is quite the opposite of football which has been making progress, adding the former athletes to come out with strategies that will develop the game. "Former athletes should regularly meet AT to see to it athletics improves internationally instead of declining, given the sport has already brought many medals," Kikwete pointed out.

He said the former athletes and AT should look for sponsors who will help them financially to train youthful athletes that will in the future scale great heights the same way Bayi did.

Chief of Defense Forces (CDF), Jacob John Mkunda, said that the army has been nurturing talents that various sportsmen and women in the institution are endowed with, helping the latter battle it out in various competitions domestically and internationally.

Mkunda noted: "The army will continue to appreciate, groom talents, and develop sports for the benefit of the institution and the country."

"I thank the participants of the JKT Marathon, you have been the catalyst for the success of the race, I and the official guest have participated in the 5km race," Mkunda disclosed.

Minister of Defense and National Service, Innocent Bashungwa, expressed gratitude to the government for its commitment to developing sports in the country, adding the approach has paid off via the success achieved by the institution's sports teams.

Nathalie Elisante was the women's category winner of the 10km race of this year's JKT Marathon after clocking 34:59.5 and was presented with a cash prize of 1m/- and a medal.

Transford Mussa ended second in the showdown and raked in 500,000/- and a medal, whereas Anastazia Delimungo took the third spot to receive 300,000/- and a medal. In the men's 10 km race, Josephat Gisemo was the champion after recording 29:34:47, the athlete received

1m/- and a medal.

Deuta Tesfoly came second having recorded 29:36:50 and walked away with 500,000/- and a medal, while John Nahai ended third and got 300,000/- and a medal.

The women's 21km race was won by Magdalena Shauri having clocked 1:11:22 and received 1.5m/- and a medal, followed by second-placed Failuna Abdi that posted 1:14:04 and got 1m/- and a medal.

Marcelina Issa took the third spot in the race after recording 1:16:41 and was awarded 600,000/- and a medal.

Faraja Lazaro triumphed in men's 21km race after posting 1:34:43 and walked away with 1.5m/-, second-placed Paulo Makiya posted 1:35:50 and received 1m/- and medal.

Joshua Sule settled for third place in the men's 21km event after posting 1:16:41 and walked away with 600,000/- and a medal. Participating athletes in the 5km race were all handed medals.

Nabi reveals heartfelt discussions with Yanga's investor after exit

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

FORMER Yanga head coach Nasreddine Nabi has revealed the details of his conversation with the Jangwani Street side's main financier, Ghalib Said Mohamed that owns GSM Group.

The Tunisian gaffer's departure from the club came a few days ago following a successful season that witnessed Yanga scaling great heights under his tutelage.

Although Yanga made efforts to convince Nabi to extend his contract with the club, the coach decided to part ways with the club once his deal expired.

Reflecting on his departure, Nabi (pictured) shared insights into his emotional conversation with Ghalib, expressing mutual feelings of hurt and respect. The coach revealed: "When I went to say goodbye to Ghalib, he was hurt, and I was very hurt."

"You know, Ghalib gave me great respect and support when I was here... I was part of his family, akin to the way he lives with his brothers."

Nabi went on to acknowledge Ghalib as the key figure behind Yanga's achievements, attributing the club's success to the support and opportunities provided by the main financier.

The 58-year-old coach recounted an invitation from Ghalib to attend the summit of the coming 'Wiki ya Mwanachi', a prestigious event held by

the outfit, expressing his desire to join the Yanga family again if his schedule permits.

During Nabi's tenure, Yanga celebrated multiple victories, securing two Mainland Tanzania Premier League titles, two Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) titles, and as many Community Shields.

The club further reached the final of this season's CAF Confederation Cup, narrowly missing out on clinching the

trophy in a close encounter against USM Alger of Algeria.

The Tunisian gaffer's ability to lead the team to numerous accolades and the notable progress in continental competitions has left a lasting impact on Yanga's footballing journey.

The outfit's fans' wait for a new head coach is finally over, as the club last weekend announced the appointment of Argentine Miguel Angel Gamondi as a new head coach.



Messi recalls 'massive disappointment' of PSG Champions League woes

MADRID

LIONEL Messi has called his start at former club Paris Saint-Germain "very tough", dubbing two successive failed Champions League bids a "massive disappointment".

"I came to Paris because I liked the club, because I had friends in the dressing room... it seemed easier for me to adapt rather than another destination I could have gone to," Messi told beIN Sports in an interview broadcast Sunday.

"In reality, it was a very tough adaptation, much harder than I expected... with a new gameplan, new teammates, a new city.

"I arrived late, I didn't have a pre-season. The start was difficult for me, my family."

Messi, 36, signed for PSG in the summer of 2021 after 17 seasons at Barcelona, but will now head Stateside to Inter Miami in the MLS after quitting the French capital.

Messi's first season, during which he scored 11 goals in 34 games for PSG, was made harder after he contracted Covid during the winter

break back in Argentina, meaning he was sidelined for a month.

"It took me time to refine my physical form," he admitted, adding that the 2022 World Cup in Qatar – which Messi won with Argentina – also took its toll.

"It's not an excuse but the World Cup played a big role. Some came back later than others, some were injured, like Neymar.

"I think, generally, the level of Ligue 1 and the Champions League was affected by the World Cup."

Messi admitted that Champions League losses to Real Madrid in 2022 and Bayern Munich this season were a "massive disappointment".

There were even sections of PSG fans who turned on Messi, whistling at him from the stands.

"In the beginning, it was great, I received a lot of encouragement... but later on a part of the Parisian fanbase treated me differently. The majority treated me well, but there was a rupture with a part of the public," he acknowledged.



Kalidou Koulibaly exits Chelsea to become latest star name joining Saudi Pro League

By Karl Matchett

CHELSEA have announced the sale of Kalidou Koulibaly to Saudi Arabian side Al-Hilal, having spent just one year at the club.

The Senegalese centre-back was much sought-after during his time at Napoli in Serie A but it was the Stamford Bridge club who eventually landed him last summer for an estimated £34 million.

However, a chaotic campaign saw the 32-year-old play under four different managers as the Todd Boehly and Clearlake era got off to a tumultuous start and, ultimately, a desperately poor 2022/23 season.

A large turnover of transfers was expected this summer at Chelsea after well over half a billion pounds was spent across the course of the past year, and Koulibaly thus becomes the latest exit – and the latest star playing in Europe who has decided to join the Saudi Pro League and the vast sums suddenly on offer there.

Following Cristiano Ronaldo's move to Al-Nassr midway through last term, Karim Benzema followed his former teammate with a switch from Real Madrid to Al-Ittihad earlier this month.

And Koulibaly isn't even the first Chelsea player to tread this path either, with N'Golo Kante moving from west London to the same team as Benzema last week.

Meanwhile, Mateo Kovacic is soon to complete a move to Manchester City as the overhaul continues under new head coach Mauricio Pochettino.

Even so, the departure of Koulibaly is a notable one.

Koulibaly was initially a starter under Thomas Tuchel last autumn and was seen as a big coup for the club, but he fell out of favour under Graham Potter.

The one match under Bruno Sartor saw Koulibaly play in the middle of a three-man defence, before Frank Lampard's terrible run as interim boss saw a return to a four-man system, with Koulibaly in and out during that period.

In total he played 23 times in the Premier League and made 32 appearances in all competitions, scoring twice.

During the middle of his sole season with the Blues he also captained Senegal at the World Cup, scoring once before defeat to England in the knockouts.

A short statement on the Chelsea website read: "We would like to thank Kalidou for his contributions on and off the pitch during his time at Stamford Bridge and wish him well for the next stage of his career."

As for Koulibaly's new team, Al-Hilal finished third in the table this past season and their key players for the campaign included former Porto forward Moussa Marega and Saudi national team skipper Salem Al-Dawsari, who scored twice at the Qatar World Cup including the winner against Argentina.

Former Manchester United striker Odion Ighalo was also at the club last season but has now departed.

THE INDEPENDENT

African Super League delayed, fewer clubs, name change mooted

JOHANNESBURG

THE CAF Africa Super League will kick off two months late in October and have only eight clubs instead of the planned 24, CAF president Patrice Motsepe said on Sunday.

South African billionaire Motsepe told public broadcaster SABC in Johannesburg that the competition name may be changed as some sponsors are unhappy with the word 'Super'.

He did not give details about prize money, the format, or the names of the qualifiers for the first edition, which it is believed will be staged in October and November.

AFP understands the line-up will include 2023 CAF Champions League semi-finalists Al Ahly of Egypt, Wydad Casablanca of Morocco, Esperance of Tunisia and Mamelodi Sundowns of South Africa.

TP Mazembe of the Democratic Republic of Congo, Enyimba of Nigeria, Simba of Tanzania and Petro Atletico of Angola may also take part.

This list is sure to anger some countries, especially Algeria, whose clubs have been excluded despite good performances in recent seasons.

Chabab Belouizdad have reached the quarter-finals of the last three Champions Leagues and USM Alger won the second-tier CAF Confederation Cup this season.

Enyimba have not reached the Champions League knockout stage since 2011, but it would be unthinkable to have an Africa Super League without the most populous country in the continent.

Mazembe are the equal second most successful club in CAF com-



Of the 11 players who won the World Cup for England in 1966, six have died of dementia – Getty

petitions with 11 titles, but have fared poorly in recent seasons, losing five of six 2023 Confederation Cup group matches.

Motsepe said CAF "know the dates" but did not reveal them, then explained why some major sponsors have a problem with the title.

- 'Negative connotations' -

"Some sponsors say the history of the Super League in Europe was not good and if you associate the name 'super' with a football competition, it has negative connotations.

"A name change is, therefore, on the agenda," conceded Motsepe, who succeeded Malagasy Ahmad Ahmad as the boss of African football by acclamation in Morocco

two years ago.

A planned European Super League collapsed within 48 hours in 2021 after a backlash from fans, governments and players, which forced nine of the 12 teams who signed up to pull out.

The founding members were Arsenal, Chelsea, Liverpool, Manchester City, Manchester United, Tottenham, AC Milan, Inter Milan, Juventus, Atletico Madrid, Barcelona and Real Madrid.

Motsepe and FIFA president Gianni Infantino launched the Super League last August in the Tanzanian town of Arusha amid much fanfare.

"The Super League is one of the most exciting developments in the history of African football... our objective is to see our clubs compete

with the best in the world," Motsepe said.

"The intention is to use \$100 million as prize money and to do that every year so that the club which wins gets \$11.5 million."

CAF club competition entrants have constantly complained about prize money, saying it does not even cover expenses like travel and accommodation.

The Cairo based confederation did increase prize money last season with the Champions League winners receiving four million dollars – up from \$2.5 million.

There was also a boost to the top prize in the Confederation Cup – the African equivalent of the Europa League – with the winners pocketing two million dollars.

AFP

Mikel Arteta: In many moments I saw Arsenal winning the Premier League – it still hurts

By Sam Dean

MIKEL Arteta has said there were "many moments" last season when he believed his Arsenal team would go all the way and win the Premier League only for a lack of depth to ultimately cost his side, leaving him with the agony of their near-miss.

Arsenal appeared to be streaking towards the league title before injuries, especially the back problem suffered by key centre-back William Saliba, proved fatal to their hopes of holding off Manchester City.

In an interview with Spanish publication Marca, Arteta has now said that he feels those injuries were the reason for the team's loss of consistency. The Arsenal manager also pointed towards his side's run of draws against Liverpool, West Ham United and Southampton as a pivotal moment in the title race, and opened up on the "hurt" that he felt and losing out to his former mentor Pep Guardiola.

"To this day, it still hurts me deeply, not having won the Premier (League) after spending 10 months fighting with City," Arteta said. "But that's the sport. That said, what has been achieved with such a young team is worthwhile. That is clear to me too."

He added: "Those three draws in a row that we had [against Liverpool, West Ham and Southampton] penalised us, and all the misfortunes that happened. There were three or four injuries to important players and from there, everything got complicated.

"When we had the full team, we were consistent. As soon as problems came, it didn't reach us. And then our rival was the best team in the world, the best squad in the world, the best coach in the world. We had no choice but to accept it and shake hands with the champion."

Asked if he saw himself winning the Premier League title, Arteta said: "In many moments. The team gave me arguments and we had a connection with the people. It was believed in.

"But when we started to have injuries, I felt that it was going to cost us. The level of demand could not be maintained. If you want to win



Mikel Arteta believes injuries cost Arsenal dear in April and May. Agencies

the Premier League against City, you have to get to April-May with all the players available and at their best. And we, due to injuries, did not get to that."

Arteta left City for Arsenal in Dec 2019 after serving his apprenticeship under the tutelage of Guardiola, and has improved the team he spent five seasons playing for to the point where they led the defending champions for the majority of the campaign.

"This started [more than] three years ago. I was Pep's assistant at City, we played against Arsenal and I saw that the soul of the club had been lost," Arteta said.

"It was not enjoyed, it was not felt. I knew that there was the option,

shortly after, of being on the other bench and I knew that this club is so big that you had to connect the team with the fans. It has been hard to do, and now I feel happy.

"We have a clear identity, there is union and we are full of energy. That's the biggest thing. From top to bottom, they all push in the same direction."

Having identified a lack of depth as a reason they did not win the title last season, Arteta is hoping to address that weakness this summer. Arsenal are set to announce the signing of Kai Havertz from Chelsea in the coming days, after a £65 million fee was agreed.

They are still in talks with West Ham over Declan Rice and, despite

competition from City, remain confident that the England midfielder wants to make the move to north London.

After admitting he "can't talk about players who are not in the club" in regards to Rice, Arteta was more open to discussing Havertz, with the German international on the verge of completing his switch across London.

"Talent comes at a price, and at Arsenal we are always interested in youngsters with experience," Arteta said. "I repeat, I'm not talking about players from other clubs, but in the case of Kai he has already shown a lot, including a Champions League [win]. He is a talented player, versatile and only 24 years old."

Arsenal are also negotiating with Ajax over a move for Dutch international defender Jurrien Timber, who could join for a fee in the region of £35 million to £40 million.

Depending on the future of Thomas Partey, who will be allowed to leave the club for the right price, Arsenal are also considering moving for another central midfielder this summer.

Arteta also responded to a question about reports linking him with a move to Paris St Germain to replace recently sacked head coach Christophe Galtier, but he insisted he was "happy" and "grateful" to be with the north London club.

"I can only say that I am happy at Arsenal," he said. "I feel loved, valued by our owners, Stan and Josh (Kroenke), and I have a lot to do here at this club. I am happy and tremendously grateful to be at Arsenal."

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

**African Super League delayed,
fewer clubs, name change mooted**

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

Six East African soccer players to attend trials in Spain

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

TANZANIA is among three African countries that have produced qualified young footballers for soccer trials in Spain.

The six young footballers from Tanzania, Kenya, and Zimbabwe will be setting out to Spain for trial soccer matches in Madrid in September.

They happened to be part of the 28 young soccer players that displayed remarkable skills during the previously held East Africa Youth Soccer tournament, known as Chipkizi Cup 2022 held in Arusha.

During the annual competition, soccer agents from Spain, including the Spanish Premier League (La Liga) and Spanish Football Institute (FSI), attended the feat in Tanzania to scout for new talents from East Africa.

The Spanish scouts turning up in Arusha for the tournament included the FSI Director Pablo Verdejo who was attending Chipkizi Cup, to mainly recruit new players who will be taking on special sponsorship for the trials in Spain.

While the total of young soccer players recruited for the journey to Madrid was 25, only six will now fly to Spain.

The recruits constitute six players from Azam FC, five from Fountain Gate outfit of Dodoma, four players from Eclat FC from DR Congo, three players from the Future Stars Academy of Arusha, three players from Saint Soccer of Kenya, two players from Amarrigo of Uganda and two players from JKU of Zanzibar.

The junior players that have managed to complete the process for Spanish training, though, are six including the Tanzanian envoy, Razzack Bashiri from the Future Stars Academy of Arusha (FSA).

Others are Blessed Mafosa and Mafios Chihweta from the PE Academy of Zimbabwe.

Kenya is sending three young soccer players, namely Charles Junior, Adrian Orig, and Chori Choul from A3T Soccer Academy of Nairobi.

Director of Future Stars Academy (FSA) Alfred Itaeli is the official whose institution organizes the annual East African Youth soccer tournament.

The official admitted that many agents from various clubs including Spain came to identify potential young footballers.

He noted that however many of the chosen candidates failed to make it to the final leg of the journey due to among other aspects, financial constraints.

Spanish Football Institute (SFI)'s Daniel Hidalgo, one of the agents, admitted that they have had a good experience, adding the Chipkizi Cup was a proper platform for them to discover new talents.

EATV TUESDAY

TO NIGHT @ 9:00

MJADALA

11:00 DADAZ
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA
13:00 Mpera Mpera
13:30 Kali Za Wana
13:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
14:00 SSPORTS (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Mpera Mpera
15:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
16:00 Hot Spot
16:30 Zote Kuntu
17:00 SSELECT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 Kali Za Wana
18:30 #HASHTAG
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 MJADALA
21:30 Zote Kuntu
23:00 Kurasa
23:05 Club Bangers

MJADALA is a program that brings together stakeholders and the executive elite to discuss timely, national development issues.

The program targets an audience that is aware of current developmental challenges and opportunities and; is keen to share, engage and participate in the shopping process.

eastafrika RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM



All-rounder Salum Jumbe of e-Parking-backed Aces squad (R) receives the Colourflex Man of the Match award from Aravind Yaramati, Head of Sales at Tata Africa Holdings, once the player's squad confronted Flashnet Pak Stars in this season's Petrofuel Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Caravans T20 Cup tournament Super4s stage tie last weekend. PHOTO: COURTESY OF CARAVANS CRICKET CLUB

Mashujaa FC head coach hopes to retain his job after Premier League promotion

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

MASHUJAA FC head coach Abdul Mingange says he hopes to retain his job after helping the squad garner promotion to 2023/24 Premier League whilst insisting it is well-prepared for the top-flight intensity.

The Kigoma-based team earned promotion to the top tier of domestic football after commanding a 4-1 aggregate win over Mbeya City FC in this season's Premier League promotion/relegation playoffs.

Mashujaa FC's triumph has witnessed it wrapping up a 16-team log that will battle for the league's glory in the 2023/24 season.

In the first leg of the playoffs that took place at Lake Tanganyika Stadium in Kigoma early last week, Mashujaa FC secured a well-deserved 3-1 victory.

The playoffs' return leg that took place at Sokoine Stadium in Mbeya last weekend had the spirited Mashujaa FC cherishing a 1-0 victory.

The Mashujaa FC gaffer said: "We are pleased with ourselves after securing Premier League football and our next goal is to survive in the league next season."

"I will soon submit my report to our leadership after completing the task of taking the team to the top-flight league and we have achieved the goal. After submission of my report, the management will decide my future. I hope the club will retain me," he noted.

"I am sure I will meet the target, for I know where to begin, and based on my experience in the Premier League, we will remain in the top flight," Mingange said.

He further said he firmly believes Mashujaa FC will shine in the league next season as the outfit boasts a squad with competitive players.

Mingange moreover condemned the unprofessional behaviour showcased by his team's goalkeeping coach, who punched Mbeya City FC head coach Abdalla Mubiru after the Kigoma club scored the tie's lone goal.

"What he did was not fair... playing football is about love, there is no need to hurt each other or reiterate when someone misbehaves, as coaches, we need to respect one another," he said.



Mashujaa FC head coach, Abdul Mingange.

Following the incident, Mashujaa FC's goalkeeping coach was sent off the technical area after the referee showed him a red card.

Mbeya City FC has joined Polisi Tanzania and Ruvo Shooting, the latter having succumbed to relegation early on after occupying the two bottom two places in the just concluded Premier League.

In another development, Yanga's new head coach Miguel Angel Gamondi has expressed excitement to continue winning trophies at the club after sealing a two-year deal with it.

The 56-year-old Argentine gaffer will be taking over from Tunisia-born Nasreddine Nabi, who recently bid farewell to the club after the conclusion of the highly competitive 2022/23 season.

With an impressive managerial career spanning various continents, Gamondi brings a wealth of experience and tactical acumen to the Tanzanian outfit.

"I'm Miguel Gamondi, a coach from Argentina. I was working more than 20 years in African football," he said in his unveiling video last weekend.

The gaffer pointed out: "I was coaching teams like Wydad Casablanca, Mamelodi Sundowns in South Africa, CR Belouizdad in Algeria, Esperance in Tunisia. I was lucky to get some good results, some good achievements with them."

"I'm very excited to join this big club with a huge history. For me, it's one of the greatest clubs in history, with incredible fans as well."

"I strongly believe, if we can work together - fans, management, players, and technical staff, we can continue to bring

success and even greater results. I'm excited to join and hope to see you very soon," he said.

Having successfully managed clubs such as Mamelodi Sundowns, USM Alger, CR Belouizdad, Wydad Casablanca, IR Tanger, and Platinum Stars, his appointment at Yanga has sparked excitement and anticipation among the Jangwani Street side's passionate fan base.

His track record of success and his reputation for implementing an attacking style of play have made him a much sought-after coach in the African football landscape.

Gamondi's tenure at Mamelodi Sundowns, a South African powerhouse, was particularly noteworthy, given during his time at the club, he guided it to several domestic triumphs, including Premier League titles and other show-downs' victories.

Under his guidance, Mamelodi Sundowns developed a reputation for their free-flowing, high-scoring brand of football, leaving fans in awe of their performances on the pitch.

The Argentine coach also had successful stints in Algeria, where he worked with USM Alger and CR Belouizdad, achieving notable milestones at both clubs.

With USM Alger, Gamondi played a pivotal role in the squad's Algerian Ligue Professionnelle 1 success, the tactician moreover led CR Belouizdad to a thrilling Algerian Cup triumph.

The Argentine steered Wydad Casablanca to lifting the Moroccan Botola Pro League title, leaving an indelible mark on the club's history.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



Jumbe excels in 2023 Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup Super4s

By Guardian Reporter

THE e-Parking-backed Aces side emerged victorious against the Flashnet Pak Stars in a pulsating 2023 Petrofuel Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Caravans T20 Cup showdown Super4s encounter that took place last weekend.

The thrilling duel happened to be the last match of the Super4 stage and the results proved bittersweet for the e-Parking-backed Aces squad, as far as the club's hopes of garnering qualification for the final were concerned.

The outfit's hopes were dashed due to the inferior net run rate it posted in the stage's encounters. The match took place at the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club's venue, captivating fans with an intense display of cricketing prowess.

Having won the toss, the e-Parking-backed Aces squad elected to field first, hoping to restrict the Flashnet Pak Stars' batting line-up.

The decision quickly paid off as the opening batsmen struggled to make an impact against the Aces' bowling attack.

Only Zeeshan Ul-Haq and the resilient Zamoyoni Ramadhan managed to register double figures with 54 runs off 45 deliveries and 35 runs off 33 deliveries respectively.

The star of the show for the e-Parking Aces side was undoubtedly Salum Jumbe, who wreaked havoc upon the Flashnet Pak Stars. Jumbe's incredible spell saw him take five wickets while conceding just 17 runs in 3.4 overs.

The talented all-rounder's devastating performance restricted the Flashnet Pak Stars to a modest total of 120 runs in 19.4 overs, giving the e-Parking-backed Aces team a realistic target to chase.

The e-Parking Aces began their chase with Muhammad Bilawal proving to be a formidable adversary. Bilawal claimed three crucial wickets, including the dismissals of Nassib Kelvin and Jeremiah Makanya for a duck, putting the e-Parking Aces in a precarious position. However, Jumbe once again was the cricketer who showcased his exceptional skill and determination.

Jumbe's heroics with the bat were the defining factor in the e-Parking-backed Aces side's successful chase. Scoring an unbeaten 60 runs off 55 deliveries, he anchored the innings and guided his team to victory in 18.5 overs.

The cricketer's remarkable all-round performance in the match earned him both the prestigious Colourflex Man of the Match award and the Rickshaw Game Changer award, marking a first in the tournament.

With the victory, the e-Parking-backed Aces squad tied both Flashnet Pak Stars and Azania Bank Upanga SC on points, intensifying the race for qualification for the following stage.

However, despite the convincing victory, the e-Parking-backed Aces' net run rate ultimately proved to be the squad's downfall.

They were unfortunate to be knocked out of the tournament, leaving them with mixed emotions despite their outstanding efforts.

The Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup tournament has been a captivating cricketing spectacle, showcasing thrilling encounters and outstanding individual performances.

The finalists were decided the same weekend with Aurobindo Aga Khan SC coming up against Azania Bank Upanga SC in the final match at Leaders Club ground last Sunday.

The Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup is an annual T20-formatted cricket competition organized by Caravans Cricket Club.

Petrofuel is the title sponsor of the showdown. Other sponsors include Alliance Insurance, Colourflex, TATA Africa Holdings, ASAS, Rickshaw Travels, RAS Logistics, Pepsi, e-Parking, Remax, Flashnet, and Aurobindo.

Others are Azania Bank, Jiuzhou, All Season Hotel, General Petroleum, UMC International, Automark, Hisense, Oman Air, Ashton Media, Mo Assurance, Aucom & Harmonic, and Car & General.