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New IGP has criminals on notice, hints at ICT plans

By Guardian Reporter

NEWLY appointed Inspector General of Police (IGP) Camilius Wambura (pictured) has declared war on criminals, saying that the force will invest heavily in modern policing systems to fight crime and ensure that citizens remain safe and peaceful.

In remarks after being sworn in by President Samia Suluhu Hassan in the capital, he said that fighting crime will be a major priority as he commences to execute his new responsibilities, while also strengthening ethics with the police force and improving fair handling of cases from police stations to upper levels.

"I will supervise and make sure that citizens are safe and the government continues with its activities peacefully without stress on how to confront public security challenges," he stated, vowing that he seeks to actually stop crime. "Criminals should not feel that they are safe; we are well prepared to end this," he asserted.

Ethics should be prioritized within the force as operations will not attain their goals if the respective commanders do not adhere to professional ethics, he stated, affirming intent to supervise diligence in the force to ensure that common people are heard, and have their rights enshrined in accordance with the laws and by observing police regulations.

In Arusha yesterday, the IGP said the police force was on higher alert for the 22nd ordinary

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'Empower TPA on container terminal'



President Samia Suluhu Hassan addresses the ordinary meeting of Heads of the East African Community partner states held in Arusha city yesterday. Right is Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta. Photo: State House

Samia: Africa must now adopt irrigation farming

●EAC Heads of State retreat adopts roadmap to bloc's common market

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

the region. Addressing the high-level retreat at the summit of East African Heads of State here, she said that as the world battles with effects of climate change, it is important for the region to shift into irrigation and stop relying on rain-fed farming as it is increasingly uncertain each passing year.

The retreat was convened to take stock of progress and challenges in the past 11 years of approval or the EAC Common Market protocol, where the host president similarly tasked EAC countries to strengthen road and railway

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By Guardian Reporter

CONTAINER terminal services ought to be run by the Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) while the government is engaged in seeking a new investor, the opposition ACT-Wazalendo has declared.

Ally Saleh, the party's spokesperson for communications, technology, information and transport, said at a press conference yesterday in Dar es Salaam that the Tanzania International Container Terminal Services (TICTS) has failed to live up to public expectations.

He said the government needs to carry out a performance appraisal before renewing the leasing arrangement, with such appraisal handled with patriotism where interests of the nation come first.

TICTS has failed to appropriately invest in the areas it is accountable for, so the government needs to suspend the matter of prolongation of contract at the moment and hand over the section to the port authorities, he emphasized.

The government needs to make in-depth assessment before awarding tenders to qualified firms that meet international standards. Examining the 20-year performance record of the container handling firm's achievements and capacity to attain new goals must be taken into account in the next lease contract appraisal.

It is vital that the container terminal service be well supervised due to its strategic importance in order to attain set objectives, he said, objecting to the government leased the container section to a private firm for ideological reasons.

The third phase government was spurred by the concept of removing itself from economic activities because such operations would be

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'Stronger institutions of justice vital for Africa'

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

STRONGER institutions of justice must be created in African countries for the continent to make strides in its various development endeavours, former Sierra Leone president Dr Ernest Bai Koroma has declared.

At a goodwill visit to the premises of the African Court on Human and People's Rights here yesterday, Dr Koroma pointed out that strengthening institutions that protect human rights and people's development is essential for achieving 'the Africa we want' of Agenda 2063.

"Africa is the continent of the future in that the continent stores the badly needed natural resources and virgin land," he stated, elaborating that Africans are the primary custodians of abundant resources for global wealth creation,

and their rights must be protected for enterprise and individual effort to succeed. He pledged to take upon himself to champion the course of ensuring that all countries in Africa ratify the protocol of establishing the African Court on Human and People's Rights.

Responding, Lady Justice Imani Aboud, president of the African Court, noted that a delegation from the AfCHPR visited Sierra Leone in August 2018 and conversed with the new Head of State, Speaker of the National Assembly and responsible ministers for Justice and Home Affairs, seeking to encourage the Sierra Leone government to ratify the African Court protocol, but four years later this is yet to happen.

An online chronicler says that in April 2018, President Koroma conducted peaceful democratic multi-tier elections and gracefully handed over power to the opposition which once again showcased his dedication towards democracy.

Since leaving office he has led three election observation missions, to Namibia, Togo and Benin under the auspices of the African Union (AU) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the chronicler noted.

"As you know the African Court is the judicial arm of the African Union with the mandate to



Selemani Hamduni (R), a consultant with the Dar es Salaam Metropolitan Development Project, briefs Temeke district commissioner Jokate Mwegelo (3rd-R, in glasses) yesterday on the development of parks and playgrounds in the district. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

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Samia: Africa must now adopt irrigation farming

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infrastructure to ease farm to market access in the region.

Underlying the importance of food security, she said it ought to be given priority by the member states, stressing that EAC countries must produce in large quantities to ensure regional food security and balancing out food supply needs in the neighbourhood as there is enough arable land.

Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta said that in order for these countries to achieve their goals, they need to strengthen infrastructure such as roads and enhance industrial capacity.

"The presence of a strong and tariff friendly infrastructure will help to transport raw materials from one country to another and reach the market," he said, elaborating that this requires moves to strengthen the zone into a free and common market.

This will help us to sell our products in the wider local markets and reduce poverty for our people, he emphasized, asserting that this holds the promise of EAC countries reaching the stage of economic and commercial independence, with a strong railway and road infrastructure and the right tariffs.

In other remarks, President Kenyatta said the ambitious highway project which networks the East African coastline from Malindi on the northern reaches of the Kenya coastline to Bagamoyo, north of Dar es Salaam, will be inaugurated by President Samia and the next president of Kenya, bemused that as his time is running out, he won't be in charge by the time the project is launched.

Billed to cost \$600m, the Malindi-Mombasa-Lunga Lunga-Tanga-Bagamoyo highway is a joint

infrastructure project between Kenya and Tanzania, being built under EAC auspices to further open up the region to faster movement of people and goods.

He said Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania are doing their best to interconnect the region with usable highways and intra-regional road networks. The leaders also launched the 42.4 km Arusha bypass road skirting the northern tourist hub on its upper reaches, an expressway link from Arusha Holili on the southerly slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro at the border with Kenya.

The bypass is part of the 230km Arusha - Holili - Taveta - Voi road project, co-funded by the African Development Bank (AfDB), the Africa Trade Fund and the two countries, taking up \$173.86m.

Burundi President Évariste Ndayishimiye, expressed concern that road and air connections between African countries were still poor, as often people must fly via Europe to catch a plane to another African destination. Strategic measures are needed to unlock bottlenecks in setting up the EAC Common Market, he emphasized.

EAC leaders also agreed on a roadmap for the full realization of the common market, identifying key areas where the development partners can contribute to the attainment of the common market.

At the 22nd ordinary meeting, the EAC Heads of State will consider the report of the ministerial council and assent to bills passed by the East African Legislative Assembly. They were also slated to consider the report of the retreat on the EAC Common Market quest and use the occasion to formalize appointments of judges to the East African Court of Justice.

'Stronger institutions of justice vital for Africa'

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protect human and people's rights in Africa whose protocol was adopted in June 1998, coming into force in January 2004," the court president said.

Among the 55 AU member states just 33 countries have ratified the protocol and only eight state parties have deposited the declaration that allows individuals and non-governmental organizations to file cases directly to the Arusha-based court.

Within the court, Prof Dennis Dominic Adjei, a national of Ghana, has been elected a judge of the African Court for a term of six years at the just-ended 41st ordinary session of the executive council of the African Union held in the Zambia capital of Lusaka. Justice Ntyam Ondo Mengue from

Cameroon was re-elected for a second and final term of six years.

A court secretariat statement said that "pursuant to Rule 3 of the Rules of Court and Article 16 of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Establishment of an African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights, Professor Adjei will be sworn-in during the opening of the four-week 66th Ordinary Session of the Court scheduled for 29 August 2022 in Arusha, Tanzania, the seat of the Court."

The court president has congratulated the two judges and wished them every success as they carry on the noble task of pursuing justice and protection of human rights in Africa, it added.

Ugandan delegation in Tanzania to learn about the operations of Tazama pipeline

By Guardian Reporter

THE Ministry of Energy has received Ugandan delegation that has come to learn about various issues in the oil sector, in particular the transport of crude oil from Tanzania to Zambia via the pipeline operated by Tanzania, Zambia Crude Oil Pipeline (TAZAMA).

The remarks were made Wednesday this week in Dar es Salaam by the Energy Ministry Permanent Secretary, Eng Felchesmi Mramba when welcoming the delegation accompanied by Members of the Environment and Natural Resources Parliamentary Committee led by the Minister of the State, Minerals development) and various other experts.

Mramba said the delegation has come for a special visit focused in learning various issues in the energy sector; especially the oil sector as soon Uganda will start transporting its crude oil from Hoima bay in Uganda to Chongoleani, Tanga Region through the East Africa Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP), in the project involving both Uganda and Tanzania.

He said since Tanzania has a 50-year experience in crude oil transmission via TAZAMA Pipeline from Tanzania to Zambia, it is therefore the right area for the delegation to learn about the issue.

Tanzania also has experience in a project for transmitting natural gas from Mtwara Region to Kinyerezi in Dar

es Salaam used for power generation.

Furthermore, Tanzania is in initial talks for constructing a huge pipeline for transmitting natural gas from Mtwara to Uganda, hence it is the right time for members of the Ugandan delegation to learn so that they can implement their own projects.

At the meeting, Mramba was in company of the chairman of the energy and Minerals Parliamentary Committee, Dunstan Kitandula, assistant Commissioner for Oil and gas from the Energy Ministry, Michael Mjinja and other officials from the ministry and its institutions.

Meanwhile, the Ugandan Minister of State dealing in Energy Development, Eng Peter Lokeris thanked the government of Tanzania for agreeing to the pipeline project to pass through Tanzania, saying this shows the two countries have amicable relations apart from being neighbours.

Eng Lokeris said the pipeline will also help Uganda boost its economy since it will be incurring little cost to transport the crude oil than if they use ordinary means of transport such as trucks, as well as using less time.

"We have come to Tanzania to learn because they have long time experience in the oil and gas pipeline projects, so we have come to learn, as during all these years we have not heard about any challenges regarding Tanzania's pipeline projects," said Eng Lokeris.



Vice President Philip Mpango waves to traditional dancers who were among the people who turned up at Mpanza Airport yesterday to welcome him as he began a four-day official tour of Katavi Region. Photo: VPO

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run more efficiently by private firms.

He recalled that on May 5, 2000, the port authority signed a contract to lease the container section at the port to ICTSI of the Philippines, where ICTSI was a strategic investor and TICTS the terminal operator, established by local and foreign shareholders to operate the container section.

Expectations to lease the container section to a private firm targeted improvement of its operations, enhancing the port's contribution to economic growth.

It would similarly reduce container handling costs to withstand competition from neighbouring countries, attract domestic and foreign shippers to the port, inject new technology and assist local port staff to sharpen their skills in port operations,

'Empower TPA on container terminal'

he further noted.

As TICTS nears the end of its contract objections are rising on renewing the contract, with critics like the party spokesman citing complaints in regard to its performance, while other stakeholders are on record to affirm that the firm's performance has been improving over the years.

A significant element was criticisms by the Controller and Auditor General (CAG) in his 2020/21 annual report that there are delays in the unloading of cargo at the port, touching off customer unease and scaling down port operations.

Cargo ships and oil tankers take three to eight days to unload cargo

contrary to the port authority's plans of reducing the waiting period to two days, which affects commercial competition as business is directed to other ports in the region.

Critics take port weaknesses to generally reflect on TICTS, ignoring the wider conditions in which it operates, for instance the change in operational levy demanded by the government, nearly doubling in the 2017 contract renewal.

Similarly, charges on the use of roads and railways differ from one port hinterland to another, thus changing the levy to a higher tariff while maintaining drastic road use charges by international standards would periodically tend

to favour ports like Mombasa, Beira or Durban, freight forwarders maintained.

In his remarks, the party spokesman expressed the view that it is the government's responsibility to invest in public organizations to promote the economy, so as to stimulate the development of various sectors of the economy.

The key is national control of the provision of services and protecting the national interest while creating decent and safe jobs for local people.

"The current lease contract and operation system in container handling operations at the port of Dar es Salaam was obviously endangering the public interest," he added.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa exchanges greetings with China's Ambassador to Tanzania, Chen Mingjian, at his Dar es Salaam office yesterday. Photo: PMO

New IGP has criminals on notice, hints at ICT plans

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meeting of East African Community (EAC) Heads of State, urging the public to cultivate the habit of reporting to authorities any acts that may disturb

peace in their areas.

"We should all together cooperate in this," he emphasized, underlining that making the country peaceful requires coordinated efforts from authorities and the public. "The police force is

well prepared to deal with anyone who will try to ruin the country's peace, we will not spare anyone and we are very serious on this," the police chief intoned.

President Samia Suluhu Hassan

tasked the IGP upon swearing him into office, to carry out systematic transformation in the key institution, especially improving efficiency for the security of people and their properties.



Peramihio constituency legislator Jenista Mhagama (L), who is Minister of State in the President's Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance), receives 80 beds worth 20m/- yesterday from NMB Bank Plc's southern zone manager Janeth Sango. The items were a donation by the bank to Ruvuma Region's Kiligano and Jenista Mhagama secondary schools. Photo: Correspondent Gideon Mwakanosya

UAE's investors in Tanzania exploring opportunities in agriculture, livestock

By Getrude Mbago

A HIGH-LEVEL business delegation from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) is in the country to explore trade and investment opportunities in the agriculture and livestock value chain.

Welcomed by the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC), the delegation arrived in the country on July 17 seeking potential areas so as to establish investments that will help strengthen production and food security in the Arab countries which are surrounded by desert.

Speaking during the meeting with the delegation on Tuesday in Dar es Salaam, deputy minister for Investment, Industries and Trade, Exaud Kigahe assured the investors

that Tanzania has enough and attractive areas for investment.

"Oman and Tanzania have a lot of opportunities, however, we are yet to fully utilise them, I believe we can do better now and I call on the government authorities in both countries to work together to allow a good flow of goods and services between these two sides," Kigahe said, noting that by June 2022, a total of 62 investment projects operated by Oman national were registered and are expected to produce 2,488 worth \$308.35 million.

"The investors have established projects in the areas of commercial buildings, transport and tourism, thus contributing to the country's gross domestic product (GDP)," he said.

Ambassador of Tanzania to Oman Abdallah Kilima said the visit is part of the response to President Samia Suluhu Hassan's tour to Oman that she conducted last month.

"The delegation has involved representatives from various private and public institutions including the Oman Food Investment Holding Company who are the major coordinator of the tour under Eng Saleh Al Shanfari, the company's chief executive officer," he said.

The tour also has representatives from Arab Authority for Agriculture Investment and Agriculture Development which was represented by its chairman and delegation lead Mohammed Mazrooei, Oman Investment Authority-OIA and the Al-

Bashayer Meat Co. SAOC.

Other institutions are the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa represented by the executive director Dr Sidi Ould Tah, as well as the Al-Rajhi International for Investment Company from Saudi Arabia.

TIC investment promotion acting director Revocatus Rasheli said the delegation's interest to invest in the agriculture and livestock sector compliments plans in the country's development plan.

"In the ongoing discussions, TIC has coordinated and has brought various stakeholders and institutions working in commercial agriculture and livestock," Rasheli said.

The delegation visited and met officials of the National Ranching Company Limited (NARCO), Export Processing Zones Authority (EPZA), National Service Corporation (SUMA JKT, Cereals and other Produced Board (CPB) and the Tanzania Meat Board (TMB).

Tanzania, UK and EU inaugurate task force to safeguard children, fight sexual violence

By Guardian Reporter

THE government with support from the UK and the European Union (EU) yesterday launched the anti-human trafficking and child protection task force which will put victims at the centre of the service response.

The task force, implemented in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) will be overseen by Director of Public Prosecutions Sylvester Mwakitalu.

British High Commission Development Director, Kemi Williams said that UK and Tanzania have a long history in working together to protect children, combat serious sexual assault and gender based violence, support victims, and strengthen the capacity of Tanzania's criminal justice system.

"The launch of the anti-human trafficking and child protection task force is a unique collaboration that will bring together the best expertise to protect Tanzanians and deter criminals," she said.

EU Head of Governance Section, Simon Vanden Broeke said: "We believe that this task force will help to ensure coordination between various security and judicial bodies, to come up with new strategies, and to disrupt the business models and structures of these criminal organisations. An integrated approach is needed which recognises the socio-economic, technological and geopolitical dimensions of human trafficking and child exploitation."

UNDP Resident Representative,

Christine Musisi said the launch marks a key milestone by Tanzania's commitments based on the UN General Assembly Resolution 55/25 on the UN Convention against Transnational Organised Crime and also SDG 16, Target 16.2 to End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children and Target 16.4 By 2030, significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime.

Last year, the UK trained 60 prosecutors on handling serious sexual assault and rape cases, as a precursor to developing a specialist cadre of prosecutors for such offences.

This support is part of a broader UK effort to support Tanzania in tackling serious organised crime, which also includes assistance in Zanzibar.

The task force has a police led operational focus which draws on good practice approaches pioneered in the UK. The UK together with its co-financers the EU, will contribute 12.9bn/- over the next three years.

The Task Force's multi-agency safeguarding approach brings together multiple institutions under one roof. It will combine intelligence, investigative, social welfare, medical and prosecutorial experts to counter serious threats and improve the protection of vulnerable women and children.

The task force will utilise the "4Ps" good practice approach of UK policing, prepare the partnerships to tackle crime, pursue offenders, protect victims and prevent future offending.



JOB ADVERTISEMENT

POSITION - LOCAL CONTENT OFFICER

ISOAF Tz Limited is a Tanzania -incorporated company with its head office in Dar es Salaam and its plant in **Nzega District, Tabora Region**. The Company is expecting to commence its operations as a Thermal insulation System Contractor for East Africa Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project.

Job Description :

- Assisting in preparation of Local/National Content Reports.
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- Assisting in regulatory compliance matters.
- Liaising with Client and Authorities for all matters in the docket as required.
- Liaising with Human Resources department for Labour Portions of local content.
- Liaising with Finance Department, Procurement Department and Project Management Department for Supplies portion of Local Content.
- Liaising with others project stakeholders for matters regarding Capacity Building and Technology Transfer portion of Local Content

Required Skillset :

- Qualification in Accounting /Finance with emphasis on financial reporting is desired.
- Experience in construction project.
- Basic knowledge of Supply Chain Management or experience in the same.
- Basic understanding of Legislation governing Local Content in Tanzanian Petroleum Sector.
- Basic understanding of Human Resources Management or experience in the same will be considered as an added advantage.

Apply to: hr-tanzania@isoaf.com

Deadline: 5th August 2022

Please note that, should you not be contacted for more than two weeks after the deadline, consider your application unsuccessful

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JOB ADVERTISEMENT

POSITION: DRAUGHTSMAN

ISOAF Tz Limited is a Tanzania -incorporated company with its head office in Dar es Salaam and its plant in Nzega District, Tabora Region. The Company is expecting to commence its operations as a Thermal insulation System Contractor for East Africa Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project.

Job description:

- Following specifications and calculations to create various technical drawings.
- Preparing both rough sketches and detailed work with CAD systems.
- Communicating with engineers, and incorporating information into drawings.
- Preparing, reviewing and redrafting alongside the engineering team.
- Identifying and communicating potential design problems to the rest of the team.

Requirements:

- +5 years experience
- Bachelor of Science in engineering or architecture. Degree from a technical college also acceptable.
- Autocad modelling experience.
- Requires knowledge and ability to work with MS Office Suite of products (Word, Excel, PowerPoint)
- Requires a proven ability to conduct layouts and designs for facility piping systems or similar

Apply to: hr-tanzania@isoaf.com

Deadline: 5th August 2022

Please note that, should you not be contacted for more than two weeks after the deadline, consider your application unsuccessful

216952601

Insurance sector players to meet for TIBA's 6th annual 4-day conference in Arusha

By Felister Peter

INSURANCE sector players are expected to meet in Arusha next week for the Tanzania Insurance Brokers Association (TIBA) 6th annual conference which gears to discuss issues related to improvement of the industry.

TIBA President, Amir Kiwanda said yesterday that the conference which will attract over 200 players from the East African Community (EAC) including Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda and Burundi will be held from July 27 to 30.

Theme for this year's conference is 'Harnessing innovation, technology and partnerships to scale sustainability and progress'. He said the event will be graced by Finance and Planning Minister, Dr Mwigulu Nchemba.

"Our themes have been gearing at looking on how insurance services advisors can contribute towards improvement of the market as well as increasing the community's understanding of insurance issues," he remarked, adding the tradition of holding the events has contributed to widening the scope of insurance services.

Kiwanda added that the purpose is also to bring together insurance players to learn, exchange experiences, discuss and share ideas on the way towards improving the insurance industry.

Resolutions passed during the conferences are also aimed at improving provision of insurance services in the country, said the president.

He said to make the event a success, TIBA engages players in the industry whereas this year they have 33 sponsors, among them, two are main sponsors—Tanzania Reinsurance Company Ltd (TAN-RE) and National Insurance Corporation of Tanzania (NIC).

Ester Kazi, Marketing and Customer Care Services Officer from NIC said

that with 59 years in the insurance market and one of the main sponsors, it supports TIBA efforts in bringing together players in the insurance industry for the purpose of discussing and exchanging ideas on how to further improve insurance services.

Eliada Gityamwi from Tanzania Reinsurance Company Ltd (TAN-RE) said the company was established for purposes of developing the insurance industry through provision of education to help reduce the existing gap of insurance experts in the country.

"We work in collaboration with TIBA, Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA) and the Association of Tanzania Insurers (ATI) in providing advice and introducing new insurance products to meet customer demands," she said.

Gityamwi said the firm also provides services to ensure a large share of insurance fees paid to companies remain in the country.

TANRE is doing business with more than 200 insurance firms from 49 countries in Africa, Asia and Middle East, she added.

Chairman of the conference organising committee, Okoth Oloo said the insurance industry faces a number of challenges some of which are related to service provision in the market, regulatory, legal and fraud.



We work in collaboration with TIBA, TIRA and ATI in providing advice and introducing new insurance products to meet customer demands



Karan Rai, a senior officer with India's Lovely Professional University, pictured at the weekend having a word with students on courses offered by the university. The students were on a visit to the Global Education Link pavilion at the higher education and technology exhibition now in progress in Dar es Salaam. Photo Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Samia to grace National Heroes' Day next week

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan will be the guest of honour at this year's national Heroes Day commonly known as the Mashujaa Day, to be marked in Dodoma on Monday.

Mashujaa day is observed on July 25th, every year as a public holiday to collectively honour all those who contributed towards the struggle for Tanzania's independence or positively contributed in the post independence.

Briefing journalist on the

preparations for the event, Dodoma Regional Commissioner Anthony Mtaka said everything was ready for the historic yearly event.

"The decision to mark Heroes' Day here goes along with the government plan to move to Dodoma and the regional authority is delighted to be honored," RC Mtaka said, adding that the town is set for the event.

Mtaka said: "This year our region has been given the honor of being the host because there are many regions in the country that are hosting days like this,

so I call on the people of Dodoma and the neighboring regions to come out in large numbers on the day where the official guest will be the honorable President Samia."

He also praised the country's preparation committee for making this annual event, for making a good job and successfully completed the preparations for the celebration with a large percentage.

"The goal of coming here as the leaders of this region, the host of this event, is to see how the preparations

are going, but let me congratulate you on the step you have reached so far. It is a very good step and we hope you will complete the remaining things in time to make this event a success," said Mtaka.

He further said that this year's celebration will also be featured with different activities before and after the event as on July 24th at midnight leaders will light up the national torch and turn it off on midnight of July 25 by Dodoma City Mayor Prof Davis Mwamfupe.



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR PROVISION OF GRE, CPVC, CONSTRUCTION MATERIALS REFERENCE NO. MST-TZ-20220721

Daqing Oilfield Construction Group Co., Ltd. (hereinafter as DCOG), as a CONTRACTOR for Storage Terminal of EACOP Project, invites experienced and reputable contractors that have demonstrable capability, willingness, ability and availability to perform related works to express their interest in providing mixer, fire-fighting equipment, cathodic protection system in Tanzania.

The EACOP Project development involves the engineering, procurement, construction, operation and maintenance of a crude oil export pipeline crossing Uganda and Tanzania and an onshore Marine Terminal in Chongoleani, near Tanga Port in Tanzania.

There are three (3) packages planned for Storage and Terminal as follows:

1. Package-1: GRE (Ref: MST-TZ-20220721-001)
 2. Package-2: CPVC (Ref: MST-TZ-20220721-002)
 3. Package-3: construction materials (Ref: MST-TZ-20220721-003)
- Should you be interested in participating any or all of the packages, please provide below minimum requirements clearly specifying the package(s) of interest, including the reference number(s).

Package-1: GRE (Ref: MST-TZ-20220721-001)

Brief Description of the Scope of the Materials:

The scope of the materials shall include GRE pipes and fittings.

Minimum Requirements:

- Vendors expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:
- a. Company Profile;
 - b. An experience list for similar equipment supplied to OIL & GAS INDUSTRY in the last five (5) years;
 - c. Confirmation that they can manufacture or purchase the required materials in accordance with ASTM standards, maybe required UL/FM certification.
 - d. A copy of their own and main suppliers ISO and OHSAS current certification or equivalent;
 - e. Compliance with petroleum (local content) regulations, 2017 and local company definition for Tanzania.
 - f. Trade companies need to have official authorization from manufacturer.
 - g. Evidence of organization HSE Management Systems & policy, procedure, and process in compliance with applicable industry standards for similar works.
 - h. Quality assurance & Quality control plan/ procedures in place for the execution of similar type of work. Copy of ISO or any other certification as applicable.
 - i. Proof of registration/application to Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.

Package-2: CPVC (Ref: MST-TZ-20220721-002)

Brief Description of the Scope of the Materials:

The scope of the materials shall include CPVC pipes and fittings.

Interested vendors with the capacity to provide the materials listed above should express their interest in English language by sending the above documents to zhaoning@docgi.cn; qiaobaocai@docgi.cn; renhulin@docgi.cn; zhuyongliang@docgi.cn (not exceeding 20 MBs) on or before 17:00 hours East African Time (EAT), on [5th August 2022]. Subject of the email should be EOI for MST-TZ-20220721-001/002/003— VENDOR NAME.

Companies satisfactorily meeting the above minimum requirements will receive, subject to the signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), a detailed pre-qualification questionnaire for further evaluation by Company.

DCOG reserves the right not to consider companies that submit an incomplete dossier.

Note: Only prequalified companies will receive invitation to submit bids in furtherance of the call for tender process.

Minimum Requirements:

Vendors expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:

- a. Company Profile;
- b. An experience list for similar equipment supplied to OIL & GAS INDUSTRY in the last five (5) years;
- c. Confirmation that they can manufacture or purchase the required materials in accordance with ANSI/ASTM standards.
- d. A copy of their own and main suppliers ISO and OHSAS current certification or equivalent;
- e. A two (2) years look ahead shop loading charts for the facilities and equipment intended to manufacture, assemble and test;
- f. Compliance with petroleum (local content) regulations, 2017 and local company definition for Tanzania.
- g. Trade companies need to have official authorization from manufacturer.
- h. Evidence of organization HSE Management Systems & policy, procedure, and process in compliance with applicable industry standards for similar works.
- i. Quality assurance & Quality control plan/ procedures in place for the execution of similar type of work. Copy of ISO or any other certification as applicable.
- j. Proof of registration/application to Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.

Package-3: Construction Materials (Ref: MST-TZ-20220721-003)

Brief Description of the Scope of the Materials:

The scope of the materials shall include construction consumption materials, measure materials, means materials and small machinery and tools and etc.

Minimum Requirements:

Vendors expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:

- a. Company Profile;
- b. An experience list for similar equipment supplied to OIL & GAS INDUSTRY in the last five (5) years;
- c. Confirmation that they can manufacture or purchase the required materials in accordance with project standards;
- d. A copy of their own and main suppliers ISO and OHSAS current certification or equivalent;
- e. Compliance with petroleum (local content) regulations, 2017 and local company definition for Tanzania.
- f. Evidence of organization HSE Management Systems & policy, procedure, and process in compliance with applicable industry standards for similar works.
- g. Quality assurance & Quality control plan/ procedures in place for the execution of similar type of work. Copy of ISO or any other certification as applicable.
- h. Proof of registration/application to Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.

CAREER OPPORTUNITY AT WATERAID TANZANIA



Job Title : Head of Programmes.
Deadline : 2nd August 2022
Location : WaterAid Offices Dar - es salaam

WaterAid Tanzania is looking to fill the Head of Programs position to play a vital role in our mission to make clean water, decent toilets, and good hygiene normal for everyone, everywhere by 2030. We're looking for someone who share a commitment to our vision. We're looking for people with an appreciation and respect for different people and ideas, and the energy and expertise to help tackle the most important challenges.

Responsibilities:

- To provide overall thought leadership, oversight and technical support for all aspects of strategy and programming in WaterAid Tanzania programmes.
- Ensure that programmes are accountable to communities and donors, are in line with WaterAid's corporate requirements, and meet national and international standards. Promote innovation, effective learning, and dissemination of information within and outside of WaterAid Tanzania to continuously improve the organisation and sector WASH programmes.
- Head of programs will lead and supervise the Program team.
- In this role you will manage and providing leadership in the development of WAT's technical approach in WASH programmes and projects while setting technical performance standards to be adhered to by WAT implementing staff and partners.
- Developing and executing collaboration of WaterAid strategic funding teams, a strategy to increase funding portfolio for technical programme.

Requirement/ Qualifications.

- Must have a minimum master's Degree in Engineering, Public /Environmental Health, Social Sciences/Development studies/Engineering, post graduate qualifications in Project Management/ International development studies, all with a minimum of 7 years at senior management level.
- Specialized training in Project Management, research design, data analysis and report writing (preferred)
- Demonstrated and progressive working experience in Project Development, Management, Research and Policy Analysis with any reputed national/ international / donor agency.
- Excellent communication, facilitation, presentation, representation, influencing and interpersonal skills.
- Commitment to WaterAid's values and ways of working.

If you are interested in the position and have the right skills and attributes, please visit wateraid.org/tz/work-with-us to download job descriptions and application form. Send your job application form to wateraidtz@wateraid.org stating title of the applied post in the subject line.

Tanzanian signs pact with Brazil, WFP to implement 'Beyond Cotton Project'

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Tanzanian government has signed an agreement with the government of Brazil and the World Food Programme (WFP) to implement the ambitious 'Beyond Cotton Project' which seeks to help increase income of smallholder farmers and improve their food and nutritional security.

In the signing of the project documents, the government was represented by the Assistant Director of Policy and Planning in the ministry of Agriculture Gungu Mbavu on behalf of the Permanent Secretary while Brazil was represented by the Brazilian ambassador in Tanzania, Antonio Cesar.

WFP facilitated and supported the entire process during the Beyond Cotton Project development.

Speaking at the signing event, Permanent Secretary (PS) in the ministry of Agriculture Andrew Massawe paid tribute to the government of Brazil for continuing to finance the cotton project.

"This project is the continuation of the previous project dubbed Cotton Victoria which resulted in increasing of yield from an average of 400kg to about 1,200kg per acre and I believe this support will further contribute to the development of cotton sub-sector in Tanzania," said the PS in his speech read on his behalf by Mbavu.

According to the PS, in Tanzania, cotton was among the strategic crops grown in 17 regions countrywide and that the crop was being grown by 500,000 households in the rural population as a source of income.

"This project will enhance the cotton sub-sector development at large and therefore we thank the Brazilian government and WFP for coming up with this project support," he noted.

According to Massawe, Tanzania was committed to increase production of cotton from 250,000 tonnes to one million tonnes by 2025/2026 adding that the technology that will be introduced by Beyond Cotton Project will be adopted in other cotton growing areas and hence contribute to

the implementation and achievement of the target.

The project coverage areas are Magu, Kwimba and Misungwi districts of Mwanza region and it is jointly implemented by the ministry in partnership with the Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI), the Tanzania Cotton Board (TCB), the Brazilian Cooperation Agency from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (ABC/MRE), WFP Centre of Excellence against Hunger in Brazil and WFP Tanzania office.

According to WFP's Centre of Excellence against Hunger Project Officer, Joelcio Carvalho, Beyond Cotton Project is a 20 month project which addresses issues of production and value addition to cotton by-products, the improvement of intercropping systems for cotton with a view to improving the nutrition of traditional crops and the food and nutritional security of the individuals involved.

Speaking at the event TCB Director General, Marco Mtunga said the project would help smallholder farmers in the country to have the best seedlings that will help them to have products that will help them to improve their income.

TARI Director General Geoffrey Mkamilo said in the project, his organisation would provide technical project implementation in technology and innovation, particularly on variety development, good agriculture practices, and multiple cropping systems of cotton and associated crops that have significant nutritive values along the value chain.

WFP Deputy Country Director, Brian Bogart said: "Agriculture is the driver of food security and nutrition as well as an engine of poverty reduction that is why WFP decided to join into this crucial project."

"Agriculture is the driver of food security and nutrition as well as an engine of poverty reduction that is why WFP decided to join into this crucial project."



Mbeya district commissioner Dr Rashidi Chuachua (C) shares a light moment with George Lugata (L), Vodacom Tanzania Plc's head of sales and distribution, inside a Vodacom mobile shop in Mbeya city suburb Kabwe yesterday shortly after launching it. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

UDOM eyeing to align programmes with national development plans and labour market demands

By Henry Mwangonde

THE University of Dodoma (UDOM) has lined up strategies including reviewing curriculums to align programmes with national development plans aimed at reflecting the labour market demands to facilitate employability.

Speaking during an interview with this paper at the ongoing 17th Universities Exhibitions at Mnazi Mmoja Grounds in Dar es Salaam, Director of Undergraduate Studies at UDOM Dr Victor Marealle said the plan aims at making students ready for the market.

"We want to link our programmes with the dynamic labour market but also the demand by employers to make our graduates employable," he said.

Through the college of Informatics the university has designed technology programmes to be in line with the advancement of technology but also shape students with hands on skills required by employers.

He said the programme has huge practical aspects to equip students with knowledge and skills to make them ready to depend on themselves.

Dr Marealle said the largest laboratory for artificial intelligence in Africa is set to be constructed at UDOM which will make ICT students from the university more competent.

The university's strategic plan aims at making the university among the 30 best in Africa saying it is investing more in research which will develop solutions to the challenges facing the country.

Dr Marealle said already UDOM students have participated in various competitions where two law students from the university participated in regional competitions and emerged winners.

In another success, students from the university's college of Informatics participated in cyber competition at Africa regional level and emerged winners.

He said UDOM has taken advantage of this year's ongoing universities exhibitions to offer career guidance to students, so that they make right decisions when choosing their career paths.

The 17th Universities Exhibitions held at Mnazi Mmoja Grounds in Dar es Salaam were organized by the Tanzania Commission for Universities (TCU) and

officially opened by the Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa on Tuesday.

He said the university started offering Bachelor Degree in the Chinese Language due to the fact that China is a largest economy and has strong relations with Tanzania.

Alex Joseph a student who studied Chinese studies at the university said the education from UDOM has exposed him to employment opportunities especially from Chinese companies.

He said however that there is need to offer more studies on other skills such as the use of Chinese language grammar and writing skills. "Am currently working with a Chinese company and am able to apply the skills I got from college but this empowers us to speak Chinese language and the culture but we need more on this," he said.

Livestock sector stakeholders embark on masterplan review before transformation

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

STAKEHOLDERS in the livestock sector have embarked on review of the Livestock Master Plan ahead of launch of the new five-year livestock master plan.

The new strategy, 'Livestock Sector Transformation Plan (LSTP)' will build on the successes of earlier plan to strengthen breeding and animal health programmes.

LSTP provides sector actors with evidence on where to invest in the livestock sector to achieve national development goals as well as meet Tanzania's regional and global committees such as Comprehensive African

Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The original plans was launched in 2017 as a collaborative development plan between the government, the private sector and non-governmental organisations to identify and strengthen priority livestock value chains and production systems.

Its goal was to translate the national livestock sector's priorities into realistic and achievable time-bound targets and objectives while guiding the sector's investment decisions.

Speaking while officiating the opening

of a meeting that brought together development partners, the private sector, civil society and the media, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries, Mashimba Ndaki called on the participants to critically discuss what to improve in the 2022/23-2026/27 plan.

While stressing on the importance of the livestock to the nation, he acknowledge the key roles played by development partners and the private sector in developing the sector and improving livelihood of Tanzanians.

He said the government is playing regulation roles in a sector dominated by private player. According to the minister, the government has only about 100,000 animals in its ranches while the remaining of the 35 million livestock belongs to private sector.

The minister said while several gains have been realized in the livestock sector, a lot more need to be done to increase the sectors contribution to the national economy and improvement of individual livelihoods.

"The sector can help create jobs, bring foreign currency and strengthen national development," he said, adding that such stakeholders meetings can help identify what needs to be done to improve investment in the sector.

Acting Permanent Secretary in the ministry, Dr Charles Mhina on his part noted that the meeting was to discuss successes and challenges realized in the implementation of the previous plan. "In the past five years we have realised the strength of the sector in creating development changes and we now need a common understanding implementation of the new plan," he said.



Jane Goodall Institute
TANZANIA
For Wildlife Research, Education & Conservation

JOB OPPORTUNITY

About Us:
The Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) is a global community conservation organization that advances the vision and work of Dr. Jane Goodall by conserving chimpanzees and inspiring communities to conserve the natural world we all share, we improve the lives of people, animals, and the environment, we strongly believe everything is connected and everyone can make a difference. The Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) was founded in 1977 by Dr. Jane Goodall (DBE).

JGI Tanzania is currently seeking to recruit suitably qualified and competent candidate to fill the following vacant position:

Job Vacancy: Roots & Shoots Community Coordinator
Workstation: In one of JGI's Africa offices
Reporting Line: Vice President for JGI Africa Programs

Application Procedure:
To apply for this position, please go to: <https://www.janegoodall.org/about/jobs/>

Only the shortlisted candidates will be contacted for the interview.

Deadline: Seven (7) days from the date of the first appearance of this advertisement on the newspapers.

JGI Tanzania is an equal opportunity employer and considers all applicants on the basis of merit without regard to race, national or tribal origin, religious belief, sexual orientation, and marital status.

QUALIFIED WOMEN ARE HIGHLY ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.



JOB ADVERTISEMENT

POSITION: DRIVERS (2) - Nzega, Tabora

ISOAF Tz Limited is a Tanzania -incorporated company with its head office in Dar es Salaam and its plant in Nzega District, Tabora Region .The Company is expecting to commence its operations as a Thermal insulation System Contractor for East Africa Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project.

Job description:

- Driving staff and clients of the project
- Monitoring all vehicle's maintenance
- Monitoring vehicle's regulatory permits and compliance documents eg insurance and road safety stickers
- Filling the vehicle's log book

Requirements

- Valid Class C driving license of not less than 6 months until expiry
- Experience of driving vehicles in the busy schedules
- Experience in projects driving can be an added advantage
- Women are encouraged to apply.

Apply to: hr-tanzania@isoaf.com

Deadline: 5th August 2022

Please note that, should you not be contacted for more than two weeks after the deadline, consider your application unsuccessful

216952701

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UNFPA calls upon every Tanzanian to turn up for census slated for Aug 23

By Correspondent James Kandoyo

THE United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has called on Tanzanians to ensure that they are counted in the coming Population and Housing Census that will be conducted August 23, this year.

Mark Schreiner, UNFPA Representative in Tanzania made the call at the commemoration of World Population Day held in Babati, Manyara region.

This year's theme is "A world of 8 billion: Towards a resilient future for all - Harnessing opportunities and ensuring rights and choices for all."

He said World Population Day is an opportunity to focus the attention on the urgency and importance of population issues warning that in a few months the world population was expected to surpass 8 billion individuals.

"I ask you to tell your neighbours, friends and family members that: you count. May we spread the message together to all people of Tanzania that: you count, and we want you to be counted in the collection of census data, which will inform progress towards the development priorities of Tanzania," he said.

Schreiner said the process was imperative for every individual to know that: you count, and to leave no one behind.

He emphasized the need for every household in Tanzania to receive the message that their participation counts toward achieving a complete and accurate census count.

He commended the government for taking bold steps to ensure that everyone is counted in the coming census adding that it was the first digital census in Tanzania.

UNFPA serves as a technical partner to the government of Tanzania in the 2022 census, and supports preparations, including through the

provision of technical assistance to develop guidance materials, questionnaires, and the 2022 census cartography.

It facilitated the exchange of census knowledge and best practices through South-South cooperation, including the combined use of traditional data collection methods and geospatial technology to optimize population data accuracy and ensure that everyone is counted.

He noted that census data will inform implementation of UNFPA's 9th Country Programme (2022 - 2027), initiated this month, developed in partnership with the Ministry of Finance and Planning and in consultation with stakeholders from the public and private sector, academia and media, civil society groups and development partners.

"We thank the government of Tanzania for their strong statement of support and commitment, and we look forward to joint efforts together with our partners to implement and achieve the results of our new UNFPA Tanzania Country Programme," he said.

UN Secretary-General António Guterres said, "Let us work together towards greater equality and solidarity to ensure that our planet can support our needs and those of future generations and protect human rights and the ability of all individuals to make informed choices about whether and when to have children."



A world of 8 billion: Towards a resilient future for all - Harnessing opportunities and ensuring rights and choices for all



Mark Bryan Schreiner, UNFPA's representative in Tanzania, speaks at World Population Day commemoration event held in Manyara Region on Tuesday. The theme for this year is "A world of 8 billion: Towards a resilient future for all - Harnessing opportunities and ensuring rights and choices for all". As it suggests, there are 8 billion people living today but not all of them have equal rights and opportunities. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Mbeya zone hospital in tussle with farmers in Uyole Irrigation Scheme over land ownership

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

FARMERS in the Uyole Valley Irrigation Scheme area in Mbeya District, Mbeya Region are in tug-of-war with their District Commissioner, Dr Rashid Chuachua and the Mbeya Region Referral Hospital over the area's ownership with the latter two insisting the plot is earmarked for the Mbeya Region Referral Hospital expansion project.

The irrigation scheme is currently used by over 1,500 farmers growing various crops including horticultural products and who insist it is their land.

Reports say Mbeya Zone Referral Hospital has lined up the area for

among others, the construction of its cancer wing but farmers insist will not let go of the area. The tussle spurred the DC's visit to the area early this week and called on farmers to write a letter to the government and ask permission to continue using the scheme area for farming.

Speaking at a public meeting convened in the area on Tuesday, the farmers reiterated that they were not ready to move let alone asking for any government permission, saying the area is theirs legally.

The Scheme Chairperson, Maneno George said Mbeya Zone Referral Hospital officials have been telling them that the area belongs to the

hospital but when quizzed how the hospital acquired it, they had no answers.

George said the area traditionally belongs to farmers but they were surprised to be told that it has been owned by the hospital since 1976.

He said due to the farmers' steadfastness hospital officials approached the district commissioner for assistance, who in turn sided with the hospital and demanded farmers to vacate the scheme area.

Meanwhile, Igano ward councillor, Eliud Mbogela questioned the farmers if they were ready to write a letter to the government for permission to stay, they answered in unison that they

were not ready to do so.

George further said they do not see any basic reason to write such a letter and instead challenged the DC to come with officials of Mbeya Zone Referral Hospital so that the true owner of the area is known.

He also called on the scheme's chairman to convey to the DC the response from the farmers.

Some farmers said that the DC's directives could spur hunger to them as they depend upon the scheme for food crops production for their livelihood.

One of them, Agnes Mengo said the DC aims to starve them hence they are not ready to vacate the area, even if force is used.




 USAID
U.S. Agency for International Development
 President's Malaria Initiative




INVITATION TO BID FOR VARIOUS SUPPLIES AND SERVICES.

The PMI VectorLink Project is funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) through the United States President's Malaria Initiative (PMI). The PMI VectorLink Project is Implemented by Abt Associates Inc. in collaboration with the National Malaria Control Programme (NMCP) of the Ministry of Health, Regional Administration, and Local Government in Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar Malaria Elimination Programme. The focus of PMI VectorLink Tanzania is the reduction of malaria related morbidity and mortality in selected high burden malaria districts by carrying out Indoor Residual Spraying (IRS) interventions.

Abt Associates/ PMI VectorLink Project is inviting bids from reputable companies who have successfully undertaken similar contracts to bid for the supply of various goods and services as below:

LOT No	GOODS/SERVICE DESCRIPTIONS	BID REFERENCE NO
1.	The Provision of sites refurbishment in Kasulu and Kibondo Districts	RFQ VLT 07-07-2022
2.	Supply of fuel (Diesel, Petrol and other petroleum products) in or close to the following locations: Kibondo, Kasulu, Chato and Mwanza	RFQ VLT-07-08-2022
3.	The provision of catering services to spray operators during IRS campaign in Kasulu and Kibondo Districts	RFQ VLT 07-09-2022

Companies wishing to participate should request applicable copies of solicitation in writing to TanzaniaProcurement@pmivectorlink.com by **July 26, 2022, at 10:00hrs** and provide a contact name, company name, phone number and email address.

The respective Request for Quotations (RFQs) will be sent electronically to the interested bidders through company email address sent to Abt.

**Plot No. 73, Block W, Nyamagana, Station Road, Capri Point,
P. O. Box 1212, Mwanza, Tanzania.**


VISIONFUND TANZANIA MICROFINANCE BANK LTD
VACANCIES

VisionFund Tanzania Microfinance Bank Ltd (VFT MFB) formerly known as SEDA is a fast growing and reputable Micro Finance Bank (MFB), has a loan book of TZs. 20 billion and more than 30,000 customer base, more that 5,000 of them being small holder farmers. VFT-MFB is seeking to employ a dynamic and committed Tanzanian young men & women who have passion for people's economic development to fill in the vacant position detailed here below;

Work reference no. 014/22
Position: Field Officer Supervisor
Reporting to: Project Manager

Responsibility:

- To coordinate FAST product targets and ensure efficient performance for Field Officers.

Main tasks

1. Setting targets with Field officers and ensure daily activity plan is in place.
2. Undertake group verification to groups that has completed full circle of training from Field Officer.
3. Monitoring FAST product and Field Officer Performance on regular basis.
4. Continuously coaching and training Field Officer.
5. Ensure proper reporting of FAST loan in core banking system and Bank bi
6. Oversight of other financial products to saving groups such as insurance and savings for saving groups (Depending on VFT-MFB strategic plan).
7. Support Branch/Business Centres in building a pipeline of potential savings groups.
8. Source and linking potential partner with FAST Project Manager.
9. Share FAST performance report for the respec-

tive Branch/Business Centre to Branch/Business Centre Manager and other stakeholders including partners.

10. Assist Field Officer to manage troublesome groups.

Education/Experience

- Bachelor Degree in Rural/Community Development, Agri Business, Marketing, Economics and Business Administration
- Very good knowledge of oral & written English
- Very good analytical & reporting skills
- Proficient with Microsoft applications
- At least 2 years' experience in working direct with Savings Groups

Mode of Application:
 Interested and suitably qualified individuals should forward their application letter, attaching copies of their academic and professional certificates; detailed CVs with three referees to: vftHRstaff@vftz.co.tz.
 The position should be the subject of the email application.

OR; through the postal address below:

**The Chief Executive Officer,
 VisionFund Tanzania Microfinance Bank Limited,
 P.O. Box 1546,
 Arusha TANZANIA.**

The application should reach the undersigned not later than **5th August 2022.**

N.B. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted

Disclaimer
 VisionFund Tanzania Microfinance Bank would like to inform the general public that it has not engaged any consultant/agent to conduct recruitment on its behalf.

'296bn/- earmarked for construction of 50MW solar power project in Kishapu'

By Guardian Reporter, Shinyanga

CONSTRUCTION of the 150MW solar power project in Kishapu District, Shinyanga Region, whose power will be injected into the National Power Grid is scheduled to begin in November this year.

This was revealed during the visit by the energy minister, January Makamba, in Kishapu District when he toured Ngunya village, the site of the solar project.

The project is to cost euro 115.3 million equivalent to 296 billion/- expected to be completed in 2023.

The project will be implemented in two phases, whereas the first phase will involve the construction of 50MW plant going in tandem with the grid modernization to enable to carry the renewable energy load.

The second phase will involve expansion of the plant by generating an additional 100MW.

Speaking to residents of Ngunya Village, Makamba assured them that the project will be implemented saying: "we are certain about this because sponsors thereof have officially endorsed the funds while we have started the process to procure a contractor."

Makamba added that the process to get the contractor has begun and so far three capable firms have been picked and by the end of this month the final contractor will be known. "The project will transform Kishapu District, and for the first time in our country's history, solar power will be injected into the national grid and Kishapu will be the source of that solar power and will be imprinted on the world map, covering more than 1,000 hectares of land," said Makamba.

He further said the project will incorporate other social projects such as water, rural power, schools and health centres.

In regard to compensation to the people whose land will be taken up for the project's construction, he directed TANESCO to ensure transparency, including the amount of compensation to be paid to avoid complaints from the people.

He called on assessors to do their work justly so that every villager should be proud of the project instead of seeing it as the project that defrauded them.



Barrick North Mara general manager Apolinary Lyambiko (in blue) pictured yesterday briefing Mara regional commissioner Ally Hapi (to his right) on operations at the mine. The RC was an official visit to the mine. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



The project will transform Kishapu District, and for the first time in our country's history, solar power will be injected into the national grid and Kishapu will be the source of that solar power and will be imprinted on the world map, covering more than 1,000 hectares of land

66.9km Kidatu-Ifakara tarmac road 59 percent complete - TANROADS

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

The 66.9km Kidatu-Ifakara tarmac road construction in Morogoro Region is now 59 per cent complete and is expected to be finished early 2023.

The work that began in 2018 was earmarked to be completed in April 2020, but due to various challenges that came up including poor work supervision and the contractor's capability contributed to the delay.

This was revealed here on Wednesday this week by the Morogoro TANROADS Manager, Eng Alinanuswe Kyamba after the road work inspection at Kidatu area in Kilombero District.

Kyamba said construction work of the tarmac road was fast proceeding day and night to make sure it is completed within the agreed time.

He said apart from the work being 59 per cent complete, already a 29km stretch has been tarmacked while the pace is now directed to the construction of bridges and culverts so that by May next year the road should be ready.

He cited reasons for the project's delay as including the big number of bridges and culverts to be built, the fact that necessitated more time for the contractor.

"This road is essential for the economic growth of Morogoro Region and the nation in general, hence the government saw the need to build it at tarmac level to reduce inconveniences to road users and spur economic growth," he added.

Meanwhile, Ally Shukuru, a Mang'ula resident said the completion of the road at tarmac level will also save the lives of people, in particular pregnant women who died en route to give birth at far located hospitals as well as easing transport of farm crops.

He said the road is very much depended in transporting commercial crops from Kilombero, Malinyi and Ulanga Districts to Morogoro Town, as well as to Dar es Salaam, Iringa and Mbeya regions.

The project is sponsored by funds from the European Union (EU), UK-AID and the US Aid for International Development (USAID) and more than euro 40.4 million has been provided.

Achieve More

PUBLICATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
DIAMOND TRUST BANK TANZANIA LIMITED
Issued pursuant to regulations 7 and 8 of the Banking and Financial Institutions (Disclosures) Regulations, 2014

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2022			
(Amount in million shillings)			
	Current quarter June 30, 2022	Previous quarter March 31, 2022	
A. ASSETS			
1 Cash	25,504	22,106	
2 Balance with Bank of Tanzania	242,415	262,669	
3 Investment in Government securities	292,818	250,751	
4 Balances with Other banks and financial institutions	73,952	89,532	
5 Cheques and items for clearing	-	53	
6 Interbranch float items	-	-	
7 Bills negotiated	-	-	
8 Customers' liabilities for acceptances	-	-	
9 Interbank Loans Receivables	66,825	67,952	
10 Investments in other securities	-	-	
11 Loans, Advances and overdrafts	-	-	
(net of allowances for probable losses)	773,891	754,550	
12 Other Assets	31,754	30,133	
13 Equity investments	-	-	
14 Underwriting accounts	-	-	
15 Property, Plant and Equipment	37,709	38,822	
16 Right of use asset	18,757	19,493	
17 TOTAL ASSETS	1,565,629	1,536,041	
B. LIABILITIES			
18 Deposits from other banks and financial institutions	14,395	31,841	
19 Customer deposits	1,207,984	1,150,789	
20 Cash letters of credit	863	7,498	
21 Special deposits	1,106	675	
22 Payment orders/transfers payable	-	-	
23 Bankers Cheques and drafts issued	-	36	
24 Accrued interest and other expenses payable	2,394	2,960	
25 Acceptances outstanding	-	-	
26 Interbranch float items	-	-	
27 Unearned income and other deferred charges	1,658	1,540	
28 Other liabilities	9,816	9,247	
29 Long term borrowing	88,980	94,248	
30 Lease liability	22,646	22,738	
31 TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,349,842	1,321,972	
32 NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)(16 minus 29)	215,783	214,489	
C. SHAREHOLDERS' FUND			
33 Paid up share capital	2,520	2,520	
34 Capital reserves	45,935	45,935	
35 Retained earnings	157,514	157,514	
36 Profit/(Loss) account	6,777	5,483	
37 Other capital accounts	3,037	3,037	
38 Minority Interest	-	-	
39 TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	215,783	214,489	
D. SELECTED FINANCIAL CONDITION INDICATORS			
(i) Shareholders fund to total assets	13.8%	14.0%	
(ii) Non performing loans to total gross loans	5.3%	4.6%	
(iii) Gross loans and advances to total deposits	66.3%	66.3%	
(iv) Loans and advances to total assets	49.4%	49.1%	
(v) Earning assets to Total assets	72.0%	68.5%	
(vi) Annualized deposits growth	15.3%	18.7%	
(vii) Annualized assets growth	22.8%	37.3%	

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW STATEMENT				
FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30 JUNE 2022				
(Amounts in million shillings)				
	Current quarter June 30, 2022	Previous quarter March 31, 2022	Current Year Cumulative June 30, 2022	Comparative Year (Previous Year) Cumulative June 30, 2021
I: Cash flows from operating activities:				
Net income	5,434	7,509	12,943	6,080
Adjustments for:				
Impairment/ Amortization	9,185	6,901	16,086	12,302
Loss on sale of assets	(27,120)	3,161	(23,959)	27,397
Net change in Loans and advances	(20)	(2)	(22)	(13)
Net change in deposits	51,141	22,710	73,851	37,273
Net change in short term Negotiable Securities	(57,703)	-	(57,703)	38,182
Net change in Other Liabilities	(28)	2,083	2,055	(11,543)
Net change in Other Assets	3,184	(11,582)	(8,398)	(7,750)
Income tax paid	(3,005)	(3,005)	(6,010)	(5,410)
Others (specify)	-	-	-	-
Net cash provided (used) by operating activities	(18,932)	27,775	8,843	96,518
II: Cash flows from investing activities				
Dividend Received	-	-	-	-
Purchase of Fixed assets	(776)	(4,970)	(5,746)	(667)
Proceeds from sale of Fixed Assets	3	1	4	16
Purchase of Non -Dealing Securities	-	-	-	(70,182)
Proceeds from sale of Non -Dealing Securities	11,832	45,663	57,495	-
Others (specify)	-	-	-	-
Net cash provided (used) by investing activities	11,059	40,694	51,753	(70,833)
III: Cash flows from financing activities:				
Repayment of Long-term Debt	-	(1,988)	(1,988)	(4,052)
Proceeds from issuance of Long Term debt	-	-	-	-
Proceeds from issuance of share Capital	-	-	-	-
Payment of Cash Dividends	-	-	-	-
Net Change in Other Borrowings	-	-	-	-
Others (specify)	-	-	-	-
Net cash used by financing activities	-	(1,988)	(1,988)	(4,052)
IV: Cash and cash equivalents:				
Net increase (Decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(7,873)	66,481	58,608	21,633
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the Beginning of the Quarter/Year	252,039	185,558	185,558	166,246
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the end of the Quarter/Year	244,166	252,039	244,166	187,879

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY AS AT 30 JUNE 2022						
	Share Capital	Share Premium	Retained Earnings	Regulatory Reserve	Others	Total
Current Year						
Balance as at the beginning of the year	2,520	45,935	157,514	-	3,037	209,006
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-	6,777	6,777
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transactions with owners	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dividends Paid	-	-	-	-	-	-
Regulatory Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-
General Provision Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance as at the end of the current period	2,520	45,935	157,514	-	9,814	215,783
Previous Year						
Balance as at the beginning of the year	2,520	45,935	139,252	6,273	1,103	195,083
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-	4,256	4,256
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transactions with owners	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dividends Paid	-	-	-	-	-	-
Regulatory Reserve	-	-	5,639	(5,639)	-	-
General Provision Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others	-	-	-	-	-	-
Balance as at the end of the previous period	2,520	45,935	144,891	634	5,359	199,339

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME				
FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30 JUNE 2022				
(Amount in million shillings)				
	Current Quarter June 30, 2022	Previous Quarter Comparative June 30, 2021	Current Year Cumulative June 30, 2022	Previous Year Comparative June 30, 2021
1 Interest Income	28,054	24,332	55,519	46,756
2 Interest Expense	(8,507)	(6,927)	(15,143)	(13,706)
3 Net Interest Income (1 minus 2)	19,547	17,405	40,376	33,050
4 Bad Debts Written Off	(164)	(2,661)	(2,715)	(2,973)
5 Impairment on Loans and Advances	(7,310)	(4,503)	(12,465)	(8,988)
6 Non-Interest Income:	8,249	6,853	15,862	12,729
6.1 Foreign Currency Dealings and Translation Gains	2,774	2,480	5,963	4,257
6.2 Fee and Commissions	5,447	4,332	9,847	8,393
6.3 Dividend Income	-	-	-	-
6.4 Other Operating income	28	41	52	79
7 Non interest expense	15,388	14,297	30,611	27,738
7.1 Salaries and Benefits	6,260	5,176	12,534	10,538
7.2 Fees and Commission	56	47	150	80
7.3 Other Operating expenses	9,072	9,074	17,927	17,120
8 Operating Income	5,434	2,797	12,943	6,080
9 Income Tax Provision	(4,540)	(839)	(6,164)	(1,824)
10 Net Income/(Loss) After Income Tax	1,294	1,958	6,777	4,256
11 Other Comprehensive Income (Itemize)	-	-	-	-
12 Total comprehensive income for the year	1,294	1,958	6,777	4,256
13 Number of employees	558	536	558	536
14 Basic Earning Per Share	205	311	538	338

FRIDAY 22 JULY 2022

Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

Sober analysis needed in seeking to improve efficiency at Dar port

IMPATIENCE is visible in various quarters with the port of Dar es Salaam at heart, for good or for worse, and eagerly wishing to hear whether the government is planning to renew the soon-expiring lease contract for the Tanzania International Container Terminal Services (TICTS).

From the look of things, the matter is so intense in high-level corridors of the relevant ministerial authorities that what the government precisely wishes to do with the issue is being publicly demanded.

An evident view is that the pressure continues exactly where the lobby stood in 2000, when TICTS entered the scene, and then on to 2005 and thereafter to 2017.

Top officials of the Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) have been at pains to ask interested parties to bid their time, as the solution to such intricate issues confining the government to particular courses of action are unlikely to be made at the port authority's premises.

Just as would apply to most other agencies, much of TPA's role as management and board is to advise the government.

Presumably, the lobbies now busy at work don't want the government to judiciously decide but, rather, simply to say 'yes' to their chorus of protests.

Still the stream of decision-making since 2000 is solidly at variance with the criticism of the firm, whose stakeholders are not easily admitting that what we are witnessing or hearing about has any impact of the pain of oversight the authorities may be experiencing.

That is exactly what is missing in the strident criticism of TICTS that is being dispatched to whoever is available to listen and report on their arguments.

Surprisingly, these mix inefficiencies with relation to the economy, the port authority and the company involved into a single frame of criticism - that of TICTS.

At another level, it must be said that

the government has traditionally fallen short of being forthright about what is involved - for instance, with respect to the intensity of pilferage in export and import cargo.

Having an alternative more accountable than the thousands of state employees deployed at the port was a vital aspect of port reform in 2000. But how exactly this has helped is hard to say.

For one thing, upon being reviewed, the 2017 contract had the government raising the annual fee that TICTS pays for leasing the terminal from US\$7 million to US\$14 million, with the fee projected to be increased each year by 3.8 per cent in the terms of the deal.

While the port is an undeniably invaluable source of budgetary funds for the government, it is legitimate to ask if this change may have altered its charges especially on importers and contributed to the of diminishing the use of the Dar es Salaam port for transit cargo.

'Levellers' will say all such reduction is a result of TICTS' inefficiency or even that tax policies have nothing to do with the numbers.

Asking TICTS to ensure the growth of container traffic by 37 per cent annually may have raised eyebrows, and it managed less than one per cent increase.

It seems that this element in the accord was a sweetener for the public to back the deal in view of traditional opposition to a private sector agent taking up such a strategic position at the port.

Clearly, the port is home to a lucrative and often corrupt cargo handling business which the government needs to find the way to handle appropriately and profitably.

This underscores the need to put in place a second window with enhanced assurance that cargo will be safe. In part, it compels even the TPA rank and file to work better - that is if the port is to retain and, even better, promote customer loyalty.

Extending reach of African banks stands to bolster investment flows

A VISITING professor at the University of Dar es Salaam once appealed to Africa to desist from just complaining about dominance by Western trading groups.

The scholar recommended that companies in Africa instead promote trade with one another and exercise 'counter penetration' by operating more intensively in the markets of industrialised countries.

That meant being active participants in the operations of international financial markets or other service industries - and, fortunately, this is now increasingly becoming a part of reality.

African banking institutions are further anchoring into international markets, with Nigerian-based United Bank for Africa opening a branch in Dubai.

The bank already operates in 20 African countries along with the US, Britain and France, taking the number of host countries to its activities to 24.

Since the bank is operating in Tanzania as well, it follows that this branch will ease the work for Middle East and Gulf business groups seeking to do business in Tanzania.

While this achievement has been registered by a Nigerian bank, it is clear that many in Africa will be real stakeholders of this achievement, as opening a bank branch outside one country's borders requires financial muscle.

Assuming that the new branch will actually channel investments to the African 20 countries in Africa where it operates, it will greatly contribute to the belated rise of a 'new international economic order' where African countries are integrated into financial

markets and permanent investments.

Experience on the continent shows that when economies are wholly tied to the earth, seeking raw materials like minerals, crops, grazing land or levying tolls at the main port of any particular country, it is hard to ensure the prevalence of peace.

Economic actors accept peaceful conduct when they have plenty of room in which to practise democracy when they are happily competing with one another.

All this requires investment flows that convert potential in a country into well-anchored economic activity, without which countries break up into natural groups and at times end up fighting over resources.

Those who don't grasp this necessity may think that the problem was the Constitution, and use up decades trying to write workable constitutions but to little or no avail.

This singular achievement has been registered by a Nigerian bank, but we have banks and industrial groups in Tanzania which for decades have shown the way in the eastern and southern African region.

Prof Jonathan Moyo, a former Zimbabwean information minister, once said at the University of Dar es Salaam that, upon returning home, he wished to organise a visit by key media practitioners from Zimbabwe and South Africa in particular to media organs of the IPP Group, "just to show that Africans can do these things as well".

Why not? Azam Media Group has helped to enliven premier league soccer in the region with sponsorships and live coverage. And what exact influence - positive or otherwise - does have here?

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By Rick Edmonds

I reported a month ago, as did The Washington Post, that Gannett had directed its 250 papers to stop lecturing readers, to cut back on institutional voice editorials and to save staff and newsprint expense by eliminating print opinion or editorial pages most days of the week.

That may be a fait accompli at Gannett, but I see the company's new definition of best practice continue to touch off a range of strong opinions (pardon the expression) inside the company and out.

I have harvested a sampler of reactions over the last month, one relating to an editor blasting the directive. The particular editor, on a mid-sized Gannett paper and asking for anonymity for fear of retaliation from the company for speaking out, told me in one of several conversations: "Opinion is really important. ... People need models of how to have civil discussions at a time when there is so much blather on social media."

The editor noted that, while community-generated columns are part of the mix, so is reasonable advocacy in the newspaper's voice - meaning that well-crafted local editorials do fine in traffic and response.

The editor took particular exception to how the policy was changed, noting: "It came down very hard and swiftly ... very top-down and with no consultation with editors."

Amalie Nash, senior vice president for local news and audience development, had pointed me to an April memo that described the cutbacks as recommendations rather than directives. But the editor was far from impressed.

Nash's memo, which was cast as a strong suggestion, was followed two months later by "an order" from one of Gannett's design centres that produces pages remotely.

Nash told me in an email: "Inflationary pressures and rising costs necessitated that we look closely at page counts, and in some cases led to reductions. Our Design Centre worked closely with editors on those plans, including how much space is being dedicated to opinion content."

"Ha, ha," the editor emailed me when shown the comment. "If by 'worked closely with editors' she means sent down an edict, then I suppose yes."

Several editors' notes at various papers that explained the reduction to readers apologised for the abruptness and at least implied that the decision came top-down from corporate headquarters.

Cost-driven and one size fits all?

Brendan O'Meara is a part-timer who functions as opinion editor of

To editorialise or not? After Gannett cuts way back, the debate continues.

The Register-Guard of Eugene, Oregon. The evening after my story appeared, he wrote in an email: "I was once on the editorial board. We used to write editorials. Then the publisher got canned, and I stayed on to be the steward of the sinking ship. I only didn't get canned because I'm cheap (US\$18.50 an hour) and part-time."

"A few weeks ago, we went from seven days to three. And this week we go from three to two. With each draining of the pool, fewer people submit letters and guest essays, which keeps the product circling the drain until nobody submits anything."

"Plus, over the past few years, all our opinion content was categorically sandbagged and never given any socialising. Thus, they perform poorly. When they perform poorly, it can be cut."

"It's all bogus. I hate it. But what can you do? Who can even afford to be a journalist? I can because my wife makes three times as much as I do. But that's a conversation for another day!"

O'Meara told me in a phone conversation that he is planning to leave the company this summer and so he did not mind being quoted by name. As his email suggests, he sees the downsizing as relentless.

"They notice when things are shrinking down," he said of readers. He rarely writes editorials anymore, relying instead on a prolific columnist and various community contributors.

O'Meara said one of his strategies has been to drop in an occasional right-wing column to stir up dialogue: "We published one by Marc Thiessen, a super-conservative Washington Post columnist, and that sparked off some indignant letter writers and opened a dialogue."

That door is closing, too. One of Gannett's moves earlier this year was to cancel most nationally syndicated columnists. Each such step, O'Meara said, "takes away any core vitality the paper still has."

In my exchanges with Nash, she has said that remaining internal critics are outliers. The shift downplaying conventional editorials had been in progress and accepted for years at Gannett.

I called Michael Anastasi, executive editor and regional editor for the South at The Tennessean in Nashville, who chaired a 2018 committee of Gannett editors that looked hard at traditional editorial pages and judged them mostly obsolete.

"I began on this more than 10 years ago," Anastasi said, while editing the Los Angeles News Group (part of the Digital First chain, now MediaNews

Group, owned by hedge fund Alden Global Capital).

When Anastasi moved to The Tennessean in the mid-2010s, he found a kindred spirit in opinion and engagement director David Plazas. Together they set about replacing a traditional editorial page lineup with opinion content from their own local columnists and community contributors.

Gannett was meanwhile doing market and traffic research suggesting that editorials and national columns were not liked and not read in the polarised climate of the Trump years. Confusion over the distinction between news reports and opinion, already an issue in the print era, was substantially worse for digital content.

Many other Gannett editors had reached the same conclusion or came on board, resulting in a committee recommendation in 2018 of the big changes throughout the chain that have swept along some stragglers this spring.

What took so long? The Gannett/GateHouse merger happened in late 2019, requiring a massive years-long effort to integrate the GateHouse outlets, and editorial page changes fell far down the list. Plus: there were the two years of coping with Covid-19 and advertisement shortfalls.

Anastasi's formula steers away from soft content. "These are hard conversations," he said, "but we have found a lot of people who yearn for them. ... It's also part of a strategy that we think contributes to brand perception and growth."

Anastasi hasn't seen much to change his mind about a more traditional editorial page approach. "I'm a voracious opinion reader and read The New York Times, The Washington Post and The Wall Street Journal every day. ... But there are still (regional) sites that, to my mind, continue to produce mediocre pages with a lot of blah, blah, blah. ... A lot are still doing (editorials that are) just beard-strokers."

My impression that many sites outside the Gannett chain still go for a mix of community-driven conversation and vigorous editorials on local matters was borne out by checking a few during the July 4 week.

Rick Nelson, opinion editor of The Post and Courier, explained the organisation's policy in an email:

"We typically produce about ten editorials and three staff-written columns per week, run letters to the editor and publish a full op-ed page three days a week. Sunday is a three-page section with two editorials, letters and two op-ed pages."

"A robust opinion section helps

drive the community conversation and serves as a place to exchange ideas, especially on local and state issues that generally have more impact on people's day-to-day lives...

"We track how well opinion pieces - both editorials and op-eds - perform online, and we work hard to give readers timely and relevant content."

"Strong opinion pages perform a vital public service by fostering a dialogue and providing a space for different perspectives... Our duty is to help spark off constructive conversations and ensure that citizens have a place to make their voices heard."

"We try very hard to give space to readers who disagree with our positions. Unfortunately, some people today believe that the best way to fight an opinion they don't like is to mischaracterise it or to try to disguise opinions as facts in rebuttal."

Edward Wasserman, professor of journalism and retired dean at the University of California Berkeley, took up the cause of editorials in a July 8 op-ed in the San Francisco Chronicle.

His piece was headlined "The nation's biggest newspaper chain wants to scale back its opinion pages. That is a grave mistake".

Wasserman suspects that the Gannett changes are largely financially driven: "Controversy is no longer considered, even relished, as a staple part of news publishing; now it's an expensive luxury. Gannett's new policy will do away with nationally syndicated writers and put a premium on locally generated opinion focused on 'local' matters - at lower cost, naturally."

He notes: "True, as the Gannett critique points out, some of the chain's opinion pages have grown stale and redundant, but that argues for an editorial reboot, not closure."

What's next?

I gravitate to Wasserman's view that well-crafted editorials need not be stale and pro forma. But to hit those high notes you need seasoned professionals with strong reporting and writing skills - and they don't come cheap.

I am afraid though that Gannett is a pacesetter for regional papers in another and unfortunate way - deciding that as financial pressure pinches, a full-out editorial/opinion effort may be the next thing to go.

Gannett Co., Inc., is one of the largest newspaper publishers in the United States, with interests in newspaper websites and television broadcasting. Rick Edmonds is media business analyst for the Poynter Institute, where he has done research and writing for the last fifteen years.

Tales of a young graduate in the city and the misfortunes of mid-life crisis

I'M seated on a wooden bench under a palm leaves-thatched shed located at a vantage point deep in the heart of a wildlife reserve watching a herd of elephants grazing peacefully below, oblivious of the chaotic world out there.

A fortnight ago, I handed in my final year project which marked the end of a five-year pursuit of my undergraduate degree. Faced with the biggest dilemma of my life, I traveled down to this remote camping site to strategize on my next step.

The decision I'm about to make is to either take the job offered or turn it down and instead follow my passion which happens to be unconventional—freelance writing.

Having interned at more than three different companies in the city where I interacted with middle class citizens on a daily basis, I came to find the kind of lives they lead quite insatiable. Nothing scares me like the idea of being sucked into the middle class bubble, lose my zeal for achieving greatness and getting into a comfort zone should I take the job.

As a graduate with an upper class, I secure a job in one of the already established companies in the city thanks to my parent's connections. Having saved some money three months into the job, I decide to take a soft loan to supplement the savings in order to move out of the nest.

My choice of new digs would be in-



fluenced by what my acquaintances consider cool. High chances are that I would end up in an overpriced apartment in the prime areas of the city instead of a decent house in a less envious part of the city where one gets true value for their money. A huge chunk of the loan would be spent on furniture and home electronics.

Keen to maintain an image, taxis would become my preferred choice of transport until the application I made for a car loan goes through. The next step would be to acquire a Crown or Toyota Mark X and as soon as the word goes round that I have some new wheels, the few opportunistic ladies I know from my nascent years

would magically regain interest.

Five years later, I'm approaching 30 and my mother's incessant demands for me to settle down get to me and I borrow money to finance the wedding.

A few months later bring together two dozens of friends and relatives then extract a substantial contribution from them towards bankrolling my wedding. The wedding has to be glamorous; something so grand that everyone will talk about it for days without a care of the kind of damage that it would do to my finances.

As years progress, I sire two beautiful children. I decide to take a loan to pursue an MBA. A smart move since upon gradu-

ating, my employer promotes me to middle level management.

Now that the pay is better, I move into a bigger apartment and take yet another loan to buy a bigger ride befitting my new stature. The changes don't stop there. Soon enough I switch joints where I shop, eat and drink for fancier ones.

I also transfer my children to expensive but not necessarily quality private schools whose annual tuition fee is more than the price of a quarter acre plot.

The changes put so much pressure on me that I have to take an advance salary almost every month in order to stay afloat. One day I wake up and it hits me: I

ought to plan for retirement and how to put my children through college.

With all the money I borrowed in my youth to support my fancy lifestyle, the future looks grim. I'm left with no choice but to take a mortgage since a person of my age ought to own a house. I start a small business on the side to help me dig myself out of debt. The business goes under in less than a year.

As if aware of my desperate situation, the boss puts me on a short leash, threatening to take action should I fail to give in to unreasonable demands. I'm fully cognizant of the fact that without the job and incentives it offers my family would sink to abject poverty.

I work even harder, wake up at 5:30 am every weekday, maneuver through heavy traffic to work, skip lunch then pass through the local bar on my way home. I virtually turn into a robot. Same people, same schedule every single day. Afraid of losing money, I only make safe investments which are often less profitable.

Midlife crisis strikes. Career stagnation turns me into a constant grumbler. I find faulty in everything from the country's governance to my spouse's behavior.

I mistreat anyone whom I think is beneath me. It depresses me further to see former classmates lead better lives. This resentment grows bigger every single day. I keep wishing I had pursued my dreams when I had a chance instead of choosing the safest option. Sometimes I even contemplate suicide.

There's intense sorrow in being content with living an average life. The only way one can amass real wealth is by applying the law of delayed gratification; planning for the future, cutting on expenses, saving and investing.

Taking endless loans to maintain an image is bound to result in dire financial consequences in the future. The average routine comfort zoned lifestyle hasn't helped anyone achieve greatness.

BY THOMAS LYIMO

EDUCATION is the most powerful tool which you can use to change the world, remarked anti-Apartheid icon and President of South Africa, the late Nelson Mandela.

For, it adds tremendous value to livelihoods in the communities and the nation at large. High quality of education begets high standards of living and the vice versa is also true.

In Tanzanian, it was the pioneer Pan Africanist and the first President of our country, the late Mwalimu Julius Nyerere who maintained that education is only a value if it is valued. This was when he introduced the policy of education for self-reliance which was important then and is still important today.

The policy of education for self-reliance was a result of the Arusha Declaration of 1967 which inaugurated socialism in our country. The declaration put emphasis on the aspects of love, unity and peace.

These aspects are good for building a strong nation able to maintain her freedom. Nyerere believed that 'there is no development if there is no freedom, and if accidentally you get freedom without development, you will lose that freedom.'

The thoughts of Nyerere are still valid in this 21st century which is characterized by high degree of competition in the capitalist system in which few care for others as sometimes economic pursuits are above human dignity and protection.

With what Nyerere held, education is the engine for socio-economic development of a given country but manifests only when some important aspects or issues are carefully considered and incorporated in the education system for the country to attain desired development so that our freedom is not lost.

When we honour the thoughts of Nyerere on how to become self-reliant and maintain our freedom, we need to at least make sure that five basic skills are on the provision in our education. These will mean something to our way of thinking and doing things.

The first skill to consider is inventory skill. If education does not provide this skill to the students and people at large, we may challenge the validity of our education.

We cannot become self-reliant and maintain our freedom when the education system does not instill into the minds of the students the inventory skills.

It is the task of policy makers on education and others actors to make sure that provision of education

To improve quality, we must first appreciate the value of education



seeks to provide this skill to the students. The European countries invested heavily in research in the 16th century—the century of enlightenment—which enabled inventions.

Can't we learn something from this? We better do and fail rather than failing to do. Let us not be like the Luddites of the English woollen industry who instead of confronting the capitalists of the time who were their real enemies, they resorted to destroying ma-

chines.

Budgeting skill is the second one in the chain of the five. The meaning of budgeting arises when resources are scarce and the wants are unlimited. Here we need to consider the scale of preference which demands us to satisfy the most pressing wants then the less pressing ones.

The value of budgeting skill is calibrated by some situations which may affect the economy such as the COVID-19 and the on-

going Russia-Ukraine war which created artificial scarcity of products and hence causing price rises which in turn lead to high cost of living. In response to this situation, we need to avoid unnecessary expenditure as profit levels in many undertakings have been reduced.

The third skill is prediction. Students must be capable of forecasting what may happen in the future in the whole range of social, political and economic atmosphere.

Simply, education must impart tools of analysis into the minds of the students. The students must be analysts on many of the social, political and economic matters so as to be able to effect changes.

Good students are results of good teachers. Therefore, there should be serious initiatives to improve the teacher training colleges and universities so as to do away with weaknesses that teachers have hence failing to produce competent products who can see

the future from the present.

The fourth skill which must be present in the content of our education is organization. The students need organizational skill so as to bring efficiency in the performance of all socio-economic activities by being able to supervise others in doing things in a manner worthy of bringing progress. In short, education should prepare leaders to execute important responsibilities of the nation for the benefit of all.

The last skill to be obtained from our education is evaluation. The objective of the curriculum should be making sure that the students are able to make assessment on what they have done or what has been done by others.

For instance, most farmers fail to understand whether they are gaining or losing because at the time of harvest, they cannot assess the costs incurred in the process of production. This situation hinders development in the agriculture sector.

Experts trained and hired must be able to assist farmers who are the majority Tanzanians in assessing their economic level after they have worked hard. Without evaluation there is no room for improvement.

Nyerere once said: "nobody can teach a person the best ways of living than those he knows himself." When the education system in Tanzania considers the five essential skills in making education a value, nobody can teach us how we can live. Also we will maintain our freedom and eventually become self-reliant.

Neglecting the five basic skills may force us to resort to foreigners to teach us how to live, take our freedom and subject us to total domination in all of our ways of life. Our education can and should defend the basis of Arusha declaration.

The author is a teacher based in Moshi. He can be reached through lyimo.thomas@yahoo.com

East African countries seek cross-border cooperation to combat wildlife trafficking

KIGALI

For many years, East African countries were considered wildlife trafficking hotspots. Now conservation organisations have started to mobilise all stakeholders to combat the illegal trade that targets animals – some to the edge of extinction.

“A slight progress has been made in combatting the illicit trade of wildlife and their products, but Governments from the region still face grave challenges posed by the fact that they are mostly single-species focused on their conservation efforts,” Andrew McVey, climate advisor at World Wildlife Fund (WWF) from East African region told IPS.

According to experts, while countries are committed to cooperation and collaboration to combat poaching and illegal wildlife trafficking within the shared ecosystems, organised criminal networks are cashing in on elephant poaching. Trafficking ivory has reached unprecedented volumes, and syndicates are operating with impunity and little fear of prosecution.

Delegates at the first Africa Protected Areas Congress (APAC) noted the lack of strict sanctions and penalties for illegal activities and limited disincentives to prevent poaching, trafficking or illicit trade impacted efforts to counter wildlife trafficking across the region. The gathering in Kigali was organised by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Fidele Ruzigandekwe, the Deputy Executive Secretary for Programs at the Rwandan-based Greater Virunga Transboundary Collaboration (GVTC), told IPS that sharing information, community empowerment and enforcing laws and judiciary system were among crucial factors needed to slow the illegal trade of wildlife. The GVTC is a conservation NGO working in Greater Virunga Landscape across transborder zones between Rwanda, Uganda, and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

“There is also a need to rely on technology such as high-tech surveillance devices to combat wildlife poachers and traffickers,” Ruzigandekwe added.

Elephant tusks are of high value in the Far East, particularly in China, Vietnam, the Philippines, and Malaysia, where many use them for ornamentation and religious purposes. Both scientists and activists believe that despite current mobilisation, the demand is still increasing as transnational syndicates involved in wildlife crime are exploiting new technologies and networks to escape



The Africa Protected Areas Congress (APAC), the first-ever continent-wide gathering of African leaders, citizens, and interest groups, gathered in Kigali from Monday, Jul 18 to Jul 23 to discuss the role of protected areas in conserving nature. Rwanda hosted the conference in partnership with the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the African Wildlife Foundation (AWF). CREDIT: Aimable Twahirwa/IPS

from arrests, prosecutions, or convictions

Although some experts were delighted to note that countries had made some progress in cooperating to fight trans-border wildlife trafficking, estimates by NGO TRAFFIC indicate that about 55 African Elephants are poached on the continent every day.

INTERPOL has identified East Africa as one of several priority regions for enhanced law enforcement responses to ivory trafficking.

Reports by the INTERPOL indicate that law enforcement officials recently discovered an illegal shipment of ivory inside shipping containers, primarily from Tanzania. It was to be transported to Asian maritime transit hubs.

Both scientists and decision-makers unanimously agreed on the need to mobilise more funding to support measures to

tackle ivory trafficking.

“Duplication of conservation efforts and inadequate collaboration among countries has been one of the greatest challenges to implementation,” Simon Kiarie, Principal Tourism Officer at the East African Community (EAC) Secretariat, told IPS.

To cope with these challenges, member countries of the EAC, including Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Burundi, South Sudan, and Rwanda, have jointly developed a Regional Strategy to Combat Poaching and Illegal Trade and Tracking of Wildlife and Wildlife Products which is being implemented at the regional and national levels.

The strategy revolves around six key pillars, including strengthening policy framework, enhancing law enforcement capacity, research and development, involvement of local communities and supporting regional and international col-

laboration.

During a session on the sidelines of the congress, many delegates expressed strong feelings that when the elephant population is threatened by poaching, local communities suffer too.

“Through the illegal trade in wildlife, local communities lose socially and economically important resources (...) the benefits from illegal wildlife trade are not shared among communities,” Telesphore Ngoga, a conservation analyst at Rwanda Development Board (RDB), a government body with conservation in its mandate told IPS.

The Rwandan Government introduced a Tourism Revenue Sharing programme in 2005 to share a percentage (currently 10%) of the total tourism park revenues with the communities living around the parks.

The major purpose of this community initiative is to encourage environmental and wildlife conservation and give back to the communities living near parks, who are socially and economically impacted by wildlife and other touristic endeavours.

Manasseh Karambizi, a former elephant poacher from Kayonza, a district in Eastern Rwanda, who became a park ranger, told IPS that after being sensitised about the dangers of wildlife hunting, he is now aware of the benefits of wildlife conservation.

“Thanks to the income generated from tourism activities from the neighbouring national park, communities are benefiting a lot. I am now able to feed my family, and my children are going to school,” the 46-year-old father of five said.

IPS UN Bureau Report

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS HALI HALISI 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS KIPIMA JOTO 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:30-10:00HRS DK 90 DUNIANI 10:00-11:00HRS KADOGOO 11:00-13:00HRS BONGO HITS 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS ZAIDI YA UMJUAVYO 16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEVUMA 18:00-21:00HRS BUZUKI TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:00-09:00HRS HABARI NA MATUKIYA 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



**REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF ZANZIBAR
PRESIDENT'S OFFICE -STATE HOUSE"**

GENERAL PROCUREMENT NOTICE

1. The Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar through the President's Office State House intends to use part of its proceeds from the allocations during FY 2022/23 to cover eligible payments under various contracts.
2. The Procurement and Disposal Management Unit of President's Office State House, on behalf of the Accounting Officer, hereby publish through this General Procurement Notice, all tenders during the Financial Year 2022/23
3. Interested Vendors and general public may apply and obtain further information from the following address: Head PDMU, Zanzibar, P.O BOX 2422 , TEL:+255 2230814/5 , FAX +255 2431822/2233722, E - mail: alimwalim@gmail.com

Description	Tender No.	Number of lots	Procurement Method	PRE-QUALIFICATION		INVITATION AND AWARD OF BIDS		
				Invitation Date	Notification of Applicants	Bid Invitation Date	Bid Closing-Opening	Notification of Award Date
1	2	3	4	5	7	8	9	10
SUPPLY,INSTALLATION AND COMMISSIONING OF ICT EQUIPMENTS AND ACCESSORIES (desktop, laptop, printer, photocopiers,server)	SMZ/A01/G/OD/2023/01	N/A	Open Domestic	19/07/2022	2-Aug-22	19-Jul-22	2-Aug-22	2-Sep-22
SUPPLY,INSTALLATION AND COMMISSIONING OF SECURITY EQUIPMENT AND SURVAILLANCE SYSTEM(alarm systems,access systems, baggage scanners/cctv)	SMZ/A01/G/OD/2023/02	Lot 1 and Lot 2	Open Domestic	19/07/2022	2-Aug-22	19-Jul-22	2-Aug-22	2-Sep-22
SUPPLY,INSTALLATION,SERVICING AND COMMISSIONING OF GENERAL HARDWARE AND ELECTRICAL ITEMS (generators,a/c,refrigerators)	SMZ/A01/G/OQ/2023/03	N/A	Open Quotation	19/07/2022	2-Aug-22	19-Jul-22	2-Aug-22	2-Sep-22
SUPPLY MOTOR VEHICLE SPARE PARTS, ACCESSORIES, TYRES, TUBES AND BATTERIES.	SMZ/A01/G/OD/2023/04	Lot 1 and Lot 2	Open Domestic	19/07/2022	2-Aug-22	19-Jul-22	2-Aug-22	2-Sep-22
SUPPLY,INSTALLATION,COMMISSIONING TELECOMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT(voice recorder,radio)	SMZ/A01/G/OD/2023/05	N/A	Open Domestic	19/07/2022	2-Aug-22	19-Jul-22	2-Aug-22	2-Sep-22
SUPPLY OF GENERAL OFFICE STATIONERY, COMPUTER CONSUMABLE & ACCESSORIES	SMZ/A01/G/OD/2023/06	Lot 1 and Lot 2	Open Domestic	19/07/2022	2-Aug-22	19-Jul-22	2-Aug-22	2-Sep-22
SUPPLY OF UTENSILS AND CUTLERLY AND DOMESTIC APPLIANCES	SMZ/A01/G/OD/2023/11	N/A	Open Domestic	19/07/2022	2-Aug-22	19-Jul-22	2-Aug-22	2-Sep-22
SUPPLY OF NEWSPAPERS, PERIODICALS AND JOURNALS	SMZ/A01/G/OD/2023/09	N/A	Open Domestic	19/07/2022	2-Aug-22	19-Jul-22	2-Aug-22	2-Sep-22
SUPPLY OF CLEANING MATERIALS, DETERGENTS AND DISINFECTANTS	SMZ/A01/G/OD/2023/07	N/A	Open Domestic	19/07/2022	2-Aug-22	19-Jul-22	2-Aug-22	2-Sep-22
SUPPLY OF FARMLANDSCAPING EQUIPMENT AND IMPLEMENTS	SMZ/A01/G/OD/2023/08	N/A	Open Domestic	19/07/2022	2-Aug-22	19-Jul-22	2-Aug-22	2-Sep-22
SUPPLY OF MOTOR VEHICLE AND MOTOR CYCLE	SMZ/A01/G/OD/2023/10	N/A	Open Domestic	19/07/2022	2-Aug-22	19-Jul-22	2-Aug-22	2-Sep-22
SUPPLY OF FURNITURES, FURNISHINGS AND FITTINGS,CURTAIN,CARPETS	SMZ/A01/G/OD/2023/12	N/A	Open Domestic	19/07/2022	2-Aug-22	19-Jul-22	2-Aug-22	2-Sep-22
SUPPLY OF DRY FOODS AND BEVARAGES	SMZ/A01/G/OD/2023/14	N/A	Open Domestic	19/07/2022	2-Aug-22	19-Jul-22	2-Aug-22	2-Sep-22
SUPPLY OF SPORTS EQUIPMENT	SMZ/A01/G/OD/2023/16	N/A	Open Domestic	19/07/2022	2-Aug-22	19-Jul-22	2-Aug-22	2-Sep-22
SUPPLY OF FUEL	SMZ/A01/G/OD/2023/18	N/A	Open Domestic	19/07/2022	2-Aug-22	19-Jul-22	2-Aug-22	2-Sep-22
SUPPLY SUPPLY OF FIRE FIGHTING EQUIPMENT AND REFILLING (GAS)	SMZ/A01/G/OD/2023/13	N/A	Open Quotation	19/07/2022	2-Aug-22	19-Jul-22	2-Aug-22	2-Sep-22
MISCELLANEOUS REPAIR AND MAINTANCE SERVICES (ICT Equipment/CCTV/Decorders/Machinery)	SMZ/A01/G/OD/2023/19	Lot 1,Lot 2 and Lot 3	Open Quotation	19/07/2022	2-Aug-22	19-Jul-22	2-Aug-22	2-Sep-22
SUPPLY OF RECORDS TREATMENT SOLUTIONS	SMZ/A01/G/OD/2023/17	N/A	Open Quotation	19/07/2022	2-Aug-22	19-Jul-22	2-Aug-22	2-Sep-22
SUPPLY OF UNIFORMS	SMZ/A01/G/OD/2023/15	N/A	Open Quotation	19/07/2022	2-Aug-22	19-Jul-22	2-Aug-22	2-Sep-22

The Africa we want is still within reach - & it is a priority for the United Nations

UNITED NATIONS.

The "Africa We Want" - as outlined in Agenda 2063 - embodies the African Union's bold vision of an integrated, prosperous, and peaceful continent.

An Africa shaped by its own narrative, informed by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force on the world stage. The United Nations shares this vision and its realization through the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Today's event provides a global platform for African Member States and the United Nations and partners to share progress and reaffirm that giving light to this vision remains our shared priority. Sadly, Africa's development gains are at risk, as a consequence of the current three ongoing crises.

First, the COVID-19 pandemic. The effects of the pandemic have reversed progress made over the past two decades, and further shrank an already limited fiscal space.

Social inequalities have been exposed and exacerbated in nearly every sphere: in vaccine distribution, in economic growth, in access to education and health care, and in terms of job and income losses.

For the first time in over 20 years poverty has increased. Women and informal workers have been disproportionately affected.

Second, climate change continues to threaten Africa's future. Droughts, floods and hurricanes are growing in number and severity and African countries are on the front line. Even though this week, we are witnessing record high temperatures in Europe and UK, where forest fires and homes burning have taken lives.

COP27 in Egypt will be the African COP. It will be the opportunity to build on the outcomes of Glasgow and to signal the ambition of the stock take COP28.

There is a unique opportunity to lift the ambition and keep the promise of the 2030 Agenda, including the Paris agreement and the promise of the Agenda 2063.

To scale-up and speed-up investments in climate adaptation solutions that protect people and ecosystems, building resilience for the crises to come.

Third, the war in Ukraine. The war is not only causing immense human suffering - it is now precipitating a global food, energy, and finance crisis. 71 million people in developing countries have fallen into poverty in the space of just 3 months, as a direct consequence of global food and energy price surges.

People living in regions like the Sahel and the Horn of Africa are particularly vulnerable to food insecurity. As the Secretary-General has warned, "there is a real risk that multiple famines will be declared in 2022. And 2023 could be even worse."

The Africa we want is still within reach. To get there, we need to change our mindsets and turn the triple crisis into an opportunity. To do so, we must focus on



The Deputy Secretary-General Amina J. Mohammed and President Sahle-Work Zewde of Ethiopia met with the people of Somali who are suffering from drought-provoked crises. February 2022. Credit: UNECA/Daniel Getachaw

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The Africa we want is still within reach. To get there, we need to change our mindsets and turn the triple crisis into an opportunity. To do so, we must focus on

key issues: First, building effective and reliable policy frameworks and institutions.

To be clear: policy choices have the capacity to make or break this world. Without a forceful policy response to today's challenges, there is a risk that inequality will become entrenched.

For an inclusive economic recovery, policy responses need to put human capital and future resilience at the centre of policy making. We need to promote the complementarity between formal and informal social protection networks as tools to achieve income distribution.

Second, we must future-proof Africa's infrastructure by investing in connectivity and digital technologies.

The launch of the African Continental Free Trade Area provides an exciting opportunity for African countries to industrialize, diversify and digitize their economies, and enhance regional cooperation and resilience.

Third, education and skills-development are enablers of Africa's industrialization.

Digital skills, science, technology, engineering and mathematics need to be integrated into the curricula of African schools and education institutions. This is the only way that the continent will be able to build a skilled workforce that is able

to realize the fourth industrial revolution. The Transforming Education Summit that the Secretary-General will convene in September will help to radically redesign our education systems for the world of tomorrow, today.

Fourth, achieving sustainable energy for all across the continent.

The global rise in energy prices that we are witnessing should prompt African countries to accelerate energy access and a just transition, including through scaled-up domestic renewable energy production and energy efficiency. But this is an opportunity for foreign direct investment in many of these economies that will pave a way for that industrialization that we speak to.

Finally, we need an overall of our approach to financing. In the short term, African countries need immediate relief to ensure they can survive the immediate next years - through the re-channeling of unused Special Drawing Rights, increased concessional grants, and the renewal of the Debt Service Suspension Initiative.

In the long term, we will need to re-prioritize where and how investments get made. This requires massively scaling up investments in the sectors that remain critical to bolstering resilience and inclusive growth.

And this requires redistributing funds away from sectors that undermine these efforts - while supporting a just transition for all in the process.

The Africa We Want is not only good for the Continent - it is good for the world. Building the Africa We Want means delivering the urgent scale in the support that Africa needs, it also means putting at the centre our youth and women.

Now is the time to urgently rescue the SDGs in Africa and lay the foundation for the ambition of the 2063 Agenda - and in the world at large.

Today, let us recommit to our ambitious vision and to continue to work alongside African countries to realise a greener, more sustainable, and more inclusive future for all.

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 328 00--

U H U R U F R E E

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

3 letters
4 letters
5 letters
6 letters
7 letters
8 letters

CLUES: Across

- the first black president of S.Africa
- flightless bird in New Zealand
- Islamic canonical law
- the star
- make a bleating sound
- citrus fruit
- a small restaurant
- a minister in charge of a Christian church
- an instrument for writing
- an American
- a narrow horizontal surface projecting from a wall, cliff
- citrus fruits
- celebrity
- an official order or proclamation

Down:

- Russia's capital
- Former name of Malawi
- an open area of grassy
- a woman's loose sleeveless cloak
- Valletta is her Capital
- flee
- gather in or together
- the deep-freezing of the bodies of people who have died of an incurable disease, in the hope of a future cure
- a barrier enclosing an area
- an act of urinating
- a rich fabric of silk, cotton
- blood that has been shed
- a habitual drunkard

WORD-FIT

CROSSWORD

SOLUTIONS

U H U R U F R E E

3 letters: GOD, AOR, ACT, SAD, ARE,
4 letters: FREE, ROOM, EVEN, AMEN, HIDE RARE, ORES, STUD,
5 letters: UHURU, EVOKE, ASHET, GRAPE PLATE, ATTAR, TAMED, REACH
6 letters: UNESCO, ELEVEN, ENDEAR, SEVERE SCREAM,
7 letters: CURIOUS,
8 letters: UN EARNED

CLUES: Across

- the first black president of S.Africa
- flightless bird in New Zealand
- Islamic canonical law
- the star
- make a bleating sound
- citrus fruit
- a small restaurant
- a minister in charge of a Christian church
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RADIO One **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 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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One **Radio One**

AU COMMISSIONER WANTS COUNTRIES TO ADDRESS HIGH AIR TRANSPORT COSTS

By Guardian Reporter, DAKAR

COMMISSIONER for infrastructure and energy Dr Amani Abou-Zeid has urged African countries to prioritize and address the issue of high cost of air transport on the continent.

The Commissioner made the statement recently at the 34th African Civil Aviation Commission (AFCAC) extra ordinary plenary that took place from 14-15th July 2022 in Dakar-Senegal.

She said while the aviation industry seeks to recover, it has to be affordable to Africans and competitive with other modes of transport, to facilitate intra-African trade and free movement of people and goods.

"Our priorities are to address the issue of the high cost of air transport on the continent," she said.

Giving details she said that Africa's total international air connectivity in May 2022 was 93 percent of pre-crisis levels and international air connectivity for May 2022 is 77 percent of pre-crisis levels.

In addition to that, air cargo, which was a key lifeline for vaccines, supply chains, and airline revenues throughout the COVID-19 crisis, has grown to be an even more vital contributor to Airline revenues.

This is coming off after profound impacts and losses amounting to

\$40-50 billion in 2021 and about \$10 billion more in losses in 2022.

However, she said AU is hoping for aviation profitability in 2023, as the global and continental economies are continuing to open up for recovery.

"I am thrilled to see our planes taking off, our flights full and our airports crowded again with traffic gradually reaching or even exceeding the pre-pandemic levels," Zeid noted.

According to her the world is going through unsettling times over the conflict in Europe, and Africa is experiencing negative consequences of the conflict, amid aviation industry being in a delicate stage of recovery.

She elaborated that the current crisis has certainly brought rising fuel costs; soaring prices of commodities and rising inflation, which are discouraging African travelers due to high fares.

Zeid also spoke about on inclusiveness; gender diversity and youth dynamism to spur economic growth and promote equity in development.

"There is a need to make our aviation industry more gender and age equitable and balanced by Investing in women and youth as multipliers of productivity, profitability as well as sustainability," she said.

She said concrete actions throughout air transport value chain must



take place now to remove hurdles and to train and develop more women and youth.

"Digital tools and technologies have been proven indispensable to countries and travellers' safety and health under COVID. We should not forget

that and fall into old ways and business as usual. We should push even more to digitalize all documents and all processes and make airports and flights safe and smart," she said.

Zeid said it was important to strengthen linkages between aviation,

health, inclusiveness, and digitalization, safety and security and energy sectors, while harmonising Africans to integrate, unlock intra-regional market potentials, increase air carrier competitiveness and facilitate trade within the context of SAATM and the AfCFTA.

Speaking on SAATM, the commissioner said fast-tracking the operationalisation and implementation of SAATM has been one of top most priorities since 2020, in order not only to support the restart and recovery of the industry after the COVID-19 pandemic but to also reposition the African aviation sector on a renewed path that will enable the socio-economic integration of the continent.

"I wish here to reiterate our commitment to engage all our partners to support AFCAC in this critical period of not just the recovery of the air transport industry but also of new beginnings. AUC will spare no effort to mobilise assistance to AFCAC, as we did in these past years, to support various components of the SAATM prioritized action plan," she said.

The Commissioner further called upon all the African countries and all regional and international partners, to fully support the African air industry, AUC, and AFCAC in delivering the mandate not only for mobility but also for integration and the health and prosperity of all Africans of our Africa and also for sustainability and safety of the Globe.

Egypt constructs first ever nuclear powered facility

CAIRO

THE Egyptian Nuclear and Radiological Regulatory Authority (ENRRA) has licensed the first unit of Egypt's El Dabaa nuclear power plant (NPP) and issued a permit to the Nuclear Power Plants Authority (NPPA).

This will enable the start of construction of the first of four planned reactors at the NPP. This will be the second reactor on the African subcontinent, the first being South Africa's Koeberg Nuclear Power Plant.

Amged El-Wakeel, the NPPA board chairperson, stated, "Today, we etched in gold Egypt joining the ranks of countries building [NPPs] after over 70 years waiting for this dream to come true." The application for construction permits for El Dabaa units 1 and 2 took place on June 30, 2021. The same for units 3 and 4 occurred on December 30, 2021.

El Dabaa NPP will be on the country's Mediterranean coast, 320 kilometres west of Cairo in Matrouh Governorate. The plant will be constructed by Russian state-owned integrated nuclear company Rosatom, under contracts enforced in December 2017. The ENRRA got the permit in March 2019.

The plant will have four pressurized water reactors (PWRs) with a combined capacity of 4.8 GW and is expected to account for 50% of Egypt's power generation capacity.

Each of the four VVER-1200 nuclear reactors of AES-2206 design will produce energy of 1.2 gigawatts each. The VVER-1200 reactor is a third-generation pressurised water reactor that fully complies with all international safety and post-Fukushima IAEA requirements.

"Rosatom will build a reliable state-of-the-art plant with reactors based on the Russian VVER-1200 design of the innovative Generation III+," said Alexy Likhachov, Rosatom director-general.

He further stated, "It meets the world's highest safety standards and successfully operates in Russia. El Dabaa will be the first [NPP] of this generation on the African continent. It will further secure the country's regional technological leadership."

Foundations of the administration building of the nuclear plant under construction Construction of foundations of the administration building of the nuclear plant (nppa.gov.eg)

Rosatom will help train Egyptian personnel to operate and maintain the El Dabaa NPP. They will help maintain the Nuclear Power Plant for the first decade of its operation, and will also supply the plant with nuclear fuel throughout its lifetime. Furthermore, they will construct a spent nuclear fuel storage facility at El Dabaa and supply containers for fuel storage. The project is expected to generate US\$264 billion in revenue for the state treasury over a 60 year period, the expected lifespan of the reactors at the plant.



Rosatom will build a reliable state-of-the-art plant with reactors based on the Russian VVER-1200 design of the innovative Generation III+

Prof Mbarawa urges contractors to use CRDB Bank financing window

By Guardian Reporter

WORKS and transportation minister Prof Makame Mbarawa has urged contractors and bidders to use financing window at CRDB Bank to improve their efficiency and build capacities to participate in implementation of strategic projects.

Prof Mbarawa made the remarks yesterday during the opening of the capacity building conference for contractors and bidders organized by CRDB Bank Plc at Johari Rotana hotel in Dar es Salaam, noting that doing so, will help them to avoid delays in implementing projects due to shortages of finance or capital.

"CRDB Bank has brought opportunity at your door step, so you should use this privilege to build your capacities, which will enable you to participate in strategic projects," the minister said.

The minister said using the bank financing will also help the government to fulfill its intention of ensuring local content on implementing strategic projects.

Minister also thanked the bank for being in forefront in supporting the government efforts in developing infrastructure projects, which are also stimulating economic growth and creating jobs.

"We value and honour the in-



Minister for works and transportation Professor Makame Mbarawa (C) seated in a group photo with CRDB Bank top management (seated) including managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela (second from right), CRDB Bank chief finance officer Fredrick Nshakanabo (right), Chief Commercial Officer Boma Raballa (2nd L), Chief Operating Officer Bruce Mwile (L). Others standing were contractors and bidders attended the capacity building conference held in Dar es Salaam yesterday

PHOTO/COURTESY involvement of CRDB Bank Plc in implementation of strategic projects in the country; thank you and congratulations," he noted.

However, Professor Mbarawa challenged the bank to reduce interest rates for loans extended to contractors as what was done on other economic activities including agriculture, to build capacities of contractors and bidders in fully participating in projects implemented by the government.

"We congratulate for non-secure financing and all improvement you have made, but I would like to request you to create more relief on interest rates. Also, I would like to remind contractors to make sure that they repay the loans on time as agreed during borrowing," he said, while calling for the bank to help the government to train contractors on project management.

He said the decision of the bank to open the subsidiary in Democratic

Republic of Congo (DRC) will help to opens more opportunities for Tanzanian contractors and bidders to the neighbouring country.

"DRC has a huge demand for infrastructure development, mainly roads, and our countries have been in talks on how to support them in improving their infrastructure considering that the country is strategic trade partner and the trade relationship is growing," he said.

Professor Mbarawa also congratu-

lated the bank for scooping the recently "Best Bank" award from the UK-based Euromoney Magazine.

Speaking during the event, CRDB Bank chief executive officer and managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela assured the minister that through their slogan "We are ready" is positioning to collaborate with the government to improve infrastructure, in order to open more economic opportunities as well as attracting investors.

The bank's CEO said the bank has made improvements in its services offering to contractors and bidders and all large and small are accessing financing without collateral.

He said some improvements were made on bid bond, performance guarantee, advance payment guarantee and equipment financing.

Nsekela added that the bank has also improved procedures in lending to contractors ad called for contractors to use this opportunity to apply for loans, open accounts as well as use insurance servicesto protect against possible risks.

Speaking during the conference, Gopa Contractors Tanzania Limited managing director Godfrey Mongella thanked the bank for hosting the event and the available banks products, saying has created the another chapter in implementing projects.

Kilwa, Mtwara, Tanga ports record strong cargo handling growth

By Francis Kajubi

Tiny Kilwa was among of ports in Tanzania mainland recorded strong growth of cargo handling during the first quarter of this year, compared with similar quarter of last year.

Provisional 2022 and revised 2021 data by Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) featured on the Consolidated Zonal Economic Performance Report Q1, 2022 published by Bank of Tanzania reports that cargo handling at Kilwa port grew by 12 percent, next to Mtwara and Tanga ports, which recorded

strong growths.

Cargo volume handled at the Kilwa port located on the South Eastern zone of Tanzania increased to 3,656 tons as of March 2022 compared to 3,263 tons the corresponding quarter ending March 2021.

The port's handling capacity however forms 0.1 percentage share of the total cargo handled by the nine ports during the period under review.

Mtwara port, which accounts for 3.6 percent share of cargo handled in Tanzania mainland, was the leading, after recording sharp growth of cargo

volume handled, which amounted 171,844.0 tons in Q1, 2022 from 46,166.0 tons recorded during similar quarter of last year.

The report says an increase in volume of cargo handled at Mtwara port was mainly on account of a rise in exports of coal and cement coupled with increase in importation of liquid cargo especially petroleum products.

Data shows Tanga was second, in terms of growth after cargo handling increased to 63,734.7 tons in Q1, 2022 from 33,402.0 tons handed during the first quarter of last year. Tanga port ac-

counts for 1.3 percent share of cargo handled in all ports in Tanzania mainland.

Dar es Salaam port was fourth in terms of growth handled 4,514,737 tons of cargo in Q1, 2022 forming a share of 93.7 percent. The port handled cargo amounting 4,128,463 tons during the quarter ending March 2021.

"The increase in volume of cargo in Tanga and Dar es Salaam ports reflects the recovery of the global supply chain and infrastructure improvement at Dar es Salaam port," reads part of the BoT report.

Total volume of cargo handled at major sea and lake ports increased by 11.5 percent to 4.82 million tons compared to 4.32 million tons recorded in the quarter ending March 2021, according to TPA data.

Generally, only four ports of Mtwara, Dar es Salaam, Tanga and Kilwa registered increase in volumes of cargo handled while the remaining Kigoma, Mwanza, Mbamba Bay and Lindi ports recorded the decreased volume of cargo handling.

The report shows that Mwanza port had handled 19,681 tons down from

37,041tons handled as of March 2021. The decrease made the port record a percentage share of 0.4 percent of the total handled cargo.

Cargo handling at Kigoma port decreased to 43,401.4 tons from 69,324 tons handled in the quarter ending March 2021.

Cargo handled at Lindi port went down three times to 1,644 tons compared to 3,582 tons handled last year. Mbamba Bay port handled the lowest quantity of 238 tons compared to 1,143 tons handled last year.

ALL SET FOR AFRICA HOUSING, CONSTRUCTION EXPO

ABUJA

The Africa International Housing Conference and exhibition is expected to be held on Monday next week here.

The 16th continental conference and exhibition which will be attended by stakeholders in housing sector including developers and financiers will be officially opened by Nigerian Vice President Yemi Osinbajo.

Coordinator of the conference, Festus Adebayo, said this in a press statement, describing the event as a platform to sustain

the advocacy for decent and affordable housing for all Africans and Nigerians.

Adebayo said this year's conference will further promote the need to strongly entrenched social housing policies and programmes for the benefit of low income earners.

"The show goes beyond state of the art exhibition to bringing together top government functionaries, housing policy makers and implementers, building and standard regulatory agencies as well as captains in the building and construction sector.

"The platform therefore accords them the opportunity to exchange views, get first hand information on the progress made by government institutional framework, the challenges and the way forward to achieving decent and affordable housing for all," he said.

Adebayo stated further that conference would also focus on the role of the capital market in solving Nigeria's housing problem with the Managing Director of the Nigerian Exchange Group, Oscar Onyema, leading other top executives on discussions in this direction.

He revealed further that the issue of climate change as it affects housing and the concept of green housing which increasingly gaining relevance will also take the centre stage at the conference.

The coordinator noted that the event serves as a one stop shop for all housing needs as it brings together under one roof specialised indigenous and foreign manufacturers of building materials and equipment, world class interior decorators, genuine state-of-the art estate developers, architectural and construction giants.

Others are dealers in building and

housing products, mortgage finance and refinancing institutions, federal agencies saddled with the responsibility of ensuring decent and affordable housing for citizens, specialised institutions in construction and environmental safety among others.

"The event with the theme, housing for all: The role of government in creating an effective enabling environment will be graced by thirty four international speakers, over fifteen thousand participants and over four hundred exhibitors from across the globe," the coordinator added.

TH strengthens foothold in UK property market

KUALA LUMPUR

Lembaga Tabung Haji (TH) has strengthened its investment in the real estate market overseas after finalising the negotiations to purchase a building in London on July 12, 2022.

TH group managing director and chief executive officer, Datuk Seri Amrin Awaluddin, said the purchase of the freehold building was in addition to TH's property investment portfolio in the UK since 2012.

The property is a government office building housing the UK's Department for Transport.

"The ownership of this property will give good returns to TH in the long term, considering its long-term rental contract while maintenance cost is fully borne by the tenants, with increasing annual rental rate and stable market value.

"This is also in line with TH's investment objective to diversify the types of investment in terms of assets and locations," he said in a statement on Thursday.

Amrin said the six-storey office building spanning 179,869 square metres is known as Great Minster at 33 Horseferry Road, Victoria, sited in a strategic location amid the biggest business district in West End, London, and is a commercial hub that is currently expand-

ing rapidly.

Victoria also houses many government and public sector offices due to its proximity to the Parliament building and its easy accessibility to major public transportation including underground train stations in Pimlico, Westminster, and Victoria, as well as other main transportation networks.

"London is still an attractive financial hub with a lot of business opportunities currently and in the long term, hence, this is encouraging for the property sector," he said.

Nevertheless, at the same time, he said TH is always cautious about making any property investment to ensure it generates immediate returns to cover the cost of the annual Haj pilgrimage and profit distribution, besides providing a long-term return that is stable and safe for the continuity of the fund and its depositors.

TH allocates about 11% of its RM88 billion funds to investments in property locally and abroad.

"TH is aggressively exploring opportunities to increase its investments in the property sector overseas in efforts to diversify its investment portfolio as this has been identified as the best move to generate competitive and consistent returns for its 8.5 million depositors," he added.



Great Minster at 33 Horseferry Road, Victoria

Tanzania's insurers record still low, call for more awareness

BY Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA is still lagging behind in insurance coverage on property and health with only 0.8 percent penetration (premium as a percentage of the GDP) of the 60 million people compared to Kenya's 3 percent penetration.

Assemble Insurance Country Sales Manager Arthur Mndolwa said this in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday during a press conference to introduce Faustina Mfinanga, known by her star name as 'Nandy' as the firm's Brand Ambassador.

Mndolwa said there was the need for the government and private sector, especially insurance firms to create awareness of the importance of insurance on both health and property as there was still room for business in the sector.

He acknowledged President Samia Suluhu Hassan for laying a good business environment after assuming power following the sudden demise of the late President John Pombe Magufuli a year ago saying her strategies enabled most business to bounce back after being hit hard during Covid-19.

"The president has opened a lot of business opportunities for insurance firms and other businesses including Non-governmental Organisations to thrive," he said.

According to Mndolwa, a number of private businesses, firms and NGOs which closed shop due to the pandemic out-brake are now back to business.

He said most insurance firms suffered huge losses during the first wave of the Covid-19 pandemic in terms of claims to outpatient being attended to various hospitals in the country.

"There was huge loss this period until people realized hospitals were no longer safe due to crowding which increased the number of Corona Virus cases, opting for quarantine and isolation in homes as a strategy to prevent the spread of the virus" he said.

Assemble Insurance, formerly known as AAR insurance closed some of its clinics in March this year due to what it termed as "failure to meet financial obligation to employees as well as its creditors".

Asked on complaints raised to most Motor Vehicle Insurance clients regarding slow pace in reclaiming payment after accidents, he said, insurance was a very risky business with a lot of fraud and so there was need to ascertain every claim by a client.

Speaking at the event, the newly appointed Brand Ambassador for Assemble Insurance, Faustina Mfinanga, 'Nandy' acknowledged the firm for providing her with first-class medical insurance advising more Tanzanians to get the services for their health as well as properties.

Assemble Insurance formerly known

China speeding up approval of coal-fired power

BEIJING

CHINA has been speeding up approvals for new coal-fired power plants amid increasing risks of electricity shortages, according to research from Greenpeace.

Adding generation capacity for its mainstay fuel has been a tried-and-true strategy for China during its rapid economic rise over the past three decades. The pace of new approvals quickened in late 2021 and early this year after power shortages crippled the economy in the fall.

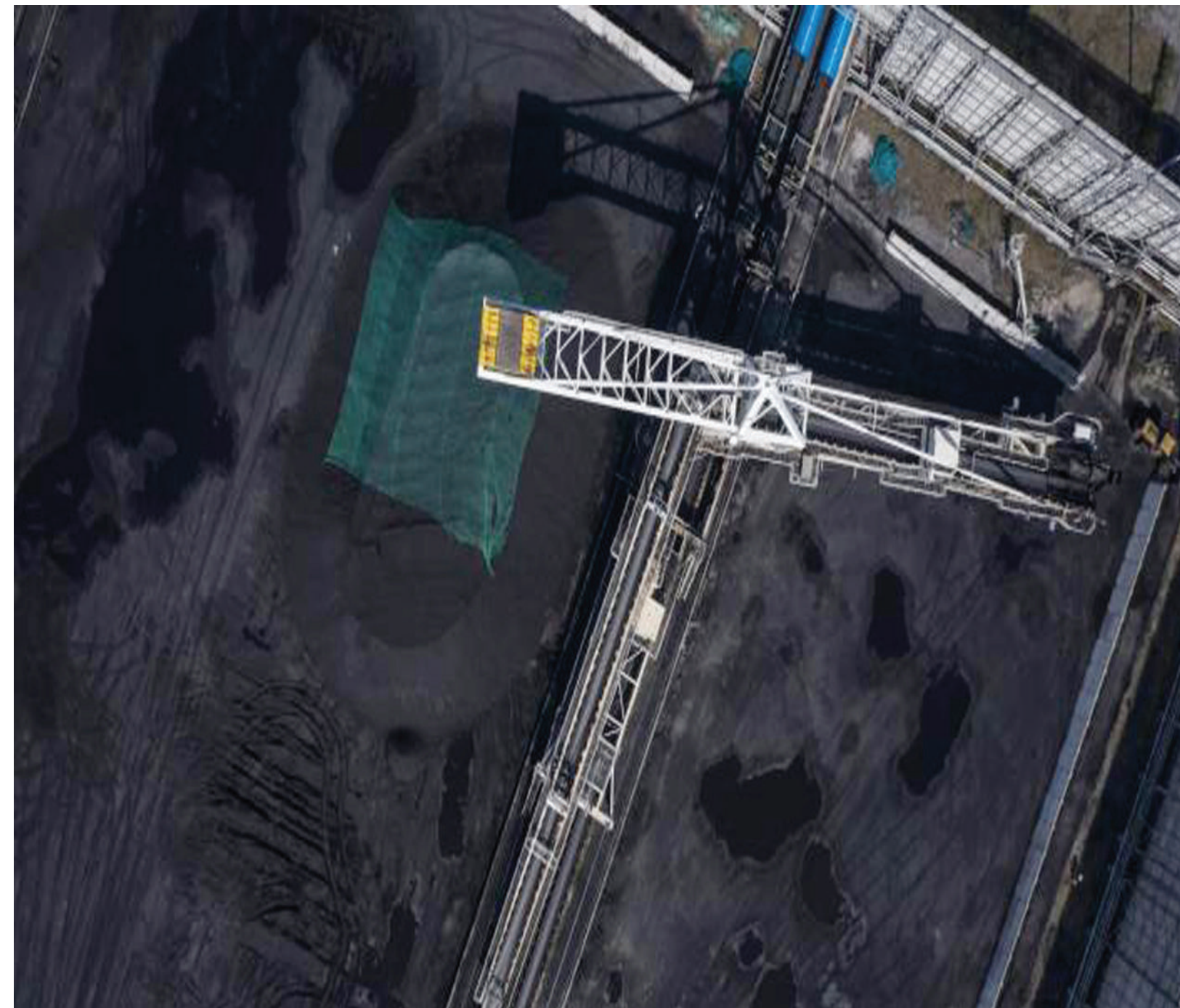
But China's power problems have nothing to do with not having enough generation -- in fact there's already an overcapacity of coal power plants, according to Greenpeace analyst Wu Jinghan. To solve the problem, the government needs to focus on things like grid integration and energy storage. A continued emphasis on new coal plants will only distract from the real solutions, Wu said.

Greenpeace's research shows that 8.63 gigawatts of coal-fired capacity was approved in the first quarter of 2022, equivalent to 47% of the new permits awarded over the whole of 2021.

The scorching summer heat is further exposing China's over-reliance on coal, as air-conditioning needs run down supplies of the fuel that's most to blame for a warming planet. Elevated prices are also hurting the profitability of utilities due to the significant increases in procurement costs, according to a report in the Economic Daily.

"An overcapacity of this one energy source is a major hurdle for energy security, as well as China's energy transition," said Wu.

Government stimulus is helping manufacturing and services recover, but the traditional tools have lost power to revive the



property sector, according to Bloomberg Economics.

Chinese banks held their main lending rates steady in the absence

of more easing from the central bank, which is trying to strike a balance between preventing faster inflation and supporting the

economy.

Chinese Premier Li Keqiang signaled a focus on jobs, flexibility on the economic growth rate and

a shift toward making its Covid control measures more targeted.

CONSTRUCTION

UGANDA'S KABAAL INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT DUE FOR OPENING IN 2023

KAMPALA

The opening of Kabaale airport will see an increase in trade and investment opportunities in the oil region.

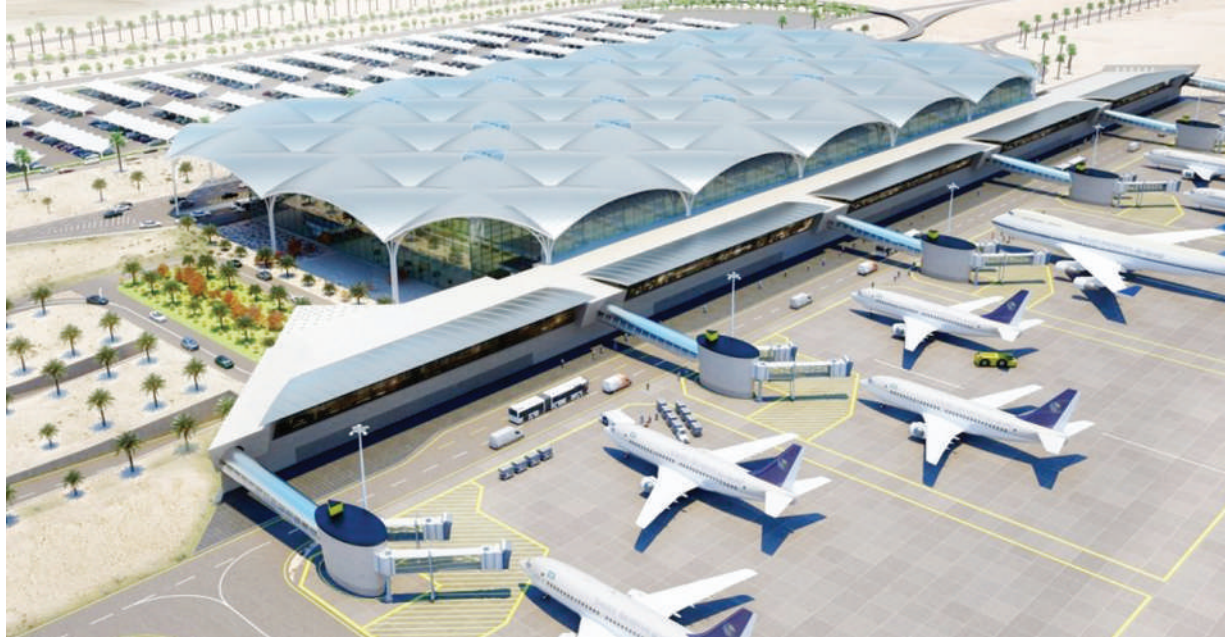
Kabaale International Airport, based at Hoima, started construction in 2018, with SBC Uganda as the contractor. SBC Uganda is a joint venture between Colas Limited and SBI International Holding of Uganda.

Uganda's second largest international airport is set to open up trade and investment opportunities in the oil region upon completion.

The first phase was expected to be completed in April 2022. However, the pandemic pushed back the date of completion. It will now be ready for use by February 2023 as per the Government's new deadline.

An SBC Uganda spokesperson, Amos Muriisa, confirmed the new date. On completion, the first phase will handle cargo planes.

The construction work was reported to be 80% complete at the end of May 2022. The airport will play a major role in the quick movement of oil and gas



An architectural design of the airport upon completion PHOTO/UG-CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY

equipment and will boost the development of an industrial park planned for the region.

The first phase of the Kabaale airport will help import heavy equipment, material and machinery by oil and gas companies, who are currently initializing and developing their projects.

Some of the equipment includes field flow pipelines, feeder pipe-

lines, central processing facilities for the fields, as well as for Kabaale industrial park, the East African crude oil pipeline, and will later include the refinery. It will also help with equipment for related industries that will develop as a byproduct of the oil industry.

The second phase of the Kabaale airport project will include an expanded passenger termi-

nal which will provide a tourism boost and help increase the number of passengers passing through the airport.

The runway, which is 3.5 kilometres long and 45 metres wide, is currently 95% complete. The cargo terminal building, limited-capacity passenger terminal building, air rescue firefighting house, power substation house,

and the air-ground lighting system are between 78-90% complete.

The airport can currently handle some of the largest cargo planes in the industry, and its apron can host four such aircraft at once. The next stage of construction will include housing for airport operators and the start and finish of the control tower construction.

Muriisa further addressed the gradual unemployment of the Ugandans on the project as it nears completion. He urged them to upskill such that nearby projects can employ them like the oil and gas processing facilities, the East African Oil Pipeline Project, refinery and other industrial park-related activities.

Other facilities expected to be constructed nearby are shopping malls, recreational centres, health centres, technical colleges, and accommodation, which can absorb skilled workers from the region.

The airport is part of the crucial infrastructure needed for Uganda to begin extracting its vast oil resources. It is expected to airlift some of the cargo for construction of the crude oil refinery as part of the Kabaale Industrial park.

So far, the airport has been designed to handle the Boeing 747 and the Antonov 124- the largest cargo plane on the planet.

Vodacom to hold 100pct of new South African tower subsidiary

JOHANNESBURG

VODACOM Group will retain full ownership of a new subsidiary that will take over its South African tower business, the telecoms company said on Thursday, announcing a 5.2% rise in first-quarter revenue.

Formation of the telecommunications-tower company, which follows similar actions by Vodacom's rivals, is not yet complete, chief executive officer Shameel Joosub said.

Vodacom Group, a South African firm, also operates in other African countries.

South African telecoms firms have either carved out tower businesses or sold them to specialist tower companies, a move also seen globally. By doing so, they have raised money for such purposes as funding fast-growing services, such as fintech.

Some have also retained equity in the tower companies.

Vodacom's tower company will own more than 9,500 sites, including towers and rooftops, the company said in its latest annual report, published this year.

The separation of the South African tower portfolio would enhance asset returns and lower communication costs, Vodacom said, without explaining how. A managing director for the subsidiary would be named later.

Vodacom chief financial officer Raisibe Morathi said this year the operator would be open to many options once the tower company had been separated, but "we don't have any need to monetize. We're not looking to do this to raise capital."

Vodacom, majority-owned by Britain's Vodafone, said group revenue for the quarter ended on June 30 had risen to 26.1 billion rand (\$1.53 billion) from 24.8 billion rand in the same quarter last year, helped by growth in most of its markets and South Africa in particular.

Its service revenue growth of 5.2 percent was supported by a 10.4 percent increase from its international portfolio and 9.3 percent growth from its financial services business, Joosub said.

The growth rate in financial services was dampened by mobile-money levies in Tanzania, he added. If the growth rate were adjusted for this impact, it would have been an estimated 19.7 percent.

"Positively, subsequent to the quarter-end, the levies were reduced further. This marks a cumulative 60% reduction of the levies since implementation in July 2021," Vodacom said.

China mortgage boycott may deepen real estate crisis

BEIJING

The Chinese real estate market was rattled this week when angry homebuyers threatening to stop their mortgage payments on unfinished projects gained traction on social media.

More than 85 percent of Chinese houses are sold through presale-up from about 50 percent in 2005; mortgages begin months or even years before buildings are finished. Projects have only slowed since 2020, when the Chinese real estate market entered a protracted crisis and developers started to struggle.

Some buyers across China have refused to pay mortgages for unfinished projects for months now, but this week it coalesced into a group movement. A list that started with just 30 projects grew to more than 300 by last weekend.

Mortgages aren't as common in China as in the West. Only 18 percent of homeowners have one, and it's more

common to borrow money from extended family, who invest collectively in a property.

The movement against the presale system puts as much as \$350 billion in payments at risk, and Chinese authorities have already moved to censor it.

However, the crisis continues to feed on itself: As developers' cashflow dries up, even more projects are being suspended, leaving more consumers angry and fearful that they may never be finished. The authorities are now leaning on lenders to bail out projects to help keep developers afloat.

But why are people willing to pay in advance for homes in China anyway? There's no waiting list for homes, because there's no shortage of stock; the housing vacancy rate in major Chinese cities runs between 15 and 25 percent.

The reason so many homes are empty is because many people buy only as an investment. With no property tax and home prices climbing for decades, Chinese real estate has been extremely profitable. Some presales have been flipped even before the



homes were built.

This trend held up during the boom years in China; at this point it makes less economic sense, but the notion that property prices can only ever go up exerts a strong grip on the public imagination.

But homebuyers were essentially willing to be the main lender for the real estate sector when everyone profited. Now that the sector is in trouble, buyers aren't ready to foot the bill anymore. The problem is that it's not clear who else can.

Before this year, about 50 to 70 percent of presale funding was re-

quired to be held in escrow accounts controlled by the local government. (The regulations vary between different cities and counties.) But there was widespread collusion between real estate developers and local officials as a result, with governments sometimes using the cash to finance their own projects in return for favors for developers.

China's central government loosened the rules earlier this year, both in response to the state of the industry and to try to break up some of this collusion.

But the changes haven't been

enough, and nor have the rush of measures like rate cuts that authorities have pursued at all levels. Home sales plummeted in April and May, down 59 percent from the previous year. China's major real estate developers are desperate for cash, and so are their suppliers.

However, China's real estate firms are simply too big to fail. The wealth of the country's urban middle class is invested in them. Property makes up roughly 30 percent of Chinese GDP.

Price cooling measures kept failing in part because local governments feared the result even a small deflation of the property bubble could have and faced public pressure. Today, Chinese property prices are falling, but they're being kept from falling faster by local government pressures on developers not to sell at too low a price point.

At some point it's possible that the central government will take dramatic action, including de facto nationalization of parts of the real estate industry. For one thing, Chinese President Xi Jinping's natural reaction whenever there's a problem is to give the government more control.



Construction begins on solar, battery project in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG

CONSTRUCTION has started in earnest on three Kenhardt projects in the Northern Cape Province of South Africa under the Risk Mitigation Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme (RMIPPPP) after reaching financial close.

The project is being undertaken by renewable energy firm Scatec ASA.

Once operational the project will have a total solar capacity of 540 MW and battery storage capacity of 225MW/1,140MWh, and provide 150 MW of dispatchable power under a 20-year Power Purchase Agreement to the Kenhardt region - in a country that is currently suffering from power shortages.

"Achieving commercial and financial close for the Kenhardt

projects shows true commitment by our Scatec team and partners. This project is a first of its kind and will be one of the world's largest solar and battery facilities. We are now looking forward to starting construction of this unique and exciting project, which will be a major contribution to South Africa's economy and green energy sector," says Scatec CEO Terje Pilskog.

"This is an important milestone in the procurement of renewable energy and proves that the sector can be relied upon to deliver much-needed electricity capacity to the grid," adds Jan Fourie, General Manager of Sub-Saharan Africa.

The project will be the largest investment in Scatec's history with a total capex of approximately ZAR 16.4 billion (\$962 million) to be financed by eq-

uity from the owners and ZAR 12.4 billion (\$727 million) in non-recourse project debt.

The debt will be provided by a group of Lenders which includes The Standard Bank Group as arranger and British International Investment. The Kenhardt projects are funded in local currency.

Scatec will own 51% of the equity in the project, with HI Holdings, our local Black Economic Empowerment partner owning 49%.

Scatec will be the Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) provider and provide Operation & Maintenance as well as Asset Management services to the power plants.

The value of Scatec's Development and EPC contract for the project is approximately ZAR 13.7 billion (\$800 million).

WORLD

'Hasta la vista, baby,' says UK's Johnson as he exits parliament

LONDON

BRITISH Prime Minister Boris Johnson bowed out of his final showpiece parliamentary appearance with a round of applause from his party, jeers from opponents and an enigmatic exit line: "Mission largely accomplished ... hasta la vista, baby."

Johnson was forced to announce his resignation earlier this month after a mass rebellion against the latest in a string of scandals that his party decided had undermined his ability to lead the country any longer after three turbulent years in charge.

Speaking in his final "Prime Minister's Questions", the weekly fixture of the political calendar which pits the prime minister against his opponents in rowdy debate, Johnson sought to shape his legacy around the COVID-19 response and his support of Ukraine.

"We've helped, I've helped, get this country through a pandemic and help save another country from barbarism. And frankly, that's enough to be going on with. Mission largely ac-

complished," Johnson said.

"I want to thank everybody here and hasta la vista, baby."

The line, borrowed from Arnold Schwarzenegger in the 1991 movie "Terminator 2: Judgment Day" and translated as "see you later", prompted a round of applause from most on his own side.

Only two weeks ago, some of those clapping had resigned from his government, criticized his leadership and demanded he quit. Reporters in the debating chamber said his predecessor, Theresa May, did not stand to clap.

Opponents did not join in the applause either, having earlier used the question-and-answer session to take him to task over a range of policies, from the as-yet unfinished Brexit to his response to soaring living costs.

With an eye on an election due in 2024, opposition leader Keir Starmer sought to highlight division in the ruling party, listing criticisms of government policy set out by the lawmakers from Johnson's own side who are vying to replace him.



Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson reacts as he leaves from 10 Downing Street in central London on Wednesday to head to the Houses of Parliament for his last weekly Prime Minister's Questions session. AFP

"He's decided to come down from his gold-wallpapered bunker for one last time to tell us that everything is fine. I am going to miss the delusion," Starmer said.

Johnson said the criticism was "completely satirical".

His parting speech gave advice to his as-yet unnamed successor: Stay close to the United States, support Ukraine, cut taxes and deregulate, don't let the finance ministry constrain ambitious projects, and pay attention to the electorate.

"Remember, above all, it's not Twitter that counts, it's the people that sent us here," he said.

Also on Wednesday, former finance minister Rishi Sunak and foreign secretary Liz Truss made the final two candidates to become Britain's next prime minister, kick-starting the last stage of the contest

to replace Johnson.

Sunak has led in all rounds of the voting among Conservative lawmakers, but it is Truss, who seems to have gained the advantage so far among the around 200,000 members of the governing party who will ultimately choose the winner.

The final stretch of a weeks-long contest will pit Sunak, a former Goldman Sachs banker who has raised the tax burden towards the highest level since the 1950s, against Truss, a convert to Brexit who has pledged to cut taxes and regulation.

Whoever triumphs when the result is announced on Sept 5 will inherit some of the most difficult conditions in Britain in decades. Inflation is on course to hit 11 percent annually, growth is stalling, industrial action is on the rise and the pound is near historic lows against the dollar.

Zimbabwean president pays tribute to China for completing new parliament building

HARARE

ZIMBABWEAN President Emmerson Mnangagwa on Wednesday toured the completed new parliament building in Mount Hampden, about 18 km northwest of the capital Harare.

The new building was constructed and fully funded by China as a gift to the southern African country. He said the iconic building, sitting on the historical Mt. Hampden Hill, is a heritage for future Zimbabwean generations.

Accompanied by Vice President Constantino Chiwenga, Mnangagwa marveled at the imposing six-story building that is a fine piece of magnificent architecture that fuses both Zimbabwean and Chinese characteristics.

His visit came on the heels of various tours of the building that have been done by senior government and parliament officials in recent weeks, following its completion.

Mnangagwa took the opportunity to pay tribute to the Chinese government for fulfilling its promise to construct the new parliament building and other various infrastructure projects that are at different stages of completion.

He thanked the Chinese contractor, Shanghai Construction Group, for the splendid job done despite COVID-19 disruptions.

"This is the most significant building I have ever seen and it resembles our Zimbabwe birds and other iconic features. This is heritage for future generations," Mnangagwa said.

Shanghai Construction Group project manager Cai Libo expressed joy at the completion of the project. "We are happy about the President and his team's visit.

We appreciate that he is impressed with this great work which is a result of all-weather friendship between our two countries," Cai said. It took 44 months to complete the project, instead of the original 32-month timeframe due to COVID-19 disruptions.

Completion of the new parliament building, whose architecture borrows heavily from the iconic Great Zimbabwe ruins, heralds the start of a new capital city as the Zimbabwean government plans to put up offsite infrastructure such as residential areas, shopping centers and access roads to establish a self-contained new city to decongest the capital Harare.

The government also plans to put structures for two other arms of the state, the executive and the judiciary in Mt. Hampden.

The imposing building covers a total area of 33,000 square meters and has two main buildings, a six-story office building and a four-story parliament building. The office building and parliament building are connected by three bridges on each floor.

With the current parliament building having been built during the colonial era and now old and small to accommodate parliament business, the National Assembly at the New Parliament building has more than enough space, with a capacity of 400 seats against the 270 House of Assembly members.

The new Senate chamber has a capacity of 150 seats, against the current 80 Senate members. The new structure has extra facilities for conferencing, 15 committee rooms and adequate space for office staff and parking.

Xinhua

Diplomat says no official Russian-American contacts on Ukraine

MOSCOW

MOSCOW and Washington have no contacts on Ukraine, all discussion of the topic is reduced to technical issues, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said at a briefing yesterday.

"There are no official Russian-American contacts on Ukraine. Technical issues are discussed at the level of our diplomatic missions, embassies in Moscow and Washington. These are technical problems and issues," she said.

Zakharova said that the main reason for the lack of such contacts is the destructive policy of US President Joe Biden's administration, "which set the defeat of Russia in Ukraine as its goal."

"The American administration has forbidden its Kiev underlings to even think about negotiations with us, forcing us to fight to the last Ukrainian.

Accordingly, under these conditions, how can we talk to the United States of America? Then they will have to accept and acknowledge reality on the ground. But for now there is no point. We proceed from the actions, statements and concrete steps that the United States is taking in this direction," the representative of the Russian Foreign Ministry concluded.



People's Daily

Italian PM Draghi resigns after coalition falls apart

ROME

ITALIAN Prime Minister Mario Draghi handed in his resignation to President Sergio Mattarella on Thursday after his unity government fell apart, plunging the country into political turmoil and hitting financial markets.

Mattarella's office said in a statement that the head of state had "taken note" of the resignation and asked Draghi to remain in a caretaker capacity.

The statement did not say what Mattarella would do next. Political sources said earlier this week that he would likely dissolve parliament and call early elections in October.

Mattarella plans to meet the speakers of both houses of parliament on Thursday afternoon.

Italy's coalition crumbled on Wednesday when three of Draghi's main partners snubbed a confidence vote he had called to try to end divisions and renew

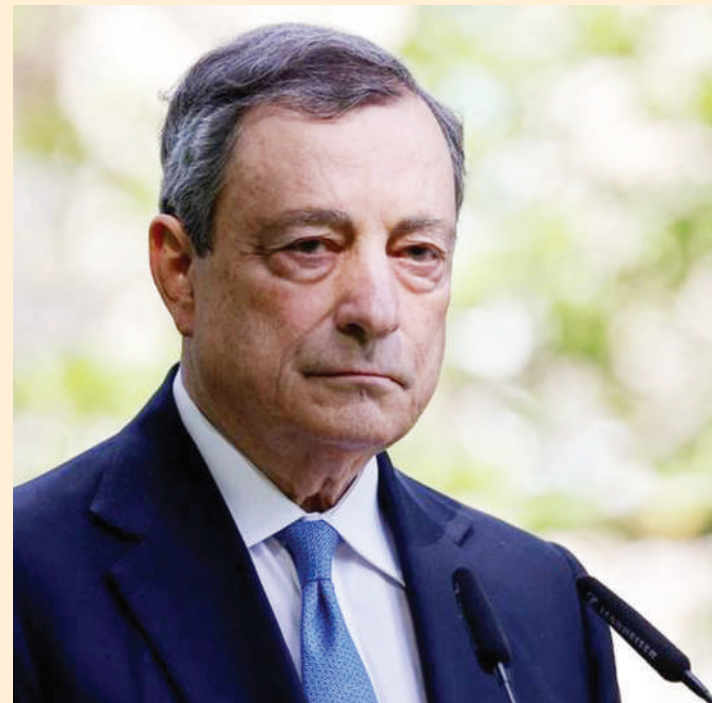
their fractious alliance.

The political crisis has up-ended months of stability in Italy, during which the respected former central banker Draghi had helped shape Europe's tough response to Russia-Ukraine conflict and had boosted the country's standing in financial markets.

Italian bond and stocks sold off sharply on Thursday just as markets were bracing for the first interest rate hike from the European Central Bank since 2011.

In early trade, benchmark 10-year Italian bonds yields soared over 20 basis points to their highest in over three weeks and Italian stocks opened down 1.8 percent.

"It is a big blow to Italy's ability to deliver policies and reforms over the near term," said Lorenzo Codogno, head of LC Macro Advisers and a former senior Italian Treasury official. "There will be delays and disruptions with early elections, and most likely no budget by year-end."



Prime Minister Mario Draghi

Coalition fractures

Draghi had already tendered his resignation last week after one of his partners, the populist 5-Star Movement, failed to back him

in a confidence vote on measures tackling the high cost of living.

Mattarella rejected the resignation and told him to go before parliament to see if he could keep the broad coalition going until the planned end of the legislature in early 2023.

In a speech to the Senate, Draghi made a plea for unity and set out a series of issues facing Italy ranging from the Ukraine conflict to social inequality and rising prices.

But the 5-Star once again decided not to back him, saying he had not addressed their core concerns.

In addition, the rightist Forza Italia and League parties decided to shun the vote, saying they wanted a commitment that Draghi was willing to forge a new administration without 5-Star and with fresh policy priorities.

Polls say the conservative bloc, which includes the far-right Brothers of Italy party, would likely win a ballot.

Agencies

Nigeria transforms state-run oil corporation into independent firm

ABUJA

NIGERIA has transformed the state-run Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) into an independent and limited liability firm, about 45 years after the creation of the national oil corporation.

The move is part of the ongoing reform of the country's oil industry, heralded by the Petroleum Industry Act (PIA) signed into law last year by President Muhammadu Buhari.

On Tuesday, Buhari unveiled the new Nigerian National Petroleum Company Limited (NNPC Limited), which replaced the now defunct NNPC, at a ceremony in Abuja, the Nige-

rian capital. He said Nigeria is transforming the petroleum industry to strengthen its capacity and market relevance for the present and future global energy priorities.

"This is a landmark event for the Nigerian oil industry," Buhari said, noting that as a limited liability company, the new NNPC Limited is now mandated by law to ensure that Nigeria's national energy security is guaranteed.

The new NNPC Limited will operate independently, devoid of bureaucratic tendencies. This, according to industry experts, will boost the new national oil company with increased expectations around active engagement with stakeholders, regulatory compliance, and

more significantly, accountability. Buhari, who also doubles as Nigeria's minister of petroleum resources, expressed optimism that as "Africa's largest national oil company," would further support sustainable growth across other sectors of the economy as it delivers energy to the world.

"Our country places a high premium on creating the right atmosphere that supports investment and growth to boost our economy and continue to play an important role in sustaining global energy requirements," Buhari said. According to the Nigerian leader, the provisions of the Petroleum Industry Act give the

Nigerian petroleum industry a new impetus, with an improved fiscal framework, transparent governance, enhanced regulation, and the creation of a commercially-driven and independent national oil company.

The new national oil company, he said, will conduct itself under the best international business practices in transparency, governance, and commercial viability. Minister of State for Petroleum Resources Timipre Sylva told the ceremony that with the signing of the Petroleum Industry Act, which assures international and local oil companies of adequate protection for their investments, the nation's petroleum industry is no longer "rudderless."

High-speed railways boost China's tourism

BULLET trains are once again driving an upsurge in China's tourism industry as a number of new high-speed railways have been put into operation this summer and further shortened the travel time between cities.

According to the recent half-month booking statistics released by Chinese leading online leisure travel company Tuniu, the number of tourists taking high-speed railway as the major means of transportation surged by 132 percent from a month ago. The search volume for high-speed train tours more than tripled on another online travel platform Mafengwo.

Online travel agency Tongcheng recorded an 80-percent monthly rise in the booking volume of high-speed train tour packages in June, and over half of the agency's customers said high-speed trains were a prioritized

choice for them and high-speed train tours would embrace faster growth.

A high-speed railway linking Zhengzhou, central China's Henan province and southwest China's Chongqing municipality was opened in late June, shortening the trip between the two cities from eight hours to four.

The line connects the southwestern, central and northern regions of China and crosses a number of tourist attractions, including the Shaolin Temple and Wuhou Memorial Temple in Henan, the current location of Three Kingdoms-era (220-280 AD) strategist Zhuge Liang's hometown Longzhong and the Shennongjia National Park in central China's Hubei

province, as well as the Small Three Gorges scenic area and Ciqikou ancient town in Chongqing.

Chongqing's Wushan county, which sits along the high-speed railway, reported over 2.1 million tourist arrivals in just half a month after the railway was put into operation, up 49.7 percent year on year.

Spur-of-the-moment trips or mini-breaks on weekends or holidays are popular among Chinese tourists nowadays, and high-speed railways have contributed a lot to this trend. Bullet trains, which are convenient and comfortable, provide people an opportunity to go on an in-depth exploration of their destinations in a

short journey time.

Recently, the world's first railway loop circling a desert was formally put into operation in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region.

Stretching eastward from Hotan city to Ruoguo county along the southern edge of the Taklimakan, the world's second-largest shifting-sand desert, the railway is an artery of China's western railway network, an important part of Xinjiang railways, and a fast channel linking southern Xinjiang and other parts of China.

It is a historic railway for many counties in the region to end their history of no train access. It carries

passengers to cross the Taklimakan and tour the ruins of ancient Niya city and other places that were once unreachable in the past. The bookings of related train tours have been surging recently, according to Tuniu.

Feng Rao, head of Mafengwo's tourism research institute, told People's Daily that the constantly improved high-speed railway network in China has significantly reduced travel time and thus expanded tourists' radius of trips.

It not only brings more possibilities for short-distance travel, but also will tremendously promote the tourism industry in regions along the railways, Feng added.

High-speed railways, vitalizing both inter-provincial and short-distance travels, have become a driving force for tourism development. Many tourist destinations along high-speed railways have rolled out measures to stimulate tourism.

In Hubei and Chongqing, high-speed train passengers can get free tickets or a 50-percent discount on tickets for multiple famous scenic spots; the ancient city of Xiangyang in Hubei unveiled night economy-themed tourist routes to attract visitors; culture and tourism departments in east China's Jiangsu, Zhejiang and Anhui provinces, as well as Shanghai jointly released a list of tourism destinations along the high-speed railways in the Yangtze River Delta region.

Biden takes actions on climate change without declaring emergency

SOMERSET, Mass./WASHINGTON

US President Joe Biden said on Wednesday that climate change is an emergency but stopped short of a formal declaration, announcing a modest package of executive actions and promising more aggressive efforts.

Biden (pictured) made the comments during a visit to Massachusetts and as a historic heat wave batters Europe and the United States. Some 100 million Americans from New York City to Las Vegas will be under heat warnings this week.

"Climate change is literally an existential threat to our nation and to the world," Biden said. "This is an emergency, an emergency, and I will look at it that way."

The announcements included new funding for cooling centers and pushing for new off-shore wind projects in the oil-rich Gulf of Mexico.

Still, those actions fall short of demands by Democratic lawmakers and environmental activists who want Biden to formally declare a climate emergency, which would enable the use of the Defense Production Act to ramp up production of a wide range of renewable energy products and systems.

Biden told reporters that he would decide shortly on whether to make such a declaration.

"I'm running the traps on the ... authority I have," he told reporters as he traveled home from Massachusetts. "I'll make that decision soon."

Biden is under increasing pressure after conservative Democratic Senator Joe Manchin said last week he was not ready to support key climate provisions in Congress, a critical loss in the evenly divided Senate.

Biden has not spoken with Manchin since, he told reporters on Wednesday.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency will provide \$2.3 billion in funding to help states build cooling centers to deal with excessive heat and to tackle other impacts of climate change, the White House said as it announced the largest ever investment to the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities Program.

New funding could expand flood control, shore up utilities, retrofit buildings, and help low-income

families pay for heating and cooling costs.

Biden also announced new support for the domestic offshore wind industry. The administration has identified 700,000 acres for possible offshore wind energy development in the Gulf of Mexico, the White House said.

Biden spoke from a former coal-fired plant that is playing a role in supporting the state's offshore wind industry as a manufacturing hub for undersea cables.

Biden said more is to come.

"In the coming days, my administration will announce the executive actions we have developed to combat this emergency," Biden said.

Senator Jeff Merkley and eight other Democrats sent a letter to Biden on Wednesday urging him to declare a climate emergency and use aggressive executive actions to limit emissions from fossil fuels produced on public lands and waters and maximize use of electric vehicles.

Biden promised tough action on climate change in his presidential campaign, and it remains a key priority for some voters ahead of Nov 8 midterms for control of Congress. The US president also pledged in international climate negotiations to cut climate pollution by 50% by 2030 and reach 100% clean electricity by 2035.

But that climate agenda has been derailed by several major setbacks, including Congress failing to pass crucial climate and clean energy measures in a federal budget bill, record-setting gasoline prices, and Russia's special military operation in Ukraine disrupting global energy markets.

A Supreme Court ruling last month limiting the federal government's authority to issue sweeping regulations to reduce carbon emissions from power plants also is undermining Biden's climate plans.

When asked whether Biden has concluded there is no longer any option for a climate bill, a senior White House official told reporters that other people could answer that question, evidently suggesting a lot depends on Manchin.

"Our focus is on what we can do," the official said.

Agencies

Studies show private Western lenders create most of African debt burden

NAIROBI

RECENT studies have revealed that private Western creditors are responsible for the lion's share of Africa's debt burden.

In a report released last week, Britain-based charity Debt Justice found that African governments owe three times more debt to Western banks, asset managers, and oil traders than to China, and are charged double the interest.

The report said 12 percent of African governments' external debt is owed to Chinese lenders compared to 35 percent owed to Western private lenders, adding that the average interest rate on private loans is 5 percent, compared to 2.7 percent on loans from Chinese public and private lenders.

The new finding came after Harry Verhoeven from the Center on Global Energy Policy at Columbia University, and Nicolas Lippolis from the Department of Politics and International Relations at the University of Oxford published a new study in May, which said the rise in African debt due to Chinese lending pales in comparison with the debt burden created by private creditors of other countries over the last decade.

The new findings lay bare the absurdity of the so-called "debt-trap diplomacy" that has been for too long touted by Western politicians and propaganda machines in smear campaigns against China, experts have said.

The so-called debt-trap narrative exploited by the West against China is untrue, African scholars and economists told Xinhua. Charles Onunaju, director of Nigeria-based Center for China Studies, said Western private creditors not only account for a third of Africa's external debt, but also charge higher interest and offer a shorter period for repayment, describing them as manipulating and strangulating.

"The debt trap issue has always been political slander ...," he said, adding that the narrative is nothing but a distraction to absolve the West of its responsibilities. Costantinos



Members of the cohort of independent Kenyan locomotive drivers work in Nairobi, Kenya, Feb. 19, 2022. (Xinhua)

Bt. Costantinos, professor of public policy at the Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia, said Western administrations and media have been unable to adopt a rational perspective on China's growing influence in Africa.

"They depict China as a predatory lender that is weaponizing capital in order to practice a new form of colonialism in Africa. However, such accusations have little factual basis," said the expert.

Beatrice Matiri-Maisori, a senior economics lecturer at Kenya's Ririara University, said the figures and percentages revealed by the studies clearly indicate that Africa's external debt is largely owed to private financial groups, Eurobonds, and oil creditors.

"The debt trap diplomacy ... has got nothing to do with the reality of the debt structure in Africa," she said. "Western lenders for long have not been put on the spotlight for debt relief because they successfully managed to dupe the world that it's only Chinese lenders that pose a threat to Africa," Uganda-based Vision Group journalist Mubarak Mugabo said.

Campaigners have been calling on Western countries, particularly

Britain and the United States, to compel their private lenders to do more in helping address the debt burdens of emerging and developing countries including those in Africa.

Emerging and developing countries have been experiencing sustained capital outflows for four months in a row, said International Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva at a recent meeting, adding that more than 30 percent of emerging and developing countries are at or near debt distress.

China has extended debt suspension to other developing countries during the pandemic, but private lenders in the West did not, said Tim Jones, head of policy at Debt Justice. "Western leaders blame China for debt crises in Africa, but this is a distraction ... The UK and U.S. should introduce legislation to compel private lenders to take part in debt relief," he said.

Official data showed that China ranked first among the Group of 20 members in terms of debt deferral amounts. "China has done quite a lot in terms of agreeing to come to a common agreement with over 19 countries in Africa, reaching a common understanding on how they are going to pursue debt relief for the same," Matiri-Maisori said.

Onunaju said China has demonstrated what a responsible major country should do in this regard, adding that Africans want to see more of such examples. At a news briefing last week,

Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin called on developed countries, their private lenders and multilateral financial institutions to take more robust actions to give developing countries funding support and relieve their debt burden so that the world economy will achieve inclusive and sustainable development.

Over the years, China's financing support for Africa, particularly in the field of infrastructure investment, has won wide applause from African governments and people, especially at a time when the ambitious African Continental Free Trade Area is being promoted.

"We are seeing connectivity, we are seeing airports remodeling, and we are seeing ports remodeling," Onunaju said, adding that China's support for Africa can be clearly felt in different areas. Referring to the Lekki Deep Sea Port in Lagos State, Nigeria's economic hub, as an example, he said the China-funded port project will create up to 170,000 jobs and bring billions of U.S. dollars in revenues to the government through taxes, royalties and duties after being in operation. "These are not propaganda. These are reality," Onunaju said.

Over the last more than two decades since the founding of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, a bulk of Chinese financing has been quickly translated into infrastructures in Africa, which can be seen with countless connectivity projects, such as railways, roads, dams, and telecommunications, said Matiri-Maisori. Xinhua

Cambodia-China friendship like flower that never withers - Cambodian politician

IN a compound that carries distinctive local features in downtown Phnom Penh, Cambodia, there is a two-storey building surrounded by Saraca dives. It is the headquarters of the Cambodia-China Friendship Association (CCFA).

Ek Sam Ol, member of the standing committee of the ruling Cambodian People's Party (CPP), serves as the president of the CCFA.

In a recent interview, Ek Sam Ol told People's Daily that Cambodia and China are sincere friends, and their friendship, tested by the times and a changing international landscape, has become even firmer, like a flower that never withers.

He told People's Daily that the CCFA headquarters building was once a residence of Cambodian King Father Norodom Sihanouk, an old friend of the Chinese people, and Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Sen later decided to transform the palace into an office building of the CCFA.

"We are grateful to the former leaders of the two countries for forging a close friendship between the two peoples, and hope that the CCFA can become a bridge for the friendly exchanges between the Chinese and the Cambodians," Ek Sam Ol said.

On the desk in Ek Sam Ol's office, there are five volumes of the book "Xi Jinping: The Governance of China", including volumes one, two and three in English, and volumes one and two in Cambodian.

Ek Sam Ol treasures the books very much. The pages of them are covered with a mass of notes.

"I've read many articles in the books for times," he said, adding that he could find in the books why and how the Communist



Ek Sam Ol, member of the standing committee of the ruling Cambodian People's Party (CPP), serves as the president of the CCFA. File photo

Party of China (CPC), leading the Chinese people, has made remarkable achievements in politics, economy, science and livelihood over the past decade.

The Cambodian politician has paid a number of visits to China, where he witnessed the country's development in various aspects. He said he was deeply impressed by the vitality and prosperity he saw in China, especially the wide roads and new houses built in villages that were once stricken by poverty.

"The CPC has brought a complete change to China, which once was weak and poor, and significantly improved the living standards of the Chinese people. Since the 18th CPC National Congress, the country has won the decisive battle against poverty and built a moderately prosperous society in all respects on schedule," he said, adding that the people-centered approach the CPC follows exactly explains why the Chinese political party has made such huge achievements.

Ek Sam Ol also serves as the head of the central supervisory committee of the CPP. He said the CPC has led the Chinese people to achieve inspiring progress and set an example for party construction in developing countries.

"We've always been learning the CPC's experiences in fighting corruption it has

gained after the 18th CPC National Congress," Ek Sam Ol told People's Daily.

He said Xi Jinping, general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, requests CPC members to "watch from the mirror, groom oneself, take a bath and seek remedies," and takes it as a general guidance in the CPC's campaign to educate Party members about the mass line.

Later, "watch from the mirror, groom oneself, take a bath and seek remedies" was incorporated in the work report of the CPP. The CPC stresses to crack down on high-ranking "tigers" as well as lower-level "flies" involved in corruption, and the CPP requires to catch both "big fish" and "small fish" in its anti-corruption campaign.

In recent years, China and Cambodia have seen positive progress in economic and trade cooperation. As the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) develops, the China-Cambodia community with a shared future is being constantly solidified.

He said Cambodia is lucky to have "boarded the fast train" of China's development and learned from China's development experiences, adding the BRI has ushered in a "golden era" for his country.

Thanks to the power plants and power grids China constructed in Cambodia, electricity is now available in 98 percent of Cambodia's rural areas. So far, China has built over 3,000

kilometers of highways and eight friendship bridges in Cambodia.

BRI projects are very welcomed by the Cambodian people, Ek Sam Ol said.

"Over the past six decades since the two countries established diplomatic ties, China has always offered selfless assistance for the Cambodia government and people, playing an important role in Cambodia's economic and social development," Ek Sam Ol noted.

On the same day of the interview, an anti-pandemic medical team from China arrived in Phnom Penh. The team not only offers medical services, but also trains Cambodian medical staff.

"The Chinese government has dispatched many medical teams to Cambodia, and they have cured a large number of patients. The Cambodian people are sincerely grateful to the Chinese medical teams," Ek Sam Ol said.

The Cambodian politician said he has been paying close attention to the 20th CPC National Congress to be held later this year and is expecting to read relevant reports at the earliest time possible.

"With the successful experience of achieving the first centenary goal, the Chinese people will definitely reach the goal of fully building a modern socialist country under the strong leadership of the CPC," Ek Sam Ol remarked.

People's Daily



Kremlin assures Putin is in good health

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin's health is fine, Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov said.

"[Everything] is fine, he is in good health," the Kremlin spokesman assured reporters yesterday.

According to him, "both Ukrainian, American and British information specialists" have been throwing in various fakes about the president's health in recent months. "These are nothing but fakes, we assure," Peskov said.

Commenting on Putin, who, speaking on Wednesday at the Strong Ideas for a New Time forum, apologized for his cough and attributed it to "rustling" air conditioners during his visit to Tehran

the day before, Peskov said that "it happens, it's no big deal."

As for the air conditioners, yes, indeed, the heat outside was forty (degrees Celsius - TASS) and it was chilly under the air conditioners. I'm also hoarse, I have the same thing," he added.

Earlier, William Burns, Director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), said that there were many rumors about President Putin's health, but, according to unofficial intelligence reports, the Russian leader was "rather healthy."

On Tuesday, Putin visited Iran, where he held several rounds of bilateral talks and attended a summit of the Astana troika (Russia, Iran, Turkey).

Will Bakhresa reshuffle Azam FC leadership after years of failure?

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA'S football fraternity members are still in shock following Yusuf Bakhresa's return to the leadership role at Azam FC.

Bakhresa is a die-hard football fanatic indeed, his dramatic return shocked many people who know him and what he can do.

Some people wonder, 'where did he go and what was he doing all day? He was present but was not in a decision-making position in the club. He was present as part of the owners only, but now he is officially back.

Bakhresa was the club's manager when the Ice Cream makers won the 2014 Mainland Premier League title, the side was by then a real threat.

People were afraid of Yanga Chairman Yusuf Manji and his money at the outfit but Yusuf straightened the former out, the latter is a very optimistic man in local football in terms of development.

It is very difficult for an individual to compete with Yusuf if the latter wants to accomplish something.

He is the one who signed defensive midfielder Frank Domayo who was in great form at Yanga and went on to be a reliable player at Azam FC under the tutelage of Joseph Omog.

The two Ivory Coast players, Kipre Junior and Tape Edinho who signed for Azam FC during this season's transfer period were pursued by GSM Group, Yanga's sponsor, to play for the side.

Yusuf though turned the tables on GSM Group given the company's leaders had spoken to the Ivorians but when the Azam FC owner intervened the deal changed.

Midfielder Abdulhamis Suleiman, alias 'Sopu', was a player that Simba SC wanted to rope in but Yusuf intervened in the deal and paid the footballer's outfit, Coastal Union, 100m/- to secure the midfielder's signature, getting the better of Simba SC under billionaire Mohamed Dewji.

Suleiman had attracted the attention of football fans in the country after his stellar performance this season, as the player finished with eight goals in Premier League.

In the Azam Sports Federation Cup, he finished as the tournament's top scorer, posting nine goals while registering a hat-trick in the final against Yanga to post a total of 16 goals in 34 appearances.

Nigerian midfielder Isah Ndalah was as well a footballer that Simba had sought to recruit and the two parties had started a discussion about the transfer.

What happened after Yusuf intervened? With Ndalah joining Azam FC recently, Simba officials were left speechless.

This is the new Azam FC under Yusuf,

he can compete with anyone, he can decide in football and he understands the game very well.

He first started by recruiting some of the people he had worked with successfully at the Chamazi outfit.

It is also reported that he wants to bring Jemedari Said back to the Chamazi-based side, in short, he has plans and he is determined to implement such plans.

With Yusuf's strength, I now believe Azam FC can find any player and sign if the club wants to do so.

It hardly matters if he is wanted by either Simba or Yanga, Azam FC can also decide to compete and sign him.

Should Bakhresa want to be more successful at the outfit, they have also reshuffled and restructured the existing leaders from their positions. The leaders can upset him and become an obstacle to his plans.

Most positions need new blood, the present ones are tired, and they have also failed in many aspects in five years of leadership.

Last season Azam FC had for instance signed several average players such as Edward Charles, Paul Katema, Charles Zulu, Yves Mballa, and others who have limited potential and have not made any significant contribution to Ice Cream makers.

Azam FC has had a problem in getting a good keeper. Everyone saw that the problem was with the goalkeepers' coach, Idd Abubakar, but the officials continued to keep him.

Azam FC's goalkeepers became distracted, and Ugandan Mathias Kigonya came in as one of the best keepers, suddenly he endured a drop in form.

Then Ahmed Salula came in as a prolific, promising keeper but today he experiences a drop in form.

That is the sad truth, it is very funny but the executives continued to nurture the goalkeepers' coach just because of the favouritism, and in the end, the team is hurt.

It was not until recently that Yusuf decided to bring in a new goalkeeping coach from Spain.

That is until the club's owner sees the problem and works on it, the executives are just there.

They do not show accountability, football fans might slam them by saying 'they are in their best interests and enjoy traveling with the team only to receive allowances but they cannot help Yusuf'.

If Yusuf needs success he will be forced to appoint new executives, he ought to appoint officials who listen to him and help him.

This will give him the strength to ensure Azam FC efficiently competes for the Premier League title.

That is until the club's owner sees the problem and works on it, the executives are just there.

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Women's African Cup of Nations finals restore order after World Cup U-17 upsets

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

AFTER Tanzania made a surprising dash to the Under-17 Women's World Cup finals set for India later in October, the air is being cleared at a different level.

Many were surprised that Tanzania could reach that level, but observers were on the whole not surprised due to the difference between youth teams and adult sides in international contests, both for the proper national sides and the women's sides.

Much as sports watchers found it normal that a youth team of either gender had won cups, entering the finals of the U-17 Women's World Cup was another matter, so the brouhaha reached Parliament and the State House.

After that event was eclipsed in the news, sports lovers soon started watching the Women's African Cup of Nations finals, and here there were no surprises, as most of those attaining quarterfinals are women's teams of giant footballing nations in Africa.

It was a kind of restoration of order, while it may not have lacked in surprises, for instance in the Women's World Cup finals the strongest team is often the United States, and Germany comes a bit close, and in the last finals in 2019 it was the Netherlands who went into the final with the United States.

The latter has trouble making the quarterfinals in the World Cup finals.

Yet concerning the women's version of the tournament, the United States has grabbed four titles so far in the four-year cycles tournament like the 'senior' version and easily dominates the field the way Brazil dominated the World

Cup but somewhat intermittently.

At first, it shared honours with its neighbour Uruguay, and then Hungary came on the scene, but its game was disrupted in the wake of a Soviet invasion in 1956 to stop creeping liberalization.

Its best national team players shifted to Real Madrid, laying the foundation for its 'galactico' image in contention with Barcelona. Then came England in 1966.

By 1974 the World Cup final image had changed, with Germany and the Netherlands being the most captivating side to watch, before Argentina in the next finals and Italy avenging its stinging 4-1 defeat at the hands of Brazil in 1982, only for Argentina to come back briefly in 1986.

So there are no stable patterns in world soccer but the women's tournament pattern has lasted concerning the dominant side, while the second place rotates between the usual key footballing nations.

A rough explanation would be that there is great sporting talent in the US, but the men's talent specialty is basketball, but soccer takes the prize for ladies.

Even in the qualification of African teams for the 2022 FIFA



Tanzania's Serengeti Girls' footballers jubilate after the squad had posted a goal in a 2022 African U-17 Women's World Cup qualifying showdown clash against Cameroon that was held in Yaoundé in May. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION

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U-17 Women's World Cup in India in

October, this rule about dominant footballing nations was largely followed, with Nigeria, Morocco, and Tanzania emerging as the African continent's flag-bearers.

Some explanation would be needed for Tanzania, while Nigeria and Morocco are traditional football powers in the continent, and their qualifying for the World Cup finals version for women isn't surprising.

Yet finding a reason for Tanzania to have excelled is as well a problem for we do not dominate in any sport, nor are we a major economy.

What may partially explain the feat is the popularity of the sport and women's organizational capacity in comparison with other countries, as local traditions tying down women are less visible in Tanzania, which is not to say absent.

Morocco for that matter is a fairly traditional society but relatively more open in comparison with some of its peers, while for Nigeria it is likely that it is the southern part of the country that produces more women athletes or footballers as young girls will be relatively freer to practice a sport.

What may also be surprising is that these patterns tend to last in

the forthcoming decades after they have been set, such that the World Cup finals have a few surprises from time to time but the dominant sides remain in place.

The Women's World Cup finals may have to labour for a while to dethrone the US but all dominance invites greater competition, so it may just survive this decade. It will be more contested.

For one thing, women's soccer is destined for greater heights as it gathers popularity relatively fast, with this year's CAF Nations Cup finals for women widely beamed as a routine program now that local leagues are being beamed.

Earlier only a major event like the World Cup finals or heavyweight boxing championship duels could be announced in advance for people to collect in a hall to watch such event, as a social gathering.

Admittedly it is much of the same level in technique as Premier League men's soccer and on the whole it is more disciplined, tied to playing tactfully rather than firing the ball upfront for a lucky hit and a goal.

The women's game lacks some of the vigour or speed of men's teams but not flavour.

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Midfielder Morrison an overrated player, says Azam FC leader

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

AZAM FC's Head of Information and Communication, Thabit Zakaria, has disagreed with Tanzania's football fans who continue to praise Yanga's Ghanaian attacking midfielder, Bernard Morrison.

Zakaria said that the midfielder, who recently signed for Yanga for the second time after featuring for Simba SC in the 2021/22 season, is an ordinary player.

According to the leader, he sees no reason for the fans to continue giving Morrison much praise.

He has said that Morrison can play several games well but he at some point struggles, so he cannot be rated high.

"Followers are giving Morrison a lot of hype, the midfielder is just an ordinary player," the official revealed.

The official disclosed: "He is a player who plays well in five matches, how many matches did he play last season? After all, he only has one goal, he does not deserve the hype you are giving him."

"He has not scored 10 goals in two and a half seasons in Tanzania, now this is not a player who wants to say he is fearsome," the leader said.

Initially, Morrison was roped in by Yanga three seasons ago but after six months he entered into a dispute with the club's leaders, alleging the latter prepared a fake contract to extend his stay at the club.

His complaints offered him the chance to move to Simba SC at the beginning of the 2020/21 season after the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) had proved he did not seal a contract extension with Yanga.



Bernard Morrison

At the end of the 2021/22 season, the midfielder parted ways with Simba SC and made a return to Yanga, so next season he will be among the players who make up the Jangwani Street club.

Meanwhile, Yanga's Congolese forward Fiston Mayele has made his plan to prove his worth when the side locks horns with Simba SC in a Community Shield duel to be played in Dar es Salaam on August 13.

Mayele, who finished last season's Premier League with 16 goals, one goal behind Geita Gold FC's George Mpole, scored the only goal that sank Simba SC in the season's Community Shield match.

The performer failed to score in the following three home matches between Yanga and Simba, they met twice in Premier League and once in the semi-final of the 2021/22 Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC).

Having found that his side will confront Simba SC again in the Community Shield match, Mayele said that he did not have intensive preparation for last season's match despite beating them, but this time he believes he will have a good time training with his teammates and torment Simba.

Yanga may play an international friendly tie against Uganda Premier League champions Vipers SC after the conclusion of the commemoration of the 'Wananchi Week'.

The Jangwani Street side through the Department of Information and Communication announced on Tuesday that 'Wananchi Week' will conclude on August 6, adding that a special concert will take place at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium.

Reports indicate that Yanga, which officially begins its pre-season training camp on Friday, may play an international friendly game on the day, dubbed 'Wananchi Day', against the Uganda Premier League champions.

However, Yanga leadership has not yet confirmed the information, and has continued to encourage the club's fans and members to continue waiting for official information about the friendly game that will be held on 'Wananchi Day'.

At the climax of 'Wananchi Day' in 2021, Yanga confronted Zambia's Zanaco FC and conceded a 2-1 loss.

Yanga is determined to defend the Mainland Tanzania Premier League top honour and the ASFC silverware, while having the daunting task of representing the country in the 2022/23 CAF Champions League.

Mwinjuma donates bicycles, sports kits to students in Muheza

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Muheza

MUHEZA Constituency's Member of Parliament, Hamisi Mwinjuma, has stated that his passion for sports motivated him to donate bicycles and sports kits to pupils and students of various schools in the constituency.

Last week, he donated about 185 bicycles to students and pupils living in a risky environment in 37 wards of Muheza District who trek a long distance to attend school.

The MP that is also a popular rapper moreover handed over eight pairs of jerseys to soccer teams participating in various leagues in the district.

Mwinjuma, nicknamed 'Mwana FA', noted he spent his money to buy the equipment as he is eager to actively support education and sports.

He stated: "This donation was not part of the parliamentary budget, it is mine, I was prompted to purchase these items and distribute them to these students and teams."

The MP said: "The bicycles will not only minimize time spent by the pupils when heading to school but also promote a healthy lifestyle, as cycling is

a part of the exercise."

Reflecting on his educational background he explained that he studied in an equally difficult environment so knowing the importance of education, he decided to offer a donation.

The eight pairs of jerseys were handed over to clubs based in five wards of Majengo, Genge, Mbaramo, Kwabada, and Kwakifua.

Mwinjuma pointed out he has offered support to back efforts to develop soccer talent and offer employment to youths.

The MP noted: "Nowadays soccer is not simply played for fun as was previously, it is a career, people are earning living through football, this will boost your passion and work hard to scale great heights."

According to him, the donation was part of his promise during the 2020 general election campaign in which the MP expressed his intention to back sports promotion in his constituency.

"Despite being legislator and musician, I'm a footballer, these jerseys will not only motivate clubs to play but also support efforts to groom football talent in Muheza Constituency," he stated.

Harry Maguire is Erik ten Hag's first choice, but can he earn redemption in 2022-23?

By Rob Dawson, ESPN Correspondent

It's a sign of how things are going for Harry Maguire that when Manchester United conceded a goal against Melbourne Victory at the MCG on Friday night, the Australian host broadcaster focused their cameras on him.

Maguire, the most expensive defender in world football, had been outpaced by Victory's Chris Ikonomidis, but he wasn't alone in being at fault. Luke Shaw and Victor Lindelof were both out of position, but it was Maguire who took most of the blame. He is under the microscope like never before.

The summer tour of Thailand and Australia is being billed as a fresh start for United's players. Erik ten Hag arrived promising to squeeze more out of a squad which cost hundreds of millions to assemble but could only finish sixth in the Premier League last season, 35 points behind champions Manchester City. Their poor league performance was coupled with dismal cup showings after defeat in

the Champions League round of 16, a third round Carabao Cup exit, and FA Cup failure in the fourth round.

Maguire, who by his own admission had a poor campaign, became the poster boy for the team's dysfunction, both on and off the pitch. There were a series of high-profile mistakes including a red card in a 4-1 defeat at Watford which cost Ole Gunnar Solskjaer his job as manager, and also stories of a dressing room tug-of-war with Cristiano Ronaldo leading to question marks over his captaincy.

No one needs a clean slate more than the England defender. Ten Hag arrived in Bangkok ahead of the first preseason friendly and put one issue to bed immediately. "Harry Maguire is the captain," the Dutchman said when asked who will wear the armband next season. "I always see the captaincy as an issue that I dictate. The team-building for me is an important point and I always talk about a group of leaders. The captain is a really important one and I'm happy with him."

The debate, though, won't go

away anytime soon.

Ten Hag inherited a squad which already included six senior centre-backs -- Maguire, Raphael Varane, Victor Lindelof, Eric Bailly, Phil Jones, and Axel Tuanzebe -- and he has signed another in Lisandro Martinez, who joined from Ajax for £46.8m.

Ten Hag knows Martinez well from their time together in Amsterdam and, crucially, the Argentinian is the only left-footed player in the group. In the interests of balance, Ten Hag wants a left-footer to play on the left and a right-footer to play on the right which means Martinez is likely to go straight into the team when United kick off the season against Brighton at Old Trafford on Aug. 7.

And given the captain usually plays every week, Ten Hag admitted during an interview in Melbourne that it's fair to conclude that Maguire will be Martinez's preferred partner -- as long as he deserves it.

"I think he is [a first-choice player]," Ten Hag said. "He's proved it in the past but he has also to prove it in the present

time and in the future. He has played 60 times for England. Harry is really impressive and I expect a lot from him. But there is also internal competition and that is what a club like Man United needs. You cannot win with 11 players. We need a squad."

There is also the question about whether Maguire has the pace or ability to defend one-on-one to succeed in Ten Hag's high-line system. Ten Hag insists he can but proof will only come during the opening weeks of the season. For now, it seems that Lindelof, Bailly and four-time Champions League winner Varane, signed only last summer, will have to wait in the wings but with players of that calibre warming the bench, Maguire does not have much margin for error.

He might have already won over Ten Hag but he still has work to do to get United supporters back on side. When his name was read out at the MCG ahead of the 3-1 win over Crystal Palace on Tuesday, he was greeted with jeers from large sections of the 76,000-strong crowd. For the first 30 minutes, his every touch

was booed and it only stopped when he almost scored.

Donny van de Beek said afterwards he couldn't understand the reception, while United bosses tried to brush it off as pantomime booing of a high-profile Englishman by a harsh Aussie crowd, but it's not the first time it's happened. After being substituted during a defeat to Atletico Madrid at Old Trafford in March, he was then sarcastically cheered off the pitch and booed while playing for England in a friendly against Ivory Coast later that month at Wembley.

Ten Hag has promised to offer support but there is a feeling among the coaching staff that the only way to turn the tide is by putting in consistently solid performances. "I will support him everywhere I can, but in the end he has to do it by himself and he has the qualities to do it," Ten Hag said. "He has showed it so often in the past."

Maguire needs to show it again, all while leading from the front in Ten Hag's new era. The spotlight is on and so is the pressure.



Harry Maguire is a first-choice player in Erik Ten Hag's plans, but the new head coach emphasised that Maguire must prove himself in the opening weeks of the Premier League season. (Agencies)

Arsenal's Xhaka sets a few more things straight in ESPN interview

By James Olley, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

GRANIT Xhaka rarely holds anything back, and he isn't about to start now. The 29-year-old is as robust in the tackle as he is in an interview chair, a no-nonsense character whose passion and drive have inadvertently taken him to some contentious places during his six years at Arsenal. Managers have come and gone, his relationship with supporters has ebbed and flowed dramatically, but Xhaka remains a constant presence in the team. Another season; another new start.

The Switzerland international sits down for an exclusive chat with ESPN at Arsenal's team hotel in Baltimore, the Sagamore Pendry, located on Recreation Pier in the city's Inner Harbour, fresh from a summer vacation in which he visited Albania to see close family members for the first time in almost three years due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He is not naturally one for looking back, but time away with his wife, Leonita, and their two children, Ayana and Laneya, allowed for fresh perspective on recent events. And in Xhaka's case, there is plenty to reflect on.

Perhaps the logical starting point is the reaction to his Players' Tribune article in April, a first-person account entitled "Let Me Set a Few Things Straight" in which the midfielder sought to address his complicated relationship with Arsenal fans, a combustible dynamic that reached critical mass in October 2019.

Arsenal were drawing 2-2 against Crystal Palace when Xhaka was substituted by then-Gunners boss Unai Emery. He was slow to leave the field, and thousands of fans let him know it, jeering in fury. Xhaka cupped his ear to the crowd, threw his shirt to the ground and mouthed "f--- off" in their direction before disappearing down the tunnel. All while being club captain.

Xhaka, who was subsequently stripped of the armband by Emery, admitted he was wrong to react but went on to convey a side to him that has been key in his restoration from that dark day: the humble,

hardworking, vulnerable and honest character that his teammates and current manager Mikel Arteta value so highly.

"Everyone knows the period I had with the fans," Xhaka tells ESPN. "A big misunderstanding in my opinion, from them, from me. But I play football because I have a lot of passion. I am here more than six years. I was in Germany for four years, in Switzerland I was two-and-a-half years a professional. So this is more than the other two clubs where I was. I love the club, I love the people around [it]. They treat me every time with a lot of respect, I try to give the respect back."

"I needed to say the reality and the truth -- I had good and positive reaction from the people outside, from our fans, but as well from normal people. It was as well the right timing to say something about it, what happened two-and-a-half years ago. I feel the connection again between myself and the fans is much better than before. I always wanted to give them the right Granit, not to see me like they were thinking about me."

"I can't tell you why the people sometimes think like this, and other people think like this. Maybe I am the wrong guy [to ask]. I would like to know but it is difficult to know because you never meet the people really on the street who are honest with you and say 'OK, you are s--- because of this, or you are good because of this.'"

Xhaka is referring to the darker excesses of social media. For the past two years, he has taken advice on his online activity and does not engage with it personally -- "Other people around me are helping me with what to do, when to [post something] -- if I do it today or tomorrow, if we lose or not."

But the most important counsel has come from Arteta. The Spaniard convinced Xhaka not to quit the club at the start of 2020 in the initial aftermath of the Palace incident, when a move to Hertha Berlin required only the player's signature for completion.

Arteta has since radically overhauled his playing squad -- only five of the starting lineup from



Arsenal midfielder Granit Xhaka has had a tough few years, but is ready to give his all. (Agencies)

his first game in charge at Bournemouth on Dec. 20, 2019, are still at the club -- but Xhaka is an integral part of his new-look side. Since Arteta took charge, Arsenal have a 53% win record in the Premier League when Xhaka plays (40 victories from 76 games) compared to 45% (nine victories from 20 games) when he doesn't.

"Without him [Arteta], I would not be here in this football club anymore," Xhaka said. "He helped me a lot when I was completely down. He took me aside, helped me with small things, step by step, tactically, as a person, mentality, between the team and the club, tried to help me as well with the fans. He is a freak in a positive way. Tactically, he knows everything. How he prepares the team before training, before the games, is unbelievable. I had a lot of coaches, but I have to put Mikel as one of the top ones in my career."

Despite their palpable bond, Xhaka confirms that he almost left Arsenal last summer. Jose Mourinho became Roma boss in May 2021 and was rumoured to have identified Xhaka as a key target.

Was it true?
"It was something, yes."
How close?
"Very close."
Why didn't it happen?
"Because Mikel was the guy with [technical director] Edu, they didn't let me go because they wanted to keep me here. Of course, my first reaction was to stay at the football club, but they opened the door: 'If something comes, I can leave.' I have to be honest as well. I don't want to say a name now, but the door

was open for me to leave the club as well. But in the end, people decided to keep me here."

Instead, Xhaka signed a new contract through to 2024. "I am very happy here," he continued. "My family is very happy here. I have a contract for another two years, it is true. I will be 30 in September but I don't believe in age. You can be 18, you can be 90, you can be 35. If you have the quality, you can play. We had a lot of people who were here as well -- David Luiz for example -- who had an amazing career, 33, 34, 35, he is even playing now."

"That's why age is only a number for me. As long as I am fit, as long as I can help the team, I will try to do everything. When the moment comes, I can't do that, I am the first to say to the club: 'I am not ready to do that.'"

Xhaka has been inspired by Arsenal's development under Arteta, a progression which began following Emery's sacking as Arsene Wenger's successor amid widespread rumours of a fractured dressing room. "Mikel [came in] with a lot of 'problems' [Xhaka raises his hand to signal inverted commas to accompany the word], he said. 'Maybe the word is too hard, but a lot of stuff where it was not in a good place, maybe. He changed a lot, if I am honest.'"

Were they overplayed? "Absolutely, the problems came here from outside. The people said, 'This football club has problems with this and this and this,' when it was not so, so, so bad as the people say," Xhaka explained. "Of course you have everywhere, little stuff in every

need people to have the balls to come and play" and "if someone isn't ready for this game, stay at home."

Some interpreted that as a senior player pointing his finger at others but, not for the first time, Xhaka felt misconstrued.

"Everyone knows we have a very young team, but this is not the problem of young or old," he said. "This was not against our young players. I put myself there as well. We were not ready for this game, to fight. We knew if we won this game, we would have another final against Everton at home [on the last day of the Premier League season.]"

"The thing is about the mentality -- when you have something, you can take it -- it is not the first time we let it down. A lot of people start to think, 'Yeah he's speaking again,' and stuff like this, but maybe they didn't understand what and how I mean it. If I can say now something about this interview, I told you: this has nothing to do with the young players, it is do with us all together. It doesn't matter the age. I think I said that as well after the game -- it doesn't matter the age, you have to be ready for these games because these games you have maybe once a season and you have to be ready to take it. If not, you are out of the Champions League places."

Arsenal finished the season lurching from brilliance to disaster -- three defeats in a row against Crystal Palace, Brighton and Southampton preceded four straight wins, including beating Chel-

sea at Stamford Bridge and Manchester United, before two consecutive defeats at Tottenham and Newcastle effectively ended their hopes. It is this inconsistency Arsenal must eradicate.

"Absolutely," Xhaka says in response. "We had games where nobody was thinking we could beat, for example, Chelsea away. We beat them. United was maybe a 50-50 game at home, we knew we had to win the games but then we lose against Brighton at home, Southampton away, Palace away and it hurts in the end. It is painful because you have everything, you need maybe only two points from the three games."

Faltering in key moments is an accusation often levelled at Arsenal, a mindset Arteta has actively tried to harden through greater work ethic, professionalism and focus.

"If the situation comes again, we have to be much cleverer, much different, in a different mentality," Xhaka said. "If something is not going well with the ball, we have to change the game. This happened against Palace as well, away, when we were smashed 3-0. We want to play, to play, to play. We lost balls and they scored. First of all, you have to be ready to fight. After, you can do the other things. This is my opinion. This is what Mikel wants from us, to be ready from the start. In this game against Newcastle, we were not in the game from the start to the end."

"But I don't believe that our season was gone because of the Tottenham

and Newcastle games but before. We have Southampton, Brighton, Palace where we lost and this was the killer in my opinion."

A familiar refrain from Xhaka is that he wants to "achieve something special" at Arsenal. Despite last season's disappointing denouement, there is fresh optimism for the future. The mood during Arsenal's preseason camp in the United States has been upbeat, buoyed by the arrival of four new signings: Gabriel Jesus, Fabio Vieira, Marquinhos and Matt Turner. More are expected. So what target has Xhaka specifically set?

"I was one time in a Europa League final [in 2019], one time the semi-final [in 2018] of the Europa League," he said. "We are again in the Europa League and this is for me something we can achieve: to take the trophy in the Europa League would be very, very special, I think. First of all, you go back to the Champions League. Secondly, to win the Europa League trophy is in my opinion is amazing. And to be part of the top in the Premier League. This is something that I call 'to achieve.'"

"I can see something is growing here. Sometimes you need more time than the people want, but I have a feeling that we are in a good way. Last season, we were very close to achieving something and this season, let's start and after we can speak again after 38 games. Hopefully we are where we want to be."

Whatever happens, you know Xhaka won't hold back.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Arsenal's Xhaka sets a few more things straight in ESPN interview

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TFF Ethics Committee bans Haji Manara for two years



Yanga's spokesman, Haji Manara. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA Football Federation (TFF)'s Ethics Committee has handed Yanga spokesman, Haji Manara, a two-year ban from all football-related activities.

In addition to the sanction, Manara was punished with a fine of 20m/-.

The Ethics Committee under Chairman Mwita Waissaka found Manara guilty of gross misconduct.

Manara was charged with two offenses, offensive behav-

iours contrary to article 73 of the 2021 TFF Code of Ethics as well as

"Yanga's official spokesman Haji Manara on July 2 at Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium's VVIP guest area, during Azam Sports Federation Cup final match between Yanga and Coastal Union did use offensive gestures and language to the President of Tanzania Football Federation, Wallace

Karia," Waissaka stated.

"The Yanga official said in Kiswahili: 'Wewe unanifuatafuata sana, hii ni mara ya tatu, sikuogopi kwa lolote, kwa chochote na huwezi kunifanya chochote, nina uwezo wa kukufanya chochote na huna cha kunifanya', while knowing that it is unprofessional behaviour and may lead to the damage of reputation and image of football in Tanzania," read the

charge sheet for the first offense.

Manara through his legal representatives denied both charges. In its decision, following an extensive hearing, the committee ruled that, based on information provided by TFF, Manara was found guilty of having breached article 73 (discipline) and the threat code.

"Consequently, the Ethics

Committee found Manara had breached article 73 of the 2021 edition TFF Code of Ethics, as well as art. 19 of the 2019 edition, and sanctioned him with a ban from all football-related activity (administrative, sports, or any other) at both national and international level for five years," a statement from the Ethics Committee read.

"In addition, a fine in the amount of TSH20m has been imposed on Manara," the statement added.

This is not the first time the former Simba SC spokesman finds himself in trouble.

Five years ago, the TFF independent Ethics Committee banned Manara from taking part in any football activity (administrative, sports, or any other) at both national and international levels for 12 months.

Manara was also fined 9m/- for gross misconduct but was later on pardoned.

In August last year, Manara controversially crossed from Simba SC to Yanga claiming that he was being taken for granted by the former where he worked for more than seven years as the club's spokesperson.

Cricket outfits learn their fate in 2022 Petrofuel DC Caravans Cup tourney

By Guardian Reporter

THE 12 franchises for the upcoming Petrofuel Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Caravans Cup tournament were unveiled at the launching ceremony of the showpiece held in the city yesterday.

The teams that will be contesting for the top honour are Alliance Caravans, Aruti Aces, I&M-Aurobindo Aga Khan SC, Harab Motors Pak Stars, Black & Decker Upanga Club, and Pigabet Estim.

DTB Gymkhana, Novum Strikers, All Season Lions, Azania Bank Stars, Jiuzhou Annadil Burhani, and Horizon Teleports DCC complete the list of the contenders.

The tournament, set to begin tomorrow, will see the 12 teams split into two groups of six outfits playing a group and knockout-style tournament.

The final is set to take place in mid-September.

Going into the tournament, last year's finalists Aruti Aces will be confident, having clinched silverware in the recently concluded DC GP T20 Big Bash League.

However, there are no clear favourites in this season's Petrofuel DC Caravans Cup showdown, with each team having made reinforcements and anticipating the competition.

The cricket fraternity in Tanzania is, the showdown organizers revealed, excited for the biggest

tournament in the country and the sport's enthusiasts attended the launching ceremony in large numbers.

The organizers stated the competition will take place at Leaders Club, Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club and Annadil Burhani grounds simultaneously on Saturday and Sunday.

The title sponsor of this tournament is Petrofuel Limited, whereas the showpiece's co-sponsors are Alliance Insurance,

Colourflex, Pepsi, Flashnet, Ashton Media, Rotana, and Aura Suites.

Bank of India, Kishen Enterprises, New Rainbow, Datamanics, Samaki Samaki, A One Bottlers, and GI Security are the other sponsors.

Aurobindo Aga Khan SC won the 2021 DC Caravans T20 Cup tournament trophy, cruising to a seven-wicket victory over Aruti Aces Cricket Club in an entertaining final.

Aruti Aces had the opportunity to bat first notching 118/8 in 20 overs, Aurobindo Aga Khan SC in response got down to a successful chase amid stiff opposition showcased by the opponents' bowling unit as the latter recorded 121/3 in 18 overs.

The tournament's group fixtures had come to an end whilst seeing Aruti Aces grab the top spot in Group A bringing together five teams.

Harab Motors Pak Stars grabbed

second place to make it to the following round.

In Group B which too consisted of five clubs, Aurobindo Aga Khan SC was the group leader and was joined by Alliance Caravans in the preceding round.

In the first knockout clash, dubbed Qualifier, Aurobindo Aga Khan SC posted a three-run victory over Aruti Aces, whereas the Eliminator witnessed Alliance Caravans hammer Harab Motors Pak Stars by 19 runs.



Aruti Aces Cricket Club's captain Bhavesh Govind (L) and his Aurobindo Aga Khan SC counterpart, Ayzaz Jasani, are pictured with the top honour ahead of the 2021 Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Caravans T20 Cup showdown final which took place in October. Aurobindo Aga Khan SC notched a seven-wicket victory to clinch the silverware.

Dar athletes head for 2022 C'wealth Games

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA's athletic team which will battle it out in the 2022 Commonwealth Games departs for England today for the Games which are slated for next weekend in Birmingham.

The athletes come from athletics, boxing, judo, swimming, and Para athletics.

Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC) vice-president Henry Tandau is the delegation's leader, the Games will get underway on Thursday next week and will end on August 8.

Speaking during the national flag handover ceremony in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday, Minister for Culture, Arts and Sports Mohamed Mchengerwa challenged the athletes to perform well at the Games, saying the country wants medals.

He promised cash prizes to those who will bring home gold, silver, and bronze medals.

"The government has spent a lot of money to see our athletes prepare well for the Commonwealth Games, and there are also cash prizes which will be handed over to those who will bring home gold, silver, and bronze medals, go there and do your country proud," he said.

The athletes who will represent the country in Commonwealth Games are Winfrida Makenji, Andrew Rho-bi, Joseph Gisemo, Faraja Damas, and Joseph Panga, they are accompanied by assistant coach Luiza John.

Marathoners Alphonse Simbu, Hamis Mussa, Jack-line Sakilu, and Failuna Abdi will depart for England on Tuesday, they will be accompanied by head coach Suleiman Nyambui.

Judo players set to represent the country are Thomas Mwenda and Abdurabi Alawi, led by coach Zaidi Hamisi. Collins Saiboko is the swimmer set to compete in the showdown.

The boxers are Alex Isendi (Lightweight) Kassim Mbutwike (Light Middleweight), and Yusuf Changalawe (Light Heavyweight), they are under coach Timothy Magombe, Para-athlete Yohana Mwila with his coach Nemes Chwalala.

2022 Commonwealth Games, officially known as the XXII Commonwealth Games and commonly known as Birmingham 2022, is an international multi-sport event for members of the Commonwealth that is scheduled to be held in Birmingham, England from July 28 to August 8, 2022.

They are taking place 20 years after the Manchester 2002 Commonwealth Games and on the 10th anniversary of London 2012.

Birmingham was announced as host on December 21, 2017, marking England's third time hosting the Commonwealth Games after London 1934 and Manchester 2002, and the seventh Games in the United Kingdom after London and Manchester, Cardiff 1958, Edinburgh 1970 and 1986, and Glasgow 2014.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

