



## Villagers block key highway to protest elephant destructiveness

By Guardian Correspondent, Ikungi

RESIDENTS at Mkiwa village in Ikungi District, Singida Region, took to the road yesterday, blocking the Dodoma-Singida-Mwanza highway with logs for over two hours.

Their protest aimed to demand urgent government action to remove a herd of elephants that had invaded their area, causing extensive damage to homes and food supplies.

In response to the blockade, Singida East legislator Miraji Mtaturu and the district commissioner, Thomas Apson arrived at the scene to address the residents as the roadblock caused significant traffic congestion, impacting travelers on the busy highway.

In his remarks, the MP said that the entire Mkiwa and Isuna wards lie within an elephant migration route, making it challenging to prevent such incidents.

However, he assured them that the government is actively working to manage the situa-

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Gamondi hails hard-fought win against Coastal Union

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Real Madrid's Galácticos humbled by Barcelona's bold trap and rampant attack

## DPP to grace 28th Annual Research Workshop

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Act whenever laws are violated, ZLS urged Page 4



Miners urge govt to ban mercury use in mining Page 6

# Cholera toll rises: 113 lives, 7,190 infections in ten months of 2024



A Tanzania Revenue Authority officer (R) briefs visiting members of the Pan-African Parliament at the Namanga One-Stop Border Post in Longido District, Arusha Region, at the weekend. The delegation was on a get-to-know tour of the situation at the particular Tanzania-Kenya border point, chiefly the level of collaboration in enhancing trade and transportation services in the area. Story on Page 3. Photo: Correspondent Allan Isack

It is important to avoid contact with the bodily fluids of symptomatic individuals, refrain from washing the bodies of those showing symptoms and practice regular hand hygiene,

By Correspondent Pilly Kigome

A TOTAL of 113 deaths and 7,190 other cases of cholera infection m have been recorded in the country from January to October, the government has stated.

Dr Vida Mmbaga, the Health ministry assistant director of preventive services, made this affirmation in Dar es Salaam over the weekend at a training session for religious leaders on infectious disease prevention, especially cholera, mpox and narburg.

All regions except Njombe, Iringa and Kilimanjaro had reported cases of cholera infection, she said, noting that no cases of mpox or marburg had been reported countrywide.

Educating communities on preventive measures was vital as the diseases can spread through physical contact, airborne transmission from bod-

ily fluids and contact with wild animal carcasses, she stated.

Key symptoms such as rashes and blisters are common for mpox and Marburg infections, she said, appealing to religious leaders to help spread the message as to crucial precautions.

"It is important to avoid contact with the bodily fluids of symptomatic individuals, refrain from washing the bodies of those showing symptoms and practice regular hand hygiene," the director emphasised, cautioning also on handshakes, hugs and handling carcasses in a suspicious environment.

Dr Godwin Mollé, the deputy minister, called for collaboration between religious leaders and the government to raise awareness about controlling infectious diseases in places of worship.

He said the government was keen on initiatives to

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## Samia donates 100m/- at Dar's AICT Golden Jubilee

By Guardian Reporter

Preach love and do not allow division or discrimination among us

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan was yesterday credited with contributing 100m/- at a thanksgiving service to mark 50 years of the Magomeni Parish of the Africa Inland Church of Tanzania (AICT) in Dar es Salaam.

Dr Doto Biteko, the deputy premier and Energy minister, stood in for the Head of State at the occasion, where

the church conducted a fundraising event aimed at completing the construction of church facilities. Announcing the contri-

buton, the deputy premier reaffirmed the president's commitment to collaborating with religious leaders on issues concerning the welfare of the nation.

"President Samia appreciates your involvement in various church-related matters, and State House doors are always open. You are welcome to share your views on how we can lead our country," he told the gathering.

The Golden Jubilee celebrations serve as a time to reflect on past achievements and challenges, he said, asking the congregation to commit themselves physically and financially to building development oriented facilities.

Immediate action is of utmost importance, he said, cautioning that the mem-

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## HEET uplifts remote areas for higher education access

By Correspondent Grace

Mwakalinga

EASY access to higher education is being expanded in various remote regions by the Higher Education for Economic Transformation (HEET) project.

Prof Bernard Mellau, vice

chancellor for the Mwalimu Julius Nyerere University of Agriculture and Technology (MJNUT) said at a press conference in Dar es Salaam at the weekend that the up and coming institution has received 102.5bn/- in funding to improve educational infrastructure.

He stated that 16bn/- will

be used to construct six buildings at a new campus in Tabora, part of the government's efforts to provide quality higher education in outlyin regions, while at the main campus in Butiama, construction on 16 buildings is underway, now 41 per cent complete.

Previously, prospective

students from areas like Mara, Kigoma or Katavi had to travel long distances to study in other regions but various campuses are set to expand learning opportunities in those regions, he said.

The HEET project will en-

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**Guardian BUSINESS**

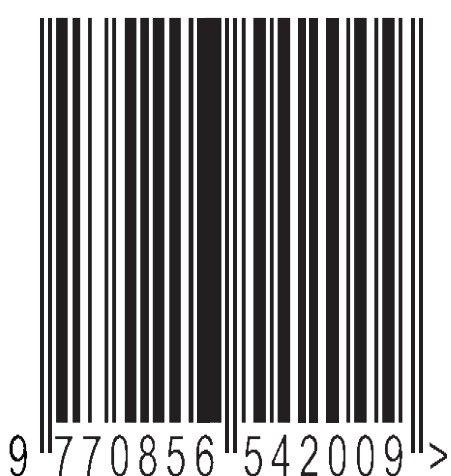
**Foreign investors record 3.9bn/- selloff through DSE**

**Africa's 'green' economy set to create 3m jobs**

**CRDB Bank bags two global banking awards**

**TIC invites Koreans to invest in Tanzania**

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India's High Commissioner to Tanzania, Bishwadip Dey (C), joins 30 students from Dar es Salaam's Academic International Secondary School at the weekend during the launch of a monthly initiative dubbed 'Karibu Tanzanian Youths' aimed at cementing links between India and Tanzania by engaging young Tanzanian students. Story on Page 7. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Villagers block key highway to protest elephant destructiveness

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tion, adding that wildlife and people need to coexist. "I assure you that the government is making efforts to address this issue," he stated, insisting that there is no deliberate negligence as residents mostly felt.

"I will contact the Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism immediately to request that she

or her representatives come here to resolve the matter," he stated.

The MP has earlier informed the Information, Communication and Information Technology minister Jerry Silaa about the pace of elephant invasions in Mkiwa and Isuna wards, as the minister was rounding up his five-day tour of the region.

The elephants have consist-

ently wreaked havoc on crops and, in some instances, caused fatalities as they move through the area en route to the Rungwa Game Reserve located in Itigi District.

Speaking at the scene, some residents said that the elephants entered the village around 4pm, triggering panic among residents as they destroyed houses and devoured

crops. The unexpected invasion left the community in distress, with people fleeing in all directions to escape the danger, with Ramadhani Ally, a resident at Mkiwa village, saying that the elephants damaged trees, destroyed his cassava field, house, leaving his family in a dire situation.

Another resident, Halima

Shabani, said that people decided to block the highway to pressure the government into taking action. "These elephants keep invading our homes, and the government has done nothing to control them. Every time they come, they destroy our belongings and leave us in poverty. We have had enough," the villager declared.

## Samia donates 100m/- at Dar's AICT Golden Jubilee

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bers should not just focus on what they have today but consider where that entity will be many years to come.

"Don't wait for tomorrow; do what you can today," he urged, calling for unity among church members and the wider public, encouraging adopting self-governance, self-management and community growth values.

"Preach love and do not allow division or discrimination among us," he said, asserting that Tanzania is blessed with a good country rich in resources. He encouraged bishops and pastors not to lose heart in fulfilling their calling in life, stressing that the congregation needs to support church leaders.

He acknowledged the AICT leadership for its efforts in motivating the community to participate in the upcoming local government elections and select qualified leaders.

AICT Archbishop Musa Magwesela highlighted the significance of the anniversary, noting that since the church was established at Magomeni in 1974, its spiritual outreach has been widening.

He encouraged church members to engage in good deeds, utilise their talents and share their gifts, pointing at the contributions of individuals who have served at the parish, stressing collective respect for their legacy.

A week earlier the church had distributed 20 clean cooking energy cylinders to the local community, the prelate added.



China's Ambassador to Tanzania, Chen Mingjian, (C), pictured in Dar es Salaam at the weekend recognising a student of the city's Zanaki Secondary School chosen into a group of 132 students and teachers to get this year's edition of the Chinese Ambassador's award. Story on Page 7. Photo: Correspondent Mary Kadoke

## UN: War affects more than 600 million women and girls

UNITED NATIONS

MORE than 600 million women and girls are now affected by war, a 50% increase from a decade ago, and they fear the world has forgotten them amid an escalating backlash against women's rights and gender equality, top United Nations officials say.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said in a new report that amid record levels of armed conflict and violence, progress over the decades for women is vanishing and "generational gains in women's rights hang in the balance around the world."

The UN chief was assessing the state of a Security Council resolution adopted on Oct. 31, 2000, that demanded equal participation for women in peace negotiations, a

goal that remains as distant as gender equality.

Guterres said current data and findings show that "the transformative potential of women's leadership and inclusion in the pursuit of peace" is being undercut – with power and decision-making on peace and security matters overwhelmingly in the hands of men.

"As long as oppressive patriarchal social structures and gender biases hold back half our societies, peace will remain elusive," he warned.

The report says the proportion of women killed in armed conflicts doubled in 2023 compared with a year earlier; UN-verified cases of conflict-related sexual violence were 50% higher; and the number of girls affected by grave violations in conflicts increased by 35%.

At a two-day UN Security Council meeting on the topic that ended Friday, Sima Bahous, head of the UN agency promoting gender equality known as UN Women, also pointed to a lack of attention to women's voices in the search for peace.

She cited the fears of millions of women and girls in Afghanistan deprived of an education and a future; of displaced women in Gaza "waiting for death"; of women in Sudan who are victims of sexual violence; and of the vanishing hopes of women in Myanmar, Haiti, Congo, the Sahel region of Africa, South Sudan, Syria, Ukraine, Yemen and elsewhere.

Bahous said the 612 million women and girls affected by war "wonder if the world has already forgotten them, if they have fallen

from the agenda of an international community overwhelmed by crises of ever deeper frequency, severity and urgency."

The world needs to answer their fears with hope, she said, but the reality is grim: "One in two women and girls in conflict-affected settings are facing moderate to severe food insecurity, 61% of all maternal mortality is concentrated in 35 conflict-affected countries."

As for women's participation in decision-making and politics in countries in conflict, Bahous said it's stalled.

"The percentage of women in peace negotiations has not improved over the last decade: under 10% on average in all processes, and under 20% in processes led or supported by the United Nations," she said.

## Cholera toll rises: 113 lives, 7,190 infections in ten months of 2024

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combat these threats, as an aspect of the need to assure Tanzanians that the country is safe, for them to pursue their daily activities without fear.

The government has allocated resources to ensure that border crossing points are dotted with equipment to check for symptoms in a bid to control potential cases of infection before a person enter the country, he said.

Despite that cases were reported in neighboring countries, Tanzania remains free from mpox and marburg, he said, while religious leaders expressed their commitment to working with the government in

educating their congregations about the diseases. Sheikh Ally Ngeruko, the acting Mufti, thanked the government for recognising the role of religious communities, pledging cooperation in raising awareness.

Bishop Gabriel Magwega, representing the Christian Council of Tanzania (CCT), stressed the need of educating congregants to prevent infections and encouraging timely medical attention for those exhibiting symptoms.

Florida Boniface, a church community leader with the Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC) urged church communities to ensure effective education on the issues in whatever occasion they have.

## HEET uplifts remote regions for access to higher education

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able students from remote areas to access higher education closer to home, preparing them for career openings in new localised economic activities, he said.

Three project is expected to redefine higher education by encouraging young people to enroll in local universities and preparing them for taking up openings closer to home, he stated, noting that the new university will accommodate 6,000 students by late 2025.

Upwards of 4,500 students will be studying at the main Butiama campus and an expected 1,500 others at the Tabora campus, he said, in remarks in the company of Prof. Peter Msofe, the ministerial director of Higher Education.

He explained that the HEET project is a \$425m (1trn/-) investment across 23 institutions aimed at boosting enrollment and sparking economic transformation.

"Where once there was just wilderness, we now see buildings. By next year, students will be studying here, a testament to the government's commitment to using higher education as a catalyst for national development," he said.

Silvester Francis, the resident engineer for the project, noted that construction began in November 2023 and is expected to finish by May 2025. The first phase includes seven buildings costing 20.5bn/-, with an additional four buildings in the second phase costing 16.9bn/-.

Prof Roberta Malee, the World Bank team leader, commended the speed and quality of the construction, pointing at the commitment to enhancing overall higher education infrastructure.

Mkaiga Kaboko, the HEET project co-leader, described the project as a major driver of economic growth as it produces professionals and generates jobs while strengthening research capabilities.

"The HEET project provides new hope for Tanzanians, especially young people in remote regions, by establishing a solid foundation for education and economic development, preparing communities for sustainable growth," he added.



# Annual Research Workshop to explore access to global market

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

THE 28th Annual Research Workshop which has attracted more than 200 participants in Arusha is set to kick off here tomorrow and address ways of making East African countries penetrate global markets when it comes to trade, business and manufacturing.

John Simbachawene, Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Industry and Trade, unveiled this here yesterday when speaking ahead of the three-day workshop, adding that Deputy Prime Minister and Energy Minister Dr Doto Biteko is scheduled to grace the opening.

He said that six institutions have joined hands to host the ARW from tomorrow to Thursday under the theme 'Pursuit for Sustained Growth and Trade Expansion'.

Organized by non-governmental organisation that conducts research and advocacy on development issues in Tanzania REPOA, the ARW takes in collaboration with Ministry of Industry and Trade, the East African Legislative Assembly, the East African Community Secretariat, the CRDB Bank, TradeMark Africa,

Tanzania Horticultural Association (TAHA), and the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAG-COT). Participants were strategically selected to represent relevant stakeholders from Tanzania, EAC member states and regional and continental economic communities and development agencies.

The workshop also offers a timely review of the implementation progress of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and the underlying regional trade and economic integration frameworks plus economic and trade cooperation between the global north and the global south.

Dr Donald Mmari, REPOA executive director, said trade interacts in a complex but complementary ways with other national policies requiring coherent policies and approaches.

"Mainstreaming trade and trade policies into national and regional development strategies requires systematic cultivation of mutually reinforcing policies cutting across government departments, agencies and countries as well as the private sector and the donor community to create synergies in support of sustainable development goals," he said.



Transport deputy minister David Kihenzile (2nd-L) pictured in Arusha city at the weekend presenting an award to Tanzania Shipping Agencies Corporation (TASAC) board chairman Capt Mussa Mandia in appreciation of the agency's contribution to the development of the transport sector in the country. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# PAP delegation praises Tanzania on border security, trade growth

By Guardian Correspondent, Longido

MEMBERS of the Pan-African Parliament (PAP) have praised Tanzania's proactive approach to resolving border conflicts and removing trade barriers with other member states of the East African Community (EAC).

PAP representatives made the observation during a recent visit to the One-Stop Border Post (OSBP) in Namanga, Longido District in Arusha Region.

According to the members, Tanzania's progress in eliminating trade restrictions is vital for advancing the goals of the African Continental Free Trade Area

(AfCFTA).

Prof Margaret Kamar, head of PAP Committee on Trade, Customs and Immigration, said that Tanzania has been selected as one of eight pilot countries for the initial implementation of free trade alongside Rwanda, Ghana, Mauritius, Cameroon and Tunisia.

The purpose of the visit, she explained, was to assess service delivery at various border points, including Namanga.

After observing operations firsthand, PAP members were impressed with Tanzania's commitment to enhancing border security, particularly through the use of advanced inspection technology

for goods being imported and exported.

"The central agenda of PAP is to ensure that free trade is strengthened at border regions, and we are pleased to witness the efficient inspection processes at Namanga," she said.

"We are here to evaluate how Tanzania implements free trade, especially for goods entering from EAC countries and the regulation of imports. We are satisfied with the quality of service at this border, which connects Kenya and Tanzania."

Wavel Woodcock, PAP member from Seychelles, commended Tanzania for its robust border infra-

structure and efforts to improve services at border points within the EAC free trade region.

Anatropia Theonest, Special Seats MP from Tanzania and member of PAP Committee on Trade, Customs and Immigration, commended the significant progress made by Tanzania.

She shared that updates from border officials highlighted streamlined cargo processing for goods entering and transiting to other countries.

Longido District Commissioner Salum Kali said that as trade agreements among EAC member states strengthen, businesses will benefit from the removal of transporta-

tion barriers, enabling quick inspections and facilitating smooth transit for trucks using specialised equipment at border areas.



**The central agenda of PAP is to ensure that free trade is strengthened at border regions, and we are pleased to witness the efficient inspection processes at Namanga**

## CHANGE OF NAME

In my Passport N.V9541702, my Mother's name was mis-takenly recorded as MEHJABI whereas the correct name is MAHAJABI. In future, my mother should be known by this name. Seyyad Raja Ali S/o Shahanawaz Hussain R/o H.no.325 Budina Khurd P/S Titawi Tehsil & Distt Muzaffarnagar (U.P).

## Director of Finance

Ref 32780

Our Client, **Marie Stopes Tanzania (MST)**, a Non-Governmental Organization, is a social enterprise and a leading provider of family planning, sexual and reproductive health care and allied services. MST is a partner of the Government of Tanzania and a member of the Marie Stopes International (MSI) Global Partnership, which operates in over 37 countries worldwide. MST's mission is that all women and men in Tanzania will have "Children by Choice, Not Chance". MST is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and post holders to share this commitment.

### Job Brief

Marie Stopes Tanzania has an exciting opportunity for an organized and proactive individual looking to work as The **Director of Finance**, based in Dar es Salaam. Reporting to Country Director, the Director of Finance acts as a business partner to the Country Director (CD) in ensuring that all the financial risks and projected returns are considered and robustly evaluated when making strategic and operational decisions. The Director of Finance is:

- Responsible for supporting the Executive Management Team (EMT) to achieve sustainable growth through improved financial management to drive the organisation's performance.
- The authority for all accounting matters within the organisation and must ensure Marie Stopes International's (MSI) Group Financial policies are implemented while observing the needs of the country programme's local statutory requirements.
- Responsible for building and maintaining a motivated and productive local finance team capable of implementing MSI's strategy, developing proper monitoring and follow-up systems to ensure financial sustainability and providing advice and support to the programme on financial management.

### Responsibilities

- Provide strategic and functional leadership as part of the Executive Management team;
- Devise accurate, realistic and inclusive budgets for MST's Country program, for donor funding bids and for sub-departments;
- Oversee and ensure financial systems, procedures and reports, that enable efficient and compliant use of MSI funds and assets;
- Effective management and oversight of MST working capital, investments and financial obligations;
- Responsible for accurate and timely group reporting, while dealing with internal and external auditors;
- Provide leadership oversight over operations function (Procurement and Stock management); and
- Any other duties as assigned by the supervisor.

### Requirements

- Degree-educated or equivalent (essential).
- Must be a Certified Public Accountant (CPA T) or possess an equivalent qualification recognised by NBAA.
- At least 6 years' experience in a senior management position, preferably in the donor environment.
- Demonstrable experience in a leadership role for a large division or company.
- Experience in strategic planning and execution of plans to achieve objective and targets.
- Demonstrated success in formulating policy, and development and implementing strategies and procedures.
- Excellent knowledge of financial management systems and reporting.
- Hands-on experience with computerized Accounting Systems; Knowledge of Sun Systems is desirable;
- Knowledge of donor contract requirements for budgeting and reporting.
- Ability to establish and maintain contacts with senior-level government and donor officials.
- Demonstrable experience in audit functions.

### How To Apply

Email your CV and application letter to:

[nasra@radarrecruitment.com](mailto:nasra@radarrecruitment.com)

stating the Reference Number **32780** in the subject line.

To view the full job description go to [www.radarrecruitment.com](http://www.radarrecruitment.com) and enter the Job Reference Number in the search field. The closing date for applications is **Wednesday 6th November 2024**.



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## Mozambican health professionals return home from training in China

MAPUTO

A GROUP of 14 healthcare professionals from Maputo Central Hospital (HCM) in Maputo, the Mozambican capital, has returned to Mozambique after completing advanced training in Chengdu, the capital of southwest China's Sichuan Province.

The training, held from September 5 to 25 and organized by the International Exchange Centre of the Sichuan Provincial Health Commission, covered new nursing techniques, with a focus on emergency procedures, intensive care, and advancements in minimally invasive surgeries.

"The experience was remarkable. We visited highly equipped healthcare facilities, including emergency centres, operating rooms, intensive care units, and robotic technology for minimally invasive procedures," said Felisberto Namaroi, a member of the delegation, at a press conference in Maputo upon their arrival Friday.

The program is part of the co-operation agreements between Mozambique and China, aimed at promoting knowledge and medical technology exchange among professionals from Sichuan Provincial People's Hospital and the Commu-

nity of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (CPLP).

Other topics covered in the training included trauma first aid, critical care, postpartum care, breast-feeding instruction, and traditional Chinese medicine.

Healthcare professionals from other Portuguese-speaking countries, such as Cape Verde, Sao Tome and Principe, and Guinea-Bissau, also participated in the training, which is a testimony to China's commitment to strengthening global health.

In continuous partnership with Mozambique, the Chinese medical team at HCM, which has been operating in the country for 25 years, has contributed to the exchange of knowledge and modern equipment.



**The experience was remarkable. We visited highly equipped healthcare facilities, including emergency centres, operating rooms, intensive care**



Linda Tegissa (L), NMB Bank's Head of Transactions Banking, has a word with South Korea's Ambassador to Tanzania, Eunju Ahn (R), on the sidelines of the NMB-sponsored Korean-Tanzania Project 2024 meeting held in Dar es Salaam. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# GCLA embarks on drive to eliminate lead in paint

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE Government Chemist Laboratory Authority (GCLA) has intensified its efforts to eliminate lead in paints across the country through a campaign to test both imported and locally manufactured paint samples.

GCLA Director of Regulatory Services Daniel Ndiyo launched the campaign at the weekend during International Lead Poisoning Pre-

vention Week in Dar es Salaam that seeks to reduce lead exposure and protect public health.

He highlighted significance of the testing campaign at the event which brought together paint importers and manufacturers to underscore the importance of meeting safety standards.

Ndiyo noted that of the 31 samples tested from 10 manufacturers, only two, equivalent to 6.4 percent failed to meet the required stand-

ards for lead content.

"Lead has significant health impacts, particularly on children and it contaminates the environment, including the air we breathe," he said.

He said ecosystems near lead sources suffer a range of adverse effects such as reduced biodiversity, altered species composition, stunted growth and reproductive issues in plants and animals. Vertebrates, including humans, are vulnerable

to neurological damage from lead exposure.

He said that under Section 5(2) of the GCLA Act, Cap 177, GCLA is tasked with managing and controlling industrial and consumer chemicals to safeguard public health. The director said to ensure compliance with national safety standards, GCLA plans to test all imported and domestically produced paint consignments.

"Our role as a regulator is to en-

sure that all stakeholders meet safety standards. We envision a nation free from lead," Ndiyo affirmed. International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week, coordinated annually by the World Health Organization, raises awareness on lead's severe health risks and promotes strategies to address the global health issue.

This year's theme 'Bright Futures Begin Lead-Free' emphasizes the need to protect children from the

harmful effects of lead exposure. The week aims to highlight efforts by countries and partners to prevent childhood lead poisoning and accelerate phasing out of lead in paints.

Despite global progress, lead exposure remains a pressing concern, especially for children. The campaign builds on achievements such as the ban on leaded petrol and legislative advancements limiting lead in paints, particularly those used in homes, schools and playgrounds.



## INVITATION FOR TENDERS FOR SERVICES

1. Tanga Cement Public Limited Company (TCPLC) is hereby soliciting bids from interested eligible companies and individuals to render the services listed in the schedule below commencing immediately after completion of tender process.
2. Interested eligible bidders may obtain a complete set of bidding documents after making payment for a non-refundable fee of a tender document in Tanzania Shilling (TZS) 100,000.00 through either of below bank details and **share the receipt to Mr James Madeveha** (email: [james.madeveha@twigacement.com](mailto:james.madeveha@twigacement.com)) for confirmation and registration process in our tendering system (**SAP Ariba**).

### Bank details

Account Name	Account Number	Bank	Branch	Currency
TANGA CEMENT PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY	41710039344	NMB	Madaraka	TZS
TANGA CEMENT PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY	150385602300	CRDB	Tanga	TZS

3. Bids must be submitted via **SAP Ariba system**, before the submission deadline date.
4. This invitation to bids does not in any way constitute an offer to a contract or bind the TCPLC in any way.
5. All bidders must have the approved relevant level of **"Local content"** as required by the Mining Commission.
6. Any explanation desired by prospective bidders on the meaning or interpretation of this solicitation must be requested in writing to email address of Procurement Manager: [sieddy.gimbi@heidelbergmaterials.com](mailto:sieddy.gimbi@heidelbergmaterials.com)

### 7. Schedule of tenders

S/N	Tender Number	Details	Site visit
1	TCPLC-14-2024	Provision of Security Services	29 <sup>th</sup> and/or 31 October 2024
2	TCPLC-15-2024	Maintenance of Plant Elevators	29 <sup>th</sup> and/or 31 October 2024
3	TCPLC-16-2024	Maintenance of Air Conditions	29 <sup>th</sup> and/or 31 October 2024
4	TCPLC-17-2024	Provision of Motor Rewind Services	29 <sup>th</sup> and/or 31 October 2024
5	TCPLC-18-2024	Provision of Material Loading and Offloading	29 <sup>th</sup> and/or 31 October 2024
6	TCPLC-19-2024	Provision of Trade Development Representatives (TDRs)	N/A
7	TCPLC-20-2024	Lease of Inkjet Printers for coding Cement Bags	29 <sup>th</sup> and/or 31 October 2024
8	TCPLC-21-2024	Supply of Casuals (Red Clay & Limestone Units)	29 <sup>th</sup> and/or 31 October 2024
9	TCPLC-22-2024	Supply of Casuals (Yard Gang)	29 <sup>th</sup> and/or 31 October 2024
10	TCPLC-23-2024	Provision of Civil and Building Works at Plant	29 <sup>th</sup> and/or 31 October 2024
11	TCPLC-25-2024	Provision of Cement Loading and Offloading at Tanga Plant and Depots	29 <sup>th</sup> and/or 31 October 2024

## Zanzibar VP urges law society to speak out to protect human rights

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR Law Society (ZLS) has been urged to take leading role in raising voice and taking action whenever the constitution and laws are violated by government authorities or institutions.

Zanzibar First Vice President Othman Masoud Othman made the call here at the weekend when speaking at the society's annual general meeting.

He emphasized that when citizens are denied their rights, the law society should be their refuge, ensuring that their rights are protected according to the constitution and other laws.

"When the national constitution is breached by any person or authority, the law society should be at the forefront in raising its voice and taking appropriate action against such violations," he said.

He also noted that the society has a responsibility to safeguard

civil rights, including advocating for cases in the public interest to promote good governance.

"It is wrong and deeply shameful when civil rights are endangered, whether due to those in authority or business interests. It is not right for the law society to remain silent and neglect its duty to speak out. Without this, citizens will lack a strong protector against abuses of power hence lack of accountability, corruption and systemic injustices," he added.

Othman explained that many people in Zanzibar are deprived of their rights, particularly in areas such as land ownership and the right to vote and be elected due to misuse of laws or failure to adhere to them, which is against Zanzibar's 1984 constitution.

He also urged lawyers to dedicate time to educating citizens about their rights and provide legal aid when citizens face issues

or are denied justice.

Haroun Ali Suleiman, Zanzibar Minister for Constitution, Legal Affairs and Public Service, encouraged lawyers to uphold ethical standards in their profession, act fairly and build trust with the government, stating that there is no issue with advising or even criticizing the government.

He added that the government continues its efforts to strengthen the government of national unity and called on lawyers to support the efforts to foster national unity among Zanzibaris.

Former ZLS President Masoud Rukabizwa mentioned that they face various challenges, including lack of opportunities to be appointed by the government to oversee contracts for various development projects.

He also highlighted the challenge of limited resources, particularly in rural areas where legal services are greatly needed.



Experts overseeing the implementation of the Julius Kambarage Nyerere Agricultural and Technology College project at Butiama in Mara Region take visiting World Bank team leader Prof Roberta Malee (3rd-L) around the site of project on Saturday. The visit was part of her tour of educational institutions that have benefited from funding under the Higher Education for Economic Transformation Project (HEET). Photo: Correspondent Grace Mwakalinga





Natural Resources and Tourism minister Dr Pindi Chana (R) makes a surprise inspection tour of the ongoing construction of the proposed Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI) research centre at Kihesa in Kilolo District, Iringa Region, at the weekend. The facility is meant as part of strategy to enhance natural resource management and tourism promotion in southern Tanzania. Photo courtesy of NR & T ministry

## China hands over agri machinery, infrastructure to Malawian govt

LILONGWE

THE third phase of China-aided agricultural equipment and infrastructure has been handed over to the government of Malawi.

The package, under the China Aid Agricultural Technical Cooperation Project, included greenhouses, assorted agricultural machinery and infrastructure, aimed at promoting agriculture, one of Malawi's key sectors, as the country strives to achieve economic independence by 2063.

When presiding over the handover ceremony in Lilongwe, the capital of Malawi, Zhang Chunfa, economic and commercial counselor at the Chinese Embassy in Malawi, described the event as "fruitful results of practical agricultural cooperation" between the two countries.

He defined the assistance project established by the Chinese government in Lilongwe as a landmark initiative in agricultural cooperation between the two countries.

Zhang noted that over the past nine years, three

phases of the project have been implemented, yielding long-term benefits and receiving warm recognition from both the Malawian government and its people.

"China has established an agricultural demonstration center, provided technical assistance, supported rural areas through the construction of 600 wells, and delivered multiple rounds of emergency humanitarian food aid, with a new batch currently underway," explained Zhang.

He also observed that the Chinese government has sped up efforts to facilitate the export of Malawian agricultural products such as soybeans and groundnuts to China.

Accepting the third phase of the agricultural package, Malawian Minister of Agriculture Sam Kawale hailed the Chinese government for the equipment and modern agricultural technology handed over to Malawi.

Kawale said his ministry will continue working with China to fulfill Malawi's Vision 2063, with a focus on good, innovative ways of producing high-quality crops.

## Over 3 m children in Sudan at risk of acute malnutrition, say UN agencies

KHARTOUM

TWO United Nations agencies have said that 3.7 million children under five in Sudan are at risk of acute malnutrition, warning of a worsening humanitarian crisis across the country.

"There are 3.7 million children under five projected to suffer from severe acute malnutrition this year alone and (they) are in urgent need of life-saving treatment," the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) said in a joint statement late Friday.

According to the statement, "The children are already weakened by hunger. If not reached soon, these children are 11 times more likely to die from preventable diseases than their healthier peers in Sudan."

"The humanitarian crisis in Sudan continues to spiral, with millions of people in desperate need of assistance," UNHCR Assistant High Commissioner for Operations Raouf Mazou and UNICEF Deputy Executive Director Ted Chaiban were quoted in the statement as saying.

The two UN officials stressed that a key issue in delivering critical aid has been ensuring safe, unimpeded access to communities in need across Sudan.

They said UN agencies responsible for the delivery of aid and the provision of technical assistance need to be permitted by government authorities to have a sustained presence in all affected communities.

According to the statement, Sudan is now "home to one of the world's largest and most pressing displacement crises," in which



over 11 million people were displaced, both internally and across borders, while millions more, particularly children, were pushed into extreme vulnerability.

"An estimated 13 million people are facing acute levels of food insecurity. Fourteen regions across the country are teetering on the brink of famine," the statement said.

Access to basic services such as safe water, healthcare, and shelter is severely limited, it added, stressing that the international response must intensify immediately to match the overwhelming scale of need.

The two agencies reaffirmed their commitment to supporting the people of Sudan and all those impacted by the conflict, calling for sustained international backing, including attention to a political way to address the conflict.

They stressed that the protection of civilians must be paramount, saying, "We urgently call on all parties to the conflict to respect international humanitarian law and prioritize the protection of civilians, who continue to face unimaginable suffering."

According to the UN, half of Sudan's population, or about 25 million people, need humanitarian assistance and protection.

Sudan has been ravaged by a deadly conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces since mid-April 2023. According to a situation report issued by the Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project on Oct. 14, the conflict has resulted in more than 24,850 deaths.

## TIRA promises 20m/- for uplift of Amana Hospital

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

TANZANIA Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA) has pledged to avail 20m/- for expansion of Amana Regional Referral Hospital in Dar es Salaam.

Dr Baghayo Saqware, TIRA Insurance Commissioner, made the pledge in Dar es Salaam at the weekend during a fundraising event organized by Office of Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner in collaboration with the hospital.

Dr Saqware said TIRA will provide 20m/- for the repair and construction of buildings for children, pregnant women as well as buying medical equipment to improve services.

He said TIRA has seen the importance of participating in the expansion and improvement of the hospital so that many Tanzanians can get the best services that at the hospital.

Dr Saqware added that the intention of the authority is to see that the health services provided are of high quality and reliable.

He said that the move to contribute

to health sector will also help the insurance sector as consumers of health services are also consumers of insurance.

"The expectation is that through health insurance for all and the improvement of hospitals like Amana, more citizens will be able to access health services easily and at low cost," he said.

In addition, he said that the efforts stimulate the government's goal of ensuring that every Tanzanian gets health services through an insurance system that provides opportunities for citizens to pay for medical expenses easily and remove the burden of unexpected costs.

"TIRA believes that good health contributes to the development of society and thus the authority is committed to continuing to cooperate with the health sector in campaigns and projects aimed at improving the wellbeing of citizens," he said.

"Our goal is to see that every Tanzanian gets the best health services and that no one is left behind due to inability to pay for treatment," he said.



RTI International ([www.rti.org](http://www.rti.org)) is an independent, nonprofit organization dedicated to conducting innovative, multidisciplinary research that improves the human condition. With a worldwide staff of more than 4,000 people, RTI offers innovative research and development and multidisciplinary services.

USAID TUHIFADHI MALIASILI ("PRESERVE NATURAL RESOURCES") PROJECT

### INVITATION FOR YOUTH MENTORSHIP OPPORTUNITY

USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili ("Preserve Natural Resources") project which addresses dynamics that threaten habitat connectivity and the long-term persistence of biodiversity in Tanzania invites in and out of the college youth to apply for the first round of internship program. The project targets the marginalized and often socially excluded groups including the youth and women. Engagement and empowerment of youth in the project as co-creators of solutions can significantly support efforts to secure, protect, and sustain wildlife movement corridors and promote the longevity and sustainability of the interventions.

USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili project has developed a Youth Mentorship Program that aim to connect, support, and inspire the next generation of conservators interested in biodiversity conservation and natural resources management careers. This year, the project will roll out the youth mentorship program in Kwakuchinja Wildlife Connectivity Area, Amani-Nilo Forest corridor, Ruaha Rungwa Inyonga Corridor, Ruaha Rungwa Katavi Corridor and Nyerere Selous Udzungwa Elephant Corridor. The program involves pairing mentees (youth with academic training and a keen interest in conservation and natural resources management) with mentors who are seasoned experts in the field.

Also, we are encouraging candidates who are interested on [Natural Resources Management \(NRM\) Policy and Biodiversity Conservation](#) to apply by explaining in a cover letter their interest on this field.

#### Why should you apply?

The mentoring process will aid mentees in developing their career, skills, and expertise by drawing upon the experiences of the mentors. Mentors will provide exposure to real-world conservation and natural resource management activities implemented in their projects and by their organizations. It is anticipated that, by the end of the program, mentees will acquire conservation leadership skills, knowledge, and understanding, thereby enhancing their prospects of securing employment within the field of biodiversity conservation and natural resource management.

#### Selection criteria

- Individuals must be between the age of 18 - 30 years.
- Possess a Certificate, Diploma, or Degree in fields such as natural resource management, community-based conservation, climate change, wildlife management, forestry, tourism management, beekeeping, community development, livestock, agriculture, and other fields related to biodiversity conservation.
- Less than 1 year of on-the-job experience for youth with the aforementioned academic qualifications.
- At least 2 years of practical experience for youth who have not undergone formal training in the specified fields.
- Reside or work in the following districts: Monduli, Babati, Muheza, Kilombero, Itigi, Chunya and Sikonge Districts.
- An active participant in community projects and especially those contributing to biodiversity conservation and/or management of natural resources.
- Applicants with the aforementioned academic qualifications who possess a keen interest in learning and receiving mentorship on natural resources management policy are encouraged to include it in their applications. Priority will be given to applicants with relevant academic qualifications and a demonstrated passion for the subject.

#### Mentorship plan

Mentees will receive mentorship for one year. Throughout this period, mentorship goals will be collaboratively developed by mentors and mentees, clarifying the roles and responsibilities of each party. The program will also entail placements at organizations where mentors work, exposure to field visits, and one-on-one mentoring sessions.

#### Stipend

USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili Project will provide a stipend of **TZS 400,000/-** per month to the mentees to cover their meals and transport allowance. It is expected that mentees will be residents of villages and/or districts within the project area.

#### How to apply

Interested individuals may submit a letter of interest and CV online: <https://careers.rti.org/jobs>. The deadline for submitting applications is **November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024**. Women/Girls are encouraged to apply.

Only selected candidates will be contacted.





UNDP's Resident Representative in Tanzania, Shigeki Komatsubara, cuts the ribbon in Dar es Salaam at the weekend when gracing the handover of seaweed processing and other equipment meant to support seaweed farmers and crab fishermen. To his left is Tanga regional commissioner Dr Batilda Burian and to his right is Livestock and Fisheries ministry deputy permanent secretary Dr Edwin Mhede. Photo: Correspondent Hamida Kamchalla

## Complete BRT-3 project as per agreed time, RC tells contractor

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE contractor building the third phase of Bus Rapid Transit (BRT-3) has been urged to work around the clock to ensure the project is completed and operational by February next year as stipulated in the contract.

Dar es Salaam regional commissioner Albert Chalamila made the call in the city at the weekend during his visit to inspect various projects in Ilala District.

The BRT-3 project, spanning 23 kilometers from Posta in the city center through Tazara to Gongo la Mboto, is being constructed by the Chinese firm M/S Sinohydro Corporation Limited.

With the rainy season approaching, Chalamila urged the contractor to expedite work and establish measures to maintain progress despite adverse weather.

"I've come here and seen you working at night. I want you to keep this momentum. No excuses, I expect this road to be completed on time so that residents can benefit from it and ease congestion," he said.

He also commended engineers at the Tanzania National Roads Agency (Tanroads) for their consistent day-and-night supervision of contractors, encouraging them to ensure timely completion and adherence to construction standards

outlined in the contract.

"I will continue to make unannounced visits to check if night work is a regular practice and not just because you knew I was coming. Tanroads engineers must ensure that the construction complies with standards as billions are being invested in this project," he added.

Tanroads BRT-3 project manager Frank Mbilinyi assured Chalamila that the project is on track to be completed on time, with most of the road expected to be finished by December this year and fully operational by February 2025.

"Regional Commissioner, let me assure you that the contractor is progressing well. Our government engineers work closely with them to ensure funds are disbursed on time to prevent delays," Mbilinyi stated.

Chalamila also inspected BRT-4 route from Mwenge to Tegeta Dawasa, covering 15.63 kilometers currently under construction by M/S Shandong Luqiao Group Co Ltd. He advised the contractor to increase workers to expedite work before the rainy season to minimise the risk of delays.

"Ensure you follow every detail in the construction contract. If more workers are needed, add them to work day and night. I'm glad to see you on-site tonight but let it not be just because you heard I was coming," he said.

## IMF urges reforms in Africa oil exporter countries to strengthen 'subdued' growth

WASHINGTON

SUB-SAHARAN African nations that depend on commodity exports need to reform their economies to tackle patchy regional economic growth, International Monetary Fund Africa Director Abebe Aemro Selassie has said.

The region is expected to grow by 3.6 percent this year, unchanged from last year and down from an April forecast of 3.8 percent, the IMF said in its latest World Economic Outlook released last week, with commodity economies lagging their diversified counterparts.

The commodity intensive countries are growing at about half the rate of the rest of the region, the IMF said in the report, with oil exporters struggling the most in what it described as "subdued and uneven" regional growth.

"South Sudan, Nigeria and Angola are all very much in that camp," Abebe told Reuters.

While diversified economies such as Senegal and Tanzania are expected to grow at above the regional average, Nigeria will fall short, growing at 2.9 percent, according to the IMF's regional economic outlook for Sub-Saharan Africa launched

on Friday. "They have had very large macroeconomic imbalances, financing challenges which have held back growth," Abebe said.

He said the government in Nigeria needed to "squarely address" those challenges, since they had caused high inflation and put pressure on the cost of living.

Nigerian President Bola Tinubu's government has launched a series of reforms it says are aimed at lifting economic growth and attracting investment.

South Africa, whose growth has been curbed by crippling electricity blackouts, is expected to grow by 1.1

percent this year, the IMF said.

Armed conflicts are also weighing on growth, the IMF said, citing South Sudan's oil exports blocked by conflict in neighbouring Sudan, which hosts the crude export pipeline.

"They (oil exporters) need to find new sources of growth, get more private sector investment - so working on reforms that will facilitate that is important," Abebe said.

Other challenges facing African oil producers include the global transition to green fuels due to climate change, the report said.

Chart: The stacked bar chart

shows the 10 Sub-Saharan African with the highest share of people living in extreme poverty.

Sub-Saharan Africa's economic growth is expected to improve slightly next year to 4.2 percent, the IMF report said.

The report found that nearly half of the 20 fastest growing economies in the world this year were in Sub-Saharan Africa, but cautioned that faster growth rates were required to reduce widespread poverty and inequalities.

One of the main obstacles to faster growth include a lack of access to affordable financing, the IMF said,

as countries struggle with heavy debt loads and high debt servicing costs.

While some countries have been able to sell bonds on international capital markets this year following a two-year hiatus caused by geopolitical shocks and elevated interest rates in advanced economies such as the United States, the new funding came at a high cost.

"The old development finance architecture is not delivering, and, if anything, kind of is in the process of disintegrating," Abebe said, citing "very problematic levels" of official bilateral funding for poor countries.

## Drug manufacturer touts exercise in tackling NCDs

By Henry Mwangonde

MEDICINES manufacturer Shelys Pharmaceuticals has called on Tanzanians to embrace exercise as a way to combat the growing burden of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs).

During a charity walk to celebrate Amana Regional Referral Hospital's 70th anniversary at the weekend, the firm's Country Manager Focus Magessa emphasized the importance of physical activity in promoting health.

He noted that the event aimed to inspiring its staff and the general public to prioritize exercise in their lives.

As part of their support, Shelys Pharmaceuticals donated 12 beds and mattresses, valued at 14m/-, to Amana Regional Referral Hospital.

"Shelys Pharmaceuticals has been a longstanding partner of Amana Hospital and we are here today to offer various forms of assistance. We hope the beds will enhance patient care and aid hospital staff in moving patients easily, thanks to their lightweight design and wheels," he said.

The charity walk began at Shelys Pharmaceuticals offices in Mwenge and concluded at Amana Hospital.

"We use these charity walks to promote health of our employees and encourage those without exercise routine to get active at least once a month," he said.

Dr Bryceson Kiwelu, Medical Officer in charge of Amana Regional Referral Hospital, expressed gratitude for Shelys Pharmaceuticals' contribution.

He highlighted that the new beds would significantly improve patient care.

"Amana Hospital, one of the oldest hospitals in the country, has served citizens for many years even before independence. We are thankful for the support from Shelys Pharmaceuticals," he said.

Dr. Kiwelu urged other institutions and stakeholders to contribute to hospitals in need to bolster the government's efforts in enhancing the health sector.

"The health policy encourages community involvement in development. It's time for everyone to contribute to hospitals requiring assistance to strengthen healthcare services across the country," he said.

In celebration of Amana Hospital's 70th anniversary, the facility received over 1.2bn/- in donations, with expectations to reach 3bn/-.

The hospital remains open to contributions aimed at improving services.

## SHINDANO LA VILABU VYA KODI KWA SHULE ZA SEKONDARI (DAR ES SALAAM NA PWANI)



Tanzania Revenue Authority commissioner general Yusuph Mwenda (in chocolate brown suit) pictured in Dar Salaam yesterday presenting awards to Baobab Secondary School students, overall winners of a Tax Clubs Competition for secondary schools in Dar es Salaam and Coast regions. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

## Ban mercury use in mining, artisanal miners urge govt

By Correspondent Idda Mushi, Nzega

SMALL-SCALE gold miners, processors and licence holders in Nzega District, Tabora Region, have urged the government to ban the use of mercury in their operations due to its harmful effects on health and the environment.

They voiced this request at the weekend in separate interviews with journalists visiting the area with experts from the Chief Government Chemist Laboratory Agency (CGCLA) in the central zone. The experts

were there to educate miners on safe use and handling of mercury.

Some miners, processors, and licence holders at Mine Number Five in Lusu, Mkwajuni Hamlet, Nzega District, asked the government to provide a safer alternative and ensure security measures are in place as the theft of chemicals by individuals known as "manyani" is common in the area. The World Health Organization (WHO) has identified mercury as one of the top 10 most hazardous chemicals to human health and the environment.

"Having discovered significant risks of mercury, I suggest that the government should promote a safer alternative," said Aboubakar Nuru, a small-scale gold miner.

Another miner, Salum Nguzani, highlighted that while mercury is hazardous, replacing it requires a proper strategy, especially to secure alternatives like sodium cyanide, which comes in large bags and can be more challenging to use securely in small-scale operations.

"We can't say mercury shouldn't be banned due to its dangers, but while we're en-

couraged to form groups to use sodium cyanide, many miners can't afford it, and those who can face theft risks from 'manyani' who steal it. Mercury, by contrast, is easier to secure as it comes in small bottles," he said.

He also acknowledged the health risks miners face from mercury and called for a structured approach to introducing safer alternatives.

Joseph Mabondo, Nzega Miners' Association Chairman thanked the government for the educational initiative and advised CGCLA to extend the

outreach to other mining areas such as Mine Number Seven, Kilabili, Mahene, Isunga and Mwachuli. He mentioned that miners are also being educated on measures like building trenches to prevent wastewater from contaminating surrounding areas.

Gerald Mollel, CGCLA Manager for Central Zone, explained that they reached out directly to miners at their sites to deliver education. He confirmed that mercury is indeed unsafe, and its use is being phased out internationally. In some sectors such as health-

care and manufacturing, mercury use has already been discontinued, and the Tanzanian government plans to eliminate it within a few years.

"We can't stop its use immediately, so, we continue educating miners on cautious use and protective gear to mitigate health risks. Mercury damages the lungs, affects the brain and can cause tremors, making it hard for people to work," he said. He encouraged miners to form groups to facilitate the use of sodium cyanide, a safer alternative with less severe health and environmental im-

pacts. Fatuma Kyando, Resident Mining Officer in Tabora, emphasized the government's commitment to miners' health, aiming to ensure they can work safely and benefit from their earnings.

"Educating licence holders alone is not enough; the knowledge must reach miners themselves, helping them understand the dangers and ways to avoid them. Chemical mismanagement doesn't just harm miners but affects surrounding communities," she said.





Agatha Lyimo, Bank of Africa Tanzania's Mbeya branch manager, pictured at the weekend shedding light to visitors on the bank's operations at the bank's booth during the Fourth National Financial Services Week exhibition held in Mbeya city. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Songo Songo gas well repair to boost daily production, supply

By Guardian Reporter

THE ongoing refurbishment of a natural gas well at Songo Songo block in Lindi Region is expected to boost production by approximately 20 million cubic feet per day.

According to authorities, the well (SS7) undergoing refurbishment, encountered technical challenges that led to a temporary suspension of gas production.

Charles Sangweni, Director General of the Petroleum Upstream Regulatory Authority (PURA) announced at the weekend during a visit to Songo Songo block to oversee progress of the renovation.

He said the refurbishment project is projected to cost around \$20 million (54bn/-) and is expected to be completed by early November 2024.

"Timely completion is crucial due to increasing energy demands in the country. Once the refurbishment is completed, the block can generate up to 100 megawatts of electricity," he said.

Sangweni said in the first quarter of the 2024/25 financial year, the average natural gas production from Songo Songo block reached approximately 86 million cubic feet per day, indicating a robust demand for natural gas.

He said the development is particular-

ly promising for Tanzania's energy sector, which strives to enhance electricity generation capacity amid growing demand.

He noted that natural gas production from Songo Songo block began in 2004, with the primary goal of supporting electricity generation.

The block has been instrumental in meeting the country's energy needs, especially as Tanzania continues to expand its industrial base and improve access to electricity for its population. Currently, the Songo Songo block comprises six operational wells namely SS3, SS5, SS9, SS10, SS11 and SS12.

"The expected increase in production from well SS7 will not only enhance energy supply but is also anticipated to have a positive ripple effect on the economy, potentially attracting further investments in the energy sector," he said.

Additionally, the refurbishment aims to improve the overall operational efficiency of Songo Songo block, addressing previous technical challenges and ensuring a more reliable production process.

"This initiative underscores the government's commitment to sustainable energy development and its strategic role in fostering economic growth through enhanced energy supply," he said.

## Over 100 students, teachers given awards for excellence in Mandarin

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

A TOTAL of 132 students and teachers have won the 7th China Ambassador's awards for making special contributions to learning and teaching Chinese language in 2024.

The awards that were established in 2018, aim at cementing further the bilateral ties between the two countries on cultural aspects.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam on Thursday during the award issuing ceremony, the Ambassador of China to Tanzania, Chen Mingjian, said learning mandarin is key towards embracing various opportunities brought by the existing bilateral ties.

"It is a great pleasure to congratulate 132 teachers and students who have made special contributions to Chinese language teaching or excelled in Chinese language learning in 2024 and won the awards. The winners are from the University of Dar es Salaam, the University of Dodoma, Muslim University of Morogoro, the State University of Zanzibar and 18 secondary schools," she said.

"As a plan to strengthen cultural exchange with Tanzania, the embassy is planning to enroll more local teachers in a Chinese language exchange programme. As per the implementation, this coming weekend three teachers will go to China for a half a month period."

According to her, Tanzania and other African countries have seen an enthusiasm and passion for Chinese language learning by incorporating Mandarin subject into their national education system.

Prof Carolyn Nombo, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, expressed her appreciation for the support provided by the embassy, highlighting contributions made through the Confucius Institute, which sends volunteer teachers to various schools and universities, enriching educational experience and fostering cultural exchange.

Tarick Kiange, a lecturer at the Muslim University of Morogoro emphasized the importance of language as a unifying tool, highlighting that much knowledge is embedded in the cultural context of language.

"Many individuals initially struggle with limited proficiency but gradually develop their skills over time," he said.

## Rwandans mark 10 days without new death from Marburg disease

ADDIS ABABA

ONE month since the Marburg virus disease outbreak, Rwanda has recorded 10 consecutive days with no new death but one single case over the same period, according to Rwandan Minister of Health Sabin Nsanzimana.

Nsanzimana made the announcement while addressing a special online media briefing on Thursday on the multi-country mpox outbreak in Africa and the Marburg virus disease outbreak in Rwanda alongside Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) officials.

He said the number of confirmed Marburg virus disease cases in Rwanda has risen to 63, with a single new case confirmed on Wednesday, the first in 10 days.

"It is a month since the first cases of the Marburg virus disease were confirmed in Rwanda. It is an outbreak that we are controlling. We have had almost nine days without new cases, but (on Wednesday) one of the health professionals who have been taking care of all the Marburg cases tested positive," the health minister said.

Noting that the health professional who tested positive for the virus is currently doing well, Nsanzimana said the latest case "is important information that even if we had this period without a new case (of death), this one still happened."

"The good thing is that the person has been in the treatment centre and has no contact outside as the centre is under high infection prevention protocol," he added.

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# TENDER NOTICE

## REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR THE PROVISION OF VARIOUS SERVICES

- National Bank of Commerce Limited has set aside funds for the procurement of various services during financial year 2025/2026, it is intended that, part of the proceeds of the fund will be used to cover eligible payment under the various contracts.
- Request for proposal is open to all eligible service providers with proven experience and capacity to offer the required services. Interested eligible bidders are invited to apply for the provision of below list of services;
 

i. Architecture Services	xi. Fraud Detection & Enablement
ii. Data Services	xii. Gateway API
iii. Applications and Platforms Monitoring Services	xiii. Payroll Platform
iv. Commercial Property Finance Services	xiv. Transaction Monitoring Services
v. Encryption Services	xv. Data Analytical and Reporting Platform
vi. Threat Prevention and Response Services	xvi. Pricing & Billing – Debt and Trade
vii. Deal Origination and Execution	xvii. Treasury Risk and Management Services
viii. Virtual Desktop and Application Services	xviii. IT Service Management Platform
ix. Exchange Email Services	xix. Market Data Platform
x. Sanctions - Counter Proliferation Financing	xx. Cyber Security Platform
	xxi. Procurement Advisory Service
- Request for Proposal documents can be downloaded from the website [www.nbc.co.tz](http://www.nbc.co.tz) and then click 'Procurement' to access the document.
- All Proposals should be submitted in one original document along with a copy, enclosed in a sealed envelope clearly marked with the service name as indicated in the RFP document, addressed to the; **CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE LIMITED, HEAD OFFICE BUILDING, 6th FLOOR, and P.O BOX 1863 DAR ES SALAAM.**
- Sealed applications and Bids must be submitted not later than **Monday, 18th November 2024 at 1600 hrs.** Proposal shall be delivered by hand to the Tender Box located at reception of Head Office building, ground Floor along Sokoine Drive/Azikiwe Street.

**CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER  
NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE LIMITED**





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MONDAY 28 OCTOBER 2024

**Taking A New Look  
At The News  
ESTABLISHED IN 1995**

## EAC police chiefs could have so much to do if EA Common Market stagnates

EFFORTS have continued for several years to link surveillance and crime preventing initiatives among member states of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), and the East African Community (EAC) is busy working on the matter.

The partner states' police chiefs were meeting in Dar es Salaam at midweek to devise a common strategy to tackle cross-border crimes in the region and enhance operational coordination.

It was a meeting of purposes with observations on why that procedure is important for regional security, with underlying challenges likely to be far-reaching as well.

The meeting focused on liaisons involving criminal investigation departments as well as immigration, prisons and motor vehicles registration agencies.

It is widely believed that liaisons involving such agencies can help to unravel criminal networks with interrogation of suspects in any of the partner states.

The police chiefs are reported to have concurred that emerging peace and security threats in the region pose a threat to social, political and economic development.

There is however clear difficulty in just how to develop harmonised strategies to fight contemporary crimes, as it requires that there are no counteracting interests within the police forces or among countries.

The threats indicated pose another dimension to the problem, first in relation to data gathering and secondly in stemming conflicts of interest with powerful local groups.

There are credible discrepancies in standards, as many countries see depositing of cash with offshore banks as financial crime while major destinations of capital flows like the United States have rules governing banks that mirror those of offshore localities.

The fact that countries wish to attract foreign capital implies that

they relax controls on the sourcing of capital, as everyone seeks out the most convenient sources for large credits.

Whether the situation is any better with human and drug trafficking is a different matter, while communal violence is largely an internal issue as it doesn't spill over to nearby states. This is much unlike pockets of terrorism which also came up for discussion at the meeting.

The laying out of strategies to strengthen peace and security infrastructure is relatively straightforward when it comes to setting up equipped offices, complete with desk personnel or sub-sector experts, usually tied up with investigation agencies.

It is a different matter focusing on the local cells of budding crime and how they are connected with shady business operators or politicians.

Like everything done in public administration or in wider society, the remedies that governance agencies seek are usually partial and often experimental, which could be chiefly why the meeting placed a premium on the need for enhancing legal frameworks.

The training and capacity building aspect was equally predictable, particularly in the ever-evolving sphere of cybercrime and group communications facilitating other instances of crime.

Even worse, diminishing confidence in some governing authorities could keep wide sections of the police continually on guard in the streets or going after opponents, not civil tasks.

Workable collaboration between police forces calls for stability and predictability so that any incident is examined like any other, without investigative personnel looking over the shoulder to see if 'big brother' has an interest in the matter.

When political factions are locked in war footing, big crimes usually relate to this or that side building its reserves or fiduciary stock - ready for ongoing battles.

## Women training, business expansion rapidly charting new social structures

Dar es Salaam city administrators have been relentlessly appealing to women traders to put to use free training being extended by the College of Business Education (CBE) to enhance their businesses and access international markets.

There has recently been a three-day training session for over 600 such traders from Ilala District, who were asked to appreciate the need to shift from traditional business practices to more informed and strategic approaches. Many are admittedly doing that already, and it also affects their daily contact with wider reality.

What is ironical in this context isn't the danger of women businesses failing but, on the contrary, what 'dangers' there might be if all women seeking to do business actually succeed.

Evidently, there would be greater equality with men in the number of businesses owned or operated by women and those run by men, but the comparison would likely stop there.

What would be in free fall is expectation of conformity to 'traditional roles', which have for decades been faulted as relics of patriarchal oppression.

What will likely improve is that there will be greater avenues of assistance for women, especially those raising children single-handed or taking care of weak adults only courtesy of limited funds available for women.

Here the picture is less uniform and definitely unclear, as in many

cases the 'women in business' movement tends to fortify patriarchal ties while there is a dimension of weakening such links.

Some successful men enable their spouses to run businesses and then they access credit and other avenues, tending to fortify the household but not necessarily reaching out to other women.

This privilege of women being successful is less directed at uplifting other women as activists would be inclined to believe, or to wish, but rather accessing privileges that women have been for long restricted from pursuing.

When both wife and husband work, the way in which time is parcelled out during the day changes dramatically, as each of the partners learns to allow the other to work more or less freely.

Yet it's somewhat interesting to try and find out who is raising worries about such 'division of labour'. Most of those running businesses will likely be satisfied with 'what there is', though it is hard to use the same 'language' when it is either spouse or partner - or both spouses or partners - having money to spare.

What society has always wished for is that mothers be available for the children, which is largely the case with front-door or street-side businesses close to the living premises.

When a woman has scaled that level of preoccupation and branches out into actual business affairs, the situation often changes.

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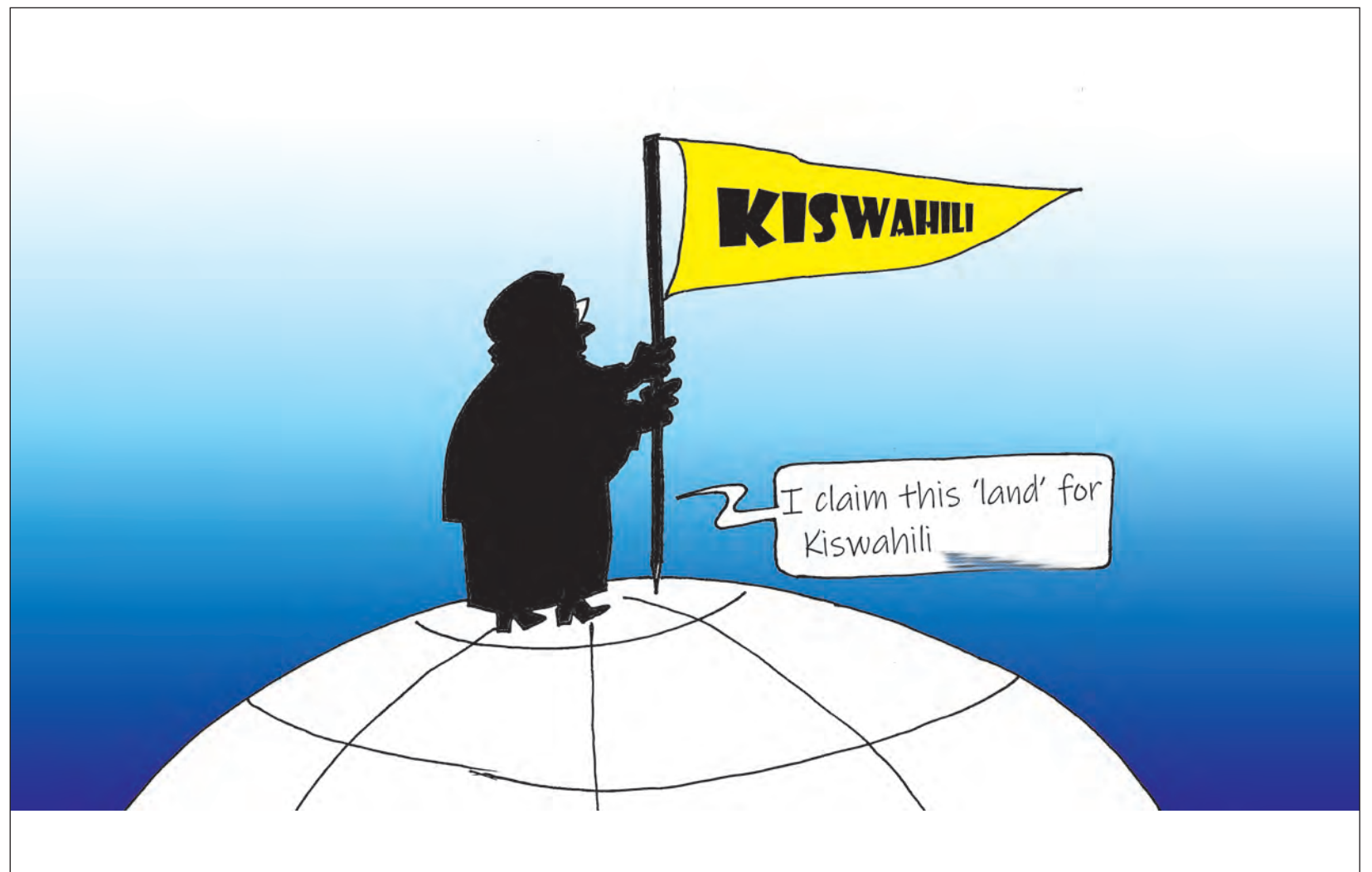
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## New study indicates no level of alcohol consumption is safe for brain health

By George Citroner

A new study challenges long-held beliefs about alcohol and brain health, revealing a surprising finding - that there may be no safe amount to drink if you want to protect your mind from dementia.

Researchers have uncovered evidence that the comforting notion that light-to-moderate drinking can provide cognitive benefits may not be true. The research directly links alcohol consumption to an increased risk of developing dementia.

Projected estimates indicate that worldwide, the number of people living with dementia could balloon from more than 57 million in 2019 to nearly 153 million by 2050.

This trend points to an urgent need for effective prevention strategies, particularly as research continues to elucidate the complexities of known modifiable risk factors for the condition, one being alcohol consumption.

Research published earlier this month in eClinicalMedicine found that increased predicted alcohol consumption based on genetic factors is positively linked with a greater risk of developing dementia among current drinkers.

The findings cast doubt on the idea that any level of alcohol consumption is safe for dementia prevention.

While heavy drinking is a well-established risk factor for dementia, whether there is a similar association between light-to-moderate alcohol consumption and dementia has remained a subject of debate.

Past studies often contained biases, such as "abstainer bias", where non-drinkers tend to be compared with drinkers who may enjoy better health or cognitive function, skewing the results.

These analyses sometimes didn't account for cognitive decline occurring before the study or interactions with pre-existing health conditions.

Claire Sexton, Alzheimer's Association senior director of scientific programs and outreach, told The Epoch Times that there remains some debate regarding the impact of light-to-moderate alcohol consumption.

"Some studies suggest that, among adults at midlife and older, light-to-moderate drinking may be associated with lower risk of cognitive decline compared with not drinking," she said.

She added: Others show that moderate levels of alcohol may be associated with adverse brain outcomes, including lower hippocampal volumes."

In this latest study, researchers examined data from the UK Biobank, screening nearly 314,000 white British adults who currently drink.

They looked for any direct relationship between light-to-moderate alcohol consumption and dementia risk using advanced genetic techniques, specifically Mendelian randomisation (MR), to lessen biases typical in observational studies.

Specifically, MR refers to the use of ge-



netic variation to address whether modifiable factors cause different outcomes, such as disease.

Participants provided information about their drinking habits, with researchers tracking dementia cases through hospital and death records over 13.2 years. The average alcohol consumption recorded was 13.6 units per week, with nearly half of the participants exceeding the UK's recommended limit of 14 units per week.

Men reported higher consumption than women, averaging 20.2 units weekly compared to women's 9.5 units. Interestingly, a greater proportion of women (68.6 per cent) adhered to the recommended limits, compared to only 34.2 per cent of men.

The researchers observed a J-shaped pattern in their analysis, where low levels of drinking (11.9 units per week) were linked with the lowest dementia risk. However, this risk increased at higher consumption levels, especially among men, who showed the lowest dementia risk at 16.8 units of alcohol per week.

While this J-shaped curve suggests a protective effect from moderate drinking, the study's genetic analysis revealed a more nuanced reality.

The findings indicated that individuals possessing genes associated with greater alcohol consumption were more likely to develop dementia, particularly women.

According to researchers, this suggests that alcohol may have a direct role in elevating dementia risk, especially among people who consume higher amounts. In men, the risks of alcohol may be masked by other associated risk factors, including smoking.

The study concluded that a linear relationship exists between alcohol intake and the likelihood of developing dementia, which contradicts prior epidemiological findings suggesting that moderate alcohol intake conferred protective benefits.

The MR analysis indicated that these protective claims could stem from biases such as abstainer bias

and confounding factors such as participants' socio-economic status.

"This study reports that higher levels of current alcohol consumption were linked with increased incidence of dementia among current drinkers and found no 'safe' level of alcohol consumption," Sexton noted.

Although the researchers combined linear and non-linear MR analyses to strengthen their conclusions, they also acknowledged limitations. These include reliance on self-reported drinking habits and the demographic homogeneity of the UK Biobank participants, which potentially affected the findings' applicability to broader populations.

The protective association between light-to-moderate alcohol consumption and dementia might be confounded by healthier lifestyle choices prevalent among moderate drinkers or the socio-economic factors influencing alcohol consumption patterns.

Drinking behaviours are related to many lifestyle factors, which couldn't be controlled in most conventional epidemiology studies. These limitations highlighted the challenges of confounding and reverse causality in alcohol-related epidemiology studies.

Dr Asish Gulati, a board-certified neurologist in Washington, D.C., affiliated with George Washington University Hospital, told The Epoch Times in an email that alcohol can significantly impact brain health, "particularly in areas responsible for memory and cognition".

She explained that two key components of alcohol, ethanol and acetaldehyde, are neurotoxic and can lead to inflammation and structural changes in the brain - especially in the hippocampus, which is essential for memory formation and spatial navigation.

[Neurotoxic substances are those that can harm the nervous system, potentially leading to psychiatric disorders or neurodegenerative diseases in humans].

"Research shows that the hip-

poampus is particularly vulnerable to alcohol, and even moderate consumption can lead to its shrinkage. Additionally, alcohol use can contribute to overall brain shrinkage and disrupt white matter integrity, which affects brain function," Gulati wrote.

She explained that long-term drinking is associated with various cognitive impairments, including difficulties with learning, memory recall, and executive functioning.

"The negative effects of alcohol on brain health are profound," she said, highlighting the importance of moderation and abstinence and awareness of its potential consequences.

The hippocampus is part of the brain that is responsible for memory and learning. This small structure helps one remember, in the short term as well as in the long-term, and gain awareness from one's environment. It is at risk of injury or damage from underlying conditions like Alzheimer's disease.

Gulati warned that the brain's ability to recover from alcohol-induced damage is limited, especially following long-term, heavy consumption.

She pointed out that damage to neurons and critical brain structures, particularly those involved in cognitive functions like memory, is often permanent.

She said that there is some neuroplasticity in the brain that allows for minor recovery in the early stages or with moderate alcohol intake but that chronic exposure can result in irreversible harm. However, ceasing alcohol consumption and adopting a healthy lifestyle can promote recovery.

Neurogenesis, or the formation of new neurons, can occur, particularly in the hippocampus, and this can lead to improvements in cognitive functions, said Gulati.

She added: "Though complete recovery may not be possible, significant benefits can arise from lifestyle changes and abstaining from alcohol."

"The current study found a positive linear relationship between any level of alcohol consumption and dementia risk," said Gulati.

She elaborated: "While the focus on current drinkers of white British descent may limit the generalisability of the findings, the results underscore the necessity for increased caution regarding any alcohol intake owing to its potential detrimental effects on cognitive health."

**• A dispatch originally published in The Epoch Times (Health). George Citroner reports on health and medicine, covering topics that include cancer, infectious diseases and neurodegenerative conditions.**



By Correspondent Constantine Akitanda

# African youth pioneering movement for agro-ecological transformation



IN October 2024, the vibrant heart of Addis Ababa became the stage for a pivotal gathering as over 1,300 young Africans united—both in person and virtually—to ignite a movement for transforming the continent's food systems through agroecology.

Hailing from 47 African nations, these youth made a powerful declaration; they will lead the charge in transforming Africa's broken food systems through agroecology, advocating for a future where food sovereignty is driven by the people and for the people.

Dubbed the "Summit of Solutions," the event sparked meaningful dialogue on how agroecology—an approach that integrates ecological principles into agriculture—can be the driving force to restore Africa's food sovereignty.

The young leaders unequivocally declared that the current food system is failing both their generation and the continent. However, these words were not merely a cry of frustration; they were a clarion call for action.

Young Africans are prepared to stand at the forefront of the movement for food justice, determined to steer the continent away from industrial, profit-driven agriculture toward a model that sustains both its people and the environment.

At its core, agroecology is about re-envisioning a food system that goes beyond mere production, respecting the environment, protecting biodiversity, and prioritizing the health and cultural heritage of communities.

For African youth, it represents a solution to the multiple crises threatening their future—rising food prices, health deterioration, climate change, and the erosion of indigenous knowledge and cultural values.

Unlike conventional agricultural systems, which focus heavily on chemical inputs and high-yield monocultures, agroecology supports small-scale farmers and champions' biodiversity, soil health, and climate resilience.

In a continent where 60 percent of the population is under the age of 25 and largely dependent on agriculture, the stakes could not be higher.

The young leaders from the summit see agroecology as the cornerstone of a just food system—one that ensures Africa's youth are not passive bystanders but active participants in shaping the future.

They outlined a series of commitments aimed at securing Africa's food sovereignty and building climate-resilient food systems.

Among their pledges is the promotion of agroecological opportunities to address Africa's most pressing challenges—food insecurity, the climate crisis, and biodiversity loss.

The youth also committed to strengthening their networks and amplifying agroecological innovation, harnessing the energy of young people across the continent.

Through these networks, they aim to advocate for healthy, nutritious diets, push for social justice, and defend Africa's dignity against the exploitative forces of profit-driven agriculture.

Central to their mission is the belief that agroecology must be embedded within Africa's political and economic frameworks.

They strongly advocated for agroecology's inclusion in the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development

Programme (CAADP) Kampala Declaration, a framework for Africa's agricultural growth.

Their demand is clear: agroecology must be central to the declaration, enhancing biodiversity, improving nutrition, and creating resilient food systems that serve all Africans, not just a privileged few.

Africa's youth are not only demanding change but are also preparing to lead it, with their declaration highlighting the need for equitable access to land, water, and resources to drive agroecological innovation.

They stress the importance of digital inclusion to empower young farmers and entrepreneurs with the skills and technologies necessary for sustainable development.

Recognizing that women and marginalized groups have historically been sidelined in agricultural policy, the youth summit strongly called for gender-conscious mainstreaming in agroecological practices.

Empowering women and youth in all aspects of sustainable food systems is critical to achieving gender equality and economic justice in Africa.

The African youth understand

the importance of intergenerational learning and, as custodians of indigenous knowledge and traditional ecological practices, are committed to preserving the wisdom of Africa's elders.

This intergenerational exchange is vital for safeguarding Africa's food systems, as it strengthens the role of cultural heritage in sustaining agroecological practices.

The youth demand that governments prioritize agroecology, invest in small-scale farmers, and ensure fair land rights, especially for women, indigenous communities, and marginalized groups.

These land rights are essential for ensuring that young people have the resources they need to build a future where food sovereignty is secure.

Moreover, the youth demand political inclusion, urging policymakers to actively engage with them and involve them in the decision-making processes that shape Africa's agricultural and environmental future.

David Manonge, a seed expert from the Tanzania Alliance for Biodiversity (TABIO), who also participated in this youth summit, asserts that by empowering young researchers and

entrepreneurs, Africa can unlock the full potential of agroecological solutions and bolster local markets.

"Empowering young minds is essential for fostering innovation in agroecology," Manonge explains. "Supporting their ideas and initiatives, we can create a vibrant agricultural landscape that prioritizes sustainability and meets the needs of local communities."

His insights underline the critical role that youth play in shaping a food system that is not only equitable but also deeply rooted in Africa's rich agricultural heritage.

While the summit's focus was on Africa, the youth also recognized the global dimensions of their struggle; they called for international solidarity in fighting the corporate takeover of Africa's food systems, rejecting the introduction of inappropriate technologies that prioritize profit over people.

In their vision, Africa's future is built on sustainable, local, and culturally appropriate food systems, free from the grip of multinational corporations.

As climate change continues to wreak havoc across the continent,

agroecology offers a path to resilience.

In promoting farmer-managed seed systems and defending the rights of smallholder farmers, youth see agroecology not only as a strategy for food security but also as a powerful tool for climate adaptation and mitigation.

The youth declaration from Addis Ababa marks the beginning of a long and arduous journey toward transforming Africa's food systems.

The African youth are ready for the challenge, equipped with the vision, energy, and commitment to build a future where food sovereignty is rooted in justice, sustainability, and respect for Africa's rich cultural heritage.

Their message to governments, businesses, and global leaders is clear: "The time to act is now," as the future of Africa's food systems hinges on bold, decisive action from all stakeholders.

The African youth are leading the way, and they are calling on the world to join them in building a future that is not only resilient and just but also deeply aligned with the values and needs of the African people.

Africa's youth have declared their mission to advocate for agroecology and lead the continent toward a transformative food system that ensures food sovereignty, climate resilience, and a future free from hunger, believing that their leadership can enable Africa's food systems to effectively rise to meet the challenges of tomorrow.

The call has been made, and it resonates with urgency and determination across the continent, urging governments, businesses, and individuals to join the movement for agroecology and sustainable food systems.

As Africa's youth take the lead in advocating for food sovereignty and climate resilience, the question remains: who will answer this vital call?

Will policymakers heed their demands for inclusive practices and equitable resource access, or will they continue to prioritize short-term gains over long-term sustainability?

The future of Africa's food systems depends not only on the actions of its youth but also on the willingness of all stakeholders to collaborate and embrace the transformative potential of agroecology.

It is a pivotal moment that demands decisive action, and the answer to this call could determine the trajectory of the continent's agricultural landscape for generations to come.

# Tanzania and Iran sign historic MOUs, to mark a new era of economic cooperation

By Adonis Byemelwa

IN a significant diplomatic move, Tanzania and Iran have solidified their relationship by signing seven Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) during the fifth Joint Permanent Commission (JPC) meeting held at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre in Dar es Salaam. This historic meeting took place on October 17, 2024, sixteen years after the last JPC meeting convened in Tehran, marking a renewed commitment to cooperation between the two nations across various sectors.

Tanzania's Director of the Department of Middle East Affairs, Abdallah Kilima, emphasized the priorities discussed during the meeting, which included investment, energy, oil and gas, technology, security, and defense. These sectors are seen as critical to Tanzania's ambitions to enhance its economic landscape and attract foreign investment. As both nations navigate the complexities of global economic dynamics, their partnership could yield benefits in addressing local challenges and promoting mutual growth.

The Iranian delegation, led by Agriculture Minister Golamreza Nouri Ghezalcheh, included 40 government officials and an equal number of private sector representatives, underscoring Iran's serious intent to engage with Tanzania. The discussions encompassed vital topics such as agriculture, fishing, and business, with two Iranian businessmen expressing plans to invest between \$40 million and \$70 million in Tanzania. This potential influx of capital could be pivotal for Tanzania's agricultural sector, which is a significant part of its economy.

Tanzania's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mahmoud Thabit Kombo, highlighted that economic diplomacy was the primary focus of the meeting. He pointed out that President Samia Suluhu Hassan's government has made strides in facilitating smoother interactions between the two countries. The emphasis on economic diplomacy indicates Tanzania's strategic shift towards fostering international partnerships that can bolster its economic growth while navigating a challenging global economic landscape.

While the MOUs represent a hopeful step forward in fostering economic cooperation, Tanzania's existing financial obligations to Iran complicate the picture. An analysis from 2022 revealed that Tanzania owes Iran approximately Sh1.48 trillion, making it the nation with the highest outstanding debt to Iran. This debt, which has accumulated over several decades without being serviced, stems from a credit agreement dating back to the late 1970s and early 1980s for the importation of oil. The context of Iran's growing engagement with Tanzania is multifaceted. In recent years, Iran has ramped up its diplomat-



**Vicent Bruno Minja, President of the Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA), represented Tanzania at the Africa-Iran Summit held in Tehran from April 26 to 29, 2024**

ic efforts across the globe, particularly in Africa, to counteract the effects of US-led sanctions. Tanzania, with its non-alignment policy and its position as a significant player in sub-Saharan Africa, presents a strategic opportunity for Iran. The growing ties between the two nations could enable Iran to bolster its influence in the region while offering Tanzania the potential for economic support and development.

The geopolitical landscape in Africa is undergoing significant changes, especially with the rise of several military-led governments in the Sahel region. Iran has capitalized on these shifts, establishing connections with leaders in Mali, Burkina Faso, and Niger, who are distancing themselves from Western powers. Iranian President Ibrahim Raisi's recent outreach to African leaders, where he praised their resistance against colonialism, underscores Tehran's efforts to solidify its alliances in a region that increasingly seeks alternatives to traditional Western partnerships. For Tanzania, the potential collaboration with Iran, especially in oil and energy, could represent a vital opportunity. However, the ongoing sanctions on Iran create uncertainty about the feasibility of such ventures. The complexities of international relations mean that Tanzania must navigate its diplomatic strategies carefully, balancing the opportunities presented by Iran against the risks associated with partnering with a country under international scrutiny.

Moreover, the implications of these ties extend beyond immediate economic benefits. The increasing cooperation between Tanzania and Iran could prompt shifts in regional dynamics, potentially affecting relationships with Western nations. As Tanzania deepens its engagement with Iran, it may face scrutiny from Western powers concerned about Iran's activities and influence in the region.

The prospect of opening a Tanzanian embassy in Tehran, as mentioned by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Ambassador Mbarouk Nassor Mbarouk, further signifies the potential for a deepened bilateral relationship. This move could pave the way for enhanced diplomatic exchanges, fostering an environment conducive to collaboration in various sectors.

While the signing of the MOUs is a significant step forward, it is essential to approach this new partnership with cautious optimism. The economic and diplomatic landscape is fraught with uncertainties, and Tanzania must weigh the potential benefits of its collaboration with Iran against the backdrop of its existing financial obligations and the broader geopolitical environment.

As the global economic landscape continues to evolve, Tanzania's efforts to attract foreign in-

vestment and enhance its economic standing could hinge on the success of its relationship with Iran. The commitment to cooperation in critical sectors such as energy and agriculture aligns with Tanzania's broader development goals, offering a potential pathway to greater economic stability and growth.

Behold, the recent MOUs signed between Tanzania and Iran represent a pivotal moment in their diplomatic relations, reflecting a shared commitment to cooperation in various sectors. As both nations move forward, the implications of these ties will likely reverberate across the broader geopolitical landscape, shaping Tanzania's future as it seeks to navigate the complexities of international relations and enhance its economic standing. The road ahead may be challenging, but the potential for mutual benefit creates a foundation for optimism in this evolving partnership.

However, not all observers view this collaboration favorably. Critics argue that aligning too closely with Iran, a country often criticized for its human rights record and regional provocations, could expose Tanzania to reputational risks.

Experts caution that the partnership could complicate Tanzania's relationships with Western powers, which are concerned about Iran's influence in Africa, especially amid ongoing sanctions and geopolitical tensions. This concern is particularly relevant given the recent push by Iran to strengthen ties with countries in the Sahel, where a series of military coups have led to a distancing from Western influence.

Despite these critiques, several East African countries have successfully engaged with Iran, demonstrating that there can be mutual benefits in such partnerships. For example, Kenya has established a growing economic relationship with Iran, particularly in trade and agriculture. The two countries have signed several agreements to enhance cooperation in areas such as food security and technology transfer. Iran's agricultural technologies and investments have been seen as critical in bolstering Kenya's agricultural sector, which is

essential for the country's economy.

Similarly, Uganda has also fostered a cordial relationship with Iran, focusing on sectors like agriculture, trade, and energy. Iranian companies have invested in Ugandan agriculture, particularly in developing irrigation systems and agricultural machinery, helping to boost productivity in a nation heavily reliant on farming. The cooperation has been beneficial, providing Uganda with access to Iranian technology and expertise while enhancing food security in the region.

As Tanzania charts its path with Iran, it can draw lessons from its East African neighbors. A carefully managed relationship that emphasizes economic cooperation while being mindful of international scrutiny could yield significant benefits.

By focusing on mutual interests, such as investment in renewable energy and infrastructure development, Tanzania can enhance its economic landscape without jeopardizing its diplomatic standing.

The evolving partnership between Tanzania and Iran is poised to unlock new opportunities in East Africa. If managed wisely, this collaboration can serve as a model for cooperation that transcends regional and ideological divides. As both nations embark on this journey, the potential for growth and development appears promising.

Notably, Tanzania has already seen a substantial boost in its market presence in Iran, with exports to the country increasing by 35% during the 2021/22 fiscal year. This upward trend underscores the tangible benefits of their partnership, positioning Tanzania for greater economic engagement in the region and beyond.

Both nations stand at a crossroads, and their commitment to fostering a robust partnership could not only reshape their futures but also contribute positively to the broader African landscape. In a world where economic alliances are crucial for development, the Tanzania-Iran partnership could be the key to unlocking new horizons of prosperity and progress for both nations.



COLOMBIA

# COP16: Biodiversity credits raising hopes and protests

At the end of the first week at the 16th Conference of Parties on Biodiversity (COP16), finance emerges as the biggest issue but also shrouded in controversies.

On Saturday, as the COP moved closer to its most crucial phase of negotiations, resource mobilization—listed under Target 19 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (KMGBF)—took centerstage, with most parties demanding faster action, greater transparency and the adoption of true solutions to halt biodiversity loss.

**Biodiversity finance: Expectation vs Reality**

On Thursday, October 24, the government of China formally announced that the Kunming Biodiversity Fund—first announced by Chinese president Xi Jinping in 2021—was now fully in operation. The fund promises to contribute USD 220 million over the next 10 years, which would be spent especially to help developing countries in implementation of the KMGBF and achieve its targets, said Huang Runqiu, Minister of Environment and Ecology, China, at a press conference. It wasn't clear, however, how much of the promised amount had been deposited.

This has been the only news of resource mobilization for global biodiversity conservation received at COP16, as no other donors came forth with any further announcements of new financial pledges or contributions to the Global Biodiversity Framework Fund (GBFF), which was expected to receive USD 400 billion in contribution by now but has only received a paltry USD 250 million. In addition, there were no announcements of the countries reducing their current spending on harmful subsidies that amount to USD 500 billion and cause biodiversity degradation and biodiversity loss.

In absence of new contributions and lack of any concrete progress on reduction of harmful subsidies, the new mechanisms like biodiversity credits to mobilize resources for implementation of the Global Biodiversity Fund is fast gaining traction.

From October 21-24, the COP16 witnessed a flurry of activities centered primarily around biodiversity credits and the building of new pathways to mobilize finance through this means. Experts from both the UN and the private sector were heard at various forums discussing the needs of developing tools and methodologies that would help mobilize new finance through biodiversity credits while also ensuring transparency.

According to a 2023 report by the World Economic Forum, the demand for biodiversity credits could rise to USD 180 billion annually by 2050. The report said that if major companies stepped into the market, the annual demand for biodiversity credits could go to as high as USD 7 billion per year by 2030.

Experts from the UN and a variety of technical people with various backgrounds said that since biodiversity credits are still in their infancy, there will undoubtedly be a lot of scrutiny and criticism. The Biodiversity Credit Alliance is a group that provides guidance for the establishment of a biodiversity credit market. The urgent need, they said, was to develop infrastructure and policies that would help answer those questions and tackle the scrutiny. The first and foremost of them was to help build digital tools and infrastructure that could be used to share and store biodiversity data in a credible and transparent manner.

Nathalie Whitaker, co-founder of Toha Network in New Zealand, a group of nature-based business investors, said that her organization is building digital tools, especially for helping local communities to participate in biodiversity credit programs and access the benefits.

"Once the communities have these tools, they can instantly see what data is being used to pay for the biodiversity credits or even decide the value of the natural sources in their territory. So, they can see what resources are being discussed, what is being valued, how it's being done and how the whole discussion is moving forward," Whitaker said.

Fabian Shimdt-Pramov, another speaker at the event, said that the quality of the tools would decide the course



Indigenous women in Cali hold a protest commodification of their traditional natural products. Majority of the indigenous organizations participants in the COP have been vocal about their opposition to biodiversity credits, which they think is a false solution to halt biodiversity loss. Credit: Stella Paul/IPS COP16 Logo, installed at the conference venue at Cali, Colombia. IPS

and results of a biodiversity credits project.

Shimdt-Pramov, chief business development officer at Biometric Earth, a German company that uses artificial intelligence to build biodiversity analytics tools from different sources such as remote sensing, wildlife cameras, acoustic monitoring, etc.

"If methodology is not correct, if the data is not correct, the system doesn't work," he said, emphasizing on the requirement of high-level technological expertise that is needed to get a biodiversity credit project off the ground.

However, when questioned on the cost of buying such high-end technologies and tools, especially by Indigenous communities living in remote areas without any internet connectivity, both speakers appeared to be at a loss for words.

"I have seen in the Amazon a community selling five mahogany trees on the internet, so I am guessing it's not a big challenge," Shimdt-Pramov said in a dismissive voice. Whitaker acknowledged that lack of access to digital technology in Indigenous Peoples communities was an issue but had no solutions to propose.

Terence Hay-Edie of Nature ID, UNDP, however, stressed the need to empower the

communities with the knowledge and skills that would help them access the tools and be part of a biodiversity credit.

As an example, he cites restoration of river-based biodiversity as a biodiversity credit project where a river is considered to have the same rights as a human being. According to him, if values of credits are counted and traded for restoration of biodiversity around a river, it will require recognition of all these rights that a river has, which is only possible when the community living along the river has full knowledge of what is at stake, what is restored, what value of the restored biodiversity is to be determined and how the pricing of that value will be decided.

"A river can be a legal entity and have a legal ID. Now, can we build some tools and put them in the hands of the community that is doing the restoration to know the details of it? That's what we are looking at," Hay-Edie said.

**A False Solution?**

However, Indigenous peoples organizations at the COP16 were overwhelmingly opposing biodiversity credits, which they called "commodifying nature."

What are biodiversity credits? It's basi-

cally regenerating biodiversity where it is destroyed and earning money from that. But it doesn't work that way, according to Souparna Lahiri, senior climate change campaigner at Global Forest Coalition.

"If we talk of a forest, the ecosystem is not just about trees but about every life that thrives in and around it—the rivers, the animals, plants, bees, insects, flowers and all the organisms. Once destroyed, it's lost forever. And when you regenerate it elsewhere, you can never guarantee that it will be an exact replica of what has been lost. This is why the very concept of biodiversity credit is a destructive idea," says Lahiri.

Valentina Figuera, also of the Global Forest Coalition, said that while trading carbon credits could work as a tool in carbon change mitigation, it would not be the same in biodiversity.

"In climate change, you can measure the total carbon generated by a forest, for example. But in biodiversity, how do you measure it? What is the mechanism? How do you even value life that thrives there? So, this concept is a straight import from climate change and forcefully imposed in biodiversity, which is nothing but a false solution, so that businesses that cause biodiversity loss

can conduct their business as usual.

**The Dilemma of Participation**

COP16, dubbed the "People's Cop" by Colombia, the host country, has drawn several hundred representatives of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLC), especially from across Latin America, including Colombia, Brazil, Panama, Venezuela and Peru. While the Latin American IPLC organizations appeared united in their opposition to biodiversity credits, African organizations seemed to be willing to consider it.

Mmboneni Esther Mathobo of the South African NGO International Institute of Environment said that her organization was in support of biodiversity credits, which could, she said, not only help the community earn money but also motivate them further to preserve biodiversity.

"We are influencing and making sure that our rights are safeguarded and protected in this newly emerging market of bringing biodiversity credits," said Mathobo.

Currently, Namibia is implementing its first biodiversity carbon credits project in partnership with the World Wildlife Fund (WWF). Known as the Wildlife Credits Scheme, the project is known as a Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) that rewards communities for protecting wildlife and biodiversity. Mathobo said that the project in Namibia made her realize that there was a great opportunity for local communities to conserve and restore biodiversity and earn from it.

"We faced many challenges to earn carbon credits because that system was established and created behind our heads. And now we wake up, but we find ourselves sitting with a lot of problems in that market where our communities are not even benefiting. But we believe that with the engagement of the biodiversity alliance, UNDP, we are going to be the ones making sure that whatever happens in the biodiversity credit market, it benefits all our regions and all our communities, as well as safeguarding and protecting our rights," she said.

"To each their own, if Latin American indigenous communities feel they don't want to trade natural resources, that's their right. But in Africa, we have the potential to earn biodiversity credits and we need the money, so we are supporting it," Mathobo commented when reminded of the opposition of Latin American countries to biodiversity credits.

IPS

## CAPITAL RADIO RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO



# Tomato grafting technology broadening revenue streams for many farmers in Africa

NAIROBI

**H**IS entire family in tow, Jonah Karanja made a stroll while admiring the succulent tomatoes that were blooming inside a greenhouse erected at the edge of his five-acre (about 2 hectares) farm, sandwiched by rolling plains in Nakuru county, located about 160 km northwest of Nairobi, the Kenyan capital.

The middle-aged farmer is an early adopter of tomatoes grafted using Chinese technology and is optimistic that once the vegetable matures fully, it will fetch him a windfall. "It is my first time to cultivate the grafted tomato and I am impressed by its sheer height and ability to produce more compared with the traditional varieties," Karanja said during a recent interview at his farm.

The non-grafted tomatoes, according to Karanja, were laden with risks including bacterial wilt disease, attack by pests, and vulnerability to harsh weather besides fetching low prices in the local market.

Since 2008, Karanja has been involved in tomato farming albeit with minimal rewards until lately when he adopted the grafted variety whose demand at the farm gate and far away markets has grown exponentially.

Karanja is among smallholder farmers within Nakuru County who are cultivating grafted tomatoes under the China-International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD) South-South

Triangular Cooperation funded project.

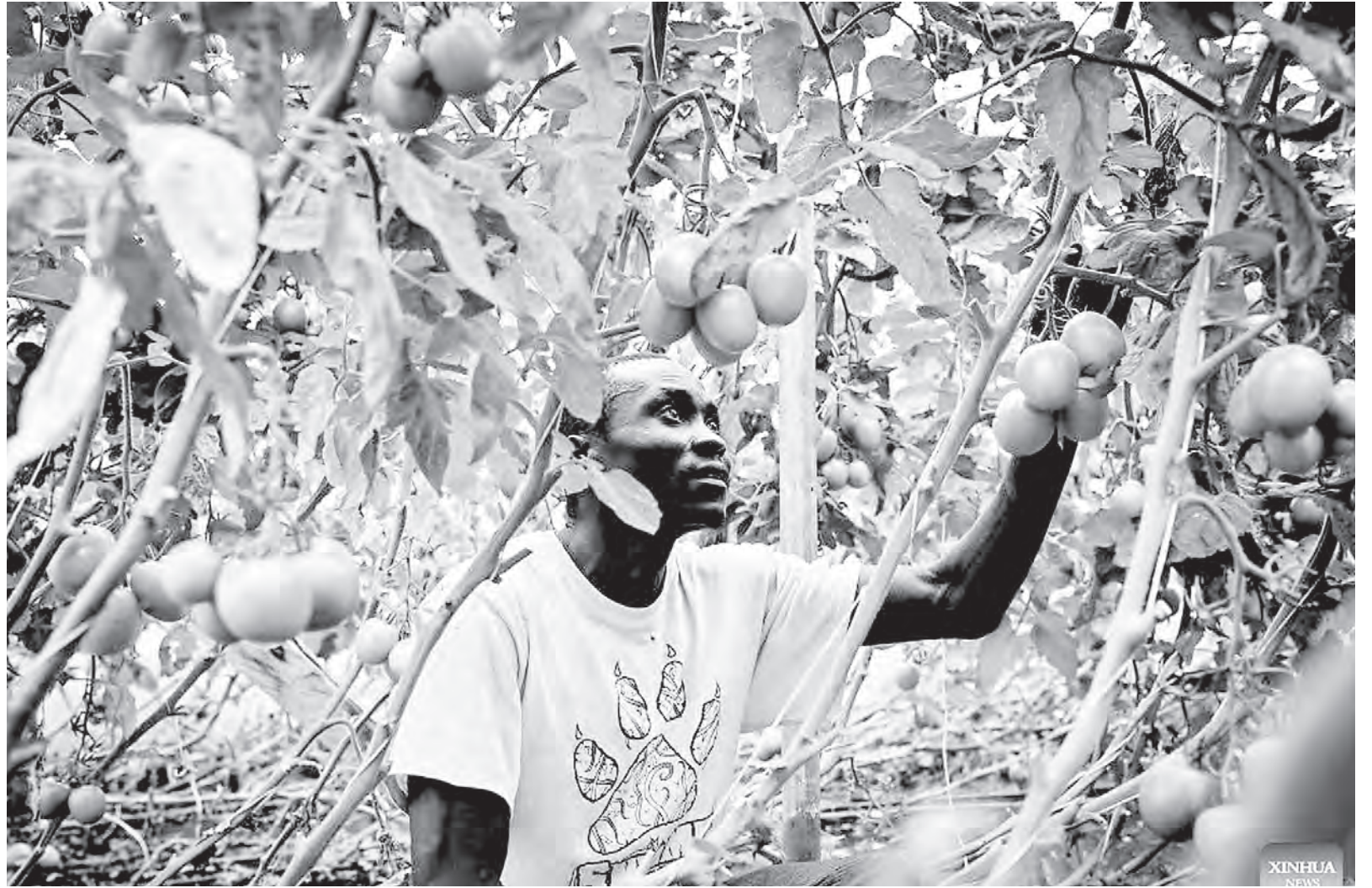
The conventional tomato variety has been fetching Karanja 50 shillings (about \$39cents) per kg though he hopes the grafted variety will earn him double that amount.

In Kenya, this tomato grafting technology has been rolled out to the farmers on a trial basis courtesy of a partnership between Egerton University based in Nakuru County and Nanjing Agricultural University of China. Running from May 2023 to September 2024, the grafted tomato farming initiative was domiciled in the "Empowering rural youth through innovative horticultural solutions in tomato value chain" project.

Joshua Ogwen, the Kenyan director at Egerton University's Confucius Institute, said that tomato grafting technology from China is ideal in local settings and involves inserting a stem that is disease- and drought-tolerant into another scion in a bid to maximize productivity.

"From what we have seen, grafting technology is working on tomatoes to manage the bacterial wilt," Ogwen said. "With this project, we are trying to score in two ways; to reduce poverty and by making farmers grow tomatoes, they can sell and others can eat. We are increasing their income by getting a big harvest."

Over 4,000 farmers have been trained in greenhouse farming and tomato grafting technology, according to Ogwen, noting that Egerton University has also identi-



A farmer manages grafted tomatoes at a tomato farm in Nakuru County, Kenya

fied a reliable company to supply the grafted tomato seedlings to local farmers.

Her face glowing amid evening light showers, Mary Mwangi, a local woman farmer, admired the tall tomato trees at the greenhouse adjacent to her farmhouse, sagging under the weight of succulent and ready-to-harvest crops.

When she was introduced to grafted tomato cultivation, Mwangi took the offer gladly and has not regretted it since the harvest has been bountiful and she is no longer incurring heavy costs on pesticides.

The middle-aged farmer has so far harvested grafted tomatoes three times and proudly stated

that the quantity went up each harvest thanks to meticulous crop husbandry acquired through training. "I'm very happy to witness the grafted tomatoes flourish on my farm and when I look at their weight, they look heavier and when I take them to the local market, customers are ready to buy them at a higher price," Mwangi said.

Mary Muthoni Maina, another farmer from Nakuru County, has embarked on cultivation of the grafted tomato after being trained by Egerton University's agronomists.

According to Maina, the grafted tomatoes are high-yielding, and resistant to disease and pest at-

tacks, stressing that both farmers and consumers have embraced them with enthusiasm.

So far, Maina has harvested the grafted tomatoes thrice, earning \$15.50 weekly during the initial harvest while subsequent harvests per week have been fetching her \$54.26.

"This variety is also very strong and I would appeal to Egerton University and the Chinese team to continue training us on growing grafted tomatoes since many customers keep coming for them on our farms," Maina said.

Stephen Githeng'u, a horticulture expert at Egerton University, said that due to their huge size, about five grafted tomatoes

could make one kg compared to seven to eight ungrafted varieties.

Githeng'u observed that through the cultivation of grafted tomatoes, farmers have been able to reclaim profitability and food security, adding that plans are at an advanced stage to help the farmers market their produce online.

Tomato grafting, which has been practiced in China for many years, has performed well in 15 demonstration sites within Nakuru County, said Liu Gaoqiong, a professor of Horticulture from Nanjing Agricultural University who is also a visiting professor at Egerton University.

# Traditions denying youth the right to own and manage land

By Correspondent Deodatus Mfugale, Arusha

**S**OME participants in the Fourth International Conference on Youth and Land Governance in Africa (CIGOFA 4) are worried that culture and traditions in African communities are creating generational gaps especially where ownership and land rights are concerned. The gap denies the youth the right to own land. Land ownership is a human right issue.

Majority of Africa's population falls in the 30-35 age group, a group that should be spearheading the country's development in all aspects. "But very often culture and tradition do not allow this group to own land at an early age and when they are allowed to, some would have lost interest, some would be frustrated and others, the lucky ones who are given the opportunity, don't know what to do with it," explained Faith Allube, CEO of Kenya Land Alliance and a human rights lawyer focusing on land justice. "Land is finite, it loses fertility and it is vulnerable to land use change. The earlier one owns land more likely they may manage it to build their future," she added.

Ms. Allube argued that traditions and culture widen the intergenerational gap that makes communities fail to acknowledge the stewardship role of the youth on land resources. Elders and traditional leaders do not hear or recognize the voices of the youth when they demand equitable sharing of land. "Instead they muffle these voices in order to maintain the gap, thereby disconnecting the intergenerational harmony," she said.

During a panel discussion, Landesa Country Programme Director Godfrey Massay explained that many traditions in African countries have created a situation in which the youth inherit or are given land at a late stage, after they have waited for a long time. This has built a wrong notion that youth is a transition stage and the youth should not be trusted. "However, the youth themselves think that their time is now, and we should all acknowledge that they can be trusted to own and develop land for a better future, given the right circumstances" he said, adding that taking so long to recognize and acknowledge the youth's land rights leads to frustration and they turn to other property which do not provide a solid foundation for sources of livelihoods.

He explained that traditions and culture that force the youth to keep waiting must change. Elders must allow them to own land at early stage so that they may learn to manage it, benefit from it and realize its importance and as such be able to protect their ownership and tenure rights.

Speaking on sidelines of CIGOFA 4 Conference, Bernard Baha, Coordinator, and Tanzania Land Alliance said that traditions and culture do not prepare the youth to own and manage land sustainably and make it the main source of their livelihoods. Traditional leaders and elders do not prepare the youth to own



Some participants in the just-ended Fourth International Conference on Youth and Land Governance in Africa (CIGOFA 4)

and manage land; elders keep it and merely delegate ownership in the later stages of their lives. By then the youth have become frustrated after waiting for too long, they opt for ownership of other property which do not provide a solid foundation on which to build their future. "Note also that with the youth denied the right to own land, food security is at stake as the bulk of producers are the youth. No one strives to raise production on a piece of land he/she doesn't own and whose security of tenure is not guaranteed," he said.

Discussions at the conference revealed that the youth have to wait for very long in order to exercise their right to own land whether through inheritance or legal process. Elders fear that there would be transfer of ownership of land and therefore be rendered powerless.

Likewise the government might be harbouring similar fears "but discussions at CIGOFA 4 do not intend to shift power from government to the youth nor do we want to shift power from traditional leaders to the youth. What we are advocating is the equitable ownership of land and the acknowledgement that everyone in the society has the right to own land, including the youth.

Yet it is not enough for the youth to own land, it is not enough to uphold their right to own land; such ownership rights must be supported by secure tenure, one of which is the ability to develop land and make the ownership more meaningful. This requires economic empowerment that avails opportunities to funding and technology," explained Masalu Luhula, Land Tenure Expert from Landesa Tanzania Office.

In another panel discussion Leingwanani Isaac Ole Kisongo who is the Chief of Maasai leaders in Tanzania said that Maasai traditions allow the youth to acquire the customary land because if they don't own the land there will be a breakdown in a family and clan land ownership systems. "We are pastoralists and land is our lifeline.

Our system of administration allows the youth to own land so that they can maintain our herds of livestock on the traditional land long after the elders have gone. Our traditions also teach the youth to manage land so that it can provide water and pasture for our livestock under harsh or friendly conditions. That is why we elders are comfortable because we know that our land is in the safe hands of the youth," he explained.

But he was quick to note that things are changing as the youth

are losing interest in land and getting attracted to other resources which do not guarantee them a good future. "Many Tanzanian youths do not acknowledge the importance of land. They don't care about land anymore. I am worried that the family land may disappear when I am gone. The youth might just sell it," he said.

The Fourth International Youth and Land Governance Conference conclude on Thursday (October 24) with delegates committing to scale efforts to accelerate youth land rights by addressing policies, laws, funding systems, traditions and culture as well as youth empowerment so that the youth can access land, protect their right of ownership and secure tenure.



# UNEP's 2024 emissions gap report warns: 'No more hot air, please'

COPENHAGEN

THE United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP) Emissions Gap Report 2024 delivered a stark reminder that the world is still far from meeting its climate commitments.

The report, released today, October 24, highlights the widening gap between climate rhetoric and reality as greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reach 57.1 gigatons of CO2 equivalent (GtCO<sub>2</sub>e) in 2023—a record high that undermines the goal of limiting global warming to 1.5°C.

Addressing the press conference while releasing the report, titled “No More Hot Air ...please,” United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres issued a warning to the world. With current greenhouse gas emissions at record highs, Guterres said that humanity is “teetering on a planetary tightrope,” with catastrophic consequences looming unless countries act decisively to close the emissions gap.

“Either leaders bridge the emissions gap, or we plunge headlong into climate disaster—with the poorest and most vulnerable suffering the most,” Guterres said during a video address from the report's launch event in Nairobi.

According to the Emissions Gap Report 2024, global greenhouse gas emissions rose 1.3 percent in 2023 to their highest levels in history. At the current pace, the world is on track for a 3.1°C temperature rise by the end of the century—well above the limits set by the Paris Agreement.

Guterres emphasized that limiting global warming to 1.5°C remains technically feasible, but only if emissions fall by 9 percent annually until 2030. Without swift intervention, the UN chief warned of more frequent and extreme weather events.

“Record emissions mean record sea temperatures, supercharging monster hurricanes; record heat is turning forests into tinderboxes and cities into saunas; record rains are resulting in biblical floods,” he said.

Guterres termed the COP29 summit in Baku, Azerbaijan, as a pivotal moment for global climate policy. The Secretary-General outlined two major areas where urgent progress is essential. One, he said, is National Climate Action Plans (NDCs).

“COP29 starts the clock for countries to deliver new national climate action plans—NDCs—by next year,” Guterres said.

Governments are expected to align these plans with the 1.5°C target by driving down emissions across all sectors and phasing out fossil fuels swiftly and equitably.



Ratcliffe-on-Soar Power Station from an aeroplane. Credit: Matt Buck/Climate Visuals

Guterres urged countries to commit to reversing deforestation and accelerating the deployment of renewable energy. Another area, according to the Secretary General, that merits immediate concern is climate finance.

Guterres said that the success of the clean energy transition depends heavily on financial support for developing countries, which are already struggling with climate-induced disasters.

“COP29 must agree to a new finance goal that unlocks the trillions of dollars they need and provides confidence it will be delivered,” he said.

The Secretary-General urged significant increases in concessional public financing, along with cutting-edge techniques like levies on fossil fuel extraction. He also urged reforms in multilateral development banks to

enhance their role in climate financing.

The Secretary-General emphasized that climate action is not just a matter of environmental responsibility but also of economic foresight. He stressed that the cost of inaction far exceeds the cost of action.

As the largest emitters, G20 nations, responsible for 80 percent of global emissions, must take the lead in closing the emissions gap. Guterres challenged the wealthiest countries to act first. “I urge first-movers to come forward. We need leadership now more than ever,” he said.

Guterres echoed the UNEP report's urgent message that “people and the planet cannot afford more hot air.” The time for empty promises has passed, and concrete steps are required to meet the climate goals. “Today's Emissions Gap report is clear: we're playing with fire, but there can be no more playing for time. We're out of time,” he said.

The latest Emissions Gap Report 2024 by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has sounded a dire alarm on the disconnect between political commitments and the reality of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

In stark language, the report urges governments to close the widening gap between rhetoric and action.

“The transformation to net-zero economies must happen, and the sooner this global transformation begins, the better. Every fraction of a degree avoided counts in terms of lives saved, economies protected, damages avoided, biodiversity conserved, and the ability to rapidly bring down any temperature overshoot,” reads the report.

UNEP warned that the current trajectory leaves the world on a path toward 2.6°C warming this century, far beyond the Paris Agreement targets. The report calls for a “quantum leap” in ambition and urgent action from governments, particularly ahead of the next round of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) due in early 2025.

### Here are some highlights:

G20 Nations Hold the Key to Global Emission Reductions

The report has highlighted that G20 countries, responsible for 77 percent of global emissions, must take

the lead in closing the emissions gap. While these countries have set net-zero goals, their current policies fall short of aligning with the necessary emission reductions. Without significant improvements, the G20 is projected to miss its NDC targets for 2030 by at least 1 GtCO<sub>2</sub>e.

### Required Cuts: 42 percent Reduction by 2030 for 1.5°C Target

To achieve the 1.5°C pathway, global emissions must decrease by 42 percent by 2030 compared to 2019 levels—equivalent to an annual reduction of 7.5 percent. The report highlights the severe consequences of delayed action, warning that any further postponement would necessitate doubling the rate of emissions cuts after 2030.

### Sectoral Solutions: Renewables and Reforestation Offer Hope

The report has identified solar and wind energy as key contributors to bridging the emissions gap. Together, these technologies could deliver 27 percent of the total emission reduction potential by 2030. Forest-related measures, including reforestation and reducing deforestation, offer another 20% potential. However, achieving these targets requires massive increases in investment—at least six times the current levels—and rapid deployment of policies across sectors.

### NDCs and Climate Finance: Critical Areas for Focus

It has also stressed the importance of the upcoming NDC submissions. According to the report, these commitments, due before February 2025, must reflect higher ambitions, concrete plans, and robust financial backing to make meaningful progress toward net-zero emissions. Developing countries, in particular, require international support and reformed financial systems to meet their climate goals.

### Urgency and Cooperation are Paramount

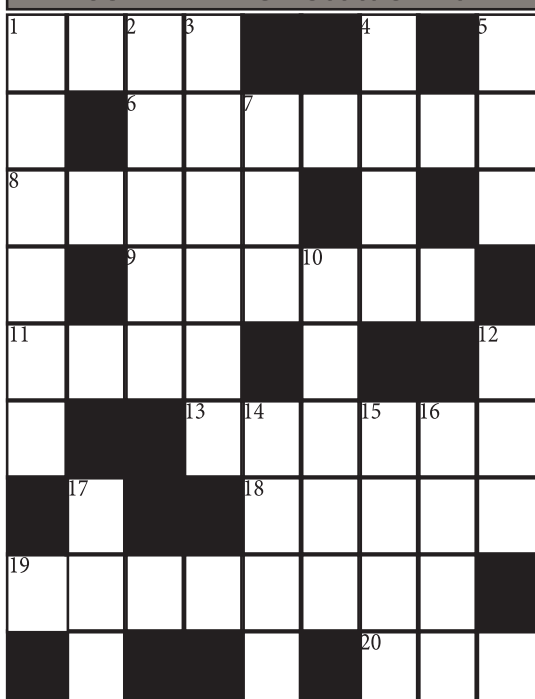
UNEP has underlined the need for a whole-of-government approach and stronger public-private partnerships to accelerate progress. “We are running out of time,” the report warns. “The transformation to net-zero economies is inevitable, and the sooner we act, the more lives, ecosystems, and economies we can save.”

The report has identified the COP29 summit in Baku, Azerbaijan, as a crucial time for nations to align their policies with 1.5°C pathways. Without immediate, ambitious actions, UNEP cautions that 2°C—once the backup target—could soon become unreachable.

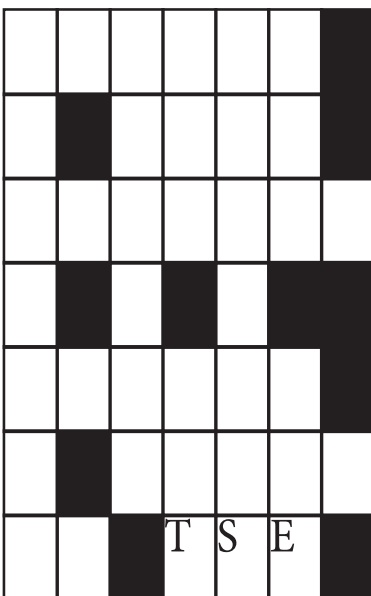
“With the clock ticking down to 2030 and 2035, the message is unequivocal: ambition without action is meaningless. Governments must move from pledges to policies and ensure that commitments are backed by robust implementation plans,” says the report.

IPS

## THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORDS AND WORD FIT - 00 193 00 -



- Across:
- 1 drink an alcoholic drink
  - 6 native of Italy
  - 8 home to the Sahara desert
  - 9 plant of a large family Orchidaceae
  - 11 a brief written record of facts
  - 13 excrement; dung
  - 18 Royal Academy of Dramatic Art
  - 19 once more
  - 20 profits paid to shareholders
- Down:
- 1 a long curved fruit
  - 2 person prejudiced in their views and intolerant of the opinions of others
  - 3 stereophonic sound
  - 4 a man's wife in India
  - 5 fluid used for writing
  - 7 a curving trajectory
  - 10 a typical English agricultural labourer
  - 12 a female bird
  - 14 backyard in Kiswahili
  - 15 control the movement of a horse
  - 16 of considerable size
  - 17 Institution of Electrical Engineers



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.

- |         |         |
|---------|---------|
| ALREADY | ORANGES |
| AFRAID  | IRINGA  |
| WED     | DIETS   |
| FORE    | ATE     |
| GO      | DOE     |
| TSE     | MEANING |
| MEADOW  | NIT     |
- Felix: 0789437309 | felixmagezi@gmail

# RADIO One

## RAJIBA 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
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**Radio One**





Energy and electricity alone could generate up to 2 million direct jobs in Africa by the end of the decade.

## Africa's 'green' economy set to create 3m jobs

By Guardian Correspondent

Africa could see up to 3.3 million new direct jobs by 2030 in the green economy, particularly in sectors like solar energy, electric vehicle production, and climate-smart agriculture.

This insight comes from a report published in late July by FSD Africa, a British government-funded development agency, and HR consulting firm Shortlist.

The report, titled "Forecasting Green Jobs in Africa", identifies five key sectors that show job-creating potential across Africa: energy and electricity, mobility and transportation, agriculture and nature, construction and real estate, and manufacturing and materials.

These sectors, chosen for their readiness on the continent, were then split into 12 sub-sectors, including solar, wind, geothermal, and hydro; Electric 2/3 wheelers; Climate smart agri-technology, aquaculture and poultry; Waste remediation and recycling; battery storage, Power transmission and distribution; charging infrastructure; and ecosystem and nature-based solutions (NBS).

The report's modeling estimates that energy and electricity alone could generate up to 2 million direct jobs by the end of the decade, accounting for about 70 percent of the projected green jobs.

Solar energy could create around 1.7 million of these jobs, or 57 percent of the total, while electricity transmission and distribution could add another 197,000 jobs.

Agriculture and nature sectors could add up to 700,000 jobs (about 25 percent of the total). Within this, climate-smart agricultural technologies could account for 377,000 jobs, aquaculture and poultry farming 189,000 jobs, and ecosystem conservation for another 117,000 jobs.

The report also forecasts growth for five high-potential African countries: the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria, and South Africa.

These nations alone could generate up to 700,000 green jobs by 2030, about 22 percent of the continent's green employment potential.

South Africa leads the forecast with 85,000 to 275,000 potential new jobs, followed by Nigeria (60,000 to 240,000), Kenya (40,000 to 240,000), Ethiopia (30,000 to 130,000), and the DRC (15,000 to 45,000).

Each country shows unique strengths: hydropower is expected to drive job creation in the DRC (16,000 jobs) and Ethiopia (33,000 jobs), while solar energy leads in South Africa (140,000 jobs) and Kenya (111,000 jobs). Aquaculture and poultry farming could become the top job source in Nigeria, generating an estimated 69,000 jobs.

The report highlights that 60 percent of these green jobs would be skilled positions, which could support Africa's growing middle class.

Of these, 10 percent would require university degrees, 30 percent would require specialized certifications, and 20 percent would cover administrative roles. Unskilled jobs would offer stability and opportunities for upward mobility.

The report stresses that for African countries to maximize green job potential, they would need to mobilize over \$100 billion annually. This funding would support workforce training, infrastructure development, and the creation of business-friendly regulations to reduce investment risks.

FSD Africa and Shortlist recommend policymakers encourage collaboration across governments, private sectors, educational institutions, and investors to fully capture the benefits of the green economy.

Africa's green economy represents a vision for sustainable development that integrates economic growth with environmental stewardship, emphasizing the responsible use of resources, climate resilience, and equitable social outcomes.

## Foreign investors record 3.9bn/- selloff through DSE

By Guardian Reporter

Foreign investors recorded a 3.9bn/- shares selloff at the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) last week, the amount which is equivalent to 50 percent of total shares they have sold since the start of the current quarter, which were all bought by local investors.

The DSE market reports show that all the selloff deals were conducted during the last three days of the week, involving block trade pre-arranged market board on Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL) and CRDB Bank counters.

Since the start of the current quarter, foreign investors have so far sold shares valued 7.8bn/-, which is equivalent to 43.45 percent of total value of shares sold and more than 100 percent of total value of shares they sold during the last quarter.

The Wednesday's market report shows foreign investors sold shares valued 1.3bn/-, which was equivalent to 58.79 percent of total value of shares sold, which involved both TBL and CRDB counters through block trade deals.

On Thursday, the report shows that foreign investors also appeared into the market by selling shares valued 1.06bn/-, which was equivalent to 72.86 percent of total value of shares sold, which also



involved block trade on CRDB Bank and TBL counters.

During the last day of the week, the daily report shows that foreign investors participated the market by selling shares valued 1.48bn/- or 90.89 percent of total value of shares sold, on TBL counter through block trade pre-arranged market board.

However, the report shows foreign investors also participated through buying shares on Monday valued 88.8m/-.

Analysts say the market outlook for the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) will largely hinge on the economic environment,

influenced by factors like the Central Bank of Tanzania's monetary policy stance, currency stability, and investor sentiment both locally and regionally.

Key sectors to monitor include banking, telecommunications, and manufacturing, especially considering ongoing interest rate trends and demand shifts in consumer goods.

After the Central Bank decided to maintain the Central Bank Rate at 6 percent during the fourth quarter, analysts say this could spur greater activity in banking and finance stocks as borrowing costs stabilize, possibly increasing

investment in equity markets.

The banking sector has exhibited significant activity, with institutions like CRDB Bank and NMB Bank being pivotal in market movements.

However, if inflation remains a concern, further monetary tightening could impact liquidity, potentially slowing down trading volumes.

"Tanzania's economy has demonstrated robust performance, with the Bank of Tanzania projecting a 5.4 percent growth for the year, supported by steady increases in public and private sector investments, as well as export growth. This economic stability is likely to foster a favorable environment for the stock market," says an analyst.

The outlook will also be shaped by investor reactions to Q4 earnings, where strong performances could bolster confidence in DSE-listed firms.

Recent data indicates a cautiously optimistic outlook for Tanzania's equity market as of mid-October 2024, with the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange All Share Index (DSEI) showing gains, spurred by cross-listed firms.

Additionally, foreign investors began Q4 with net inflows of 940m/- into the DSE, signaling growing confidence in the market.

## CRDB Bank bags two global banking awards

By Guardian Correspondent, Washington, D.C

CRDB Bank has cemented its position as a powerhouse in Tanzania's banking sector, after receiving the prestigious titles of 'Best Bank in Tanzania' and 'Safest Bank in Tanzania', awarded by Global Finance Magazine at the magazine's 31st Annual Best Bank Awards.

These awards, presented during the IMF and World Bank Annual Meetings in Washington, D.C., mark the fifth consecutive year for CRDB Bank as Tanzania's Best Bank and the second year running as the Safest Bank - a remarkable achievement underscoring the Bank's resilience, safety, and innovation in the financial services industry.

The awards honor CRDB Bank's sustainable growth model, which brings tangible benefits to customers, investors, and Tanzania's economy at large.

This recognition is also a testament to the visionary leadership of CRDB Bank Group CEO, Abdulmajid Nsekela, highlighting the Bank's impactful role within both the Tanzanian and regional financial landscapes.

"We are honored to be



CRDB Bank's Group CEO and managing director, Abdulmajid Nsekela (L), receives the award for Best Bank in Tanzania from Joseph Giarraputo, Founder and Editor-in-Chief of Global Finance (R), at the event held in Washington D.C. on Saturday. During this event, which coincided with the IMF and World Bank Annual Meetings, the bank was also awarded the 'Safest Bank' accolade. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

recognized as Tanzania's Best Bank by Global Finance once again," said Nsekela.

"This award signifies that we are indeed on the right path - delivering a distinguished experience to our customers and value to our shareholders, while making impactful contributions to Tanzania's financial sector."

The Bank has seen an unprecedented year of

overall performance, attributed in large part to enhancements in its digital infrastructure, which have bolstered efficiency and innovation in service delivery.

Nsekela emphasized that the Bank's notable growth stems from purposeful strategies across all areas, solidifying CRDB Bank as the preferred financial institution in Tanzania.

"These awards are not only a reflection of our commitment to excellence but also a tribute to our customers, partners, and the entire CRDB Bank team who share a vision for a prosperous Tanzania," he added. "It is a privilege to be named both Safest Bank and Best Bank in Tanzania, as we advance our mission to empower Tanzanians and extend our influence on the inter-

national stage."

With over 14trn/- in assets, CRDB Bank stands as Tanzania's largest bank, recognized for consistent success across critical business metrics.

Joseph Giarraputo, Founder and Editorial Director of Global Finance, highlighted the bank's dedication to financial inclusion and commitment to exceptional service, stating, "Over the past year, CRDB Bank has made impressive strides in delivering world-class services and fostering trust among its customers across the nation."

During the World Economic Summit in Washington, D.C., Nsekela also took part in a high-profile panel on digital payment transformation, where he emphasized CRDB Bank's dedication to advancing digital solutions that enhance financial accessibility.

Additionally, Nsekela engaged in strategic meetings with prominent financial organizations including the World Bank, Exim Bank USA, MUFG, Yaatra Ventures, and TIAA, aiming to unlock new capital streams and position Tanzania as an emerging force in the global economy.

## TIC invites Koreans to invest in Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Investment Center (TIC) Executive Director Gilead Teri has called on more South Korean companies to come and invest in Tanzania as the country created a better investment environment.

Teri made the call in Dar es Salaam over the weekend during an interactive hybrid session dubbed, "2024 Korea - Tanzania Project Plaza" that brought together over 100 companies in Dar es Salaam and online.

The interactive session brought together various South Korean firms engaged in oil and gas, water, mining, shipping, manufacturing, logistics, and infrastructure projects.

He said: "There are numerous rea-

sons for South Korean firms to come and invest in Tanzania. Apart from the long-term bilateral relations that both countries continue to enjoy, Tanzania has for the past two decades pursued sound and robust economic policies that have resulted in an annual average growth of about 7 percent."

Teri noted that Tanzania has quite a diverse economy giving a lot of options to potential investors with both bilateral and multilateral trading arrangements.

"South Korean firms operating in Tanzania will be in a position to access different markets," he stressed.

Korean Ambassador to Tanzania, Ahn Eunju commended the partnership between the two countries re-



iterating her country's commitment to shared growth.

"We've been collaborating with Tanzania in various sectors. Am confident that our relationship will even grow stronger in the years to come," she said.

Linda Teggisa, the NMB bank's head of transaction banking reiterated its commitment to financing South Korean companies with interest in investing in Tanzania, as part of its efforts to support sustainable economic growth.

She said: "This is further cemented by a strategic partnership sealed between our bank and Korea Finance for Construction (K-FINCO) a few months back. Through this partnership, we aim to extend our financial solutions further in the form of trade finance facilities to support the execution of the projects."

Teggisa added: "We expect to extend other services including capital financing, asset financing, and transactional solutions to cover the entire value chain of the projects."

She noted that the bank will continue to be a strong player in project financing through partnerships with global financial institutions and commended the sixth phase Government for creating a conducive

business environment.

"A very strong regulatory framework has helped push the growth of the banking and financial sector in recent years. The banking sector has seen consistent growth in credit provisions from 34.6trn/- in 2021 to 46trn/- according to reports," she said.

She noted that her bank will continue playing a leading role in driving financial inclusion as part of efforts to bridge the no-banked gap.

Teggisa during the event commended the long-term relationship between Tanzania and South Korea adding that the ties between the two countries have continued to foster development.



# Value of public enterprises up by 22trn/- in 2024

By Guardian Correspondent, Kibaha

The Director of Investments at the Office of the Registrar of Treasury, Lightness Mauki, has stated that the government's investment in public enterprises in the country has reached 86trn/- in 2023 from 64trn/- recorded in 2023.

She urged leaders of public enterprises to encourage citizens to reap benefits from this investment.

She made these remarks while closing a training session for leaders of public institutions and organizations in the country, who participated in the 23rd Leadership Training at the Julius Nyerere Leadership School in Mhpa, Kibaha, Pwani Region, representing the Treasury Registrar, Nehemiah Mchechu.

Mauki emphasized that public institution leaders should understand that they are the catalysts for national transformation and achieving the country's economic goals as the world changes and makes progress.

"It is essential that we, as revenue

managers, prepare ourselves to ensure we effectively oversee this valuable investment to bring benefits to the citizens," Mauki stated.

She outlined that this government investment is present across all sectors, including water, agriculture, mining, and financial markets.

Additionally, she called on public institution leaders to organize themselves to manage this significant investment in the country so that it benefits the nation.

She said the goals are to reduce the dependency of public enterprises on the government while challenge them to become catalysts for change in the institutions they oversee.

"We must align ourselves with the philosophy of President Samia Suluhu Hassan on transformation; thus, let us start changing now to bring positive results," Mauki said.

The leaders have completed leadership and management training for public institutions, which lasted for five days.

"We rely on you to be catalysts for



Treasury Registrar, Nehemiah Mchechu

development in your institutions because each of you has received this valuable opportunity in important areas. Therefore, go and utilize

the knowledge you gained here appropriately because we do not live on an island; let us move alongside economic changes and technology,"

Mauki emphasized.

"Currently, we have seen technological changes, including artificial intelligence, so let us keep pace with these changes as our government has recognized that transformation is crucial in all sectors," he added.

Earlier, welcoming the guest of honor, the Head of the Mwalimu Nyerere School, Professor Marcelina Chijoriga, stated that the graduates during their training also studied patriotism and emphasized that every Tanzanian should learn this subject along with national security, as leaders receive many projects and face various issues, making national security critical in building the economy.

"We have tried to inform them that they should have good relationships with stakeholders they work with, as it is possible to be an excellent Executive Director but many struggle when it comes to communication. It is our belief that after this training, they will be well-prepared to perform effectively in all areas."

Professor Chijoriga noted that in that school they provide training for various leaders, and regarding public institutions, they aim to transform their leaders due to its importance. Many have seen that some organizations have failed while others are not performing well.

The Chairman of the Graduates, Simion Marwa, said that through this training, they have learned various practical tools for the benefit of the nation and the entire African continent, national defense, and unity. They have learned about the liberation movements and the strategies used to achieve liberation goals.

"We have learned how leadership and strategic management in economic and social reforms can enhance the efficiency of our institutions. To increase productivity and efficiency, strategic plans must be understood within the relevant time frames. When seeking opportunities, the national interest must come first."



President Samia Suluhu Hassan speaks at the launch of a US\$1.8bn (4trn/-) 10-year national clean cooking energy programme in May this year. File Photo

## Ministry of Energy calls for joint forces in arriving at clean cooking energy goal

By Guardian Reporter

The Ministry of Energy has called upon various organizations and stakeholders across the country to join forces to support the government's goal of implementing the national strategy for clean cooking energy, which aims to have 80 percent of the population using gas by 2034.

Speaking at the 2024 Award Ceremony for Puma Energy Tanzania's agents, the Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Energy, Dr. James Mataragio, emphasized that stakeholders in the energy sector and Tanzanians in general have witnessed significant progress and transformation within the energy sector under the leadership of President Samia Suluhu Hassan, who works tirelessly to ensure her citizens have reliable and affordable energy services.

"President Samia has been working to ensure Tanzanians have access to reliable and affordable energy services. She has made great efforts to ensure that the energy sector's environment and infrastructure are favorable and effective for business investment, reaching all Tanzanians regardless of their income levels," he said.

"Our role is not only to supervise and coordinate the development of the entire sector but also to engage with various stakeholders through events like this, as it allows us to interact with energy consumers in their daily activities."

Regarding the energy's company

initiative to organize awards for its agents and partners, Dr. Mataragio commended the company and encouraged other energy companies to adopt a similar approach of bringing together their stakeholders to exchange experiences and discuss the direction of the energy sector in the country.

"Events like these greatly contribute to our nation's development because the discussions and honest feedback from end-users—the citizens—are invaluable," he said.

"We will be pleased if we, from the government, who carry the responsibility to implement the government's vision, ensure essential social services reach all citizens, no matter where they are. However, the contribution and cooperation of stakeholders from the private sector is something the government values and continues to uphold in our country."

On his part, the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the energy company Dr. Seleman Majige, said that the company, which is 50 percent owned by the government, has various strategies, one of which is the promotion of clean energy through the use of gas.

"We have already started a plan to sell cooking gas, and starting from March next year, we will begin selling automotive gas at our stations. Therefore, citizens should prepare to buy gas from our Puma Energy stations," said Dr. Majige.

"Our goal is to reduce long queues at stations that sell automotive gas,

and we expect that in the coming years, we will expand to the regions. I urge the citizens to continue supporting us, and also support President Samia, as she emphasizes the importance of clean energy."

He added that the automotive gas market is large, and many citizens have embraced it by converting their vehicles from petrol or diesel to gas.

Fatma Abdallah, the company managing director, said they recognize the importance of agents and partners in achieving successful operations and reaching clients and Tanzanians nationwide.

"This event is held annually, and this is the fourth time. In addition to recognizing the contributions of our agents and partners, it also strengthens relationships and facilitates the exchange of ideas on the state of our services and the future of the energy sector nationwide."

"We are proud to have agents across the country. Moreover, we will continue to play a crucial role in ensuring our company supports the government's efforts to provide quality clean energy services and products. We are committed to re-aligning President Samia's vision of advancing the clean cooking energy campaign," said Abdallah.

She added that President Samia is at the forefront of these efforts, aiming to assist all citizens in transitioning to clean energy to avoid health and environmental impacts from the use of firewood and charcoal. "Together, we at Puma Energy believe this strategy will succeed."

## Kilindi residents urged to cultivate cattle feeds

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

KILINDI District Council in the Tanga Region has urged its residents to cultivate grass species suitable for feeding cattle to reduce conflicts between farmers and pastoralists, as part of implementing the Integrated Forest Biomass Energy Solutions for Tanzania (IFBEST) project.

Kilindi District Commissioner Hashim Mgandilwa made this announcement last week during a visit from journalists and staff from the Tanzania Forest Conservation Group (TFCG) and the Tanzania Community Forest Conservation Network (MJUMITA), who were in the district to assess the IFBEST project's impact.

"Through the agriculture department, we encourage people to cultivate grasses for pastoralists to obtain fodder while protecting our natural forests," he stated.

Mgandilwa expressed gratitude to the European Union and the Ministry of Finance for their support of TFCG and MJUMITA in implementing the IFBEST project.

IFBEST funding has resolved boundary disputes between Lusane and Kitingi villages, an issue that had persisted for years.

"Kilindi District has not been significantly affected by deforestation, but we have strategies in place to conserve our forests and mitigate climate change impacts," he noted.

The project aims to ensure the safety of forests and foster conser-

vation among residents.

Mgandilwa emphasized the importance of forests, stating, "While we seek economic opportunities, we must recognize the critical role forests play in our lives for future generations."

He highlighted the challenges posed by climate change, which can make it difficult for pastoralists to find pasture and water.

To combat deforestation, farmers are encouraged to cultivate smaller areas for higher yields.

Agricultural extension officers are available to teach modern farming methods, while pastoralists are urged to adopt improved cattle-rearing techniques. "During droughts, they can sell their cattle and reinvest the proceeds into other ventures," he advised.

Adam Sylvester, the Kilindi Natural Resources Officer, commended TFCG and MJUMITA for launching the IFBEST project in the region. Through this initiative, Kilindi District has designated 3,867 hectares of village land as forest reserves for community-based forest management.

Of this, 1,957 hectares are in Mapanga village and 1,910 hectares in Lusane village. Additionally, 549.1 hectares have been earmarked for sustainable charcoal harvesting, with 270 hectares in Lusane and 279.1 hectares in Mapanga.

The district has also conducted participatory forest resource assessments to identify suitable tree species for sustainable charcoal production. TFCG and MJUMITA

have assisted villagers in developing land use plans, forest management strategies, and harvesting regulations.

With support from the European Union, villagers have established Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs) to secure loans for income-generating activities, reducing reliance on tree cutting for charcoal and firewood.

A comprehensive land use plan for Lusane village has allocated land for various activities, including 1,914.9 hectares for forest conservation and 2,050.65 hectares for pasture.

The district collaborates with village natural resource committees to ensure legal protection of forests. Mapanga and Lusane villages have formulated by-laws for forest conservation and management, and the district oversees their implementation to ensure sustainable resource use.

Currently, Kilindi District has 36 village forests encompassing 27,156 hectares, 12 government forests totaling 29,084 hectares, and 103.7 hectares of tree farms.

Mng'anya Chrispin, the district's head of planning and coordination, announced plans to engage the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries to obtain grass species for herds, which would reduce the need for pastoralists to migrate in search of grazing land.

Additionally, they aim to secure assistance from the ministry to construct cattle dips and charcoal dams for livestock keepers.



## Africa gets \$52bn in climate funding

JOHANNESBURG

The report highlights that this record is nearly four times below the continent's needs, which are projected to reach around \$190 billion annually by 2030.

Climate funding for African countries surpassed \$50 billion for the first time in 2022, according to a report released on October 23 by the Climate Policy Initiative, a think tank comprised of 90 experts.

Titled "Landscape of Climate Finance in Africa 2024," the report

highlights that the continent received \$52.1 billion in climate financing in 2022, sharply up from \$35.2 billion in 2021 and \$30.4 billion in 2020.

Much of this rise is attributed to the revival of various projects that had been put on hold due to COVID-19. However, it does not indicate a sustainable upward trend.

The surge in climate financing in Africa in 2022 was largely driven by public funding, which made up 82 percent of the amount mobilized. Multilateral development finance

institutions were the main sources of climate funding on the continent. They increased grants and concessional loans, contributing 43 percent of the total flow and 53 percent of public funding on average during the 2021-2022 period.

Private sector funding nearly doubled from 2019-2020 to 2021-2022, reaching an average of \$8 billion per year. However, funding from domestic African sources accounted for only 10 percent of the total climate financing received by the continent's 54 countries.







## WORLD

## Commonwealth selects Shirley Ayorkor Botchwey as new secretary-general

APIA

COMMONWEALTH members selected Shirley Ayorkor Botchwey as secretary-general of the 56-nation club headed by Britain's King Charles, the Commonwealth said on Saturday, the final day of a summit in Samoa attended by Charles and Queen Camilla.

Representatives of the countries, most with roots in Britain's empire, are attending the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting that began in the Pacific Island nation on Monday, with slavery and the threat of climate change emerging as major themes.

"Today at #CHOGM2024, Commonwealth Heads of Government have selected the Hon Shirley Ayorkor Botchwey, currently the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration of Ghana, as the incoming Secretary-General

of the Commonwealth," the Commonwealth said on X.

Botchwey, a supporter of reparations for transatlantic slavery and colonialism, takes over from Britain's Patricia Scotland, who has been in the job since 2016.

Earlier on Saturday, Britain's king and queen flew out of Samoa, after a visit in which the monarch acknowledged the Commonwealth's "painful" history, amid a push for former colonial powers to pay reparations for their role in transatlantic slavery.

Charles and Camilla left Samoa about 12 pm local time on a Royal Australia Air Force jet, waving farewell as they boarded the plane at Apia's Faleolo International Airport.

Before leaving, the royal pair attended a farewell ceremony at the village of Siumu, which took place in heavy rain.



A file photo shows Ghana's Foreign Minister Shirley Ayorkor Botchwey during a G7 Foreign Ministers Meeting at the City Hall in Muenster, western Germany on Nov 4, 2022. (AFP)

Charles on Friday said in a speech to the summit that he understood "from listening to people across the Commonwealth how the most painful aspects of our past continue to resonate".

"It is vital, therefore, that we understand our history, to guide us towards making the right choices in future," he said.

The push for ex-colonial powers such as Britain to pay reparations or make other amends for slavery and its legacies today has gained momentum worldwide, particularly among the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and the African Union.

Those opposed to reparations say

countries should not be held responsible for historical wrongs, while those in support say the legacy of slavery has led to vast and persistent racial inequality.

British Prime Minister Keir Starmer, who is at the summit, has rejected calls for reparations and ruled out apologizing for the country's historic role.

The King and Queen's time in Samoa followed a six-day tour of Australia, where a large crowd turned out to see the royal couple at the Sydney Opera House. Charles also met with Indigenous elders in Sydney, after being heckled by an Indigenous senator in Canberra.

Agencies

## 7 killed in another mass shooting in South Africa's Western Cape

CAPE TOWN

SEVEN people were killed in a suspected gang-related mass shooting, the second in two days in South Africa's Western Cape province, local police reported on Friday.

According to a statement from the provincial police, the shooting occurred on Thursday evening in Bishop Lavis, a suburb of Cape Town.

"Police reports from the scene indicate that at about 8:40 pm (1840 GMT), an armed suspect entered an informal dwelling on Kogelberg Street and fired several shots at the occupants," provincial police spokesperson Novela Potelwa said in the statement.

"Six people were fatally wounded, and two others were injured. The injured were transported to a medical facility for treatment," she said. "The ages of the deceased range from 24 to 55."

However, the death toll rose to seven after one of the wounded, a 25-year-old woman, died in hospital on Friday morning, Potelwa said in an update.

Following the incident, local police have reinforced deployments in the area.

"Murder and attempted murder dockets have been opened, and Anti-Gang Unit (AGU) detectives are investigating. No arrests have been made yet," said Potelwa. This latest shooting follows another mass shooting on Wednesday night, where five people were shot and killed in Atlantis, a small town about 40 km north of Cape Town.

Both incidents are believed to be gang-related, according to Potelwa. Western Cape's Police Commissioner Thembisile Patekile has directed AGU de-



Women gather behind a police cordon where ten people from the same family were shot dead, April 21, 2023. PHOTO

tectives to "spare no resources in bringing the perpetrators of these heinous acts to justice," added the spokesperson.

The neighboring Eastern Cape province has also seen a series of recent mass shootings, with more than 30 people losing their lives.

In the most recent incident, five

men were found dead in an informal settlement in New Brighton town in Gqeberha, formerly known as Port Elizabeth, on Tuesday night. Prior to that, another mass shooting in Bityi killed five family members and injured two children on Oct 18.

These incidents come just over

two weeks after six community patrollers were brutally gunned down in Qumbu, and less than a month after 18 people were shot dead in Lusikisiki, both in the Eastern Cape province.

Several suspects have been arrested and charged in connection with the Lusikisiki incident.

## Kenya to promote peace with Uganda, South Sudan through cultural festivals

UNITED NATIONS

KENYAN President William Ruto on Friday pledged to promote peace among communities along the country's borders with Uganda and South Sudan through cultural activities.

Ruto said the country will

host annual cultural activities that bring together the Turkana of Kenya, Toposa of South Sudan, and Karamajong of Uganda, communities that have for years fought over pasture and water, leading to killings on either side of the border.

"Through diverse cultural ac-

tivities, we will promote peace and unity among the communities. This will help stop insecurity and foster cohesion," Ruto said at the Tobong'u Lore Cultural Festival in Kenya's northwestern county of Turkana, which borders Uganda and South Sudan. The conflicts

between the pastoralist communities have been worsened by the climate crisis, which has increased animal theft to replenish those who died due to drought.

Ruto said the Kenyan government will annually invest 49 million shillings (about

380,000 U.S. dollars) into the festival and reach out to neighboring countries.

He added that the festival will unite neighboring communities, both within and outside the country's borders, ensuring that they embrace each other's diversity. *Xinhua*

## China plays key role of BRICS countries in pursuing true multilateralism, Indian experts say

COLOMBO

"BRICS works to promote true multilateralism and support changes in global governance, and China plays an important role by actively engaging in discussions and initiatives that aim for a fairer international system," Alok Kumar Pathak, associate fellow at the BRICS Institute India in Delhi, told *Xinhua* in a recent interview.

In an exclusive interview with *Xinhua* at a time when the 16th BRICS Summit was held from Oct. 22 to Oct. 24 in Russia's Kazan, Pathak said that China has put forward Global Development Initiative, Global Security Initiative and Global Civil-

ization Initiative, and is committed to working with all parties to build a community with a shared future for mankind, which matches the concept of BRICS cooperation that attaches equal status for all the sovereign nation-states.

BRICS is an acronym for Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa, five major emerging markets with considerable economic potential that founded the BRICS group.

B.R. Deepak, professor of the Center for Chinese and South East Asian Studies of Jawaharlal Nehru University, also talked with *Xinhua*. He said that since its

establishment, the BRICS cooperation mechanism has expanded to various practical cooperation areas and achieved remarkable results.

"The BRICS countries have played an important and unique role in leading the global South and promoting multilateralism. Among this, China has provided numerous economic contributions, ideological contributions and global public goods," he said.

China's initiatives fully embody the BRICS spirit and implement China's commitment to bridge differences between countries and build a more equitable,

just, and acceptable cooperation platform, Deepak said, adding that through its own development and cooperation under the BRICS framework, China has provided tremendous development support for many countries in the global South, elevation of poverty across the continents, especially in Africa and South Asia.

"The global economy is now limping. The way it progressed during deep globalization is over, and geopolitical conflicts in various regions have added fuel to the fire," Deepak said. "In such circumstances, all countries should welcome more initiatives that main-

tain world peace and security, and promote common economic development."

The Kazan summit is also the first offline gathering of leaders of the "BRICS family" after the historic expansion in January this year. Pathak said that China has made remarkable contributions in promoting the expansion of the BRICS countries.

More and more countries wish to join the ranks of BRICS, which fully demonstrates that the BRICS concept of independence and equal cooperation is getting more support among countries, said Pathak.

"The Western paradigm on the basis of their so-

called economic and legal theories is designed to preserve the dominance of the West and keep the rest lagging behind," he added.

He stressed that after the expansion, the BRICS countries will be more representative and have greater development potential, and can more effectively promote the transformation of the global governance system towards a more just and reasonable direction.

Speaking about the potential outcome of this summit, Pathak said that all countries should conduct more economic cooperation.

"The BRICS countries should conduct organiza-

tional activities to ensure the significance of the BRICS plus' countries in the world economy increases with their joint efforts as a group," he said.

As for people-to-people exchanges, Pathak said that he applauds China's attitude that diversity is essential to human civilization.

"Encouraging exchanges and learning among cultures is important for mutual progress. I hope that during the BRICS Summit, China will continue to support peaceful coexistence and suggest ways to improve understanding and collaboration among different civilizations," Pathak said. *Xinhua*

## BRICS Pay: A game-changer in global finance

BY THOBANI LOUIS

In a landmark move for the BRICS economic alliance, the bloc has unveiled its new "BRICS Pay" system, poised to redefine global cross-border payments.

During the recent forum held in Kazan, Russia, from October 22 to 24, BRICS payment cards were distributed to participants as a symbolic gesture of the group's commitment. Each card was preloaded with 500 Russian rubles (approximately \$5.20) for purchasing coffee and souvenirs at the event.

The cards featured a unified logo and detailed payment instructions on one side, complete with a QR code. This initiative serves as a countermeasure to U.S. currency speculation and the daunting level of U.S. national debt, prompting BRICS nations to explore ways to enhance the use of their national currencies in international trade.

Announced at the recent BRICS Business Forum in Moscow, this initiative underscores the group's commitment to reducing reliance on the U.S. dollar—marking a significant shift in the global financial landscape.

For years, BRICS countries have sought alternatives to the U.S. dollar in international trade. The launch of BRICS Pay is a critical element of this de-dollarization strategy, strongly supported by Russia and China.

Valentina Matviyenko, President of the Russian Federation Council, emphasized during the announcement that "BRICS Pay is no longer just an idea; it is a concrete project that is rapidly advancing."

The goal is to diminish the dollar's influence, which constituted 58 percent of international payments outside the euro zone in 2022. The dollar's dominance, combined with U.S. sanctions against countries like Russia, has only intensified BRICS' resolve to create a more resilient cross-border payment system. The U.S. dollar remains pivotal in international trade due to American control and its status as the world's reserve currency.

According to the U.S. Federal Reserve, the dollar accounted for 96 percent of international trade invoicing in the Americas and 78 percent globally from 1999 to 2019.

However, this dynamic is shifting as countries actively seek to reduce their reliance on the dollar. The BRICS bloc—comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa—is exploring ways to bolster their economic independence from U.S. financial dictates.

The BRICS Pay system promises several key benefits as the bloc seeks to liberate itself from U.S. financial influence, potentially reshaping international trade norms.

Financial analysts highlight the system's potential to enhance efficiency in cross-border transactions by leveraging blockchain technology and digital currencies.

Although still in development, BRICS Pay aims to facilitate faster and cheaper transactions, with digital currency at its core. Additionally, BRICS Pay is expected to promote financial inclusion by encouraging the use of national currencies in trade, enhancing access to financial services for millions within member nations.

Other advantages discussed at the summit include strengthening economic integration and fostering de-dollarization, encouraging closer economic ties among BRICS countries and promoting a more unified trading bloc.

While U.S. National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan stated that "the United States does not view the BRICS group as a potential geopolitical competitor," experts argue that the initiative may indeed challenge the U.S. dollar's dominance. BRICS Pay represents a strategic move to mitigate U.S. influence, allowing member countries to assert their economic independence.

The BRICS alliance has already expanded, adding 13 new partner nations, marking a significant step in the bloc's growth and global influence.

BRICS Pay could have far-reaching implications for the U.S. dollar. While experts debate its potential to challenge dollar supremacy, a stable and widely-accepted BRICS currency could diminish the dollar's status as the premier reserve currency. This shift may lead to reduced dollar demand, destabilizing it and potentially impacting American households and the global economy.

The trend toward de-dollarization is already evident, with countries like China and Russia conducting bilateral trade in their own currencies.

This movement reflects a broader desire among nations to lessen reliance on the U.S. financial system, a trend likely to accelerate with the advent of BRICS Pay.

Since 2019, BRICS nations have been laying the groundwork for a unified payment system, culminating in the launch of BRICS Pay. Discussions about a possible intra-group currency gained momentum, particularly following the summit in Johannesburg last year. Current trends suggest that the BRICS bloc is serious about establishing an alternative financial framework.

*Thobani Louis is an independent Pan-Africanist and political analyst based in Johannesburg, South Africa.*



## The BRICS Summit in Russia - a way to the future

THE 16th BRICS summit concluded in Kazan, Russia, which Vladimir Putin described as the "culmination of Russia's chairmanship." Here's a summary of the summit's outcomes, including new BRICS partners and Turkey's latest proposal for negotiations with Ukraine.

On October 22, the first day of the summit, Russian President Vladimir Putin (pictured) held bilateral meetings with BRICS leaders at the Kazan Kremlin. On the second day he chaired BRICS meetings, which concluded with a 43-page Kazan Declaration. The final day of the summit featured "outreach"/"BRICS Plus" sessions, attended by leaders from countries interested in cooperation with BRICS, including Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belarus, Bolivia, Venezuela, Vietnam, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Mauritania, Palestine, the Republic of the Congo, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan, as well as UN Secretary-General António Guterres.

The summit was attended by delegations from 35 countries and six international organizations. Over 30 countries expressed interest in cooperating with BRICS, but member states decided to hold off on further expansion. Instead, certain appli-

cants were offered the status of "partner countries." Belarus was among those granted partner status, as announced by its President Alexander Lukashenko. He stated that a total of 12-13 countries received this designation.

President Putin emphasized that BRICS has now evolved from an informal association into a structured organization, though he cautioned against excessive bureaucratization.

As in past summits, Ukraine was mentioned in the Kazan Declaration, with BRICS members reaffirming their national stances on the situation. BRICS leaders expressed support for peaceful resolution through dialogue. Chinese President Xi Jinping and Brazilian President Lula da Silva, in particular, reiterated calls for de-escalation, referencing their "Friends of Peace" group of Global South countries. President Putin expressed readiness to consider peace agreements based on current ground realities, though he noted that Ukraine's reluctance to negotiate remains an obstacle.

The summit also focused on ongoing conflicts in Gaza and Lebanon, with leaders calling for an immediate ceasefire and support for Palestine's UN membership. The BRICS Declaration



addressed UN, IMF, and World Bank reforms, denounced unilateral sanctions, and reaffirmed commitments to Sustainable Development Goals and counterterrorism.

President Putin proposed a range of initiatives, including:

- A BRICS investment platform to support member economies and the Global South.
- BRICS grain exchange, AI alliance, and climate research platform.
- cross-border payment infrastructure, BRICS Clear.
- insurance company and rotational tax secretariat within BRICS.

The Kazan Declaration also in-

cluded a proposal for creating a BRICS cross-border payment and reinsurance infrastructure.

The scale of the Summit and the number of important issues covered over its course are a testament to the great potential for cooperation between the participating regions.

It also decisively proves the importance of Russia's involvement and positive input in key processes of international politics. The Kazan Summit is an important stepping stone in further establishment of the Global South as an independent and significant political power.

Agencies

## Barrick responds to Mali's claims of breaching its commitments

TORONTO

BARRICK Gold Corporation has denied the allegations made by the Malian Ministry of Mines and the Finance Ministry that it had not honored its commitments made under an agreement designed to achieve a more equitable distribution of mineral resource exploitation to the benefit of all stakeholders.

As announced by Barrick on September 30, the company and the government agreed on a negotiation framework to achieve a global resolution of their disputes. Since that date, Barrick has been actively engaged with the government in pursuit of such a settlement, the terms of which will be set out in a memorandum of agreement.

The memorandum of agreement is intended to settle outstanding differences and to establish the principles that would guide Barrick's partnership with the government in future, including an

increase in the state's share of the economic benefits generated by the Loulo-Goukoko complex.

In early October, Barrick made a payment to the government of FCFA 50 billion (US\$85 million) in the context of the ongoing negotiations. Since then, it has consistently maintained its efforts to engage with the government. While Barrick does not accept any claims of wrongdoing, it has chosen to act in good faith as a long-standing partner of Mali, aiming to resolve outstanding disputes through this memorandum of agreement.

Barrick president and chief executive Mark Bristow said the company's mutually beneficial relationship with successive Malian governments had endured for 30 years and occasional differences had always been amicably resolved. Barrick remains committed to finding a mutually acceptable solution to the current impasse in the interest of all stakeholders.

## Regional countries condemn Israeli military strike against Iran

CAIRO

Middle Eastern countries on Saturday condemned Israel's military targeting of Iran, expressing concern about its impact on regional security and stability.

In a statement, Jordan's Foreign Ministry called the Israeli attack a violation of international law and an infringement on Iran's sovereignty, as well as a serious escalation that pushes the region towards further tension.

Ministry spokesperson Sufian Qudah reaffirmed Jordan's absolute rejection of dangerous escalation in the region and of violations of international law, warning against slipping into a wider conflict that threatens regional stability and global security.

Qudah called on the international community to assume responsibility and take immediate action to halt Israeli aggression on the Gaza Strip, the West Bank, and Lebanon as a first step toward de-escalation.

Meanwhile, Kuwait slammed the Israeli escalation, saying it "exemplifies the policy of chaos adopted by Israeli occupying forces by breaching countries' sovereignty, jeopardizing regional security and breaking international law principles and norms."

Also condemning the Israeli attack, Oman's Foreign Ministry said the Israeli act constitutes a blatant violation of Iran's sovereignty, a clear breach of international law, and fuels a cycle of violence, which could lead to further instability in the region.

Echoing the same concern, the Foreign Ministry of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) urged all parties to exercise maximum restraint and work to prevent further escalation of the already tense situation.

The ministry called for diplomatic efforts to take precedence over military means to avoid further confrontations. Israel has conducted a pre-dawn strike on targets in Iran, allegedly in retaliation for Tehran's Oct. 1 missile attack. The long-anticipated Israeli revenge coincided with its string of airstrikes on Syrian territory.

In a statement, Syria's Foreign Ministry denounced these attacks as a "brazen violation" of Iranian and Syrian sovereignty and a "blatant breach" of international law and the UN Charter.

It voiced the Syrian government's support for Iran's "legitimate right to defend itself, safeguard its territories, and protect its citizens," while calling on the

international community to demand accountability from Israel and to take measures to prevent Israel from evading justice.

Lebanon, which has already been embroiled in a year-long conflict between Hezbollah and Israeli forces, said the Israeli attack on Iran further threatens regional and international security and peace.

The country renewed its call for relevant international institutions, especially the UN Security Council, to assume their responsibilities to put an end to the Israeli military escalation throughout the region, including the aggression against Lebanon.

Iraq on Saturday joined other states in condemning Israel, reiterating its solidarity and support for the Islamic Republic of Iran. It urged comprehensive regional and international efforts to support regional stability.

It said Iraq had previously warned of the severe consequences of the international community's silence on the brutal actions of Israel, including its attacks against people in Palestine, Lebanon, Syria, and now this new aggression against Iran.

Following Israel's pre-dawn attack, the Houthi group, a militia backed by Iran in Yemen, expressed "firm solidarity" with Tehran and called for Arab and Islamic unity in response to what it termed aggression threatening regional stability. Iran, in the wake of Israel's retaliatory strike, stressed the need to defend the country's security and vital interests using its full capabilities.

It also welcomed the condemnation of Israeli forces by all peace-loving countries in the region and beyond, while blaming the United States and some Western countries for supporting Israel's continued "occupation, illegal actions, and crimes." It urged immediate actions to stop Israel's "genocide, war and aggression" against Gaza and Lebanon and to rein in its warmongering.

The Israel Defense Forces (IDF) said it launched early Saturday "precise and targeted" airstrikes on targets in several areas in Iran. The IDF added that the airstrikes, which had been completed, were in response to the attacks from Iran in recent months, including the Oct. 1 strike, which was carried out with approximately 180 missiles, as retaliation for the assassinations of several leaders of regional resistance groups, among other grievances.

## China's AI boom sees new wave of applications

HEFEI

"I'm thirsty," a visitor told a towering humanoid robot standing 1.7 meters tall and weighing 65 kilograms at the 7th World Voice Expo in Hefei, east China's Anhui Province.

Without hesitation, the black humanoid robot identified the bottle of coffee among the two other objects on the desk and handed it to the visitor.

"Powered by the large language model, our second-generation humanoid robot is smarter and can perform more delicate tasks such as pouring coffee," said Ji Chao, chief robotics scientist of artificial intelligence (AI) company iFLYTEK. iFLYTEK's superbrain robotic platform has empowered 450 robotics enterprises and 15,000 developers across the country by opening up the company's large language model, according to Ji.

The 7th World Voice Expo, running from Thursday to Sunday, showcases over 200 AI products, including humanoid robots, human-machine interaction systems and upgraded large language models.

This event highlights the remarkable speed at which AI has developed and the growing prevalence of its applications across various scenarios. Unitree, a Hangzhou-based robotics startup, showcased its star humanoid robot, Unitree H1, which can move 3.3 meters per second.

"We have sold more than 100 such robots, priced at 90,000 U.S. dollars each, offering an insight into the huge market space for the full commercialization of humanoid robots," said Li Jun,



A humanoid robot takes selfies with a visitor at the 7th World Voice Expo in Hefei, East China's Anhui province, Oct 24, 2024. [Photo/Xinhua]

head of technical services at Unitree.

In China, AI is becoming an important engine for the development of new quality productive forces. In this year's government work report, China unveiled an AI Plus initiative, a strategic move designed to propel the digital economy's expansion and spearhead the transformation and modernization of manufacturing sectors.

At the expo, an automatic voice-interaction testing system for new energy vehicles (NEVs) made its debut and garnered widespread interest. Inside an NEV, a robot interacts with the vehicle just like a human passenger.

Meanwhile, an external plat-

form tracks and displays the accuracy, stability and timeliness of the interaction in real-time. It automatically compiles all of the collected data into a detailed report. "Voice interaction is the core function of the intelligent cockpit of NEVs.

Previously, it required weeks of human testing during the R&D period," said Wu Jiangzhao, general manager of the National Intelligent Voice Innovation Center. "With this autotest system, the testing time can be shortened to just two to three days, giving a strong boost to intelligent upgrades in the automobile industry."

"AI is reshaping the automobile industry," said Yin Tongyue, chairman of Chinese carmaker

Chery. From developing talking vehicles to cars that can speak foreign languages for the overseas market and now the humanized intelligent cockpit system, Chery is embracing the AI boom, Yin said.

A range of daily necessities, from smart refrigerators to AI eyeglasses and smart cups, are now integrated with AI large language models, offering users exciting new experiences.

MiMouse, a high-tech company in Anhui, showcased its best-selling smart mouse at the expo, along with a newly developed smart keyboard powered by large language models.

Integrated with several large language models, this keyboard can effortlessly generate articles, create PowerPoint presentations, draw pictures and perform translations in an instant with just the click of a few keys.

"The smart keyboard and mouse can help reduce repetitive tasks for office workers," said Feng Haihong, general manager of MiMouse, adding that they sold about 10,000 smart mice in less than a month.

Thanks to the AI boom, China is now home to more than 4,500 AI companies. Its core AI industry reached a size of more than 578 billion yuan (about 81.3 billion U.S. dollars) in 2023, up 13.9 percent year on year, according to official data. In the future, AI will transform industrial and competition patterns as well as scientific research, bring changes to all trades and professions, and most importantly, meet people's aspirations for a better life, said Liu Qingfeng, chairman of iFLYTEK, at the expo. Xinhua

## Israel conducts pre-dawn airstrikes on Iranian targets in latest round of open confrontation

TEHRAN/JERUSALEM

ISRAEL announced on Saturday it launched "precise and targeted" pre-dawn airstrikes on Iranian military targets, in response to Tehran's Oct. 1 missile attacks. This marks the latest round of open confrontation between the two regional powers, as conflicts in Gaza and Lebanon continue.

The two Middle Eastern rivals seem to have toned down the latest round of attacks, with Israel avoiding strikes on Iran's sensitive oil and nuclear facilities, and no senior Iranian officials issuing harsh public statements so far. Israel's state-owned Kan TV News reported that dozens of jets carried out three waves of strikes before dawn, targeting 20 military sites in Iran.

The focus was on missile and drone manufacturing facilities, and critical air defense systems.

Iran's air defense headquarters claimed the Israeli attack resulted in "limited damage."

Shortly after 2 a.m. local time (2230 GMT Friday), loud explosions were heard over Tehran as Iran's air defense systems activated to intercept incoming projectiles, according to Xinhua correspondents at the scene.

Iran claimed its air defenses successfully intercepted Israeli attacks on military sites in the provinces of Tehran, Khuzestan, and Ilam. However, four soldiers were killed while countering the Israeli strike. Iran temporarily canceled all flights following the attacks but resumed operations by 9 a.m.

Saturday, a working day in Iran, according to the state news agency IRNA. Iranian media cited police and other sources as reporting that the country's major arteries as well as urban and rural traffic were not affected,

while gasoline supply and distribution continued as usual.

**FULL-SCALE WAR UNLIKELY FOR NOW**

The latest round of attacks was widely anticipated after Iran fired approximately 180 missiles at Israel on Oct. 1, which killed one person in the West Bank. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu had vowed that Tehran would "pay the price" for the missile attack.

Following the attacks on Saturday, analysts believe that the multi-year conflict between Israel and Iran is entering a new, more dangerous phase.

However, Israel's latest "moderate" military action suggests that neither side is inclined to escalate the situation further, making a full-scale war unlikely, at least for now.

Before its airstrikes, Israel sent a message to Iran on Fri-

day through several third parties, the Jerusalem Post quoted sources as saying.

"The Israelis made it clear to the Iranians what they intended to target and what they would not." "Tehran is downplaying it - even mocking it - which may be more reflective of their desire to de-escalate than a true assessment of the damage Israel inflicted on Iran," wrote Trita Parsi, the executive vice president of the Quincy Institute in the United States, in a post on the social media platform X.

"But if Iran chooses to exercise restraint, as it did after Israel's limited strikes in April, then this chapter may be closed, yet the conflict will remain very much alive. As long as Israel's slaughter in Gaza and Lebanon continues, a new exchange of fire between Israel and Iran will only be a question of time. And the next round will likely

be more ferocious than the previous, just as this round was larger than the exchange in April," he noted.

According to Seyed Reza Sadr al-Hosseini, a senior expert on West Asian issues based in Tehran, Iran has made all necessary preparations for a potential Israeli attack, focusing on both non-military and passive defenses, as well as active military defense.

All Iranian military and defense complexes are fully prepared, and the country's armed forces have reinforced air defense in key and strategic regions, he said.

**REACTIONS TO ATTACKS**

Tensions between Israel and Iran escalated after the outbreak of the latest Israeli-Palestinian conflict on Oct. 7, 2023. Israel has since been engaged on multiple fronts, fighting Hamas in Gaza,

Hezbollah in Lebanon, the Houthis in Yemen, and Shiite militias in Iraq, all of which are believed to have close ties to Iran.

On April 14, their conflict became public for the first time when Iran launched a wave of drones and missiles at Israel.

This marked the first direct Iranian attack on Israeli soil, prompted by a suspected Israeli strike on the Iranian consulate in Damascus, Syria on April 1, which killed at least seven officials, including two senior Iranian military commanders.

In retaliation, Israel struck an air defense facility in central Iran's Isfahan on April 19. Iran's Foreign Ministry issued a strong condemnation in the wake of Israel's strike on Saturday, saying the Israeli attack was a "flagrant violation" of international law and the United Nations Charter.

It said Iran is entitled and duty-bound to defend itself against

"aggressive" foreign actions.

Countries in the region including Türkiye, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Kuwait, and Iraq have voiced their condemnation of the Israeli attacks.

In a statement from its Foreign Ministry, Saudi Arabia condemned "the military targeting" of Iran, calling it a violation of its sovereignty and international laws.

The statement also reaffirmed Saudi Arabia's "unwavering position in its rejection of the continued escalation in the region and the expansion of the conflict that threatens the security and stability of the countries and people of the region." A senior official from the Biden administration stated, "If Iran chooses to respond once again, we will be ready, and there will be consequences for Iran once again."



## Zanzibar's Second Vice President to participate in upcoming 2024 Tigo Zanzibar Marathon

By Guardian Correspondent

THE Second Vice President of Zanzibar, Hemed Suleiman Abdulla, is set to join runners in the 2024 Tigo Zanzibar Marathon, scheduled for next month on the island.

His participation aims to promote health and unity, themes he praised as central to the marathon's purpose.

"Personally, I love participating in these races; they bring people together and encourage a healthy lifestyle. I commend the organizers and sponsors of this event," Abdulla said.

He emphasized that efforts should be made to ensure the marathon's growth and continuity, encouraging its development as an annual attraction for participants locally and globally.

Abdulla shared that while he had received invitations in the past, he was unable to attend due to scheduling conflicts. However, he is committed to participating this year, marking his debut in the event.

Azizi Said Ali, the Director of Tigo Zantel in Zanzibar, shared updates on the marathon's preparation.

Registration is already underway, with centers set up in Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar seeing enthusiastic sign-ups.

Ali anticipates an increase in participation, especially given the rising interest from runners both within Tanzania and internationally.

"The preparations are progressing well, and we expect athletes and people from various countries to participate," Ali noted.

This year's marathon will offer three race categories: a 5-kilometer, a 10-kilometer, and a 21-kilometer (half marathon) run, catering to different skill levels.

The marathon, sponsored by Tigo, is now in its third year. The event continues to establish itself as a platform that celebrates fitness and community spirit on the island.

## Tanzanian chess prodigy Mrope shine in Poland

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIAN chess player Cleophas Mrope made headlines in Poland by defeating International Master (IM) Dawid Czerw in a chess exhibition (simul) held recently.

The 22-year-old, currently studying at the University of Maria Curie-Skłodowska (UMCS), displayed remarkable skill against Czerw, a renowned chess YouTuber and influencer.

The exhibition match, a precursor to the grand 1,000-player chess tournament at the Hobby 2024 Fair, took place at the Lublin Fair Hall, attracting a sizable crowd and chess enthusiasts from across Europe.

According to UMCS professor Konrad Czernichowski, who is also a visiting lecturer at Jordan University in Morogoro, the event was the largest chess gathering in Lublin's history. It featured participants from seven different countries, making it a significant event on the chess calendar.

In addition to Mrope's exhibition match, the tournament saw a strong presence of highly ranked players, including three Grandmasters (GMs) – GM Alexei Shirov, formerly ranked second in the world, GM Mateusz

Bartel, and GM Igor Janik – as well as Woman Grandmaster (WGM) Michalina Rudzka.

Notably, nine international masters were also in attendance, adding a high level of competitive depth to the event.

Mrope placed an impressive 229th out of 1,000 participants, scoring 6.5 points, placing him ahead of 75% of the players. His strong performance in this highly competitive tournament highlights his growing prowess on the international stage. Mrope is currently a second-year student pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Business Analytics at UMCS, Poland's most internationally recognized public university.

He joined UMCS on a scholarship, awarded in recognition of his impressive chess achievements, which include winning the African inter-school chess championships and representing Tanzania in the 2022 Chess Olympiad in Chennai, India.

UMCS, soon to celebrate its 80th anniversary, has provided a platform for Mrope to hone his skills further, making him a key player to watch in the African and global chess community. His achievements serve as an inspiration for young chess enthusiasts in Tanzania and beyond.

## Tanga Queens now win 2024 TCA National Women's Championship



Cricketers making the Tanga Queens team pose with silverware following the completion of the 2024 TCA National Women's Championship in Dar es Salaam recently. Tanga Queens overcame Morogoro Queens in the final. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA CRICKET ASSOCIATION

By Correspondent Japheth Kazenga

TANGA Queens garnered the 2024 TCA National Women's Championship title, commanding a 35-run victory over Morogoro Queens at the Leaders Club ground in Dar es Salaam recently.

The Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA) organized showpiece targeted to improve women's cricket standards in the country.

After weeks of hard-fought matches, Tanga Queens emerged as the champions of the TCA National Women's Championship this season whilst boasting an unbeaten streak.

Tanga Queens, boasting several well-drilled batters, took the crease first, bringing their

innings to a close with 135/7 in 20 overs.

Notching 136 runs to cruise to victory turned out to be a tall order for Morogoro Queens given the cricketers notched 100/5 in 20 overs.

Morogoro Queens fought hard during their turn with the bat, but Tanga Queens held their nerves to claim victory and lift the trophy.

Swaumu Godfrey (Tanga Queens) ended as the Player of the Tournament, garnering the best batting display consisting of 262 runs in eight outings.

Mwanamvua Hamisi (Tanga Queens) was voted as the tournament's Best Bowler, with the performer having garnered 11 wickets in eight games.

She gave away 85 runs in her bowling exploits, stretching 32 overs, and ended with five

maiden overs.

Teammate Sophia Frank also notched 11 wickets but the cricketer took second spot because her fellow cricketer had best figures.

Shufaa Hamza (Tanga Queens) emerged as the tournament's Best Batter, winding up with 223 runs.

The last-four stage had witnessed Tanga Queens wallop Dar es Salaam Queens by eight wickets to book a place in the showdown's final.

Dar es Salaam Queens batted first, concluding their batting time with 96/5 in 20 overs.

Tanga Queens, chasing a modest target, easily got down to the successful chase having posted 97/2.

The convincing outcome, consequently, saw Tanga Queens keep their unbeaten

streak alive as they secured qualification for the final.

Morogoro Queens defeated Arusha Queens by 63 runs in the last-four stage encounter to advance to the final.

The match witnessed Morogoro Queens amass 141/4 in 20 overs when they took the crease first.

Arusha Queens' efforts to mount a fruitful chase hit a snag, as the youthful contenders scored 78/7 in 20 overs.

The national cricket governing body lauded all squads and players for making the tournament a success and continuing to grow women's cricket in Tanzania.

The TCA urged cricket stakeholders to keep on supporting the female cricketers and the sport.



Mganda traditional dancing group pictured recently entertaining during the 10th African Geothermal Conference held in Dar es Salaam. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma.

## Tanzanian officials appointed for AFCON qualifiers engagements

By Correspondent Michael Mwebi

THE Confederation of African Football (CAF) has assigned four Tanzanian officials to officiate the upcoming 2025 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) qualification match between Cameroon and Zimbabwe.

This pivotal Group J clash will take place on Tuesday, November 19, at the Stade Omnisports de Malouzi.

The Tanzanian officiating team is led

by FIFA-certified referee Ahmed Arjiga, who will serve as the center referee. Frank Komba and Hamdani Said have been appointed as the first and second assistant referees, respectively, while Elly Sasii will act as the fourth official.

These Tanzanian officials bring experience and professionalism to a crucial match in the AFCON qualifying campaign.

In the Group J standings, Cameroon currently holds the lead with 10 points,

while Zimbabwe closely follows with eight points. Kenya, with four points, sits in third place, while Namibia is yet to register a point.

The top two teams in each group will secure qualification to the AFCON 2025 Finals, making this fixture critical for both Cameroon and Zimbabwe as they vie for qualification.

Meanwhile, Tanzanian Match Commissioner Khalid Abdallah will oversee the Group J qualifier between Kenya and Na-

mibia in Uganda, also scheduled for November 19.

Additionally, Leslie Liunda will serve as the referees' assessor for the AFCON qualification match between South Africa and South Sudan, which will take place at Cape Town Stadium.

AFCON 2025 is set to be hosted by Morocco, marking the country's second time organizing the tournament and the first since 1988.

Matches will be held in six major cities,

including Casablanca, Rabat, and Marrakech.

The tournament will kick off on December 21, 2025, and conclude on January 18, 2026, just a few months before the start of the 2026 FIFA World Cup in the United States, Canada, and Mexico.

Originally, Guinea was slated to host AFCON 2025, but CAF reassigned hosting duties to Morocco due to Guinea's inability to meet infrastructure and logistical requirements.



## Dortmund slumps to another loss at Augsburg as Leipzig tops the Bundesliga

By JAMES ELLINGWORTH

BORUSSIA Dortmund's awful away form continued in a 2-1 loss to Augsburg in the Bundesliga on Saturday that increases the pressure on coach Nuri Sahin.

Dortmund's fourth loss in a row in away games in all competitions – including 5-2 at Real Madrid on Tuesday – left the team seven points off new Bundesliga leader Leipzig.

The team's poor form has key players and sporting director Sebastian Kehl at a loss. "I'm annoyed by the many goals we're conceding," Kehl said. "We've been addressing this intensively but now we're standing here having to explain things that I can't explain."

Alexis Claude-Maurice made his first start since joining Augsburg in August and rewarded his new team with two goals from distance to turn the game around. Dortmund led with an early Donyell Malen goal.

The game ended with 18-year-old Dortmund defender Almugera Kabar sent off for two yellow cards on his Bundesliga debut. American forward Cole Campbell also debuted.

Sahin, who took over after Edin Terzic left following Dortmund's Champions League final loss last season, already faced scrutiny of his tactics last week after Dortmund gave up a two-goal lead in the loss at Madrid.

Sahin could be without defenders Waldemar Anton and Julian Ryerson and midfielder Marcel Sabitzer for another away game on Tuesday at Wolfsburg in the German Cup. All went off with injuries on Saturday.

Leipzig on top

Leipzig looks like two different teams, depending on which competition it's playing in.

In the Champions League, it has lost all three of its games. In the Bundesliga, Marco Rose's team leads the standings – at least until Bayern Munich plays Sunday – and is unbeaten in its eight games.

Leipzig briefly looked like bringing its Champions League form to the Bundesliga before a second-half comeback to beat Freiburg 3-1.

Poor marking allowed Ritsu Doan to head Freiburg in front in the 15th – the first goal Leipzig conceded in the Bundesliga since Aug. 31. Goals from defenders Willi Orban and Lutsharel Geertruida got Leipzig back into the game before Lois Openda scored from a tight angle to secure the win.

With attacking midfielder Xavi Simons set to be out for weeks with an ankle ligament injury sustained in Leipzig's 1-0 loss to Liverpool on Wednesday, teammates Castello Lukeba and Amadou Haidara raised his shirt in tribute.

Leverkusen drops points

Late goals were key to Bayer Leverkusen's title win last season. It went the other way on Saturday as Romano Schmid's 90th-minute goal salvaged a 2-2 draw for Werder Bremen and dropped Leverkusen five points off the lead.

Victor Boniface scored Leverkusen's opening goal, playing with his hand bandaged after a car crash which caused him to miss Wednesday's 1-1 Champions League draw at Brest. Three of Leverkusen's last four games in all competitions have been draws.

El Bilal Touré scored a vital goal in Stuttgart's 1-0 win over Juventus on Tuesday in the Champions League, and the Mali forward did it again on Saturday with a goal and assist to beat Holstein Kiel 2-1.

Touré surged for most of the length of the field on a counterattack to set up Deniz Undav for Stuttgart's first goal and scored the second with an audacious long-range shot.

That gave Stuttgart a much-needed first Bundesliga win in over a month, but only after surviving the last half-hour with 10 men after Jeff Chabot earned two yellow cards in the space of three minutes.

Also, Wolfsburg drew at St. Pauli 0-0.

AP

## Renard back to coach Saudi Arabia after Mancini exits

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia

HERVE Renard was hired to coach Saudi Arabia for a second time on Saturday, two days after the departure of Roberto Mancini.

"I'm back," Renard said in a social media video posted by the Saudi Arabia Football Federation.

The Frenchman most recently coached France women to the Paris Olympics quarterfinals.

He was previously in charge of Saudi Arabia from 2019-23, a tenure that included a famous 2-1 win over Argentina at the 2022 World Cup in Qatar.

"I did not intend to leave (Saudi). But when your country knocks on your door you have to respond," Renard said. "My connection with Saudi, the fans, the players and all the memories – I can never forget. I did not finish my story with Saudi."

Renard's contract will run until the end of 2025 with an option to extend until the 2027 Asian Cup, which will be hosted in Saudi Arabia for the first time.

Mancini was hired by Saudi Arabia in August 2023 having led Italy to victory at the 2021 European Championship. But the serial trophy winner was quickly under pressure after an underwhelming Asian Cup in January and an exit in the round of 16. AP

# Real Madrid's Galácticos humbled in El Clásico by Barcelona's bold trap and rampant attack

By Henry Bushnell

ON one side of El Clásico, there was Kylian Mbappé. There were Vinícius Jr. and Jude Bellingham. There were the reigning European champions, the latest wave of Galácticos, the most feared attack in soccer, the reason Real Madrid was the overwhelming favorite to win La Liga.

And on the other, the Barcelona side, there was zero fear.

There was, instead, a bold offside trap that foiled and frustrated Real Madrid; and, in the second half, there was Robert Lewandowski.

Lewandowski scored twice in three minutes Saturday to silence Madrid's palatial Santiago Bernabéu Stadium and break open the season's first Clásico. Barca's teen sensation, Lamine Yamal, eventually added a third goal. Soon thereafter, Raphinha sealed a deserved 4-0 victory.

But the story of the game unspooled in a fascinating first half. Again and again, Real Madrid raced forward. And again and again, Mbappé was thwarted by a strategy that, pundits insisted, Barcelona surely wouldn't employ against the champs.

Under German manager Hansi Flick, Barca has pressed and squeezed opponents into submission this season. Forwards have hunted the ball. Defenders have held a perilously high line that restricts space in



Hansi Flick installed a high line to get the better of Real Madrid (Getty Images)

front of them, tilts the field and allows Barca to play on the front foot for 90 madcap minutes.

But if it did that against Mbappé and Vini, the thinking went, with so much space behind it, it would get punished.

"If they play like that, they'll concede goal after goal after goal," ESPN color commentator Steve McManaman warned as Saturday's game got underway.

Barca, though, never flinched. It not only "played like that," it played the high line expertly. It caught Real

Madrid offside eight times in the game's first 36 minutes. (Eight! In 36 minutes!) Mbappé mis-timed run after run. Fans at the Bernabéu thrashed their arms in fury – but every single call was the correct one, because Barca's midfield was active and its defenders in-sync.

In the 30th minute, Mbappé scored, but VAR overturned the goal because he was off by half a body length.

Vini broke the trap once, but dragged his shot wide of the near post. And that, officially, was the only shot Real Madrid managed in the

entire first half – because the rest were annulled by an assistant referee's flag.

For most of the half, Barca seemed to be skating on proverbial thin ice. But under Flick – who implemented similar styles at the helm of Bayern Munich and the German national team – the Catalan kids have already grown comfortable with peril. They've accepted the inherent pitfalls of the strategy. They've bought into the belief that benefits outweigh risk. And they've flourished.

They've created more Expected Goals (xG) than any other team in Europe's Big Five leagues by a massive margin. They've now scored 37 goals in 11 La Liga games.

They've also caught opponents offside a whopping 77 times, more than twice as many as any other top-flight team in Spain, England, Germany or Italy.

All because they "have the balls to play a defensive line that high," as defensive midfielder Marc Casadó said postgame in Spanish. "It's incredible. And at the moment, it's working."

On Saturday, Mbappé finally beat their trap in the 71st minute. But his shot was saved, and besides, by then, Barca's rampant attack had done its thing. Casadó unlocked Real Madrid with a lovely through ball. Lewandowski beat Madrid's sloppy offside trap for his first of two goals.

His second was a header. Yamal and Raphinha then added to the tally. Real Ma-

drid, curiously, felt like the team that was fazed by a grand occasion. And Barca, with the emphatic win, leapt to 30 points, six clear of Madrid atop La Liga.

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\*yahoo/sports

## Guardiola 'will learn' from Southampton boss Martin

By Simon Stone

SOUTHAMPTON were beaten at Manchester City, as most people expected.

They are bottom of the Premier League, with a single point from their first nine games of the season.

Manager Russell Martin is under pressure, despite guiding Saints back to the top flight only five months ago.

But a strange thing happened at Etihad Stadium.

Speaking to the media after Saturday's match, both managers heaped praise on the beaten team.

It was not so much that they were unlucky to lose. If Erling Haaland had a better day, he would have scored more than just the fifth-minute match-winner.

Manchester City beat Southampton in an open game – not just because they found a way through a blanket defence.

Towards the end of the first half, the visitors had the majority of possession. It was down to 42.3% by the end. As a guide, City's previous two opponents, Sparta Prague and Wolves, have had 20.1% and 22.4% respectively.

If Southampton are to go down, or Martin is to lose his job, it will be by committing to a game-plan he believes in.

"I took the job [at MK Dons] nearly five years ago, with the club in the League One relegation zone and the chairman saying he didn't care if they got relegated if he could see something he believed in and could be



Southampton manager Russell Martin was praised by counterpart Pep Guardiola after Manchester City's 1-0 win at Etihad Stadium. Agencies

proud of," said Martin.

"There have been some moments of real difficulty at MK and Swansea and here, where you get questioned and have to make a big decision.

"But if I end up losing my job at some point, which is inevitable, at least I can say I have stuck to what I want to be, as a person first, then a leader and then as a manager.

"To get to the Premier League and then change would be illogical. I cannot stand on the sidelines watching something I don't feel connected with or love. I don't see the point in that."

That requires Southampton's players to have courage to take the ball in tight areas, carry on passing when the pressure is at its greatest and not allow poor results or adversity to change that mindset.

\*Guardiola and Foden

praise Martin

The circumstances are significantly different – given the size of the club he was going into, and the knowledge he could call on generational talents in Xavi and Andres Iniesta, and the man he regards as the greatest ever in Lionel Messi – but Pep Guardiola needed to do something similar

when he was given the Barcelona job, aged 37 – a year younger than Martin is now.

Now revered as one of the greatest managers in history, Guardiola appreciates what Martin is doing and even feels there are aspects of Southampton's play he can learn from.

"We were not sloppy,

we were not flat, but we struggled to regain the ball because they are really good," said the City boss.

"I'm a spectator. I prefer the players to get the ball to feet, not the teeth.

"When I see the opponent do the things I like to do with my team and they do it really well, I make a compliment.

"I'm sure I will learn, there were some movements, the reasons why they do things, the movements they make to link to the striker. It's not easy."

He added on Sky Sports: "It's a good game to learn as a manager. I am going to learn a lot with Russell because they did really well."

Guardiola did not just praise Martin to the media, he also spoke to the Saints boss straight after the final whistle – and Martin revealed City and England playmaker Phil Foden had also done so.

"They felt we were really brave with the ball and did stuff not many teams do," said Martin.

"It is not easy to play

that way but he probably understands it more than anyone.

"I have seen so many teams promoted and get nowhere. If we lose I can accept it when the lads show a level of courage like they did today. If they do that here they can do it anywhere.

"I will live and die by the sword for what I believe in. If we keep playing like we did today we will have some fun and be all right."

Fun might be an extreme way of describing Southampton's current predicament.

Pressure can scramble the mind and – after throwing away a victory against Ipswich in injury time and losing a two-goal lead in the final half-hour against Leicester – the forthcoming games against Everton and Wolves look huge for Martin and his side's survival hopes.

If the former Scotland international can really have fun in games like that, he deserves all the success that comes his way. BBC

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

Real Madrid's Galácticos humbled in El Clásico by Barcelona's bold trap and rampant attack

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## Simba coach Davids highlights squad depth after dominant victory over Namungo FC

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

SIMBA Sports Club head coach Fadlu Davids has lauded the fierce competition within his squad, emphasizing the club's depth and versatility, which gives him multiple reliable options across all positions.

Davids shared these views following his team's 3-0 victory over Namungo FC last Friday.

The commanding win underscored Simba's strength in depth, with contributions from various players.

Right-back Shomari Kapombe opened the scoring just four minutes in after a powerful strike from striker Steve Mukwala rebounded off the crossbar, allowing Kapombe to finish.

New recruit Ahoua doubled the lead in the 33rd minute with a precise shot inside the 18-yard box, converting a well-placed cross from Mukwala.

Later, substitute Debora Fernandes sealed the win in the 86th minute, powering a left-footed shot into the net after receiving a clean pass from Leonel Ateba.

Davids praised the competitive environment within the squad, especially in the midfield. "Every player given the opportunity to play is performing exceptionally well. It's a challenge in terms of team selection, but it's a great asset to have so many strong options," he said.

One standout player for Davids was midfielder Joshua Mutale. After a slow start to the season, Mutale showcased a marked improvement in his performance against Namungo, reflecting the positive effects of internal competition on his development.

"Mutale's display was impressive; he's clearly found his momentum and is responding well to the competitive atmosphere within the team," Davids noted.

Davids also addressed recent criticism surrounding Fabrice Ngoma, reiterating Ngoma's value as both a player and a leader within the squad.

"Ngoma is a vital member of this team. He understands what's needed and sets the standard for others," Davids said. "Each player now knows what's expected of them; they just need to compete for their spot."

Davids' strategy of rotation was also evident in his decision to start left-back Valentine Nouma, giving regular starter Mohamed Hussein, popularly known as 'Tshabalala,' a rest due to his extensive involvement in both club and national duties.

The move underscores Davids' commitment to managing player workload while maintaining the team's competitive edge.

In attack, Davids utilized a mix of emerging and seasoned talent. Mukwala played a key role with his assist for the opening goal, while Ateba, coming off the bench, provided the assist for the final goal, showcasing the depth in Simba's offensive options.

"There was a strong balance in our attack, with both Mukwala and Ateba proving valuable. Competition is fierce across every position," Davids added.

The victory brings Simba's points tally to 19, positioning them third in the NBC Premier League standings after eight matches. With a robust defense and productive attack, Simba are firmly in the title race.

Looking ahead, Simba face a tight schedule with matches against JKT Tanzania tomorrow, followed by away fixtures against Mashujaa FC on November 1, KMC FC on November 5, and Pamba Jiji FC on November 21.

Davids views these matches as opportunities to further test his squad's depth and adaptability.

"For me, the focus is not necessarily on the best individual players but on building the best cohesive team," he emphasized, stressing the importance of a unified squad over individual talent.

Simba's recent form reflects Davids' approach of nurturing internal competition to maintain high standards across all positions.

With standout performances from players like Mutale, Ngoma, Kapombe, and Mukwala, the coach remains optimistic about his squad's potential as they pursue their league title ambitions.

# Gamondi hails hard-fought win against Coastal Union



By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

DEFENDING champions Young Africans SC continued their flawless run in the NBC Premier League, securing a 1-0 victory over Coastal Union at the Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium in Arusha.

The win, courtesy of a 25th-minute strike by Democratic Republic of Congo forward Jean Baleke, propelled Young Africans to the second place in the league standings with 21 points, just ahead of rivals Simba SC.

The decisive moment came from a corner taken by Young Africans' Maxi Nzengele. Coastal

Union's defense struggled to clear the ball, allowing Baleke to pounce and score his first goal of the season, showcasing his offensive capabilities following his recent transfer from Libyan club Al Ittihad.

Head coach Miguel Gamondi (pictured) praised his team's resilience in tough conditions.

"Three points are very important, especially with this away win in a challenging stadium," Gamondi

stated. "It was hard to play our usual football on this pitch. Coastal Union faced similar challenges, which impacted both teams. This is an area that needs attention for the improvement of Tanzanian football."

Gamondi expressed some dissatisfaction with the team's first-half performance, noting adjustments he made at halftime. He also highlighted concerns about officiating, emphasizing the importance of

fair play to uphold the league's standards.

Young Africans maintained their defensive strength despite the absence of their first-choice goalkeeper, Mali international Djigui Diarra.

Backup goalkeeper Khoimeiny Aboubakar, who joined the team this season, secured his first clean sheet, complementing the six already achieved by Diarra.

Coastal Union showed early promise, creating a chance in the 9th minute when Maabad Maulid's powerful header struck the post. However, Young Africans gradually took control, albeit with their passing game limited by the field's conditions.

The second half saw Gamondi introduce Prince Dube, Clatous Chama, Pacome Zouzoua, Duke Abuya, and Aziz Andambwile, injecting momentum into the attack and generating additional scoring opportunities.

Coastal Union nearly equalized in the 71st minute when Gerson Gwalala narrowly missed an open

goal. Zouzoua also came close to adding a second goal for Young Africans but couldn't capitalize on his skillful dribbling past three defenders. In the final minutes, Dube missed a clear shot on goal, leaving the scoreline unchanged.

With this victory, Young Africans extended their unbeaten start to seven games, achieving seven consecutive wins and scoring a total of 12 goals.

They now hold second place with 21 points, trailing Singida Black Stars, who have 22 points from eight games. With one less game played, Young Africans are well-positioned to reclaim the league's top spot.

Coastal Union, meanwhile, fell to 11th place with eight points, facing increased mid-table competition after KMC's 2-1 victory over Tanzania Prisons at Mbeya's Sokoine Stadium.

The defending champions' season has so far been marked by tactical discipline and defensive resilience, as they continue to impress without conceding a single goal in the league.

## Mwanzani triumphs in Dar Gymkhana Club Monthly Mug tournament

By Correspondent Japheth Kazenga

DAR ES SALAAM Gymkhana Club (DGC) golfer Julius Mwanzani laid his hands on October's Monthly Mug showdown silverware at the club last weekend.

The golfer carded 71 net to beat the rest of the performers to the title in men's Division A of the monthly competition aiming at raising the standard of the game locally.

Sheiza Bhanji, playing off five handicaps, settled for second place in the division, having ended with 72 net.

In men's Division B, Godfrey Kilenga had the last laugh, having notched 72 net, and Khalaf Rashid secured second place, even though the player posted a similar score, losing to the former via count-back.

Ally Azam was the men's Division C winner - notching 71 net - and William Ferentinos secured the division's runner-up position after carding 77 net.

Experienced golfer Ayne Magombe won the Ladies Division Silver Category - with the seven-handicap golfer notching 72 net.

Yasmin Chali, playing off 18 handicaps, took second place with 82 net, whereas Anita Siwale settled for third place with 83 net.

Rashid Rashid was the men's category guest winner, having posted 73 net, and Asteria Kinunda secured the women's category guest winner silverware with 101 net.

Mwanzani went on to garner the men's category Longest Drive title, while Ayne was victorious in the women's category Longest Drive challenge.

Kain Mbaya took the men's Nearest to the Pin prize.

Paul Ngangaji, the Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA) Supervision Officer, was the tournament's closing ceremony guest of



Dar es Salaam Golf Club (DGC) golfers who excelled in the outfit's October Monthly Mug competition in a group photo with the event's sponsors at the club last Sunday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

honour.

Ngangaji lauded tournament sponsors ICEA Lion General Insurance for overseeing a wonderful showdown.

He further heaped praises on the sponsors for their creativity, promoting insurance, and valuing the government's call on citizens to participate, promote, and develop sports in the country.

Ngangaji was adamant that apart from registering insurance companies, protecting the insurance consumer is one of TIRA's objectives.

He added that they are delighted insurance companies are creative when it comes to reaching out to golfers who constitute the customers.

Lilian Mbassy, Managing Director of TIB Development Bank, who also serves as one of ICEA Lion's Board Members, affirmed that several other high-profile tournaments are slated to take place.

ICEA Lion General Insurance's Chief Executive Officer, Jared Awando, ex-

pressed gratitude to the DGC for offering his firm the opportunity to sponsor the second Monthly Mug event.

He further appreciated the golfers for taking their time to turn up and battle it out in the competition.

He said they would, next year, bring Kenya and Uganda golfers to play in the competition.

"I want to thank players for taking your time to come and play in the tournament, you could use your time in other endeavours," he said.

He lauded his team from ICEA Lion for a job well done, adding that he brought them to motivate them to play golf.

Iman Alfayo, the DGC Golf Section's Competition Secretary, thanked players for the good turn out as over 70 golfers took part in the showdown.

The official said the Monthly Mug showdown has been extremely successful for months.

The Division A winner, Mwanzani, appreciated the tournament's spon-

sors and organizers for facilitating a wonderful event.

The player stated he was delighted by his triumph, adding he had a great day on the course given everything went on smoothly.

Mwanzani further thanked his sponsor, Azam, for his support, adding that the backing has been extremely beneficial to the youthful golfer.

"Azam has been quite helpful to me and has boosted my talent, I hardly have a much better way to express my regards, he has helped me play golf in and outside the country," Mwanzani, 18-year-old national junior team golfer, disclosed.

Azam, also one of the October Monthly Mug showdown winners, stated that Mwanzani is a talented youthful golfer, therefore, he feels great that he is the player's sponsor.

The experienced golfer noted that they had embarked on serious preparations for the competition and he appreciates their efforts have paid off.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

MY FATHER HAILS FROM ICELAND... AND MY MOTHER IS A CUBAN...



THAT MAKES YOU AN ICE CUBE!

