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WFP: Sorghum market in South Sudan reliable

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

SORGHUM farmers in the country can make a fortune if they increase production, thanks to a ready local and export market especially South Sudan.

Last year, six sorghum producing districts in Dodoma Region alone produced 28,000 tonnes under UN World Food Programme (WFP) that was all sold.

WFP's Dodoma Office Representative Neema Sitta said apart from the tonnage of the crop produced, they failed to export to South Sudan an extra 10,000 that was needed.

Sitta said they received the order for 10,000 tonnes but could not export the crop as it was all sold to internal buyers.

She added that Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL) is the largest internal buyer of sorghum via contract farming for farmers as well as adding value to the crop.

"As of now TBL, and another exporter, Ali Juma are the biggest buyers of sorghum, and apart from South Sudan, the crop is also in great demand by a Burundi brewery firm," said Neema.

She explained that in the last season TBL bought more than 8,000 tonnes of the crop and Ali Juma exported 20,000 tonnes.

"Market demand is still very high, for instance, the brewery in Burundi alone needs 5,000 tonnes of sorghum and if you add other buyers, the crop's production hardly meets the big market."

As of now TBL, and another exporter, Ali Juma are the biggest buyers of sorghum, and apart from South Sudan, the crop is also in great demand by a Burundi brewery firm,

She said WFP, in collaboration with farm Africa continue to mobilise farmers by educating them on how to increase the production of the cereal in order to meet the ever rising demand.

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Mbowe: Let's do more on democracy, justice

By Guardian Reporter

CHADEMA national Chairman Freeman Mbowe yesterday lifted the lid on what transpired in his meeting with President Samia Suluhu Hassan on Friday, saying they agreed to pursue democracy and justice in the days ahead.

"For so long, we have been talking about peace as a country, it is time for us to start talking justice without which there can be no peace," he said.

Mbowe spoke at Azania Front Cathedral of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT) where he attended a thanksgiving service after being set free on Friday alongside three other accused persons in a terrorism case.

"I requested President Samia that it was better now we all leave party differences aside and starting preaching about justice and democracy. This will strengthen national unity and thus be able to push the country's development," he said.

He called upon religious leaders to also change the narrative and ensure that they preach about justice "as by doing so, peace will come automatically."

"We should pursue peace, justice in elections, national and international justice in legal and security organs," he said.

He said that while on prison, he observed a lot of things but the best thing he takes out of that episode is the concern shown by various people inside and outside the country.

"I have stayed in custody for eight months. I have seen a lot, but I thank God that I was happy and felt peace always. I was receiving guests and this time I felt better as I remember there was a day where I received over 200 guests," he said.

He said: "I remember when I came out of prison, journalists requested me to address the public, but I felt it wasn't right time, wishing to see my family and fellow members of the party."

"I will also not talk a lot today, but really

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We should pursue peace, justice in elections, national and international justice in legal and security organs,



Dr Edmund Mndolwa (R), Chairman of the Tanzania Commercial Bank board of directors, gifts Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi a drawing in Zanzibar at the weekend shortly after the president opened a 'Women and Business' forum organised by the bank. Looking on (L-R) are Zanzibar Chief Secretary Zena Ahmed Said, TCB chief executive officer Sabasaba Moshingi and Zanzibar Health, Social Welfare, Elders, Gender and Children minister Nassor Ahmed Mazrui. Photo: State House

Govt wants one supplier in key SGR rolling stock

By Correspondent James Kandoya

WORKS and Transport minister Prof Makame Mbarawa has tasked the Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) to purchase locomotives and wagons for the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) from one supplier for ease of price bargaining and maintenance.

So far, TRC has ordered 30 passenger wagons and two locomotives worth euro 26.6m from Germany and 59 long distance coaches worth

People want to see the trains start operation and reduce congestion at the port

\$58m from South Korea. Moreover, TRC has also signed a

contract worth \$127.2m with CRRC Corporation, a Chinese rolling stock manufacturer to supply 1,430 modern freight wagons.

Speaking during a tour of the SGR from Dar es Salaam station to Kwala workshop in Coast Region over the weekend, the minister said TRC should focus on a single supplier in order to have systems that can be harmonized.

He said the procured rolling stocks come with manufacturer's technol-

ogy which differs one from the other and as a result, the company will incur costs of training many engineers for a particular technology.

"Let's be smart as the government does for its vehicles - Toyota version. It did not happen by chance, there are specific reasons, let's take it as a lesson," he said.

"One of the advantages is that

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NSSF extends IWD support to Zanzibar referral hospital

By Guardian Correspondent

IN marking International Women's Day (March 8), the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) donated medical equipment to Zanzibar's Mnazi Mmoja Referral Hospital at the weekend.

NSSF Public Relations and Education Manager Lulu Mengele represented Director General Masha Mshomba in

Zanzibar in presenting labour and delivery beds as well as blood pressure screening machines to the hospital's CEO, Dr Msafiri Marijani. The official slogan for this year's IWD is 'Generation of Justice and Equality for Sustainable Development', which Mengele said is what had prompted the Fund into extending "this gesture of goodwill" to the public hospi-

We have received this support at a time when demand for medical equipment at the hospital is very high. The government has been doing its utmost to equipment and supplies, but there is still a shortage

tal. Receiving the consignment on behalf of Zanzibar's Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children ministry as well as the hospital, Dr Marijani thanked NSSF "for this assistance which is sure to help us in offering crucial services to people coming to us for

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Mbowe: Let's do more on democracy and justice

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appreciate the big support from inside and in the international community while in remand. I don't know how to repay their sacrifice and love," he told the gathering.

The party's national leader also said that many people were expecting that he would come out of prison full of anger, but he decided to be calm and make peace with everyone.

Mbowe said, he was eager to see the case going until the end so as to witness which evidence would be brought to show that he was guilty, but was relieved for the prosecution side removing the case as he was pretty sure he was not guilty.

On Friday, President Samia met with Mbowe at the State House in Dar es Salaam; hours after prosecutors dropped terrorism charges against him and set him free.

The State House communications directorate said in a statement that President Samia emphasized the need to join hands to build the nation, through trust and respect built on the foundations of justice.

The statement quoted Mbowe saying they had agreed to be civil in their politics, and that he would cooperate with the government in its quest to develop the country.

Last Friday, Mbowe and three others were set free after the DPP dropped terrorism charges against them.

The decision to drop the case was greeted with chants, songs and jubilation across the country, turning a new page in the country's political itinerary.

Chadema supporters who thronged the courtroom set for the Corruption and Economic Crimes Division of the High Court on what was to be the start of the accused to defend themselves broke into joy as the DPP's decision was read out.



Dar es Salaam-based entrepreneur Betty Mkwa (gesturing) briefs Dr Selemani Jafo (to her right), Minister of State in Vice President Office (Union and Environment), yesterday at one of the pavilions at a women's exhibition in progress at the city's Mnazi Mmoja. It is organised by the Tanzania Women Chamber of Commerce. Left is the chamber's chairperson, Mercy Sila. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

WFP: Sorghum market in South Sudan reliable

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For his part, the supervisor of

Kongwa Sorghum Sustainable farming from farm Africa, MeshackPanga said they continue with efforts to assist farmers to increase sorghum pro-

duction.

"This is a very good opportunity for farmers here in Kongwa, as well as in other districts implementing this pro-

ject, sorghum demand is high hence more efforts by farmers are needed to meet the demand," he added.

Julius Magara, a sorghum farmer in

Kongwa District said the ready availability of the market gives them the motivation to grow the crop using better farming practices.



National Social Security Fund public relations and public education manager Lulu Mengele presents medical equipment to Dr Msafiri Marijani (3rd-L, foreground), Managing Director of Zanzibar's Mnazi Mmoja Referral Hospital, in Zanzibar at the weekend. The support was meant as a goodwill gesture to add value to celebrations to mark International Women's Day (March 8). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Polio vaccination starts on March 21

By Guardian Correspondent,

Mbeya

AUTHORITIES in Mbeya Region plans to start vaccination against polio for children in the zero to 15-year age group as protection against the disease.

The regional vaccination coordinator, Danford Barnabas said the exercise will begin March 21 with health workers visiting households to vaccinate children.

He said they have reached the decision as part of efforts to protect children against polio infection which has already been reported in Malawi, bordering the region.

One person has been reported to have the disease, he said, warning that the disease is deadly, "it has no cure hence we must take early precautions, including vaccinating children."

In addition to preparations to reach all children in the region for vaccination, the community needs to ensure that whoever is seen with symptoms of the disease is immediately brought to the nearest health centre for medical examination.

The community must adhere to cleanliness and personal hygiene like washing of hands with soap and running water and clean preparation of food, he stated.

So far more than 20 samples were referred to laboratories for identification for traces of polio bacteria and all those who were examined were found to be clear of the disease.

"For more than 15 years, polio has not been reported in the East Africa region but now it is reported that it has been in Malawi and since Tanzania borders with the country, we must take precautions," he emphasised.

Reporters who participated in the training to report on vaccination issues including Hobokela Lwina said the community is supposed to be educated about the disease as soon as possible.

Govt wants one supplier in key SGR rolling stock

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TRC capacity to bargain will increase and therefore, it will procure more rolling stocks at a reduced cost," he asserted.

Furthermore, there will be fewer engineers to deal with maintenance as they become accustomed to the manufacturer's technology

Failure to do that, TRC will incur the cost of training more engineers for each particular technology coming with the rolling stocks which is costlier, he said.

Prof Mbarawa urged the TRC management to ensure

the remaining five percent for the Dar es Salaam-Morogoro section is completed on time.

"We want now to see the construction for the remaining part reaches the end before the test drive starts next month," he said

"People want to see the trains start operation and reduce congestion at the port," he added.

TRC Director General Masanja Kadogosa said the management was aware of the issue, affirming that the Minister's note of caution will be taken up for implementation.

He said TRC was working

hard to ensure the construction for the Dar es Salaam-Morogoro section (remaining five percent) comes to an end.

"We are taking all directions into implementation starting with the latest technology installed in all stations starting with Dar es Salaam (Tanzanite station)," he said.

Kwala workshop construction was nearly finished, and was waiting for machines to be installed that will arrive together with rolling stock, he stated.

On February 8 this year, TRC signed a \$127.2m contract with CRRC to supply 1,430 freight wagons.

NSSF extends to Zanzibar's Mnazi Mmoja hospital IWD assistance

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medical advice and attention". "We have received this support at a time when demand for medical equipment at the hospital is very high. The government has been doing its utmost to equipment and supplies, but there is still a shortage," he said, thanking NSSF, ZSSF (Zanzibar Social Security Fund and various other stakeholders for complementing efforts by the government.

He promised to ensure that all the medical supplies and equipment coming the hospitals way would continue to be used as intended.

Mengele meanwhile explained that it was after being notified by the hospital's management on the need for medical equipment that the Fund decided to chip in with support them "as one of our CSR (corporate social responsibility) initiatives to coincide with the commemoration of International Women's Day".

"On behalf of the Director General, NSSF thanks our ZSSF colleagues for enhancing the partnership between our two Funds, which benefits our people," she added.

She pointed out that alongside fulfilling its core functions including registering members from the private and informal sectors, investing the collections in various projects and paying out various benefits, NSSF contributes to the social welfare of Tanzanians particularly in the health, education and sports sectors.

NSSF Women chairperson Vaileth Segeja said they had extended support to the Zanzibar medical facility "because the Fund has a donation and sponsorship policy for providing much-needed assistance of the kind we have given". ZSSF administrative officer Nassor Hassan described part of the main function of social security funds as "protecting the community in the event of emergencies, including the outbreak of diseases and making life-saving interventions as need arises".



President Samia Suluhu Hassan has a feel of one of the digitalised services provided by CRDB Bank Plc. This was when she graced the inauguration of the bank's newly completed headquarters building in Dar es Salaam on Saturday. From L-foreground: Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba, CRDB chief executive office and managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela and CRDB board chairman Dr Ally Hussein Laay. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Samia graces opening of CRDB head offices

By Correspondent James Kandoya

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has commended the CRDB PLC investment at the new bank headquarters in Dar es Salaam.

The president made the commendation on Saturday when officially inaugurating the bank's head offices along the fashionable Ali Hassan Mwinyi Road in the commercial capital.

The event was attended by ministers and deputy ministers, diplomats, heads of public institutions, private sector executives and various other stakeholders.

She said the new bank headquarters not only demonstrates the strength of the bank but also indicates the growth of the financial sector and the private sector as a whole.

"I would like to commend CRDB for building a good facility, modern and having international standards, meeting staff and customers' demand. From what I have seen, you deserve congratulations," the president affirmed, noting how the new facility, a few hundred meters from its old six-storey offices, changes the sky-

line.

She praised the bank for being a leading financial institution through massive investments made to different groups and for development efforts generally. The bank has been reducing interests for farmers from 20 per cent to nine per cent at present, she said.

"I'm happy to see our local bank becomes the first to respond to the government's call of reducing interest rates to stimulate the economy. It has also offered a lot to farmers as agriculture is the backbone of the economy," she stated.

Furthermore, the bank had shown great financial capacity by collaborating with the government to support strategic projects, which other financial institutions need to take up, to development to the people, she said.

CRDB board chairman Dr Ally Laay expressed gratitude to the president for readiness to officiate at the bank headquarters opening, after four years of construction work.

The opening of the new headquarters indicates the bank's preparedness to improve the economy and strengthen the

financial sector in the country, he stated.

"The new offices are a sign of innovation and quality as our business philosophy but also involve strength, security and sustainable growth of the bank and the community that has given us trust," he declared.

CRDB executive director Abdulmajid Nsekela said the new facility initiates the journey of becoming a leading bank in the region, an important link enabling collaboration between Tanzania and neighbouring countries.

The bank headquarters building is modern, installed with the latest technology systems that enable staff to work at maximum capacity, he stated.

Apart from offices, the branch has a special customers' premier club and digital banking area, for customers' self-service.

The building features services such as restaurants, a library, kids playing areas, gym and digital archives where CRDB becomes the first financial institution with such facilities, demonstrate the growth of the financial sector in the country, he added.

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PRESS RELEASE

Date: Monday, March 7, 2022

EXPANDING CREDIT ACCESS TO SCALE-UP THE USE OF HERMETIC STORAGE IN TANZANIA (CASH-TZ) A USAID BHA STRATEGIC INVESTMENT TO ACCELERATE ACCESS TO HERMETIC STORAGE TECHNOLOGIES BY SMALLHOLDER FARMERS IN TANZANIA

Access to credit can help smallholder farmers improve crop productivity and improve access and use of agricultural technologies such as hermetic storage. In an effort to improve smallholder farmers' livelihoods, the CASH-Tz partnership, funded by the USAID's Bureau of Humanitarian Assistance, was launched in 2021 by a consortium of private and public organizations in Tanzania led by Purdue University in the United States. USAID/BHA has contributed USD \$550,000 funding to the GDA partnership, leveraging more than USD \$ 1.00 million in private sector investment from TADB and PPTL.

Leveraging on existing and successful agricultural productivity partnerships between TADB and RUDI/BRITEN in the Southern Highlands of Tanzania over the past few years, Purdue University brought together private and public stakeholders. The alliance aims to pursue a market-based approach that facilitates smallholder farmers' access to hermetic storage technology.

This three-year project uses a financing mechanism called the Collateral Management Agreement (CMA) Model to bridge loans to

cover farmers' immediate cash needs at harvest so that they will not be tempted to sell their produce when the price is at its lowest. Farmers will use the surplus maize stored in PICS bags and secured in warehouses as collateral for loans to be received from the bank. Smallholder farmers should be able to make additional income by selling the hermetically stored maize to commodity buyers in the lean season.

The CASH-Tz partnership has made a strategic investment in Kilimo Data Hub, a digital platform designed in Tanzania by Bizy Tech Limited that accelerates financial service provision and scaling of hermetic storage bags through collection of farmers' demand data and provision of a seamless mode of accessing loans via phone by smallholder farmers.

CASH-Tz proposes hermetic technologies adoption as an alternative to chemical control methods to secure maize stored under the CMA program. The project will ensure increased use and availability of hermetic bags among smallholder farmers through awareness building and supply chain activities by the private sector and development partners.

"This project will be a win-win for farmers and the private sector

as access to finance will increase the income of smallholder farmers and scale the adoption of hermetic bags," says Project Director Dr. Baributsa of Purdue University. With six partners from the USA and Tanzania, the three-year GDA, can make great advances in the best practices and novel technologies ready for global markets. Suraj Devani, Director of PPTL notes, "We strive to use the modalities within our reach as partners to ensure that we embrace recent technological advancements to improve the current mode of doing business as well as the livelihoods of our farmers."

Consortium Partners:
 Pee Pee Tanzania Limited- PPTL, Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank-TADB, Purdue University, Rural-Urban Development Initiatives- RUDI, Building Rural Incomes Through Entrepreneurship- BRITEN, Bizy Tech Limited, Tanzania NMB Bank, International Institute of Tropical Agriculture- IITA, Farmers' Groups

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Nanyumbu tuned to major water project

By Guardian Correspondent, Mtwara

OVER 3,000 residents in Mitumbati and Namijati villages of Mkonona ward, Nanyumbu district, Mtwara Region are set to benefit from a mega water project worth 1.3bn/- implemented by the government through the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (RUWASA).

The funds are part of the 1.3trn/- loan provided by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to support Tanzania's efforts in responding to the Covid-19 pandemic by addressing the urgent health, humanitarian, and economic costs.

Speaking during the handing over of equipment for the project, RUWASA acting manager in Nanyumbu, Simon Mchucha said the project was handed to a contractor, Kharton Traders Co. Ltd.

He said that President Samia Suluhu Hassan has issued the funds to implement the projects and ensure that residents are supplied with enough clean and safe water.

Mchucha said the project commenced officially on December 29 and is expected to be completed by on April 30, this year benefiting a total of 3,285 residents in the two villages.

He said the water project will provide relief to the villagers who have for a long time been

suffering due to scarcity of safe water.

"In the project procurement of pipes, generator and pump is done by RUWASA in Nanyumbu at a cost of 712.6bn/-. We are sure that once completed the project will bring joy to the villagers who have for years been grappling with privations for the precious liquid," he explained.

Speaking, some of the villagers hailed the government for implementing the project saying that for a long time, residents in the villages have suffered due to acute shortage of clean and safe water.

Omar Nyaraka, the Mkonona ward councillor, lauded President Samia for issuing the funds for the implementation of the water project which now nears its completion.

The effort clearly shows that the government cares about citizens in extending basic services including clean and safe water, he stated.

Yahaya Rajabu, a Namijati villager, expressed the view that the project is going to address the water problem facing the population for years.

District Commissioner Mariam Churembo hailed the sixth phase government under President Samia for valuing people, promising to supervise the project well.



Rotary Club of Dar es Salaam president Sati Gadhvi (3rd-L) with projects director Nikki Aggarwal (2nd-L) and Rotarian Hamza Kassongo (L) pictured yesterday symbolically presenting 117 desks to Kivukoni the city's Kivukoni ward councillor, Sharik Choughule (2nd R), the club has extended assistance to Bunge Primary School. With them are Dar es Salaam City education officer Bertha Mayeka (R) and the school's head teacher, Leonida Mulekuzi (3rd-R). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

DCB Commercial Bank issues 500bn/- in loans over 20 years

By Guardian Reporter

IN efforts to ensure that women and youth groups in the country get out of poverty, the DCB Commercial Bank has provided at least 500bn/- in loan to support initiatives of the groups for the past 20 years.

The bank's commercial director, Zacharia Kapama said this in Dar es Salaam over the weekend at an event to celebrate the group as part of the commemorations of the tomorrow's

International Women's Day organized by Dar es Salaam city council and sponsored by DCB Commercial Bank.

Kapama said in recognition of the importance of entrepreneurial sector in the country, the bank has released at least Sh500bn to support women and youth entrepreneurs for a period of 20 years of its existence.

"DCB Commercial bank has been in the forefront to support women, youth and special

groups throughout the country and especially in Dar es Salaam City Councils," he said.

The bank's 20 years of operation in the country has focused on the provision of quality financial services and developing poverty reduction and community development projects, he stated.

DCB Commercial Bank through the DCB Foundation aiming at building the capacity of citizens, especially entrepreneurs, and the provision of

capital for economic growth, has embarked on training various groups on how to establish, promote and develop businesses.

Mwanaidi Ali Khamis, the deputy minister for Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Needs, commended the bank for its efforts in providing business and financial education to women entrepreneurs, which will help them overcome economic burdens facing them.

She urged the bank not to get tired of providing education on good business practices and marketing, as such events were important for entrepreneurs to share experience garnered in doing business.

"These events also help entrepreneurs to build business networks, exchange knowledge on creative issues and take note of business opportunities available in different areas," she said.

The deputy minister said she had great faith in entrepreneurs

and efforts made by the Dar es Salaam City Council, underlining that women need to be confident and support the efforts of President Samia Suluhu Hassan.

The president was in the forefront of extending various opportunities for women including involvement in leadership, she stated.

"President Samia is responsive, caring, an advocate of justice, a just and far-sighted leader who need the support of us all to ensure that we prosper to-

gether," she emphasised.

However, the minister urged women to ensure they repay their loans from the council on time to help other citizens to jointly get out from economic hardships.

"The journey towards an industrial economy is a collective one. Relying on city council fund alone cannot achieve our goals," she said, pointing at the need for collaborative work with development partners to move forward.



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216732701

'Women entrepreneurs must bank on quality'

By Guardian Reporter

WOMEN entrepreneurs need to produce quality and standard products to meet local and foreign markets and boost their economic status, it has been observed.

Selemani Jafo, the Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union Affairs and Environment) made this appeal in Dar es Salaam over the weekend when opening the ongoing second edition of the women entrepreneurs' trade fair.

The minister commended the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) for its excellent work and called on the organization to support women's groups so that they can be better coordinated.

He said some women face various challenges and others have not received the TBS quality mark, urging all stakeholders working with women entrepreneurs to ensure they scale the barriers for the mothers so that they can move forward.

"From what I have seen, I believe you are now well and this means that women building an economy will lead to strengthening their families and thus having a better life," he stated.

TBS quality control officer Amiri Msanjila said they participated in the exhibition as they are key stakeholders in facilitating business with the aim of educating participants on how to get quality marks, registration of cosmetics and food products.

TBS has been providing quality markers to entrepreneurs free of charge, but in order to be served they need to have an identity card from the Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO) and their capital could be up to 70m/-.


"SIDO is writing us a letter to introduce us to them. This is a small entrepreneur and when she/he brings the letter we serve her/him free of charge to cover the cost of testing," he said.

Regarding the benefits of a quality mark for a product, Msanjila said it leads to public confidence that their products are safe and meet the requirements of the standards, so they can perform the intended function.

The quality mark enables manufacturers to have their products accepted in the market because they are already certified and thus able to withstand competition.

TBS public relations and marketing manager, Gladness Kaseka, said the exhibition was a great opportunity for the organization to meet with 400 participants and convey a message related to the organisation's initiative to certify free entrepreneurial products.

Every year the government allocates more than 200m/- to cater to small entrepreneurs, "so through these exhibitions they have had the opportunity to talk to them, visit them in their booths to listen to their challenges and point them to the steps they can take to address them," she stated.



UNHCR
 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
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TENDER NOTICE

INVITATION TO BID: No. ITB/2022/SUP/006 FOR THE SUPPLY OF REGISTRATION MATERIALS

- Background:**
 The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Representation Office in Dar es Salaam invites reputable and qualified suppliers to submit firm offers for the supply of registration materials.
- Eligibility:**
 Suppliers duly registered with relevant government authorities, with sound financial basis, relevant experience, reputed clientele and with knowledge of how to meet UNHCR's requirements are invited to participate in the bidding process.

Kindly download the tender documents in the below link:
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1dnZ4Y08lZT8XuNTjb83kot-7BmBNQ-oh?usp=sharing>

If you fail to access the link, please write to ndassa@unhcr.org copy ishobeza@unhcr.org.

CRUCIAL DATES FOR THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

| | |
|---|--|
| Deadline for receiving requests for clarification | Friday 18 th March 2022 at 1800 hrs EAT |
| Deadline for submission of offers | Monday 28 th March 2022 at 1600hrs EAT |

UNHCR tenders are free of charge, no fees are charged to collect the tenders.

JICA alumna's cosmetic honey project wins award

By Correspondent James Kandoya

BEATA Minga, one of the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) alumni, has emerged first winner after demonstrating a competitive development idea that will help address challenges in rural communities and improve incomes.

Minga demonstrated a project entitled "Value Addition on Bees' Cosmetics Project", designed to build the agro-processing capacity of beekeepers.

The winners were selected from 11 demonstration projects that were competitively selected from more than 50 proposals submitted by JICA alumni.

Minga, who is also the regional manager of the Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO) Coast Region Office, designed the project.

Through the project, beekeepers are now able to produce shampoo, shower gel and body cream using honey.

"I thought it was a good opportunity to apply for the demonstration project award

and utilize what I learned in Japan, in order for beekeepers to increase their earnings by value-added products," she said.

The first four-winners were awarded certificates of appreciation by JICA's chief representative, Yamamura Naofumi.

The second award was given to the developer of the "Improvement of Virgin Coconut oil Production", while the third one went to the founder of the "Lishe Smart Project".

Additionally, a special prize was awarded to the developer of a project on "Up-scaling appropriate technologies for rice production through demonstration under irrigated conditions to smallholder farmers in the Southern Highlands of Tanzania."

Since 1962, Tanzania has acquired extensive human resource development programs through JICA's Knowledge Co-Creation Program (KCCP) in Japan.

With more than 6,500 ex-participants from a myriad of training programs by

JICA, including 90 alumni from the "Master's Degree and Internship Program of the Africa Business Education Initiative for Youth" (ABE Initiative) who are expected to guide and bridge between private sectors both in Tanzania and Japan.

Although there are many beneficiaries of JICA training programs, there is yet more room to support ex-participants to fully utilize their skills and knowledge they acquired in Japan, and revitalize the alumni organizations.

Therefore, JICA supported 11 Demonstration Projects that were competitively selected from more than 50 proposals by JICA alumni.

The activity was a part of JICA's "Data collection survey on activities by ex-participants of JICA training programs and implication to the future training programs", to identify the challenges the ex-participants face, find out effective measures to revitalize Alumni associations, and obtain recommendations for better design of training.



Donatus Richard (in blue suit, gesturing), NMB Bank Plc's Dar es Salaam zonal manager, pictured in the city at the weekend symbolically presenting corrugated iron roofing sheets to Airwing Primary School, desks to Kivule and Buguruni Kisiwani primary schools and bedside lockers to Amanah Hospital - all in Ilala District. The items are worth a combined 29m/-. He is with Ilala district commissioner Ng'wilabuzi Ludigija (to his left), Dar es Salaam city mayor Said Kumbilamoto (to the DC's left), and NMB Ilala Branch manager Christine Ufiga (L). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Fruit processing unveils economic opportunities

By Guardian Correspondent, Muheza

A FRUITS and vegetables processing project in Muheza District, Tanga Region has begun to open up new economic opportunities for residents in the district, with district council officials basking in higher revenue collections.

Implemented by Dira Women Organization (DIWO) in collaboration with Stiftung Josef Vogt, the project targets 150 youth aged from 16-24 in Kicheba Secondary School and those living in Kicheba area in the district.

The project will go simultaneously with the provision of training to students of Kicheba Secondary School, in Kicheba Ward on entrepreneurship in vegetable processing, domestic sanitation and keeping of vegetable gardens.

This was explained here at the

weekend by the council's acting executive director when launching the project, saying its coming will assist youths' economic wellbeing.

He said later they will realize how important it is to start small processing units with loans provided by the council's internal revenues.

He said if the youth learn on how to add value to the crops they process, they should be certain getting jobs thereby reducing the great numbers of youth without jobs in the district.

"I thank DIWO, your coming here in Muheza is a blessing to us and we are pleased to your assistance to the youth because through this project, they will gain experience," he said.

Earlier, speaking at the project's launch, DIWO Director Shamsa Danga said the project is a one-year project and will be in three phases

whereas the first phase will involve fruits and vegetable processing.

She said the second phase will be vegetable garden keeping and home sanitation.

She named products from fruits and vegetable processing as including tomato and chili sauces, pectin, jam, fruits juices, pickles, crisps and sweets.

Danga explained that the reason why the project is in Muheza because the area is blessed with various kinds of fruits and vegetables including spices.

Kicheba B Village Chairman, Rajabu Juma said they have received in both hands the NGO that has come at the right time and gave assurance on the availability of land areas for farming activities in case these are needed.

THE JOINT SONGWE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION
Joint Songwe River Basin Development Programme

MULTINATIONAL STRENGTHENING TRANSBOUNDARY COOPERATION AND INTEGRATED NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PROJECT (MSTCINRM)

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST
(INDIVIDUAL CONSULTING SERVICES)
DESIGN AND SUPERVISION OF CONSTRUCTION OF MOUNDS

Sector: Water
Project code: P-Z1-EAZ-054
Financing Agreement reference: Grant 5550155001701
Date: 7th March 2022

The Government of the United Republic of Tanzania and the Republic of Malawi have received financing from the GEF through African Development Bank toward the cost of the Multinational Strengthening Transboundary Cooperation and Integrated Natural Resources Management (MSTCINRM) Project and intends to apply part of the agreed amount for this grant to payments under the contract for Design and Supervision of Construction of Mounds in Kyela and Karonga Malawi under the MSTCINRM Project.

The services included under this project are to provide consulting services for the design and supervision of construction works of the proposed Mounds.

The Joint Songwe River Basin Commission now invites eligible team of Individual Consultants to indicate their interest in providing these services. Interested Individual Consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services, the Architect shall have a minimum Master's Degree in Architecture with background knowledge in construction management's technology acquired in the last ten (10) years. The Architect must have excellent communication skills, fluency in written English and should be registered with a recognized Professional Board

The Structural/Civil Engineer shall have a Master's Degree with background knowledge in construction management's technology acquired in the last ten (10) years. The structural engineer must have excellent communication skills, fluency in written English and should be registered with a recognized Professional Board

Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development "Procurement Framework of October 2015" which is available on the Bank's website at <http://www.afdb.org>.

Interested consultants may obtain further information including the Terms of References at the address below during office hours from 8:00am to 17:00pm (EAT).

The evaluation shall be done based on Individual's qualifications and contract shall be signed with the firm on behalf of the Proposed Individuals

Expressions of interest for the Design and Supervision of the construction of Mounds assignment must be delivered to the address below by 21st March 2022 at 11:00am (EAT)

Attn: Joint Songwe River Basin Commission
Hyde R. G.Sibande
Acting Executive Secretary, Joint Songwe River Basin Commission
P.O. BOX 300
Kyela Tanzania
Tel: +255 25 2957412
E-mail: songweriverbasin@gmail.com, mpangala5@yahoo.com
bnthakomwa31@gmail.com, hydesibande@gmail.com

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA TANZANIA
COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY
ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED



PUBLIC NOTICE

APPLICATION FOR LICENCES UNDER THE CONVERGED LICENSING FRAMEWORK

NOTICE is hereby given to the public that the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority has received applications for Licences under the Converged Licensing Framework from the following applicants: -

| S/N | NAME OF APPLICANT | TYPE OF LICENCE | SHAREHOLDERS / NATIONALITY | SHARES % |
|-----|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Be Foward Logistic Co, Limited | District Application services Licence | 1. Khalifan Habib Khalfan (Tanzanian) 2. Mattar Muhammed Suleiman (Tanzanian) | 50 50 |
| 2. | Registered Trustees of The Free Pentecostal Church of Tanzania-FPCT | District Content Services- (Commercial Broadcasting-Free To Air-Television) Licence | 1. Elias Simon Ndaji-Tanzanian 2. Baptista Apolinary Kiwango-Tanzanian 3. Damson Mdewa Nthangu-Tanzanian 4. Frank Elliot Kadodo-Tanzanian 5. Estheria Nyamhanga Magori-Tanzanian 6. Jeremia Lameck Bayaga-Tanzanian 7. Aloyce Joakimu Finkiri-Tanzanian 8. Amos Rashid Maghas-Tanzanian 9. Elliot Chikula Phiri-Tanzanian | Trustees don't own shares, they only administer property on behalf of beneficiaries |

Pursuant to Section 8 Of Electronic and Postal Communications Act, Cap 306 Of The Laws of Tanzania, written comments are hereby invited from any interested person in respect of the grant of licences to the applicants to reach the Authority, within 14 days of publication of this notice. Such comments will be taken into consideration when the Authority considers the applications.

Comments should be submitted to:

Director General
Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority
P. O Bo 47414414 DAR ES SALAAM
Tel: +255 22 241 2011-2
Fax: +255 22 2412009
E-mail: dg@tcra.go.tz



NINJA PROJECT

Three Tanzanian Innovative Startups
with Documentary Videos



In 2020, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) launched a Business Plan Competition called "NINJA (Next Innovation with Japan)," as a response move to COVID-19. The JICA organized the regional business plan competition in Africa, "NINJA", to discover the innovative business models and technologies that not only provide prescriptive solutions to the current pandemic but also respond to the expected radical changes in post-pandemic socio-economic reality. The NINJA initiative targeted innovative startups and organizations from 19 African countries, including Tanzania.

In Tanzania, three startups emerged winners of the competition. As part of the NINJA, JICA Tanzania Office conducted a proof of concept (PoC) business model which would mitigate the effects and/or has a potential to boost socio-economic development under the new COVID-19 reality with the awarded companies between February to October 2021. In January 2022, JICA published their documentary videos (recorded/edited by Trickster Limited<<http://trickster-africa.com/>>) of the activities of three startups in order to promote entrepreneurship in Tanzania, and to raise awareness of NINJA.

NINJA in Tanzania

In Tanzania, three (3) start-ups, **Agrinfo Company Limited**, **Tanzania Maji Jibu Company Limited**, and **Toolboksi Technologies Limited**, emerged as winners from a total of 90 applicants who presented their innovative ideas in the competition.



Documentary video



1. Tanzania Maji Jibu Company Limited



Documentary video

Year of Foundation: 2017
The Name of Founder: Mr. Tayeb Noorbhai
Location HQ: Arusha
Business: To provide clean water for rural area / job opportunity for young generation

Tanzania Maji Jibu capitalizes and equips emerging market entrepreneurs to create affordable access to drinking water and other necessities using a franchise model. Jibu has equipped co-investing entrepreneurs with turn-key franchise businesses that make safe drinking water affordable in their communities. They offer financing via a franchise model giving small entrepreneurs a large business advantage.

During the NINJA, Jibu has increased the number of franchisees in Tanzania to 20 factories. The franchisees (factories) in Mianzini, Moshono, Ilala, Goba, Tanga, and Tegeta started operation through NINJA. As a result, they created 60 new jobs and enabled 3,000 households to have access to safe and affordable drinking water.

About JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency)

An incorporated administrative agency in charge of administering Japan's ODA (Official Development Assistance). It is one of the world's largest bilateral aid agencies supporting socioeconomic development in developing countries in the world.

In Tanzania, JICA has been a long partner of Tanzania for nearly 60 years in many sectors such as Agriculture, Industry, Infrastructure, etc. since 1962.



2. Agrinfo Company Limited



Documentary video

Year of Foundation: 2015
The Name of Founder: Ms. Rose Funja
Location HQ: Dar es Salaam / Site: Moshi
Business: Data collection and analysis for small holder farmers.

Agrinfo had developed and provided a digital platform solution, "JembeKilimo" that connects underserved smallholder farmers (SHFs) to the necessary elements that improve their productivity including smart-farming information.

Using mobile phone technology, all reliable data for agricultural activities are collected from drone and satellite imagery, for further analysis.

JembeKilimo provides farm health information to SHFs via Short Mail Service (SMS) in time to help foster productive yields. In addition, the company won at the 3rd position as the excellent startup company in Africa at the Grand Final of the NINJA Competition in Tokyo, February 2021..

3. Toolboksi Technologies Limited



Documentary video

Year of Foundation: 2018
The Name of Founder: Mr. Julius J. Mbungu
Location HQ: Dar es Salaam
Business: Job matching and training service for Tanzanian handymen.

Toolboksi is a technology e-commerce platform that provides informal sector workers (called artisans, handymen, or "fundis") with consistent work opportunities and access to upskilling and career progression. It connects households and businesses with trusted and verified handymen conveniently for their various repair, installation, and maintenance service needs.

Currently, four out of five working Tanzanians (i.e., 80%) rely on informal work for their income and struggle to prove their trustworthiness and qualifications to customers. Toolboksi helps increase job opportunities for the workers in the informal sector by increasing their income and improving their livelihoods through their online platform, while offering quality services to the households and businesses who look for reliable "fundis" to do repairs, installation, and maintenance services.

For further information, please contact

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Tanzania Office
P.O. Box 9450, Dar es Salaam, Tel: 022-211327/30
<https://www.jica.go.jp/tanzania/english/index.html>

ICT gadgets worth a total of 132m/- to benefit three schools in Temeke

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

TANZANIA Education Authority (TEA) and BRAC-Maendeleo Tanzania have equipped three schools in Temeke Municipal with 120 computers worth 132m/- in a project named "Skills for Their Future."

The computers were handed over the weekend to the schools by Temeke District Commissioner, Jokate Mwegelo, during the colorful ceremony that was held at Karibuni Secondary school in Temeke.

The schools which will benefit from the computers are Miburani, Waites and Karibuni all belong to Temeke municipal.

Speaking during the occasion, Jokate said the computers come after Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Tanzania Education Authority and BRAC - Maendeleo Tanzania.

She said the MoU which was signed is a clear testimony on how private organizations can collaborate and work to gather with public institutions to improve lives of people and bring positive changes.

Jokate said TEA has been sponsoring education infrastructure that in-

cludes classrooms, teachers' houses, latrines, dormitories, laboratories and other learning facilities from all education level from Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar.

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank TEA under its Director Bahati Geuzye for this generous support to our schools we are happy to see our district being among regular beneficiary of their activities and we ask others to emulate this spirit," said Jokate

On her side, TEA Director General, Bahati Geuzye said the authority has already renovated more than 17 old schools which were among 89 that were in the renovation plan adding that recently the authority also renovated some primary schools in Dodoma.

He said the 'Skills for Their Future' project intend to give skills to youth from different secondary schools to enable them to have knowledge that will help them improve their lives after they finish their studies.

"These computers are given after the MoU between TEA and BRAC-Maendeleo. This project intend to support government initiatives to enable students learn through Infor-

mation Communication Technology (ICT) from all level of education," she said

She said the computers will help about 1,800 students and 45 teachers adding that she is optimistic that the students from that schools will use the opportunity to learn ICT and eventually manage to excel well in their academic and lives.

She said teachers will also use that opportunity to improve their teaching skills and help their schools to do better in national examinations.

The Director of BRAC-Maendeleo, Suzan Bipa, said her organization has chosen Temeke District in implementation of different development project and they have been working closely with municipal leadership.

"We are very much thankful to Temeke district leaders because every time we come here to introduce project they welcome us generously, we are doing project like this in many district up countries to help the government initiatives," she said

He mentioned other projects that are implemented by BRAC as food security and they have been empowering youth and women in different project so that they come out of poverty.



Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Needs deputy minister Mwanaidi Ali Khamis (3rd-R) and Ilaia district commissioner Ng'wilabuzi Ludigija (L) with Special Seats councillor Moza Mwano, Dar es Salaam City Council acting director Tabu Shaibu and DCB Commercial Bank business director Zacharia Kapama pictured in Dar es Salaam at the weekend cutting a cake at an International Women's Day event organised by the council and sponsored by the bank. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Moro council to plant trees in strategic areas

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

MOROGORO Municipal Council has launched a tree planting campaign in areas near water sources, primary and secondary school premises and universities, as a step in confronting the effects of climate change and restoration of the natural ecosystem.

The tree planting campaign started at SUA and Mbuyuni secondary schools in an initiative to plant more than 1.5 million trees in the municipality.

Speaking at during the event at the weekend, the Municipality Environmental Officer, Samuel Subby said the aim of the campaign with the slogan "Study with Trees" is to make sure students see that tree planting is part of life aimed at confronting the effects of climate change.

"We must thank our stakeholders - Sustainable Agriculture Tanzania (SAT) for providing us with 1,000 tree seedlings which we have already planted," said Subby.

He said in order to make the campaign a success, it is important for every student to plant at least one tree and should rear it until he finishes school.

Subby instructed primary and secondary school leaders to revive environmental protection clubs in schools and that these should be supervised by education officers in practice so that the Study with Trees campaign is fully implemented.

He also praised ward officials, political leaders, students, residents and environmental stakeholders in general for participating in the campaign.

He also mentioned health and environment officials at ward level to make sure the residents plant 1.5m trees as the Morogoro Municipality target aimed at confronting effects of climate change.

Mbuyuni Ward Councillor, Samuel Msuya thanked municipal officials and other stakeholders for launching the campaign in his ward and advised all those who have acquired new land plots to plant trees on them.

"My call to you is to plant three trees for shade and two for fruits and the environmental protection agenda in Mbuyuni ward will be sustainable," he added.

HUDEFO teaches school children environment protection, sanitation

By Guardian Reporter

IF children are taught to preserve the environment at school, they will enable the coming generation to protect the environment while dealing with climate change, stakeholders have observed.

The remarks were made by the director of Human Dignity and Environment Care Foundation (HUDEFO), Sarah Pima, teaching students of Atlas, Peace and Love primary schools on how to protect the environment and cleaning beaches at Msasani area in Dar es Salaam.

Pima said a lot of waste that finds its way to the sea comes from residential areas, hence teaching children on environment protection will make them to be good ambassadors on environmental protection.

"As a non-governmental organisation (NGO) we support the new national environmental policy formulated in 2021 by building capacity among children on environmental protection, and that is why we have come here to start with this group," she added.

This education will be

sustainable, as every two months they will take the students to various beaches to show them the environmental situation, highlighting climate change evidence, she said.

For his part, the director of Call for Environment, Pendo Mwakyusa, said they have observed that there are problems emanating from climate change and since the children are tomorrow's nation hence they should educate them on the subject now.

She said the education being provided is sustainable and they expect to reach other students as throwing waste into the sea endangers its ecosystems.

Mzimuni village chairperson Raiya Nassoro said they have been working together with the NGO in general cleaning of the area.

She said children must be educated as they are themselves involved in environmental degradation.

Nassoro said as students are being educated at this age, once they become adults they will have a clear understanding on the subject of environment protection and sanitation.



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VACANT POSITIONS

THE UNITED AFRICAN UNIVERSITY OF TANZANIA (UAUT) is a private Institution of Higher Learning Institution founded by the Registered Trustees of Korea Church Mission (KCM), with the objective of alleviating poverty and promoting growth through raising Tanzanian Christian leaders who are equipped with excellence in wisdom, knowledge and Christian virtues. The responsibility of the day to day running of UAUT is vested upon the University Council with the Vice Chancellor as the main link between the Board of Trustees and University Council. UAUT obtained The Certificate of Full Registration (CFR) from Tanzania Commission for Universities (TCU) since 2012.

UAUT obtained The Certificate of Full Registration (CFR) from Tanzania Commission for Universities (TCU) since 2012.

The following vacant positions are available for application at UAUT:

Programme Name: Bachelor of Business Administration

VACANT POSITIONS

1. SENIOR LECTURER (1 POSITION)

(i) Qualifications

- Holders of PhD and a GPA of 3.5 (Upper Second class) or above at Bachelor degree and 4.0 or above for Master degree majoring in Marketing.
- At least 4 years of teaching experiences after attaining PhD.
- Publications in International journals which on assessment produce 3 points.
- Teaching language proficiency
- Ability to plan and promote the vision of the University
- Leadership and management ability

(ii) Duties

- Mentoring junior staff in all relevant academic matters
- Designing and developing curricula
- Managing of institutional projects and activities
- Developing new courses and programmes
- Writing teaching manuals, compendia and books
- Any other relevant duties that may be assigned by the management

2. LECTURER (1 POSITION)

(i) Qualifications

- Holders of PhD and a GPA of 3.5 (Upper Second class) or above at Bachelor degree and 4.0 or above for Master degree majoring in Accounting/Finance/Marketing.
- At least 4 years of working experiences in Higher Learning Institutions
- Teaching language proficiency

(ii) Duties

- Conducting lectures, tutorials, seminars and practical for undergraduate programmes
- Carrying out field supervision
- Mentoring junior staff in all relevant academic matters
- Participating in curriculum development
- Participating in developing and managing of various university projects
- Undertaking research and publishing research results
- Undertaking consultancy
- Preparing teaching manuals and compendia
- Supervising undergraduate students projects
- Attending/organizing workshops, conferences and seminars
- Any other relevant duties that may be assigned by the management

3. ASSISTANT LECTURERS (2 POSITIONS)

(i) Qualifications

- Holders of Master's degree with a GPA of 4.0 or above and a GPA of 3.5 or above for Bachelor degree majoring in Accounting/Finance/Marketing,
- At least 4 years of working experiences in Higher Learning Institutions
- Teaching language proficiency

(ii) Duties

- Undergoing training to PhD level
- Undergoing induction course in pedagogical skills for those who had none before
- Conducting lectures, tutorials, seminars and practical for undergraduate programmes
- Assisting senior staff in practical sessions, seminars and tutorials
- Preparing case studies
- Working in cooperation with senior members on specific projects
- Supervising special projects for undergraduate students
- Mentoring junior staff in all relevant academic matters
- Participating in curriculum development
- Participating in developing and managing of various university projects
- Undertaking research and publishing research results
- Preparing teaching manuals and compendia
- Attending/organizing workshops, conferences and seminars
- Any other relevant duties that may be assigned by the management

Programme Name: Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering and Information Technology

4. ASSISTANT LECTURERS (1 POSITION)

(iii) Qualifications

- Holders of Master's degree with a GPA of 4.0 or above and a GPA of 3.5 or above for Bachelor of Science in Computer Science or related discipline.
- Working experiences in Higher Learning Institutions
- Teaching language proficiency

(iv) Duties

- Undergoing training to PhD level
- Undergoing induction course in pedagogical skills for those who had none before
- Conducting lectures, tutorials, seminars and practical for undergraduate programmes
- Assisting senior staff in practical sessions, seminars and tutorials
- Preparing case studies
- Working in cooperation with senior members on specific projects
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- Participating in developing and managing of various university projects
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- Preparing teaching manuals and compendia
- Attending/organizing workshops, conferences and seminars
- Any other relevant duties that may be assigned by the management

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Foreign awards must verified by the TCU.

Deadline 21st March 2022

African climate activists can't rely on aid to sort out famines, conflicts

IT was hardly news hearing that African countries face increased migration and displacement plus the risk of violent conflicts due to climate change - as reported by climate campaigners brought together by the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance (PACJA).

This issue comes up for reflection in the wake of the meeting in the Rwandan capital, Kigali - the eighth African regional forum on sustainable development.

Delegates heard Mithika Mwenda, executive director of PACJA sounded the clarion call that climate change was fuelling conflicts, with women, youths and the elderly bearing the brunt of these displacements.

The cases the director cited are close enough to our borders, as Zimbabwe, Mozambique and Malawi have been in the assault plains of massive typhoons developing in the Indian Ocean.

These have led to pounding rains and destruction of houses, crops and infrastructure, not to talk about general human misery.

What the climate justice campaigners addressed was the manner in which those displaced from their grazing or crop areas turn to neighbours who instantly become competitors for the land or water resources that are usable or available. While the situation ranges in its severity, no country is safe.

It was all the same disappointing to follow the director's remarks to figure out what can be done in the face of this adversity.

What listeners obtained from his remarks was that governments must act quickly and tackle climate change or risk rising instability due to climate-related conflicts and migration.

That can be a case of 'if wishes were horses, beggars would ride', as each government or at least its environment experts are fully aware of the perils involved, only that most countries - and experts - are boxed in.

How are land rights altered by climate change to start with, and indeed do those whose traditional land faces drought move to another region to cultivate crops?

There was a kind of 'axiom of choice' in the director's remarks, and implicitly, in identifying the problem that countries face or must resolve.

The key point was that they must 'tackle climate change' - which, obviously, not a single government is on record as having succeeded in doing.

What governments are doing is to find ways of mitigating climate change effects, in which case it is the second part of the proposition relating to 'rising instability due to climate related conflicts and migration' that merits action.

This is definitely an enormous problem, but governments can map out how to solve these effects.

Solutions that governments offer for displacements or migratory pressures may impact climate change adaptation.

The more tuned to the market, for instance making land available to those who need it by setting up credit channels for land access for those displaced, makes it easier to adapt.

There are those who talk about compensation for crop losses or deaths of livestock but it is really a restarting facility that can be organised, not being repaid by public authorities for losses.

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After 6 rounds of multiparty general elections, is Tanzania on the road to democratic society?

By Dr Rasool Ahmed Minja

IN 2005 Mohamed Bakari and Samuel S. Mushi made a lucid and influential explication of prerequisites for democratic consolidation in Tanzania.

In their view - and rightly so - these are the same as indicators of a consolidated democracy.

Borrowing from them, I can place ourselves in an excellent position to get an impression of the state of the democratisation process in the country, particularly after the last two general elections.

Accordingly, here I attempt to establish how the country fares within the democratisation process concerning the six indicators of democracy, especially in transitional democracies, as suggested by professors Bakari and Mushi.

The six indicators are (a) presence of formal structures of liberal democracy that may include a multiparty constitution, several political parties and civil society organisations; (b) a civil society engaged with the state; (c) a pro-democracy movement; (d) strength of political parties; (e) consensus on basic rules of political competition and running of public affairs; and (f) state acceptance and toleration of pluralism.

In my case, as put by David Potter (2008), democratisation is viewed as a process that constitutes "political changes moving in a democratic direction".

When Lofchie and Mukandala intimated in 1998 that Tanzania was on the "road to a democratic society", some of us were under the impression that it was too soon to reach such a conclusion.

It was hardly three years after the first General Election following the restoration of a multiparty political system, so that may have been understandable.

Well, two decades later, I still hold the view that our country has not yet seriously embarked on the right lane of the road to Schumpeter's ideal form of a consolidated democracy.

The Schumpeterian conception of consolidated democracy refers to the "existence of an institutional arrangement for arriving at political decisions in which individuals acquire the power to decide by means of a competitive struggle for the people's vote".

As noted earlier, one of the prerequisites for consolidation is the existence of formal democratic structures.

Since 1992, there have been deliberate attempts to establish formal structures of democratic transformation, among them political parties, through the requisite constitutional and legal frameworks.

Political parties have been allowed to recruit members, articulate their agenda and participate in grassroots and general elections.

Nevertheless, relations between political parties, especially opposition ones, and such important formal structures (i.e. the office of the Registrar of Political Parties and electoral management bodies) have been characterised by mistrust, complaints of unfair treatment, lack of compromise and at times uncooperative gestures.

The electoral management bodies in our context are the National Electoral Commission (NEC) and the Zanzibar Electoral Commission (ZEC). These are expected to ensure smooth conduct of competitive electoral politics.

It will be recalled that in the run-up to the last

General Election, relations between opposition parties and the office of the Registrar of Political Parties reached their lowest point. The former repeatedly pointed an accusing finger at the latter for "fuelling instead of resolving" intra-party squabbles.

The registrar's apparent support to one of the conflicting sides in the opposition Civic United Front (CUF) leadership wrangles did not help to defuse or neutralise factional politics in that party.

Whilst marked improvements have been recorded in many aspects of election management in the country since 1995, persistent questions by political parties and other stakeholders of our democratic dispensation on the credibility of election management bodies are an important reminder that establishing formal structures is one thing and their actual and perceived functionality an altogether different ball game.

The vibrancy and pluralistic character of civil society is regarded as essential bulwark against authoritarianism and a crucial ingredient for the consolidation of democracy.

A cursory look at state-civil society relations today reveals that the situation is not markedly different from how professors Bakari and Mushi described it in 2005.

They cogently intimated: "Society-state relations (are) still antagonistic. The state feels or fears that civil organisations which are not nurtured by the ruling party are supportive of the opposition parties. This is, however, a mistaken perception since none of the opposition parties has so far joined hands with any major civil society organisation" (2005:42).

It is true that civil society organisations, particularly advocacy and activist-oriented ones, have increasingly made their voices heard in public forums and the media.

However, they have remained urban-based and their reach to the majority rural population is by and large limited.

Calls for a comprehensive review of the United Republic of Tanzania's (URT) 1977 Constitution have not been heeded, as the constitutional review process did not reach its logical conclusion.

Consensus on the basic rules of the game is far from reached. Hopes of a new constitutional dispensation for the country raised with the commencement of the Constitutional Review Process were disappointingly dashed when the infamous 'Warioba draft' was comprehensively 'massaged' by the Constituent Assembly (CA).

One can dare say that the CA draft contains fundamentally different constitutional aspirations concern-

ing the envisaged national values, structure of government, relations between organs of the state, including important aspects of checks and balances, and citizens' recall powers, among others, from those espoused in the Warioba draft.

Therefore, it follows that protestations about the fundamental law of the country - that is, the Constitution - highlight the apparent lack of agreement on or acquiescence in the basic rules of the political game.

In assessing the challenges and prospects of Africa's democratisation process, Lynch and Crawford (2011) concluded that sub-Saharan Africa has taken many more steps forward than reversals.

In the case of Tanzania, it will not be missing the point to say that the country is more democratic today than at the time it conducted the 1995 General Election after it re-introduced multiparty politics.

It is nevertheless equally spot-on to state that, as far as the democratisation process is concerned, more reversals have been experienced than steps forward.

This rather gloomy conclusion is reached based on the situation that has been prevailing, particularly after the last two general elections - in 2015 and in 2020.

According to the Freedom in the World 2018 report as compiled and issued by Freedom House, Tanzania was among the East African Community countries which experienced a downward trend as far as the democratisation process is concerned.

The report talked of stepped-up moves to repress dissenting voices, detaining opposition politicians, banning media outlets, and using the cyber-crimes law to round up citizens sharing critical comments on social media.

The report categorised Tanzania, along with Kenya and Uganda, as "partly free" in the global freedom survey - with a score of 52 out of a possible 100.

Reprisals against the opposition, temporary shutdowns of media outlets, and the suspension of political activities such as public rallies and in-house party meetings raised concerns among religious leaders and ordinary citizens.

A February 18 open letter by bishops of Tanzania's Catholic Church denounced violations of democratic norms and restrictions on citizens' rights to being informed and to freedom of expression.

In a rather strange turn of events, at a 2017 State House occasion to receive a report of the 2015 General Election from the then National Electoral Commission Chairman, Justice Damian Lubuva, the then President

(the late Dr John Pombe Joseph Magufuli) reiterated that he would not let promises he made during election campaigns be held back by political activities.

He subsequently restricted the holding of party meetings to constituencies, which in effect limited political party leaders and members, particularly from the opposition camp, from crisscrossing the country to conduct their routine political activities.

The implementation of this move, which was swiftly overseen by the police and government officials at the regional and district levels, clearly ran contrary to the URT Constitution and the Political Parties Act, as amended in 2019.

The Act confers political parties with the mandate of promoting and championing their policies against other parties, and the same are accorded the right to hold political rallies in accordance with the relevant constitutional provisions.

Political rallies and meetings by duly registered political parties cannot wait for an election year and, at most, are not time or geographic-specific.

For democratic processes to be moving towards the consolidation phase, political activities cannot be exclusively sanctioned during election campaign periods.

The democratic reversals observed during the countdown to - and aftermath of - the 2015 and 2020 elections have seriously constrained political competition in the country.

In 1995, Tanzania was classified among the 20 liberal democracies in sub-Saharan Africa. Whether or not the country deserved such a classification by then or currently deserves it now is beside the point here.

Still, it is worth recalling the argument by one scholar that "liberal democracy is necessary for democratic development but may not be sufficient for democracy to be consolidated".

The jury is still out there to declare as to whether the recent change of guard at the helm of the country's leadership, consultative meetings with various stakeholders, recent changes related to the media fraternity, and a flurry of activities by the Director of Public Prosecution to 'reduce' the workload of court cases, constitute serious and bold attempts to return the country to the long road to a democratic society.

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UNHCR confidence building measures on refugee repatriations a welcome initiative

HIGH-LEVEL discussions are continuing between the government and the United Nations refugee agency (UNHCR).

A preliminary line of agreement issued in a UNHCR statement at mid-week lies on ways to improve access to territory and international protection, enhancing the asylum adjudication system and further reinvigorating the voluntary repatriation programme to Burundi.

Gillian Triggs, UNHCR assistant high commissioner for protection of refugees, stated that both parties intend to continue bolstering livelihood opportunities for refugees. That assessment shows that there is a convergence of purposes on the issues.

For those following what has been happening on the Burundi refugees issue for instance, it would appear that relations warmed up between the two countries rather rapidly, first with the former president (the late Pierre Nkurunziza) and then under his successor, Évariste Ndayishimiye. This wasn't surprising as the country is now a member of the East African Community (EAC) and not just a French-speaking neighbour as previously obtained. With a growing economy, it becomes an important hinterland market.

Experts say economic needs drive political strategies, in which case the readiness to reach an accord on economic issues relates to the trade platform in EAC or bilateral arrangements for instance on the use of Dar es Salaam Port, bring the two countries to a more credible partnership.

When the Tanzanian side sees that there is credible change in its next-door neighbour and reintegration is feasible, it makes an energetic effort to accelerate refugee repatriation in

that the country is sufficiently peaceful.

That may sideline not the sentiments of most refugees but a section of them, being made to feel that going back home is a duty.

Leaving a country is a difficult personal decision, whether it is to become a refugee in a nearby country or it is to return to a home country for which indelible moments of suffering still cause nagging headaches and heartaches.

UNHCR statutes are designed to give the freedom to a refugee or asylum seeker, once admitted or otherwise present in a country, to make such decisions in full liberty.

It isn't always easy for refugees to simply accept the shorthand that the situation has vastly improved enough in their home countries and it is safe for them to go back.

There are other factors at work, like whether they return to the villages they came from or what attitudes those there now would have on "opponents" of the government who occasionally attack public facilities.

In a country that has gone through a drawn-out civil war it isn't easy to draw demarcation lines between ordinary citizens and those who still resist from deep inside bushes or forests, so staying in the camps or integrating elsewhere may stand as a better option.

So, the situation could remain fluid and tricky for quite some time. It is people's hearts and aspirations that are involved.

And, lest we forget: emotions hurt are hard to heal. Yet, skirmishes ought to end so that life resumes normalcy. Hence, the need to continue closely cooperating with the likes of UNHCR and countries hosting refugees.

START THE WEEK WITH CYNTHIA STACEY

Tanzania's handcraft industry needs creativity and specialisation

JAMBO for the coming week and I hope there is something for us to chew on.

Over two decades ago, a local daily newspaper published a letter from a Nordic visitor who said that leaving Zanzibar, a well-known holiday destination, she returned home with her money allotted for presents unspent, finding no holiday souvenirs of any kind to buy.

Today, the situation cannot be the same as more and more shops and establishments formerly serving the local population in the Stone Town are given over to dealers in handcrafts, tourist-related items and western style services as well as eateries.

If that disappointed visitor came to the Isles today, she would be pleasantly surprised at the variety of goods geared to the tourism market, especially gift items, but may be confused at their over abundance, making selection more difficult.

One of the main Stone Town roads for passing tourist trade is opposite the Post Office in Shangani area. With thousands of enticing goods all under one roof: Memories of Zanzibar, Souvenir Emporium and others attract many customers, thanks to well air-conditioned shopping venues to browse for a multi-choice selection.

But down the well-known streets of Gizenga and Hurumzi, formerly the preserve of local shoppers, but now mostly selling clothing, jewelry, art and handcrafts aimed at visitors. It's now a different story as traders complain of little sales.

One of the traders, a Maasai from the Mainland said "this time of the year should be our best, but we don't know why it isn't, people either walk on or look but don't buy."

Similar complaints are often heard from handcraft traders in Dar es Salaam. At the Slipway in Msasani area, there were formerly small cage-like booths where the merchandise, though colourful and well made, were too similar in-stall after stall.

These are now disbanded, but not the open market area in the central complex. This works better, providing a more individualistic and attractive selling options for the handcrafts and souvenirs.

At Mwenge—a hand craft village—customers pause and look, but sometimes move on quickly when surrounded by desperate traders all promoting their similar goods.



Many handcraft shops in Zanzibar's Stone Town streets and the Mainland sell the same items. Souvenir traders say profits are low as they compete for buyers. File Photo

Mwenge, Gizenga and Hurumzi street shops are facing the same issues: few buyers, too much competition and too much of the same merchandise close together.

Also, Tanzanian handcrafts can be

more expensive than those tourists buy when they travel elsewhere, as the materials and overhead costs here

are much higher.

The customer can become as frustrated as the trader, because merely pausing to look usually elicits an overwhelming barrage of sales tactics. Possible purchasers can be quickly maneuvered into a shop, but often 'escape' without buying anything at all.

Browsing is seldom an option the sellers allow, but it can be the key to increased sales. Leaving the customers free to look around, means they might spot exactly what they wanted.

But sales ploys alone won't help the small tourist store owners with limited capital. Neither does stocking an ever increasing range of products, if others are doing the same.

There's also a fine line between well stocked, and over stocked. The first can help create an attractive product display enticing buyers whereas the second can give an impression of overcrowding and unsold merchandise.

Three traders I recently met in Zanzibar said they were shutting up shop and returning to the Mainland where they say at least increased visitor numbers might equate to better business prospects, which they hope won't be like Zanzibar.

One of them, Juma Magembe, said: "There are too many shops here now and too few customers, so what can we do?"

They could be right. While the central position on the Main Street and square footage of large shops like Memories of Zanzibar give them maneuverability for change, this doesn't apply to the cramped alley-way handcraft shops of the Stone Town.

And bigger is only better in the right area, so even if they had room, expansion isn't an option if there's no business improvement. Perhaps more specialization is the answer.

There's a sandal market, well known in the area for its masterly crafted leather goods. By keeping pace with fashion trends, yet still producing popular classic designs, this fellow has traded successfully in his small workshop for nearly thirty years, serving local and tourists alike.

It's interesting to speculate what the coming thirty years holds for future business prospects in Zanzibar's unique winding Stone Town lanes as well as the Mainland.

Cheers to all handcraft makers and traders. God bless Tanzania.

Russia-Ukraine conflict, Fed hike to upset Turkish economy

ANKARA

THE fallout of the Russia-Ukraine conflict and expected interest rate hikes by the U.S. Federal Reserve in March may put extra pressure on the vulnerable Turkish economy, which is battling high inflation and a weak currency, experts said.

"It seems that the Russian military operation in Ukraine will not be a swift one and will drag on for some time," Turkish economist Yalcin Karatepe told Xinhua. "This will have consequences for the fragile Turkish economy."

The professor of finance at Ankara University explained that the Turkish currency experienced a depreciation of over 2 percent after the Russian military operation began on Feb. 24.

The Turkish lira sank to record lows against the U.S. dollar last year, losing 44 percent of its value, after the central bank slashed its interest rates in line with an economic model defended by Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

The combination of a lax monetary policy and surging global energy prices pushed annual inflation to a two-decade high of 48.7 percent in January amid rising food and utility prices. Inflation is expected to rise further throughout the year.

Karatepe argued that the West's financial and economic sanctions imposed on Russia would also imperil the Turkish economy. As energy prices are surging, he stressed that collateral damage is a cause for concern. Given that almost all the country's energy use relies on imports, Turkey's finances will be hit hard at a time when inflation is already high, Karatepe said.

It's not just about energy. According to Hurriyet Daily News, Turkey has close trade ties with both Russia and Ukraine in construction, tourism, wheat imports, and fresh fruit and vegetable exports. "Imports from Russia were 29 billion U.S. dollars in 2021, up from 18 billion dollars a year earlier," said the Turkish media outlet.

As noted by the Ahval news website in a recent report, Ankara expected tourism revenues this year to equal or exceed the record 35 billion dollars earned in 2019, helping to support the lira and finance the country's current account deficit, which is driven by the cost of imported energy and other goods.

But that prediction now looks unrealistic, seeing as Russian and Ukrainian tourists totaled more than a quarter of all visitors in 2021, the report said, adding that Turkey's proximity to the conflict in Ukraine may also deter European and other Western tourists.

Another challenge for the ailing Turkish economy comes from the United States. Following a January increase of 7.5 percent in



Turkish citizens evacuated from Ukraine arrive in Istanbul, Turkey, on Feb. 28, 2022. (Xinhua)

year-on-year consumer prices, the Federal Reserve is expected to raise interest rates in its March meeting in a bid to tame inflation.

The move raises the specter of foreign funds flowing to the United States. For emerging economies, particularly for Turkey, expected rate hikes are bad news and could trigger a further devaluation of the lira.

To prop up the lira and curb dollarization, local authorities introduced a series of measures in December, in-

cluding a state guarantee to compensate lira depositors for any declines the currency may suffer. A rise in the dollar may put pressure on already low public finances, specialists warned.

Enver Erkan, chief economist at Istanbul's Tera Securities, pinpointed some possible outcomes of the Turkish economy if the Ukrainian crisis endures. If the military conflict becomes permanent, "it includes the possibility of deterioration of Turkey's macroeconomic balances through foreign trade,

current account balance, exchange rate and inflation," he said in a note to investors.

"While Turkey has a trade volume of 22.9 billion dollars with Russia and 5 billion dollars with Ukraine, Russia supplies 39.4 percent of Turkey's total refined oil and 56.2 percent of total crude oil," the analyst said.

He further emphasized that the negative impact of tourism revenues may further strain Turkey's foreign exchange needs. With rising geopolitical

risks, the expected money inflow from the tourism sector may fall below expectations, and the negative pressure on the lira may increase in the short term, Erkan added.

Another problematic sector is construction since Russia has been a major market for Turkish contractors for three decades. Erdal Eren, head of the Turkish Contractors Association, said that the ongoing operation has endangered industries doing business with Russia and Ukraine.

"We have over 100 sites under construction in Russia. Our works there total over 20 billion dollars," Eren told private broadcaster Bloomberg HT.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY, 2022

Women lighting the way in off-grid Zimbabwe

HARARE

ELECTRICITY transmission lines run through Chiedza Murindo's home in Murombedzi, a small town in Zvimba district in Mashonaland West province, but her house has no electricity. That is the harsh reality for much of Zimbabwe's rural population, where only 13% of households live without power compared to 83% of urban households.

Disgusted by the energy poverty around her, Murindo became one of the first customers in her area to purchase a three-light solar home system from PowerLive Zimbabwe. This woman-led social enterprise uses mostly women to sell, distribute and install solar energy systems on a pay-as-you-go (PAYG) model to off-grid rural households.

"The Home 60 has three lights, including a sensor light. We don't have electricity right now, so we use the system to light the home, charge phones, and security at night. Our neighbours who don't have the system also come to charge their phones with us," she tells IPS.

Murindo, a teacher at Sabina Mugabe High School, is among dozens of women that PowerLive Zimbabwe has employed to sell and install its products.

"I get a commission for the sales I make from marketing and selling the solar systems, so that adds to my income and help in bringing food to the table," she says.

Sharon Yeti, the founder and CEO of PowerLive Zimbabwe, says 75 percent of her company's workers are women, and 85 percent of the 40 sales agents are women. Forty percent of the technicians or installers are women too.

"I've always wanted to do something to empower the girl children. The 'how' part came later. But having worked for a solar energy company, I thought I could provide solar systems to off-grid rural areas with women as our sales agents. After all, women are more affected by energy poverty," Yeti, who



Chiedza Murindo decided to do something about the power poverty in rural Zimbabwe. She installed a three-light solar home system and now has light. Women are playing an increasing role in alternative energy strategies. File photo

founded the company in 2018, tells IPS.

She says the project has raised the standard of living for many households, particularly women whose confidence has grown because they can earn money. Children benefit from being able to study after dark. And people's health has improved away from the toxic use of fuel-based lighting.

Since its inception, the energy start-up has distributed 4 789 solar homes systems to over

20 000 households in ten of the country's districts. The project isn't just focused on solar lights but distributes solar products for productive uses like solar water pumps, fridges, hair clippers and entertainment.

According to the African Development Bank, Africa has the highest percentage of women entrepreneurs globally. Yet, they face a cocktail of gender-specific challenges in accessing finance, with a finance gap of around

\$42 billion.

But for a start-up, Yeti's PowerLive has been particularly lucky in accessing finance. In 2020, it got a 350 000 Euro grant from a clean energy financier, EEP Africa; then, in late 2020 and 2021 secured a combined US\$400 000 from the Energy Access Relief Funding (EARF) and the Distributed Finance Fund (DFF).

"The funding had helped us a lot, to buy more systems, employ more sales agents, and employ more people and pay salaries when we were in lockdown for seven months," she says.

"Going down to December 2020, we hadn't made any sales, and in as much as we were paying salaries, we had no income, our customers were not paying, and our stock had run out. So, it was a challenge. That's when we got funding from AERF, meant to assist companies that had been affected by COVID-19.

"It came just at the perfect time when I was beginning to think we need to start downsizing, but we didn't, which was also the same for the funding from the DFF. It just helped us get more stock and to maintain people," she says.

Dorothy Hove, executive director of Women Resource Centre Network, a gender and development organization, says the establishment costs of

available renewable options like solar were still high for rural households, who are unwilling to change from traditional energy sources to modern technology.

Although girls and women are primarily responsible for the bulk of household work, access to modern energy alternatives was not sufficient to guarantee gender equality.

"Women can play a key role in the green energy transition as responsible consumers, particularly in the household, but also in business and policymaking where measures to support greater access by women to clean and affordable renewable energy are lacking.

"Women's empowerment and leadership in the energy sector could help accelerate the transition to a low-carbon economy by promoting clean energy and more efficient energy use, as well as help to tackle energy poverty. The just transition should also include a gender perspective, to guarantee equal opportunities for both men and women in the workforce," she says.

According to a 2019 report from the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), renewable energy employs about 32% of women globally compared to 22% in the energy sector overall.

In Zimbabwe, Hove estimates women account for less than a quarter of employees in the energy sector, which decreases with seniority levels.

IPS

Sexual violence laws are failing adolescents

LONDON

AT Equality Now, we have been on a years-long journey to track and analyze sexual violence laws and their implementation around the world. This work was born after working with survivors of sexual violence for over two decades and observing that women and girls reported similar barriers to justice regardless of where they were from.

While local, national, and regional context impact a victim's experience, it is also clear that many of the challenges they face are universal.

From Eurasia to the Caribbean, to South Asia and North Africa, we discovered laws which were supposedly meant to protect women and girls but in reality it perpetuated, and in some cases, even promoted gender-based violence and discrimination.

We found instances of so called "marry your rapist" laws which permit rapists to avoid legal accountability by marrying their victims, the decriminalization of marital rape, and laws that use terminology of chastity and honor rather than consent.

While there is a range of ways in how laws in themselves are failing victims of sexual violence, one common trend is that the implementation of laws around the world neglect to take into account

the unique needs and vulnerabilities of marginalized communities.

Many countries do not apply an intersectional lens when implementing sexual violence laws, resulting in the further marginalization of already underserved populations. For example, in Guatemala, indigenous survivors face additional barriers to justice due to insufficient translation services and the lack of geographically accessible courts and law enforcement.

In Georgia, the ability of women living with disabilities, particularly those with psycho-social needs, to testify in their own cases might be wrongly discounted. In the United States, a legacy of structural racism has resulted in a distrust of law enforcement by communities of color, resulting in low reporting rates of sexual violence by Black women.

And around the world, we found that adolescent girls were routinely under-protected by sexual violence laws and frequently negatively stereotyped when seeking justice.

Adolescent girls are uniquely vulnerable to experiencing sexual violence, and yet too often they are denied access to justice and support services. The emergence of girls' sexuality during puberty is frequently used as a justification to disinvest in their schooling and personal development while simultaneously appropriating their

labor, sexuality, and fertility.



UN officials say that gender-based violence is a "shadow pandemic," hidden beneath COVID-19.

labor, sexuality, and fertility.

No longer afforded the protections of childhood, nor recognized as adults, they find themselves in a precarious position, often victimized and labelled sexually promiscuous or a "temptress," leaving them isolated and unsupported rather than protected from exploitation and abuse.

Additionally, a dearth of age-appropriate services and education

means that adolescents are often not fully aware of their rights and lack the ability to self-advocate even when legal recourse is available to them.

Some discrimination is even embedded in the law itself. Estupro laws or provisions, which are found throughout Latin America and in substance in other laws further afield, allow for lesser penalties for the rape of an adolescent

above the age of consent than for an adult woman or child below the age of consent.

Criminal justice officials utilize estupro provisions to portray adolescent girls as manipulative seductresses who tempt adult men into illicit sex. These laws perpetuate the misconception that victims are often, at least partially, responsible for their own abuse and that rape is simply an act of sexual deviance

rather than one of violence, control, and entitlement.

By suggesting that sexual violence is the fault of the victim, estupro provisions contribute to a wider culture of victim blaming, in turn deterring survivors from reporting crimes and seeking help. This means that cases either aren't prosecuted, thereby allowing impunity for the perpetrator, or that these lesser charges are brought, thereby reducing punishment for the perpetrator.

Stigma surrounds all forms of sexual violence, but cases of incest are especially taboo and thus survivors of this form of violence are even less likely to receive justice. According to UNICEF, 40-60% of known sexual assaults within the family are committed against girls aged 15 and younger, thus adolescent girls are particularly impacted by the silence around this form of abuse.

In cases of incest, the perpetrator is most often a male family member and there is a strong tendency to keep the abuse private at all costs, at the expense of the rights and wellbeing of the victim-most often a young or adolescent girl. By keeping the matter under wraps, the victims of familial abuse will often suffer long lasting and devastating psychological, emotional and physical consequences.

Equality Now's study, conducted with Pakistani partners, of incest in Pakistan found that child and ado-

lescent victims of incest faced numerous barriers, including: stigma as a barrier to reporting, attitudes of law enforcement, prosecutorial misconduct, untrained medical professionals, drawn-out trials, and a lack of youth-specific services.

In the rare cases where girls and adolescents attempted to report a case of incest, they were met by a criminal justice system that shamed and stigmatized them. One fifteen-year-old girl who was raped by her father was told by the police that she was "doing something wrong" by reporting her abuse and that by speaking publicly she would "stain her family's honor."

Her experience was unfortunately not unique. Another young woman reported that the police refused to take her statement about being raped by her brother-in-law because they claimed that it was simply an instance of "enmity between two families."

It is difficult for all survivors of sexual violence to receive justice and to stand up against laws and systems that seek to undermine their credibility, but for adolescent girls the challenge is even greater.

For them, and for their future as women, we need robust laws, survivor-informed and gender-sensitive implementation, and intentional collaboration between all actors to ensure that every survivor's needs are considered, addressed, and supported. **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

Firm unveils strategies to help address digital gaps

By Guardian Reporter

RAHA Liquid Telecom has officially unveiled its new identity as Liquid Intelligent Technologies, a business of Casava Technologies expanding services to reach more big and small organizations and communities with quality digital services.

This rebrand is part of the extensive business transformation from being just a telecommunications service provider to a full one-stop-shop technology group for local businesses. Over the last two decades, Liquid has firmly established itself as the leading pan-African digital infrastructure provider with an extensive network spanning over 100,000km.

Addressing reporters in Dar es Salaam late last week, Denny Marandure, CEO for Liquid Intelligent Technologies Tanzania, said: "The evolution of the RAHA Liquid Telecom brand to Liquid Intelligent Technologies opens up numerous opportunities and is a step towards the creation of a digitally-led economy. Liquid has always believed that Public-Private partnerships are critical for economic development, and our organisation has successfully partnered with governments across the continent. We are looking forward to partnering with the government to help reach the ambitious goals set that are the foundation of Tanzania's long-term success."

As a Microsoft gold partner, Liquid Intelligent Technologies is redefining network, cloud and cyber security offer-

ings through strategic partnerships with leading global players, bringing innovative business applications, intelligent cloud services and world-class security to the African continent.

With the future of network security-driven from the cloud, Liquid Intelligent Technologies' recently launched its cyber security business unit, which uniquely delivers security at its core, protecting your business's data throughout its lifecycle.

He further said that the company also plans to connect various public primary and secondary schools with free internet access as it aspires to address the digital divide in the education sector.

He said that despite its vision to transform the continent through provision of high-quality digital and internet services, the firm will also work to bring back to the community through supporting schools and other disadvantaged groups in the society.

Marandure said the roll out of the new project is expected to commence in May this year, as they are currently identifying the schools to benefit from the project including those located in rural areas.

"We will work closely with the government to ensure that we identify the disadvantaged schools so as to connect them with the internet and thus stimulate teaching and learning in the areas for the country's development," he said.

He noted that while the government strives to ensure that every Tanzanian



child has access to quality education at all times and effectively through the latest technology.

He noted that tackling inequalities in access to education is at the heart of bringing about development of the people - whereby this can be achieved through use of technological advances.

Liquid Intelligent Technologies is a pan-African technology group present in more than 20 countries, primarily in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Marandure further noted: "There is no better place to start than our schools that shape the minds of our children, thereby securing our future.

Through our expertise in the digital and telecom landscape, we will identify the schools and connect them enabling the schools to learn in a modern way." "Liquid has always believed that public-private partnerships are critical for economic development, and our organization has successful partners with governments across Africa," he added.

Commenting on the move, AdilYoussefi, Regional CEO for Liquid Intelligent Technologies East African Markets, said, "This rebrand is our reaffirmation to all our customers in Tanzania that we are a one-stop-shop

technology service provider bringing intelligent services such as Cloud Computing, Managed Services, Cyber Security. We have brought intelligent technologies to the rest of the continent, and we are confident that our presence in Tanzania will ensure a digitally connected future for all Tanzanians."

Experts say that despite Tanzania graduating to a lower-middle-income status in 2019, much more needs to be done to alleviate the continuing poverty by ensuring inclusion and equity in education, experts say. In this regard, the government has continued to improve the requisite infrastructure to support

and facilitate the use of ICT in learning with the aim of maintaining quality education for all.

Liquid Intelligent Technologies is a pan-African technology group present in more than 20 countries, mainly in sub-Saharan Africa. Liquid has firmly established itself as the leading provider of pan-African digital infrastructure with an extensive network covering over 100,000 km. It is now a comprehensive, one-stop technology group that provides customised digital solutions to public and private sector companies across the continent under several business units.

Mozilla offers to fund voice tech startups in Kenya, Tanzania, DRC

THE Mozilla Foundation has announced that it will be offering \$400,000 in grants for voice technology projects based in Kenya, Tanzania, and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

The foundation is looking for projects that solve agricultural and financial problems while using Mozilla's Common Voice Kiswahili data set. It is planning to give awards of up to \$50,000 to each of the winning projects, which they hope will show how voice-based tools can be integrated into apps

that provide agricultural or financial services.

Mozilla Common Voice is an open-source initiative aiming to make voice technology more inclusive. The initiative was started because voice technology is quickly becoming prevalent across a range of digital sites and services. But often, these services only provide voice-technology in English, French, Spanish or German.

Amazon's Alexa, Apple's Siri, and Google Home all do not support a single native African language, mean-

ing millions of people who speak Kiswahili and other African languages can't use voice technology to do something as simple as checking the weather -- or something as important as checking for COVID updates.

"These grants will fuel products powered by open voice data and technology built with local community involvement and engagement," said Chenai Chair, Mozilla's Africa Innovation project consultant.

"And in the long-term, they can help shift power and im-

prove social and economic opportunities for marginalized groups, particularly women, in Kenya, Tanzania, and Kiswahili-speaking DRC."

Mozilla said projects should look to existing voice technologies for examples of things they can build on.

They pointed to projects like Mbaza, a chatbox that uses Common Voice data to provide timely and accurate information about the pandemic in the Kinyarwanda, French, and English languages.

"For example, an ideal project might provide information services for timely pricing updates for small crop farmers. Or provide easy-to-understand information on land rights to communities, such as women in rural areas," Mozilla explained, adding: "applicants should make their work available under an open-source license."

The deadline for letter of intent submissions is March 22 and the full application deadline is April 12. The projects will be judged by a committee of Mozilla employees

and advisors.

Applicants must have a "core" team based in Kenya, Tanzania, or the Kiswahili speaking part of DRC. Mozilla will be accepting applications from individuals, small communities, teams, or companies with less than 50 employees. Non-profits are also eligible.

The company is also hoping to prioritize projects from groups who experience digital exclusion due to gender, income inequality, and location.

The organization suggested groups create agricultural

products that can serve as advisory or informational services for farmers and households. Tools that can help people improve their crop yields, streamline their farming methods, boost farm margins or provide information on land rights are some of what Mozilla is looking for.

Some tools could also help farmers keep records of produce or purchases, Mozilla suggested. Mozilla is also hoping for projects that provide voice-enabled bank services or financial literacy support.

'Tanzania has cheaper data services than other East African countries'

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA offers the cheapest mobile internet services in the entire East and Central African region, surveys indicate.

Tanzania is ranked in the top six of 52 countries in Africa, with cheapest data service charges, beating Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo, the Tech-cabal African Country studies of 2021 indicate.

Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) Director General Dr Jabir Bakari unveiled this assessment recently in Dar es Salaam at an interactive meeting with various media outlets.

He said that international studies from different global sources have come up with similar findings that show Tanzania being one of the cheapest countries in the world on data charges as seen in the graphical pictures below.

"This is the manifestation of Tanzania's being one of the countries with cheapest data charges has been revealed by another study, the visual-capitalist worldwide mobile data pricing report 2021, in which Tanzania is ranked 21 cheapest out 155 countries world-wide," he said.

The visual-capitalist mobile data pricing report 2021 says Tanzania is comparatively cheaper at the global level at the rate of GBL.

Dr Bakari cited another study, Cable.co.uk, saying that data has ranked Tanzania as the 32 cheapest out of 230 territories worldwide, beating countries within Africa and other continents.

On average, he said data costs in Tanzania are charged at \$0.75 per gigabyte as picked across a total of 60 mobile plans in the country.

The figure is cheapest across the region, the official said.

While Tanzania is ranked at position number 32 globally and Number 1 in East and Central Africa, its immediate neighbour, Kenya was found to be the second most expensive in the region after DRC.

The Democratic Republic of Congo demands \$2.88 per gigabyte of data on average and is placed at 143rd position, while Kenya is charging an average of \$2.25 per gigabyte, ranked at number 118 globally.

Burundi charging \$2.10 per Gigabyte of data is placed at Number 109 globally, followed by Uganda which charges \$1.56 per 1 GB on average and ranking at Number 86 globally.

Rwanda, the other East African Member States ranks 69th globally; Kigali charges \$1.25 per Gigabyte of Data.

Ranking at number 226 globally, data charges in Malawi can be rather shocking; Lilongwe operators demand \$25.5 per single gigabyte.

Zambia at number 62 at least charges \$11.3 per gigabyte of data, still expensive compared to Tanzania. Mo-



TCRA Director General Dr Jabir Bakari

zambique data charged are fixed at \$2.8 per gigabyte placing the country at number 140 globally.

According to Data.Co.UK the results were rather interesting because most of the countries where mobile data is cheapest are located within and around the former USSR.

Yet countries with some of the most expensive mobile data charges in found in North America, Africa and Western Europe.



Dr Bakari cited another study, Cable.co.uk, saying that data has ranked Tanzania as the 32 cheapest out of 230 territories worldwide, beating countries within Africa and other continents.

Dubai, Tanzania business chambers discuss digital services, smart change

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

A DELEGATION from the Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry & Agriculture was received at the Dubai Chamber of Commerce where it shared best international practices adopted in digital services, membership and smart transformation.

Atiq Juma Nasib, senior vice

president for commercial services at the Dubai Chamber of Commerce; and Abdulla Al Theeb, director of membership and documentation at the chamber received the delegation.

It was headed by Paul Faraj Koyi, president of Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture, and Abdul

Mwilima, Chairman-TCCIA-Kigoma Region.

Nasib said that the economic relations between the business communities in Dubai and Tanzania are solid and historical, stressing the Dubai Chamber of Commerce's keenness to exchange experiences, knowledge and best practices with various chambers of commerce world-

wide to serve common goals.

"Dubai Chamber of Commerce has succeeded in ensuring business continuity and enhancing its competitiveness due to its successful investment in developing a modern digital infrastructure that helped chamber members access all services electronically. The Chamber has succeeded in the smart trans-

formation of its core services to 100 percent. The achievement has positively reflected on the business community in Dubai and the happiness of its customers," he said.

Following the meeting, the delegations toured Dubai Chamber of Commerce's premises and learned about the features and facilities of its envi-

ronmentally-friendly building, as well as the operations of its Membership and Documentation Services Department.

Currently, Dubai Chamber of Commerce provides 50 smart services to Dubai's business community through its website and mobile applications.

These services cover everything from certificates of ori-

gin, attestation, ATA Carnets and credit reports, economic research, market intelligence, policy advocacy, business mentorship, business matching, mediation, to training, seminars and workshops related to e-commerce, startups, sustainability, CSR, legal matters and international expansion.

UN's political hypocrisy – as multi-million-dollar purchases continue from a blacklisted Russia

UNITED NATIONS

THE world's financial institutions, primarily in the US and Europe, have cut off links and economically ostracized Russia for its invasion of Ukraine and violation of the UN charter.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres lambasted the Russians declaring the military invasion "a violation of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine- and inconsistent with the principles of the Charter of the United Nations."

The White House announced last week that the United States and allies will kick certain Russian banks out of a major international banking system, a significant step in a bid to cripple the Russian economy.

Meanwhile, the International Criminal Court in The Hague, has already announced plans to launch a war crime investigation of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

But despite the fact that Russia has been politically and economically isolated as an international pariah, the UN Secretariat is continuing its relationship with Russian companies—buying goods and services, primarily relating to air transportation, information and communication technologies (ICT) and food catering, mostly for the UN's 12 peacekeeping missions.

The approved budget for UN Peace-

keeping operations for the fiscal year 1 July 2021 - 30 June 2022 is a staggering \$6.38 billion. (A/C.5/75/25)—and payments to Russian contractors will flow largely from this budget.

An equally valid question is: how will the UN pay for these purchases and services when Russians have been barred from most of the international banking system.

Last week, the U.S., Canada and Europe tightened financial restrictions on Russia with a new ban that blocks seven Russian banks from using SWIFT, the global messaging system that enables bank transactions. The move was aimed at disrupting Russia's ability to do business across borders.

According to the latest available figures, the UN's purchases from Russia amounted to about \$132.3 million in 2020, with Moscow listed as the 5th largest supplier behind UAE, USA, Kenya and Switzerland.

The UN also has trade links with Russia's largest helicopter operator, UTair - Helicopter Services, described as a leading provider of aviation services to companies in the fuel and energy industries, plus the United Nations.

There have also been rumors that some of the contracting firms have links to Russian oligarchs and high-ranking political officials who have been crippled by US and Western European sanctions.

But apparently not at the United Na-



THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 239 00--

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

WORD-FIT

3 LETTERS: CCM, USE, ANT
 4 LETTERS: SIPE, LAOS, ISLE, PROA, ACME, AVOW, (7 WORDS)
 5 LETTERS: FLOAT, SCORE, EMEND, MINES, WINDS (5 WORDS)
 6 LETTERS: NUANCE, FRANCE, CAREEN, ADDICT TSE TSE (5 WORDS)
 7 LETTERS: SALVAGE
 8 LETTERS: UGANDANS
 10 LETTERS: SALVATIONS

CROSSWORD

CLUES: Across

- made dirty or imperfect by being displayed in a shop
- among
- ulema
- people descended from a common ancestor
- live in a complex social colony
- a person who have access to the World of good and evil spirits
- a student's fraternity
- extending below
- assumed artificially
- not certain
- an Internet service consisting of thousands of newsgroups

Down:

- can be seen in the sky at night
- an obituary
- avoiding work, lazy
- a stoat
- a cylindrical metal container
- an open source of software
- an elected officer in a county, responsible for keeping peace
- a son of a king or Queen
- a playing card with three spots
- a daughter of one's brother
- afflict in mind
- Feed Force Unit in Tanzania

SOLUTIONS

WORD-FIT

BARBARIANS
 ANK
 BOOMS
 AMALAYS
 GANDHI
 SAV
 ACID
 HIR
 MALAYSIA
 ALUM
 YDANGER

CROSSWORD

SALAMANDER
 MASSA
 ETHEME
 SERENE
 GLIAB
 GLIAB
 MEANDERS
 ASIA
 PDLAYER

By Magezi: 0755429240 fehxmagazeti@gmail.com

tions. An Asian diplomat characterized it as UN's "sheer political hypocrisy".

US Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken said February 25 the United States is inflicting unprecedented costs on President Putin and those around him for their brutal and unprovoked assault on the people of Ukraine.

"We are united with our allies and partners in our commitment to ensure the Russian government pays a severe economic and diplomatic price for its further invasion of Ukraine, a sovereign and democratic state", he added.

Meanwhile, the head of the UN's Department of Operational Support, did not respond to two messages—seeking comments on the continued UN trade and economic relationship with Russia.

But Farhan Haque, the UN's deputy spokesperson, was more forthcoming, when he told IPS: "What we can say is that if specific UN sanctions were imposed on the Russian Federation, or sanctions against a particular company or their principals that would affect their ability to perform, then of course we would comply."

The UN does, however, lay down strict rules and guidelines for ethical behaviour of suppliers and contractors. But the violation of a country's sovereignty and the invasion of a member state are not part of those rules.

According to UN guidelines, suppliers and contractors must comply with the United Nations Supplier Code of Conduct and General Conditions of Contract, in particular, the provisions on sexual exploitation, child labour,

discrimination, conditions of work and harassment.

The UN Procurement Division also reminds the UN supplier community, that as a UN registered supplier "you have accepted the United Nations Supplier Code of Conduct, which reflects the core values outlined in the Charter of the United Nations" But a blatant violation of that same charter is apparently not a reason for expulsion.

Meanwhile, the killing spree continues. As of March 3, more than 250 were killed and over 550 injured in continued attacks by Russian military forces inside Ukraine.

The UN has warned that while the scale and scope of displacement is not yet clear, it is expecting more than 10 million people to flee their homes if violence continues, including 4 million people who may cross borders to neighbouring countries triggering a major humanitarian crisis in Europe.

An equally valid question is: how will the UN pay for these purchases and services when Russians have been barred from most of the international banking system

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

| MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME | TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME | WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME | THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME | FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME | SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME | SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME |
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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One

Radio One

BUSINESS



Pension funds eclipsing commercial banks with government top creditor

By Guardian Reporter

PENSION funds lending to the government has continued to increase its pace, after taking the leading position as top domestic creditor, after edging domination of banks.

According to the ministry of finance and planning and Bank of Tanzania computations the share of pension funds lending to government went up to 34.9 percent in January this year from 31.2 percent in January last year.

This follows the increase of the amount borrowed by the government from pension funds to 7.4trn/- in January this year from 4.89trn/- recorded in January last year.

The increase was on account of issuance of 2.1trn/- non-cash bond to Public Service Social Security Fund (PSSSF) in December last year.

The amount was higher than those of commercial banks amounted 6.6trn/- or 31.5 percent in January this year from 5.3trn/- or 34.4 percent in January last year.

Total domestic debt according to the report reached 21.25trn/- in January this year from 15.6 trn/- in January 2021.

The increase was also recorded by Bank of Tanzania, the third top creditor to government, whereby its share increased to 10.9 percent in January this

year from 7.9 percent recorded in January last year.

BOT lending to government nearly doubled to 2.3trn/- in January this year from 1.2trn/- recorded in January last year.

The slowdown of lending to government also recorded on insurance companies, which their shares slowed to 6.8 percent from 8.7 percent respectively. However, the amount of insurance companies lending to the government increased to 1.4trn/- from 1.35trn/- respectively.

The share of BOT Special funds as another category of creditors also went down in percentage, but increased in amount.

The report shows the amount of BOT Special funds lending to government increased to 406bn/- in January this year from 373bn/- in January last year, but its share slowed to 1.9 percent from 2.4 percent respectively.

Other creditors through government debt securities, categorically including public institutions, private companies and individuals also increased their amount of lending to 2.9trn/- in January this year from 2.4trn/- in January last year.

However, their share slowed to 14.1 percent from 15.4 percent respectively.

Wholesale food prices increased in January 2022, BoT report says

By Guardian Reporter

CONSUMERS paid more to obtain food commodities in January this year, compared with both January 2020 and December 2021.

Food, which accounts for the large share of consumer spending, started to rise in December last year due to supply constraints, as some of the cereal stocks, including rice and maize were massively exported to neighbouring countries, crowding local supplies.

The delays of seasonal rainfalls, which went hand in hand with prolonged droughts in food producing areas during the end of last year, also created a market panic, with some traders decided to hold their stock, targeting further rise in price to maximize profits.

However, the National Food Reserve Agency also bought a considerable stock of food commodities last year, doubling available stock to 214,986 tons in December from 110,398 in January 2021.

The BOT monthly Economic Review for February, quoting data from ministry of industry and trade shows the wholesale prices of all featured food commodities were up in January this year, compared with December last year.

The wholesale price of maize, the main staple food among Tanzanians went up to 65,864/- per 100 kilo in January from 57,105/- sold in December last year and 56,866/- in January this year.

This has pushed up the retail price for maize flour by 10 percent to 1,100/- per kilo from previously 1,000 per kilo.



Maize production is expected to decrease by 4.7 percent to 6 million metric tons (MT) in 2021/2022 against demands of 5.9 million tons compared with production of 6.3 million metric tons in 2020/21 due to inclement weather, pest and high input prices.

Market analysts expect the price to remain high during the first quarter of this year, before expected ext harvests during the second quarter of this year.

The report shows the

price of rice also increased to 181,992/- per 100 kilo in January this year from 164,880/- recorded in December 2021 due to increased exports to neighbouring countries.

In 2020 alone, Tanzania exported around 234.3 thousand metric tons of rice. Neighboring countries, such as Uganda and Kenya, are the main destinations for Tanzanian rice exports.

Tanzania also exported rice to Rwanda valued US\$56.27 million during 2021, accord-

ing to the United Nations COMTRADE database on international trade.

Rice is one of the most important food crops produced in almost all regions in the country in more than 26 districts which for the 2018 survey produces 2,219,628 million tons.

The Ministry of agriculture is committed to ensuring that Tanzania increase the area of rice production from 1.1 million hectares in 2018 to 2.2 million hectares by 2030

and thus increase production from 2.2 tons per current hectare to tons 4.4 by 2030.

The BOT report shows the price of beans also increased to 185,156/- per 100 kilo in January this year from 182,164/- in December last year and 144,285/- recorded in January last year.

The wholesale price of sorghum increased to 115,376/- from 109,164/- while those of round potatoes jumped to 78,459/- from 71,898/-.

Tesla receives a permit that will scare its rivals

WASHINGTON

TESLA Inc Report and Chief Executive Elon Musk are officially very close to starting production of cars at their Berlin-based European factory.

After several months of uncertainty, a key German regulator has approved the Austin EV manufacturer's request, according to the German business newspaper Handelsblatt.

Tesla has been waiting for several months for a permit from the German authorities to start manufacturing vehicles in this gigafactory, which will primarily serve the European market.

The company won final approval from the Brandenburg state environment office. Brandenburg State Premier Dietmar Woidke would comment on details of the approval decision at a news conference in Potsdam on Friday, Handelsblatt reported.

This news comes as Lucid Group (LCID) - Get Lucid Group, Inc. Report, one of Tesla's main competitors, has just announced an agreement with Saudi Arabia to start construction of its first international factory in the Kingdom during the current first half. The company expects to manufacture as many as 150,000 vehicles a year at the facility.

Lucid and its luxury electric sedans are considered one of Tesla's most serious rivals. There is no doubt that with the support of Saudi Arabia, which is also a shareholder, the Newark, Calif. manufacturer has the financial means for its ambitions.

Tesla, which disbanded its communications department last year, did

not immediately respond to a request for comment from TheStreet.

The state environment ministry recently said that Tesla would have to meet further requirements and provide evidence before the plan could go into operation, according to the newspaper, which doesn't provide more details.

Early action is possible if nothing fundamentally speaks against the project and the investor implements it at its own risk.

Construction on the gigafactory started two years ago in Grunheide, about an hour southeast of Berlin. Musk had hoped to start production on July 1 last year, but the approval process dragged on, in part because Tesla expanded initial plans to include a battery factory. That led to further hearings.

Elon Musk, founder of Tesla and SpaceX, brought attention on the Clubhouse to new heights after hosting a conversation on the audio social app. Photo: AFP



The state environment ministry recently said that Tesla would have to meet further requirements and provide evidence before the plan could go into operation, according to the newspaper, which doesn't provide more details.



Azam milk processing factory in Zanzibar

Manufacturing, fishing sectors to watch in Zanzibar economy

By Guardian Reporter

Manufacturing has continued to become dominant non-traditional sector of the economy of Zanzibar, after its exports performance in 2022 outpaced seaweeds, which was traditionally the second behind cloves.

The trend more than doubled the industrial raw materials import bill to 58bn/- during the year ending January 2022 from 26.7bn/- recorded during the year ending January 2021, as well as oil imports bill by 90percent to 85bn/- from 44.7bn/- respectively.

Zanzibar total goods exports earnings went up by 181.7 percent to 80.5bn/- in 2022 from 28.5bn/- recorded in 2021 of which more than half were contributed by exports of cloves.

The Bank of Tanzania (BOT) monthly economic review for February has shown that the value of manufactured goods exports increased by nearly 60 percent to 7.6bn/- from 4.8bn/- respectively.

The increased trend has caused manufacturing to outshine seaweeds which its exports earning slowed to 6.3bn/- during the year ending January

2022 from 13.6bn/- earned during the year ending January 2021.

The slowdown of seaweeds exports earning caused by decline in volume and prices as the unit price in 2022 was \$414.3 per ton in 2022 against \$813 per ton in 2021, while volume of exports slowed to 15,300 tons from 16.7 tons respectively.

Another sector which recorded tremendous growth in exports earnings according to BOT review was fish and fish products as the amount went up by 47 percent to 2bn/- in 2022 from 1.3bn/- recorded in 2021. Fish and sea-

weeds are part of blue economy.

However, cloves export has continued to drive the isles foreign exchange earnings as the report shows a total of 59.7bn/- were recorded as the crop exports earnings in 2022 from 6.4bn/- recorded during the year ending January 2021.

Earnings from other exports, which categorically denotes souvenir and spices also showed the rising trend by increasing to 4.8bn/- during the year ending January 2022 from 2.3bn/- recorded during the previous year ending January 2021.

SIDO eyes modern SMEs industrial sheds in six regions

By Beatrice Philemon

SMALL and medium entrepreneurs in four regions will have permanent premises to operate their businesses, after the Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO) planned to construct six industrial sheds worth 2bn/-.

SIDO's director general, Prof. Sylvester Mpanduji (pictured) told The Guardian last week-end that the targeted industrial sheds will be constructed this year in Tanga, Singida, Geita and Kahama district.

The new facilities will enable prospective and existing SMEs to establish or modernize their activities, which will help to promote industrialization.

He said a total of 39.7 acres of land has been allocated in Kahama District, Shinyanga region for construction of two sheds to be constructed at SIDO Industrial area.

In Singida region, he said, 10 acres of land has been set-aside in Manyoni urban to build one shed while in Geita, 20 acres of land has been allocated to build two industrial sheds.

According to SIDO boss, in Tanga region, two industrial

sheds will be built to support SMEs activities.

"Right now we are waiting for money from the government so that we can start implementing the projects," he said. "SIDO has decided to build industrial parks in those areas because the demand is high"

Also SIDO is now inviting different investors, both locals and foreigners, who can support the construction of more industrial sheds in other regions of their choices.

According to him, SIDO has the potential in industrial development support through SMEs sector with capability of technology development and transfer, business development, training, marketing and financial support services.

SIDO says has been working with SMEs for over four decades now and has been practically proved that growth and competitiveness hinges on effective delivery of capacity development services.

This is mainly done through facilitation to impact skills, attitude and knowledge by providing among others training, business management, and consultancy and extension services.



Motivated workers drive corporate success, says HR expert

By Guardian Reporter

CONDUCTIVE working environment coupled with motivated human resources are cornerstones of any private or public organization to thrive since the two factors translate to improved efficiency which leads to desired results.

Many organizations across the globe, including Vodacom Tanzania Plc, are among companies that can attest to this for their success in attracting customer loyalty in markets where they operate.

Based on its ability to attract, develop and retain the best talent, Vodacom Tanzania Plc, has for the 5th time in a row received the Top Employer Africa certification for the year 2021.

The certification is issued by the Top Employer Institute which provides organizations with the ability to leverage employer branding, benchmark practices against other top performers, and globally align policies.

"We pride ourselves on being consistently rated an employer of choice," Vodacom Tanzania Plc's Human Resources Director, Ms. Vivienne Penesis, said during an exclusive interview with this paper.

The HR director attributed the company's ability to deliver requires having access to diverse talent and critical skills, built on a culture of agility, innovation, and customer service, and delivering an employee experience that unlocks personal growth and drives business performance.

Ms. Penesis said the certification serves as a reminder that the company is part of a global community of forward-thinking organizations that continue to strive for the best people practices and further cement its commitment to optimizing and improving business performance.

Asked on what the certification matters for the company, she responded that: "It means we further cement our commitment to optimizing and improving our business performance."

"It also continues to live our spirit behaviors as these are key cornerstones to our success. These include earning customer loyalty, creating the future, experimenting, learning fast, and getting it done together".

She boasts further that a good employer makes going to work each day fun, rewarding, and challenging, adding that a great place to work cares about and supports its employees while also challenging them to grow with the company.

"We try to meet our staff's financial, mental, physical, and emotional needs. As result, they are often more productive, satisfied, and willing to stay."

"In addition to the regulatory policies, we also have policies which



Vodacom Tanzania Plc's Human Resources Director, Ms. Vivienne Penesis (R) presents a certificate of participation to BMTL's Hilda Nkaidemi during a previous occupational health and safety month (PHOTO/FILE)

cover healthy, safety and well-being, parental leave, mental health, speak up, equal opportunity policies, and many more," she explained during the interview.

Ms. Penesis cited what she described as the boarding process for the company's staff as one among many of the best practices it has in place which encourages hiring managers to take ownership of the candidate's experience.

As a result, this provides opportunities for new employees to build key relationships and articulate heartfelt excitement to have the new employee in the top team.

For customers, the communication company has an approach in empowering the

digital lives by digitizing and optimizing the customer experience by scaling financial services in Tanzania by offering to empower the lives of customers through financial inclusion.

The HR director mentioned facilitation of the company's transition to a future-fit tech company by putting in place a strong focus embedding the spirit of Vodacom, by undertaking a range of employee engagements to strengthen the purpose of the company.

These include deepening a culture that fosters innovation, teamwork, and agile learning which increases both individual and team autonomy.

"It is also encouraging to see that we scored highest in

terms of the Team Spirit Index and engagement scores across the Vodacom Group, reflecting positively on the culture change work we have been doing," she explained.

During an interview last year, the then Managing Director of Vodacom Tanzania said the company is always keen to provide the right set-up and policies which enable women to rise into leadership positions through various initiatives.

According to Ms. Penesis, the communication firm believes in creating an environment where all employees thrive through practices and policies centered on this.

"With regards to women, we have a global target as Vodafone to be recognized as

the world's best employer for women by 2025. This we believe will be achieved by supporting women at every stage of their professional lives in the workplace, and outside as well," she detailed.

"We have put strategies and programs in place to ensure we meet this target as a market including parental leave, sexual harassment policy, and domestic violence policy, among others," she said of inclusivity of women.

The company invested 1.5bn/- in recent years to provide training and promote the career development of its staffs. The programs include, women in leadership program, Vodacom Advanced Executive Programme (VAEP), empowering girls and driving inclusion in technology, gender smart for leaders, and menopause kit.

The executive pointed to the fact that gender disparity between men and women in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) careers is alarming worldwide and yet research shows that these are the jobs of the future in driving innovation, social wellbeing, inclusive growth, and sustainable development.

"We believe that there needs to be a concerted effort both from government, private sector and academia to encourage young girls still in school to take up STEM subjects and this way close the gap in the field."

"And that is exactly what we aim to achieve through our #CodeLikeAGirl program, we want a future without a gender gap to ensure diversity and drive innovation in the country," she stated.

Coding is a way of solving problems, sequential thinking and stimulating, creating and designing. The 'Code like a Girl' program aims to develop coding skills and valuable life skills for girls aged between 14-18 years and encourages them to consider the uptake of ICT and STEM subjects. It provides influential mentors for the girls to inspire them to be passionate about technology and its possibilities.

Asked about the secret behind the company's performance, motivation, and

retention she mentioned competitive remuneration and personal development opportunities by investing in employee's training and leadership development, including upskilling employees for digital transformation.

Others are implementation of agile business processes across business units, regular engagement with employees to ensure consistent delivery on targets in addition to a continued commitment to building a reputation as a quality employer, and sustained focus on employee's safety and health.

The HR director stated further that the company continues to identify and attract talent from outside its traditional business areas to ensure it gets the right capabilities for new business activities, including in areas such as data science, machine learning, and agile processes.

"Our Discover Graduate Program offers graduates a full rounded experience of the business including mentorship and coaching, and on-the-job training, all whilst earning a full salary and enjoying all the benefits of a full-time employee."

"At the end of the one year, the graduate will transition into a destination role within the organization. Following successful completion of the program, there will be opportunities to apply for more stretch assignments locally and internationally outside of his/her comfort zone to build their expertise and leadership capability."

This year, using an online approach due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Vodacom Tanzania recruited 16 new graduates from an initial application of 1,700 applicants.

Furthermore, the company will be rolling out executive employee wellbeing program, supporting staff through the provision of digital wellbeing tools and embedding wellbeing into every aspect of our work

As part of a drive to become a digitally-led company, Vodacom Tanzania Plc has been accelerating the automation and digitization of the various employee engagement activities.

Gold is seen walking a tightrope as equities rise

PARIS

GOLD is once again hoping to prove itself the key hedge against instability, with a Russian war on Ukraine running into its eighth day and Western sanctions crippling Moscow, but so far, "flat" is the safe-haven word of the day.

Gold has gained about \$144 per ounce in the last 30 days, and in theory, this is the perfect situation for it to soar. That hasn't happened yet, despite Barrick Gold CEO Mark Bristow's insistence that the threat of the Russian-Ukraine war could lead to a market collapse.

"If you look at this crisis, there's a whole lot of potential of unintended consequences. We've got very hot markets, and we are now going to really stress the global economy out. Everyone's going to be impacted. If this goes on for much longer...the threat of that is it could collapse the market," Bristow told Kitco.

We've been enjoying the longest-running bull run in history, and plenty have been calling its end well before Russia invaded Ukraine.

But at least as of Wednesday, the market disagreed, returning to the rally, with stocks and Treasury yields rising despite oil's exorbitant climb to its highest prices in over ten years.

Yes, a geopolitical upset on the scale of NATO countries shoring up their defenses in preparation for a Russian push beyond Ukraine is exactly the kind of event that can turn a bull run into a bear run, at best, and sanctions will bite everyone.

By Monday, Russia was reeling under sanctions, with the Central Bank more than doubling its key interest rate from 9.5% to 20%. The Russian ruble has lost around 30% of its value. On Wednesday, it plunged to a record low of 110 to the dollar in Moscow, and just shy of 100 on other trading platforms, according to Reuters.

But back at home, the Fed on Thursday eased market fears a bit, leaving gold flat, when Fed chair Jerome Powell said interest rates would only be raised by 25 basis points in March instead of what some feared would be double that. He also boosted markets by saying that inflation is expected to be moderate for the remainder of the year, keeping in mind that it's already at its highest level in four decades.

While gold typically loves it when the Fed plans to raise interest rates, the Fed proved to be less aggressive, taking some of the shine out of gold.

Gold was stuck in a range between \$1,924 and \$1,933 on Thursday, waiting to see what peace talks between Russia and Ukraine might deliver, with many taking the view that Putin might agree to a ceasefire amid an economic disaster at home, and as the Ukrainians—who are getting new Western weapons every day—continue to hold strong.

With the US dollar still showing strength, investors aren't pouring into gold as a safe haven—yet.

Gold has been languishing for years now, and even a high-level conflict that threatens all of Europe, and potentially a World War III scenario hasn't yet managed to lift it out of its price purgatory.

That could change, as Bristow suggests, but for now, too many other things are working against it, even if we are building up to a "war premium".



WORLD

Ukraine, Russia to hold next round of talks today

KIEV

UKRAINE and Russia are expected to hold the next round of peace talks today, David Arakhamia, member of the Ukrainian delegation, said Saturday.

"The third round of talks will take place on Monday," Arakhamia wrote on Facebook.

Ukrainian Presidential Advisor Mykhailo Podolyak said Friday the third round of talks between Ukraine and Russia will take place on Saturday or Sunday, according to local media.

Russian President Vladimir Putin said in a telephone conversation with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz Friday that Russia is open to dialogue with

Ukraine. He hoped that Kiev would take a "reasonable and constructive stance" during a third round of talks between Russia and Ukraine.

Ukraine and Russia held the previous two rounds of talks on Feb 28 and March 3.

Also on Saturday, Putin said Russia has "practically" completed the mission of destroying Ukraine's main military infrastructure, including weapon warehouses, ammunition depots, aviation and air defense systems.

Russian forces will fulfill all their assigned tasks and the operation in Ukraine is proceeding in accordance with the plan and schedule, Putin said at a meeting with women flight crews of Russian airlines.



Photo taken on March 3, 2022 shows a view of the second round of talks between Russian and Ukrainian delegations at the Belovezhskaya Pushcha on the Belarus-Poland border. (PHOTO / BELTA NEWS AGENCY VIA XINHUA)

Commenting on a new wave of Western sanctions, Putin said they are akin to a "declaration of war."

He stressed that there is no need to introduce a state of emergency in Russia.

It was "a difficult decision" to launch a special military operation in Ukraine, but there are "absolutely real threats" to Russia, the president said.

If Ukraine joins the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the whole military bloc is obliged to support Kiev militarily and Ukraine may get into Crimea, leading to direct clashes between Russia and NATO, Putin warned.

As Russia demands demilitarization of Ukraine, Putin said there are many different options on the negotiating table with Kiev.

WHO: Global COVID-19 deaths near 6m

GENEVA / ADDIS ABABA / KIGALI

THE number of COVID-19 deaths worldwide is close to 6 million, according to the latest data from the World Health Organization (WHO).

Globally, there have been 440,807,756 confirmed COVID-19 cases, including 5,978,096 deaths, reported to WHO as of Friday, according to the international health watchdog's dashboard.

The Europe region topped the list with 181,275,264 confirmed cases, while the Americas ranked second with 147,655,931 confirmed cases.

The United States, India and Brazil were the top three countries with the highest number of confirmed cases, it said.

The WHO also reported that nearly 10.6 billion vaccine doses have been administered globally as of Feb 27.

Africa

The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Africa has reached 11,220,954 as of Saturday evening, the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) said.

The Africa CDC, the specialized healthcare agency of the African Union, said the death toll from the pandemic across the continent stands at 249,536.

Some 10,466,353 patients across the continent have recovered from the disease so far, it noted.

South Africa has recorded the most COVID-19 cases in Africa with 3,681,437 cases, while northern African countries Morocco and Tunisia reported 1,161,506 and 1,003,255 cases respectively, it said.

In terms of the caseload, southern Africa is the most affected region, followed by the northern and eastern parts of the continent, while central Africa is the least affected region in the continent, according to the Africa CDC.

Rwanda

The Rwandan government has lifted a midnight-to-4 am curfew on people's movement, effective Saturday for the first time since the outbreak of COVID-19 in March 2020.

"Curfew is lifted. However, nightclubs, live bands, bars, receptions, and betting activities shall close by 2 am," said a cabinet communique issued by the Office of the Prime Minister late Friday. The cabinet also decided that citizens and Rwanda residents must be fully vaccinated in order to access public places.

According to the communique, private businesses and public offices including social gatherings will operate at full capacity.

However, wearing a face mask in public places remains mandatory.

Physical conferences, services held at places of worship, restaurants, bars and gyms are to be conducted in full capacity of venues, while outdoor settings are highly encouraged.

Attendance to any social gathering and event will require a negative COVID-19 test taken at least 48 hours before.

All sports activities and sports fans in stadiums will be permitted as long as they are fully vaccinated.

Land borders shall reopen starting Monday March 7 and people may be subject to random COVID-19 testing by the ministry of health upon entry, according to the communique.

Arriving and departing passengers at Kigali International Airport must present a negative COVID-19 PCR test taken 72 hours prior to departure.

All departing Rwandans must be vaccinated, said the communique.

Public buses will also operate at full capacity with seated passengers and 75 percent of non-seated passengers, operators must ensure that all passengers are fully vaccinated and penalties shall be applied in case of non-compliance, according to the communique.

The new measures take effect on Saturday, March 5 and will be revised after one month upon health assessment.

The Rwandan health ministry announced on Thursday that the 60 percent of the Rwandan population has been fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

Rwanda has witnessed a fall in COVID-19 infections since the beginning of 2022.



A medical worker injects a second dose of Astra Zeneca vaccine to a patient in a COVID-19 (coronavirus) vaccination center in Kigali, on May 27, 2021. File photo

China's 'two sessions' start in crucial year for modernisation

BEIJING

CHINA'S top political advisory body started its annual session on Friday, marking the beginning of the country's major political gatherings in a crucial year for its march toward modernisation.

President Xi Jinping and other Chinese leaders attended the opening meeting of the fifth session of the 13th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing.

In the past year, the CPPCC National Committee and its standing committee had performed their duties with a focus on getting a five-year blueprint off to a great start, further built the CPPCC as a special consultative body to improve the performance of the CPPCC system, and made new contributions to the cause of the Party and the country, Wang Yang, chairman of the CPPCC National Committee, said at the meeting.

In 2022, the CPPCC committees will see their work revolving around the 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China, said Wang.

Dubbed the "two sessions," China's major political season also includes the annual gathering of the National People's Congress (NPC), the country's top legislature. The NPC session will open on Saturday.

The "two sessions" are of great importance in the country's political calendar, during which development targets will be made for the year and beyond.

This year's "two sessions" carry extra weight, as the Party will convene its national congress in the second half of the year. Meanwhile, the gatherings are held in the second year of the 14th Five-Year Plan period (2021-2025) and at a time the world is reeling from the lingering COVID-19 pandemic, weak economic recovery and volatile regional situations.

Liu Zhongmin, a national political advisor, said the "two sessions" will forge a synergy among the Chinese people and firm up their confidence in overcoming difficulties.

The government work report, to be unveiled on Saturday, sits



The fifth session of the 13th National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) opens at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, capital of China, on Friday. (Xinhua)

high on the agenda of the "two sessions," and a slew of key economic targets, such as gross domestic product (GDP) growth, employment and foreign trade, are set to be announced.

Despite sporadic COVID-19 resurgences and a complicated external environment, China's GDP in 2021 expanded 8.1 percent to 114.4 trillion yuan (about 18 trillion U.S. dollars), while its GDP per capita rose to 12,500 U.S. dollars, surpassing the global average.

Observers say that China's role in the global economic recovery is extremely important, and it is perhaps the only major power that can play such a role today.

Zhang Lianqi, a member of the CPPCC National Committee, said the "two sessions," held at a new crucial juncture, will specify goals and missions in reform and development in the "crucial year."

Economic stability will be a priority for policymaking. Although the targets for economic and social development will not be unveiled until Saturday, experts have been optimistic about the economic outlook.

"As long as China stabilizes the economy, it can overcome the adverse effects of the pandemic,

maintain people's livelihoods and get a head start in the new round of development," said Zhang Lianqi, a researcher with the Development Research Center of the State Council.

Having successfully eliminated absolute poverty and realized the goal of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects, China is now striding forward on a new journey of building a modern socialist country. A focus of the "two sessions" will be how to make progress in key fields.

Earlier this year, China unveiled its "No. 1 central document" for 2022, outlining vital tasks to comprehensively advance rural vitalization. The year 2022 will be a crucial year for aligning the efforts of consolidating and expanding poverty alleviation achievements with rural vitalization endeavors.

Promoting common prosperity and improving people's lives are also poised to be included in the roadmap for the new journey.

Liu Xueliang, a researcher with the Institute of Economics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, said that high-quality development is the foundation for common prosperity. Liu high-

lighted efforts to address problems such as regional, urban-rural and income disparities.

Stabilizing employment is an issue that garners widespread attention, as it is a key to protecting people's livelihoods.

Guo Weimin, a spokesperson for the fifth session of the 13th National Committee of the CPPCC, told a press conference on Thursday that China's continued economic recovery and robust growth in new industries and business models will help stabilize employment by creating more jobs.

Members of the CPPCC National Committee have advised that special attention be paid to key groups, such as university graduates, migrant workers and people with difficulties, calling for targeted assistance to these groups, Guo said.

In addition, a wide range of topics, such as housing, child policy, and elderly care, are expected to be discussed.

At the NPC annual session, Chinese lawmakers will review a draft amendment to the Organic Law of the Local People's Congresses and Local People's Governments. Adopted in 1979, the law will go through its sixth amendment, in which a people-

centered philosophy of development and whole-process people's democracy are highlighted.

Lawmakers will deliberate a draft decision on the number of deputies to the 14th NPC and their election. They will also review two draft methods for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) and the Macao SAR to elect their deputies to the 14th NPC.

On the diplomatic front, it is highly anticipated that China will continue to play a vital role in the multilateral agenda of global governance in 2022.

Ruan Zongze, executive vice president of the China Institute of International Studies, said that by leveraging the leading role of head-of-state diplomacy, China will further expand its circle of friends and cooperation with other countries for win-win results.

Zhou Hanmin, a national political advisor from Shanghai, said that the Chinese people often say victory should be secured at the starting line, and the principle applies to the goal of basically achieving socialist modernization by 2035.

"The year 2035 is not far away. We should seize every minute," Zhou said. *Xinhua*

Iran, IAEA agree to settle nuclear issues in boost for Vienna talks

VIENNA

IRAN and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on Saturday agreed on a roadmap to resolve Iran's nuclear safeguards issues by June, a vital step as talks in Vienna over reviving the 2015 Iran nuclear deal entered the final stage.

The IAEA released a joint statement by its Director-General Rafael Grossi and Mohammad Eslami, president of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI), after the two met in Tehran early Saturday.

The statement said the AEOI will

provide to the IAEA written explanations about nuclear materials found at undeclared sites in Iran by March 20. By June, the IAEA chief will aim to report the conclusion on the issues after the agency's review.

The two sides agreed on the roadmap as negotiators in Vienna said they are close to reaching a deal on restoring the Iran nuclear deal, formally known as the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA).

Enrique Mora, the European Union's coordinator for the Vienna talks, tweeted on Thursday that the negotiations have entered the "final

stages," but "some relevant issues are still open and success is never guaranteed in such a complex negotiation."

Iran's safeguards issues are reportedly one of the outstanding issues in the negotiations in the Austrian capital. Safeguards, in the IAEA's parlance, refer to the agency's inspections and verification of a country's nuclear program.

Grossi on Saturday said in Tehran when meeting Eslami that the Vienna talks and the Iran-IAEA cooperation are interrelated, adding that if Iran and the IAEA do not reach an agreement on safeguards issues, it will be

difficult to reach an agreement in Vienna.

Eslami said that one of Iran's red lines at the final stage of the Vienna talks is that "the alleged cases should be closed forever and do not cause any inconvenience."

Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian also highlighted on Saturday the need for an independent, professional and impartial approach by the IAEA to Iran, according to the foreign ministry website.

The JCPOA was signed in 2015 between Iran and the P5+1 (namely the five permanent members of the Unit-

ed Nations Security Council -- China, France, Russia, Britain and the United States, plus Germany), together with the EU.

However, former US President Donald Trump unilaterally pulled Washington out of the pact in May 2018 and re-imposed sanctions on Iran, which prompted the latter to drop some of its nuclear commitments and advance its halted nuclear programs.

Since April 2021, Iran and the five remaining parties to the JCPOA have held rounds of talks in Vienna to revive the deal.

Xinhua

Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amir Abdollahian also highlighted on Saturday the need for an independent, professional and impartial approach by the IAEA to Iran

China advances green, low-carbon development in systematic way

By Zhou Renjie

VARIOUS parts of China are making concrete efforts to accelerate the country's comprehensive transition to a greener economy and society.

Many regions across the country recently issued their blueprints for green and low-carbon development during the local "two sessions", the annual meetings of lawmakers and political advisors at various levels.

Beijing will promote the synergy of anti-pollution and carbon reduction work and make steady strides toward the goal of carbon neutrality; Shanghai plans to develop its Chongming Island into a carbon neutral island, Changxing Island into a low-carbon one, and Hengsha Island a zero carbon one, and actively build carbon neutrality demonstration zone; east China's Zhejiang province is going to implement a comprehensive resource conservation strategy to encourage economical and intensive use as well as recycling of resources and promote a simpler, greener and low-carbon lifestyle.

The year 2021 marks the start of China's 14th Five-Year Plan period (2021-2025) and a milestone year for synergizing the reduction of pollution and carbon emissions and promoting the all-round green transformation in economic and social development.

In 2021, China was fully committed to high-quality development that prioritizes eco-environmental protection and green and low-carbon ways of life and production,



Photo taken on Jan. 8, 2022, shows wind turbines on Qushan island, Daishan county, Zhoushan city, east China's Zhejiang province. (Photo by Yao Feng/People's Daily Online)

and made notable achievements in promoting green transformation in economic and social development.

The country made good progress in resource conservation, with its energy consumption per gross domestic product (GDP) dropping 2.7 percent year on year.

Clean energy consumption saw rapid growth in the country. Renewable energy, including natural gas and hydroelectric, nuclear, wind, and solar power, accounted for 25.3 percent of China's total energy consumption in 2021, one percentage point higher than that a year before.

Power generated by renewable energy sources climbed to 2.48 trillion kWh, which made up 29.8

percent of China's total electricity consumption last year. Meanwhile, the production of green products grew rapidly in 2021, with the country's output of new energy vehicles (NEVs) and photovoltaic cells surging 145.6 percent and 42.1 percent year on year, respectively.

Green and low-carbon development also serves as an opportunity to promote the transformation and upgrading of China's economic structure. Last year, south China's Guangdong province made great efforts to promote green manufacturing and clean production, and gathered pace in adjusting its energy structure. The province newly put into operation offshore wind power projects with a total

installed power generation capacity of 5.49 million kW, solar power plants with a combined installed capacity of 2.25 million kW, and pumped-storage hydropower stations with a total capacity of 700,000 kW, suggested a report on the work of the People's Government of Guangdong Province.

To supply natural gas and hydrogen energy for the hosting of a green Winter Olympics in Beijing, China's state-owned pipeline giant China Oil & Gas Piping Network Corporation (PipeChina) brought into operation four new pipelines at the end of last year, and other companies including China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC) and China Petrochemical Corpora-



A hydrogen filling station attendant refuels a vehicle for the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics in Yanqing district, Beijing, Jan. 31, 2022. (Photo by Hu Qingming/People's Daily Online)

tion (Sinopec) have built and put into use over 30 hydrogen refueling stations. These achievements reflected how much China valued clean energy in the preparations for the Beijing Winter Olympics. The grand sports event in Beijing has achieved 100 percent green power supply for all venues for the first time in the history of the Olympics and is expected to consume a total of about 400 million kWh of green electricity, which can cut the consumption of standard coal by 128,000 tons and carbon dioxide emissions by 320,000 tons.

It's believed that only by seizing the opportunities brought by green and low-carbon development can China accelerate the formation of

industrial structures, production modes, ways of work and life and spatial configurations that help conserve resources and protect the environment.

Green development is the foundation of a better life and the expectation of the people. However, China is facing long-term and arduous tasks in promoting both high-standard ecological and environmental protection and high-quality economic development. These tasks, which range from accelerating green renovation of old urban buildings to improve energy efficiency and lower carbon emissions to adopting building-integrated photovoltaics (BIPV), promoting environmental governance

trusteeship services and facilitating the development of green and eco-friendly industries, make it imperative that the country adopts a holistic approach while addressing minor problems in the transformation of its way of development and people's lifestyle.

Attaining to the broad and great while addressing the delicate and minute, China is leveraging its strengths in coordinating the work of various parties and forging synergy to achieve the goal of green and low-carbon development.

The country aims to realize the complete transition to a greener economy and society and continue to maintain its steady and healthy economic development in the new

China lends a hand to Tanzania's sisal industry

By Li Zhiwei, Zou Song

AROUND 300 kilometers west of the Tanzanian port city of Dar es Salaam lies a vast sisal farm built by the Tanzanian branch of the China-Africa Agriculture Investment Co., Ltd. There, Chinese agricultural technologies have turned wilderness into fertile farmland.

Orderly production of sisal fibers is witnessed in the sisal farm. In a newly built warehouse, bags of finished products are neatly piled up, waiting to be shipped overseas.

According to Wang Lusheng, chief engineer of the sisal farm, the place was covered by bushes where only weeds and venomous snakes were seen 18 years ago. Now, over 2,000 hectares of sisals have been planted, producing nearly 2,000 tonnes of fibers on an annual basis. It has grown into one of the major sources of sisal products in Tanzania, Wang said.

Sisal fibers, resilient and corrosion-resistant, have wide application scenarios. They can be used for making towropes, elevator cables and transport cables.

The tropical country of Tanzania is a world-renowned producer of sisals. It was once hailed as "Sisal Kingdom." However, sisal industry had experienced a major contraction in the country over the recent years.

"We have constantly gained experiences in sisal planting, and both the quality and quantity of sisals planted in our farm are the best in this region," said Guan Shanyuan, general manager of the sisal farm.

"To revitalize the sisal industry is an opportunity for Tanzania's economic development. Local sisal association once said



An employee of the Tanzanian branch of the China-Africa Agriculture Investment Co., Ltd. is cutting sisals on a sisal farm of the company. (People's Daily Online/Yuan Jirong)

that China's investment has boosted the local sisal industry. Under the Belt and Road Initiative, the enhanced cooperation between China and Africa on agricultural modernization is creating bright prospects for local development," the general manager said.

Such Chinese support is extending the sisal industrial chain in Tanzania. In a town in Tanga Region in northeast Tanzania, the Chengdu Institute of Biology

under the Chinese Academy of Sciences has built a demonstration project of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization together with its German partners.

"This is the world's first sisal waste liquid biogas power generation facility in the world. It generates a huge amount of electricity in an environment-friendly manner," said a staff member of the project.

The project, completed in 2008 with a



An employee of the Tanzanian branch of the China-Africa Agriculture Investment Co., Ltd. is polishing sisal fibers. (People's Daily Online/Yuan Jirong)

designed installed capacity of 30MW, is able to supply the entire town. Over the past 14 years, sisal waste biogas power generation facilities have been built in many places across Tanzania, accounting for three percent to five percent of the country's total power generation. Sisal is a raw material for making hard fibers, but only two percent to four percent of its constituents can be used for fiber making. Thanks to Chinese demonstration sisal projects, sisal waste has been fully exploited in Tanzania, which can both be transferred into combustible gas for power genera-

tion and generate organic solid and liquid fertilizer.

It is learned that the sisal waste generated by two sisal carders a day can be made into 350 cubic meters of liquid fertilizer and 40 tonnes of solid fertilizer, generate 1,500 cubic meters of biogas and make 2,250 kilowatt-hours of electricity.

Biogas technology treats pollution and generates energy at the same time. It is applicable in developing countries. From Madagascar to Lesotho, and from Benin to Cote d'Ivoire, Chinese biogas technology is taking root across the African continent.

China marches toward goal of common prosperity at steady pace

By Ping Lun

ON its journey toward the goal of common prosperity, China has allowed some people to become prosperous first, and encouraged these people to inspire and give a helping hand to those following in their wake.

In April 2018, 20 farmers, who are also members of the Communist Party of China (CPC), in Huangdu village, Anji county, east China's Zhejiang province, wrote a letter to Chinese President Xi Jinping, also general secretary of the CPC Central Committee, saying that they would like to donate 15 million tea seedlings to people in poverty-stricken areas so as to help them become well-off in the way people in Huangdu village did.

During the past few years, Huangdu village has not only donated tea seedlings to some once-impoverished regions, but sent technical instructors to help people who received the seedlings select and grow them as well as pick and dry tea leaves. As it turns out, these tea seedlings have not only helped the counties that received the tea seedlings become better-off, but sown the seeds of hope for a prosperous life in more areas.

The story is a vivid demonstration of how people who become well-off first help the latecomers achieve prosperity.

Achieving common prosperity for all Chinese people is an abiding commitment of the CPC.

However, it should be noted that in China, a country with a vast territory and a large population, regions are different from one another in terms of natural resource endowment and foundation of development, which means that the goal of common prosperity is neither to bring prosper-

ity to everyone simultaneously, nor to see that regions reach a certain level of affluence all at the same time.

Different groups of people vary not only in terms of the level of prosperity they can potentially achieve, but also the length of time they need to achieve it. Furthermore, it would be impossible to develop all regions at the same pace because of the gaps in wealth that still exist between them.

Therefore, the realization of common prosperity is a dynamic process of pushing ahead. Instead of bringing prosperity to everyone simultaneously, ensuring all regions reach the same level of affluence at the same time, and building an egalitarian or a welfare state, China's goal of common prosperity requires a process of gradually achieving prosperity for all along a path featuring changes from the parts to the whole and from quantitative changes to qualitative transformation.

In terms of the specific method, the country allows some people and regions to become prosperous first, and encourage them to provide assistance for those latecomers.

Encouraging some people to embrace prosperity first, the country has invigorated its social and economic



Local farmers pick vegetables at a planting base established by Guangping county, Handan city, north China's Hebei province, for the purpose of helping farmers increase income, Feb. 24, 2022. (People's Daily Online/Cheng Xuehu)

development, mobilized the enthusiasm of entrepreneurs, and facilitated the healthy development of various types of capital. Meanwhile, it has strived to help the latecomers to become well-off by promoting social equity, properly adjusting excessive income, and encouraging high-income groups and enterprises to give back to society, in a bid to gradually achieve common prosperity.

Just as a happy life is achieved through hard

work, common prosperity can only be created with ingenuity and effort. It is not something that will arrive naturally, but will only be realized through the joint efforts of all Chinese people.

The country believes that only by encouraging people to increase income and become rich through hard work, honest labor, lawful operations, creating conditions that are more inclusive and fair for people to get better education

and improve their development capabilities, and shaping a development environment that provides chances for more people to become wealthy, can it enable every person to enjoy self-development and serve society, and ensure equal opportunities for all to live a rewarding life and realize their dreams.

On top of that, China plans to establish basic institutional arrangements enabling coordination and complementarity between the primary, secondary, and tertiary distribution and intensify efforts to regulate distribution through taxation, social insurance, and transfer payments while also working to make these efforts more precise, so as to make development more balanced, coordinated, and inclusive and the gains of development benefit all people in a more substantial and equitable way. Various kinds of market entities are the main participants in economic activities, the main providers of employment opportunities and the main promoters of technological progress, playing a very important role in national economic development.

Enterprises, among all kinds of market entities, have not only economic and legal responsibilities, but social and moral ones. Only entrepreneurs who sincerely repay society and earnestly fulfill their social responsibilities can win social recognition and meet the needs of the times.

The Guardian

SPORT

Namungo FC attacker enjoys tremendous goal-scoring form

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

NAMUNGO FC striker, Reliants Lusajo, is currently leading the goal-scoring list in the 2021/22 NBC Premier League.

He has 10 goals and looks set to be prolific this season.

The footballer is a Tanzanian, not a foreigner. Simba SC striker John Bocco had been doing so regularly. We are used to it.

Bocco has done so since he was the Azam FC forward and now he has continued with the Msimbazi Street squad.

He gets a lot of assists at Simba and it is probably one of the reasons he is doing well.

But now we are heading to the domestic top-flight second round and the top scorer is Lusajo.

The number of goals scored is often called a 'double figure'.

Some domestic players score those goals but on top of that, some foreign players dominate.

Lusajo has been a standout footballer given that he plays Namungo FC.

And now there are a lot of rumors about Lusajo. It is alleged that Yanga and Simba SC want him. Right there one might think.

Lusajo indeed has the right to go to those popular teams because the two clubs' strikers are not doing well this season except Yanga's Fiston Mayele who continues to score regularly this season.

Bocco has not scored in the Premier League so far. Yanga attacker Heritier Makambo has not scored in the Premier League so far.

Chris Mugalul of Simba has not scored a goal so far in the Premier League.

Is Lusajo looking to be the right answer for either Simba or Yanga? Is he a one-season wonder player who will not exhibit his edge after joining one of the sides? Is he a real-worthy player?

Can the giant clubs get rid of Mugalul, Makambo, or Bocco and then trust Lusajo?

It is a question that football fans are starting to ask quietly after seeing Lusajo challenge the popular sides' strikers in the Premier League goal scoring this season.

The footballer has not only been scoring but also playing well and does not seem to be guessing.

He troubles opposing squads' defenders and has been scoring goals.

He seems to be a particularly natural striker and he has started to contribute to the senior national team.

Tanzania's football enthusiasts ought to remember how he worked hard to create a scoring chance for Simon Msuva's goal in the World Cup qualifier between the Taifa Stars and DR Congo in Lubumbashi when Taifa Stars missed attacker Mbwana Samatta who exhibits his virtuosity in the offensive line.

There are two issues. First and foremost, anyone who does well deserves a reward.

For a footballer, when he excels he deserves a good contract either at his squad or wherever such a player plans to go.

A football career is a very short life. If Lusajo's agent receives about 50m/- on the table as a signing fee from any team be it local or elsewhere then I would advise him to go. He has never earned that money in his life.

He may turn such an amount down if he has another business off the field.

We often blame local players who go to Simba and Yanga without looking at personal life information.

If no club elsewhere puts that amount on the table then Simba, Yanga or Azam FC offer the same amount, there is nothing a footballer can do other than seal the deal.

The issue of whether or not to play will be determined before the trip. The problem is that there is a huge gap between Namungo FC and either Simba or Yanga.

Domestic football has no chance of producing players like Harry Kane who can play for Tottenham Hotspurs for a long time without going to Real Madrid, Manchester City FC, Chelsea, or Manchester United.

Yet the other side of Lusajo going outside is a little scary. Many players were



Reliants Lusajo

advised the same way but when they moved to either Simba or Yanga they lacked consistency.

They include Adam Salamba, Waziri Junior, Charles Ilamfya, Mohamed Rashid, and others.

Simba's Yusuph Mhili is, at least, the one who has started pushing himself right now.

What will happen? There are many issues. Some lack confidence due to pressure brought about by the footballer's club's popularity.

Others also lack trust because of the presence of many players in their position in the club.

It is now easier to appreciate Lusajo with Namungo FC than doing so once the player heads to either Simba or Yanga.

Lusajo's teammates at Namungo FC are comfortable playing with him. They have surrounded him and know that he is their star.

When he makes a mistake no one can blame him much. Many balls will be sent to him. There are also not many fans to blame and ridicule him, let alone insult him.

If a footballer moves to either Simba or Yanga he finds competition and it takes away the performer's importance.

Not every ball needs to be passed to the performer.

If he makes a mistake he will be insulted by the fans especially if he is yet to wow such followers.

There is a difference between the mistake committed by Yanga's Mayele and the mistake that Lusajo does. This is the life of Simba and Yanga.

Many footballers are unable to withstand this pressure. As a result, they find themselves embroiled in a fear of playing.

What is more, is that the sides do not give the footballers time to adjust to the environment.

Within just one season a footballer can be released on loan. If Bocco was in his first season at Simba, he would have been loaned out somewhere.

If he goes to a famous side, will it be easy for the footballer to withstand the pressure or will it be the same for the likes of Salamba?

This is where deceit reigns. A club brings a footballer in without evaluating his game.

I hope that Lusajo will continue to do well. But we have to be patient after the player moves to a popular squad.

He used to play at Yanga but today the story is different. Yanga currently needs a physically and mentally fit player to join the team directly.

But we can never know. We may also have found a successor to Bocco in local football.

In recent years there have been many players playing in various positions who play in popular local outfits but Bocco happens to be the only one who plays in the offensive area.

Lusajo might be Bocco's rightful successor. We can never know.

Giving youthful national teams' newcomers a chance is Karia's soccer leadership philosophy

By Correspondent John Kimbute

A whole breadth of commentators and soccer watchers were lately ill at ease with remarks by Wallace Karia, president of the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) and has experience at an equivalent role for the Council of East and Central African Football Associations (CECAFA) that top clubs need to put aside aged players.

Since his club sympathies are likely to be well known, and some initiatives of his closest assistants are still fresh in the mind, not to say raw on the skin, the intention could easily be guessed at.

While that summation is not entirely at fault, there are hidden aspects not being taken note of.

Looking at some pronouncements that the TFF leader has made since coming into office back in 2017 and then took over at CECAFA two years later, one comes up with the impression that he has lately expressed his disappointment over youthful players not being given adequate chances to show their skills.

It is partly an expression of his sentiments but it also has to do with a streak of thinking among TFF leaders for many years.

There was a time they organized a nationwide youth journey to get talent



Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) president, Wallace Karia.

for Taifa Stars!

That kind of inclination and mode of pursuit shows both haste and distaste for what is happening, first in the belief that there is talent out there that just hasn't been noticed, definitely because club officials especially of the city giants are firstly interested in 'foreign players.'

This sort of outlook doesn't pay attention to the sort of players that a top club needs and the cash it disposes of, and thus the scouting effort to get a player who can improve the side's ability without ruining their pockets.

They think singularly of locals and are convinced that the best way is to get youthful talent, with a good local coach to train them.

By scattered remarks

especially around 2019 when he was now sufficiently experienced and becoming a regional heavyweight, the TFF president shows he is still in that same mood, for the simple reason that there is a constituency he serves.

The first sphere of that constituency is the fraternity of local coaches who usually detest the hiring of foreign coaches, and they have powerful hearing even in the continental organization, the Confederation of African Football (CAF).

It is stern on using CAF qualifications in its tournaments, not making UEFA qualifications the same as it's own but irrelevant, its holder being treated as unqualified to sit on the bench as visiting

club head coach if he only has UEFA coaching title.

The lack of realism that Karia demonstrates on the hiring of supposedly aged players, in that those who are 35 or 36 years old cannot play with youths of 20 to 25 years (raising a non-issue on the physiology of field and track longevity of players), is merely attesting to the fact that several keys, supposed aged players are foreign.

Still to an extent he is dropping the stone on his own club feet as those he usually wishes they win at present or in the immediate past have relied, to an extent, on precisely those same 'aged' players.

And it isn't just in this part of the world that aged players are valued, they often take their contracts afar.

Several pundits to whom the question was put across did not wish to discuss the matter, affirming simply that the soccer topmost official slipped up and made those remarks.

There is a point that can be pinned to this slipping up, that the official engendered age discrimination in viewing players in terms of age classes and thus purporting to bar players aged over 30, either not to feature in premier league line ups or not being given a permit

to play in the country, to make way for starlets in national youth squads.

The TFF leader may be testing the water level to write such a proposal, it may kindle spirits but fail.

What is equally visible is that when such a proposal is confirmed to apply in CECAFA tournaments, even peddled to CAF qualifiers, the onus will be for federations to provide 'special dispensation' for aged local players like John Bocco or Shomari Kapombe, while denying outright permission to offer contracts to say Herrieth Makambo or Haruna Niyonzima before hanging his boots lately, etc.

In a sense, the move would serve the purpose of limiting the number of foreign players being recruited, as the younger ones are likely to be much costlier given that they have talent and strength, the older ones have talent and less strength.

They say in an apocalyptic legend that the devil has seven heads and ten horns, and appears everywhere, in which case these scattered remarks are refiling aged proposals about talent and foreign players, which have time and again been pushed to clubs but they know better, which players help them to win titles, etc.

Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium set for renovation

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

THE owner of Arusha's Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium, the ruling party, CCM, has said it intends to spend three months weeding and growing new modern grass to change the pitch.

The CCM Arusha Regional Co-Secretary Gerald Munisi said they saw the need to do so after the grass appeared to be in a poor state.

Munisi revealed: "We have not yet evaluated how many shillings we will spend, we are still in the process of weeding the grass and later we will have the task of planting new grass which we believe will beautify the field and make it new again."

"These 70-year grasses are really in a poor state, we expect to upgrade all infrastructure in general."

"This stadium has a very popular name in and outside Tanzania but without regular adjustments and improvements it will lose all credentials, venue owners do



Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium

not want that to happen so I ask stakeholders to understand us."

"The Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) has given us a guarantee to host the Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) semi-finals so we are grateful for that reputation and this seems TFF has a lot of confidence in our stadium."

"We do not want to lose this honour to win an opportunity to host other big games both domestic and international," he said.

Poor pitch conditions may result in harder surfaces, the argument goes, can lead to impact injuries in the legs and lower back.

With poor pitch, boots can get stuck

in the turf, causing either over-rotation in the lower limb or a twisted ankle for players.

The renovation will deal with mistakes and shortcomings that emerged the previous season when the ASFC final was held in Kigoma.

Some football stakeholders complained about the lack of pitch quality at Lake Tanganyika Stadium that prevented players from playing good football.

Polisi Tanzania, Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium hosts, will have to look for another stadium to use for home matches as a result of renovation which is expected to take place.

This season various stadiums across the country have been closed to accommodate repairs.

The venues include Manungu Complex used by Morogoro's Mtbwa Sugar and Ruvu Shooting's Mabatini ground in Coast Region.

The stadiums were closed to improve the safety and see to it the playing area is in good condition.

Women shine in athletics, cycling race

By Guardian Reporter

A total of 600 runners took part in the Women's Run that reached its climax at the University of Dar es Salaam grounds yesterday.

The runners competed in two races, a 10-kilometer run, as well as a 5km race while others competed in the 35 kilometers cycling race.

The race saw Rebeca Machele of Dar es Salaam emerge victorious after clocking 41.03 minutes while Neema Simion finished in the second position after clocking 41.10 minutes, Shameez Mahi finished third after recording 44.36 minutes.

The fourth position was won by Mwanabarakha Haji who clocked 46.49 minutes, followed by fifth-placed Sia Kiwila, clocking 48.15 minutes.

In a 5km run, Sahat Tahir won the first position followed by Mariam Said in the second and Rosemary



Female athletes with disabilities pose after competing in the Women Run held at the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) ground yesterday.

Haule in the third.

The fourth position was won by Hadija Msuya, Magreth Ally fin-

ished in the fifth position.

Apart from inspiring women to get involved in athletics, the race

aimed at raising funds for buying sanitary towels for girls facing various challenges.

The event coordinator, Pilly Hussein, said their goal has been reached as many stakeholders donated sanitary towels that would be distributed to targeted girls.

The race also sought to gather women to discuss various issues towards International Women's Day celebration.

"We believe, after the successful event, women would continue to corporate and exchange ideas while finding opportunities in day-to-day life," Pilly said.

Last year's event saw Rebeca Machele from Dar es Salaam win the 10km race after clocking 35:12:18.

Annika Stanley, also from Dar es Salaam, finished second after posting 52:56:11, and third place was won by Beatrice Edward, who finished at 53:04:02.

Sherif strikes twice as Ahly survive CAF Champions League scare

CAIRO

MOHAMED Sherif scored twice as holders Al Ahly of Egypt claimed three crucial points by beating Al Merrikh of Sudan 3-2 in a CAF Champions League group match in Cairo on Saturday.

Victory lifted Ahly, who are hoping to win the marquee African club competition a record third consecutive time, to second in Group A, level with Merrikh on four points but ahead on head-to-head records.

Mamelodi Sundowns of South Africa top the table with seven points from three matches following a shock away victory over Ahly last weekend and the clubs clash again on March 12.

At the other end of the standings, Al Hilal of Sudan have just one point and must defeat arch domestic rivals Merrikh in Omdurman this Friday to have any hope of a top-two finish and a quarter-finals place.

Egypt international Sherif struck after three and 34 minutes at the Al Salam Stadium to convert the supremacy of the 10-time Champions League winners into a two-goal advantage.

But Merrikh, whose best showing was reaching the 2015 semi-finals, halved the deficit two minutes before half-time through Nigerian Tony Edjor-merigwe.

Although Ahly continued to dominate possession in the second half, they were stunned on 69 minutes when Elsamani Saadeldin levelled with his third goal in two Champions League matches.

Ahly recovered to win the match through an own goal 14 minutes from time when Mustafa Karshoum deflected an Amr Elsouli shot past goalkeeper Monged Abuzaid.

The match was originally scheduled for February 12, but delayed because Ahly were competing in the Club World Cup in the United Arab Emirates, where they finished third.

Matchdays four and five are set for March 11-12 and 18-19 with the final mini-league series on April 1-2. Winners and runners-up in the four groups advance to the knockout phase.

AFP

Real Madrid get set for PSG by hammering Real Sociedad

MADRID

REAL Madrid enjoyed the perfect preparation for Paris Saint-Germain by thrashing Real Sociedad 4-1 on Saturday to move eight points clear at the top of La Liga.

Madrid had to come from behind at the Santiago Bernabeu as two scintillating long-range strikes from Eduardo Camavinga and Luka Modric turned the game on its head, before a Karim Benzema penalty and a tap-in for Marco Asensio completed an emphatic victory.

Camavinga's strike, his second goal for Madrid, was timely given the 19-year-old may have to start against PSG on Wednesday, with Toni Kroos, absent here, struggling with a hamstring strain.

"Camavinga is definitely an option," said Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti.

Madrid are tasked with overturning a 1-0 deficit from the first leg in Paris if they are to reach the quarter-finals.

At the end of the game and with the stadium mostly empty, Madrid's players came back out onto the pitch to salute the ultras behind the goal.

"The thanks to the fans was an idea that came from the players," said Ancelotti. "After this game they believe more in what we can do on Wednesday."

Everything seems easier with the 36-year-old Modric, whose own wonder-goal was the highlight of another mesmeric display, for which he earned a standing ovation from the home crowd in the second half.

Kylian Mbappe, Lionel Messi and Neymar will provide a sterner test for Madrid's back four in midweek but this was a particularly encouraging performance from Ancelotti's attack, which was far more dynamic after struggling for goals in recent weeks.

Benzema looks sharp again after recovering from his own hamstring injury last month. Benzema has three goals in his last three games, and had two disallowed against La Real before finally scoring from the spot.

Victory extends Madrid's advantage at the top of La Liga after second-placed Sevilla were held to a goalless draw by Alaves on Friday night.

Real Sociedad could have gone third with a win but they stay sixth, with qualification for the Europa League looking more realistic now than the Champions League.

Real Madrid started sloppily and paid for it after David Silva's touch and shift was too quick for Dani Carvajal, who caught the midfielder's trailing right foot.

- Impressive Modric -

Thibaut Courtois dived the right way but Mikel Oyarzabal's penalty had too much power and whip, the ball nestling into the bottom right-hand corner.

AFP

Explainer: What next for Chelsea as Abramovich puts the club up for sale?

By James Olley, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

ROMAN Abramovich has taken what he describes as an "incredibly difficult" decision to sell Chelsea, but the uncertainty surrounding the club is far from over.

The 55-year-old initially attempted to separate the Blues from any potential personal sanction from the UK government relating to Russia's invasion of Ukraine last Saturday, announcing the trial before Chelsea lost the Carabao Cup final to Liverpool that he was passing "stewardship and care" of the club to Chelsea's charitable foundation. Once it became clear that ambiguous statement was not enough to insulate the club -- and the trustees involved expressed their reluctance to assume such responsibility -- Abramovich released a second statement just over an hour before Tuesday's FA Cup fifth-round win at Luton Town confirming his 19-year tenure will be coming to an end.

"As I have stated before, I have always taken decisions with the club's best interest at heart," it read. "In the current situation, I have therefore taken the decision to sell the club as I believe this is in the best interest of the club, the fans, the employees, as well as the club's sponsors and partners. The sale of the club will not be fast-tracked, but will follow due process."

That process has now begun in earnest, Abramovich's public declaration acting as what he hopes will be the catalyst for a race between potential buyers that pushes the price somewhere close to or even north of his £3 billion valuation.

Sources have told ESPN that as many as 20 different parties have expressed an interest by contacting U.S. firm Raine Group, who are running the sale as reported on Wednesday. Los Angeles Dodgers part-owner Todd Boehly is leading a consortium attempting to strike an agreement, with an official bid expected within the coming days. On Friday, ESPN reported that at least 10 of those bids are considered "credible," including Red-Bird Capital Partners (which involves Oakland Athletics' executive vice president Billy Beane) and Michael Rubin, owner of sports merchandise group Fanatics. (The latter have since denied interest.)

It is, however, a chaotic and unpredictable situation given the reasons behind Abramovich's decision to sell, the wider political climate and Chelsea's current state.

*Why is Abramovich selling?

Abramovich has always strenuously denied any links to Russian President Vladimir Putin's regime, and he continues to deny that relationship. Yet the timing of his sudden decision, so soon after the invasion of Ukraine, is hard to separate.

The source of Abramovich's wealth came from dividends and sales of privatised assets acquired from the former Soviet Union. It is said some of these deals helped former Russian President Boris Yeltsin win re-election in 1996 before keeping his successor, Putin, in power. The integrity of those deals has often been questioned, no more so than when fellow oligarch Boris Berezovsky sued Abramovich in 2011 for £5bn over what he claimed he were ill-gotten gains over the sale of the oil firm they co-founded, Sibneft. Abramovich won that case in



Roman Abramovich's sudden decision to sell Chelsea has led to a flurry of interested buyers. (Agencies)

2012, but during the trial, Jonathan Sumption QC, acting for Abramovich, admitted that the process of auctioning Sibneft "was easy to rig and was in fact rigged."

Wider tensions between Russia and the West have grown in recent years amid criticism, perhaps most prominently from the US government, that London has become awash with questionably-sourced foreign cash. After the attempted poisoning of former Russian military intelligence officer turned MI6 informant Sergei Skripal in 2018, the UK began denying investor visas to high-net-worth Russians. Abramovich withdrew his application for an extension.

Suspensions have continued to follow Abramovich, despite repeated denials of any wrongdoing from both his lawyers and Chelsea, and Russia's invasion of Ukraine has brought the issue of London's role in laundering money back to the surface. In the UK Parliament last week, Labour MP Chris Bryant directly quoted what he claimed was a Home Office document pertaining to Abramovich.

"I've got hold of a leaked document from 2019, from the Home Office, which says in relation to Mr Abramovich: 'As part of HMG's [Her Majesty's government] Russia strategy aimed at targeting illicit finance and malign activity, Abramovich remains of interest to HMG due to his links to the Russian state and his public association with corrupt activity and practices. An example of this is Abramovich admitting in court proceedings that he paid for political influence. Therefore HMG is focused on ensuring individuals linked to illicit finance and malign activity are unable to base themselves in the UK, and will use the relevant tools at its disposal, including immigration powers, to prevent this.'"

Labour leader Sir Keir Starmer called on Abramovich to face sanctions on Wednesday, hours before Abramovich went public with his decision to sell. When contacted by ESPN, the Home Office refused to confirm whether Abramovich is a person of interest or under active investigation, but they did refer us to the government's Economic Crime Bill, which proposes to crack down on foreign criminals using UK property to launder money.

Abramovich, who continues to protest his innocence as the conflict worsens, has around £200m worth of property in England in addition to owning Chelsea, into whom he has invested more than £2bn since buying the club for £140m in 2003. He originally thought he could separate the club from any possible UK government sanction -- i.e. a freeze on assets, including Chelsea -- by passing "stewardship and care" of the club to Chelsea's trustees on their charitable foundation.

small window, Abramovich will hope spark a scramble for Chelsea that gets somewhere close to the £3bn minimum he is looking for. Dodgers part-owner Boehly has a head-start on other prospective buyers, having explored a deal to acquire Chelsea (and also Tottenham) in 2019 and getting as far as tabling a £2.2bn offer, which was rejected. Sources have told ESPN that Boehly is fronting a consortium alongside Swiss billionaire Hansjorg Wyss and at least one other unnamed businessman with an offer anticipated in the coming days. It is, however, expected to be in the region of Boehly's 2019 bid -- well short of Abramovich's valuation. Sir Jim Ratcliffe, Britain's richest man according to Forbes in 2021, has distanced himself from an offer despite previously exploring a deal prior to the COVID-19 pandemic only to decide the valuation was too high.

*Why didn't that "stewardship" effort work?

Nobody really knew what it meant. Abramovich has not been involved in the day-to-day running of the club since his visa expired in 2018 -- and in reality, some time before that -- and sources have told ESPN that the trustees were completely blindsided by his Saturday night statement that they would be put in charge of running the club.

It appears, in hindsight, to be a clever PR move without any real substance, the same category in which skeptics have put the claim Abramovich was trying to somehow broker peace between Ukraine and Russia during talks in Belarus. The only person on record to verify this is a spokesperson for Abramovich and if it is true, how does that square with the repeated briefings that he is detached from politics and Putin?

Sources have told ESPN that potential bidders have been set a deadline of March 15 by Raine Capital, under instruction from Abramovich, to submit their proposals, which suggests both a degree of urgency and also offers Abramovich a sliver of breathing space in which to operate. Within that

deal by stating he will not ask for his £1.54bn loan to be repaid. This frees the club of a huge debt, adding obvious appeal to any prospective buyer, but it should also be noted that Abramovich's statement is not the same as definitively writing off the debt. A possible workaround could be converting it into equity, but such complex details are yet to be determined and will depend on negotiations over the structure of any agreement.

The lack of clarity over some aspects here underlines the haste with which this entire sale is being conducted; last Friday, Chelsea were preparing for the latest cup final in a trophy-laden Abramovich era. This Friday, they're preparing for life without Abramovich altogether.

Uncertainty abounds: One source with close ties to Chelsea described all parties as "landing in the same place over some of the finer points -- which is a sea of confusion."

The level of pressure being applied to Abramovich will palpably affect his ability to negotiate. Furthermore, there is the issue of Chelsea's stadium.

Planning permission on proposals to demolish the 41,800-seat Stamford Bridge with a new 61,000-seat arena expired in the middle of 2021. Overhauling the stadium is the key to Chelsea becoming self-sustainable -- the size and state of their home ground lags behind the Premier League's other traditional Big Six, and that lack of matchday revenue makes them more reliant on a rich benefactor to bankroll success.

After winning the Champions League, Chelsea posted a loss (for the year to June 30, 2021) of £145.6m after tax. That was partly because of coronavirus restrictions forcing games behind closed doors, but they have historically struggled: Between 2004 and 2013, Chelsea lost over £670m and recorded just one profitable year. More recently they have struggled -- and lately failed -- to break even.

In a typical year, Chelsea generate £70m to £80m from ticket sales. United have earned £147m in one season, Arsenal almost £130m. Redeveloping Chelsea's stadium is the key play for a new investor, but sources close to the project now believe that a three-year project involving relocating the team to Wembley while developing Stamford Bridge would cost north of £2bn. That's £2bn on top of the asking price, and you wouldn't

own the freehold.

The club continues to rent the ground from Chelsea Pitch Owners, a not-for-profit group made up of around 13,000 individual shareholders who have the freehold -- meaning they own the land and any building on it -- for the duration of a 199-year deal, struck with former owner Ken Bates. Chelsea pay a nominal rent, but as part of that agreement, any owner that tries to move the club away from Stamford Bridge forfeits the right to call the team Chelsea Football Club.

One other point it might be worth making is about the prospect of sanctions. It's impossible to know how likely they are, or if they are coming, but the timing of Abramovich's decision to sell was no coincidence given the mounting pressure on the UK government to sanction high-net-worth Russians with assets in the country. (The European Union have already done this with a number of oligarchs, including former Arsenal shareholder Alisher Usmanov.)

In the UK, the Treasury's Office of Financial Sanctions would take action if Abramovich was added to what is known as a "Consolidated List" of financial targets. Nowhere -- not in the United States, the European Union or the UK -- has Abramovich been added to such a list at the time of this writing. Should that happen, Chelsea as an asset could be frozen, which would make a sale extremely difficult given that the government could hold the money raised from a sale to scrutinise its origins and its destination.

Chelsea's ability to operate as a club would also be severely restricted, requiring specific licences to even pay members of staff. Transfer spending would become difficult as not only would Abramovich be unable to invest further funds, but it may be the case that a freeze would extend to Chelsea's pre-existing agreements -- for example, outstanding installments due on incoming and outgoing transfers.

Despite the obvious pressures this brings, co-founder of Raine Group, Joe Ravitch, insisted there is no immediate urgency to complete a deal. "We are not going to rush anything -- it is very important that Chelsea have the right owner to guide the club forward," Ravitch told news agency Reuters.

That will be Abramovich's preference, but it's clear the clock is ticking and there's plenty to resolve.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Explainer: What next for Chelsea as Abramovich puts the club up for sale?

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Simba SC plots Dodoma Jiji FC downfall in 2021/22 NBC Premier League



Simba SC's players jubilate shortly after posting a goal in this season's NBC Premier League fixture against Biashara United, which took place in Dar es Salaam last weekend. Simba SC won 3-0. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBASCO

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA SC head coach, Pablo Martin, believes the return of some of his players to the squad will help them do well in the Premier League encounter with Dodoma Jiji FC to be held in Dar es Salaam today.

The Msimbazi Street club is set to return to action today to play the matchday 17 of Premier League against Dodoma side, while facing another CAF Confederation Cup match against RS Berkane of Morocco scheduled for March 13.

Coach Martin said the return of midfielders Rally Bwalya and Mzamiru Yassin has added strength and motivation to do well in their difficult schedule.

The NBC Premier League defending champions come into the game having beaten Biashara United 3-0 on Friday at home to amass 34 points.

Bwalya who has been vital this season although he has been struggling to replicate the good form he enjoyed last season, was out of the team due to family problems.

"We have a schedule of three tough and crucial games against Biashara United which we have already concluded with a 3-0 victory, Dodoma Jiji

FC which we will play them on Monday and RS Berkane who will face us next weekend, as these games are a series, we need to have a squad of full all the key players."

The tactician revealed: "I am happy to see Mzamiru and Bwalya already return to join their teammates after failing to travel with us to the CAF

Confederation Cup, during these times we face injuries. Their return has strengthened us to do better."

Midfielder Mzamiru Yassin was part of the Simba SC squad on Friday against Biashara United at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam, scoring the second of three goals that gave them

three key points.

Shomari Kapombe will miss today's Premier League fixture against Dodoma Jiji FC.

According to a statement from the club's website, the defender has been given a five-day rest by Simba SC doctors despite being fit.

On Friday Kapombe was discharged from the hospital when he was taken overnight after suffering an injury in the match against Biashara United.

After tests, Kapombe was found to have no head injuries, contrary to what was expected by many Simba SC fans who expressed shock at his injury.

With his absence, it will be another chance for the senior national side's right back Israel Mwenda to showcase his virtuosity.

Kapombe will return to join his teammates in preparation for round four of the CAF Confederation Cup match against RS Berkane, to be played at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on March 13.

Simba SC will need a win in the match to qualify for the CAF Confederation Cup's last eight after losing 2-0 to RS Berkane in Morocco.

Simba SC ranks third in Group D standings with four points equal to USGN of Niger, with Ivory Coast's ASEC Mimosas positioned last having collected three points.

RS Berkane leads the group standings after collecting six points, winning two games, and losing one game to ASEC Mimosas.

TONIGHT @ 9:00

EATV MONDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
14:00 Wanyake Live (r)
14:30 Bongo Hits
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Copa Coca-Cola (r)
16:00 Akili & Me (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNews
18:30 Music/Soap
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 UJENZI
21:30 SPORTS LIVE
22:30 Bongo Hits

TONIGHT on EATV
Find out how using glass blocks from Conghui Traders Limited can improve your home decor

And Tanlix Quality Choice has an innovative solution for wall fungus

It's all on Ujenzi at 9PM

east africa RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMA MIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM

Mwalimu Nyerere University students attend swimming, life-saving course

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

STUDENTS from Mwalimu Nyelele Memorial University, who attended a one week swimming and life-saving course at Navy Beach in Dar es Salaam, have described it as an eye-opener and vital.

The training took place at Navy Beach in Kigamboni and was organized by Kimimba Swimming Promotions (KSP).

Eleven men and five women from the university turned up at the course, which got underway at the end of last month and ended last Saturday.

Speaking at the course's culmination, the university's Students Union's leader, Emmanuel Kemi, and the union's assistant, Jesper Mwasamba, stated they have learned a lot during the course.

The two said the country is surrounded by water bodies which result in many water calamities, hence the need for swimming and life-saving courses.

"We are on holiday so some of us thought it wise that during this period when we are not attending classes we should use this time to learn, you know in the country we have had many water calamities which have claimed many lives."

"During the course, we have learned how to swim, dive and more importantly, we learned life-saving skills and techniques," Kemi revealed.

The university's Students Union's secretary, Joyce John, hailed KSP for the course saying she will use the skills gained to educate the community and bring awareness to life-saving methods.

She recommended that the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology should include swimming and life-saving lessons from primary schools to university syllabuses.

Joyce pointed out: "Our country has witnessed several water tragedies which have claimed a lot of lives which include those of children, women, pupils, and students, many die in water calamities simply because they don't know how to swim and also they don't have lifesaving skills."

"I think it's now time that the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology should think it wise to include life-saving and swimming lessons in schools, starting from primary school to university syllabuses, and emphasis should be on women and children as they are the worst victims of water accidents," she said.

She further said that students from the university will continue learning swimming and life-saving as the future aim of some of them is to be Marine Scouts.

In his remarks, KSP Director Geoffrey Kimimba thanked the chancellor of the university Professor Shedrack Mwakalila for allowing his students to attend the course.

He promised that KSP will continue working closely with the university as the aim is to see that many students are equipped with swimming and life-saving skills.

"This course is in line with our missions, namely to dedicate yourself to nurturing and advancement of hidden skills, training the community on general water skills and lifesaving skills that will enable trainees to rescue or survive from water dangers."

Netball instructor praises Tanzania's netballers

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

FORMER national netball side 'Taifa Queens' head coach, Malawian Mary Waya, has said Tanzania is blessed with netball talent in rural areas which is not exploited due to lack of qualified coaches and umpires.

Mary, currently a Director of netball in Malawi, issued the comments after a 10-day netball coaching and umpiring course which was held at Filbert Bayi Schools in Kibaha, Coast Region on Friday.

She asked Tanzania netball coaches and umpires that participated in the course to make use of the knowledge gained at the course which is recognized by the International Netball Federation (INF).

"I have been in Tanzania on many occasions, I was the national netball team head coach and I also coached Filbert Bayi Schools' netball team, I know the country has many talented netballers but lack of qualified coaches, umpires, exposure and organized competitive netball is killing the talents," she said.

The Malawian described the course as great as it will help to develop netball in Tanzania.

Mary said she was the main instructor at the coaching course hosted by Chaneta in 2012, but all coaches who attended the course are aged.

The instructor asked Chaneta to make use of the coaches and umpires as they are still young and productive, saying they will be in



Netballers feature in one of the sports tournaments which were organized to vouch for the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases in Arusha recently.

the game for many years.

"The coaches and umpires are well qualified, I'm asking Chaneta to make use of them, for netball in the country to develop, the qualified officials should be used."

"Nowadays we need coaches and umpires who are qualified, gone are the days when anyone wearing a tracksuit was regarded as a coach," she said.

She asked the coaches and umpires to upgrade their qualifications after two years.

Head of Human Resources at National Sports Council (NSC) Gerlad Mwalekwa who repre-

sented Permanent Secretary in Ministry of Culture, Arts and Sports Hassan Abbas thanked Chaneta for organizing the course that he described as timely.

Mwalekwa also thanked Filbert Bayi Schools for providing the facility at a very low price, saying without the institution's gesture it would have been difficult for Chaneta to host the course at the place.

He said in local netball, coaching and umpiring has been a challenge and he is hopeful that the knowledge gained by participants will help

the sport to grow in a well-organized way.

The official pointed out: "I thank Chaneta for coordinating this course, netball rules and tactics like those of any other sporting discipline are changing every day."

"In the Samia Cup which was held late last year, the main challenge we saw in netball was umpiring and coaching, we hope that course participants will be a remedy to that," he said.

Chaneta leader Devotha Marwa promised that her association will make use of the

umpires and coaches.

She said that Tanzania was ranked 12th in the netball world ranking in 2012, but it is now sitting 40th.

Devotha nevertheless expressed her optimism that the future is very bright.

"We have arranged other three courses for umpires and coaches, the courses are recognized by INF, let me assure you that we will make use of the course graduates, we aim to see that netball is regaining its lost glory," she said.

The participants came from more than 15 regions of the country. Rebecca Dulanya also from Malawi was umpiring instructor.

In umpiring course 17 participants graduated with a silver certificate, 11 with a gold certificate and there was no Africa Level 1 graduate while in coaching, 11 graduated with a silver certificate, eight got a gold certificate and as many got Africa Level 1 certificate.

Interim national netball team head coach, Hafidh Tidwa, was among those who graduated with Africa Level 1 certificate.

Devotha said a netball coach with Africa Level 1 certificate can coach national teams both locally and elsewhere, gold certificate owners are eligible to coach local clubs and those with silver certificates are qualified for coaching primary schools, secondary schools, and higher learning institutions.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

Does He Have a JOB?



GOSH, He is a PHILOSOPHER!