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TANZANIA

SATURDAY 8 OCTOBER, 2022

ENVIRONMENT



RESOURCE MOBILISATION FOR CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION PAGE 3

DEVELOPMENT



GLOBAL HEADWINDS SLOWING AFRICA'S ECONOMIC GROWTH PAGE 4

PRODUCTION



TBL COMMITMENT TO WORK WITH SMALL BREWERIES PAGE 5

HEALTH



CAMPAIGN TO ADDRESS MENTAL HEALTH ISSUES PAGE 6

BUSINESS Tanzania attains high scores on the 2022 WB policy assessment

Faidika marks world customer service week by donating blood

Qatari food firm to establish local subsidiary in Tanzania

Oil prices set for biggest weekly increase

Page 13

Mining commission reviews 40,000 licences

CORRECTION & APOLOGY

Owing to a technical glitch, the photo we published on the front page of yesterday's issue of The Guardian carried the wrong caption. We sincerely regret the error and apologise for any inconveniences it will have caused.

Meanwhile, to set the record right and as a show of our care for professionalism, we have run the particular photo again - complete with the correct caption.

• Editor



President Samia Suluhu Hassan witnesses the exchanging of signed partnership agreement documents involving Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture president Paul Koyi (2nd-L), Zanzibar National Chamber of Commerce chairman Ali Suleiman Amour (L) and Qatari Chamber of Commerce vice chairman Mohammed bin Ahmed bin Towar Al Kuwari (2nd-R) in Doha on Thursday. Photo: State House

Dormant licences to be revoked by internal licence issuance system

By Guardian Reporter

THE Mining Commission is reviewing over 40,000 mining licences to strike down those granted to dormant firms.

Yahaya Samamba, the commission's executive secretary, made this announcement when briefing journalists yesterday on its work schedule for this financial year.

The commission will for the first time issue a major mining licence for mineral exploration along the Tanga Region coastline, he said.

Out of the 40,000 valid licences on the commission's database, some of the companies are not conducting

TURN TO Page 2

Parliamentary committees to review bylaws, last CAG report

By Guardian Reporter

PARLIAMENTARY committees that oversees public accounts, namely the Local Authorities Accounts Committee (LAAC) and the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) will from early next week meet in the capital to examine the analyse and discuss the report of the Controller and Auditor General (CAG) for the year ending June 2021.

A statement issued yesterday by the communications and public relations unit of the Speaker's Office said the committee meetings are in accordance with prevailing standing orders. They intend to work on areas with loopholes to find ways of preventing the misuse of public funds, it said, noting that two other committees are slated to commence their meetings at the same time. They are the standing committee

TURN TO Page 2

Epidemics risk control: Kagera centre billed to aid Muhimbili

By Guardian Correspondent, Bukoba

THE government is preparing to construct a well-equipped centre for epidemic control and readiness in Kagera Region, on the basis of a directive to the regional medical authorities to determine a spot suitable for the purpose.

Health minister Ummy Mwalimu issued this directive here yesterday, explaining the move as an aspect of strategies for effective control of infectious disease in the country, taking into account vital borders and transport terminals.

An epidemic preparedness centre is being built at the Mloganzila referral hospital, traditionally a wing of the Muhimbili National Hospital.

The minister met health department officials from the various districts in the region, reviewing current plans and strategies to fight Ebola that risks spreading into the country.

Kagera is more at risk as it borders or is easily accessible from Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), thus the need to build a preparedness centre for potential epidemics.

It will be big and well-equipped with the key tools to provide immediate service on people diagnosed with early signs of Ebola symptoms or other, she stated.

The government was reviewing guidelines for health service

“Kagera is more at risk as it borders or is easily accessible from Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and DRC ...

providers at the community level, providing three-month employment contracts to measure their work ability, she said.

The service providers will be equipped with the right skills to improve their work in serving the public, she affirmed, noting that the prospective guidelines provide for paying service providers at the community level.

In that case contracts of at least three months will be arranged to measure their capability, as the ministry wants them to show competence in malaria, tuberculosis and HIV/Aids control and assistance tasks, she explained.

The number of health service providers at community level will be raised to two per street and not two in a ward or village as it is now, she affirmed.

This measure will be applied in all districts across the country and that is why it is being reviewed, she added.

The Guardian Nipashe

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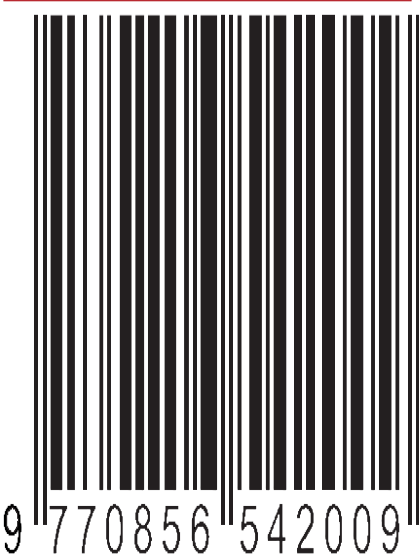
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Mining commission to review 40,000 licences

FROM PAGE 1

mining activities. They are licences granted to dormant firms, he said.

Previously it revoked 163 licences; and a number of others will be revoked after the review process, upon those failing an internal license issuance system, he asserted.

In this financial year, the commission expects to collect 822bn/-, while strategically it seeks to enhance supervision of mining activities by focusing on improving safety and the working environment in mining pits and the surrounding facilities.

It also seeks to supervise implementation of strategic projects for clean energy, extraction of critical minerals for manufacturing of vehicle batteries. They will be used as crucial components in advanced technology machines, he stated.

Critical minerals are used in advanced technologies, not just clean energy and motor vehicles but also airplanes, rockets and other sorts of weaponry, he stated.

Supervision will be conducted in the mining of nickel, lithium, cobalt, graphite, and rare earth elements (cerium, yttrium, lanthanum and neodymium) as well as niobium for the country to benefit from the mining activity, he stated.

A total of 828 licences had already been issued for the mining of critical minerals, he specified, noting that during the past year the commission closed 92 mines operated by artisanal miners over safety issues, spread out in Geita, Kahama and Singida regions.

Smuggling of minerals will be further contained by building

more markets to add to 42 minerals marketing centres existing and 83 minor centres, he stated.

During fiscal 2021/22 the market generated 164.09bn/- compared to 145.23bn/- the previous year, he stated, pointing at a technical problem with the smelting plant in Mwanza. There was a lack of raw materials for the facility but the government has addressed the problem at the moment, the top official indicated.

The plant needs large amounts of raw materials to operate smoothly, with 55.6 tonnes of gold and other minerals collected last year, "but this year the machines have been idle for a while because of lack of raw materials," he further noted.

He said the machines are currently receiving enough raw materials, with this year the plant slated to be operational, starting this month.

Revenues collected from the mining sector increased from 346.275bn/- in 2018/19 to 624.61bn/- in 2021/22, a change of 44.5percent.

"Through internal forums and symposiums the commission has issued 31,971 licenses, with 29.8bn/- used in corporate social responsibility (CSR) activities from 2019 to 2021," he explained.

Government spokesperson Gerson Msigwa said the government is working to enhance benefits from mining activities. Research on new mineral resources has covered just 16 percent of projections, he stated.

"We want to conduct research to identify minerals at least to reach 40 percent so that more can participate in exploration including the private sector," he added.



Former President Jakaya Kikwete presents a sponsorship appreciation trophy to Dar es Salaam Water and Sanitation Authority (Dawasa) CEO Cyprian Luhemeja (2nd-R) at the business, industry and investment exhibition at Maili Moja grounds in Kibaha District Coast Region on Thursday, with Morogoro regional commissioner Fatma Mwasa (C) looking on. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Uganda's sugar exports increase after huge drop in July - bank

KAMPALA

ACCORDING to the country's central bank, Uganda's sugar exports for the month of July suffered a 58 per cent decline due to scarcity of cane.

However, this shipment of sugar is only a fraction of the volumes going out to South Sudan, Kenya and Rwanda.

According to the Bank of Uganda, the country's sugar export volumes dropped to 16,000 tonnes in July; down from over 27,000 tonnes in June.

Sugarcane trucks at factories But factories find they're strugg-

ling to get hold of the supplies of sugarcane they usually need.

"The economy has opened, and consumption has gone high but the supply of sugarcane is less because people did not plant in 2020, 2019 and 2021. It is a perennial crop, which takes 16-18 months. It takes time," Robert Olego, Senior Manager Outgrowers, Sugar Corporation Uganda Limited said.

Fluctuating prices, mounting expenses and even debts have also forced sugarcane farmers to abandon their farms.

Muyimba Yawe is one of the few in the Busoga region in the

central part of Uganda that is still in the plantations. He said, "When the prices kept changing, many farmers lost hope, especially those that had joined specifically to make money. For some of us, this has been our livelihood for years."

Muyimba's persistence is paying off. Since this year, sugarcane prices have increased from 25 dollars a tonne to at least double the amount now. And in August, sugar exports increased to 20 million dollars, compared to 12 million dollars in July.

With the current price, it could give good returns for

Ezekiel Kato who has already planted new cane. He however wants more to be done for the farmers.

Sugarcane farmers' Fertilizers are expensive, the pesticides, and land hire are all expensive. The prices may be fair but our policymakers still need to look more into our issues, Ezekiel Kato.

Despite the desired demand to increase sugar for export, there is also not enough for local consumption. That has forced prices of sugar on shop shelves to go up.

Millers claim though, this will only be for the short term.



Chief of Defence Forces General Jacob Mkunda (3rd-L) in jovial mood yesterday shortly after Defence and National Service minister Innocent Bashungwa (3rd-R) cut the ribbon when officiating at the Defence ministry's presentation of agricultural inputs worth 3.9bn/- to the National Service at Chamwino in Dodoma Region. The others include Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation minister Dr Stargomena Tax (C) and Chief of National Service Major General Rajabu Mabele (2nd-R). Photo: Correspondent Renatha Msungu

Parliamentary sectoral committees to review bylaws, last CAG report

FROM PAGE 1

on public investments (PIC) and the committee on HIV/Aids. Other committees start work a week later for some and a fortnight for others, ahead of the ninth meeting of the current legislature starting early next month, the statement indicated.

The subsidiary legislations committee will scrutinise bylaws tabled in the House during the past meeting, it said. Nine sectoral committees will deliberate on reports on project implementation as required by parliamentary standing orders, it affirmed.

PIC members will examine investments being implemented to see if they are bringing positive impacts or adhering to stipulated guidelines, the statement intoned.

The foreign affairs, defence and security committee will take up reports from the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) and four parliamentary associations.

The budget committee will discuss the national development plan for 2023/2024, as part of the five-year development plan 2021/2022 - 2025/2026, focusing on competitiveness and industrialization.

It works to enhance human development by increasing efficiency and productivity in manufacturing using local resources.

The committee on HIV/Aids will discuss a report on Aids interventions and drugs control, the statement added.

Tanzania and India agree to strengthen economies

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA and India have agreed to work in collaboration to strengthen economies including sustaining development projects, valued addition in agriculture produce and industrial development.

The Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Joseph Sokoine made the remarks when he held talks with his counterpart from India Dammu Ravi at the ministry's offices in Dar es Salaam.

"We have agreed that this is the right time to increase collaboration using Public, Private Partnership (PPP) to add value to farm produce as well as build industries to process

the products including crops which were only available in India," he said.

The two diplomats also discussed how to invest in strategic sectors which will later produce raw materials as a way of promoting industrial policy.

"Tanzania and India have agreed to work together in

areas of technology including ICT where India has agreed to open a branch of their ICT institute in Tanzania which is expected to start offering services next year," he said.

The Indian envoy said they have agreed to work together to improve economic sectors, mainly investment for the benefits of the two sides.

"India believes it can work together with Tanzania in its endeavour to develop its industrial sector but also investing in Tanzania is friendly and one can easily access the East African market," he said.

He said the aim was to invite more Indian investors to invest in Tanzania especially in the medical and devices sector where there is a huge

potential for Indian investors.

He said if Tanzania can offer India a special economic zone to invest, it will help to attract investors to invest in the country.

In August, Tanzania and India promised to work together to continue strengthening bilateral cooperation including the health sector and agriculture.

Resource mobilisation begins for climate change mitigation

By Guardian Reporter

THE government is out to mobilise USD19.2 billion (over 44trn/-) needed for climate change mitigation and adaptation.

Speaking while closing a four-day workshop on environment in Arusha yesterday, Deputy minister for Finance and Planning Hamad Hassan Chande told participants to start exploring global climate change kitties for funding. Chande said the matter is urgent because climate change is real and its effects are already visible not only in the environment but also in the growth of the economy and society in general.

The workshop discussed the availability of funds in various global climate change funds and preparations for the 27th meeting of the member countries of the Climate Change Convention (COP27).

He has given an opinion to the participants to put a joint effort in finding financial resources that will enable them to be efficient and productive in efforts to deal with the effects of climate change on both sides of the Union.

“On behalf of the Ministry of Finance, I would like to promise that the Ministry will continue to provide cooperation to all stakeholders in order to enable our country to increase its financial resources and facilitate the survival of the conditions of our communities we lead,” Chande said.

Previously, the Permanent Secretary in the First Vice President’s Office of Zanzibar Dr Omar Dadi Shajak said that in the four days of the workshop, various discussions on important issues such as increasing the scope of access to funds to deal with climate change, the implementation of the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) to deal with climate change and the implementation of the Comprehensive Plan for Conservation and Management of the Environment (2022-2032) were discussed.

Other topics were the achievements and challenges of various projects to deal with climate change, management of carbon trading, blue bond systems (Blue Bond Mechanism) and the country’s position towards the 27th meeting of the member countries of the Climate Change Convention that will be held 6-11, November 2022 in Sharm El Sheikh in Egypt

The four-day workshop was organized by the Office of the Vice President in collaboration with the World Bank Tanzania Branch and attended by delegates from the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar, the World Bank in the country, Diplomats, Development Stakeholders, Directors from Ministries, Departments and Institutions, representatives of Banks and Financial Institutions, Representatives of Civil Organizations and Members from the Private Sector.

The workshop was inaugurated by Minister of State in the Vice President’s Office (Union and Environment) Dr Selemani Jafo who said the Government will use approximately 19.2 billion US Dollars in implementing the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC).



Radio One/Capital Radio director Deogratias Rweyunga (R) pictured at the ITV/Radio One headquarters in Dar es Salaam yesterday presenting a Toyota IST-model car to Vitus Paul, winner of a promotion raffle dubbed ‘Buruza ndinga na Radio One’. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

Songea resident wins vehicle worth 14m/- in a raffle run by Radio One

By Guardian Reporter

A resident of Songea Majengo in Ruvuma Region Vitus Miti yesterday emerged the winner of an IST vehicle worth 14m/- in a draw run by Radio One known as ‘Mchezo Supa’ through its ‘Kumepambazuka’ programme.

The vehicle with registration number T356 EAN was handed over by Radio One Director Deogratias Rweyunga in an

event which was held at the radio’s headquarters Mikocheni Dar es Salaam.

Rweyunga said the day was being awaited by participants of the draw after an announcement of a huge prize worth 14m/-.

“This the day which many were waiting for in the nine months of the draw where participants were playing using only 1000/-,” he said.

The official said still there were oppor-

tunities for others to participate adding that plans are underway to come up with a bigger price.

“If you play with 1000/- you will win 1m/- on Wednesday for Afro Tz, 5m/- on Thursdays and Friday 1m/- for Chemsha Bongo, while on Sunday you will win 3m/- for Mambo Mseto programme,” he said.

Speaking after receiving his gift, the winner said he couldn’t believe it until he arrived at the media house’s headquar-

ters to urge fellow Tanzanians to participate in the draw and listen to Radio One.

“Let me assure you, even me did not believe the same as you do not believe, with only 1000/- today I am walking out with a car,” he said.

Festo Miti, who is a relative of the winner, said he did not believe the matter when his relative received a phone call until when he moved to see for himself the handover of the car.



Maweni Prison chief Revocatus Kessy (2nd-R) briefs Commissioner General of Prisons Ramadhan Nyamka (in sunglasses) on the gravel factory the latter visited on Thursday as part of his inspection tour of Prisons’ undertakings in Tanga Region. Photo: Correspondent Hamida Kamchalla

Ministry issues plants and farming inputs worth 3.9bn/- to boost food production

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

MINISTRY of Defence and National Service Ministry has issued plants and farming inputs worth 3.9bn/- so as to boost food production in various projects implemented by the National Service (JKT).

Addressing journalists yesterday here, minister Innocent Bashungwa said the inputs include modern tractors which each of them has capacity to cultivate 500 acres per day Bashungwa said the major aim of doing this is to ensure that the country has productive farming, strengthen food security and help reduce costs incurred by the government to purchase food for armies.

He wanted the National Service (JKT) to ensure that they use agricultural experts in various farming projects and that the tractors have all the required equipment that help in planting and harvesting.

“We thank the government for issuing the funds, but JKT has to ensure that it invests in experts to increase productivity,” he said.

Bashungwa said experts from Italy have come to provide training on the best use of the inputs and that locals should seize the opportunity so as to ensure that they have the knowledge for current and future use.

Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Stergomena Tax said there is a challenge in the implementation of various infrastructures including the Chita and Mgeta irrigation in Morogoro.

She said due to the challenge, a total of 10bn/- for the completion of various projects including those of irrigation.

Tanzania, Qatar sign MoU to strengthen investment relations

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA and Qatar have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed at strengthening trade and investment relations.

The MoU which was between the Chambers of Commerce of Qatar and Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar was witnessed by President Samia Suluhu Hassan.

It was signed in Doha by the First Vice-Chairman of Qatar chamber, Mohamed Bin Ahmed Twar Al Kuwari, the President of the Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA), Paul Koyi, and the Chairman of the Zanzibar National Chamber of Commerce (ZNCC), Ali Suleiman Amour.

The objective of the MoU is to enhance trade and investment cooperation and partnership between business communities from Tanzania and Qatar, particularly in the areas of tourism and hospitality, infrastructure and energy. Apart from the signing of the MoU, President Samia held talks with Qatar’s Finance Minister, Ali bin Ahmed Al Kuwari, on double taxation between two countries, investments, gas sector, livestock, tourism and agriculture.

During talks between President Samia and Qatar’s Public Health Minister, Dr Hanan Mohamed Al Kuwari, the two sides agreed to share expertise on emergency and trauma care.

Among other activities during her working visit to Qatar, President Samia also met the Emir of Qatar, Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, business leaders and attended the World Innovation Summit for Health (WISH) that came to a close today at the Multaqa Education Centre in Doha.

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Staff with the northern zone of the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (Ewura) and representatives of the agency's stakeholders come together in 'tasting' a cake as a gesture of cooperation. This was shortly after they took part in the collection of views in Arusha city yesterday on the quality of the services overseen by Ewura. Photo: Correspondent Woinde Shizza

TARI-Mlingano sells three millions sisal seedlings to small-scale farmers

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

TANZANIA Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) Mlingano centre has sold three millions sisal seedlings to small-scale sisal growers in the region.

TARI-Mlingano Director, Dr Catherine Senkoro made the revelation in Tanga during a two-day seminar that brought together TARI researchers from Eastern Zone namely Tanga, Coast and Dar es Salaam research centres.

The objectives of the seminar was to discuss achievements and evaluations of TARI during the 2021/22 year and future TARI research strategic plans of Eastern Zones centres.

She said the sisal National Policy stipulates to produce about ten millions sisal seedlings and increase sisal fibres production by tonnes to 120,000 tonnes from current 60,000 tonnes by 2025.

"This year we sold sisal seedlings beyond our targets, three million sisal seedlings, which we didn't expect and still farmers are placing orders," she said.

She further explained that the centre went extra miles by conducting research on dis-

eases affecting sisal which showed results including pesticides and insecticides on diseases that affect sisal.

She mentioned some of such diseases as bole rot that causes sisal stem to rot, leaf diseases of sisal including leaf spots, zebra diseases which are a serious threat to the main cultivation hybrid No I1648(H.I1648), and some insects scientifically known as sisal weevil.

The government has been setting up a strategy to restore and strengthen sisal as one of the key crops in efforts to enable farmers to have a wide choice of cultivations which can boost the economy.



This year we sold sisal seedlings beyond our targets, three million sisal seedlings, which we didn't expect and still farmers are placing orders

Preparations in high gear for 10th East African petroleum conference and exhibition next year

By Guardian Reporter

OVER 1000 players in the oil industry are set to take part in the 10th East African Petroleum Conference and Exhibition (EAPCE'23) which will be held from May 9 to 11, 2023 in Kampala, Uganda.

The conference is organised by the East African Community (EAC) Secretariat and EAC Partner States.

According to the EAC Secretary General, Dr Peter Mathuki, while the conference provides a forum for dialogue for all players in the

Petroleum industry regionally and internationally, the 2023 edition of the conference is also in line with the community's broad goal to achieve economic, social and political integration so as to create wealth in the region and enhance competitiveness through increased production, trade and investment in the oil and gas sector.

The 2023 edition of the biennial conference under the theme: East Africa as a hub for Investment in Exploration and Exploitation of

Petroleum Resources for Sustainable Energy and Socioeconomic Development, aims at promoting the region's petroleum potential and investment opportunities," he noted.

He said the last nine Petroleum Conferences have proven a valuable forum for governments and petroleum industry players from around the world to dialogue.

The EAC Vision 2050 seeks to ensure sustainable, adequate, affordable, competitive, secure and reliable supply of energy to meet

regional needs at the least cost.

"The region will emphasize access, capacity, efficiency and sustainability of energy in the region, by 2050, the EAC has the target of transforming the energy landscape to be characterised by, among other things, efficient distribution of petroleum products with sufficient strategic reserves," said Dr Mathuki.

Held since 2003, the East African Petroleum Conferences have provided increasing awareness of the potential for petroleum production in the region and other important

issues in the petroleum sector, including technological advancements in exploration, development and production.

Delegates can expect high quality technical presentations and exhibitions from a wide spectrum of players from the petroleum sector. The conference programme integrates field excursions to selected sites in each Partner State for delegates to see the rich geological variety that the region possesses as well as the tourist attractions that the region is well known for.

EAPCE'23 will take place at a time when the EAC has embarked on a journey to implement the Vision 2050.

The objective of the energy sector development under the EAC Vision 2050 is to ensure sustainable, adequate, affordable, competitive, secure and reliable supply of energy to meet regional needs at the least cost. By 2050, the region's target is to transform the energy landscape to be characterised by efficient distribution of petroleum products with sufficient strategic reserves.



Traffic Police vehicle inspector Blandina Kasongwa takes school bus drivers through impromptu tuition on the basics of road safety shortly after inspecting their vehicles in Kilombero District, Morogoro Region, on Thursday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Climate change fuels GBV, activists warn

By Guardian Reporter, Same

CLIMATE change has been pointed out as one of the major causes of gender based violence leading to deterioration of pertinent resources with men remaining with economic power.

Climate change activists unveiled this here yesterday when speaking during the gender festival at a topic on economic rights, agriculture opportunities should benefit all groups.

They stated that women are the most affected ones from climate change as they are the ones who fetch firewood and water while men scout for grazing or employment leaving families under the mother who fail to harvest crops from farming.

Msololo Onditi, Forum on Climate Change (Forum CC) programme officer mentioned climate change as a barrier towards gender equality.

"During water scarcity, a mother is the one who is troubled by a long time drought as a father will shift with cattle with his sons leaving the mother with a girl child. A man can come out in an attempt to marry this woman where the latter can decide to do so to earn an income," said Onditi.

Onditi said the effects of climate change are more concentrated in gender groups whose well-being is in the most vulnerable environment to be affected by the poor ability to withstand the situation.

"The climate change effects are greater for people, families and communities in poor countries, where you can find sick, disabled and other needy people if they do not have water and food, the situation becomes difficult for them," he said.

"It is a fact of gender differences that men have decisions about the ownership and use of social and economic resources, unlike women who are dependent and main users of those resources," he explained.

Onditi said that in many societies men monopolize more economic opportunities while women are the main producers of food, and that to a large extent the responsibilities of women depend on natural resources such as land, water and forests.

Need for African govts to restore macro-economic stability, protect poor in context of rising inflation

By Guardian Reporter

GLOBAL headwinds are slowing Africa's economic growth as countries continue to contend with rising inflation, hindering progress on poverty reduction, according to the latest World Bank report.

Risk of stagflation comes at a time when high interest rates and debt are forcing African governments to make difficult choices as they try to protect people's jobs, purchasing power and development gains.

"These trends compromise poverty reduction efforts that were already set back by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic," said Andrew Dabalen, World Bank Chief

Economist for Africa.

Dabalen added: "What is most worrisome is the impact of high food prices on people struggling to feed their families, threatening long-term human development. This calls for urgent action from policymakers to restore macro-economic stability and support the poorest households while reorienting their food and agriculture spending to achieve future resilience."

The WB's biannual analysis of the near-term regional macroeconomic outlook, economic growth in Sub-Saharan Africa is set to decelerate from 4.1 percent in 2021 to 3.3 percent in 2022, a downward revision of 0.3 percentage points since April's Pulse

forecast, mainly as a result of a slowdown in global growth, including flagging demand from China for commodities produced in Africa. The war in Ukraine is exacerbating already high inflation and weighing on economic activity by depressing both business investments and household consumption. As of July 2022, 29 of 33 countries in SSA with available information had inflation rates over 5 percent while 17 countries had double-digit inflation.

It stated that elevated food prices are causing hardships with severe consequences in one of the world's most food-insecure regions. Hunger has sharply increased in Sub-Saharan Africa in recent years driven

by economic shocks, violence and conflict, and extreme weather.

More than one in five people in Africa suffer from hunger and an estimated 140 million people faced acute food insecurity in 2022, up from 120 million people in 2021, according to the Global Report on Food Crises 2022 Mid-Year Update.

The interconnected crises come at a time when the fiscal space required to mount effective government responses is all but gone. In many countries, public savings have been depleted by earlier programmes to counter the economic fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic, though resource-rich countries in some cases have benefited

from high commodity prices and managed to improve their balance sheet.

Debt is projected to stay elevated at 58.6 percent of GDP in 2022 in Sub-Saharan Africa. African governments spent 16.5 percent of their revenues servicing external debt in 2021, up from less than 5 percent in 2010.

Eight out of 38 IDA-eligible countries in the region are in debt distress, and 14 are at high risk of joining them. At the same time, high commercial borrowing costs make it difficult for countries to borrow on national and international markets, while tightening global financial conditions are weakening currencies and increasing African countries' external borrowing costs.

RC cautions traders not to hike prices of construction materials

By Guardian Correspondent, Sumbawanga

RUKWA Regional Commissioner Queen Sendiga has warned traders against hiking prices for construction materials especially when the government announces new projects saying doing so was against the law.

The RC issued the warning recently during a press conference when she said the region has received 3.8bn/- which will be used to construct 191 classrooms to address shortage.

There are claims that some unscrupulous businessmen and women are hiking prices when they hear the government has released money for a certain project.

"We will take serious actions against a shop owner who will do this, because it will be the same as economic sabotage and such an individual cannot be left derailing government efforts," she said.

Sendiga added that the government has marked an indicative price that each classroom should be constructed at a price not exceeding 20m/- hence hiking prices will make this target untenable.

The RC invited various stakeholders and investors to invest in Rukwa saying the region is full of opportunities both known and unknown.

She said the region has various in-

vestment opportunities especially in the tourism sector namely tour guiding, camping and others which have been visible since the launch of the Royal Tour by President Samia Suluhu Hassan.

Francis Sebastian, a resident of Sumbawanga municipal council commended the president for releasing the funds to construct classrooms saying this was going to improve education in the region.

According to the RC, the move will relieve Tanzanians of contributions and charges that parents were contributing to education saying the only task which parents currently have is uniforms.



We will take serious actions against a shop owner who will do this, because it will be the same as economic sabotage and such an individual cannot be left derailing government efforts



Dr Bertha Lyimo, a vaccination coordinator with the Iringa Municipal Council, addresses journalists, health experts, religious leaders and local government leaders yesterday on the Covid-19 vaccination public sensitisation campaign being undertaken with funding from Internews Tanzania through the Boresha Habari project. Others are the chairman of a panel of health experts, Dr Clement Makoba (3rd-R), and the municipality acting chief medical officer, Dr Geoffrey Mtunzi (2nd-L). Photo: Correspondent Friday Simbaya

Inform farmers on best ways to explore diverse opportunities in agricultural sector, govt urged

By Guardian Reporter, Same

THE government and development stakeholders have been tasked to create awareness among small-scale farmers on how they can benefit from various agricultural opportunities available in the sector.

Titus Onesmus, Same and Mwangi Environmental Conservation Advisory Organisation (SMECAO) training coordinator made the call here yesterday when facilitating the parallel discussions at the ongoing Northern Zone Gender Festival in Same District, Kilimanjaro Region.

The discussion is part of the Tanzania Gender Networking Programme

(TGNP)-organised event that brought on board various women rights organisations, community based organisations and other grassroots groups to deliberate on how they can utilise available economic opportunities for their development.

Onesmus tasked the government to team up with development stakeholders to educate farmers on the countless opportunities in the farming sector, saying that most of the farmers are not aware of the opportunities as a result they end up being producers.

He stated that if farmers are well informed about the opportunities they can advance to the value addi-

tion chain.

Onesmus said that farmers should be made aware of the countless opportunities in agriculture and it can be done by the local government through extension services.

"The government can also collaborate with Non-Governmental Organisations, Civil Society Organisations which deal with agriculture to make the opportunities known to the public from the production to consumer level," he said.

He further said that, after the opportunities are known, people should also be empowered on how to utilize them, such as how they can access loans and develop small scale

industries for processing their produce.

According to Onesmus, in the 2022/2023 budget the government has set aside a total of 751bn/- for the agriculture sector compared to 294bn/- set aside for 2021/2022 financial year.

"Most of the funds has been set aside for the development of irrigation farming, and crop storage infrastructure, strengthening market availability, research, seed production and provision of subsidies," he said.

He said the irrigation budget has increased from 46.5bn/- to 361.5bn/- in the current fiscal

year while the funds allocated for research has increased from 11.63bn/- to 40.73bn/-.

The National Irrigation Commission has also planned to construct 25 irrigation schemes in 53,234 hectares in the current financial year, he said. He noted that the government will also increase the budget for the construction of warehouses from 2.02bn/- to 25.16bn/- while that of extension services has increased from 11.5bn/- to 15bn/-.

Onesmus said the plan and budget for the Ministry of Agriculture in the current financial year has focused on building a strong basis for the growth of the sector at the rate of 10 per cent

come 2030. The growth rate of the sector will help to reduce poverty by 50 per cent.

One of the participants, Subira Kibiga called upon the government to facilitate land ownership to women so that they can fully participate in agriculture activities.

She said that women are the ones who are engaging in agriculture activities but most of them end up being labourers because they don't own land.

Kibiga also called upon the government to consider production of better seeds following the impacts of climate change which has affected the agriculture sector.



Tanzania Breweries Limited managing director Jose Daniel Moran Ramirez (squatting, R) and Twiga Brewery spokesperson Raphael Flury (also squatting) pose for a photo with other representatives of the two firms during a study tour by Twiga Brewery staff to TBL's plant in Arusha city on Thursday. Twiga Brewery is also based in Arusha. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TBL expresses commitment to working with other breweries

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Breweries Ltd (TBL Plc.) has expressed its commitment to continue working closely and engaging with other smaller breweries so as to promote production of quality products in the country.

TBL managing director, Jose Daniel Moran made the statement here when the members of Twiga Brewery visited TBL plant in Arusha for a knowledge exchange session.

He also said the company will also strengthen engagement to support more smallholder farmers of various crops including sorghum and barley. "These engagements with the representatives of Twiga Brewery are a key part of our role and responsibility as one of the country's oldest brewing companies and one of Tanzania's most valuable brands. The visit will allow us to exchange ideas, and to better understand the vision of the industry with Twiga," Moran said.

Plant manager, Joseph Mwaikasu shared a presentation on the plant's production overview and DPO pillars. Twiga members toured the state-of-the-art facilities the Arusha plant has.

Raphael Flury, Twiga Brewery spokesperson said the visit has been a very valuable opportunity to gain insight into TBL's operations and explore avenues of cooperation and support in the year to come.

"Extensive sharing of data, information, and practical knowledge will help pinpoint the direction of how our brewery can continue to grow," Flury said.

TBL is implementing a contract farming programme, a move which has transformed the lives of the majority of small-holder farmers in various regions.

Through its Smart Agriculture Initiative, TBL has become Tanzania's active player in the agriculture value chain directly empowering farmers of its main agricultural inputs: sorghum, barley, and grapes. The Smart Agriculture Initiative has a goal to achieve 100 percent skilled, connected, and financially empowered TBL direct farmers by 2025 among all farmers delivering to TBL.

IRDP eyeing to prepare graduates to meet labour market demand

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE Institute of Rural Development Plan (IRDP) will soon start offering new academic programmes developed to prepare graduates to meet the labour market demand and aligned to national development plans.

The development of the new programs resulted from a well-established and constructive move by the Dodoma based college to review and improve its training curricula after each five years.

Unveiling the prospectus courses during the college's stakeholders workshop for curricular development, IRDP's Rector, Prof. Hosen Mayaya detailed that the new pro-

grams have been developed after the state-owned varsity conducted an intensive labour market survey which was carried country wide to obtain exhaustive information from diverse stakeholders.

According to him, the involved stakeholders include think tanks from the National Council for Technical and Vocational Education (NACTVET), the Tanzania Commission for University (TCU), the Prime Minister's Office (Regional Administration and Local Government), the President Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance) as well as others from key academic Non-Government Organizations (NGOs).

The Don named the proposed six pro-

grams as Basic Technician, Technician Certificate and Ordinary Diploma in Accountancy and Finance, (NTA-46), Information Technology (IT), Geomatics, Basic Technician, Technician Certificate and Ordinary Diploma and Bachelor Degree in Urban and Rural Planning (NTA 4-8), Master Degree in Environmental and Occupational Health (NTA 9) and Master Degree in Human Resource Management (NTA 9).

"We are considering starting offering these six new programs so as to help bridge the existing gap in the country's labour market demand," he said.

The college's Council Chairperson, Prof. Martha Qorro, said introduction of the

new courses was partly to cater for the challenging policy and operating environment, including the changing in the labour market, and in order to help the college to align with national and international development frameworks, including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Third Five-Year Development Plan (FYDP III 2021/22-2025/260)

Giving more details pertaining the college's vital development, Prof. Provident Dimoso, the deputy rector academic, research and consultancy said the college was working tirelessly to ponder and develop meaningful courses that give answers to the currently needed community devel-

opment, in all vital areas, such as business, planning, as well as investment.

He added, the new programs have been developed through a thorough tracer study, one based on tracing performance of IRDP's graduates to determine their successes and failure, if any, in order to realize and bridge any gaps in its training curriculum.

Apart from training, he stated that the institute has so far conducted several rural-based researches to the tune of propelling to implementation of useful community economic empowerment projects, through financial auspices from different international organizations.

DART to introduce smart ticketing system

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE Dar es Salaam Rapid Transport (DART) has announced that it will introduce smart ticketing system where passengers will start using smartcards to buy tickets from early next year.

DART Manager of Information and Communication Technology (ICT), Ng'wanashigi Gagaga made the revelation during an event to mark the climax of customer care week at Gerezani in Dar es Salaam.

He said the new system will help to save long queues and time that passengers spend when buying tickets for the rapid transport.

He said the system to collect fares by using smart card was designed and constructed by local experts from DART, President Officer (Regional and Local Administration TAMI-SEMI) in collaboration with Ministry of Finance and Planning and the government.

"The process to buy supportive facilities to the system is going well because we have already signed contract with the contractor and we hope within 16 weeks from now the new system will be in operation and because

it will be supervised by locals we expect to be efficient than the old one which were supervised by the contractor from Belgium," he said.

He said the smart card will be used in both phase one and phase two which is expected to be in operation from March next year.

Director of Administration and Human Resource, Dr Eliphas Mollel, said they have introduced a call centre where passengers can call and tell challenges they face and get immediate response from the agency.

Mollel commended the users of the transport and promised that DART will continue with improvement in a way that the majority of Tanzanians will prefer to use it instead of using their private cars.

He said among the challenges passengers mentioned is inadequacy of buses, something which causes long queues and chaos in rapid bus terminals especially during peak hours which make them to delay reaching their destinations.

Mollel said currently DART has 210 rapid buses but the plan is to import about 170 buses soon and will help to solve chaos and long queues in their terminals.



Dr Mukhsin Salim Masoud (R), CEO of Zanzibar's PBZ Bank, pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday presenting a prize motorcycle to Hamis Hamad Hamis for emerging top in using the bank's agent's services for cash deposits and withdrawals. Looking Left is the bank's marketing manager, Seif Selemani Mohamed. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

Start using alternative cooking energy instead of charcoal, minister directs public institutions

By Guardian Correspondent, Geita

MINISTER of State, Vice-President's office, Union and Environment, Selemani Jafo has directed public institutions including the army, prisons and boarding schools to start using biogas or other alternative cooking energy instead of charcoal so as to overcome deforestation.

Jafo made the directives yesterday here when plant-

ing trees at the Bombambili Special Processing Zone before visiting the ongoing fifth National Mineral Technology Expo.

He said the move will greatly help to reduce environmental degradation saying that a total of 400,000 tonnes of trees are cut every year for charcoal production and firewood.

He said due to the climate change impacts, the environment is also highly affected,

which will result in more investment and innovation in affordable clean cooking solutions, and accelerated access to clean cooking solutions.

"The State Mining Corporation (STAMICO) has introduced a new innovative and environmental friendly renewable energy briquettes made from coal dusts which will help people to move from using charcoal and firewood to preserve the country's environment, so

the public institutions should start fetching the alternative energy from STAMICO and use them as cooking solutions," he explained.

He said due to little rains in the previous seasons, many areas of the country are now facing drought challenges and the water in rivers and dams also keeps decreasing.

"So, in order to fight this we need to ensure that we protect our environment by planting

more trees and this is our major focus now to ensure we restore biodiversity and promote activities that protect nature," he added.

The minister wanted artisanal gold miners to also use alternative methods in their activities by reducing the use of trees but rather use steel and concrete.

"I am happy that STAMICO has launched a national campaign to plant trees and pro-

duce alternative cooking energy using coal dusts, this is a very good step and we hail it," he said.

STAMICO marketing and relations manager, Geoffrey Meena said the company is prepared to plant 600 trees as part of the effort to support environmental conservation.

"We have started producing the coal briquettes and we sell them at 1,000/- per kilogramme," he said.



National Social Security Fund's Kahama manager, Aisha Nyemba (R), presents a certificate of appreciation for outstanding service to senior benefits officer Bertha Mwambe during the climax of the Customer Service Week commemoration in Kahama municipality yesterday, as senior officer Shabani Mbwana looks on. Photo: Correspondent Shaban Njia

Government allays fears about famine

By Guardian Correspondent, Singida

THE government has assured the public that the country will not fall into famine as it has a stock of 2 million tonnes of surplus food.

Minister for Agriculture Hussein Bashe made the statement here when addressing reporters on the state of food availability in the country.

According to him, despite the increase of price in food products, the country is well prepared and also stored a lot of food grains to help it once the crisis comes.

"Let me allay fear among the public because the country is not expected to face food insecurity in the near future. We have experienced an increase of price in various products but this will not turn the county into famine," he explained.

He clarified the increase in rice price has been contributed by neighbouring countries such as Rwanda and Uganda that currently depend on the product from Tanzania compared to previous times when they were buying it from the Far East.

He said the current food surplus stock is enough and it surpasses other amounts which the country was storing in the previous years, which wasn't exceeding 50,000 tonnes.

Bashe said food production has continued to increase where in the 2018/2019 production stood at 16.3 million tonnes; in 2020/2021 it was 18 million tonnes and in 2021/2022 food production was 17.4 million tonnes.

"The national demand of food is estimated to be 15.1 million tonnes, so with this situation, we still have a surplus of over 2 million tonnes of food which are in the hands of Tanzanians and the government," he said.

He said a total of 395,830 tonnes of maize worth 326bn/- have been exported from January to August, this year.

"On food prices, in the period between 2019 and 2022, maize price has increased from 63,000/- to 72,525/- which is an increase of 14 percent while rice has increased from 168,800/- to 194,638/-," he asserted.

He further said the price of agricultural inputs has also increased from 50,000/- to 140,000/- in the period from 2019 to 2022.

Experts embark on community awareness campaign to address mental health issues

By Correspondent James Kandoya

MENTAL health experts are now embarking on a community awareness campaign as a solution to address mental health concerns associated with killings among couples.

Mental Health Coordinator in the Ministry of Health, Dr Erasmus Mndeme made the statement in Dar es Salaam at training to journalists. He said that most of the people with mental health problems in the country begin at childhood and adolescent stage.

Dr Mndeme said that training to mem-

bers of the media is part of the on-going awareness campaign to commemorate the world mental health awareness week with a theme 'Make mental health for all a global priority' whose climax will be on October 10th this year.

It is estimated that 5 to 10 percent of the country's population are suffering from identifiable depressions. He said that people who suffer from mental health die between 10-20 years earlier.

Dr Mndeme said the risk of violence decreases when psychiatric symptoms are treated successfully urging for early diagnosis to prevent its effects.

He mentioned some causes of mental health as childhood abuse, trauma, or neglect, social isolation or loneliness, experiencing discrimination and stigma, including racism, social disadvantage, poverty or debt.

Five main warnings of signs of mental illness are excessive paranoia, worry, or anxiety, long-lasting sadness or irritability, extreme changes in moods and social withdrawal.

The coordinator said the WHO's World Mental Health report published in June 2022, showed that of one billion people living with a mental disorder in 2019, 15

percent of working-age adults experienced a mental disorder.

"Accurate diagnosis and known symptoms of mental health is very important to avoid critical violence that is why we have the initiative of embarking on community awareness," he said.

"It is our hope that community awareness will help to reduce avoidable deaths resulting from long misunderstandings and lack of communication," he said.

The WHO estimates that depressive disorders affect 4.1 percent of the population and that anxiety disorders affect

3 percent. There is reason to think that the rates of mental illness would be even higher in Dar es Salaam specifically.

The city has comparatively high rates of unemployment, difficult living conditions and drug abuse - all factors that are likely to contribute to mental health problems.

Additionally, mental illnesses increase the risk of individuals contracting other communicable and non-communicable diseases and the risk of individuals undergoing intentional or unintentional injury.

TTU complains to govt over lack of teachers' quarters

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

TANZANIA Teachers Union (TTU) has cited four challenges facing teachers in the country including lack of residential quarters resulting in some of them living in poor surroundings that impact on teaching.

Other challenges include lack of teaching allowance and better emoluments that make many of them to take up loans that affect their profession.

TTU further cited lack of in-training that ought to go in tandem with changes to curricula that has made it difficult to some teachers teaching ICT to abandon use of computers.

The grievances were raised at a forum that marked World Teachers Day held here at regional level.

Addressing the forum, TTU Head of Education and Training Department, Stella Kiyabo said the government employs teachers but station them to areas without quarters to live in.

"We praise the government for building classrooms, but the pace should go simultaneously with building of teachers' houses, we have heard that this financial year they will build 809 houses for teachers, the number is very small, we ask to be accorded priority, there are quarters in which teachers live in that are in very poor state, there is neither

water nor electricity," she said.

She said statistics from the President's Office - Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) show that there is still a very high demand of quarters for primary school teachers.

She said the statistics show that the demand is for 237,121 houses but only 44,363 are available while for secondary schools the demand is for 81,973 houses but only 14,274 are available.

However, she suggested changes in guidelines regarding registration of schools by inserting a condition for teachers' houses before a school is registered.

TTU National Executive Committee member, Bakari Mtembo called on teachers not to remain idle but fight for their rights.

Regarding teaching allowances, he said TTU has appealed to the government to restore them in order to compensate for extra time teachers use for preparation of lessons.

On the issue of in-service training to teachers, Mtembo said this was among important requirements especially at this time with vast technological advances.

Contributing to the discussions, Prosper Mtungi, one of CWT officials said teachers will continue facing challenges due to politics reigning at work places.



Tanzania Teachers' Union acting president Dinna Mathamani (L), Mwalimu Commercial Bank Plc board of directors chairperson Francis Cecil Ramadhani (C) and the bank's CEO, Richard Makungwa, in break-time exchange of views during the bank's annual stakeholders general meeting held in Mbeya city on Thursday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TRA to seize, auction Turkey's assets to cover unpaid tax totalling 308.5m/-

By Guardian Correspondent, Zanzibar

THE Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) in Zanzibar has said that the assets of businessman Toufky Salum Turkey will be seized and auctioned if he fails to complete the tax payment of 308.5m/- after importing a luxury Mercedes-Benz since January this year.

Juma Bakary Hassan, TRA's deputy commissioner said this here yesterday when speaking to journalists at his office in Kinazini after the request to be allowed to pay the debt in three installments was rejected on October 3 this year.

"We have asked them to pay to-

gether and according to the law, if they fail, we will seize the property through his guarantor to ensure that the government tax is paid," said Hassan.

He said they received a request asking them to be allowed to in installments on September 29 this year after paying 138m/- out of 308.5m/-.

He also stated that the Turks Bag Company still owes 170.5m/-. Tax exemption applications have been rejected twice by the Minister of State, the President's Office, Finance and Planning, despite being approved by the Director of Zanzibar Investment Promotion Author-

ity (ZIPA) Sharif Ali Sharif.

The TRA official said that the car was released from the port before completing the tax procedures after being guaranteed by a financial institution while they continued to complete the tax exemption procedures through the Zanzibar Bag Factory project.

He however said that after the application was rejected, they asked the TRA to re-evaluate the value of the car and the tax they are required to pay after worrying, but the value came to be the same as in the beginning.

"When we notified them, they paid 138m/-, but they came again

with requests to end the debt of 170m/- in instalments, now their guarantors, a financial institution, have asked that they be given the documents of the car so that they can satisfy themselves after the parties were asked to pay the debt together."

He said that according to the law, if they fail to complete the payment as required, the TRA will have to seize the property of the party and auction it to cover the government tax payment.

Regarding the car being seen walking on the street before completing the tax payment, TRA said they allowed the car to leave the port and be kept in a safe area before complet-

ing the tax payment.

Zanzibar minister of state in the President's Office (Finance and Planning), Dr Saada Mkuya said that the person involved has already been asked to pay and was notified by order in accordance with the letter of October 3 this year after receiving the request to pay in instalments on September 29 this year.

Dr Saada said the application for tax exemption was rejected due to being submitted in violation of the investment isolation law despite being approved by ZIPA.

According to the law, the tax exemption for the investor can be applied during the construction of the

project and not after the project is completed and the production has started.

Speaking about the saga, member of ACT-Wazalendo's central committee Ismal Jussa Ladhu congratulated the Minister of Finance and Planning for refusing to grant tax exemptions contrary to the Isles' investment law.

Acting Taxpayer Service Manager of the Zanzibar Revenue Board (ZRB), Makame Mohamed Khamis, said that the car has been registered and given the number Z-1 after completing the registration payment of 15m/- without being given the title of the car under the conditions of not moving.



Nicodemus Mushi (R), Tanzania Ports Authority's public relations, communications and marketing manager, pictured on Thursday briefing a visitor to the TPA pavilion at the ongoing mining technology exhibition in Geita town. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

NGO in Kagera Region pleads for support to end water challenges in Kyerwa District

By Correspondent Mutayoba Arbogast, Bukoba

A non-governmental organization operating in Kagera region has appealed to development partners to support efforts to end water challenges in Kyerwa district.

Mavuno project which was established in 1993 and advocates for clean and safe water in the district said the matter can be addressed through participation of various partners.

The project director, Charles Bahati made the call to a delegation of seven people from Germany, led by Andreas Horsche, First Mayor of Furth city, in Lower Bavarian, when they paid a courtesy call at the organisation's headquarters in Ihanda village, Chonyonyo ward.

Bahati was thankful for the partnership between his organisation and Furth city, which among other partners, have helped the organisation to reach direct beneficiaries in Karagwe and Kyerwa districts, the direct beneficiaries of 11,000 households, government primary school, youth groups of 1,005 members.

Bahati said among the projects they are proud of is availability of clean and safe water for 629 households, after the organization managed to pump the water from hills up to the hill by using solar pumps which were donated by the visiting partners.

The National water policy calls for provision of clean and safe water to the population within 400 meters from their households but only 50 per cent of Tanzanians in rural population have access to clean and safe water, challenges being population growth, high level of consumption and climate change.

Mayor Horsche applauded the efforts done by the Mavuno project, standing by the objective of improving the quality of people's lives by building strong communities with ability to control resources for their sustainable developments.

He said after arriving back home they will discuss with the board to see the way forward to offer more help to the Mavuno project.

The delegation has been in Karagwe for a week, visiting various government and private projects as well as tour sites.

He further said that the good friendship with Mavuno project has resulted into another partnership between Karagwe district council and Furth city, an agreement which was to be signed recently.

Fr Didace Kasusura, an Environmental Adviser from Rulenge-Ngara Diocese, said he is happy the organization is growing, and being one of those who assisted it to stand, he is optimistic more partners will come in for mutual friendship.



Bahati said among the projects they are proud of is availability of clean and safe water for 629 households, after the organization managed to pump the water from hills up to the hill by using solar pumps

Dodoma City Council to establish special centres for children with special needs

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE Dodoma city council is considering establishment of special centres to facilitate dispensation of basic human amenities to children with special needs.

At least, 829 children with special needs have been identified and registered in readiness to start receiving necessary services as well as statutory rights, including access to education.

The necessary humanitarian development was unveiled yesterday by the Dodo-

ma city council special needs education officer, Issa Kambi when speaking at the opening of a capacity building seminar to parents with special needs children.

The helpful training organised by Special Olympics Tanzania was tailored for imparting the said parents on how maturely to take good care of their handicapped children.

"We have decided to establish the centres in order to ensure the challenged children in the country's capital city are getting their basic and statutory rights.

We have registered about 829 children, and the exercise is going on since our vision is to ensure all special needs children are getting their basic amenities," he said.

He added that the office of the Dodoma city council was also mulling to construct special dormitories with needed infrastructures.

"We're currently at preliminary, but encouraging stages in readiness to start implementing the helpful project professionally. Our focus is to see children with

various physical and mental challenges are receiving needed care," said Kambi.

Kambi called upon all parents with handicapped children to deter from inhuman habit of locking their children indoors. "We're no longer dwelling in the era where disables are considered as a misfortune or a curse, and the government has no room to perpetuate such misconduct," he insisted, urged the parents to enrol their handicapped children to schools.

Director of Special Olympics Tanzania, Charles Rays, expressed that among oth-

ers, the training was for imparting the relevant parent over the matters pertaining to their children's health.

"Among the health aspects that we're training the parents here include, dental and oral health, eyes and physical health," he expressed.

Dr Sophia Mwidri, a dental and oral health expert said the parents are shaped on how best to assist their disabled children to brush their teeth, as well as over the types of foods that are recommended in making their teeth stronger.

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

Taxing alcohol, cigarettes more would help, but only so much...

DEBATE has started on what the government should do in relation to instituting tax measures to generate the funds it needs for universal health care coverage that is now official policy. One strong suggestion making the rounds is that alcohol and cigarettes need to be taxed intensely to create a fund facilitating implementation of the anticipated Universal Health Coverage (UHC). This is a view of a section of stakeholders with close affinity to many private hospitals.

The ideas were put across by a quality improvement coordinator at the Christian Social Service Commission (CSSC), at a media engagement forum ahead of the Tanzania Health Summit slated for the coming week.

There wasn't much shade of doubt in the presentation, on the basis of recounts reaching this newspaper, as to the feasibility of this source taking care of the problem as such. The presenter said it was the right time for such revenue to support healthcare, with church based health centres receiving the UHC plan positive on quality delivery issue.

For once, the said coordinator was persuaded that taxing alcohol and cigarettes, when it finances UHC, will improve delivery of healthcare and enhance quality of how patients are attended. The idea animating the forum was that everyone in Tanzania has the right to quality healthcare, in which case the issue is how it ought to be funded.

This is where a good idea finds difficulties in getting the best way of realising it, where it is vital to figure out the solution to 'who will bell the cat.' The idea of taxing alcohol and cigarettes is nice,

but rather easy.

In building up the argument for this method of financing universal health care, the presenter appeared to take it for granted that the rationale is evident, and all it needs is for the government to make the right decisions. One core reason is that government needs to support those not able to contribute to the universal care scheme, and as the vast majority of Tanzanians live in villages, they need to be rescued by universal health coverage. All that is fine, except that universal health care can't just be burdened on drinkers and smokers; it is poor taxation.

Taxes can't be imposed as a punishment, or as exploitation of a weakness that you smoke or drink you will pay for peasants' needs for health care. It would marginally be necessary to determine how much alcohol and cigarettes contribute to the healthcare bill, which by any measure is quite extensive, but runs alongside sugar products (soft drinks, flour or grain products) as well as meat in all its varieties. Were it that taxation targets these areas equally, it would be fair enough as all of us commit the sin of eating rice, drinking or chewing away substantial amounts of meat regularly. It is a collective effort, not some kind of punishment as the coordinator's proposal appeared to make it out.

What is especially helpful in what the coordinator proposed is that healthcare be funded as a consumption tax rather than as a head tax in the way the current bill proposes, where it directs it at obtaining permits of all sorts, identity cards, etc.

World bank report on poverty a call for global soul-searching

A WORLD leader in shaping development thinking at any rate at particular moments, World Bank president David Malpass, has declared that the world is unlikely to meet the vital goal of ending extreme poverty by 2030. There was a chance, perhaps one in five or ten, that the goal could be achieved by that date, and some intervening events have altered those prospects, as a new report says.

The current edition of the World Bank's 'Poverty and Shared Prosperity' theme issued at midweek was said to be providing the first comprehensive look at the landscape of poverty after extraordinary shocks disturbed the global economy.

It sees the global Covid-19 pandemic and the outbreak of war in Ukraine and its attendant sanctions on Russia, oil price rises due to supply uncertainties, and now a sharp slowdown being experienced first in China and slowly in the United States, Britain and other advanced economies.

These factors converge to sweep aside chances of attaining world economy, growth levels, plus the needed increase in African exports of goods and services to attain the 2030 objectives. Inability to reach the goal was visible already in sub-Saharan Africa, at least.

Still the report doesn't paint the worst possible picture for poverty eradication except for Sub-Saharan Africa, when it underlines that by 2030, nearly seven percent of the world's population - nearly 600m

people - will still be struggling in extreme poverty, living on less than two dollars per day at current prices.

Seven percent is admirably low, except that in Sub-Saharan Africa it is more than a third of the total population. It means poverty is virtually stagnant.

The report dwells on analytical dynamics extreme poverty rise and decline of shared prosperity brought by inflation, currency depreciations and climate change, where the latter aspect is an abbreviation for "broader overlapping crises facing development, presenting a grim outlook for billions of people globally" that the report underlines. It shows the need for adjustments of macroeconomic policies to improve the allocation of global capital, foster currency stability, reduce inflation and restart growth in median income.

It isn't altogether certain that the bank's Sub-Saharan Africa participants will take the latter observation critically enough, or they will take heart at the fact that underlying causes are not of our own doing, and thus we continue with business as usual.

That would imply sticking to what the World Bank calls the status quo - of slowing global growth, higher interest rates, greater risk aversion, and fragility in many developing countries. Fragility isn't just budgetary but also socio-political, the chaos fostered by conflicts engendered by traditional modes of economy. Chances of solving the issues soon are negative.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

MANAGING EDITOR: WALLACE MAUGGO
CIRCULATION MANAGER : EMMANUEL LYMO

Newsdesk

General Line: 0745 700710
News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON
0757 154767
E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz

Advertising

Cel: + 0782 253676 E-mails: Advertise@guardian.co.tz
Website: lppmedia.com, epaper.ippmedia.com



COP27: Here's how to unlock Africa's low-carbon future

By Special Correspondent

By Clare Shine

Private investment is needed for Africa to adopt renewable energy. Here's why that investment makes sense

At last, the world is waking up to the climate-nature emergency. Not because of any great scientific breakthrough; new data merely confirms what climatologists have long argued. What's new is the growing evidence around us: floods in Pakistan, wildfires across Europe, record summer temperatures across the world.

Nowhere on the planet is feeling the effects of climate change more than Africa. According to recent research, the upsurge in droughts, floods, heatwaves, and other climate-related events is reducing the continent's economic growth by 5% to 15% per year.

And all this in a region that can not only least afford such losses, but also has least responsibility for the industrialisation-linked emissions that cause them. Collectively, the 54 nations that make up the region are responsible for less than 4% of current global greenhouse gas emissions - more than four times less than the United States (19%) and almost six times less than China (23%).

The moral imperative to support African nations as they adapt their economies to a climate-affected future is only too clear. Sure, the political repercussions of accepting as much are

costly (think, economic reparations running into billions of dollars). Even so, the responsibility of industrialised nations is implicit in their shared pledge to direct \$100 billion per year in climate finance for the world's least-developed economies.

Yet, an "us and them" framing of the climate debate is a road to nowhere - or, rather, it's a road to almost certain climate disaster and ever greater humanitarian misery. Only by reframing the narrative around climate and biodiversity action do nations of the world - both rich and poor - stand a hope of averting climate catastrophe.

What does reframing entail? First and foremost, it demands a radical rethink of climate and nature finance. Right now, funding climate projects in poor countries is seen in terms of old-style humanitarian aid. Pitched as such, it will always fall short. In the 13 years since making their \$100-billion pledge, rich nations have never once hit that figure.

Even if they can find the cash, the size of the problem dwarfs any aid budget. During a regional climate meeting in August and September in Gabon, African finance ministers estimated their collective bill for climate action at \$432 billion - more than four times rich countries' existing (and failed) pledge.

The good news is the money exists - just not in public coffers. Po-

litically uncomfortable as it may be, bridging Africa's looming climate finance gap means looking to the private sector. Today, one third of global assets under management have some form of social, environment, or governance element attached to them. Wall Street hasn't suddenly filled with angels. Rather, its decision makers have looked hard at the risks of climate disaster and similar 'external shocks' and don't like what they see.

The smartest view Africa's future climate and human security as an opportunity not just to protect their portfolios, but also to boost their returns. Take a research project we recently ran in Kenya to show the viability of producing domestic energy through a 'flexi' biogas. The system succeeds much better in meeting residents' energy needs, while also cutting use of carbon-intensive fuel sources such as charcoal and wood.

Multiply examples like these at scale across the continent and the image of carbon finance as a drag on the economy turns on its head. Clean energy provides a case in point. According to recent analysis from the International Energy Agency, Africa is home to 60% of the best solar resources worldwide. Yet, at present, the continent holds only 1% of solar PV capacity.

It doesn't take a degree in economics to explain why climate capital isn't

flowing as fast as it could. Country risk analysis means foreign investors into Africa fear getting their fingers burned at the best of times. In the nascent climate market, those fears jump even higher. Fortunately, there are plenty of mechanisms public lenders can bring to the table to reduce risks, such as credit enhancements, first-loss guarantees and other forms of securitisation.

Some de-risking is already happening. Although the Green Climate Fund proved sluggish in delivering the rich countries' \$100-billion pledge, the capital it has raised is helping to improve the risk-reward profile of low-carbon projects and thus attract private finance. The fund's early-stage investments have also helped demonstrate the viability of new, climate-smart technologies and business models.

In the coming months, Africa's finance chiefs will meet again at the UN's annual climate summit in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt. The event, pivotally positioned as the 'African COP', marks an opportunity to turbocharge low-carbon transformation of the continent's diverse economies. If the richest nations turn up offering yet more climate handouts, certain failure beckons. Instead, they need to look to galvanizing their private financial markets. The money is there: it just takes smart thinking to unlock it.

Towards brighter future and common prosperity

By Liu Jin

OCTOBER 1st marked the 73rd anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China. Over the past 73 years, tens of millions of Chinese people worked tirelessly and fearlessly to build the nation. Tested by hardships, tremendous achievements in development have been made, and China has realized its first centenary goal of building a moderately prosperous society in all respects on schedule.

The past one year once again saw China making new progress in its social and economic development, as well as China's new contributions to the international community in overcoming global challenges and achieving common prosperity.

The world witnessed China in pursuing high-quality development. Faced with severe and multiple challenges, China fully and faithfully implemented the new development philosophy featuring

innovation, coordination, green, openness and shared development, and applied this philosophy to all areas throughout the process of economic and social progress. China kept on putting COVID-19 under control, and stabilized economic recovery and development. At present, the Chinese people are already on a new journey toward the second centenary goal of building a modern socialist country in all respects.

The world witnessed China in promoting global development and common progress. We fostered global partnerships, and played an active part in the reform and development of the global governance system. The Global Development Initiative (GDI) proposed by President Xi Jinping for achieving common development won wide cheers among the international community.

Over 100 countries and international organizations, including the UN, supported the GDI over the past year; and over 60 countries including The Gambia joined the Group of Friends of the GDI. The Initiative has progressed from the stage of laying basis to building a framework, being transformed into actions of practical cooperation.

The world witnessed China in promoting peace and security. To answer questions of our time as what security concept the world needs and how countries can achieve common security, President Xi Jinping proposed Global Security Initiative (GSI), calling on the international community to stay committed to the vision of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security; stay committed to respecting sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries; stay committed to abiding by the purposes and principles of the UN Charter; stay committed to taking seriously the legitimate security concerns of all countries; stay committed to peacefully resolving differences and disputes between countries through dialogue and consultation; and stay committed to

maintaining security in both traditional and non-traditional domains.

The world witnessed China in standing shoulder to shoulder with Africa. Since the successful Eighth FOCAC Ministerial Conference held last year, China and Africa have jointly made good progress in implementing the outcomes of the conference.

The people in Africa are getting tangible benefits. Together, China and Africa have safeguarded international fairness and justice, kept our focus on development cooperation, tackled the global food crisis, built a strong shield against COVID-19, advanced resilient and sustainable development, and enhanced regional peace and stability. These achievements in our cooperation have not come easily, and we have much more to look forward to in the future.

In just a few weeks, the Communist Party of China (CPC) will convene its 20th National Congress. It will be a gathering of great significance, and will guide China's future development. China will continue to follow the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Socialism with Chinese Characteristics for a New Era and Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy in particular, actively participate in international affairs, act with a sense of responsibilities as a major country, advance the building of a new type of international relations featuring mutual respect, fairness, justice and win-win cooperation, and work tirelessly for building a community with a shared future for mankind.

China and The Gambia are mutually reliable partners on each other's development paths. In recent years, the China-Gambia friendship has been continuously promoted, with cooperation in such areas as infrastructure, health, agriculture and education yielding tremendous outcomes, which have been helping promote The Gambia's social and economic progress, tangibly benefiting the people of both countries.

By Telesphor Magobe

Universal access to information crucial in the making of informed decisions



receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, regardless of frontiers, either orally, in writing or in print, in the form of art, or through any other media of his [or her] choice." Article 9(1) of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (1981) states that "every individual shall have the right to receive information."

Therefore, everywhere across the world access to information plays a crucial role in people's lives and in the attainment of development, democracy, equality and in the provision of public services.

Paragraph 5 of the 1991 Windhoek Declaration stresses the world-wide trend towards democracy and freedom of information and expression as a fundamental contribution to the fulfilment of human aspirations.

Furthermore, it recognises the role of journalism in producing and disseminating public interest information, especially in times of crisis and it emphasises the overriding importance of this role remaining free from capture or distorting influence.

In particular, the Windhoek Declaration acknowledges the digital transformation and the enormous role played by the internet and digital platforms in facilitating the sharing of knowledge and information, including that of vulnerable, marginalised groups, independent journalists and human rights organisations.

In countries in which the right to freedom of access information is respected, citizens know what their governments are doing, know what is going on in their countries and in other countries across the world. This helps them to have informed choices and make informed decisions in issues that concern their lives, including socioeconomic, cultural and political affairs.

In countries in which the right to freedom of access information is restricted, citizens know nothing or very little about their governments, what is going on in their countries and in other countries across the world. This makes them have limited choices and also limits them to have informed choices and make informed decisions.

The media is an important link between world governments and their people and plays a crucial role in the dissemination of information between those governments and their people. It is only when citizens know what is going on in their governments and their countries that they can hold their leaders accountable for their decisions and actions.

So, access to information is very important in people's lives. IDUAI reminds us of the need to cooperate in the establishment of resilient and inclusive knowledge societies in which human

ingenuity, technical innovation and the power of information and knowledge are a reality. Media pluralism today is indicative of the rapid growth in digital migration and mobile internet access.

However, there are challenges related to access to information. In a report entitled "World Trends in Freedom of Expression and Media Development: Global Report 2021/22" UNESCO, from 2016-2020, recorded 400 killings of journalists, which is about a 20-per cent decrease from the previous five-year period (2011-2015) in which 491 killings were registered.

In 2020, 62 journalists were killed for their work and, according to UNESCO, every nine in 10 cases of killings of journalists (87 per cent) remain unresolved. This is a worrying trend that tends to silence journalists.

Another report entitled "Freedom in the World 2022" suggests that today 38 per cent of the global population live in 'not free' countries in terms of freedom of expression and opinion, the highest proportion since 1997 and only about 20 per cent now live in 'free' countries.

In countries in which journalists are threatened, access to information becomes a major snag to informed choices and decisions. So, IDUAI should inform our governments to be more accountable, transparent and efficient in service delivery for the development of their people.

Today's proverb: "It's an ill wind that blows nobody any good."

The author is a lawyer based in Dar es Salaam. He can be reached at tmagobe@gmail.com

ON Wednesday last week, the world marked International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI) with the theme "Artificial intelligence, e-governance and access to information".

IDUAI was a crucial event to all persons across the world because access to information is crucial to informed choices and decisions we make every day. If needed information is withheld or is inaccessible, citizens stay in ignorance all the time until such information is accessible.

IDUAI was a day to reflect on both the benefits and risks of e-governance and artificial intelligence and although the event was marked last week, its significance remains even today for the very fact that information is power.

E-governance is the government's utilisation of information and communication technology (ICT) to provide and facilitate government services, exchange of information, citizen participation and efficiency.

It is essentially about increasing transparency and accountability, resulting in cost-effective and timely quality services. Artificial intelligence refers to the application of human intelligence in machines programmed to think like humans and perform actions performed by humans. All this is geared towards bringing about development in an efficient, effective and timely manner.

In Tanzania, access to information is a constitutional right. This is in the realisation that in some circumstances, access to information can be limited and when it is unduly limited, citizens are deprived of their constitutional right.

The Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania (1977) guarantees access to information. Article 18(b) of the Constitution states that "Every person - has a right to seek, receive and, or disseminate information regardless of national boundaries" and Article 18(d) states that "Every person - has a right to be informed at all times of various important events of life and activities of the people and also of issues of importance to society."

Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948) too provides for the right to access to information. It states that "Everyone has the right... to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers."

Furthermore, Article 19 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966) states that "Every person shall have the right to freedom...to seek,

China to keep working with rest of world to build community with a shared future for humankind

By He Yin

"SOME say it is a wild crop; some say it is a lifeline. Oh, it is an amazing crop. It is food, medicine and hope..."

So goes a Lesotho's folk song about Juncao, literally meaning "fungus grass" in Chinese, which was developed by Chinese scientists after decades of research and cultivation.

The Juncao technology has been shared by China with over 100 countries, becoming a "grass of happiness" that benefits the people in developing countries.

It is a miniature of China's joining hands with other countries to pursue common development in the new era, and it mirrors China's sincerity and ceaseless efforts to build a community with a shared future for mankind.

The vision of building a community with a shared future for mankind has constantly gained new connotations, and the paths to it have become increasingly clearer. It is a correct approach with practical nature and well suits today's world, serving as a great banner pointing the way forward for our times and humanity.

Building a community with a shared future for mankind conforms to the trend of history and the times. It responds to the universal aspiration of all countries for development and progress, and captures the greatest common denominator among the people of all nations in aspiring to a better world.

The vision has been incorporated in multiple bilateral and multilateral documents as well as UN resolutions, building broad consensus around the world and demonstrating strong vitality and appeal.

Many international personages said that the Communist Party of China can always catch the signal of the evolution of the times, and some said the vision of building a community with a shared future for mankind mirrors a worldview going beyond national ideologies and builds a new path to world peace and development.

The vision of building a community with a shared future for mankind, taking building a new type of international relations as a premise, has blazed a new trail of international relations.

While promoting the vision, Chinese President Xi Jinping has called on the world to forge a new type of in-



The concept of building a community with a shared future for mankind is not hollow diplomatic language, but a programme of action and a guideline for China to actively promote major-country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics in a new era.

ternational relations featuring mutual respect, fairness, justice and win-win cooperation. China holds that all countries and all peoples should enjoy dignity and security and share development fruits.

On national governance, China has proposed to build a community of shared future in cyberspace, a community of common health for mankind, a community of life for man and nature and a maritime community with a shared future.

At the bilateral level, China is working with a number of countries to build a community with a shared future, including Pakistan, Cambodia, Laos, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan.

At the regional level, China is committed to building a community with a shared future with neighbors, an Asia-Pacific community with a shared future, a China-ASEAN community with a shared future, a Shanghai Cooperation Organization community with a shared future, a China-Africa community with a shared future, a China-Arab community with a shared future and a China-Latin American and Caribbean community with a shared future.

The vision of building a community with a shared future for mankind is to continuously build global consensus in

safeguarding and practicing multilateralism, and enhancing global governance. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres once said that the goal of practicing multilateralism is to build a community with a shared future for mankind.

The vision of building a community with a shared future for mankind is an inevitable choice for the world to cope with global challenges. It has paved a broad path for all people in the world to pursue a better life.

A leader of a foreign political party noted that the vision aims at the common interests of mankind and draws a blueprint for human development in the future. What he said revealed the profound significance of the vision.

To build a community with a shared future for mankind, China has proposed the Belt and Road Initiative, the world's broadest-based and largest platform for international cooperation. The country has launched the most intensive and wide-ranging emergency humanitarian operation since the founding of the People's Republic of China in 1949, injecting constant strength into the global fight against COVID-19.

China proposed the Global Development Initiative (GDI), which has been responded by over 100 countries and mul-

multiple international organizations, including the UN. More than 60 countries have joined the Group of Friends of the GDI. Besides, the China-proposed Global Security Initiative is also widely welcomed around the world.

The Chinese actions to build a community with a shared future for mankind fully demonstrated the country's sense of responsibility and have turned people's aspiration for a better life into reality. Guided by the vision, employees working in the Chinese-invested Sihanoukville Special Economic Zone, Cambodia are embracing a better life; millions of Pakistani families are connected to a safe and stable power supply; the Smederevo steel plant, Serbia is revitalized; and modern rail services are brought to the people in Kenya and Ethiopia.

Building a community with a shared future for mankind is a beautiful goal that calls for efforts to be made by generations. China will keep working with relevant parties to jointly pursue this goal and build an open, inclusive, clean and beautiful world that enjoys lasting peace, universal security, and common prosperity.

BULAWAYO

Addressing the cow in the room, lowering for nutrition and livelihoods

MEAT, milk, and eggs are bad for you, and livestock is bad for the environment.

Growing negative narratives about cattle's contribution to climate change are shrinking the growth of the strategic livestock sector on which the livelihoods of more than 1.3 billion people in the world depend.

In Africa, livestock farming is life, providing food, nutrition, jobs, draught power, income generation, and a source of cultural significance. But the benefits of keeping cattle, goats, sheep, and pigs are lost when it comes to the impact of livestock on the environment as mentioned.

As a result, livestock farmers are suffering from the low investment in the livestock sector, which has the potential to drive economic growth, address poverty and achieve many of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Researchers, farmers, and entrepreneurs, lamenting the negative perception about livestock in contributing to climate change, are calling for a balanced discussion to highlight livestock production, not as a problem but as a solution in tackling climate change, especially in developing countries.

Ian Wright, Deputy Director at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) in Nairobi, Kenya, admits that livestock production is today topical for its negative impact on the environment, an area where it can provide a solution. There are suggestions that milk, meat, and eggs are becoming foods to avoid, yet livestock is one of the fastest-growing economic sectors in Africa, he said.

"Livestock and livestock systems are very different in different regions of the world, and the cultural significance and economic importance varies but the contribution of livestock to food and nutrition security in Africa is absolutely critical," Wright told IPS in an interview. He added that the majority of people in Africa tend not to eat adequate sources of protein and micronutri-



Cattle are important for economic growth and in supporting livelihoods across Africa. Livestock farmers in Nkayi, Zimbabwe, tending to their cattle. Credit: Busani Bafana/IPS

ents, in contrast to the situation in the Global North, where people will benefit from eating less meat and animal-sourced foods.

We can 'meat' in the middle

"The global discussions around livestock tend to be dominated by voices from the Global North, so it is important we ensure that perspectives on the role of livestock from the Global South, including Africa, are heard at the top table of global events like the Conference of Parties (COP 27) to articulate the positives about the role of livestock which no doubt has its challenges," Wright said.

"The livestock sector must address these shortcomings as there are opportunities to make livestock part of the resilience and adaptation efforts; for example, climate variability makes cropping too risky, but livestock can still be raised producing food from land that can-

not produce crops."

Better livestock management and improved feed regime can help reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from livestock, while sustainable rangeland management promotes the fixing of carbon in the soil.

Livestock production contributes to about 40 percent of the global value of agricultural output while supporting the livelihoods, food, and nutrition security of billions of people around the world, according to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

A growing population and rapid urbanization are also driving an appetite for animal-sourced foods from eggs, milk, beef, and pork, which are also some of the best and often affordable sources of protein. Livestock provides energy-dense and micronutrient-rich foods, which are important for pregnant

women and particularly babies in the first 1 000 days of life.

Scientists are clear about livestock's huge hoof print. Assessments by the FAO show that total emissions from global livestock represent 14.5 percent of all human-induced GHG emissions. Cattle, in particular, are responsible for the most emissions, at about 65 percent of the livestock sector's emissions, largely of dangerous methane gas. As a result, there is a growing movement to stop eating meat and instead tuck it into plant-based diets to promote health and save the environment.

However, Africa is one of the regions in the world where malnutrition is rising. More people are going hungry, and even more, have no access to nutritious food. Livestock is a solution.

The World Bank notes that Africa is losing between 3 and 16 percent of its GDP annually because of child-

hood stunting, and animal-sourced foods can contribute to reducing that problem, says Adebola Adesogen, Director of the Food Systems Institute and the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Livestock Systems at the University of Florida.

"We should prioritize livestock-sourced foods in nutrition and increase access to these foods across Africa because there is low consumption of animal-sourced foods in Africa, Adesogen urged. "For example, the consumption of meat in Nigeria is about less than five percent of what is consumed in Argentina, yet the animal-sourced foods contain a plethora of vital macro and micro nutrients which are vital for children of Africa for their growth and health yet most of the interventions address malnutrition in Africa neglect animal-sourced foods."

Investing in livestock

The livestock sector attracts little investment compared to other agriculture sectors but contributes up to 40 percent of the agriculture GDP in Africa. Of the \$129 billion Official Development Assistance in 2020, only 4.3 of that was funneled into agriculture, and livestock received just 1.3 percent, Wright noted.

Smallholder farmer, Emma Naluyima from Uganda, who has integrated crop growing and livestock in growing a thriving farm enterprise on an acre of land, says supportive policies are critical in promoting the development of the livestock and the livelihoods of livestock farmers.

Naluyima, speaking during a panel discussion at a session hosted by the ILRI during the 2022 Alliance for a Green Revolution Forum in Rwanda, highlighted that livestock is productive and profitable when farmers are supported to do it correctly. Naluyima's one-acre integrated farm, based on the recycling of farm resources to provide natural fertilizers and pesticides as well as biogas, generates \$100,000 in income annually.

While many countries in Africa have failed to allocate at least 10 percent of their public expenditure on agriculture in line with the Malabo Declaration on Agriculture commitments, the livestock sector was barely getting more than 3 percent of the agriculture budget, yet it has the potential to transform the continent's food systems.

Wright says livestock can solve multiple food system challenges in Africa as it is a significant contributor to the Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals. For a continent that continues to bear the double burden of food and nutritional insecurity, livestock-sourced foods can reduce malnutrition for the most vulnerable communities, he said.

"The livestock sector must address these shortcomings as there are opportunities to make livestock part of the resilience and adaptation efforts; for example, climate variability makes cropping too risky, but livestock can still be raised producing food from land that cannot produce crops," said Wright.

ILRI has worked with various governments to develop Livestock Investment Master Plans, which have enabled governments and the private sector to get the best value from the sector, which battles to show a return on investment. For example, through a developed Livestock Investment Master plan, the government of Ethiopia was able to leverage \$500 million from private sector investment in the livestock value chain

IPS

KAMPALA

Uganda fishing villages benefit from Chinese firm's oil sector investment

FIVE tiny fishing villages on the shores of Lake Albert shared by Uganda and the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo are host to China's oil giant, the China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC) which is drilling the Kingfisher oil field under the lake in Kikuube district, western Uganda.

Back in 2016, these villages were some of the hard-to-reach areas. According to Dismas Babihemaiso, a local leader, access to the villages from other parts of the country was either by boat or involved climbing up a 1.9 km escarpment as there was no motor-worthy road.

It was especially a nightmare for pregnant mothers who had complications and needed to be referred to bigger health facilities, Babihemaiso added. Transporting goods to and from the villages was also costly because people had to carry their goods up the escarpment.

This all changed in 2016 when CNOOC completed the construction of a paved

road down the valley, opening up the villages to the other parts of the country. Local contractors have also started the process of running power lines down the escarpment, connecting the villages to the national grid.

From the top of the escarpment, transit trucks snake through, down to the CNOOC area, ferrying parts of a specialized rig that will be used to drill the oil wells. The parts are hauled from the Kenyan seaport of Mombasa, over 1,300 km away, after arrival from China. The rig, the first of its kind in Africa, according to CNOOC, has advanced technology which does not interrupt the ecological environment.

It is not noisy and the underground extracts do not mix with the environment. This, according to the oil giant, will put to rest concerns by environmentalists that the drilling may affect fish, which is the main source of livelihood for the community. This environmental friendliness and low carbon emission are among the key tenets

of China's Belt and Road Initiative, according to CNOOC. Chen Zhuobiao, president of CNOOC Uganda, said CNOOC operates in 45 countries where it conforms to the highest standards of environmental protection following international protocols. "We know the lake is very important and key to the local community or Ugandan society," Chen said.

Economists argue that revenues from the oil resource in Uganda, if properly utilized, offer an opportunity for the country to fast-track its development. CNOOC and its partners, including TotalEnergies and state-owned Uganda National Oil Company, after protracted negotiations, in February this year announced a 10-billion-dollar investment plan in Uganda's oil sector.

This includes the construction of a 4-billion-dollar crude oil pipeline, the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) to transport the oil to the international market, through the Tanzanian seaport of Tanga.

First oil is expected by 2025 and output is projected to peak at 230,000 barrels a day, making Uganda one of the major producers in Africa, according to the government.

While CNOOC operates the Kingfisher oil field, TotalEnergies operates the Tilenga oil field, even though the European Parliament recently passed a resolution calling for the halting of the construction of the EACOP, saying human rights and environmental concerns should be addressed.

The Ugandan government said despite the EU parliament resolution, the project will go on. Zhang Lizhong, Chinese ambassador to Uganda, during a recent tour to the Kingfisher oil field said Uganda needs the oil to fast-track its development. "Development serves as a key to the settlement of all issues in the economic and social sectors. Uganda is a least developed country according to the United Nations, and needs development and should put development first," Zhang said. Figures by the Chinese embassy here show that CNOOC has so far invested over 4.7 billion U.S. dollars in Uganda's oil sector.

According to CNOOC, 2,716 Ugandans, or over 78 percent of the total personnel, have been employed at the Kingfisher oil field. Among them, 152 are employed by CNOOC while others are engaged through contractor jobs.

Apart from other livelihood training programs by CNOOC, the local community also received a gravity water project. According to Babihemaiso, the villagers used to draw water from the lake, contracting diseases like cholera and bilharzia. However, with the water project, the community now has safe and clean water.

Xinhua

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

NIT ex-student Razack shares his success story

By Guardian Reporter

THE National Institute of Transport (NIT) prides itself on supporting their students to become work-ready graduates by helping them to gain vital experience and acquire and develop the skills they need for their success as they go on to enjoy their chosen careers.

With this reason, NIT former student Razack Kasanga (pictured) is one of the 'work-ready graduates' who joined the Car and General Trading Ltd company in June 18, 2018 as Assembly supervisor, he joined as a fresh graduate from NIT with zero experience, but the company trusted Razack and gave him the supervisory role where he handled a team of 22 technicians. READ ON

Question: How would you summarize your career at Car and General Trading Ltd?

Answer: I'm currently working as a Zonal Sales Leader here at Car and General Trading Ltd; I also have experience in Workshop Management, Assembly Production and Field service activities.

I was employed in this company on June 18, 2018 as assembly supervisor. I joined as a fresh graduate from NIT with zero experience, but the company trusted me and gave me the supervisory role where I handled a team of 22 technicians.

Eight months later, I was promoted to workshop supervisor. I worked for this role for one year, again I was promoted to a Service manager role, i.e. managing workshop operations and field service activities (field service team).

It didn't take long to be promoted, I was shifted to Sales, my current role in the company, a Zonal Sales Leader. The company trusted me, saw the potential in me which could help in the contribution to the continued company success.

It was not hard for me to shift from Engineering to -Sales and Management roles. When you grow in work, the company demands more from you and assigns you bigger roles in the company. I took the changes positively and I was ready to shift my mind, now I am enjoying working as a Sales manager, also helping the team to perform the company's objectives while also developing their professionals.

The technical knowledge, skills and engineering management I got from NIT, helped me to perform well in every stage and in every task assigned to me.

In the zone I manage, with zero sales experience, within just 11 months, sales has grown from 1% market share to 23%, making it the leading growing zone in the company.

Now I have become one of the best sales leaders in the company, a mentor to other zones, and I have been doing induction programs to new employees in both technical and sales knowledge. Also coaching the staff



on customer Loyalty programs.

Q: What did you study at NIT?

A: At NIT, I did a bachelor degree in Automobile Engineering 'Level 8' from 2013 to 2017.

Q: Why did you choose a Bachelor degree in Automobile Engineering at NIT as your career path of study?

A: When I was doing secondary education, I took science subjects. At that time my dream was to be a pilot or an engineer, this drove me to take PGM (Physics, Geography, Mathematics) in A-level studies.

My dreams were much related to Transport Engineering and Aviation studies, thus why I first chose NIT to study bachelor degree in Automobile engineering. My choice was due to many reasons, one was that I believed it would easily take me to where I want to be in the automotive industry.

In NIT, there are different programs which are related to Transportation, Logistics, Aviation and Importation. This made me have a thought of going to NIT to start my career as an engineer. For which I have achieved my goal, and gained extra knowledge and skills due to interaction of other courses which helped me in mechanical productivity and staff management.

Q: How have you stayed connected to the NIT's alumni network?

A: In 2013, when joining NIT, there were no good learning infrastructures like what students see today.

There were not enough classes, no good library, no good Hall, no enough staff offices, and not enough teachers.

The changes started happening when we were just joining the Institute, they were happening so fast, the Institute image was changing, the transformation we saw was really amazing, it made us feel proud and feel as a part of the Institute transformation.

We got real affection and passion for our Institute.

This made us loyal to the Institute, loyal to each other as students, even after completing our studies.

We support each other on employment opportunities, we have WhatsApp groups where we closely communicate and see what our NIT is doing.

We connect and follow each other to LinkedIn platforms and other social media.

The new infrastructures, the new courses, the government news relating to our Institute are all being followed and discussed.

For those already employed, we try to recommend NIT students for employment opportunities.

We recommend to our Managers confidently as we know how competent NIT students are.

This is how I and other NIT's alumni keep connected.

Q: What advice do you have for the next generation who are wishing to be automotive engineers?

A: One of the fastest growing industries is the automotive industry. The automotive production is increasing, the automotive design and technology is being developed day after day.

My advice for them is that, the industry is big with many potentials, there are so many opportunities in the automotive industry, so they should not limit themselves on learning and trying new things, they should not limit themselves to thinking beyond as the industry technology is changing every day.

Q: What else are you passionate about? What drives you at work, at home, in your community?

A: One thing that I'm passionate about is mentoring and coaching/training others. I'm someone who likes to share what I know, help and support others to grow and be successful.

At work
I enjoy working with leaders who recognize me,

trust me, and give me exposure and who want me to grow to the next level of leadership. That's exactly what Car and General offers me here.

I fortunately have support from the Management, HODs' and the team that helps motivate me and encourage me to do better at what I do.

At home
I like staying with friends; sharing ideas, going out, travelling, having fun and eating. This makes me happy.

In Community
I enjoy helping people, giving them advice and supporting them to solve challenges.

Q: What is your advice to the National Institute of Transport (NIT) in increasing women enrolment in engineering courses?

A: Taking a reference from my company!

At Car and General, we have 2W and 3W Conveyor Assembly lines, more than 90% of the available technicians working on the assembly production are women. They produce the products with the best quality. They themselves go for test rides, doing PDI and check product quality. They work with discipline and high integrity.

This shows that, if they are given chances, they will give out the required productivity to any duties assigned.

My advice to NIT

The Institute needs to start making schemes of reaching the students at secondary education, giving them the overview of the engineering courses and opportunities available with it, encouraging them to apply for engineering programs, giving them the chance to know how many engineering courses they may apply and study, this will open their mind and give them more options in fulfilling their dreams.

With testimony from women who are engineers and technicians will help them to build confidence and inspire in studying engineering courses.

The Institute needs to start identifying the companies which are relating to the programs provided and creating a good relationship with different companies and organizations, sharing with them the engineering courses they are providing, then asking them to consider females in their employment vacancies.

These two things will help to increase the women enrolment in engineering courses.

Africa sounds caution on net zero goal ahead of COP27

By Special Correspondent

AFRICA needs time and money to wean itself off fossil fuels in order to achieve net zero without jeopardising its future, its representatives are warning ahead of next month's climate talks.

At energy conferences this week, Ghana, South Africa and the African Union have insisted the continent stands by net zero -- the goal of an overall balance in heat-stoking greenhouse gases.

But they warned that the continent was still heavily dependent on coal, oil and gas to power its development.

"Africa is fully convinced and committed to a net zero and supportive of the climate agenda, however, where we may differ is on the timeframe," African Union (AU) energy commissioner Amani Abou-Zeid said on the sidelines of the Green Energy Africa Summit in Cape Town.

Africa's population of 1.3 billion is set to double by 2050, and AU nations aim to make affordable and reliable energy available to everyone by 2063, she argued.

Funding for Africa's green transition is likely to be a flashpoint at the COP27 climate summit, running in the

Egyptian resort of Sharm el-Sheikh from November 6-18.

Under the 2015 Paris Agreement, rich nations pledged \$100 billion a year to help developing countries limit climate change.

But they have so far failed to meet the promise -- and prospects have been further clouded this year by the resounding economic impacts from the Covid-19 pandemic and war in Ukraine.

Ghana's deputy energy minister Mohammed Amin Adam said international green energy investment in Africa was "still appalling", accounting only for about two percent of the global

total. At the same time, African countries also need to secure financing for oil and gas projects, as fossil fuel revenue is needed to finance climate adaptation measures, he said.

Adam pointed to data showing that most of Africa's oil and gas producers depended greatly on export revenue derived by these fuels.

"If we give up this, how do we even finance our ability to adapt to the climate effects? We cannot. Unless we have a substitute for our revenue," he said.

African countries are

among the most exposed to the impacts of climate change, especially worsening droughts and floods, but responsible for only around three percent of global CO2 emissions, former UN chief Ban Ki-moon said last month.

Speaking at an Africa Oil Week event in Cape Town, South African Energy Minister Gwede Mantashe said ditching coal too quickly was not in the country's best interests, as it would damage the economy and cost thousands of jobs.

South Africa is the continent's main coal producer and consumer -- as well as

one of the world's top 12 carbon emitters.

Last year, the government secured pledges of \$8.5 billion loans and grants from a group of rich nations to finance the transition to greener alternatives.

But the deal is hanging in the balance, amid fraught negotiations with donor countries around how the money should be spent.

"When developed economies come to us and say 'part of the \$8.5 billion is going to be spent on accelerating the exit of coal', I feel that is not in our interest," Mantashe said.

At pre-COP27 talks in Kin-

shasa this week, the Democratic Republic of Congo fended off demands to abandon oil and gas blocks that it has put up for auction in environmentally sensitive areas.

The DRC launched bids in July for 30 blocks in the Congo Basin, sparking fears that drilling could release carbon dioxide trapped for millennia in the peaty forest floor.

But DRC Environment Minister Eve Bazaiba, opening the talks on Monday, asked if the government should let children die rather than harvest from its fossil resources.

Women's land rights strengthening family ties

By Correspondent Deodatus Mfugale

THERE is a new awakening among rural communities in Tanzania, that of equal rights to own property between men and women. Many families are now turning the tables against male domination of ownership of property as women are making their voices heard in demanding equal rights. This, of course, tramples on many traditions and, to a certain extent, dwarfs men's ego and superiority complex but in communities where women and men have equal rights to own and use land, a new, strong bond has been sealed between them and among families.

Customary Certificates of Right of Occupancy (CCRO) issued to single women, girls, married women, men, boys and married men have been instrumental in uniting families and promoting peace among them. Wives have built trust in and have become less suspicious of their husbands and they are not worried that the men might sell land or other property owned by the family without the consent of the latter.

In Mufindi District of Iringa Region, for example, Landesa, PELUM and Mufindi District Council have teamed up to survey parcels of land, draw land use plans and issue CCROs to villagers. Recently they prepared 2,128 Certificates for Ikongosi and Ikongosi Juu villages out of which 1,890 were registered and issued to beneficiaries, including 1,000 women. The number also includes 181 Certificates issued to girls and another batch of 228 issued to boys.

"The certificate is like a new bond to our marriage. We are now united in owning property and there is evidence that the land belongs to both of us," says Mrs. Amelia James Mlowe. "It eliminates suspicion and strengthens our relationship as I am no longer worried that my husband might sell our land without my knowledge and consent," she adds.

Mrs. Amelie James Mlowe and her husband Amos James Mlowe are among residents of Ikongosi and Ikongosi Juu villages who were recently issued with CCROs.

"I am not disappointed because my wife and I are now joint owners of the piece of land. In fact the certificate only serves to cement peace in our home because none of us will be worried about losing the land through tricks. Sometimes women are suspicious of us but I believe my wife will rest assured that our land is safe," says Amos Mlowe. The couple were married in 1986, they have four children and a total of five hectares of land. The Certificate issued to them covers two hectares of land.

Promoting equal rights to own and use land for all members of the family



Mr and Mrs Mlowe of Ikongosi Juu Village in Mufindi District pose with their joint customary certificate of right of occupancy.

brings harmony and raises the status of the family in the community. Families that own property have a good economy, live in harmony and are revered by other members of the community. They stand as role models, shining light on other families where there is lack of gender equality in ownership of land and other property. It is the recognition and implementation of these rights that ultimately raise the social and economic life of a family as a whole. Where these rights are not upheld and protected, a family is divided and since there is no harmony among family members, there is hardly any improvement of their

social and economic life through the years.

"After getting this certificate, the relationship with my in-laws will improve as we are no longer going to quarrel over the piece of land that I inherited from my husband. I have evidence that it belongs to me and they will have to come to terms with this reality. So it is not just about the security of I and my children but the certificate also ushers in peace and harmony among the extended family members," says Nelia George Mtewa (40), one of the recipients of CCROs in Mufindi district.

Acknowledging women's right to own and use land has changed men's

attitude towards women and girls. "Men are no longer a problem when it comes to having equal rights with women to own and use land. They have accepted the situation and are comfortable with it; but I think this is due to education and awareness campaigns that Landesa and other non-governmental organisations have been running for quite some time. Husbands have no grudges when their wives own land and use it for the welfare of the family," says Consolata Kibiki, another recipient of CCRO.

As the number of married women and girls who own land continue to rise, various stakeholders have stepped up efforts to ensure that this does not infringe the rights of other family or community members.

"We are strive to promote ownership of land by men, women, boys and girls including those who are disabled through participation of all stakeholders. Everyone in the villages must participate in the process so that when it comes to preparing and issuing Customary Certificates of Right of Occupancy, there are neither complaints nor conflicts," says Godfrey Massay, Landesa Country Programme Director.

When the process to identify and survey parcels of land involves all interested parties, the exercise becomes easy and takes a short time to complete.

"No one should be left behind in this process in order to make it a success. But we give special attention

to women because they are usually sidelined when it comes to owning land although they are the ones who are responsible for taking care of their families," he says, adding that empowering women to own land has nothing to do with taking away land from men. "We just want men to acknowledge the right of women to own and use land thus sharing these natural resources equally between them for the good of the family and the community," he added.

The importance of CCROs cannot be overemphasized but as legal evidence of ownership of land they can help to resolve conflicts with neighbours, investors or even family members. Since the certificates add value to land, the owners can be deemed to be economically better off as they can use their land as collateral to apply for loans from financial institutions and spend the money to start a small business or invest it in income generating activities.

"Financial institutions require that those who have CCROs and seek loans putting land as collateral should file their applications with their spouses. Married men should come with their wives and married women should come with their husbands.

This is to ensure that both parties are aware of and consented to the loan application," says Festus Andrew, Public Relations Officer for Access Bank in Iringa Region. But he has more advice to those who have acquired CCROs.

BUSINESS

Faidika marks world customer service week by donating blood

By Guardian Reporter

FAIDIKA Microfinance Tanzania has celebrated international customer service week by donating safe blood to Muhimbili National Hospital.

The exercise involved all Faidika employees at the headquarters in Dar es Salaam and regional branches.

Speaking to reporters at the institution's headquarters in Morocco in Dar es Salaam, Faidika head of sales, marketing and channel, Asupya Nalingigwa said that they feel very proud to participate in the exercise of donating safe blood that will be used for various patients in need.

Nalingigwa said that the Faidika works with the communities who are their biggest customers, so it is their duty to participate in social activities.

"Faidika is an institution that has all kinds of customers and succeeded in reaching many customers. It is clear that societies are facing various challenges that need help. Donating blood is one of the most important social activities, as the blood we donate goes to help needy patients.

We have decided to celebrate customer service week by conducting this exercise and it has been very successful as all employees have donated blood," said Nalingigwa.

He added that even their regional branches have participated in this exercise and for them it will be sustainable.

"We have donated blood for Muhimbili National Hospital, our colleagues in the regions have done so by donating to hospitals or health centers. It is a great comfort," he said.

He explained that Faidika has expanded its activities by providing various types of loans to government employees, private sector and entrepreneurs.

He said that until now they have used a total of Shs 68 billion to loan to small traders and workers in different sectors.

He said that they have improved their services to customers by 100 percent where the loans are provided within 24 hours again digitally and with concessional terms.

According to Nalingigwa since they conduct their activities digitally, they have been able to serve many customers and successfully obtain various loans where government employees can borrow from Sh100,000 to Sh70 million and small businesses can borrow from Sh50,000 to Sh50 million.

"Faidika continues to empower Tanzanians so that they can improve their lives in various sectors including education, health and agriculture," he said.

Tanzania attains high scores on the 2022 WB policy assessment

By Guardian Reporter

Tanzania attained high score on the 2022 Africa Country Policy and Institutional Assessment (CPIA) by International Development Association (IDA), according to the October report produced by the Office of the Chief Economist for the Africa Region.

The report shows Tanzania scored 3.5 in 2021, the same score 2020, which is above overall IDA average of 3.2 and Sub Saharan IDA average score of 3.1. However, the overall score is 0.3 lower than the score attained in 2013.

It is also higher than West Africa average score of 3.2 and East and Southern Africa average score of 3.0.

The Country Policy and Institutional Assessment (CPIA) is an annual country assessment exercise that generally starts in October and ends by June of the following year.

According to the report, Tanzania attained highest score on economic management cluster with 4.0, which include monetary and exchange rate policy (4.5), fiscal policy (3.5) and debt policy and management (4.0).

On structural policies cluster, the report shows Tanzania attained 3.3 which include trade (4.0), financial sector (3.0), and business regulatory environment



Finance and planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba

(3.0). However, the country score dropped by 0.5 points compared with 2013 scores.

According to the report, Tanzania scored 3.6 on policies for social inclusion and equity cluster, higher than 3.2 of East and Southern Africa region through gender equality (3.0), equity of public resource use (4.0), building human resources (4.0), social protection

ad labour (4.0) and policies and

institutions for environmental sustainability.

In this cluster, the report shows, Tanzania score dropped by 0.2 compared with 2013.

On public sector management and institution, Tanzania scored 3.0 higher than regional score of 2.7 whereby property rights and rule based governance scored 3.0, quality of budgetary and fiscal management (3.0), efficiency of

revenue mobilization (3.0), quality of public administration (3.0) as well as transparency, accountability and corruption in the public sector with 3.0.

However, in the public sector management and institution, the score was 0.4 lower than 2013.

The Country Policy and Institutional Assessment (CPIA) Africa 2022 report provides an assessment of the quality of policies and institutions in all 39 International Development Association (IDA)-eligible countries in Sub-Saharan Africa for calendar year 2021.

The overall average score for Sub-Saharan Africa's IDA-eligible countries remained unchanged in 2021 at 3.1.

Similarly, no changes were observed at the sub-regional level, where the scores were constant at 3.2 and 3.0 for West and Central Africa and East and Southern Africa, respectively.

The CPIA exercise for 2021 provides a mechanism for assessing the effectiveness of implemented policies and the role played by institutions in Sub-Saharan Africa's IDA countries during the recovery process from the pandemic-induced recession.

Rwanda continued to lead with an unchanged overall CPIA score of 4.1. Kenya joined Cabo Verde with an improved average score of 3.8, followed by Benin and Senegal with an average score of 3.7.

Qatari food firm to establish local subsidiary in Tanzania

By Guardian Correspondent

President Samia Suluhu Hassan visit to Qatar is starting to bear fruits after Widam Food Company, a Qatari company specialized in fresh foods, announced the start of procedures for establishing a sub-

siary in Tanzania.

The prospective "Widam Tanzania" company will be specialized in trading and exporting meat to the Qatari market and other regions.

The establishment of the new company is coming in line with Widam company's strategy, which aims to expand its foreign commercial activity, as Widam Tanzania's imports of meat will contribute to covering the growing demand in the local market at reasonable prices in light of the inflation witnessed by global meat prices, the company said in a statement published on Qatar Stock Exchange website.

The establishment of Widam Tanzania is also aimed at enhancing meat import operations from global meat-exporting countries to the State of Qatar and the region, such as Tanzania, whose products have witnessed a growth and popularity in their sales in the recent period, due to their quality and competitive prices.

It is worth noting that Widam Food Company



Widam outlet in Doha, Qatar

has expanded its import network, which has now reached 25 countries around the world, with the aim of diversifying import sources to provide the best products at the lowest cost in order to serve consumers.

Widam has supplied shipments of Tanzanian meat to the local market since the beginning last year. Besides, Widam supplies meat to a number of Arab countries

such as Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Oman, and Jordan.

Widam Food Company QSC is a Qatari Company registered in the Qatari stock exchange. We are the largest supplier of livestock as well as fresh, chilled and frozen meats in Qatar.

The company was founded in 2004 under the name of "MA-WASHI" and in 2013 the company's name was changed to "WIDAM"

with a full rebranding exercise to match the company's new aspirations and expansion plans not only for the Qatari Market but also for the Whole GCC Region.

Its activities include animal slaughtering services, wholesale of meat and related products, livestock sales as well as direct sales to consumers through butchereries and home delivery services.



Faidika Microfinance employees pose after donating blood for Muhimbili National Hospital as part of marking Customer Service week. PHOTO: GUARDIAN CORRESPONDENT

Oil prices set for biggest weekly increase

VIENNA

Oil prices on Friday were on track for their biggest weekly increase since March, as OPEC's planned production cut heightens tension with the US government over energy supplies heading into winter.

Brent crude, the international standard, was up 0.5% at \$94.93 a barrel in early trading.

West Texas Intermediate, the U.S. standard, was up 0.6% at \$88.94 a barrel. Oil prices are set to end up around 11% for the week.

On Wednesday 5th October,

OPEC+, at its 45th Joint Ministerial Monitoring Committee meeting held in Vienna, agreed to cut daily oil production by 2 million barrels per day.

As it was the first in-person ministerial meeting for OPEC+ since March 2020, which itself signaled that a major announcement was looming, it was fitting that the group announced the biggest oil production cut since the start of the Covid pandemic.

The size of the cut, equivalent to around 2% of global daily oil production, was significantly larger than the expected figure of 1 million bpd.

However, according to Reuters, as several OPEC+ member states fell short of their target production levels in August, the real cut is estimated to be less than 1 million barrels per day.

Given the magnitude of this step, it is worth looking into the role the group plays in the global oil market and how this latest production cut might affect prices.

The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, or OPEC, was founded in 1960 and consists of 13 members which account for around 82% of global oil reserves and 30% of

oil production.

While neither the US nor Russia is part of the group, the latter is part of OPEC+, a wider association that includes 10 non-OPEC countries with shared interests in the oil market.

The group, unofficially led by Saudi Arabia, sets production targets for its member countries which influence the global supply of oil, although its targets are not always met by all members.

While there are other influencing factors on both the supply and demand side, OPEC+ does exercise a significant influence on the supply

and therefore the price of crude oil.

OPEC has been accused on many occasions of behaving like a cartel, unnecessarily restricting supply in order to maintain high revenues from oil exports. The group denies this; OPEC's secretary general Mohammad Barkindo stated earlier this year that the organisation had "no control" over the spike in oil prices following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. However, it remains true that due to the proportional significance of oil revenues to OPEC members' economies, the group certainly benefits from high oil prices.



Halotel commemorates customer week by donating blood

By Beatrice Philemon

In commemorating the International Customer Service Week (ICSW), Halotel Tanzania and Muhimbili Orthopaedic Institute (MOI) organized an event for the telecom firm staff to donate for pregnant women, children and heart patients.

The event is part of the company Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) to give back to the community, as well as supporting improvement of health services delivery, especially reducing the shortages of safe blood.

Halotel Tanzania head of product strategy and communications Sakina Makabu said the company is targeting to support the improvement of health services delivery and the blood donation exercise will help to save lives of many Tanzanians.

"Statistics by the ministry of health show, there is a shortage of safe blood especially pregnant women, children and injured persons; so in collaboration with MOI we have organized this exercise to donate blood for those with special needs," she said.

"We understand different challenges facing health services especially the need for safe blood. We have joined forces to support this initiative through engaging our member of staff to spread love to the community we serve."

She said there is a need of increased collaboration between stakeholders because this event seems to be small but have huge



Halotel Tanzania employees participate in blood donation at the company headquarters as part of commemorating the International Customer Service Week. PHOTO/COURTESY OF HALOTEL

impact to the people.

The company says will continue to offer telecommunication service which is complimenting the improved delivery of services through communications.

The MOI public relations officer Patrick Mvungi said they feel honoured to participate in the exercise of donating blood in collaboration with Halotel Tanzania staff.

"We thank for this exercise be-

cause it shows that we care about health of Tanzanians as well as supporting health service delivery in the country," he said. "This is the big step and sustainable in improving our collaboration. To large extend, Halotel has helped to improve health services delivery in Tanzania."

He urged other companies, individuals and institutions to continue doing similar exercise of do-

noting blood to support people in need, while reducing the problem of shortages of blood in hospitals and health centres.

Muhimbili Orthopaedic Institute (MOI)'s Anaesthetist, Juma Saidi lauded Halotel for donating blood that will be utilized for patients of all ages in terms of accident, total knee replacement, spine surgery cerebral aneurysm surgery, knee shoulder, Athros-

copy total hip replacement and others.

He called on other stakeholders from different private companies, NGOs, CSO to learn from Halotel and donate blood to save lives of millions people across the country. "The demand is very huge we need 40 bottles of blood per day for hospital and MOI has been witnessing acute shortage of blood," he said.

SBL trains agri-business to people with disabilities

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

PEOPLE with disabilities (PWDs) in Dodoma region have described the recently two-day agri-business training as an eye opener that would relieve them out of poverty.

Organized by the Foundation of Disabilities Hope (FDH) has made possible by Serengeti Breweries Ltd (SBL).

"My main field is welding, where I also teach some of my fellow disabled people, but when I saw that they stopped due to the effects of radiation, I said that I should start a one-hectare farm to grow fruits, vegetables, and maize so that I can continue to help my fellow disabled people," said Mwita Marwa, a physically disabled resident of Dodoma city.

"I'm very excited to receive this training from SBL because it will ex-

pand my knowledge of what I do in the field and continue helping others," he said.

Fadhila William, a visually impaired mushroom farmer from the Upendo group in Dodoma stated: "This training gives me the motivation to help my Upendo group focus on the business of maize and sorghum. And, as I heard SBL say, these crops are important in their production, so it's an opportunity for us."

She said: "I appeal to the public that disability is not the lack of ability to work, and if SBL has seen this then I am sure others will have learned a lot from them."

Ludovick Julius, an albino, praised SBL for sponsoring the training by saying, "when I leave here today, I am going to start one hectare of maize and sorghum, I want to make sure I own up to ten hectares this year before



Director of people with disabilities, Ministry of the Prime Minister's Office, Labour, Youth Employment, and People with Disabilities Rasheed Maftah awards a certificate to a participant of the training. PHOTO/COURTESY OF SBL

it ends. The goal is to do business with SBL in the future.

Grace Sebastian, who is deaf, also stated that SBL training has provided her with another opportunity to focus on sorghum.

"This training has opened our eyes a lot, we were doing very normal farming but these two days we saw scientific ways to grow some crops like sorghum and maize. I hope to begin this farming

while still farming mushrooms."

More than 100 people have received training, the majority of who are crop farmers in the Dodoma region who previously relied

on their strength to manage themselves.

SBL's Director of Corporate Relations, John Wanyancha, confirmed that the company has established clear and long-term strategies to participate in and help support the work of the country's people with disability associations.

"As our ten-year roadmap specifies, SBL has made a deliberate effort to support the inclusion of people with disabilities in our social programs," he said.

"SBL has done a remarkable job that will remain in our hearts, this program will open doors and opportunities for many disabled people to rise economically through agriculture because there are already some projects for disabled people here in Dodoma like grapes and maize in places like Hombolo, Ipala, Chamwino, and other places," said Michael Salali, Chairman of FDH.

60mn/- used in training 146 villagers on land use

By Friday Simbaya, Mufindi

More than 60 million shillings have been used in the implementation of the village land use plan whereby the CARE - WWF Alliance partnership has succeeded in reaching four villages and providing training and capacity building to leaders.

They include 82 Village Council members (VC), 36 Village Land Use Management Committee (VLUMC) members and 28 Village Land Use Council (VLC) members of four Villages of Wasa, Ufyambe, Itengulinyi and Mahanzi of Wasa and Lumuli Wards, Iringa District Council, Iringa Region.

Speaking about the exercise recently, Makfura Evergris, CARE WWF - Alliance project officer - said that the presence of a village land use plan will help citizens to understand the best way to use land as well as the best way to take care of water sources.

The VLUPS process is the entry point of conservation and restoration of key ecosystem areas such as rivers, water sources, wetlands, springs, natural forest, river buffer zones, wildlife corridors etc.

Through VLUPS, important natural resources, forest and water sources are identified and zoned for conservation through participatory and inclusive community actions.

Where there are Village land use plans, citizens do adhere to these protected areas and reduce encroachments to these areas; he added.

"During this exercise of four Village land use plans, we have received great cooperation and support from Iringa District Council. I really appreciated the support from Iringa District Executive Director who provided a vehicle and his technical staff to support this process.

Elna Mavika is the Chairperson of Mahanzi Village in Mufindi District, Iringa region said that the land use plan will help bring great success and that is due to the training that will make the village different in the next ten years.

He believes that, with his village having a land use plan, the land use disputes and conflicts have over as everyone knows where to carry his or her economic activities.

"It will bring great success for the use of the land plan, it will bring great success and the village of Mahanzi will be different from the one in the back and my village has 271 inhabitants and you are expecting the migration of other people from other places, because it is still happening, we will take care of the water sources for planting water-friendly trees that will be produced in nurseries," she noted.

Dorah Mlomo is the community development officer of the Iringa district council said that they have been collaborating with CARE-WWF Alliance in motivating citizens to join groups to learn the production of various crops as well as providing education on the best way to plan for the use of village land, where they have succeeded in achieving more than four villages.

"In general, the people have participated fully and we have analyzed together more than 9 days because they use their land in various materials, the people have been educated and recognized the opportunities they have and put them into the big problems of the village, for example the clinic, by using their opportunities and starting to solve their challenges," Mlomo said.

Indian company markets construction machines

By Beatrice Philemon

India based company-Universal Industrial's is looking for markets of machinery used for rural road construction in Tanzania, good news for contractors.

The company managing director, Ashok Hazra said this recently at the just-ended International Trade Exhibition on Food, Packaging, printing, plastics products, equipment and machinery held in Dar es Salaam last week.

The marketed machines according to Hazra includes Mini-Portable Hotmix Plant machine with arrangement for discharge in LCV and sport mix machine.

Others are UI Spot Paver-Mini Model PF20 machine finisher with hy-

draulic driven vibratory screed, working speed range 1.5 to 16 m per min, travelling speed 18 kph per hour with engine at 2250 rpm and UI Sport Spray machine designed for high performance compact design, heat bitumen to desired temperature as well as sport mix machine," he said

"So far the company has already manufactured different machines that is suitable for road construction and exported more than 200 machines in Bangladesh, 150 to Nepal, more than 120 Bhutan for road construction connecting rural villages to the national highlands that in turn has helped farmers to take their produce to the market," he said.

"As company we are

now ready to work with TARURA to see how we can work together in rural road construction because if there is no road connection, everything will remain in farms and farmers will continue to be poor."

Africa including Tanzania has fertile land in the world, "You need a better road to help farmers benefit from what they produce, India has been successfully for using this strategy," he noted.

According to him, the company has machines which are suitable for TARURA projects for connecting rural villages.

"Our company involved in various engineering activities- development of critical items such as chemical equipment, Mercury pump,

vessels, Heat Exchanger etc., special purpose tailor made equipment such as Hydraulic lift platform to revolving platform for modern auditorium's stage," He said.

The Company Chief Engineer, Khumukcham Singh added So far the company has dealers in Bangladesh, Nepal Bhutan and is now looking for Tanzania market.

The company was officially established in 1945 kolkata, India and is now a major road construction equipment manufacturer in the Eastern sector. Range of products include from mini plants to major equipment.

"We are ready to meet with TARURA's management to see how we can work together for rural road construction to help

farmers in rural areas transport their produce to the markets" he said.

Also the company provides training free of charge for customers purchasing their machinery.

"We provide machines and

train local people, so far the company has been able to provide training in Bangladesh and Nepal and more than 100 people have been trained in terms of how to use these machine and maintenance," he said.



Tanzania Chamber of commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA)'s Corporate Membership Consultant, Elnaja Mbagga (1st R) speaks with Universal Industrial Chief Engineer, Khumukcham Singh, (1st L) on how Mini-Portable Hotmix Plant machine work for rural road construction, (2ND R), Kolkata based company-Universal Industrial's Managing Director, Ashok Hazra. PHOTO/BEATRICE PHILEMON

UK households urged to reduce energy use

LONDON

Millions of British households will be asked to cut back on energy consumption by National Grid this winter, as it warned them to prepare for rolling three-hour blackouts in the “extreme” case of gas shortages and reduced electricity imports from the rest of Europe.

But despite the bleak assessment, Liz Truss’s (pictured) government has resisted mounting a public information campaign of its own to try and reduce consumption.

“The last thing you want to do is tell someone, you know, switch things off for the national need when it makes no difference to the national security position,” Climate minister Graham Stuart told Sky News on Friday. “We think that we’ve got a diverse,



strong supply and in all the central scenarios we’re going to be fine but we plan for everything.”

By contrast, National Grid, which

manages Britain’s power and gas systems, will launch a voluntary scheme next month offering financial incentives to domestic custom-

ers with smart meters and businesses to reduce electricity usage during peak hours when supplies are tight. The aim is to try to reduce elec-

tricity demand by more than 2 gigawatts when supplies are low, the equivalent output of two of the UK’s fleet of five nuclear power stations.

National Grid it acknowledged for the first time that it would have to impose rolling power cuts in what it described as the “extreme scenario” that generators could not secure enough gas or electricity imports from countries including Belgium and the Netherlands.

Kathryn Porter, an analyst at Watt-Logic, said National Grid’s assessment looked “unreasonably optimistic”, adding that while the company “now acknowledge[d] some chance of supply disruption, it still appear[ed] to be understating the risks”

National Grid published several reports setting out possible scenarios for the winter, as Britain and the other European countries it normally re-

lies on for gas and power imports during the coldest months grapple with what the company called an “unprecedented” energy crisis caused by Russia’s squeeze on natural gas exports.

Ed Miliband, shadow climate secretary, said the warning showed the government had left the country vulnerable to an energy shock. “Banning onshore wind, slashing investment in energy efficiency, stalling nuclear and closing gas storage have led to higher bills and reliance on gas imports, leaving us more exposed to the impact of Putin’s use of energy as a geopolitical weapon.”

The UK on Friday fired the starting gun on a new round of what is expected to be more than 100 licences enabling companies to explore for oil and gas in the North Sea to bolster energy self-sufficiency. But regulators say

it lasts an average of five years to reach production although they hope the fast-tracked licences could yield results in as little as 12 to 18 months.

National Grid’s emergency blackout plan, under which supplies would be cut off in three-hour blocks in certain regions at different times, would have to be approved by ministers.

The company said it would aim to use the voluntary scheme in a slightly better supply scenario, in which gas-fired power plants were able to operate but it could not secure enough electricity imports. It also warned the country might need gas imports from the continent during any prolonged cold spell.

Analysts are increasingly concerned over EU member states’ ability to supply Britain with energy if they are facing the same weather conditions.

Africa’s Venture capital financing drop below \$1bn during Q3-2022

NAIROBI

The volume of financing raised by startups active in Africa slowed at the end of Q3-2022. For the first time in four quarters, the US\$1 billion mark was not reached.

Startups active in Africa raised US\$850 million via US\$100,000+ deals in the three months ending on September 30, 2022, the platform Africa: the Big Deal reveals. This is the first time in four quarters that the US\$1 billion mark was not crossed, its analysis show.

The year 2022 started well with record-breaking and rising volumes during February (US\$638 million, +258% YoY) and March (US\$738 million, +117% YoY). But, around July, things started going quiet.

Truly, July is usually a slow fundraising period but African startups experienced a huge 20% year-over-year drop in the volume of venture capital financing raised. In August, that drop was 67%.

Data collected by Ecofin Agency show that only US\$391 million

in venture capital financing was raised by African startups through US\$100,000+ deals in September 2022. This is 53% lower than the \$823 million recorded during the same month a year earlier.

It is still early to point out the reasons for such poor performance. However, analyses by specialized firms such as Endeavor indicate that those venture capitals are usually raised by startups in growth niches, particularly those that are involved in the digitalization of payment services.

The investor base is also constituted mainly of usual players like Launch Africa or Y Combinator.

In a blog published in June 2022, the African Venture Capital and Private Equity Association (AVCA) urged investors not to be swayed by downward trends in the global start-up investment market.

It reminded investors that, unlike the stock market, African start-ups still offer the opportunity to invest in concrete projects that combine impact and returns.



ITV	19:30	20:00	21:05	21:30	21:45	22:30	23:00	00:30	02:00
MONDAY 3 Oct	5:00 Igizo rpt: Uzalo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 Kumekucha	7:30 HABARI	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:55 Habari za saa	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:30 Soap rpt: I Plead Guilty
	9:55 Habari za saa	10:00 Watoto wetu	10:55 Habari za saa	11:00 ITV Top Ten	11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:30 Jungu kuu	12:55 Habari za saa	13:00 Mjuzi Zaidi
	13:40 Art and Lifestyle rpt	13:55 Habari za saa	14:10 Soap rpt: Rebecca	14:40 Kipindi maalum: Watumishi Housing	14:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza Huru	16:30 Watoto Wetu	17:00 The Base	18:00 Jiji Letu
	18:10 Abuu yako rpt	18:15 Igizo: Mizengwe	18:30 DWTW: Kesho leo	19:00 Afya ya Jamii	19:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty	20:00 Habari	21:05 Dakika 45	22:00 Bundesliga na DW	22:30 Soap: Uzalo
	23:00 Habari	23:30 The Base	00:30 Al Jazeera	02:00 DWTW					
TUESDAY 4 Oct	5:00 Igizo rpt: Uzalo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 Kumekucha	7:30 HABARI	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:55 Habari za saa	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:30 Soap rpt: I Plead Guilty
	10:00 Watoto wetu	10:25 Jagina rpt	10:55 Habari za saa	11:00 The Base rpt	11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:30 Afya ya jamii	12:55 Habari za saa	13:00 Ripoti Maalum
	13:40 Shikabamba	13:55 Habari za saa	14:00 Shikabamba	14:15 Igizo rpt: Rebecca	14:40 Igizo: Mizengwe	14:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza Huru	16:30 Watoto wetu	17:00 The Base
	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:15 Mapishi	18:30 Kipindi Maalum: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ - Live						
WEDNESDAY 5 Oct	5:00 Igizo rpt: Uzalo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 Kumekucha	7:30 HABARI	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:55 Habari za saa	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty
	9:55 Habari za saa	10:00 Watoto wetu	10:55 Habari za saa	11:00 Uchumi wetu	11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:30 Bundesliga rpt	12:55 Habari za saa	13:00 Dakika 45 rpt
	13:55 Habari za saa	14:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt	14:40 Mapishi	14:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza huru	16:30 Watoto Wetu	17:00 The Base	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:15 Korean: Jumong
	19:00 Soap: I Plead Guilty	19:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty	20:00 Habari	21:05 Abuu Yako	21:10 Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco	21:40 Ripoti maalum	22:30 Soap: Uzalo	23:00 Habari	23:30 The Base
	00:30 Al Jazeera	02:00 DWTW							
THURSDAY 6 Oct	5:00 Igizo rpt: Uzalo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 Kumekucha	7:30 HABARI	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:55 Habari za saa	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:30 Soap rpt: I Plead Guilty
	9:55 Habari za saa	10:00 Watoto wetu	10:30 Shamba lulu	10:55 Habari za saa	11:00 The Base	11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:30 Jarida la wanawake rpt	12:55 Habari za saa
	13:00 Shamsiam za pwanji rpt	13:55 Habari za saa	14:00 Kipindi maalum rpt: NSSF	14:15 Igizo rpt: Rebecca	14:40 Igizo: Mizengwe	14:55 Habari za saa			
FRIDAY 7 Oct	5:00 Igizo rpt: Uzalo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 Kumekucha	7:30 HABARI	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:55 Habari za saa	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:30 Soap rpt: I Plead Guilty
	9:55 Habari za saa	10:00 Watoto wetu	10:55 Habari za saa	11:00 The Base rpt	11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:30 Uchumi wetu	12:55 Habari za saa	13:00 Soap: I Plead Guilty
	13:55 Habari za saa	14:00 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco	14:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza Huru	16:30 Watoto Wetu	17:00 The Base	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:15 Korean: Jumong	19:00 Soap: I Plead Guilty
	19:30 Soap: I Plead Guilty	20:00 Habari	21:05 Meza Huru	21:10 Watoto Wetu	21:30 The Base (DJ Show)	21:40 Kisiham	21:55 Igizo: Mizengwe	22:30 Uchumi wetu	23:00 Shamba lulu
	00:30 Al Jazeera	02:00 DWTW							
SATURDAY 8 Oct	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 Kumekucha	7:00 Habari	8:00 Al Jazeera	9:00 Watoto wetu	10:00 Kipindi Maalum: FAO	10:02 Shika Bamba 5	10:30 Mjuzi Zaidi rpt
	11:10 Chetu ni chetu rpt	11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo	12:40 Usafiri Wako rpt	13:10 Korean: Jumong rpt	13:50 Soap: I Plead Guilty rpt	16:10 Igizo: Mizengwe	16:30 Igizo: Rebecca	17:00 Shamsiam za Pwani	18:00 Jiji Letu
SUNDAY 9 Oct	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 HABARI	6:40 Kumekucha	7:00 Habari	8:00 Al Jazeera	9:00 Watoto Wetu	10:00 Soap: I Plead Guilty rpt	11:50 Bongo Movie rpt	14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
	15:30 Mwangaza	16:30 ITV Top 10	17:20 Kipindi cha kikristo	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:15 Mapishi	18:30 Matukio ya wiki	19:30 Igizo: Rebecca	20:00 Habari	21:05 Kipindi maalum: Biko
	21:10 Kipindi maalum: Reflexology	21:15 Igizo: Mizengwe	21:30 Mjuzi Zaidi	22:15 Bongo movie:	23:30 Soap: Uzalo rpt	02:05 Al Jazeera			
MONDAY - FRIDAY STARTING 7:30 PM									



World currency reserves shrink by \$1trn

NEW DELHI

Global foreign-currency reserves are falling at the fastest pace on record, as central banks from India to the Czech Republic intervene to support their currencies.

Reserves have declined by about \$1 trillion, or 7.8%, this year to \$12 trillion, the biggest drop since Bloomberg started to compile the data in 2003.

Part of the decline – more than half according to estimates from Steven Emlinger, Standard Chartered Plc’s global head of G-10 foreign-exchange research – was due to valuation changes.

As the dollar jumped to two-decade highs against other reserve currencies, like the euro and yen, it reduced the dollar value of the holdings of these currencies.

But the dwindling reserves also reflect the stress in the currency market that is forcing a growing number of central banks to dip into their war chests to fend off the depreciation.

India’s stockpile, for example, has tumbled \$96 billion this year to \$538 billion. The country’s central bank said asset valuation changes account for 67% of the decline in reserves during the fiscal year from April, implying the rest came from intervention to prop up the currency. The rupee has lost about 9% against the dollar this year and hit a record low last month.

Japan spent about \$20 billion in September to slow the yen’s slide in its first intervention to support the currency since 1998. That would account for about 19% of the loss of reserves this year. A currency intervention in the Czech Republic helped drive down reserves there by 19% since February.

“This is all part of the catalog of symptoms of the canary in the coal mine,” said Axel Merk, chief investment officer at Merk Investments, of the declining reserves. “Cracks are showing up. And those red flags will come at an increasing pace.”

Prince Harry and others sue UK paper group over privacy breaches

LONDON

BRITAIN'S Prince Harry, singer Elton John and other individuals have launched legal action against the publisher of the Daily Mail newspaper, alleging phone-tapping and other breaches of privacy, a law firm for some of the group said on Thursday.

Associated Newspapers, publisher of the Daily Mail, The Mail on Sunday and the Mail Online, one of the most widely read news websites in the world, said it "utterly and unambiguously" denied the allegations.

The others involved in the litigation are the actresses Elizabeth Hurley and Sadie Frost, Elton John's husband and filmmaker David Furnish, and Doreen Lawrence, the mother of Black teenager Stephen Lawrence who was murdered in a racist attack in 1993.

The individuals had become aware of "highly distressing" evidence revealing they had been victims of breaches of privacy by Associated Newspapers, law firm Hamblins said in a statement. It said the breaches included placing listening devices inside people's cars and homes, commissioning the bugging of live, pri-

ivate telephone calls, payment of police officials for sensitive information, and impersonating individuals to obtain medical records. "They have now therefore banded together to uncover the truth, and to hold the journalists responsible fully accountable, many of whom still hold senior positions of authority and power today," Hamblins said in its statement.

Hamblins said it was representing Harry, younger son of King Charles, and Frost, while Lawrence, Hurley, John and Furnish are being represented by the law firm gunnercooke.

"We utterly and unambiguously refute these preposterous smears which appear to be nothing more than a pre-planned and orchestrated attempt to drag the Mail titles into the phone hacking scandal concerning articles up to 30 years old," a spokesman for the publisher said.

"These unsubstantiated and highly defamatory claims - based on no credible evidence - appear to be simply a fishing expedition by claimants and their lawyers, some of whom have already pursued cases elsewhere."

Previous action

Harry, the Duke of Sussex, has already



Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex as he joined the Procession following the State Hearses carrying the coffin of Queen Elizabeth II towards St George's Chapel on Sept 19, 2022 in Windsor, England. REUTERS

brought a number of lawsuits against Associated Newspapers' publications.

He is currently suing the Mail on Sunday for libel over an article which stated he had tried to keep secret details of his legal fight to reinstate his police protection, and last year won damages from the same paper over claims he had turned his back on the Royal Marines.

His wife Meghan also won a privacy case against the publisher last December for printing a letter she had written to her estranged father.

The couple's relations with Britain's tabloid press collapsed following their marriage in 2018, and they have previously said they would have "zero engagement" with four major British papers, including the Daily Mail, accusing them of false and invasive coverage.

Media intrusion was a major factor they cited in their decision to step down from royal duties and move to the United States two years ago.

Elton John also defended the couple himself after newspapers accused them of hypocrisy for using his private jet for a flight to stay at his home in the south of France while calling for action to tackle climate change.

A spokesperson for the couple said they had no

comment beyond the Hamblins' statement. Others involved in the action have also previously brought legal action against major media organisations. Frost was awarded 260,250 pounds (US\$290,595.15) compensation in 2015 after she and seven other celebrity figures sued Mirror Group Newspapers for hacking messages on their phones.

Hurley, John and Furnish also settled phone-hacking claims against News Group Newspapers - publisher of the now-defunct News of the World - shortly before trial in 2019. An eight-month criminal trial into hacking at the News of the World in 2014 resulted in the conviction of former editor Andy Coulson, who later went to work for then-Prime Minister David Cameron as his communications chief. **Agencies**

Lavrov: Zelensky's preemptive strike on Russia remark justifies need for special operation

YUZHNO-SAKHALINSK

UKRAINIAN President Vladimir Zelensky's remark about a 'preemptive strike on Russia' confirms the threats coming from Kiev and the necessity of the special military operation, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said yesterday.

"Yesterday, Zelensky urged his Western overlords to deliver a preemptive nuclear strike on Russia. By doing so, this person essentially showed the entire world more evidence of the threats emanating from the Kiev regime and why the special military operation was launched to neutralize [that]," he said via a video link at a session of the United Russia party's commission within the framework of the international inter-party forum on environmental policy and sustainable growth.

Lavrov laughed off the maneuvers by Zelensky's various aides who sought to downplay the Ukrainian president's comment. "We all remember how back in January he was talking about Ukraine's aspiration to obtain nuclear weapons. Turns out, this idea is thoroughly stuck in his head," the Russian top diplomat emphasized.

"When we are talking about environmental safety, we cannot ignore those discussions that recently have been persistently escalating, about the topic of the possible use of nuclear weapons, and especially concerning this we cannot turn a blind eye to the reckless actions of the Kiev regime which are aimed at creating risks of using various kinds of weapons of mass destruction," he stressed.

Lavrov reiterated that the special military operation uncovered very alarming facts, including the presence of illegitimate military-biological programs at laboratories established by the Pentagon which involved experiments on developing forbidden chemical substances. "And, certainly, the very dangerous incessant strikes on the Zaporozhye nuclear power plant continue," he added.

Earlier, Zelensky called on NATO to deliver preemptive strikes on Russia. On Thursday, Chairman of the Russian State Duma Committee on Foreign Affairs Leonid Slutsky responded to Zelensky's comment, saying that the Ukrainian president is dragging Western countries into nuclear rhetoric and pushing the entire world to the brink of an apocalypse. **Agencies**



Fifth import expo to further open up China market

SHANGHAI

THE fifth China International Import Expo, set to be held a month from now, is in its final preparation stage with foreign companies eager to gain access to more market opportunities.

The expo, to be held in Shanghai, is on schedule despite the recurring impact of COVID-19, and will showcase the country's commitment to further opening up its massive market for shared growth.

As the fifth CIIE approaches, exhibits are arriving in Shanghai via various means. On Sept 20, the first shipment of inbound exhibits, with a declared value of 560 million yuan (US\$78.70 million), cleared customs at Shanghai Pudong International Airport.

The China-Europe freight train has also become a popular choice for transportation among companies attending the CIIE, said Wang Jinqiu, chairman of Shanghai Oriental Silk Road Multimodal Transport, adding that this is the second year that the service has been used to deliver products to the CIIE in Shanghai. According to Shanghai Customs,

the peak of exhibit arrivals is expected to occur in October.

Shanghai Customs said it will continue to optimize the clearance process for exhibits and provide safe, convenient and efficient customs clearance services.

Sun Chenghai, deputy director of the CIIE Bureau said the work of inviting enterprises to participate in the fifth CIIE had been completed and positive progress is being made in terms of setting up exhibitions.

Thousands of miles away, Roy van den Hurk, general manager of Theland Global R&D at Milk New Zealand Dairy, is busy applying for his visa to attend the coming 2022 expo. "China's huge consumer market helps foreign trade enterprises like us to find opportunities in the green food industry and promote global economic recovery," said van den Hurk, who has participated in the event three times before.

The expo has helped the New Zealand company to embark on the "fast track" of development in China, van den Hurk noted, as Theland products are now even available on the shelves of supermarkets in small counties in cen-



This photo taken on Oct 5, 2021 shows a decorative installation near the National Exhibition and Convention Center (Shanghai), the main venue for the China International Import Expo (CIIE), in East China's Shanghai. (PHOTO / XINHUA)

tral and western China. Data shows that more than 280 of the world's top 500 enterprises and industry giants will participate in this year's CIIE, with nearly 90 percent of the participants from last year also joining this year.

Will Song, global senior vice-president and China chairman at Johnson & Johnson, said that over the last four years the company had debuted dozens of products at the CIIE, and this

year at the fifth expo it will unveil about 40 new products to China.

China's Vice-Minister of Commerce Sheng Qiuping said the CIIE has given full play to its role as a window for building a cooperation platform for those engaged both at home and abroad, and has become a place for exhibitors to debut their new global products, cutting-edge technologies and innovative services. **Xinhua**

Peacekeeping base in DRC hit second time in week, but no casualties - UN

UNITED NATIONS

UN peacekeepers, for the second time in a week, repelled an attack on their base in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), a UN spokesman said on Thursday.

Suspected members of the Twirwaneho armed group on

Wednesday opened fire towards the base in Minembwe, in South Kivu province, said Stephane Dujarric, the chief spokesman for UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.

"Our UN peacekeepers returned fire, forcing the assailants to disperse," Dujarric told a regular briefing. "There are no

casualties among peacekeeping troops. This is the second attack carried out by the group in a week towards the same UN base." He said a UN peacekeeper from Pakistan was killed in the Sept. 30 attack, which was strongly condemned by Guterres.

The Minembwe base in the

tropical highlands of Fizi territory is part of the UN mission in the DRC known as MONUSCO.

The Twirwaneho is one of about 120 armed groups known to be terrorizing the eastern DRC. On Wednesday, the spokesman reported MONUSCO dispatched a patrol of peacekeepers to join DRC forces in North

Kivu province after eight civilians were killed in a raid in Beni territory believed to have been carried out by the Allied Democratic Forces rebel group.

Such attacks in the DRC's mineral-rich eastern provinces have terrorized the civilian population.

Xinhua



People fill up the shopping streets in Cologne, Germany, Nov 17, 2021. AP

WASHINGTON

THE International Monetary Fund (IMF) chief said on Thursday there is a "fundamental shift" in the global economy, urging countries to bring down inflation, put in place responsible fiscal policy, and jointly support emerging markets and developing economies.

The global economy is moving "from a world of relative predictability - with a rules-based framework for international economic cooperation, low interest rates, and low inflation... to a world with more fragility - greater uncertainty, higher economic volatility, geopolitical confrontations, and more frequent and devastating natural disasters," IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva

IMF chief highlights 'fundamental shift' in global economy

said in a curtain raiser speech ahead of the 2022 Annual Meetings of the IMF and the World Bank scheduled next week. Stressing the urgency to stabilize the economy,

Georgieva noted that global outlook has darkened by multiple shocks, among them a war, and inflation has become more persistent.

The IMF has downgraded its growth projections already three times since October last year, to only 3.2 percent for 2022 and 2.9 percent for 2023, the IMF chief said, adding that the global institution will downgrade growth for next year in its updated World Economic Outlook next week. "We will flag

that the risks of recession are rising," she noted.

The IMF estimates that countries accounting for about one-third of the world economy will experience at least two consecutive quarters of contraction this or next year. "And, even when growth is positive, it will feel like a recession because of shrinking real incomes and rising prices," she added.

Overall, the IMF expects a global output loss of about 4 trillion U.S. dollars between now and 2026.

This is the size of the German economy - a massive setback for the world economy. The IMF chief urged policymakers to stay the

course to bring down inflation, and to put in place responsible fiscal policy - one that protects the vulnerable, without adding fuel to inflation, while calling for joint efforts to support emerging markets and developing economies.

"A stronger dollar, high borrowing costs and capital outflows cause a triple blow to many emerging markets and developing economies," said Georgieva, noting that the probability of portfolio outflows from emerging markets over the next three quarters has risen to 40 percent, which could pose "a major challenge" to countries with large external financing needs.

More than a quarter of emerging economies have either defaulted or had bonds trading at distressed levels; and over 60 percent of low-income countries are in - or at high risk of - debt distress.

The IMF chief urged countries to work together to address issues such as food insecurity, which is now affecting a staggering number of 345 million people, and climate change, the existential threat to humanity.

Since the pandemic began, the IMF has provided 258 billion dollars to 93 countries. Since the Ukraine-Russia war, it has supported 16 countries with close to 90 billion dollars.

Xinhua

World expects new march of CPC after extraordinary decade

BEIJING

CHINA'S extraordinary achievements over the past 10 years have been widely acknowledged for raising living standards at home and bolstering global development.

The upcoming 20th National Congress of the Communist Party of China (CPC) is the start of a new journey for China's development and its role in international affairs.

Decade of achievements

Chinese brands have become conspicuous at Japanese home appliance stores in recent years. The trend, reported on by Japanese newspaper Nihon Keizai Shimbun, reflects the extraordinary achievements of "Made in China" and China's high-quality development over the past decade.

During the past decade, China accounted for over 18 percent of the global economy in 2021, up from 11.4 percent in 2012, with per capita GDP jumping to US\$12,500 from US\$6,300. China's average contribution to global economic growth exceeded 30 percent during the said period.

China's social-economic development witnessed historic achievements in the past decade, drawing interest from across the globe.

China has met the poverty eradication target set out in the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development 10 years ahead of schedule, with nearly 100 million impoverished rural residents lifted out of poverty during the past 10 years.

In his message for the 2017 Global Poverty Reduction and Development Forum, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said, "targeted poverty reduction strategies are the only way to reach those farthest behind and achieve the ambitious targets set out in the 2030 Agenda."

Putting the health and safety of the people first, China has taken timely and active measures against the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, achieving the best results in the world in terms of coordinating economic development and epidemic prevention and control.

Meanwhile, China has provided over 2.2 billion COVID-19 vaccines to more than 120 countries and international organizations.

Cavince Adhere, a Kenya-based international relations scholar, said that China has been an important force in

promoting global economic recovery and stability.

China has set ambitious targets and taken concrete actions to address climate change and aims to peak its CO2 emissions before 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality before 2060.

Praising China's efforts in promoting the ratification of the hard-won Paris Agreement, former UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said the country's leader exercised insightful and future-oriented leadership in the fight against climate change, which is the most serious challenge the humanity is facing now. He said China's commitment to carbon neutrality has also encouraged other countries to follow suit.

Global contributions

As China celebrated its National Day on Oct 1, a group of engineers from China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation walked for five hours in the rain in the mountainous regions of Rwanda's Southern province to inspect water pipelines there. The project benefits over 1 million residents by providing them with accessible clean water. In Europe, Serbian President Aleksandar Vucic extended festival greetings to the Chinese people and spoke highly of the contribution made by Chinese companies to Serbia's economic development. Serbia feels proud to have an ironclad friendship with China, said Vucic.

The world is witnessing a persistent and unchecked pandemic, a shifting international security landscape and a fragile global economic recovery. Despite these global crises, China insists on the road of peaceful development and win-win cooperation.

To jointly promote global development towards a new stage featuring balance, coordination and inclusiveness, China has proposed the Global Development Initiative (GDI), providing a Chinese solution to global development challenges.

General Secretary of the Congolese Labor Party Pierre Moussa told Xinhua that he believes the GDI will help countries worldwide overcome common challenges, including food insecurity and climate change.

To promote world security, China proposed the Global Security Initiative. China's vision of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security has resonated globally.

Speaking highly of the security ini-



A ceremony marking the centenary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) is held at Tian'anmen Square in Beijing, capital of China, July 1, 2021. XINHUA

tiative, Pakistani Prime Minister Shahbaz Sharif said it advocates cooperative and synergy-driven approaches to replace a zero-sum Cold War mindset of maximization of security through power struggles and arms races.

In the new era, China continues to contribute to world peace and development and provide more public goods to the international community within its capacity. By advocating the advancement of high-quality Belt and Road cooperation, China had signed more than 200 Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) cooperation agreements with 149 countries and 32 international organizations by July 2022.

The GDI, the BRI and China's call for building a community with a shared future for mankind could strengthen common development and multilateralism, former Thai Prime Minister Abhisit Vejjajiva told Xinhua.

New journey

Director-General of the UN Office at Geneva Tatiana Valovaya, World Intellectual Property Organization Director General Daren Tang, International Labor Organization Director-General Guy Ryder, World Trade Organization Director-General Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala and other heads of international organizations and permanent representatives of various countries in Geneva said they look forward to strengthening cooperation with China in their respective fields and expect China to continue to play an essential role in international affairs and contribute to world peace and development.

The upcoming 20th National Congress of the CPC

is a significant conference to be held at a critical moment in the new journey of building a modern socialist country in an all-around way. The conference will plan out the goals, tasks and major policies for the party and country's future development and has drawn the international community's attention.

Former Egyptian Prime Minister Essam Sharaf said China's success is in the world's interest.

Khairy Tourk, a professor of economics with the Stuart School of Business at the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago, told Xinhua that a growing China benefits every corner of the world.

Kim Jong-un, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and chairman of the State Affairs Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, said in a congratulatory letter that the 20th National Congress of the CPC will become a new milestone in China's socialist evolution.

He also expressed the firm belief that under the leadership of the CPC, China's dream of national rejuvenation will come true.

Working to realize long-term goals has become the key to the success of the CPC, which is leading the Chinese people toward common prosperity, former Tunisian Foreign Minister Ahmed Ounaies told Xinhua.

Jean Christophe Iseux von Pfetten, president of the Institute for East-West Strategic Studies in Britain, told Xinhua that he believes the upcoming CPC National Congress would be an important meeting for China and the world, given China's weight in the international community and the global economy.

Xinhua

It's time for Washington to admit its involvement in Kiev's crimes – diplomat

MOSCOW

IT is time for the US State Department to admit its involvement in the situation in Ukraine, from regime change to motives for blowing up gas pipelines, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said at a briefing on Thursday.

"It's time for Washington to speak loudly, frankly and clearly about its true involvement in the situation in Ukraine, from regime change to their motives for destroying gas pipelines," Zakharova said.

As the diplomat noted, the Russian Foreign Ministry "has never heard a statement from official Washington that they do not support or in any way criticize the Kiev regime for all the horror it has done here over the years."

"Has that happened! Even once, even one statement about this?" she pointed out. "Sometimes they might have mumbled somewhere in the State Department that they were either not following the situation, or they were, and that was it. There were no condemnations, no direct accusations."

According to her, there is no point in "picking out individual elements of what was done under the direct supervision or participation of American intelligence services and what was not."

"Washington has guided, protected and led the Kiev regime for many years. This is a question of shared responsibility for what the US has done to this country and to the region as a whole," Zakharova concluded.

Agencies



Latest SpaceX crew, including cosmonaut, arrive at space station

A four-member SpaceX Crew Dragon team, including a Russian cosmonaut and the first Native American woman sent to orbit, safely docked with the International Space Station (ISS) on Thursday and moved aboard to begin a five-month science mission.

Rendezvous of the latest NASA expedition to the orbiting laboratory came just after 5 pm EDT (2100 GMT) following a 29-hour flight to the ISS as the two vehicles circled the globe some 420 km above Earth off the west coast of Africa, according to a NASA webcast of the docking.

The autonomously flying Crew Dragon capsule, dubbed Endurance, was lofted into orbit on Wednesday atop a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket launched from NASA's Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral, Florida.

The crew consists of two American NASA astronauts - flight commander Nicole Aunapu Mann, 45, and pilot Josh Cassada, 49 - as well as Japanese astronaut Koichi Wakata, 59, a veteran of four previous spaceflights, and cosmonaut Anna Kikina, 38, the first Russian aboard an American spacecraft in 20 years.

The inclusion of Kikina, the lone female cosmonaut in active service with the Russian space agency Roscosmos, was a sign of continued US-Russian cooperation in space despite escalating tensions between Moscow and Washington over the conflict in Ukraine.

Kikina joined the SpaceX Crew-5 flight under a new ride-sharing agreement signed in July between NASA and Roscosmos allowing the two countries to keep flying on each other's



(From left to right) Russian cosmonaut Anna Kikina, NASA astronaut Josh Cassada, NASA astronaut Nicole Mann, and Japanese astronaut Koichi Wakata arrive ahead of the launch of the SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket, carrying the Crew5 Dragon, at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida on Oct 5, 2022. AFP

spacecraft to and from ISS.

The team was led by Mann, the first indigenous woman NASA has sent to space and the first woman to take the commander's seat of a SpaceX Crew Dragon. Mann, a US Marine Corps colonel and combat fighter pilot, is also among the first group of 18 astronauts selected for NASA's upcoming Artemis missions aimed at returning humans to the moon later this decade.

"We look forward to getting to work," Mann radioed moments after the linkup was completed.

On arrival, the Endurance crew spent nearly two hours conducting a series of standard procedures, such as leak checks and pressurizing the chamber between the capsule and ISS, before opening the entry hatches.

A live NASA video feed showed

the smiling new arrivals weightlessly floating headfirst through the padded passageway one by one into the station.

They were greeted with hugs and handshakes by the four-member team they are replacing - three Americans and the Italian station commander, Samantha Cristoforetti - as well as by two Russians and a fourth NASA astronaut who shared a Soyuz flight to the ISS last month.

"A lot of people are working hard to make sure our common manned space exploration will continue to exist, to develop further. We are living proof of this," Kikina said in Russian remarks translated to English through a mission-control interpreter during a brief welcoming ceremony.

The Endurance crew marked the fifth full-fledged ISS team

NASA has flown aboard a SpaceX capsule since the private rocket venture founded by Tesla CEO Elon Musk began sending US astronauts to space in May 2020.

SpaceX has flown eight crewed missions to orbit in all, including non-NASA flights.

The new arrivals are set to conduct more than 200 experiments during their 150-day mission, many focused on medical research ranging from 3-D "bio-printing" of human tissue to a study of bacteria cultured in microgravity.

ISS, spanning the length of a football field, has been continuously occupied since 2000, operated by a US-Russian-led partnership that includes Canada, Japan and 11 European countries.

Agencies

First time since Cuban missile crisis world's facing direct nuclear threat - Biden

WASHINGTON

US President Joe Biden said that for the first time since the Cuban missile crisis, the world is facing a direct threat from the use of nuclear weapons, provided that the situation continues to develop as it is developing at the moment. The words of the US President, who spoke at an event of the Democratic Party on Thursday, are quoted by the White House press corps.

"First time since the Cuban missile crisis, we have a direct threat of the use nuclear weapon if in fact things continue down the path they are going," Biden said.

The US President (pictured) also said that he knows the Russian leader "fairly well" and that is why he thinks that Putin "is not joking when he talks about potential use of tactical nuclear weapons."

Biden noted that he does not think "there's any such thing as the ability to easily (use) a tactical nuclear weapon and not end up with Armageddon."

On September 21, in his address at the 77th



session of the UN General Assembly Biden said Moscow made "overt nuclear threats against Europe" and displayed "a reckless disregard for the responsibilities of the non-proliferation regime."

Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova hit out at Biden's address saying that he attributed remarks to the Russian President that our country was threatening the world with nuclear weapons.

On September 21, Russian President Vladimir Putin said in his televised address that Washington is pushing Kiev towards moving military actions to Russian territory, with nuclear blackmail coming into play.

He noted that the issue is not only about the shelling of the Zaporozhye Nuclear Power Plant, which risks a nuclear catastrophe, but also about statements made by certain high-ranking representatives of leading NATO states on the possibility and acceptability of using weapons of mass destruction, namely nuclear weapons against Russia.

"I would like to remind those resorting to such statements against Russia that our country also has various weapons of destruction, and some [of our] components are even more up-to-date than NATO member countries. And when the territorial integrity of our country is threatened, we will obviously use all the means we have at our disposal to protect Russia and our people," he warned.

"This is not a bluff. Russian citizens can be confident that the territorial integrity of our homeland, and our independence and freedom will be ensured. And let me emphasize once again, we have all the means at our disposal," he concluded.

Agencies



Tanzania Football Federation's Legal, Media, and Marketing Director Boniface Wambura.

TFF advises Tanzanians on 2022 World Cup tickets

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA Football Federation (TFF) has advised individuals and companies interested to watch live matches of the coming FIFA World Cup, slated to be played in Qatar, to buy tickets for the showpiece directly from the international football governing body (FIFA).

Boniface Wambura, TFF's Director for Legal, Media, and Marketing, issued the directive in an interview in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

He said FIFA allocates each member association tickets for the World Cup which are to be sold within its territory and the selling of the tickets started last April and will go on until the competition kicks off on November 18 with the final set for December 19.

However, Wambura said TFF's World Cup ticket allocation ended a long time ago.

"All tickets which FIFA gave us for selling ended and now those interested can buy them through FIFA platforms," he said.

Wambura could not mention the number of individuals and compa-

nies that bought the tickets saying his Federation was receiving requests from interested buyers and was forwarding the requests to FIFA for other procedures.

"TFF was receiving requests from buyers and directing the buyers' particulars to FIFA for finalization and other procedures, FIFA was then communicating directly with the buyers, for now, the body has the exact number of individuals and companies that bought the tickets through us," he said.

FIFA advised all those interested in buying the 2022 World Cup tickets to log into the online tickets' selling portal.

"FIFA strongly advises that tickets should be bought through our official channels, as well as credible and recognized online vendors," the body said in a memo.

Tickets for opening matches are priced at \$19-\$275 while the quarter-final ties' tickets range from \$82.5 to \$426, semi-finals' tickers are sold at \$137-\$956, and premium tickets for the final are sold at \$1607 while cheapest tickets for the final are sold at \$206.

Dar keen on improving film production

By Correspondent James Kandaya

TANZANIA and Indian governments have agreed to promote the two countries cultures and develop the capacity of Tanzanian filmmakers to produce quality music and films.

Liberata Mulamula, former minister for Foreign Affairs and East Africa Cooperation, said so when she presided over the inaugural international conference on India-Tanzania relations held in Dar es Salaam recently.

She said the agreement is meant to improve the quality of the films produced by local producers adding that Indian film producers have huge experience in the sector.

She moreover said since Indian music is already popular in Tanzania, the collaboration between talents of both countries is likely to boost opportunities and offer more interesting and soulful music to music and film lovers.

"Our collaboration in the area of culture, especially films, is the country's very important couture for the benefit of future generations," she said.

The former minister said music and film are part of culture promotion therefore the government takes it seriously, adding that Tanzania's producers will gain new skills in the production of films.

Tanzania's filmmakers often have limited production skills and equip-

ment but are determined to develop the industry to rival Nigeria's film industry, termed 'Nollywood'.

"The Tanzanian film industry has lots of potentials as Tanzania has a beautiful landscape for filming, plenty of creative people, and good talented actors and actresses," she said.

"There is a growing demand for local content through cable network TV's and online platforms, which means that if you can either develop or produce a good movie, and be able to capture the attention of the market in East Africa which has more than 100 million people, it is a very huge business," she added.

India's High Commissioner to Tanzania Binaya Srikanta Pradhan said during the collaboration India has funded scholarships rolled out to more than 4500 Tanzanians in areas of technology, education, agriculture, and Information and Communication Technology.

He said Tanzania and India collaborations are based on culture, agriculture, education, technology, and health.

With India having the most popular filmmakers, Pradhan added, Tanzania's filmmakers will have the opportunity to produce quality films through sharing experiences with their Indian counterparts.

Recently, the growing relationship in trade has been recorded significantly and expressed hope to increase at the end financial year.

Evangelertainment: Big cash to colour next Gospel festival, with top tables at 100,000/-

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

IN a game of mirrors, it is hard to tell persons from their shadows, and in the current spread of Gospel music, it is hard to distinguish this variety of singing, and performance on stage, from routine entertainment.

It is now seemingly approaching mainstream entertainment, with little distinction for its special purpose, not to speak of its prayer functions, etc.

A concert or festival at Mlimani City in Dar es Salaam is a signal for its having arrived in mainstream entertainment, by the price of tables.

Looking at the literature on Gospel music shows and performances, trying to separate it from the mainstream, and cultivating what is essentially Gospel about it is possible, but increasingly thinning out.

The latest notification on the pricing of tables at the Mlimani City festival in the coming week was altogether refreshing, as it indicated that this was a social event like any other in its substance.

Ordinarily, people do not pay up to 100,000/- for a table at a proper religious ceremony, strictly.

Available reviews of what happens in Gospel music near and far show these same impressions, and at present, it is hard to say if there is a 'keeper of the seals', between what is Gospel at the minimum, and what is down-



Tanzanian gospel musician, Christina Shusho. PHOTO: COURTESY OF CHRISTINA SHUSHO

right entertainment.

The difference is that there is increasingly an effort to leave aside that prayerful element for the happiness that is thematically taking over.

The main reason is an apparent transition from mere prayer, the hope that divinity will hear, to action.

The bearer of this action is no longer a prayerful community led by a priest as was routinely the case in the tradition, but now it is a single individual, whose link with the large attending community is a few phrases of popular traditional Gospel songs which at least were characterized by a semblance of prayer.

The degree to which current compositions ditch this mood for outright leisure and Hip Hop antics to entertain the

youths present, not contemplation, can be scary.

It is pretty unlikely that someone paying 100,000/- for a top table is going to pray, at all.

One chronicler says many gospel music fans have continued to listen to songs produced by various artists, citing some titles such as 'Faithful Till The End' from Icha Kavons, a Congolese gospel singer living in Canada.

The proto-advert asks the reader to 'Get acquainted with Icha Kavons, who has successfully rocked the music charts in Canada and won several international awards for his creative musical work in and out of Africa'. Such awards are not handed by the fervently religious, all too often.

To a question as to

briefly telling the reader who he is, he describes himself as a contemporary gospel vocalist, known for his diversity 'and ability to lead into the presence of God, whilst also making you dance'.

The object of reference is divided in two, one is the 'presence' of divinity and the other is 'dancing'.

If one would compare praying with meditation, it takes a lot to meditate by dancing, but some will say martial arts combine the two, in learned motions through intense body controls.

While it is clear that Gospel artists of the modern day face difficulties in getting published (recorded and put online, for instance) what is more noticeable is that they often lack the base of a 'well-known church' as the Canadian artist says.

That at least is revealing, that many of these are only superficially religious but more to it, they are artists in the main.

They like religion enough to shout some epithets, and those in the West African praising tradition, issue roof-hitting lyrics.

Looking at the friends that the Canadian artist has in Tanzania, one gets a fairly evident impression that there are up-and-coming artists who have not made a visible mark in prayerful Gospel songs.

Anyone in that cat-

egory would readily have Rose Mhando, Bahati Bukuku, Joshua Makondeko, and others but the list in the online review mentioned Jessica Honore BM, Paul Clement, and a wish to work with Christina Shusho, as one of his favourites in Tanzania.

Perhaps a keen enough peering into the productions may come up with visible Gospel interest, but for steering clear of traditional Gospel singers, one sees entertainment, not Gospel.

For that reason, and its diversity (divorced from prayer), it can easily fetch even 100,000/- tickets to sit with either wife or girlfriend at a table.

It is a reminder of the angry reaction of Jesus when toppling tables at the temple.

"This is my father's house and you have turned it into a nest of robbers" priding themselves on status.

That is why it is again difficult to say if this is just mainstream music tainted with religion, or if it has the audacity and qualifications to similarly grab the Gospel garb when it is divorced from prayer.

Yet it must be admitted that it has a firm nestling point in the presence of miracle workers as when Jesus conducted miracles among the multitudes. They did not have to be converted first, merely believed and came.



Gongo la Mboto Secondary School's hockey side players put their skills to show in their recent drills at Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete Youth Park's ground in Dar es Salaam. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

KMC FC all out to fix defensive woes in Premier League

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

KINONDONI Municipal Council FC hopes to turn the side's poor start to the 2022/23 NBC Premier League season around.

The outfit had yesterday played host to Coast Region's Ruvu Shooting in the domestic top-flight duel which was expected to be held at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

The Kinondoni District-based side, under the tutelage of Rwandan Thierry Hitimana, has won only one game so far, conceding a 1-0 defeat to Coastal Union in the opening game of this season and drawing three times.

The club most recently notched a thrilling 2-2 draw with one of the league favourites, Simba SC, and cruised to victory over the promoted side, Ihefu SC

of Mbeya.

Kinondoni Municipal Council FC's defensive line has been poor this season as the side has conceded goals in the first four games, registering only one goalless draw against Namungo FC.

The offensive line which is led by Matheo Anthony has scored six goals in the five games the squad has taken part in this season with defensive woes set to be dealt with by coach Hitimana.

Head coach Hitimana pointed out that all players have returned with good spirit and morale except for center-back Ibrahim Ame and left fullback Hance Masoud that were injured in the game against Namungo FC played at Majaliwa Stadium in Ruangwa, Lindi, and are continuing treatment.

The tactician revealed: "We

are up for preparations for the upcoming game against Ruvu Shooting, we know how competitive the game is but we will do our preparations well because the goal is to get three points."

The gaffer added: "We have to fix our defensive woes, we have been leaking goals, scoring goals hasn't been a challenge but we look forward to adding up the numbers in front of goals to win games that end up with tight margins."

"In the league right now when you meet your opponent, everyone is well prepared and this is due to the existing competition, KMC FC is preparing well, the game is within our power and always the best team cannot miss three points twice, we have missed against Namungo FC and now we are lining up against

Ruvu Shooting," Hitimana stated. Visitors, Ruvu Shooting, who are still in Dar es Salaam, were heading to the duel having lost three Premier League games and suffered a loss in three games in six matches.

Ruvu Shooting has been scoring goals for fun this season only coming up short against Namungo FC on a 1-0 loss to the latter this season, a situation which promised a tightly contested match against Kinondoni Municipal Council FC.

Kinondoni Municipal Council FC is sitting 10th on the league log with six points, having won one game, recorded three draws, and lost one, whilst Ruvu Shooting notched three victories, and three losses to collect nine points in the log and stay in the fifth position.

Arsenal looking to pile more pressure on Liver

MANCHESTER, England

THE match at Emirates Stadium tomorrow should prove informative about the prospects of both Arsenal and Liverpool.

For Premier League leader Arsenal, it's the latest test of its ability to mount a credible title challenge against the only team that has managed disrupt Manchester City's dominance over the past five years.

For Liverpool, tentatively finding form after such a turbulent start to the season, it's a chance to provide a platform on which to build Jurgen Klopp's recovery plan.

The stakes are much higher for the team from Merseyside – not least because City lies in wait a week later.

Further dropped points ahead of the visit of Erling Haaland and Co. to Anfield would leave Klopp on the verge of crisis in a season when the title already looks beyond Liverpool.

The German has been cautious in his commentary this week – even after the confidence-boosting win over Rangers in the Champions League on Tuesday.

"I can't wait for the moment when I can read newspapers again because I didn't read them for weeks," Klopp joked. "The criticism is completely fine. We are not over the moon about our situation. But we played some really good games – it's not like it's 10 years ago, it's not too long ago."

Liverpool has only lost once in the league this season but already trails Arsenal by 11 points.

The only wins have come in the 9-0 demolition of Bournemouth and via an injury-time strike against Newcastle.

Last week's 3-3 draw at home against Brighton typified the raggedness of a team that was on course for an unprecedented quadruple going into the final weeks of last season. The loss of Sadio Mane, who joined Bayern Munich in the off-season, has had an impact, with replacement Darwin Nunez taking time to settle.

Injuries in midfield have left Liverpool looking light in that department, while Virgil van Dijk's usual authority in defense has been lacking. In five of seven games in the league, Liverpool has conceded first to underline the vulnerability at the back.

How van Dijk handles Haaland will be fascinating – but before that he will have to try to curtail a former City striker who is enjoying a resurgence at Arsenal.

Gabriel Jesus looked to be a bargain when signed for \$50 million in the off-season and he has been a key component for Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta this term, scoring five times in eight appearances.

The Brazil international was on target again as Arsenal defeated Tottenham 3-1 in last week's north London derby.

Seven wins from eight matches has confounded expectations and even left City in Arsenal's wake.

The one loss – to Manchester United – has not derailed momentum, while victory against Tottenham answered a lot of questions about the team's ability to cope with the pressure at the top.

Even in the face of Liverpool's struggles, another win on Sunday would perhaps be even more impressive as evidence of Arsenal's readiness to replace last year's runner-up as the new challenge to City.

AP

Messi says 2022 World Cup will 'surely' be his last

BUENOS AIRES

ARGENTINA captain Lionel Messi said Thursday that the 2022 World Cup in Qatar will "surely" be the last of his career.

"It's my last World Cup, surely. I feel good physically, I was able to do a very good pre-season this year, which I couldn't do last year. It was essential to get to where I am, with a good state of mind and a lot of hope," the 35-year-old told ESPN Argentina.

Messi, who is due to appear in his fifth World Cup, made his international debut in 2005 and has since won 164 caps for Argentina and is the country's all-time record scorer with 90 goals.

In the interview, which took place in Paris where Messi plays for Paris Saint-Germain, he admitted he was nervous about the impending tournament in Qatar.

"There is anxiety, nerves about the World Cup," he said. "We can't wait for it to start."

Messi's international debut as a substitute against Hungary in 2005 lasted just two minutes before he was sent off but he quickly established himself in the national team set-up and travelled to Germany for his first World Cup in 2006. He went on to play in the 2010 edition in South Africa, 2014 in Brazil, where Argentina reached the final, and 2018 in Russia.

The current side, under the management of Lionel Scaloni has now gone 35 games without defeat and is likely to figure as one of the pre-tournament favorites for the Qatar tournament.

"We have reached a good moment, with a very well-equipped and very strong group, but anything can happen," said Messi.

"All the games are very difficult. The favorites are not always the ones who end up winning or taking the path that one expected.

"Argentina is always a candidate because of its history and what it means. But we are not the only favorites, there are other teams that are above us."

AFP

Man United, Arsenal win in EL; fireworks halt Berlin game

LONDON

MANCHESTER United overcame an early deficit to beat Omonia Nicosia 3-2 in the Europa League on Thursday and begin the healing process after a humiliating derby loss in the Premier League.

Seeking some respite in Cyprus following a 6-3 loss at Manchester City on Sunday, United fell behind to a goal on the counterattack by Iran striker Karim Ansarifard in the 34th minute.

Second-half substitutes made the difference for United. Marcus Rashford equalized in the 53rd with a curling shot from just inside the area before he produced a deft flick to fellow replacement Anthony Martial, who cut inside and shot low inside the near post in the 63rd.

"I think the subs really had an impact today and that is really good," United manager Erik ten Hag said. "That makes the team stronger."

Cristiano Ronaldo had



Manchester United's Cristiano Ronaldo, right, attempts a shot at goal in front of Omonia's Nemanja Miletic during the Europa League group E soccer match between Omonia and Manchester United at GSP stadium in Nicosia, Cyprus, Thursday, Oct. 6, 2022. (AP Photo)

a rare start for United and struck the post from close range before driving in a cross that Rashford converted for his second goal in the 84th.

Nikolas Panagiotou replied a minute later for Omonia to ensure a tense finish.

It was a second victory in three Group E games for United, which is three points behind Real Sociedad – a 2-0

winner at 10-man Sheriff Tiraspol. Sociedad has a maximum nine points.

Ansarifard delivered a muted celebration for his goal. That appeared to be in line with silent protests by Iranian players at a recent World Cup warmup game in Austria, amid weeks of demonstrations and a violent crackdown by state authorities back home in Iran following the death

of a 22-year-old woman, Mahsa Amini, in the custody of the morality police. She had been detained for allegedly wearing a mandatory headscarf too loosely.

Arsenal earned a second straight win by beating Norwegian team Bodø/Glimt 3-0 at home after a dominant start that saw Eddie Nketiah and Rob Holding score in the opening half hour.

Substitute Gabriel Jesus then set up the third by dancing his way through defenders along the byline before feeding Fabio Vieira for a simple finish in the 85th. Arsenal's previous game against PSV Eindhoven was postponed in the wake of the death of Queen Elizabeth II but the London team still tops Group A with six points. Eindhoven is second after winning 5-1 at Zurich.

FIREWORKS IN BERLIN

The game between Union Berlin and Swedish team Malmo was halted for about 30 minutes in the second half after Berlin fans set off multiple fireworks that landed on the field. Berlin won 1-0 despite having a player sent off just before the halftime break, with Sheraldo Becker scoring the winner in the 68th.

Roma's inconsistent performances continued after Jose Mourinho's team let a lead slip and lost 2-1 at home against Real Betis. Luiz Henrique scored the winner in the 85th minute

for the Spanish team and Roma had forward Nicolò Zaniolo sent off in injury time. It was Roma's second loss of the campaign, with the team sitting in sixth place in Serie A.

Lazio was held 0-0 by Sturm Graz of Austria in Group F, while Monaco and Red Star Belgrade won games in Group H.

EUROPA CONFERENCE LEAGUE

West Ham secured a third straight win in its group as the English team beat Anderlecht 1-0 in a match between teams who met in the 1976 final of the now-defunct Cup Winners' Cup.

Italy striker Gianluca Scamacca scored the winner in the 79th.

AZ Alkmaar and Villarreal are the only other teams to maintain a perfect record. Villarreal routed Austria Vienna 5-0 after a hat trick by substitute Jose Luis Morales while Alkmaar needed a late winner from Jesper Karlsson to beat Apollon Limasol 3-2.

AP

Brazil coach Tite will stick to attack at World Cup

RIO DE JANEIRO

BRAZIL coach Tite has so many attacking options for the World Cup that he can hardly fit half of them into his team.

He promises to use as many of his forwards as he can in Qatar, though, no matter the opponent.

"There will be opportunities for all (Brazil's forwards)," Tite said in an interview with The Associated Press. "Whoever is in will be deciding the match, all have to be prepared. Every match might require a different characteristic."

Tite and his coaching assistants Cleber Xavier and Cesar Sampaio spoke to the AP for about one hour at the headquarters of the Brazilian soccer confederation on Thursday, taking a break from their heated private discussions about how to put the final touches on their squad for the tournament. Their final team announcement is scheduled for Nov. 7.

The only Brazil forward who may be sure of a starting place in Qatar is Neymar, while the list of Tite's other options includes the likes of Vinicius Jr., Raphinha, Richarlison, Antony and Gabriel Jesus.

In the team's most recent games, two friendly wins over African teams Ghana and Tunisia in September, Tite fielded lineups that were so attack-minded that critics back home wondered if that would be a realistic strategy against some of the other title contenders at the World Cup, which starts next month.

Tite, who is leaving his job after the tournament, insisted he won't shy away from his aggressive playing style in Qatar, regardless of who Brazil is playing. Brazil is in Group G at the World Cup with Serbia, Switzerland and Cameroon.

"We will make adjustments, we will not change our game plan,"



Tite

Tite said. "We will impose our way of playing." The Selecao may need plenty of goals in Qatar as Tite doesn't have nearly as many options in defense. Brazil has few top-class full-backs at the moment, while starting center back Thiago Silva is 38 years old. Defensive midfielder Casemiro also has yet to fully adjust to his new surroundings at Manchester United after leaving Real Madrid.

Tite doesn't think his defense will be a problem, though, as long as his players do one thing.

"Play your best at your club," said Tite, adding he doesn't pay much attention to criticism his players receive. "We listen very little to any noise coming from outside. What is outside remains outside."

Neymar, like Argentina's Lionel Messi, is facing huge pressure to deliver his first World Cup title – especially after being criticized for sub-par performances at the 2018 tournament in Russia.

Tite thinks the 30-year-old Neymar has matured both as a player and a person since then, and the striker has been

in top form this season with Paris Saint-Germain.

"When Neymar says that at a given time he made a mistake it is beautiful. What an example. He is no superman, he is telling kids that at some moment they will also make mistakes, feel weak, have a stomachache, a headache. It is only human," Tite said.

"Some people know how to grow and evolve. And they are brave to say it when they make mistakes. That's his maturity."

The coach tried to shield his star player

from the pressure by downplaying comparisons to Pelé, as Neymar approaches the Brazil great's record of 77 goals for the national team.

"He must leave that noise for others to speak about. There is no comparison. It is unreal, inhuman to compare different generations," Tite said. "You can't compare Pelé to any other. We can argue about who was the second best."

Tite's assistant coaches have spent plenty of time over the last few years studying what the last three World Cup winners – France, Ger-

many and Spain – did to prepare for the tournament. Many view Brazil and Argentina among the biggest favorites this time, as France is struggling with injuries while Germany and Spain are going through a rebuilding phase.

But Xavier said Brazil can't worry too much about their rivals.

"We are spending most of our energy on our work, our process," Xavier said. "We know Argentina has a somewhat finalized team, and Brazil too. We see England, France, Germany and Spain with some changes. We will only know for sure what those look like after the World Cup's group stage."

As the World Cup nears and reports pile up on his desk, Tite's schedule is dominated by meetings with assistants while media requests come by the minute. The 61-year-old coach is doing his best to carry on without much anticipation, as if these were just normal working days.

"I only get anxious when people ask me how many days are still left for our first match," Tite said. "That happens every day."

Meanwhile, Brazil will go to this year's World Cup as the top-rated team after extending its lead over second-place Belgium in the latest FIFA rankings released

Thursday.

Brazil won its two warmup games in September – against Ghana and Tunisia – while Belgium lost to the Netherlands in one of its two Nations League games.

Argentina stayed at No. 3 and 2018 World Cup champion France is still at No. 4.

The World Cup in Qatar starts on Nov. 20.

Host Qatar will be the 50th-ranked team, just ahead of No. 51 Saudi Arabia. Ghana will be the lowest ranked team at No. 61.

Group B at the World Cup is the strongest by rankings with all four teams in the top 20 – No. 5 England, No. 16 United States, No. 19 Wales and No. 20 Iran.

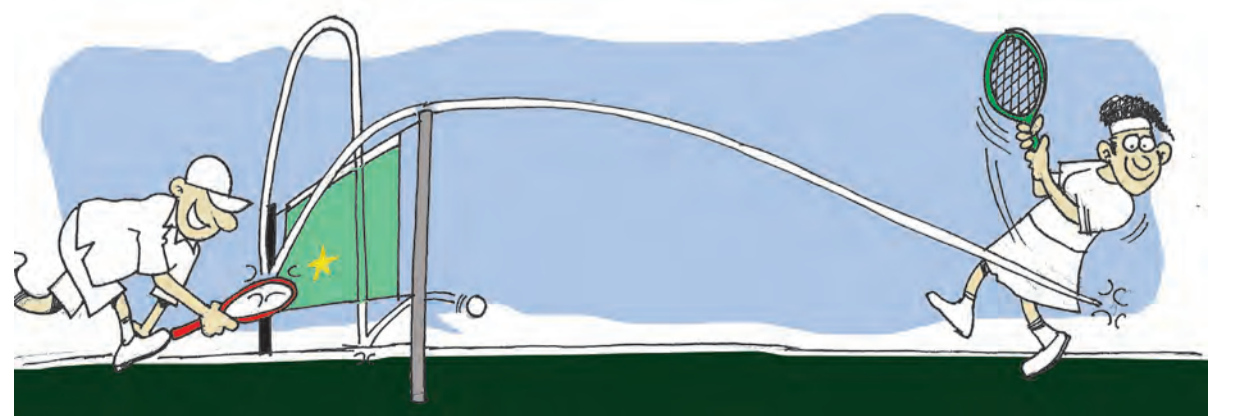
Italy rose one place to No. 6 and is the highest-ranked team that failed to qualify for the World Cup, missing back-to-back editions. Spain fell one place to No. 7, with Netherlands, Portugal and Denmark unchanged to complete the top 10.

Germany, the 2014 champion, is No. 11, just ahead of 2018 finalist Croatia.

Also, Russia rose two places to No. 33 despite not playing a recognized game in 2022 because the national team was suspended following the country's invasion of Ukraine.

AP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Man United, Arsenal win in EL; fireworks halt Berlin game

PAGE 19

5
EATV Sports
TONIGHT @ 9:00

MONDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 Weekend Movie (r)
14:00 SKONGA (r)
14:30 Planet Bongo (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Akili & Me (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 S5ELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Bongo Hit
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 SPORTS LIVE
22:00 Zole Kuntu
23:00 Kurasa (r)
23:05 EATV SAA 1 (r)

5Sports
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eastafrica RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM

Serengeti Boys' coach cautious of Somalia in U-17 AFCON qualifiers for CECAFA Zone

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA'S national U-17 football side, Serengeti Boys, has stated it is cautious of Sunday's encounter against Somalia in the ongoing U-17 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) qualifiers for the CECAFA Zone in Ethiopia.

Interestingly, both teams won their respective opening duels, as Serengeti Boys commanded a 3-2 win over hosts Ethiopia, whereas Somalia edged Ethiopia 1-0.

Serengeti Boys' goals in the last Thursday tie were scored by Sylvester Otto who scored a brace and Id-rissa Makwapa.

In a monitored radio interview, Serengeti Boys' head coach Kim Poulsen said the match against Somalia would not be easy.

He said Somalia is a good opponent and his performers just need to work on producing good results.

"Our next game against Somalia will be tough, our opponents are coming from a win and we have also won, so it will be a tough assignment but I'm sure my boys will deliver the required results," he said.

Commenting on the Thursday tie, Poulsen said his charges did not play well in the first half and attributed the situation to be the first time that the youngsters are playing an international match but picked up in the second half.

The Danish coach said he watched Ethiopia come up against Somalia, and he told his charges what to expect from the Sunday tie.

He said the win is a big booster for his side and thanked Ethiopia for the match which he described as very tough.

Poulsen revealed: "In the first half we did not play well, I know it was because it was the first time for my boys to play an international game."

"Most of my players were very nervous and anxious, in the first half, I could not recognize some of my players as what they were doing is contrary to what they have been doing at training," the Danish gaffer stated.

"But at recess, we talked with them and they improved, they showed us that they are now ready and they produced one of the best performances and I'm sure they will continue doing that," the coach disclosed.

The tournament is used as a qualifying showdown for the 2023 U-17 AFCON finals, with winners and runners-up booking a place in the continental showpiece to be played in Algeria.

Yanga banks on home advantage to finish Al Hilal in 2022/23 CAF CL second preliminary round



Tanzania's Yanga midfielder, Khalid Aucho (R), dribbles past South Sudan's Zalan FC forward Makuot Wol during the first leg of the 2022/23 CAF Champions League's first preliminary round tie which took place in Dar es Salaam on September 10. Yanga won 4-0. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA'S Young Africans SC will be looking for home advantage to play its part as the club locks horns with Sudan's Al Hilal in the first leg of their 2022/23 CAF Champions League second preliminary round clash at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam today afternoon.

The Tanzanian representatives, alias Yanga, progressed to the second round after edging out South Sudan's Zalan FC 9-0 and they will be tasked with the mammoth task of taking out Al Hilal who have constantly made it to the group stage.

Al Hilal earned a slot in the second round after edging

out Ethiopia's St. George on the away-goal rule after settling for a 2-2 aggregate draw.

Coach Nasreddine Nabi will be under pressure to ensure Yanga returns to the premier continental club tournament's group stage for the first time in five years and winning at home will be key in their targets.

Nabi knows he is coming up against his former team currently coached by Congolese tactician Florent Ibenge, who led Morocco's RS Berkane to the 2021/22 CAF Confederation Cup title, but stressed they are well prepared for the two legs.

The Yanga gaffer noted: "It's a doubleheader to decide which

team will progress so it requires determination and preparation. We saw the reaction among fans and the opponents but the rest of us have tried to be as calm as possible, we have to remain confident, calm, and focused."

The Tunisian gaffer revealed: "We know what the responsibility is, our players and ourselves and the whole component of the club have an extreme will to give everything to be able to move on to the next stage, but we try to be as calm as possible and as confident as possible."

Nabi pointed out: "We are playing against a great team that has been here before, who has the confidence of being ever present in the group stages, so have a lot of experience. I had the honour of coaching this team, I think six-seven years ago and I was in this qualifying stage and also to qualify for the group stage. I believe since then the club has continued to be present in the group stage".

He noted: "I believe our opponents have prepared well for this

double confrontation. They are approaching these matches with enormous respect and seriousness. For the first time in the history of Al Hilal, a Champions League match was banned from being shown on TV."

The tactician said: "We respect this initiative even if it is not fashionable, it is outdated but it shows that Al Hilal are taking Yanga seriously, that they are seriously prepared."

CAF confirmed Rwandan officials Samwel Owikunda will be at the center, assisted by Diedone Mutiyimana and Justin Karangwa as first and second assistants respectively. Hakizimana Louis, a Rwandan as well, will be the fourth official.

The return leg will take place a week later in Khartoum with the aggregate winners storming the lucrative CAF Champions League group stage.

The aggregate losers will then earn a spot in the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup, one step away from the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup group stage.

Azam FC begins 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup group stage hunt



Azam FC footballers, striker Idris Mbombo (front), and midfielder Isah Ndala engage in the club's drills in Dar es Salaam recently in preparation for the first leg clash of 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup's second preliminary round against Libya's Al Akhdar slated for Saturday at the latter's home turf. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AZAM FC

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA'S Azam FC begins the squad's 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup campaign away to Libya's Al Akhdar in a second preliminary round clash's first leg tie in Tripoli today evening.

The visitors head into this game on the back of a hard-fought 1-0 victory over Singida Big Stars in a match played in Dar es Salaam on Monday, leaving them with three wins in six 2022/23 NBC Premier League encounters.

The ice cream makers were eliminated from the continental competition at this stage last season, losing 1-0 over two legs to Egyptian giants Pyramids FC but are confident of reaching the elusive group stage this time.

French coach Dennis Lavagne, who took charge of Azam FC last month, on Wednesday mentioned his 25-man list for the game, which saw the inclusion of only two out-and-out strikers, Idris Mbombo and Prince Dube.

The list saw the absence of Ibrahim Ajibu, Ismail Aziz Kader, Shaban Chilunda, and Zambian striker Rodgers Kola who were dropped from the travelling squad due to technical reasons.

On the other side, Al Akhdar, who finished third in last season's Libyan top flight to secure their place in this sea-

son's CAF Confederation Cup, defeated Sudan side Al Khartoum in their first preliminary round fixture.

It turned out to be the side's first appearance in the competition since 2008.

The host team led by Tunisian coach Samir Shamm is in high morale heading into the encounter after they ousted Libyan giants Al-Ittihad from the round of 16 in the Libyan Cup on Tuesday.

Subaib bin Suleiman, Al Akhdar defender, and captain oozed confidence whilst insisting they have a respected team and a well-known coach to guide them in their continental campaign.

"Victory over Al-Ittihad and qualifying for the next round of the cup competition gives the players and the technical staff great confidence to continue the journey in the CAF Confederation Cup. We have a well-known coach and a determined squad that is filled with a good group of players."

While this game takes place at the Martyrs of Benina International Stadium, the return leg is scheduled for October 16 at Azam Complex Stadium, Chamazi.

At the end of this round, the aggregate winners will face the eliminated clubs from the second preliminary round of the 2022/23 CAF Champions League to reach the group stage of the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

