



### National Pg 3 Govt in project to boost marine resources



### National Pg 4 Uphold confidentiality, drivers told



### National Pg 5 NFRA outlines successes in three years



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# DP World hails container costs pruning, saving \$600m annually

*“If we handle 1.2m containers per year that’s equivalent to 600,000 containers per half-year, implying that we are saving \$600m,”*

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

MAJOR investment at the port of Dar es Salaam has begun to produce positive outcomes, with the government saving \$600m (1.5trn/-) by the time one year is completed.

Martin Jacob, the chief executive officer for DP World (T) and the Middle East unveiled this achievement when addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

He outlined recent developments at the port since the commencement of the contract with the Dubai-based multinational logistics firm, explaining improve-

ments made in the four months.

This has led to a reduction in freight transportation costs, stimulated port activity and resulting implications for economic growth, created jobs and positioned Tanzania as a key economic gateway in East Africa.

This success reinforces Tanzania’s role as a business hub in East and Central Africa, underscoring the commitment by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to manage the nation’s resources effectively.

Key achievements include reduced ship waiting times, quicker cargo unloading and significant improvements

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President Samia Suluhu Hassan (C) opening the curtain to launch the Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan preparatory school located in Makunduchi in the Unguja South Region yesterday, built by NMB Bank. Others are Zanzibar Education and Vocation Training minister Lela Mohammed Mussa (4th L), NMB CEO Ruth Zaipuna (3rd L), Khamis Hamza Chillo the Union and Environment state deputy minister in the Vice President’s Office (VPO). Right is Ayoub Mohammed Mahmoud, the Unguja South regional commissioner and South District CCM secretary Amina Imbo. The school launch was part of the Kizimkazi festival. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter

HAVING a larger number of taxpayers could potentially pave the way for a reduction in value-added tax (VAT) rates, the government has declared.

Finance minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba made this affirmation at a farewell ceremony for outgoing Swiss ambassador, Didier Chassot, reaffirming the government’s

# ‘VAT rates set for reductions’

dedication to improving the investment environment.

Improving tax schedules for various spheres of business is likely to benefit the broader economy, he said, seeking to assure the international community of the

government’s commitment in that area.

The minister pointed at the presidential initiative to form a team of experts tasked with reviewing and recommending improvements in the tax system, asserting that the government wishes to attract more

business and investment projects.

Treasury has upgraded electronic tax collection systems to boost efficiency and reduce taxpayer inconvenience, he said, stressing that the reforms will foster a more

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# USAID hands \$8.3m grants to private firms, to drive exports

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE US Agency for International Development (USAID) has announced an investment of \$8.3m (22.5bn/-) in several local companies to enhance trade, improve food security and boost the country’s competitiveness in the export sector through the US African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA).

Craig Hart, the USAID country director, said at an exhibition on the mission’s activities in Dar es Salaam yesterday, titled the USAID Africa trade and investment activity partnership showcase, attended by the Industry and Trade minister, Dr Selemani Jafo.

Nine local firms will receive grants under the USAID Africa trade and investment project, listed as BioBuu, Biotan Ltd, Central Park Bees, Minjingu Mines and Fertilizer Ltd, Mount Meru Millers, Red Earth Ltd, Sabayi Investments Ltd, Tanzania Tooku Garments Co. Ltd and Thirdman (Upendo Honey).

“The partnerships demonstrate the po-

tential of collaboration between the private and public sectors,” the director said, highlighting partnerships with nine companies in viral export spheres like honey, cashewnuts and garments.

These initiatives are expected to create 2,000 jobs, drive \$42.5m in new exports and enhance Tanzania’s role as a regional economic hub, he stated, affirming that USAID support enhances the country’s regional breadbasket vocation, energy exporter and hub for youth-driven innovation.

AGOA plays a crucial role in US economic policy with Africa, offering eligible sub-Saharan countries duty-free access to the US market for over 1,800 products, he reminded the audience, projecting that Tanzania is poised to expand its honey production significantly, being Africa’s second-largest honey producer and a top supplier to the European Union.

With USAID support, Upendo Honey expects an increase in honey exports sevenfold in the coming years, while Central Park Bees expects a 33 percent rise in production, he said.

In response to fertilizer access challenges, USAID partner Minjingu Mines is projected to boost fertilizer production by 50 percent and add \$20m in domestic sales over two years. BioBuu expects a 300 percent increase in organic fertilizer production as a result of the USAID grant, he further noted.

With their USAID grants, Tooku Gar-

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Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi bids farewell to Indian High Commissioner to Tanzania Bishwadip Dey after their talks at the State House yesterday. Photo: State House

# Samia hails Isles Kizimkazi festival, praises own school

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has stated that the Kizimkazi festival helps to bring citizens together, maintain unity and strengthen the Union between Tanganyika and Zanzibar.

Launching a preparatory school in Tasani Makunduchi in South Unguja Regions as part of this year’s Kizimkazi Festival starting August 18 and terminating on August 25, she said that the festival is a developmental event as it drives the implementation of significant development projects for communities.

The Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan Preparatory School comprises five classrooms for 40 pupils each, taking upwards of 800m/- to build, where the president said this year’s festival as it contributes to progress as it will reach most areas in South Unguja District.

Various development organizations are ready to support the implementation of projects in the district, she said, emphasizing that in the health and reproductive health policy, the first 1000 days of a child’s life are crucial for obtaining proper nutrition.

It serves as the foundation for building physical and mental health in the future, so children who will be brought to the school aged three and above will be rewarded with physical development.

Activities in the building will serve to prepare their minds for future learning, and their physical health will be supported because the right food is provided here, she said.

The president urged parents and guardians to contribute towards minor services for the maintenance of the school so it remains in a good condition, appealing them to add foods to their children who are assured of porridge at the school.

Children must be prepared from a young age for upper levels of education,

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## 'VAT rates set for reductions'

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favourable investment environment and broaden the taxpayer base.

In his remarks, the outgoing envoy lauded the government's proactive approach to tax reform, expressing confidence that foreign envoys here will have ample opportunity to engage with the government on these issues.

He praised the current authorities for bringing about rapid developmental progress, setting out his country's plans to introduce a new development cooperation plan with Tanzania.

This plan will focus on support for the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF), public financial management along private sector business and investment initiatives, he stated.

ed.

In concluding his four-year tenure in the country, the envoy pledged to maintain advocacy for Tanzanian interests upon departure, underscoring the ongoing partnership between the two nations.

Switzerland has been supporting development projects in Tanzania since the early 1960s, he specified, noting that over the next few years, the embassy expects to work with local and Swiss partners to empower young people.

Poor young women will be specially targeted to achieve social and economic advances, as the Swiss cooperation programme for Tanzania during 2021-2025 builds on experience, lessons and partnerships to deliver results for the poorer sections of the community, he added.

## USAID hands \$8.3m grants to private firms, to drive exports

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ments aims to increase exports by \$77m and Red Earth foresees a 20 percent boost in production for US markets, he said, while the minister of the USAID Africa Trade and Investment (ATI) project for its role in driving economic growth and improving livelihoods.

ATI highlights the US commitment to unlocking Tanzania's economic potential through increased trade and investment, empowering the business community and fostering innovation in key sectors, he specified.

The positive impact of the project, including increased exports, job creation and support for entrepreneurs enables the successful execution of plans, where Tanzania's exports under AGOA will grow significantly, he added.

## Samia hails Isles Kizimkazi festival, praises own school

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and this center will protect children in their social outlook, teach them proper behaviour and self-awareness.

By the time they start primary education, they have learned the basics of self-awareness, she said, praising NMB Bank for sponsoring the construction of the school. It has two other classrooms accommodating 200 pupils at a time.

Lela Muhamed Mussa, the Education and Vocational Training minister for Zanzibar, stated that the Kizimkazi festival impacts the lives of citizens. It is important for it to be maintained as development inspiration is needed at all times, she stated.

The festival entails two major educational projects, she said, highlighting preparatory education as mandatory policy, she said, noting that this year's budget sets aside funds to build 33 preparatory schools to provide quality education for children.

The ministry is currently implementing a new education curriculum that has started at the preparatory level, she said, while Ruth

Zaipuna, the NMB chief executive officer, said that this school will serve as a solid foundation for the development of children, chiefly from that village.

The school has been built to modern standards, with modern infrastructure and facilities for children to play, providing a good learning environment and building their health, she stated.

The 800m/- cost represents a symbol of hope and a new dream for children, with a strong educational foundation that will help them in their future learning.

The project is a result of the corporate social responsibility (CSR) policy agenda, as each year NMB allocates one percent of its profit after tax funds for development projects through community responsibility.

"Our community responsibility policy focuses on major areas such as education, health, financial literacy and disaster relief," where during the current year NMB Bank has put up such projects in Zanzibar and on the Mainland.

In the first half of this year the bank has provided over 6,000 desks that has enabled 19,000 pupils to study more comfortably, she added.

## Horn of Africa to experience suppressed Oct-Dec rainfall

By Special Correspondent

THE Greater Horn of Africa region could experience depressed rainfall in the October-December season amid likelihood of a La Nina weather phenomenon, according to the latest prediction from the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), an East African bloc, released on Monday.

Based on data from nine global prediction models, there is a higher likelihood of drier conditions in many parts of a region that is benefiting from enhanced rainfall between April and July, according to officials and experts.

Workneh Gebeyehu, executive secretary of the IGAD, said rainfall patterns in the region have become erratic due to climate change, necessitating anticipatory actions, including the cultivation of fast-maturing crops.

According to the official, governments in the region should ramp up investments in climate resilience projects such as water harvesting and storage, early warning, and climate-smart agriculture to shield local communities from shocks, including droughts, floods, and wild-

fires.

The October-December rains contribute about 40 percent of annual rainfall in the Horn of Africa region, besides their crucial role in sustaining subsistence farming and pastoralism, noted Gebeyehu.

He disclosed that currently, 56.5 million people in the region are starving at acute food insecurity that requires humanitarian intervention, while 11 million children under the age of five are malnourished.

Gebeyehu suggested that for the Horn of Africa region to overcome shocks during the anticipated suppressed October-December rains, governments, and humanitarian actors should come up with contingency plans, including stocking enough food rations, clean water, and pasture.

John Elungata, head of administration at Kenya's State Department of Environment and Climate Change, noted that early preparedness will be key to helping the region cope with anticipated below-average rains, calling for investments in community-based resilience projects to minimize disruption of livelihoods in the event of a depressed October-December rainfall season.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa being shown working tools for motor vehicles repair at the Tanzania Electrical, Mechanical and Electronics Services Agency (TEMESA) by the technical and maintenance director Hassan Kalonda. He officiated at the opening of the third government drivers association workshop held in Arusha yesterday. Photo: PMO

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in cycle times and costs, he stated, noting that the strategic partnership with DP World has allowed the Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC) to eliminate additional cost of \$1,000 per container.

This comes down to \$600m annually that is already being counted as savings, he said, pointing at crane operations having been enhanced, with output increasing rapidly from May to July 2024, as the port successfully handled larger ships.

The port of Dar es Salaam is now comparable to Mombasa in terms of cargo handling tonnage, reinforcing Tanzania's position as a leading seaport in the region, he stated, elaborating that these improvements translate into lower costs for traders and faster cargo removal.

This promotes Tanzania's economic growth under the president's visionary leadership, he said, highlighting that the port investment plan includes spending upwards of

## DP World hails container costs pruning, saving \$600m annually

387.8bn/- (\$3bn) on infrastructure.

The purpose is to develop additional transport corridors serving Mombasa and Dar es Salaam ports to capitalise on business potential on both sides of the border, as DP World is focused on building more facilities to reduce non-tariff barriers and help traders lower their transaction costs.

"This is the first phase of a multiple-phase investment plan. DP World will initially invest more than \$250m (32.32bn/-) to upgrade the port, with the investment potentially rising to \$1bn (129.28bn/-) during the concession period, alongside hinterland logistics projects," he asserted.

"There is a need to apply our expertise where it is needed. Since

we arrived in Tanzania, we have seen significant progress such as reducing the number of ships waiting from an average of 40 ships in April to about 10 ships in July at any given time," the port administrator intoned.

Plasduce Mbossa, the Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) director general said that TPA has seen significant savings due to the reduction in additional charges, tied to a decrease in the time it takes for ships to be serviced, from 30 days to 10 days.

He said that container ships now take three to four days to unload cargo, which has prompted shipping companies to lower additional charges set at \$1,000 per container.

TPA handles upwards of 1.2m con-

tainers annually thus with the reduction in charges, other shipping companies are expected to follow suit and reduce their fees as well, he said.

Significant changes, including fee reductions, imply that more shipping lines vessels will now anchor at the port of Dar es Salaam, scaling down preferred use of the port of Mombasa, he said.

"If we handle 1.2m containers per year that's equivalent to 600,000 containers per half-year, implying that we are saving \$600m," he specified.

"This money was paid by Tanzanians so they will benefit from the reduced costs. This is a success for the leadership of President Samia Suluhu Hassan," he added.



Finance Minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba escorts Swiss Ambassador Didier Chassot after their talks at Treasury sub headquarters in Dar es Salaam yesterday. The envoy paid a courtesy call before leaving the country as he has completed his term. Photo: MoF

## Uganda strengthens border surveillance to evade Mpxv

KAMPALA

TO prevent mpxv from entering the country, Uganda has intensified surveillance in its border areas with the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), which is a hotspot for the virus.

Currently, Uganda has no active cases of mpxv, according to the country's Ministry of Health. The two imported cases in late July have been treated and resolved without

complications.

Up to now, the ministry has designated more than 20 districts along its border with the DRC as high-risk areas for mpxv transmission. Uganda's health authorities also rolled out a nationwide training program for health workers to help them better detect and isolate suspected cases.

"We have already intensified our risk communication for prevention, we have also ensured that our laboratory systems are triggered to

ensure that they are quick to pick any suspected cases for testing," said Emmanuel Ainebyoona, a senior public relations officer at the ministry.

The World Health Organization (WHO) declared last Wednesday that mpxv, formerly known as monkeypox, a public health emergency of international concern, raising alarms about its potential for increased global transmission.

Now, Uganda is in touch with

WHO to access potential life-saving mpxv vaccines, as part of the country's preparedness and response plan against the viral disease.

"Uganda is a known leader as far as responding to re-emerging and emerging epidemic diseases. We have demonstrated this during the Ebola and Marburg outbreaks. So, the mpxv finds a very resilient system that will be able to prevent its transmission internally," said Ainebyoona.





Angellah Kairuki (C), presidential political adviser chairing the platform for an egalitarian generation, speaks to members of the Women's Economic Empowerment Council, in Arusha yesterday. Right is Mgeni Hassan Juma, the deputy speaker for the Zanzibar House of Representatives and Sauda Msemu, the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) deputy governor. Photo: Correspondent Cynthia Mwilolezi

## Mwinyi sees IIT Madras among main successes in relations with India

By Guardian Reporter

THE government of Zanzibar has described the establishment of Indian Institute of Technology-Madras (IIT-Madras) branch in the isles as one of major achievements in its ongoing diplomatic collaboration with India.

Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Mwinyi made the remarks yesterday at a meeting with High Commissioner of India to Tanzania Bishwadip Dey when the latter paid a courtesy call to State House Zanzibar.

He said that IIT Madras represents a significant advancement for Zanzibar's education sector, noting that the new branch will introduce major reforms and enhance technological development in the region.

Dr Mwinyi assured the envoy of Zanzibar's strong commitment to working closely with the college and the government of India to further strengthen diplomatic ties.

He acknowledged India's longstanding partnership with Zanzibar in various sectors, including water projects, health, and education, expressing his hope that India would leverage its technological expertise and social media capabilities to promote Zanzibar internationally, particularly in the business and investment arenas.

He also highlighted the benefits that health and education sectors have gained from the India-Zanzibar collaboration, saying many Tanzanians continue to seek medical treatment in India, and there is a strong exchange of students and ongoing business interactions between the two countries.

On tourism, President Mwinyi encouraged the High Commissioner to explore ways to increase the influx of Indian tourists.

He pointed out that while Zanzibar attracts many visitors from Eastern Europe and other regions, there is potential to attract

tourists from India.

In his remarks, Dey assured President Mwinyi of India's commitment to deepening bilateral cooperation, particularly in business, economics, tourism and investment.

He also pledged to facilitate visits from major Indian entrepreneurs interested in investing in Zanzibar and Tanzania.

The IIT Madras branch in Zanzibar, which was established in October of the previous year, is expected to bring transformative changes to the local education landscape by providing advanced technological learning opportunities for residents.

The diplomatic relationship between Tanzania and India has a rich history, with India opening its High Commission in Dar es Salaam in November 1962 and a consulate in Zanzibar in 1974. The bilateral ties have continued to flourish, offering numerous opportunities for trade and development.



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## Marine resources management initiative to gobble up 312bn/-

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries and Zanzibar's Ministry of Blue Economy have embarked on a project aimed at enhancing management of coastal and marine resources to improve livelihoods.

Dubbed 'Tanzania Scaling-up Sustainable Marine Fisheries and Aquaculture Management (Tasfam)', the project is valued at 312bn/- and includes investment in critical coastal and marine

biodiversity as well as habitat protection and conservation.

Abdallah Ulega, Minister for Livestock and Fisheries, announced this yesterday in Zanzibar during a ceremony to present certificates to graduates of a training programme in fishing and related industries.

"Some of the activities that will be carried out in this project includes educational scholarships for children of fishers to study at technical, certificate, diploma and

degree levels so that they can find alternative employment in other sectors and reduce dependency solely on the ocean," he said.

The project which aligns with the Building a Better Tomorrow: Youth Initiative for Agribusiness (BBT-YIA) programme will offer training in aquaculture, crab fattening, pearl oyster farming and seaweed cultivation.

Additionally, it will involve procurement and distribution of 270 boats and fishing equipment

to support fishers and seaweed farmers.

Minister Ulega further highlighted that the country's existing fishing policies and strategies are designed to enhance the management of fishery resources and marine environment.

He urged communities to support sustainable resource use and combat illegal fishing to ensure the protection of marine resources for future generations.



A local broom vender hunts customers at Mabibo area in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

## Mpango wants ministry to urgently disburse funds for VETA College in Mpwapwa

By Guardian Reporter

VICE President Dr Philip Mpango has directed the Ministry of Finance to prioritize the issuance of funds for the construction of a vocational training college in Mpwapwa District, Dodoma Region, which is expected to provide training to area residents and neighboring places.

Dr Mpango issued the directive yesterday during a visit at the Vocational Education and Training Authority (VETA) college construction site in Kibakwe Constituency.

He emphasized the importance of vocational colleges in offering valuable opportunities for youth to gain skills and pursue self-employment. The project valued at 1.68bn/- is expected to significantly benefit the community.

During his visit, the VP also condemned environmental damage at Wotta Mountain Forest in Mpwapwa District, where he directed Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment) to work with the Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism and the Minister for Lands to address the ongoing destruction.

Additionally, Dr Mpango instructed the Ministry of Works through Tanzania National Roads Agency (TANROADS) to expedite the procurement process for a contractor for the Mpwapwa-Kibakwe (46.5 km) tarmac road project.

He also emphasized the need to finalize the design for the Kibakwe-Chipogolo (84 km) road to address the region's infrastructure challenges.

Furthermore, he stressed the importance of completing the 32

km tarmac road from Kongwa to Mpwapwa urgently.

In Rudi Ward, Mpwapwa District, Dr Mpango directed the Ministry of Water to deploy a drilling rig by September 15 to drill wells in villages lacking access to the precious liquid.

The VP also encouraged residents of Rudi Ward to prioritize education, monitor their children's educational progress and work with Mpwapwa District Council to improve school meal programmes to support stable education for children.

While in Mpwapwa District, Dr Mpango urged residents to take part in the upcoming local government elections by voting or vying for various posts.

He encouraged respectful and non-violent political engagement to maintain peace for the benefit of the current and future generations.

Dr Mpango continue with his four-day working visit to Dodoma Region, where he inspects development projects among other engagements.



**He also emphasized the need to finalize the design for the Kibakwe-Chipogolo (84 km) road to address the region's infrastructure challenges**

## ATCL's latest Dreamliner touches down in Zanzibar

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi yesterday received a new Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner, marking a significant step in the government's efforts to enhance air transport in the country.

Owned by Air Tanzania Company Limited (ATCL), the aircraft, touched down at Abeid Amani Karume International Airport (AAKIA) in Zanzibar evening from the United States.

The reception and inauguration of the plane were postponed from the previous day due to harsh weather conditions.

The Dreamliner, which accommodates 262 passengers,

features 22 business class seats and 240 economy class seats. It also has a cargo capacity of 15 to 20 tonnes.

Briefing about the new aircraft, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Transport, Prof Godius Kahyarara, stated that the entire cost of the plane is 300bn/- which has been paid by the government in cash.

Prof Kahyarara said that ATCL's expanded fleet will boost regional aviation and support the development of modern transportation infrastructure, including seaports and railways.

The new aircraft, which departed the US at 3 EAT has a range of 14 to 20 hours without refuelling.

Prof. Kahyarara said that this

addition will enhance business opportunities, increase revenue and support economic growth across various sectors, including tourism.

Zanzibar's Minister for Infrastructure, Communications and Transport, Dr Khalid Salum, said that this development further positions the country on the global stage.

He said the ongoing infrastructure expansion projects at AAKIA will eventually enable the facility to handle up to 3 million passengers annually. A new landing and takeoff system is being installed to ensure safe operations even in adverse weather.

Dr Mngereza Mzee Miraji,

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Infrastructure, Communications and Transport, reiterated support for ATCL's initiatives to drive economic growth.

Urban West Regional Commissioner Idrissa Kitwana Mustafa said that the new aircraft is expected to increase tourist arrivals in Zanzibar and that Tanzania now leads Southern Africa with a total fleet of 16 aircraft.

The addition of the Dreamliner brings ATCL's fleet to 16, with 15 being new acquisitions purchased under ATCL revival programme launched in 2016, and one old model. Seven of the aircraft have been acquired during the current administration.



# Workshop to unify Africa's food safety standards, enhance agricultural trade

By Special Correspondent, Nairobi

EXPERTS have gathered in Nairobi, Kenya, to discuss harmonizing food safety standards across Africa, a step towards accelerating the continent's agricultural trade and realizing its full potential.

The two-day dissemination workshop on trade and food standards brought together more than 200 delegates to review cooperation between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and the World Health Organization (WHO) in creating a system of international food standards to enhance trade in Africa.

Maryann Kindiki, manager for National Codex Contact Point at Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS),

an intergovernmental body focused on implementing joint FAO and WHO food standards, said that varying national food safety standards pose a significant technical barrier to intra-Africa trade, particularly in agricultural commodities.

"Countries within Africa can enter into mutual recognition agreements to recognize each other's food safety standards," she said. She emphasized the need to begin aligning food safety standards across various regional economic blocs, such as the East African Community, to promote cross-border trade within Africa.

According to the African Union, the continent's food imports bill stands at an estimated \$60 billion annually, despite hosting about 60 percent of the world's arable land.

Geoffrey Odera, senior trade development officer in Kenya's Ministry of Investments, Trade and Industry, noted that a unified regime of food safety standards could catalyse agricultural production in Africa and reduce the region's dependence on international food imports.

Odera also stressed the importance of establishing regional food safety authorities to oversee the implementation of harmonized standards at border points.

Peter Mutua, manager for the KEBS Food Standards division, said that investments in certification infrastructure to provide testing of food standards are also expected to ease the movement of agricultural products from surplus-producing countries to deficit areas in Africa.



Dr Charles Msonde, the Works deputy permanent secretary speaks with the ministry's officers after arriving at the office in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: MoW

# PM urges govt drivers to maintain confidentiality, discipline at work

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has urged drivers employed by the government to uphold confidentiality and discipline at work as they are entrusted with sensitive documents.

Speaking at the opening of the 3rd Government Drivers' Conference in Arusha yesterday, he asked drivers to avoid engaging in conversations when government officials are on the phone, stressing that such behaviour could lead to breaches of discipline and violations of the code of conduct.

"It is unacceptable for a driver to join conversations without knowing whom the official is speaking to on the phone," he said. "This constitutes a breach of discipline, a lack of ethics and is contrary to driving laws guiding driving and its regulations."

Majaliwa also highlighted the need for public institutions to

support drivers by allowing them to attend professional meetings and ensuring they receive proper compensation.

He instructed heads of public institutions and organizations to provide drivers with allowances, including per diems and subsistence funds, and to give them advance notice of schedules to facilitate their preparation.

On the issue of delayed contributions to the Public Service Social Security Fund (PSSSF), Majaliwa announced that the government has decided that all deductions from drivers be sent directly to the Treasury.

He also asked the President's Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance) to conduct an audit of employees to prevent situations whereby staff are hired but lack assigned duties.

Additionally, Majaliwa tasked Josephine Matiro, Director of Support Services at the Technical and Electrical Engineering Agency

(TEMESA) with compiling a list of public institutions that owe money to the agency.

Deputy Minister for Works Godfrey Kasekenya acknowledged the voluntary nature of the drivers' association, which was established in 2013 and affirmed the ministry's commitment to addressing the association's challenges and ensuring safe transportation for government officials.

Flora Mnyandavile, Chairperson of the Government Drivers' Association of Tanzania, reported that 1,300 drivers attended the conference, including 1,200 from Tanzania Mainland and 140 from Zanzibar.

She highlighted that the association has 7,241 members, comprising 7,191 men and 50 women.

Under the new structure introduced in June 2023, 1,006 drivers have been promoted, and there are 1,099 new positions for grade II drivers for 2023/2024.



## CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Marie Stopes Tanzania (MST) is a marketing-focused, results-oriented social enterprise, which uses modern management and marketing techniques to provide family planning, reproductive and sexual healthcare, and allied services. MST is a member of the MSI Reproductive Choices Global Partnership, which operates in over 37 countries worldwide. MST's goal is to improve quality of life in Tanzania by dramatically improving access to and use of family planning and other reproductive health services. MST is committed to its employees, clients, child, and vulnerable adults' protection, and has zero tolerance to any sort of harassment. MST promotes a speaking up culture whereby employees work transparently and are empowered to report any existence or potential existence of harassment at workplaces. It is a role requirement that the job holder must fully comply with, promote, and live MST CORE VALUES.

MST's mission is that all women and men in Tanzania will have "Children by Choice, Not Chance".

At MST, we embrace Diversity, Equality, and Inclusion principles, so we are looking for qualified individual to fill the following role to support our strategy delivery. We hire and develop people with diverse thoughts and experiences, who can challenge the status quo to find better solutions.

**COMMERCIAL SALES LEAD: (1 POSITION)**  
**LOCATION: DAR ES SALAAM**

### Role Purpose:

The Commercial Sales Lead is a key member of the Senior Management Team (SMT) and reports to the Country Director. The person in this strategic position is responsible for leading the Commercial Sales team at MST and planning and operationalizing the MST commercial sales strategy to meet the overall goals of the Commercial Sales Department.

In order to achieve these KPIs, the Commercial Sales Lead will be held accountable by the Country Director for product marketing, distributors management, branding and demand generation. They will also be expected to work closely with the MST supply chain team to minimise out of stock and stock write off situations.

The position is responsible for the sales performance and marketing of MST products. Products include pharmaceutical, medical devices and fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG). Specific products include sexual and reproductive health products like misoprostol, emergency contraceptive pills, oral contraceptive pills and condoms.

### Key Responsibilities:

1. Overseeing Commercial Sales of Products
2. Develop Integrated marketing and sales strategies/plans and manage its implementation.
3. Marketing and Communication Support to Other Departments of MST
4. Team Leadership

### SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

#### Qualifications:

1. University degree in the relevant field
2. Management / business qualification (desirable), post graduate qualification preferable.

#### Experience:

- Minimum 7 years' experience in sales in the private sector (preferably in managerial capacity and an international company in pharmaceutical, FMCG or health services sector);
- Successful track record in driving sales (income and volume) year on year
- Experience and success in recruiting and retaining a high-performance sales team
- Demonstrated ability to achieve sales plans.
- Demonstrated ability to professionally develop and coach team members.
- Strategy development, project management, problem solving and change management skills.
- Solid understanding of healthcare and regulatory requirements and issues
- Successful track record of managing product and service marketing operations.
- Minimum 7 years' experience working as a member of a senior management team.

#### Skills:

- Understand the Tanzanian FMCG and/or pharmaceutical sales sectors.
- Exceptional negotiation skills and ability to build positive working relationships, both internally and externally.
- Fluent English and Ki-Swahili, both oral and written.
- Computer literacy (MS Office) Proven ability to 'sell' ideas, concepts.
- Ability to lead and inspire staff in internal change processes.
- Creative and strategic thinker.
- Ability to effectively present information and negotiate with all levels of management.
- Demonstrated strong oral and written communication skills.
- Knowledge of Family Planning is added advantage.

#### MODE OF APPLICATION:

If you feel that you are able to meet the requirements, and you are motivated enough to be part of the team, please send your application CV and Cover letter by email detailing your suitability and why you are interested in the post, to the address below:

**Director of Human Resources and Administration**  
**Marie Stopes Tanzania**  
**Plot 421 & 422 Mwenje | Kijitonyama area**  
**P.O.Box 7072, Dar es Salaam | Tanzania**  
**Telephone: +255 22 2774991-4, +255 22 2702030-2**  
**E-mail: jobs@mst.or.tz**

**Closing date:** All applications should reach the addressee before **Monday, August 26, 2024**

*Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.*



**NORTH MARA GOLD MINE**  
P.O. Box 422  
Tarime  
Tanzania  
Tel: +255 22 216 4200  
Email: Mail.Northmara@barrick.com  
www.barrick.com

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT.

### SCOPING NOTICE FOR THE PROPOSED EXPANSION OF THE EXISTING NYABIRAMA PIT FOR NORTH MARA GOLD MINE, TARIME DISTRICT, MARA REGION.

The Proposed Expansion of the existing Nyabirama Pit (the Project) is located within the Tarime District in the Mara Region of Tanzania. The Proposed Project is owned by North Mara Gold Mine (NMGM), an exploration and mining company which is 84% owned by Barrick and 16% owned by the Government of Tanzania (GoT) under the joint entity called Twiga Corporation. The Project area falls under Existing Special Mining Licence (SML 18/96). The project spans across two wards: Matongo and Kemambo.

For the continuation of operations at NMGM and consequent benefits of Tanzania's economy, an expansion of Nyabirama Pit is proposed. Over the years NMGM has continued gold exploration which has determined further economically feasible reserves along this existing pit.

To implement the project, an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is required as stipulated in the Environmental Management Act, 2004, The environmental Impact Assessment Regulations of 2005 and its amendments of 2018 together with the Mining Act, 2010.

NMGM has jointly appointed Harmonic Biosphere and Digby Wells Environmentals to undertake the EIA study for the project. The study will investigate the Projects' positive and negative environmental and social impacts to inform the comprehensive Environmental Management Plan for the execution of the Project.

In terms of Regulatory process an application and scoping study is being submitted to the National Environmental Management Council (NEMC) to initiate the process following which the detailed EIA investigations will be undertaken. Any person having an interest, concern or special knowledge in relation to potential environmental and social impacts of the proposed Project may contact or submit written comments to:

| Regulator   | Developer   | Consultants   |
|---|---|---|
| The Director General,<br>National Environmental Management Council (NEMC)<br>P.O.Box 63154, Regent Estate.<br>Dar es Salaam, Tanzania<br>Tel: +255 22 2774889<br>Email: dg@nemc.or.tz | North Mara Gold Mine,<br>P.O.Box 422, Tarime<br>Tanzania.<br>Tel: +255 22 216 4200<br>Email: Apolinary.lyambiko@barrick.com | Harmonic Biosphere Company Limited (HBCL)<br>2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor, Wing B, Msasani Towers, Dar es Salaam<br>P.O. Box 106034, Dar es Salaam<br>Tel: +255 763 230 969<br>Mobile: +255 715 762 012<br>Email: winiasia.linda@harmonicbiosphere.com<br>Website: www.harmonicbiosphere.com<br>ESD Advisory Limited T/A Digby wells<br>Environmental<br>Madai Crescent, Plot 151, Ada Estate, Dar es Salaam.<br>Tel: +25517087482<br>Email: Deogratius.lorri@digbywells.com |

**BARRICK**  
NORTH MARA

North Mara Gold Mine Limited  
Registered Address: Tan House Tower, Plot Number 34/1, Ursino South, New Bagamoyo Road,  
Post Office Box 1081, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania  
Registered No: 23446  
Directors: Johann Sebastiaan Bock, Simon Peter Bottoms, Dennis Mark Bristow, Casmir Sumba Kyuki and Andrew Abraham Mwangakala





Mara Regional Commissioner Col. Evans Mtambi speaks at the regional consultative committee meeting for collecting views in preparation of the National Development Vision 2050 in Musoma yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## NFRA outlines successes chronicled in three years

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) has outlined achievements it recorded in the past three years, ranging from human resource development to increased grain procurement and storage capacity.

NFRA Director General Dr Andrew Komba gave the details here yesterday when speaking to journalists.

"The last three years have been transformative for NFRA," he said, adding: "We have significantly improved our infrastructure and capacity, with adequate warehouses now in place to store grains purchased from farmers which we sell in both local and international markets."

Dr Komba attributed the advancements to the strong support from the government which facilitated substantial enhancements in the agency's infrastructure and human resources through capacity-building initiatives.

He said NFRA's grain sales have soared from an average of 50,000 tonnes annually to 1,750,000 tonnes.

This surge reflects the agency's rapid operational progress and strategic investments in infrastructure, expanding its

storage capacity from 251,000 tonnes to 351,000 tonnes, thanks to a three-year grain storage project that began in 2018.

He added that he was optimistic that NFRA will further boost its storage capacity to between 700,000 and 1,000,000 tonnes by June 2025.

"We are not just focused on storing grain; we are also actively engaged in the business of selling surplus grain," he said. "This dual approach is crucial for ensuring national food security and enhancing our operational capabilities."

Looking ahead, NFRA aims to broaden its market reach beyond national borders, tapping into regional markets to stimulate economic growth.

Dr Komba also highlighted the agency's investment in staff development through local and international training programmes aimed at improving daily operations and overall effectiveness.

In terms of financial strength, NFRA has seen its ability to secure investment loans increase from 50bn/- three years ago to 592bn/-, demonstrating a robust financial base.

"We are confident in our ability to continue expanding and improving, thanks to the support we have received and our strategic focus on both storage and sales," he said.

## DC touts beekeeping as unflagging source of income for communities

By Correspondent Cynthia Mwilolezi, Arusha

MONDULI District Commissioner Festo Kiswaga has urged pupils at Mswakini Primary School and surrounding communities to leverage beekeeping skills provided by various stakeholders to improve family incomes.

He made the call yesterday here during the inauguration of

a new classroom at the school, constructed by a local tour operator for 32m/-.

He appealed to pupils to be serious and keen to utilise the skills and educate their parents, relatives and people in the community on the importance of beekeeping.

"Utilise the beekeeping knowledge to improve your economic situation, especially after

primary school and teach your families the same knowledge," he said.

He said that beekeeping is a profitable business and that those who engage in it seriously find it rewarding.

Kiswaga thanked the stakeholders for supporting the government's efforts by constructing the new classroom, which he said will

motivate pupils to excel in their studies.

"I urge parents to ensure that their children attend school. The government is investing in schools and stakeholders help create child-friendly infrastructure," he said.

Mahfuj Munshi, a representative of the company, affirmed its commitment to community welfare around Tarangire National Park,

including investing in education.

"Our priority has been to support education. Our company has a policy to allocate a percentage of our annual profits to community development," he said.

Munshi expressed pride in the success of the beekeeping project which they initiated in collaboration with the Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute and has seen significant

progress.

Yesaya Meiyen, Mswakini Primary School head teacher, thanked the company for the support both in infrastructure and beekeeping education which benefitted 707 pupils.

He also acknowledged the government's contribution of 8.8m/- towards the construction of eight new latrines.

By Guardian Reporter and agencies

## Tanzanian student's devotion to voluntary services in China

LUGAZO Abubakar Lugazo, a 30-year-old Tanzanian, is currently pursuing his doctoral degree at Central China Normal University (CCNU) in Wuhan. Alongside his studies, he is also the leader of a volunteer service team composed of international students.

Lugazo's affection for China began during his bachelor's studies in Tanzania. Encouraged by a Chinese teacher at a Confucius Institute, he embarked on his journey of learning Chinese at CCNU in 2017. On his registration day, he was moved by the help of volunteers. Resonating with their deeds, he later

joined the team to extend his help and kindness to the community.

Among the volunteer activities, he is especially fond of English teaching programme and always enjoys spending time with children. During his time teaching at a rural school, he spent days building a bond with a shy and reserved child. When he was about to leave, the child unexpectedly gave him a gift, which deeply touched him.

Living in Wuhan for seven years has fostered a profound connection

between him and the local community, making Wuhan his second hometown.

"For me, voluntary service is a way to pay back to the society and appreciate all the people who have helped me throughout my life," he said.

Looking ahead, Lugazo is optimistic about his future. "I would love to stay in Wuhan after graduation," he said. "If that's not possible, I could return to my hometown and make my contribution to the cooperation between Tanzania and China."

| TANZANIA FOREST CONSERVATION GROUP  |                                     |  |
|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2024   |                                     |  |
| This publication of the Statement of Receipts and Expenditure is per regulation 13(a) of the Non-Government Organization Act (Amendments), Regulation 2018, which requires Non-Government Organizations receiving funds exceeding TZS 20 Million to publish bi-annually the funds received and its expenditure. |                                     |  |
| DETAILS   | January – June 2024<br>ACTUAL – TZS | January– December 2023<br>ACTUAL – TZS |
| <b>RECEIPTS</b>   |                                     |  |
| Opening fund balance  | 2,858,716,899                       | (8,065,552)                            |
| Disbursement from Donors  | 2,120,195,974                       | 6,316,926,645                          |
| <b>TOTAL RECEIPTS FROM DONORS</b>   | <b>4,978,912,873</b>                | <b>6,308,861,093</b>                   |
| <b>PROGRAMMES EXPENDITURE</b>   |                                     |  |
| Participatory Forest Management   | 698,181,715                         | 996,361,846                            |
| Environmental Education   | 240,746,071                         | 750,671,169                            |
| Community Development (Poverty reduction in rural communities)  | 794,849,642                         | 1,067,349,283                          |
| Research  | 226,960,865                         | 173,128,902                            |
| <b>OTHER PROGRAMME EXPENDITURE</b>  |                                     |  |
| Institution Development and Resources Mobilization  | 376,333,821                         | 462,632,994                            |
| <b>TOTAL PROGRAMMES EXPENDITURES</b>  | <b>2,337,072,114</b>                | <b>3,450,144,194</b>                   |
| <b>Deferred Income</b>  | <b>2,641,840,759</b>                | <b>2,858,716,899</b>                   |

\*\*Deferred Income represents the obligation to conduct Donor-Funded activities per Contractual commitments made between Donor/Development partners and the organisation/recipient, where funds have not been transferred, and such activities have not yet occurred.

Executive Director  
Tanzania Forest Conservation Group  
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Phone: 0713 366 773 or 0768 463 474

**During his time teaching at a rural school, he spent days building a bond with a shy and reserved child. When he was about to leave, the child unexpectedly gave him a gift, which deeply touched him**





## PREQUALIFICATION OF SUPPLIERS 2024-2025

Global Communities is a non-governmental organization legally registered in Tanzania and compliant with I-NGO 00007806. Since 2015, GC has been implementing the Food for Education Project - FFE in partnership with the Government of Tanzania through PO-RALG, the Ministry of Education Science and Technology, the Ministry of Finance and Planning, Regional and District Administration, and Local Communities, the project was funded by the United States Government through USDA department.

Global Communities is seeking to identify reliable and competent suppliers and service providers across Tanzania. Selected suppliers will be invited to submit bids as needed for various goods and services, as outlined in the table below. Suppliers from all regions of Tanzania are encouraged to participate in this identification process.

| CATEGORY A<br>SUPPLY OF<br>GOODS                | CATEGORY  |
|---|---|
| <b>Category No</b>                              |   |
| GC/G/001/2024                                   | Supply and delivery of general office stationeries and consumables in Dodoma and Mara Regions.  |
| GC/G/002/2024                                   | Fabrications and supply of local made (wooden & steel) furniture and plastic in in Dodoma and Mara.   |
| GC/G/003/2024                                   | Supply and delivery of desktop and laptop computers, computer screens, UPS Photocopies printers, computer accessories, consumables, servers, software & printers and similar items in Dodoma and Mara |
| GC/G/004/2024                                   | Supply & delivery of mobile phones, Tablets & accessories in Dodoma and Mara  |
| GC/G/005/2024                                   | Supply and delivery of pharmaceutical in Dodoma and Mara  |
| GC/G/006/2024                                   | Supply and delivery of business cards, identity cards, letterheads and office envelopes in Dodoma and Mara  |
| GC/G/007/2024                                   | Supply and delivery of branded promotional materials advertising materials and signages (t-shirt, caps, sports kits) in Dodoma and Mara   |
| GC/G/008/2024                                   | Supply and delivery of motor vehicles tires, rims, tubes, batteries and related tools in Dodoma and Mara  |
| GC/G/009/2024                                   | Supply of Air-condition Units and Electrical accessories in Dodoma and Mara.  |
| GC/G/0010/2024                                  | Supply and delivery of office cleaning materials and provision of cleaning services in Dodoma and Mara.   |
| GC/G/0011/2024                                  | Supply and delivery of drinking mineral water in Dodoma and Mara  |
| GC/G/0012/2024                                  | Supply of Food Items (Maize, Beans and Cooking Oil) in Dodoma and Mara  |
| GC/G/0013/2024                                  | Supply of Agricultural seeds in Dodoma and Mara   |
| GC/G/0014/2024                                  | Supply of working gears and accessories (Protective hats, Boots etc) in Dodoma and Mara   |
| GC/G/0015/2024                                  | Supply and delivery of primary school reading books as per the recommendations from the governing bodies in Dodoma and Mara   |
| GC/G/0016/2024                                  | Supply, installation and maintenance of CCTV system and related accessories   |
| GC/G/0017/2024                                  | Supply, installation and maintenance of fire appliances/fire hydrants, training, and safety services  |
| GC/G/0018/2024                                  | Supply and maintenance of cameras and filming equipment and related. Accessories  |
| GC/G/0019/2024                                  | Supply and installation of plastic water tanks.   |
| GC/G/0020/2024                                  | Supply and installation of steel water tanks  |
| GC/G/0021/2024                                  | Supply of motorbikes, and motorcycles spare parts (Honda).  |
| GC/G/0022/2024                                  | Repair, renovation and construction of buildings  |
| GC/G/0023/2024                                  | Supply of hardware, building and construction materials   |
| GC/G/0024/2024                                  | Provision of general services and supplies for Dodoma and Mara offices.   |
| <b>CATEGORY B<br/>PROVISION OF<br/>SERVICES</b> |   |
| GC/S/0025/2024                                  | Provision of car rental services (land cruiser, Trucks, Hilux, and Minibuses) in Dodoma and Mara  |
| GC/S/0026/2024                                  | Provision of translation services, proof reading services and motivational speakers.  |
| GC/S/0027/2024                                  | Hire of public address systems, audio visual equipment and related services   |
| GC/S/0028/2024                                  | Provision of experiential media services (social marketing)   |
| GC/S/0029/2024                                  | Provision of general services & repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles  |
| GC/S/0030/2024                                  | Provision of general services of fire extinguisher  |
| GC/S/0031/2024                                  | Provision of catering services in Dodoma and Mara   |
| GC/S/0032/2024                                  | Provision of courier services in Dodoma and Mara  |
| GC/S/0033/2024                                  | Provision of custom clearance services (air and sea freight)  |
| GC/S/0034/2024                                  | Provision of plumbing services in Dodoma and Mara   |
| GC/S/0035/2024                                  | Provision of security services in Dodoma and Mara   |
| GC/S/0036/2024                                  | Provision of brokerage services   |
| GC/S/0037/2024                                  | Provision of air ticketing services   |
| GC/S/0038/2024                                  | Provision of fumigation and pest control services   |
| GC/S/0039/2024                                  | Provision of electrical and AC repairs and maintenance in Dodoma and Mara   |
| GC/S/0040/2024                                  | Supply of hardware, building and construction materials   |
| GC/S/0041/2024                                  | Borehole drilling, equipping, and rehabilitation services   |
| GC/S/0042/2024                                  | Provision of printing services, banners, stickers, fliers, brochures, binding services and graphical design services.   |
| GC/S/0043/2024                                  | Provision of Medical and Group life Insurance services  |
| GC/S/0044/2024                                  | Provision of Market Assessment Services   |
| GC/S/0045/2024                                  | Provision of Newspaper Advertisement service  |
| GC/S/0046/2024                                  | Provision of Recruitment Services   |

### How to Apply:

- Request the Pre-Qualification Questionnaire (PQQ):  
Interested suppliers should request the PQQ document by sending an email to: info.tz@globalcommunities.org not later **30th Aug 2024 at 17:00hrs**
- Submission Instructions:
  - Once you receive the PQQ, carefully read and complete all sections.
  - Ensure all required information and supporting documents are provided.
  - Submit the completed PQQ by 18th September 2024 at 17:00hrs at the mentioned email address above.

**Important Note:** Only suppliers who successfully complete and submit the PQQ will be considered for pre-qualification. For any inquiries or additional information, please contact us at info.tz@globalcommunities.org. Providing a response to this market research/survey is strictly voluntary and no reimbursement will be made for any costs associated with providing information or any follow-up information requests.

Thank you for your interest in partnering with Global Communities.

## Digital records keeping takes centre stage at regional meeting of archivists in Arusha

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

DIGITAL methods for records keeping and document management have dominated debates at the 59th International Council on Archives' Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Branch (ESARBICA) meeting in Arusha where board members from 14 countries have gathered for a two-day conference.

The meeting underscored a pivotal shift from traditional paper-based systems to advanced digital solutions aimed at improving efficiency and accessibility in government records keeping.

Announced yesterday by Xavier Daudi, Permanent Secretary in the President's Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance) the conference highlights Tanzania's strides in digital technology adoption.

Daudi noted that public institutions have achieved a 50 percent adoption rate of digital methods, a significant leap from the reliance on paper-based systems of

the past.

"Historically, document management relied heavily on paper-based systems," Daudi remarked. "However, technological advancements now emphasize the transition to digital methods which are more efficient."

The focus of the conference reflects a broader trend toward digital transformation, emphasising the crucial role of accurate digital records in enhancing government efficiency and overcoming existing challenges such as the need for skilled personnel.

"Despite some challenges, including the need for skilled personnel, we are committed to leveraging technology to achieve our goals," Daudi added. "We encourage member institutions to adopt modern systems to facilitate quicker improvements."

In addition to discussing technological advancements, Daudi highlighted Tanzania's recent achievement of receiving a United Nations award from the Republic of Korea for its E-Feedback system, a

testament to the country's progress in digital governance.

ESARBICA President Pulenga Kekana emphasized the significance of the meeting, which ran from Monday to yesterday.

Delegates from all 14 member countries engaged in discussions and shared experiences to drive sector-wide improvements.

Firimin Msiangi, Director of the President's Office, National Archives and Records Management, underscored the board's role in ensuring the effective management of government records and the provision of quality services to citizens.

He said that the meetings are essential for exchanging best practices and enhancing operational standards across member countries.

"Our responsibility is to ensure that government records are managed effectively and that we provide quality services to citizens. These meetings are crucial for sharing experiences and improving operations," he said.



Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) CEO Peter Nalitoela (L) in jovial mood with his CRDB Bank plc counterpart Abdulmajid Nsekela (R) after a meeting focused on deepening collaboration in capital markets financing space. The purpose is to enhance liquidity and exploring innovative products to drive investor participation and economic growth. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## UDSM, Korean firm ink MoU for setting up of mineral exploration academy, lab

By Correspondent, Theresia Victor

THE University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) and the Republic of Korea's Yulho Company Ltd have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) worth 25bn/- to among others, facilitate the construction of a modern mineral research academy and installation of a laboratory.

The agreement, which aims at establishing a robust framework for collaboration between the firm and academia, includes the establishment of a special mineral exploration academy and the installation of modern equipment for the purpose.

Speaking during the signing in Dar es Salaam yesterday, UDSM Vice Chancellor Prof William Anangisye described the MoU as a significant milestone in initiating collaboration between Yulho and the university.

He stated that the laboratory which is projected to be completed within two years will be a catalyst for further research on minerals and will align with the nation's goals.

"This partnership is set to enhance specialised workforce development, foster practical education and promote exchange of information and technological

advancement," he said.

Prof. Anangisye said that the initiative will bolster the university's capabilities in teaching, research and public service, transforming the experience of researchers and students by introducing state-of-the-art equipment and machinery, thus integrating the latest technology in the field of geosciences.

He commended UDSM's School of Mines and Geosciences for its crucial role in initiating discussions with Yulho, leading to the MoU signing.

"We look forward to this collaboration, hoping it will enhance our efforts to expand boundaries of academia-industry knowledge," he said.

Jae Seong Lee, Yulho Company Limited President said that the MoU outlines a comprehensive approach to collaboration in mineral exploration and geological resource development, addressing both academic and industrial needs in the region.

"Through this partnership, we will work together to develop a state-of-the-art mineral exploration academy and analysis laboratory at UDSM. These facilities will be pivotal in the resource development of Tanzania and in training experts in geological resource development

and related fields," he said.

Jae also noted that the parties will actively engage in the exchange of academic information and data, and participate in seminars and other collaborative activities to promote mutual advancement in the field.

"UDSM will provide essential administrative and academic support for the operation of the academy and laboratory, including educational lectures, research personnel and analysis assistants to ensure successful implementation of the initiative," he said.

"Recognising the importance of capacity building, Yulho Company Limited may offer scholarships to UDSM staff and students, further enhancing academic and professional development within the university."

Dr Abubakary Salama, Dean of the School of Mines and Geosciences at UDSM, said that Yulho Company Limited is committed to making all necessary efforts to ensure the successful establishment and operation of the mineral exploration academy and the laboratory as agreed.

He noted that the laboratory will become one of the largest in the country, dedicated to comprehensive mineral testing.





Kinondoni municipal councillors vote to elect the deputy mayor at a council meeting yesterday., with Kunduchi ward councillor Michael Urlio taking the seat. Photo: Correspondent Imani Nathaniel

## Informal traders present tough challenge for Zimbabwe govt

**HARARE**

ZIMBABWE'S capital, Harare, is undergoing a rapid transformation which has seen proliferation of small, informal shops, known locally as tuck shops.

While they have created employment for many of the country's citizens who are outside of the labour market, neither the stores nor their staff pay taxes.

In the process, they are pushing out big retailers and wholesalers, presenting a complex challenge for the government which wants to formalise the economy.

Economist, Farai Mutambanengwe, said this is obviously not a good development as a country typically would want its economy to consist mostly of large formalised enterprises.

"The moment you start getting informal businesses taking over the economy, first of all, obviously, it reduces the value of the properties," he said.

"But it also results in things like people no longer remitting taxes, people no longer using formal business channels, and ultimately, informality, dollarisation of the

economy."

All of these things, he says, are negative for the economy.

With most of the tuck shops selling illegal imported goods, the government is concerned about this trade bypassing the country's tax system and therefore not bringing money into the state coffers.

As the number of informal tuckshops continues to rise, the evasion of taxes and regulations presents a thorn in the side of policymakers.

"There's a proliferation of smuggled and counterfeit goods

that are unfairly competing with local products, since the smuggled goods are not subject to taxation and import duties," said Minister of Publicity, Information, and Broadcasting Services, Dr Jenfan Muswere.

As the ongoing drought continues to impact Zimbabwe's economy, the finance minister in July warned that the 2024 budget deficit was forecast to be 1.3 per cent of gross domestic product.

Projected 2024 growth of the economy was at 2 per cent, down from 3.5 per cent forecast in November.

## Aviation workers' union postpone planned strike to allow more talks

**NAIROBI**

KENYA Aviation Workers Union (KAWU) has postponed for two weeks a strike that was scheduled to start on Monday.

The union, which represents airport workers, said this was to allow for talks with the government over a proposed deal to develop the country's main airport.

It believes the agreement with India's Adani Airport Holding to upgrade Nairobi's Jomo Kenyatta International Airport will lead to job losses and bring in non-Kenyan workers.

The facility is a major African hub and industrial action would cause significant disruption to regional air traffic and national carrier, Kenya Airways.

The government has denied union claims that the airport is for sale, and said it had not yet decided whether to go ahead with what it described as a "public-private partnership."

It said the airport is stretched beyond its capacity of 7.5 million passengers a year and is in urgent need of improvements.

Kenya Airports Authority said the investment proposal includes a second runway and upgrades to the passenger terminal.

"On Wednesday, we were invited

by the Labour CS Alfred Mutua and after lengthy deliberations, we were requested to pose our strike actions and allow dialogue to take place," the union's Secretary General Moses Ndiema said.

"We also got an invite from the Transport CS David Chirchir for Tuesday next week. After we have held our delegates meeting today, we have agreed that we will delay our strike action for two weeks."

He stated that should the meeting fail to bear fruit, the union will issue fresh strike notice for its members.

The airport is a major regional aviation hub and a strike would cause significant disruption to the region's air traffic.



**We also got an invite from the Transport CS David Chirchir for Tuesday next week. After we have held our delegates meeting today, we have agreed that we will delay our strike action for two weeks**

## Contagious diseases spread fast in Sudan amid war, heavy rains

**KHARTOUM**

CONTAGIOUS diseases, including cholera and conjunctivitis, are spreading rapidly in Sudan due to the prolonged conflict that has severely impacted the country's health sector, compounded by annual heavy rains and floods, according to Sudanese authorities and experts.

On Sunday, Sudan's Health Minister Haitham Mohamed Ibrahim said in a statement that the number of cholera cases in the country had reached 354, including 22 deaths.

Sudanese authorities officially declared a cholera outbreak in the country a day earlier, noting that laboratory tests had confirmed the spread of cholera in different areas of Sudan, including the states of Kassala, Gedaref, Gezira, and Khartoum.

However, the World Health Organization (WHO) has reported a much higher number. On Friday, WHO spokesperson Margaret Harris reportedly said in a media call that 11,327 cholera cases with 316 deaths had been reported in Sudan and that other epidemic diseases like dengue fever and meningitis infections were also on the rise.

She further stated that the WHO expects the actual number of cholera infections to be higher than what has been reported.

According to Sudan's Health Ministry, the cholera outbreak was primarily caused by deteriorating environmental conditions due to the war and the use of unsafe water in several areas.

Meanwhile, the ministry said Tuesday in its latest report on the epidemiological situation in the country that the number of conjunctivitis cases, also known as pink eye disease, has reached 2,689 across nine states.

The country's Northern State reported Saturday that it has registered 1,410 cases of acute conjunctivitis, while the Red Sea State in eastern Sudan reported 107 cases of acute viral conjunctivitis.

Hamza Awadalla, a Sudanese epidemiologist and community

medicine specialist, attributed the high rates of disease infections to the repercussions of the war, lack of precautionary measures, and the government's inability to organize vaccination campaigns amid insecurity in most of the war-affected states.

Conjunctivitis "is caused by viruses that often spread during the fall" and is associated with deteriorating environmental conditions, Awadalla told Xinhua.

The rapid spread of contagious diseases was mainly caused by the war and deteriorating environment during the rainy season, according to a recent report by the Sudanese Doctors Syndicate, a professional association of Sudanese doctors.

"There are challenges facing the health sector and a severe shortage of life-saving medicines," it said.

According to Sudan's Interior Ministry, 68 people have been killed since June due to heavy rains and floods that have affected several parts of Sudan.

Flooding is a yearly occurrence in the country, typically happening between June and October. Over the past three years, heavy rains have claimed hundreds of lives and destroyed vast swathes of agricultural land.

Sudan has been witnessing a deadly conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces since April 15, 2023, resulting in the loss of at least 16,650 lives. An estimated 10.7 million people are now internally displaced in Sudan, with approximately 2.2 million others seeking refuge in neighboring countries, according to the most recent UN data.



**There are challenges facing the health sector and a severe shortage of life-saving medicines**



VETA Director General Anthony Kasore greeting Koenraad Goenkint (R), the Belgium Development Agency (Enabel) country director (R), at an event to sign a memorandum of understanding (MoU) yesterday to promote sustainable development and enhance vocational education in the country. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Senegal declares milestone with launch of first satellite

**DAKAR**

SENEGAL has marked an historic milestone with the successful launch of its first satellite from California on Friday evening.

It has become one of just 12 African nations with their own surveillance and telecommunications satellites in space.

The country's President Bassirou Diomaye Faye said the move marks a major step towards Senegal's "technological sovereignty."

"I would like to express my pride and gratitude to all those who

made this project possible," he said in a post on X.

Maram Kaïré, director of Senegal's space agency, described the launch as "an important step and a historic day in our country's progress and determination to become a space-faring nation."

GAINDESAT-IA was built by Senegalese engineers in collaboration with France's Montpellier University Space Centre.

The nanosatellite was launched into orbit, together with 115 others, from the Vandenberg base in California using SpaceX's Falcon 9

rocket.

The satellite will collect data for various state agencies including the Directorate for Water Resources Management and Planning (DGPRE) and the National Civil Aviation and Meteorology Agency.

While it may not be widely recognized, the African space industry is steadily expanding, albeit not at the same pace as its Western counterparts. Nonetheless, the growth is becoming increasingly evident.

As of the end of 2022, the continent had successfully launched at least 52 satellites,

according to the consulting firm Space Hubs Africa.

The continent even has an ambitious plan to more than triple the number of satellites sent into the earth's orbit over the next few years.

From the northern reaches of Egypt to the southern tip of South Africa, these celestial emissaries not only enhance telecommunications and weather forecasting but also play vital roles in monitoring agricultural patterns, tracking climate change and fostering educational and research opportunities.



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## Investments in youth openings surging, they make a difference

YOUTH is an age of dreaming, in which case all youths unavoidably seek out opportunities by being innovative where it applies, but more significantly, we all wish to do things the easy way by one method or another.

That is why there is a shrill and unmet cry since independence that of taking up hard work, avoiding shortcuts or risky methods in life as they lead to danger. Each country has its portion of those who quite don't live up to the standards needed to actually succeed, but they have their role in society as well.

Once again an activist organisation has been issuing a strident call to the youth to seek out or identify economic opportunities they can manage to take up in efforts to combat poverty, now that the dream of employment is shrinking for many.

The morale for that call is unquestioned, as some youths need to be pushed or vehemently encouraged even to start thinking about what to do in life, not just slide into an idle, say even marginally comfortable situation. Such marginal comfort is what is otherwise known as survival.

The Tanzania Youth Coalition (TYC), has been issuing such appeals of late when starting a training session on a project titled 'Enhancing Youth Integrated and Gender Equality for Improved Livelihoods Project (EYIGEL)'. As usual such projects, which are often path breaking, are undertaken in a selected number of areas chosen on the basis of selected considerations. The idea is not to favour youths in those areas but to provide an example whose policy lessons could be put to 'mainstreaming' efforts in

relevant sectors.

A recent report says that currently, TYC is implementing the EYIGEL project in Iringa Rural, Mufindi, Illemela, Sengerema, Moshi Rural, Hai and Chamwino districts, along with the city of Dodoma or say parts of it. It works with an agency known as WE Effect, concerned with supporting agricultural-based livelihoods, mitigating food insecurity, promoting the right to decent housing and addressing gender inequality. That is exactly the sort of assurance that youths need to access, if only they could mortgage their labour.

This is an arrangement that is within reach of local planners, if for instance NGOs could systematically be aligned with public organisations in undertakings with the youth for instance in the sphere of housing, obtaining farm tools, and some stipend while waiting for first earnings. It is more or less like loaning for higher education, that the government tracks beneficiaries to start repaying once they are employed, and similarly youths can be put to a usable patch of land, obtain tools within a wider framework of facilitation, etc.

When one has a land title and a residential premise, and ordinarily such premise would attract a few other youths to snuggle into the neighbourhood, at any rate since not all youths can be targeted owing to fairly tight selection criteria, some sort of family units come up with each successful installation. It will not be the end for youth problems but assuming there will be sufficient land, tools or capital to put them into gainful activities, even as assistants to such units. It is better than roaming the streets, absorbed into groups.

## Environs best protected when farming isn't too rudimentary

EACH call by leading public officials for inculcating a culture of conserving the environment to address the impacts of climate change is never an addition appeal too many. There is a variation of results to be expected from community or local government involvement in conserving environments, with higher results to be expected from those with higher rainfall and more natural vegetation, quite often in highland areas. It is the same for instance with football grounds, that dry areas call for artificial turf, quite often.

There was a time the small river Themis cutting through the budding city of Arusha had largely dried up, and during the early 1990s when environmental campaigns were the order of the day, measures were taken to restrict farming to within at least ten meters of the river and its tributaries from the outward reaches of Mount Meru, to the west. In under ten years the river had bounced back and the vegetation was so thick that residents started to avoid cross unaccompanied, as even wetland species like pythons emerged too.

So the message that was delivered in Njombe by the Natural Resources portfolio holder in the cabinet is likely to be usable in the southern highlands, where conservation is nearly a matter of effective local government supervision of bylaws.

Many other areas will find it difficult to register substantial results as more effort is needed to supply water to seedlings, not just leave a patch fallow until the rains come and strewn seeds bring up shoots on their own.

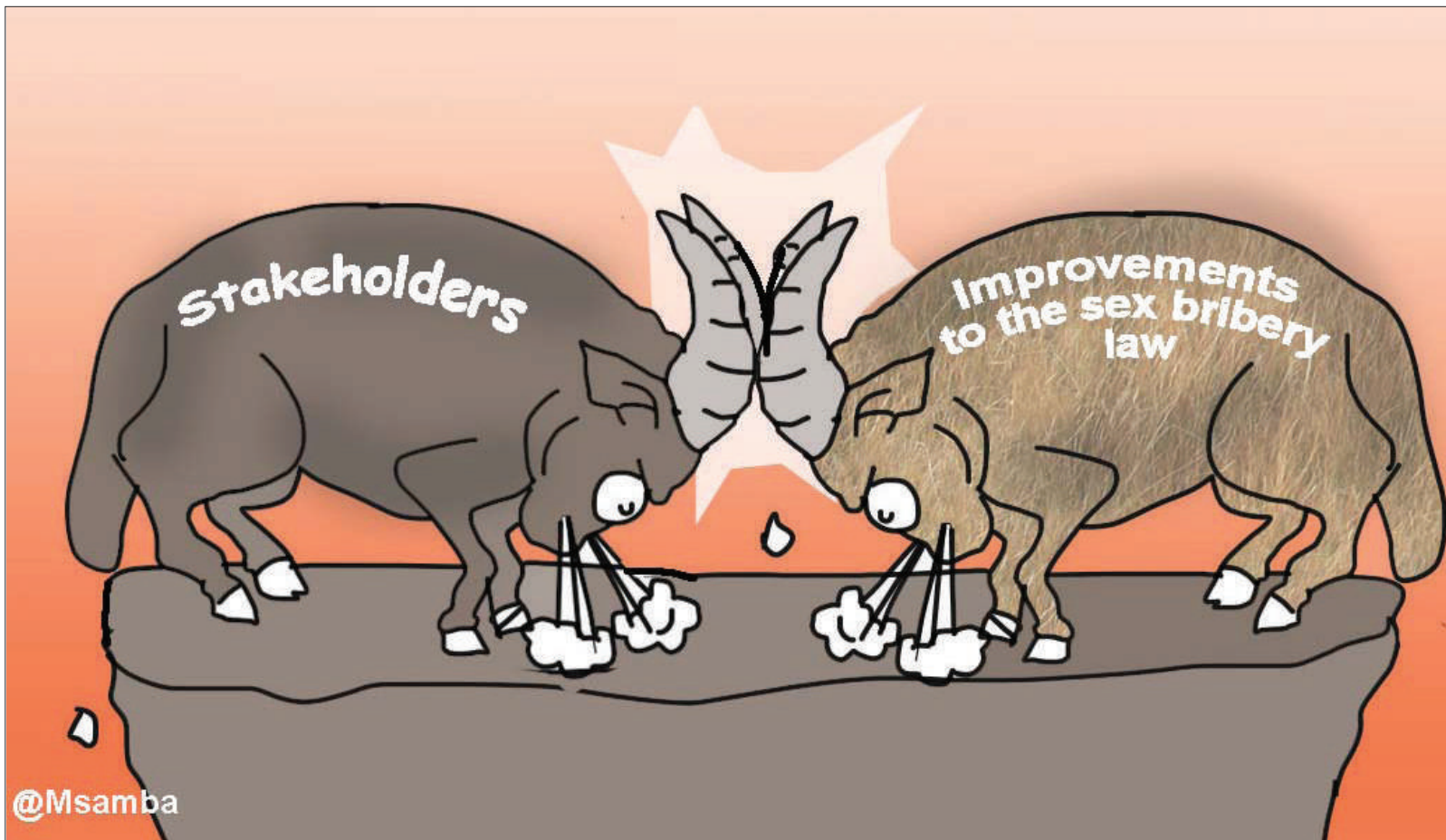
Restoring vegetation in areas that are already dry calls for actually adding water to seeds in the ground, the good thing being that often it isn't plenty of it.

In other words it is not enough to appeal to regions and districts to prioritise the vital need for environmental protection as the same amount or effort means one thing in one region or locality, and another implication in a different locality or region.

There are many areas where rejuvenating the vegetation is merely a matter of letting the land adjacent to river banks fallow to a year or two, but in many other areas there needs to be a minimum of resource input. What prevents this from happening is relying on district authorities to do it, and worse, when the same authorities leave it to households to decide what to do.

Experience shows that it is easier for district or village leaders to actually initiate this or that conservation drive when it doesn't affect the production potential for this or that village, or in keeping with routine wants of villagers. When farming is rudimentary it too often relies on expanding a farm to get a bigger yield, even if the village borders a forest patch which needs to be conserved.

While at the moment many rural areas are listing for obtaining carbon trading credits, it is vital to use such funds, or work with NGOs, to change the farm tools and expectations of farmers, to optimize results on the land used. At that moment conservation will be more feasible as local-by-law, not by carbon credits.



@Msamba

## Neglected for years, Mpox now a public health emergency of international concern

By Joyce Chimbi, Nairobi

THERE is a deadly outbreak of a new and graver variant of mpox in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), and at least one case has been confirmed in nearly 12 African countries, including those like Kenya, Burundi, Uganda, and Rwanda that were previously unaffected. Suspected mpox cases across these countries have surpassed 17,000, a significant increase from 7,146 cases in 2022 and 14,957 cases in 2023.

Many of these cases are in the DRC, where, for more than a decade, mpox cases have steadily increased as the disease remained neglected as a rare infection confined to far-flung remote rural areas in tropical Africa. But a recent move by the World Health Organization (WHO) strongly suggests that this is no longer the case, as a deadly mpox variant has recently emerged with alarming potential to spread very fast and far.

According to WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros Ghebreyesus, the emergence of "a new clade of mpox, its rapid spread in the eastern DRC, and the reporting of cases in several neighboring countries are very worrying. On top of outbreaks of other mpox clades in the DRC and other countries in Africa, it's clear that a coordinated international response is needed to stop these outbreaks and save lives."

Dr. Onyango Ouma, a Kenyan-based medical researcher, told IPS there are two endemic types of mpox virus: clade I, which causes more severe illness and deaths. Some clade I outbreaks have killed up to 10 percent of the infected and are highly endemic in Central Africa, and clade II, which caused the 2022 global Mpox outbreak, is more endemic in West Africa.

More than 99.9 percent of those with clade II survive the disease. The new variant has been classified as clade Ib and can spread through sexual contact. Recently, on August 15, global health officials confirmed the presence of clade Ib infection in Sweden, signalling that the viral infection had taken on an international dimension.

It is this new and highly contagious clade Ib mpox, more grave than the deadly and endemic clade I, that has spread to other African countries that were previously untouched by the viral infection. Kenya is on high alert and has activated all 26 public health emergency operations centers countrywide, prepared laboratories for mpox testing, and deployed 120 trained personnel to manage any potential outbreak.



More than 250,000 people have already been tested thus far since Kenya intensified mpox screening at the beginning of the month. Two Kenyans, in two different parts of the country are currently undergoing testing for presenting with a skin condition akin to the mpox rash.

Although there is only one confirmed case of clade Ib in Kenya thus far, experts such as Ouma say there are likely to be more cases, especially due to Kenya's position as a hub for travel within the East African community. The mpox case was of a driver traveling from Uganda to the Kenyan coastal city of Mombasa.

Kenya has 35 points of entry and exit or borders with five countries, including Tanzania, Uganda, Ethiopia, Somalia, South Sudan and the Indian Ocean international waters. To avert a public health disaster, Kenya is set to receive what has been labelled an Mpox war kitty assembled by donors to the tune of USD 16 million (Kes 2 billion).

Discovered in captive monkeys in 1958, the first case of monkeypox—renamed mpox by WHO in 2022—was identified in 1970 in DRC and in 2022, mpox spread around the world for the first time. Scientists at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention say the virus that causes mpox is of the same family as the one that causes smallpox but is not related to chickenpox. As a zoonotic disease, it can spread between animals and people.

Ouma says while mpox is endemic

in forested areas in East, Central and West Africa, it is the ongoing unprecedented spread and reach of the deadly clade Ib variant that has heightened concerns and elevated mpox as a global health concern worthy of attention from the global community of scientists and public health actors.

Stressing that "not even the more than 517 people who died from mpox, primarily in the DRC this year, raised the disease profile. African researchers rung the bell way before the 2022-2023 mpox outbreak, calling for increased investments from the global public health community to help increase diagnosis, prevention, management and control of the disease without much success."

To put it into perspective, Ouma says the WHO declaration that mpox is now a public health emergency of international concern is raising the profile of the disease to the "highest alert level regarding matters that involve a public health risk to other countries, inviting an internationally coordinated response."

WHO Regional Director for Africa, Dr. Matshidiso Moeti, said, "Significant efforts are already underway in close collaboration with communities and governments, with our country teams working on the frontlines to help reinforce measures to curb mpox. With the growing spread of the virus, we're scaling up further through coordinated international action to support countries bring

the outbreaks to an end."

Committee Chair Professor Dimie Ogoina said, "The current upsurge of mpox in parts of Africa, along with the spread of a new sexually transmissible strain of the monkeypox virus, is an emergency, not only for Africa, but for the entire globe. Mpox, originating in Africa, was neglected there, and later caused a global outbreak in 2022. It is time to act decisively to prevent history from repeating itself."

Ouma says that while this is a step in the right direction, it is further proof that serious health inequalities and inequities prevail in the prevention and response to disease outbreaks. Since mpox was confined to the African continent and in remote rural areas of the DRC, communities have long been left to grapple with the infectious disease without the much-needed investments in diagnostic, therapeutic and infection prevention.

Stressing that there is a pressing issue around "under-testing and under-reporting as we lack the tools to tackle the disease. Clade I and II are endemic in Africa, but now that the deadly clade Ib strain can be sexually transmitted, suggesting that it could spread all over the world, we have a flurry of activities to combat the infectious disease as others outside the continent are at risk. This response has taken too long and it seems lessons from COVID-19 have unfortunately faded with time."

IPS



By Adonis Byemelwa

# SADC summit in Harare: Mnangagwa takes charge as regional tensions escalate

**A**S Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa assumes leadership of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) for the first time, regional leaders, including Tanzanian President Samia Suluhu Hassan, have gathered in Harare for the 44th Ordinary SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government.

The summit, held on August 17, 2024 was themed 'Promoting Innovation to Unlock Opportunities for Sustained Economic Growth and Development towards an Industrialised SADC'. This moment is a significant milestone for Mnangagwa's administration, yet it unfolds under a cloud of growing tensions and escalating crackdowns on pro-democracy activists in Zimbabwe.

In the weeks leading up to the summit, Zimbabwe has been gripped by a disturbing escalation in state-sponsored repression, with security forces intensifying their crackdown on activists and opposition members.

This mounting tension reached a new peak on the morning of August 7, when a chilling incident unfolded at the offices of the Crisis in Zimbabwe Coalition (CiZC), a prominent network of groups advocating for democratic freedoms.

The scene, which was broadcast on one of the international Television, revealed the terror that ensued as four masked men attempted to force their way into the CiZC office in Harare.

As the masked assailants tried to break in, staff members inside were left in a state of sheer panic, seeking refuge as the intruders persisted. It was only after the office alarm was triggered that the attackers fled, leaving behind a shaken and terrified team.

The incident has sparked widespread outrage and heightened fears of government-sponsored intimidation against those daring to speak out. Al Jazeera's coverage brought the stark reality of Zimbabwe's political climate to an international audience, shedding light on the lengths to which the regime will go to silence dissent.

Blessing Vava, the regional director of CiZC, expressed the deep anxiety felt by the staff, who now fear for their safety in an increasingly hostile environment. "It was a very traumatic experience for them, and they feel unsafe," Vava told Al Jazeera, speculating that the attackers were likely government operatives. This brazen attempt to intimidate pro-democracy advocates has added to the growing concerns over the Zimbabwean government's crackdown ahead of the SADC summit, a development that has sent shockwaves through the region and beyond.

Four masked men attempted a break-in at the Harare office, instilling terror among staff members who sought refuge until the assailants fled after triggering an alarm. "It was a very traumatic experience for them, and they feel unsafe," Blessing Vava, the regional director of CiZC, said.

He suspects the intruders were government operatives, especially since the attack occurred shortly after a government-owned newspaper accused the group of plotting protests.

While the Zimbabwean government has denied orchestrating such attacks, the incident at CiZC is part of a broader pattern of repression. Since June, security officials have arrested over 160 activists and opposition members, including Jameson Timba, leader of the Citizens Coalition for Change (CCC).

The government claims these arrests are necessary to prevent disruptions to the SADC summit, but Amnesty International reports that detainees have been subjected to physical assaults and psychological torture while in custody, heightening concerns about the state of human rights in the country.



President Samia Suluhu Hassan attended the recently held 44th Ordinary SADC Summit of Heads of State and Government in Harare Zimbabwe.

Despite the mounting crackdown, SADC leaders have largely remained silent, offering little response as Zimbabwe edges closer to an all-out crisis. Critics argue that this silence emboldens the Mnangagwa administration to continue its repressive tactics. "The government is paranoid. It's afraid of its people," Vava said, echoing a growing sentiment among activists who fear for their safety.

The summit, hosted in Zimbabwe for the first time in a decade, is a critical moment for the region. As President Mnangagwa takes the helm of SADC, questions are swirling about the bloc's commitment to upholding its founding principles of democracy and human rights. South Africa, a key member of SADC, has faced particular scrutiny for its perceived inaction.

"South Africa's silence ... appears paradoxical," remarked Tinashe Sithole, a political science lecturer at the University of Johannesburg, highlighting Pretoria's reluctance to confront Harare due to historical ties and concerns over immigration.

The situation in Zimbabwe has led to calls from some quarters for the SADC summit to be relocated. Opposition leaders, such as Mmusi Maimane of the Build One South Africa party, have openly criticized the decision to allow Mnangagwa to chair the summit.

The Democratic Alliance (DA), part of South Africa's new coalition government, stated on August 2, urging SADC to strip Mnangagwa of his chairmanship, warning that allowing the summit to proceed in Zimbabwe would endorse "flagrant abuse of international law."

As the summit progresses, concerns about Zimbabwe's political future loom large. Mnangagwa's tenure has been characterized by a steady erosion of civil liberties, a trend that shows no signs of abating.

The Patriotic Bill passed in the lead-up to the August 2023 elections, criminalizes actions perceived as damaging to Zimbabwe's sovereignty, with harsh penalties designed to stifle dissent. Despite his re-election,

Mnangagwa's victory was marred by widespread allegations of rigging, which opposition leader Nelson Chamisa described as a "giant fraud."

The conclusion of the SADC summit may well usher in an even more intense crackdown on dissent. With the ruling ZANU-PF party splintering into factions, Zimbabwe's political landscape is fraught with uncertainty. Reflecting on the possibility of further repression, Vava warned, "We are working with the worst-case scenario... We are now in the ZANU-PF succession mode, and we can't rule out an escalation."

Amid the escalating tensions, Claver Gatete, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), delivered a pointed address at the summit, drawing attention to Africa's mounting challenges.

In his remarks, now available on the SADC website, Gatete highlighted the continent's staggering USD 1 trillion debt crisis, with over a third of African nations at risk of debt distress. He underlined the declining long-term concessional finance, official development assistance, and foreign direct investments, exacerbating the economic strain.

Gatete also warned of the severe impact of climate change, which is eroding 5 percent of GDP annually, particularly in the SADC region. Calling for urgent reform of the global financial architecture, Gatete stressed the need for homegrown solutions, focusing on regional value chains, food security, minerals development, and technology.

He pointed to initiatives like the Zambia-Zimbabwe Common Agro-Industrial Park and the DRC-Zambia electric battery project as critical steps forward. Gatete urged SADC to leverage its natural resources and energy potential to drive sustainable industrialization and regional growth, emphasizing that the time to act is now.

The SADC summit in Harare has become a pivotal moment not just for Zimbabwe but for the entire Southern African region. The decisions made here will resonate far beyond the confines of this gathering, setting the course for the region's political and economic trajectory.

The power of SADC lies in its ability to foster unity and address crises among its member states, a role that has never been more critical. In the past, SADC has played a significant part in mediating conflicts and fostering peace, as seen in its ongoing efforts to stabilize the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The DRC, a country rich in minerals but plagued by conflict, has been a focal point for SADC's peacekeeping and economic initiatives. Through its regional mechanisms, SADC has worked to support the DRC's fragile peace process, aiming to transform the nation's vast resources into a source of stability and prosperity for its people.

The future of SADC hinges on its ability to act decisively in moments of crisis. As Zimbabwe teeters on the brink of deeper repression, the region looks to SADC for leadership that transcends mere diplomacy. The organization's capacity to address the challenges facing its member states—whether in Zimbabwe, the DRC, or elsewhere—will determine its relevance and influence in the years to come.

Will SADC rise to the occasion, leveraging its collective strength to uphold the principles of democracy, human rights, and economic integration that it was founded upon? Or will it falter, allowing the forces of repression and instability to take root? The eyes of the world are fixed on Harare, and the outcome of this summit will either solidify SADC's role as a bastion of regional stability or expose its limitations in the face of growing challenges. The stakes could not be higher, and the time for decisive action is now.

## Global experts call for actions to prevent devastating floods in Kagera's Bukoba town

By Mutayoba Arbogast

**I**N a video that went viral in social media and other platforms, Dr Deogratius Rweyongeza, currently residing in Edmonton, Canada raised concerns over the critical situation in Bukoba town, Kagera Region. He advocates for the construction of levees to protect essential infrastructures from flooding crisis exacerbated by rising waters from Lake Victoria.

Residents of Omukigusha, Kashabo, Matopeni, Kasha, Katatolwansi, Nyamkazi and parts of Bunena have been hardly-hit by the recent floods.

Rweyongeza's appeal is not just a call for immediate action but a strong push for transformative change. If his recommendations are adopted, Bukoba could be set on a new and safer trajectory.

According to Rweyongeza, construction of levees and relocation of critical infrastructure—could significantly mitigate the impacts of floods by drawing on successful flood management practices from cities like New Orleans and Amsterdam.

Supporting Rweyongeza's views, Justine Kimodoi, a Bukoba development activist and investment lobbyist

based in the U.S, emphasizes that expanding the town uphill could attract industries and modern buildings, thus improving residents' lives.

The recent floods in May 2024 have intensified these concerns, causing significant damage to key infrastructure and homes. Bukoba has long struggled with flooding issues, a problem made worse by its proximity to Lake Victoria, which has experienced increasing water levels.

"The rising levels of Lake Victoria, combined with occasional earthquakes like the one in 2019, are creating a perfect storm of risks for Bukoba. The recent floods have shown just how vulnerable the city is," Rweyongeza explained.

Pius Ngeze, a key figure in understanding Bukoba's environmental challenges, also noted that overflow from the Kanoni River has contributed to the lake's rising levels, exacerbating the city's flood risk. Ngeze's report underscores the urgent need for effective flood prevention, particularly in vulnerable areas like downtown Bukoba, where vital infrastructure including schools, hospitals, and the airport are located.

The recent floods in Bukoba have caused widespread



damage, putting critical infrastructure such as schools, hospitals, and the airport at serious risk. A report by Pius Ngeze highlights how overflow from the Kanoni River has worsened the situation, underscoring the urgent need for effective flood prevention in key areas of the town.

A geological expert from the University of Dar es Salaam, Dr Halima Chacha said: "Lake Victoria's rising water levels are influenced by both climate change and human activities. The situation in Bukoba is made worse by its proximity to the lake, making flood prevention crucial."

Christopher Joseph Kiiza,

a Kagera resident and Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) graduate, said that findings of a 1957 study by the British consulting firm Sir Alexander Gibbs & Partners identified Bukoba as an unsuitable area for settlement due to its vulnerability to floods.

Experts are also advocating for scientific research to address Bukoba's persistent flooding issues. Dr Egidius Kamanyi, a researcher and sociology lecturer at the University of Dar es Salaam, emphasizes the importance of research in finding long-term solutions.

"Kagera Region experiences long rains between February and March. However, the re-

cent floods in June 2024 have highlighted the need for scientific research to effectively address these challenges," Dr. Kamanyi said.

Miembeni Ward Councilor, Richard Gasper noted that many residents have been displaced due to the flooding, with relief supplies still awaited from the central government.

"The floods have submerged houses and damaged infrastructure, including roads and bridges," Gasper told The Guardian.

Kagera Regional Administrative Secretary, Toba Nguvula directed the Bukoba District Disaster Management Committee to assess the flood's impact and instructed nearby district

councils to maintain drainage systems to prevent water blockages.

"Residents must avoid dumping garbage in drainage infrastructure and clear the banks of the Kanoni River to ensure proper water flow," Nguvula stated.

The 202, floods displaced around 300 households. In response to these persistent disasters, Assistant Director of Disaster Research in the Prime Minister's Office Department of Disaster Management, Charles Msangi, highlighted the progress made in disaster management saying: "The country has improved its disaster response through the Disaster Management Act of 2022, enhancing early warning systems and infrastructure."

A study titled 'Five Decades of Disasters in Bukoba' by Dr Egidius Kamanyi provides a detailed account of the region's traumatic experiences. It outlines various disasters, including the Uganda-Kagera War, the HIV/Aids pandemic, the MV Bukoba ship accident, and the 2016 earthquake. The study also documents the severe impact of the 1997-1998 El Niño floods, which displaced many residents and led to significant food insecurity and health crises.

The 2016 earthquake, with

a magnitude of 5.7, caused extensive damage and caught many residents off guard. The study reveals that the disaster disrupted daily activities and institutions, underscoring the need for improved preparedness.

As the city grapples with these pressing issues, local authorities, stakeholders, and the community must collaborate to implement effective solutions to safeguard Bukoba's future.

As Bukoba faces an uncertain future, embracing experts proven strategies and committing to robust flood prevention measures would save the town from frequent floods.

Bukoba municipal council has recognized the importance of expanding the town, thus initiating a legal process between 2010 and 2011 whereas it is negotiating with authorities in Bukoba District council to incorporate nine wards from the district into the expanding city.

Mayor Gypson Godson has identified the wards to be incorporated as Kaagya, Kishanje, Rubafu, Buhendangabo, and Nyakato. The move is a key step in transforming Bukoba into a modern city capable of withstanding future challenges.



By A Special Correspondent

# 'An island of freedom': Inside the secret beauty salons of Afghanistan

In an apartment near a Taliban headquarters, a young woman is discreetly moving about. Breshna is 24 years old. Today, as on every day for the past year, her hands are sweaty and shaking. Yet her movements must be meticulous. She's cutting the hair of one of her clients.

"In a week, my niece is getting married. It's a big moment. You have to do your best," says the customer, a woman in her 50s.

Comb in one hand, scissors in the other, Breshna concentrates. She has repeated these movements hundreds of times. Hair is her speciality, but above all, it is her livelihood. Mistakes are not an option.

The hum of the hairdryer both reassures and frightens her. "What if the Taliban hears us? I am afraid that the doorbell might ring. It could be them. They can come at any moment," she whispers before handing the mirror to her customer.

Her client's face lights up with happiness when she glimpses her reflection. This is the first time she's been to an underground salon. Despite the fear, she does not regret coming. She will definitely be back to Breshna's clandestine beauty parlour.

Safe, female-only spaces - gone

In early July 2023, the Taliban announced the closure of all beauty salons across the country and proclaimed that a number of services, including eyebrow shaping, the use of other people's hair and the application of makeup, interfered with pre-prayer ablutions required in Islam. No other Muslim-majority country in the world has banned salons, however, and critics say the Taliban's treatment of women defy mainstream teachings of Islam.

According to the Taliban, beauty salons also put unnecessary financial pressure on grooms and their families.

Salons were some of the last businesses open to women as customers and workers. In a country where more than 12,000 beauty salons had flourished, the ban has had a devastating economic impact on the 60,000 women who worked in the sector. This decision also exacerbated the severe humanitarian crisis that at the time was already affecting 85 percent of the population, according to the United Nations Development Programme.

The fall of Kabul to the Taliban in 2021 resulted in the direct suspension of international humanitarian assistance, which previously had supported 75 percent of Afghan public services. Hunger, malnutrition, disease, climate-related disasters (including flooding and earthquakes), drastic rises in poverty and the near-collapse of the national health system are putting the Afghan population one step away from famine.

The restrictions placed on female aid workers, curbing their ability to work for humanitarian organisations, also worsened the crisis by making it nearly impossible to deliver aid to women and their children. The latter are disproportionately affected by the humanitarian crisis with 3.2 million children and 840,000 pregnant and lactating mothers facing moderate or severe acute malnutrition.

Beyond economic empowerment, the salons provided Afghan women with a much-needed community. "It was a safe, female-only space where we could meet outside of our homes and without a mahram (male guardian)," a former beauty business owner who did not want to be named for safety reasons said.

Banned when the Taliban were first in power from 1996 to 2001, beauty salons had proliferated across Afghanistan in the following two decades.

Many remained open in the immediate aftermath of the Taliban's return to power nearly three years ago. But on July 25, 2023, all beauty salons permanently closed their doors.

Little by little, the walls have closed in on Afghanistan's 21 million girls and women, who are confined to their homes, unable to study, work, travel or even walk freely.

Those who do risk heavy fines.

Despite this, some women have continued to operate secret beauty businesses. Some younger entrants have even chosen to set up new clandestine establishments.

Among them are former schoolgirls who have been deprived of their right to education since secondary-school for girls was banned in September 2021 and



have entered the underground beauty market: a gesture of resistance driven by the need to feed their families and regain some semblance of a social life and a future.

"If the Taliban catch me, I would be taken to a special office. God knows what happens there," says a 21-year-old makeup artist who did not want to be named. "They would also fine me 50,000 afghanis [\$704] and warn or even attack my mahram. If you are getting caught a second time, you'll be sent to prison."

In 2022, a Taliban official admitted to Al Jazeera that Islam grants full rights to women to pursue education, work and entrepreneurship. The group has said multiple times that they are working to create a so-called "safe environment" for girls and women in secondary schools and the workplace. Despite this, the institutions remain closed to women.

"The salon saved me from depression"

Breshna was one of many young Afghan women who began working in the beauty sector after the Taliban came to power. It has been almost three years since she last set foot in a classroom.

The first woman in her family to go to university, she dreamed at age 22 of becoming a diplomat. But when the Taliban came back to power, her ambitions were shattered.

Three months after secondary schools were closed to girls, women's right to attend university was also removed. "I felt trapped," Breshna says. "All of a sudden, my future was reduced to nothing. I realised that I would never go back to university."

A few weeks after universities were closed to Afghan women in early 2022, Breshna found a low-paying job in a beauty salon while they were still officially open. It was a far cry from her original ambitions, but it provided food for her family and kept her from isolation.

With her father and brother seriously ill, she is the sole breadwinner. And with a monthly salary of 14,000 afghanis (\$197), she struggles to cover all the family's expenses.

At first, her skills were far from perfect, but the customers at the beauty salon became accustomed to the former student's clumsiness, even finding it endearing. "They used to call me 'the kohl diplomat'," Breshna recalls nostalgically.

"I spent almost two years learning the techniques. It was difficult at first, but I developed a passion for hairdressing. I got really good at it. I became a favourite among the salon's clientele. They saved me from depression," she reflects before her voice fades.

On a morning in early July 2023 while scrolling through her Facebook news feed, Breshna learned that all the beauty salons had to shut down.

"After university, it was the beauty salons' turn," she says. "The only island of freedom that remained collapsed in front of my eyes. I was devastated. We had less than a month to pack up and close the business. On the last day, our customers, who were usually so happy, were all crying."

Breshna held back her tears and decided to continue working secretly at her own risk. "The Taliban robbed me of my right to education. It was unthinkable that they would also take away my right to work."

"Fear is not going to feed my family"

Mursal, 22, is also defying the ban on working as a beautician.

Like many other young women, she could not face the prospect of sitting idle after she had to stop going to university. Mursal had already been working part-time in a beauty parlour to help support the family while she studied.

So, the day after the universities were shut to women, Mursal went to work full time and continued in secret after the beauty salons were banned.

"Although it was a dangerous decision, I didn't hesitate for a second. Fear is not going to feed my family or get me back to university," she says.

Many of her peers from university have made similar decisions.

"I worked to pay for my studies. Now I work to survive," says Lali, an underground beautician who had previously hoped to become a doctor.

For her, makeup brushes have replaced scalpels. Despite having her job, Lali says her mental health is at an all-time low. "I wish I no longer existed. I should be saving lives in the hospital, not risking mine to apply makeup to women."

When she first entered the world of underground beauty, Breshna worked with only a few trusted clients. Word soon spread in her neighbourhood. Now she has more than 15 women regularly requesting her services.

Given her success, Breshna has had to take extra precautions. Her

working hours are never the same, and she is very careful about her movements.

"I always take short cuts and avoid the cameras. The most dangerous time is when I buy makeup," she says. Because she regularly needs to get new products for her business, she never makes too many purchases in one place to avoid being clocked by bazaar vendors.

The secret beauticians all run the risk of being turned in by neighbours, makeup suppliers or even fake clients who are spying for the Taliban. For Breshna, every trip is a valuable one. "When I go somewhere, I hide the straightener and hairdryer under my burqa or in a shopping bag so the Taliban think I've just come from the grocery store."

"We are the beauty resisters"

"I want to feel like a woman again," one client tells Al Jazeera at an underground salon located in Kabul. With its gilded mirrors verging on kitsch and shelves overflowing with beauty products, it's easy to forget that this customer is in a basement. And yet it's in this improvised salon of about 20sq metres (215sq ft) that two sisters are bustling about.

Richly equipped and decorated with heavy red curtains, the atmosphere of the clandestine parlour is warm and cosy. Today, three customers are having a beauty treatment while their children play on the carpet. Only a few bursts of laughter and the sound of brushes tapping on makeup palettes can be overheard.

Hamida is a former footballer and now a secret beauty treatment client. Once a month, she visits a secret salon to get her nails done. To ensure her safety and that of the makeup artists, she always comes out wearing black gloves that cover her long and colourful nails.

"The Taliban have no idea that we protect our freedom under the rules that they impose on us," Hamida says.

"When the beauty salon moved to a secret location, I was reluctant to go," another customer says. "I was afraid, but I have to honour the courage of those who continue to work. This is a war against women, and we are the beauty resisters."

Despite the fear and mass surveillance introduced by the Taliban to better track the movements of the population and hinder the presence of women in public spaces, these women say they are determined to continue.

"We are left with no other choices. They banned us from university. We'll continue to read. They banned beauty salons. We'll continue to work" a young beautician says defiantly.

**CAPITAL RADIO**

**RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI**

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



**CAPITAL RADIO**



# Post-harvest loss project wins farmers' accolades

By Getrude Mbago

**S**MALLHOLDER farmers in Katavi Region have hailed the execution of a new initiative aimed at addressing post-harvest loss, a challenge that has plagued them for years.

Post-harvest loss, a major issue affecting smallholder farmers in many countries including Tanzania, often leads farmers to sell their crops immediately after harvest to avoid decay.

However, with support from Sustainable Agriculture Tanzania (SAT), farmers in Katavi and other regions are now gaining essential knowledge and skills on protecting their produce both before and after harvest.

During recent visits by SAT experts and their partners to various villages, farmers expressed their gratitude for the training and support provided. This initiative includes educating farmers on effective storage materials, such as hermetic bags, which are crucial for preventing crop loss.

As part of the second phase of the Evidence-Based Scaling of Improved On-Farm Storage Among Smallholders in Tanzania project, SAT and its partners are teaching farmers new and direct methods for storing their produce, especially grains.

The Ministry of Agriculture estimates that small farmers lose between 15 percent and 40 percent of their harvests each year due to issues such as mold, mildew, pests, and rodents, which contribute to food insecurity.

The training and support from the agriculture experts are meant

to help shift farmers' attitudes toward modern grain storage techniques.

Salumu Abdullah, a farmer from Ifukutwa Village, highlighted the lack of knowledge among local farmers about proper crop storage practices. This gap has led to significant crop and financial losses. Abdullah commended SAT for initiating the project and providing valuable education on managing crop loss, noting that this will greatly enhance cereal production in his village and the region.

"For years, we have been storing our produce in regular bags and have to buy new ones frequently due to pest infestations. With the new hermetic storage bags, we no longer need to spend extra on chemicals for preservation," Abdullah said.

Hawa Juma, another farmer, added: "Crop loss has been undermining our efforts to improve our livelihoods, as many of us rely on agriculture. We are grateful for the education on proper storage techniques, which has been very helpful."

She said small-holder farmers are the major victims despite harvesting little in farms, they end up losing almost half of the harvests due to poor storage methods.

Ramadhan Salumu, Chairman of Ifukutwa Village in Tanganyika District, emphasized that cereal crops, particularly maize, are vital to the community.

However, the persistent issue of harvest loss has hindered their progress.

He explained that while one acre of maize should yield 18 to 23



Some farmers at the recent post-harvest management training in Tanganyika District, Katavi Region

sacks, farmers are often only getting five to seven sacks per acre due to the losses.

Sephania Waya, Tanganyika District agricultural officer, confirmed that harvest loss is a widespread issue affecting farmers and the district's revenue.

He noted that many farmers lack adequate knowledge about effective harvesting and storage practices.

"Crop loss impacts our district's revenue as we heavily rely on income from cereal crops. More efforts are needed to address this issue," Waya said.

Waya highlighted the benefits

of the new hermetic bags, which keep grains dry, fresh, and protected from pests and mold.

He encouraged farmers to adopt the bags as they are safe and beneficial for improving productivity.

Mohammed Nkya, assistant project manager, mentioned that the programme, which began early this year and runs until December 2026, aims to revolutionize post-harvest management and boost the incomes and livelihoods of small-scale farmers.

The initiative, which started with participatory research, is expected to greatly improve the

management and handling of cereals. Nkya emphasized that the use of hermetic storage, particularly hermetic bags, will significantly reduce post-harvest losses, enhance incomes, and improve food security.

He also stressed the importance of educating farmers on effective storage methods to prevent contamination and ensure consumer safety.

John Nindi, SAT's communications manager, noted that the hermetic bag technology has the potential to help smallholders maintain grain quality during storage, protecting against both

average and extreme losses without the need for chemical insecticides.

The project targets farmers in Rukwa, Katavi, Dodoma and Morogoro regions, promoting the use of durable storage bags that preserve crops for over two years.

The three-year project (2024-2026) is being implemented in collaboration with the Institute of Science and Technology (ISTP), Helvetas Tanzania, the University of Zurich (UZH), and Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), with support from Liechtenstein Development Service (LED) and Symph sis.

# Motorcycles providing employment and traffic chaos in Kampala

KAMPALA

**M**OTORCYCLES weave between traffic, jump red lights and carry precariously balanced loads they were never designed to haul.

About half of the estimated 700,000 boda-bodas operate in Kampala, mostly driven by men who say there are no other jobs for them.

Their bikes are a vital tool to earn their living, be it transporting goods or passengers.

"Some among us have their degrees, they have their masters, but they are just here because they have nothing to do," Zubairi said.

Uganda's unemployment rate grew from nine per cent in 2019 to 12 per cent in 2021, according to the most recent survey by the Uganda Bureau of Statistics.

Road safety regulations for motorcycles, first approved in 2004, are difficult to enforce.

The boda-boda riders who operate mostly unregulated, have resisted recent attempts to dislodge them from Kampala's central business district (CBD).

The Commissioner for Transport Safety at the Ministry of Transport says training is key.

"We need to help them train, understand how they are using the road, be patient with other road users, make sure they are safe because we still want them, I have told you most of these guys range between 19 and 45, this is the most productive age of any country," Winstone Katushabe said.

Political calculations  
Jobs are scarce and well-paying ones even harder to find in an economy where just one per cent of 22.8 million employees make \$270 USD or more in monthly pay, according to central bank figures released earlier in 2024.

In what has been seen as an attempt to weaken support for his opponents among unemployed people, president Yoweri Museveni gifted boda bodas to his supporters and pledged to cause a reduction in five-year licensing fees



from nearly \$100 USD to about \$27 USD under new rules set to be announced later this year, according to the Transport Licensing Board.

That decision would make it even easier for Ugandans to become boda boda owners.

"Our problem is not the Boda Boda, the

problem is regulation and regulations that applies to everyone equally where you have a certain category of people trying to ride above the law, they drive on the wrong side of the road they respect no traffic rules they run through traffic rules you are going to have a problem," says Charles Mwanguhya.

He is the corporate affairs manager of Tugende, a company that has been financing thousands of young men in their dream of buying motorcycles, says the government has failed to understand the sector.

"I will go back to Tugende for example from earlier on Tugende started the cul-

ture among riders; one you must have your helmet on at all times, you have your reflector jackets which government has been trying to emphasize now and enforce, if you drive through a traffic light and we caught you, back then, you would be fined for that - so we had very disciplined riders on the roads."

The price of a new boda-boda is about \$1,500 USD.



# Climate change adaptation: A call for transformation to long-lasting solutions

By Frank Abel

CLIMATE change is not just a distant problem; it is a reality that affects every aspect of our daily lives. From rising global temperatures to shifts in rainfall patterns and the increasing frequency of extreme weather events, the evidence of climate change is all around us. Our environment is under unprecedented threat, compelling us to question whether we are truly doing enough to address these changes.

As we confront this reality, it is essential to recognize that the battle against climate change is not just about reducing emissions or adopting new technologies. It is about redefining how we live, work, and interact with our environment. This is an opportunity to rethink our relationship with nature, to improve our quality of life, and to ensure that we leave a healthier, more sustainable world for future generations. In this discussion, we will delve into the critical changes needed, the actions required, and how each of us can play a role in finding long-lasting solutions to this pressing challenge.

### Promoting the use of clean energy

One of the most effective ways to combat climate change is to transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy sources. Fossil fuels, such as coal, oil, and natural gas, are major contributors to the accumulation of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere, which drives global warming. To mitigate this, society must prioritize and promote the use of clean energy sources like solar, wind, and hydropower. These renewable energy sources offer a sustainable alternative that reduces our carbon footprint and helps slow the progression of climate change.

In Tanzania, President Samia Suluhu Hassan has taken a significant step by launching a comprehensive clean energy strategy that is set to be implemented over the next decade. This strategy aims to accelerate the adoption of renewable energy technologies and to integrate these clean energy sources into the national grid. The strategy is unique in its collaborative approach, bringing together development partners, the private sector, and public institutions to achieve a common goal: a cleaner, more sustainable energy future. By focusing on solar, wind, and hydropower, Tanzania is positioning itself as a leader in the fight against climate change in Africa.

However, the success of this strategy depends not only on government initiatives but also on the active participation of individuals and communities. People must be educated about the benefits of clean energy and encouraged to make the switch in their homes and businesses. By reducing our reliance on fossil fuels, we can collectively contribute to a significant reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, paving the way for a more sustainable and resilient future.

### Raising awareness and education on climate change

Awareness and education are the cornerstones of any successful climate action strategy. Without a deep understanding of the causes and effects of climate



change, it is difficult to inspire meaningful action. Climate change affects every aspect of our lives—our environment, our economy, our health, and our communities. Therefore, society must be well-informed about the impacts of climate change and the steps that can be taken to address it.

Education plays a vital role in empowering communities to understand and respond to the challenges posed by climate change. When people are equipped with knowledge, they are better positioned to make informed decisions about their resource use, consumption habits, and lifestyle choices. This, in turn, enables them to contribute to broader environmental protection efforts. Schools, universities, and community organizations have a critical role to play in spreading climate literacy and fostering a culture of sustainability.

Moreover, raising awareness about climate change is not just about disseminating information; it is about changing attitudes and behaviors. Public awareness campaigns, workshops, and educational programs can help shift public perception and encourage individuals to act in their own lives. Whether it's reducing energy consumption, adopting sustainable practices, or advocating for policy changes, every action counts. By fostering a greater understanding of climate change, we can build a more informed and engaged society that is ready to take on the challenges ahead.

### Preserving and promoting ecosystems

Ecosystems are the foundation of life on Earth, providing essential services that are critical for both human and environmental well-being. These services include the provision of food, clean water, air purification, and climate regulation. However, ecosystems are increasingly under threat

due to human activities such as deforestation, pollution, and overexploitation of natural resources. Climate change exacerbates these threats, making it more important than ever to preserve and promote healthy ecosystems.

Healthy ecosystems play a vital role in regulating the climate by absorbing carbon dioxide, one of the primary greenhouse gases responsible for global warming. Forests, wetlands, and oceans act as carbon sinks, storing vast amounts of carbon and helping to mitigate the effects of climate change.

Promoting ecosystem preservation requires a multifaceted approach that includes conservation, restoration, and sustainable management. Conservation efforts focus on protecting existing natural habitats and preventing further degradation. Restoration involves rehabilitating damaged ecosystems to restore their ecological functions and services. Sustainable management practices ensure that we use natural resources in a way that maintains ecosystem health and resilience for future generations.

Communities, governments, and organizations must work together to promote ecosystem preservation. This includes enforcing environmental regulations, supporting conservation initiatives, and raising awareness about the importance of biodiversity. By prioritizing the health of our ecosystems, we can build a more sustainable future and enhance our ability to adapt to the changing climate.

Acting to address extreme weather events  
Climate change is leading to an increase in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events, such as floods, droughts, hurricanes, and heatwaves. These events can have devastating effects on communities, economies, and ecosystems. The impacts of extreme weather are felt most acutely by vulnerable populations, including those living in poverty, in coastal areas, or in regions prone to natural disasters. Therefore, it is crucial for communities to take proactive measures to prepare for and respond to these events.

Acting to address extreme weather events involves several key strategies. First, it is essential to strengthen emergency preparedness and response plans. This includes developing early warning systems, conducting disaster drills, and ensuring that communities have access to the resources they need to respond effectively to emergencies. Second, building resilient infrastructure is critical to reducing the vulnerability of communities to extreme weather. This includes constructing buildings, roads, and bridges that can withstand the impacts of floods, storms, and other natural disasters.

Raising awareness about the risks associated with extreme weather events is also important. Public education campaigns can help people understand the potential dangers and encourage them to take preventive measures, such as securing their homes, creating emergency kits, and developing evacuation plans. By increasing public awareness and pre-

paredness, we can reduce the human and economic toll of extreme weather events.

Addressing extreme weather events also requires a broader focus on climate adaptation and resilience. This involves implementing policies and practices that enhance the ability of communities and ecosystems to cope with the changing climate. Examples include improving water management, protecting coastal areas, and promoting sustainable land use practices. By building resilience to extreme weather, we can protect lives, livelihoods, and the environment, while also reducing the long-term costs of climate change.

Promoting sustainable agriculture  
Agriculture is a cornerstone of the global economy and a primary source of livelihood for millions of people, particularly in developing countries like Tanzania. However, the agricultural sector is highly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. Changes in rainfall patterns, rising temperatures, and an increase in extreme weather events can disrupt food production, threaten food security, and undermine the livelihoods of farmers. To address these challenges, it is essential to promote sustainable agriculture that is resilient to climate change and capable of meeting the needs of a growing population.

Sustainable agriculture is a holistic approach to farming that seeks to balance the needs of food production with the preservation of environmental health. This involves adopting practices that enhance soil fertility, conserve water, and reduce the use of harmful chemicals. Sustainable agriculture also emphasizes the importance of biodiversity, crop rotation, and organic farming methods that promote ecological balance and reduce the environmental footprint of agriculture.

One of the key challenges in promoting sustainable agriculture is the need to enhance education and capacity-building among farmers. Many smallholder farmers in Tanzania and other developing countries lack access to the knowledge, resources, and technologies needed to adopt sustainable farming practices. Providing training, technical assistance, and access to sustainable farming inputs can empower farmers to improve their productivity while reducing their environmental impact.

### Conclusion

Climate change is one of the most pressing challenges facing our world today. Its impacts are far-reaching, affecting every aspect of our lives, from the environment to the economy to our health and well-being. As we grapple with this global crisis, it is clear that we must take deliberate and sustained action to address it. This requires not only technological and policy solutions but also a fundamental shift in how we live and interact with the natural world.

**Frank Abel is a Senior Programme Accountant at Amref Health Africa Tanzania and one of the Stakeholders of Sustainable Development focusing more on the effect of Climate Change. He can be reached via +255 753 73 23 55.**

**THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORDS AND WORD FIT - 158 -**

By Felix Magezin: 0787 00 97 94 // felixmagezi@gmail.com

**ACROSS:**

1. Witchdoctor in South Africa
6. a woody evergreen climbing plant
7. excellent
9. a narrowly avoided collision
13. Politics in Kiswahili
14. a pigsty

**DOWN:**

1. free from deceit
2. bravo
3. name of lake Malawi in Tanzania
4. the testing of a metal to determine its ingredients and quality
5. ruin emotionally
8. America
10. wash with clean water
11. be in charge of
12. anisogamy
16. by now or then
19. Rivers in kiswahili
20. of less than average height
21. deceive

16. make slightly angry  
17. Monetary unit of Denmark  
18. saag  
19. subject to debate or dispute  
20. state of being legal  
22. discharge  
23. densely populated areas  
24. a freeholder

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

OPPONENT OMIT LIVONIAN  
NOEL SAE VIPER  
OSSI ECRU OTO, OLE  
LOOSE TOO IDEATE  
IMPACTS TEA NUT, UNI

**Yesterday's solution**

BAGAMOYO P CAREER C  
A PEARL A I H  
NAMELESS A  
ABBANISSA NOVEL A  
NAIRANISM EVENING  
ALANINEWAY EREGION  
O EDITOR U R MAME  
N RENAMER MAMME  
YEN ELANN STAYSAIL

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

| MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME   | TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME  | WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME  | THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME   | FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME   | SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME   | SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
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## BUSINESS

## Kabanga nickel project pays 26.7bn/- compensations to displaced people

By Guardian Reporter

A total of 1,206 households physically or economically displaced by the Kabanga Nickel Project in Ngara district have received 26.7bn/-, which is equivalent to 95 percent of the compensation payment.

According to the statement issued on Monday by Lifezone Metals Limited, the majority stake owner of the project, the initiation of compensation payments to affected households commenced on November 6th, 2023.

"As of June 30th, 2024, a total of \$10.4 million was spent on compensation payments for those households that will be physically or economically displaced by the project," the statement said.

The activity started in November 2023, with \$2.2 million spent to December 31st, 2023 and \$8.2 million spent from January 1st, 2024 to June 30th, 2024, resulting in 94 percent of the compensation pay-

ments completed by the end of Q2 2024.

An additional compensation payment has been made and as of August 19th, 2024, the statement said.

"With the future construction of the Kabanga Nickel Project, within the Special Mining Licence 349 local households will be physically impacted (i.e., houses and land title impacted) and 990 will likely be economically impacted (i.e., land title impacted)," it said.

In 2023, Lifezone says it worked proficiently to update and improve a previous 2013 Relocation-Resettlement Action plan, and the Lifezone Resettlement Action Plan was submitted to the Tanzanian Ministry of Minerals in August 2023.

By the end of 2023, Lifezone achieved key resettlement milestones, including obtaining the Tanzanian Chief Government Valuer sign-off on the compensation schedule and valuation for land acquisition and relocation.

"Our community team is actively en-



gaged in identifying and supporting community members who have not received their payments, often related to missing documentation," it said.

The completion of compensation payments will give Lifezone legal surface title to the entire 4,300 hectares of the Kabanga Special Mining Licence area.

In June this year, the resettlement model houses showcase began, and five model houses have been built following discussions with affected persons.

Households that will be physically displaced by the project are entitled to select from one of two different styles of replacement house.

The statement noted that those who will be affected, have participated in a process of balloting for preferred resettlement sites, as well as selecting and influencing the housing materials, structures and design.

Feedback following the initial showcase is being

addressed ahead of final construction and relocation as Lifezone said will build approximately 410 new houses for resettlement at land selected in cooperation with government and local working groups.

Lifezone Metals Limited Chief Executive Officer, Chris Showalter said the company continues to progress its project, through a strategic partnership with the Government of Tanzania, which owns free carry stake of 16 percent and BHP.

Kabanga is believed to be one of the world's largest and highest-grade undeveloped nickel sulfide deposits.

In addition, he said, Lifezone continues to advance its partnership with Glencore to recycle platinum, palladium and rhodium in the United States.

Design and engineering for the Kabanga Nickel Project's Definitive Feasibility Study, which re-

mains on track, is expected to be completed by the end of September.

The Project's capital and operating expenditures estimates are currently being finalized, based on an initial 1.7 million tonne per year Phase 1, plus additional 1.7 million tonne per year Phase 2 expansion, for a combined 3.4 million tonne per year underground mining operation, concentrator and Hydromet refinery.

The Kabanga Nickel Project is expected to be a fully integrated mine-to-metal operation that will enable a fully auditable supply chain with production of refined, LME-grade nickel, copper and cobalt metals in Tanzania.

Production of first nickel, copper and cobalt metal cathode samples from Kabanga source material via the semi-continuous Hydromet pilot program at Lifezone's Stimulus Labs in Perth, Australia.

Pilot work and Feasibility Study for the Phase 1 partnership with Glencore to recycle platinum, palladium and rhodium from spent automotive catalytic converters in the United States is progressing well with planned completion in Q4 2024.

During the first half of this year, the company's basic and diluted loss per share amounted to \$0.14 compared to basic and diluted loss per share of \$0.18 in H1 2023.

## Veta, Belgium agency partner to empower women

By Correspondent Zuwenha Shame

VOCATIONAL Education Training Authority (VETA) and Enabel, Belgium Development Agency have signed two years Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) aimed at empowering youth particularly women by equipping them with quality education, vocational training and green employment opportunities.

Speaking shortly after signing the MoU, Enabel country director Koenraad Goekint said that the objective of the partnership is to implement inclusive green and smart cities by fostering greener, more inclusive cities and support the creation of the green jobs and enterprises to many youth.

Goekint said that it also aims to improve availability of business development services and financial services and strengthened the value chain through skills development and entrepreneurship promotion.

"It's a framework for collaboration of two parties

in areas of mutual interest to promote sustainable development and enhance vocational education in Tanzania," said Goekint.

Goekint said that the partnership will assist in the establishment of Centres of Vocational Excellence (CoVE) to deliver market-relevant skills as well as enhancement of digital entrepreneurship and green skills development.

He added that through the Wezesha Binti project will empower young women to thrive in a gender-equal environment, pursue education and skills and access decent work opportunities in the Kigoma region by empowering young girls aged between 14 to 29

years to decent employment and entrepreneurship opportunities in greener industries.

"From this project we expect youth to have access and complete quality education and a safe environment. Girls will have more access to decent and green employment, we also hope communities, and families as well as local governments create a supportive environment for girl's education and empowerment," added Goekint.

He further noted that on the side of Enabel, it will provide technical expertise, grants and support for the successful implementation of the projects as well as collaborating, reporting and evaluating pro-

ject outcomes.

VETA Director General, CPA Anthony Kasore said that through the partnership will oversee and support the implementation of projects in various centres by ensuring compliance with grant guidelines and address implementation risks and pilot and adopt best practices.

"This MoU marks a significant step toward improving vocational education and creating opportunities for youth, therefore will strengthen our ability to offer high-quality education and foster economic development across multiple regions of the country," said CPA Kasore.

CPA Kasore said that the Wezesha Binti project will be implemented in Kigoma Urban and Kasulu both in Kigoma region while inclusive green and smart cities in Mwanza

na Tanga regions.

On his side, a representative President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government Tanzania (PO-RALG) Frank Mkomochi urged the two parties to accelerate the implementation of projects so that youth who are drop-outs, standard seven and even universities benefit by getting skills and hence become self-employed as well as acquire decent employments.

"Youth are in need of these skills, you should hasten the implementation of these projects because many youth are in the streets to the extent that others are jobless and join immoral groups. We expect these skills will enable them to have jobs as well as self-employment. These projects should not end only the targeted regions but also countrywide," said Mkomochi.

## Gold prices sprint to record high on possible Fed rate cut

LONDON

GOLD prices hit a record high on Tuesday as a weaker dollar and buying by Western investors extended the precious metal's rally amid bets the US Federal Reserve will cut interest rates in September.

Spot gold rose 0.7 percent to \$2,522.25 per ounce by 1014 GMT, surpassing a previous record hit on Friday. London's gold price benchmark hit an all-time high of \$2,521.55 per ounce at a morning auction on Tuesday, the London Bullion Market Association (LBMA) said.

The dollar wobbled near a seven-month low on bets the U.S. central bank will start cutting interest rates from next month, with trad-

ers bracing for comments from Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell on Friday.

"Gold is effectively trading in line with expected cross-asset correlations, albeit being driven more by the FX side rather than rates at the moment," said Marcus Garvey, head of commodities strategy at Macquarie.

"From a flow perspective, it's quite notable that it's coming much more from Western investor buying than anything else," he added.

The Chinese gold price arbitrage is weak with the Shanghai Futures Exchange price trading below the Comex price as high prices have muted demand in top gold consumer China in recent months.

With the 22 percent price growth so far this year, non-yielding bullion is heading for the best year since 2020, while from the technical point of view, gold's Relative Strength Index currently at 67 sees it gradually approaching the "overbought" zone which starts at 70.

"Although there is plenty of scope for length to be added, and gold ETFs (exchange-traded funds) inflows are still modest, discretionary positioning is relatively long, creating some downside risks ahead of Powell's speech. Nevertheless, it's still a very constructive structural backdrop for the gold market," Garvey said.



Holdings of SPDR Gold Trust (P:GLD), the world's largest gold-backed ETF, jumped to their highest in seven months at 859 tons on Monday. [GOL/ETF]

Among other metals, spot silver rose 0.8 percent to \$29.7 per ounce, platinum gained 1.1 percent to \$963.55 and palladium was up 0.3 percent at \$934.50.

## New report highlights improved gender equality at workplace

By Frank Monyo

THE new PATH's Global Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Annual Report for 2023 has highlighted the significant progress in representation and equity at the workplace.

According to the report, there is an improved achievement of gender equality at all levels of the organization for the first time since 2020, more women in executive leadership team, and a 25 percent increase in Black employees in the United States since 2021, showing PATH's commitment to racial equity and promoting a diverse workforce.

"Our 2023 DEI report fills me with pride," said Nikolaj Gilbert,

PATH President and CEO. "It demonstrates our true commitment to a workplace where diversity thrives, equity matters, and inclusion is rooted. These are not just ideas—they drive our mission to advance health equity."

Levis Nderitu, Global Head of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at PATH, said: "We recognize that diversity is a catalyst for difference and impact. By bringing together people with different backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives, there is an enhanced capacity for complex global health challenges".

He said this diversity of thought enables the identification of diverse solutions, transformative change, global change, and the de-



velopment of more effective and culturally appropriate health interventions.

He said DEI's commitment goes beyond creating jobs; it implies that the organization's work is con-

sistent with serving the various communities it aims to support.

By embracing and speaking differently, we are better prepared to plan to implement health solutions that are innovative and equitable, and ultimately bring our mission of health equity to the world.

He added that many things are the expansion of Human Resources Groups, including the launch of Latinx at PATH and Asian at PATH, encouraging a strong sense of community and ownership among diverse employees, increasing Equity in Coordination Criteria, while more than 50 percent of projects reporting changes inequality in their work

and stories of employees from our global offices and how they are taking action to create a more inclusive and collaborative workplace.

"This report is a labor of love from all of our colleagues and demonstrates our progress toward integrating DEI principles into our people, business practices, and public health programs. While we have made great strides, we recognize that leveling the playing field so everyone can thrive is an ongoing journey.

We remain committed to continuous improvement and accountability in creating a more inclusive and equitable organization," said Nderitu



## Bank in drive to raise saving culture amongst Tanzanians

By Guardian Reporter

NBC has handed over 40m/- worth of gifts to winners of its campaign, which is aimed at inspiring economic growth and financial stability through a saving culture among its diverse customer base, encompassing individual clients, employees, small business owners, and even students.

A total of 45 winners were identified throughout the one-year campaign's three-month duration, through the monthly draws held at the bank's headquarters in Dar es Salaam. The winners were carefully selected through a rigorous process involving the bank's officials and representatives from the Gaming Board of Tanzania, ensuring the highest standards of transparency and fairness.

The impressive array of prizes awarded to the victorious customers included cash prizes, mobile phones, laptops, energy-efficient refrigerators, children's tablets, health insurance coverage, and even modern, eco-friendly cooking stoves.

The semi-final of the campaign is set to take place at the

end of this month, where the bank will proudly hand over a brand-new BMW X1 car, one of the two grand prizes meticulously planned for this year-long celebration of customer success.

"Through this campaign, we are not just handing out prizes; we are empowering our customers to achieve their dreams and aspirations," said Moses Senkoro, bank's marketing specialist.

He added: "Whether it's starting a new business, educating their children, or realizing their personal goals, we believe that by encouraging a culture of savings and financial responsibility, we can help our customers unlock their true potential and transform their lives."

The campaign's unique approach has resonated with a wide range of customer segments, each catered to through specialized account offerings whereby Chanua accounts, designed for children, awarded youngsters with tablets, while Malengo account holders were presented with refrigerators.

The Mwalimu and Johari accounts, tailored for educators



NBC Mbezi Beach Branch Manager in Dar es Salaam, Pudensiana Lihamwike (R), presenting a new refrigerator as a prize to Renalda Lema, a resident of Dar es Salaam, after she emerged as one of the winners of the bank's 'Shinda Mechi Zako Kinamna Yako' campaign, which aims to promote economic growth among its customers through savings. The handover took place at the branch yesterday.

and women, respectively, saw the distribution of high-quality gas stoves and pressure cookers.

"In addition to the cash prizes of up to 2m/- awarded to our business account holders, we have also distributed Samsung mobile phones to the winners of our Salary accounts, laptops to the winners of our Student accounts, health insurance coverage to the victors of our Kua Nasi accounts

specifically designed for entrepreneurs, and cash prizes of up to 500,000 shillings to the winners of our Vikundi (Group) accounts," he mentioned.

Arina Kimaryo, bank's marketing manager urged various customers of the bank, especially youths, to make good use of the opportunity provided by NBC through the campaign to benefit from the various prizes associated with it.

"The diversity of prizes reflects our deep understanding of the varied needs and aspirations of our customers," said Kimaryo. "We firmly believe that by empowering our clients, we are not only contributing to their personal growth but also fuelling the overall economic and social development of our nation."

The 'Win Your Matches' campaign

has struck a chord with the Tanzanian public, inspiring a newfound enthusiasm for savings and financial planning.

By harnessing the excitement of soccer, a beloved national sport, the bank has seamlessly integrated the spirit of competition and achievement into the realm of personal and professional advancement.

## Global shares march higher on Fed rate cut bets

LONDON

EUROPEAN shares hit a 2-1/2 week high on Tuesday, tracking a Wall Street rally driven by expectations that the Federal Reserve could offer further hints of imminent rate cuts later this week.

With the data calendar relatively light across major economies this week, all eyes are on Wednesday's release of the Fed's July meeting minutes and Chair Jerome Powell's speech at Jackson Hole on Friday for clues on the outlook for U.S. rates. Fed policymakers have in recent days signalled a potential rate easing in September, priming markets for a similar tone from Powell and other speakers at the annual meeting of global central bankers and other policymakers in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

"Should they acknowledge the US economy's disinflation path, it will confirm a September rate cut," said Thierry Wizman, global FX and rates strategist at Macquarie.

"Markets will likely turn on the extent to which Powell opens the door for the possibility of a 50 basis point (bps) cut at one of the next three FOMC meetings."

In Europe, the STOXX 600 index rose 0.2 percent to its highest level since August 1, having recovered all the losses seen after the weak US labour market report prompted worries about the state of the economy.

"Since the report, we've had number after number after number suggesting that a recession in



the U.S. economy is not around the corner," said Josephine Cetti, chief investment strategist at Nordea, citing strong US retail sales, upbeat business surveys, improving jobless claims numbers and a benign inflation reading.

"The recession fears have been dampened over the last couple of weeks and the market has rebounded a lot."

MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan hit a one-month high before giving up some gains to trade 0.3 percent higher.

Japan's Nikkei 225 hit its strongest level in over two weeks, closing up 1.8 percent, but Chinese blue-chips fell 0.7 percent on continued worries over the country's gloomy economic outlook. Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index edged down 0.5 percent.

US stock futures rose, with S&P 500 futures last up 0.1 percent while Nasdaq futures advanced 0.3 percent.

That left global stocks 0.1 percent higher, at their strongest level in over a month.

Expectations of a dovish Fed outcome this week left the dollar struggling at an over seven-month low against the euro, which peaked at \$1.108775 on Tuesday. Sterling touched a one-month high and last bought \$1.2995.

The dollar index was last at 101.84, having fallen to its lowest since early January of 101.76 earlier in the session.

Against the yen, the dollar was flat at 146.50, with traders also looking to Bank of Japan (BOJ) Governor Kazuo Ueda's appearance in parlia-

ment on Friday, where he is set to discuss the central bank's decision last month to raise interest rates.

The BOJ's hawkish tilt had injected huge volatility into markets as investors aggressively unwound yen-funded carry trades, rocking stocks globally.

The market turmoil has since abated after BOJ Deputy Governor Shinichi Uchida earlier this month played down the chance of further rate hikes in the near term.

"With markets calming, Ueda may change tack and return to talking about normalising interest rates," said Joseph Capurso, head of international and sustainable economics at Commonwealth Bank of Australia.

Down Under, the Reserve Bank of Australia judged a near-term rate cut was unlikely and policy might need to stay restrictive for an "extended period" to ensure inflation can be tamed, minutes of the central bank's August meeting out on Tuesday showed.

That buoyed the Australian dollar slightly, though it was last 0.1 percent lower after hitting a one-month high earlier in the session.

In commodities, oil prices fell on easing worries about supply disruptions in the Middle East, with Brent crude last down 1 percent at \$76.91 a barrel. US crude eased 1.2 percent to \$73.50 per barrel.

Spot gold touched another record high of \$2521.36 an ounce, drawing support from a broadly weaker dollar and on expectations of imminent US rate cuts.

## China's coal output rises amid decline in demand

BEIJING

CHINA'S coal production rose last month, though its share of domestic power generation fell, in a shift that will likely reduce imports and local prices.

Coal output rose 2.8 percent in July from the same month a year earlier, hitting 390.37 million metric tons, according to data released on August 15 by the National Bureau of Statistics.

July's output was down from June's 405.38 million tons, which was the strongest month so far this year. July was also the third-highest monthly production so far in 2024 and output has been trending higher since April.

The rising availability of coal in the world's biggest producer, importer and consumer of the fuel hasn't translated into an increased share of the total electricity generation, the primary use for the fuel.

Instead, China's coal-fired power is losing market share to cleaner alternatives, a trend likely to continue, given the ongoing rapid installation of solar, and to a lesser extent, wind capacity.

China's thermal power generation dropped in July for a third month on a year-earlier basis, despite rising overall power consumption.

Thermal power output, which is largely coal-fired with only a small amount of natural gas generation, fell 4.9 percent in July from the same month in 2023 to 574.9 billion kilowatt-hours (kWh).



Total generation rose 2.5 percent to 883.1 billion kWh, with hydropower output jumping 36.2 percent to 166.4 billion kWh.

China is experiencing a hotter than usual summer, which has boosted electricity demand for cooling.

Hydropower is increasing off a low base in 2023, when output was affected by low rainfall.

Other clean energy generation is also grabbing a higher share, with solar up 16.4 percent in July and nuclear increasing 4.3 percent.

China has ramped up installations of renewable energy, with 102 gigawatts (GW) of capacity being added in the first half of 2024, taking total capacity to more than 700 GW.

About 26 GW of wind capacity was added in the first six months of 2024, with the combined wind and solar additions being almost seven times the 18.3 GW of new coal-fired generation.



# Türkiye seeks to strengthen global trade ties with new FTAs, PTAs

ANKARA

IN addition to the free trade agreement (FTA) negotiations, Türkiye aims to strengthen its bilateral trade exchange through preferential trade agreements (PTAs) that provide mutual advantages in specific sectors, according to a report on Saturday.

According to information obtained by Anadolu Agency (AA) from the Trade Ministry, Türkiye is on track to signing comprehensive FTAs to enhance the competitiveness of its industry and provide market advantages to exporters in other countries.

In this context, 23 FTAs that Türkiye has signed are currently in force. Additionally, the approval and negotiation processes for FTAs with some countries are ongoing.

Besides these, PTAs with Iran, Azerbaijan, Uzbekistan and Pakistan, which provide mutual advantages in specific sectors, are making significant contributions.

Moreover, efforts are underway to implement a new PTA with the Maldives. Discussions are also continuing for the initiation of negotiations to sign this agreement with Algeria.

Accordingly, with its extensive network of trade agreements, Türkiye is among the top 10 countries in the world with the most FTAs.

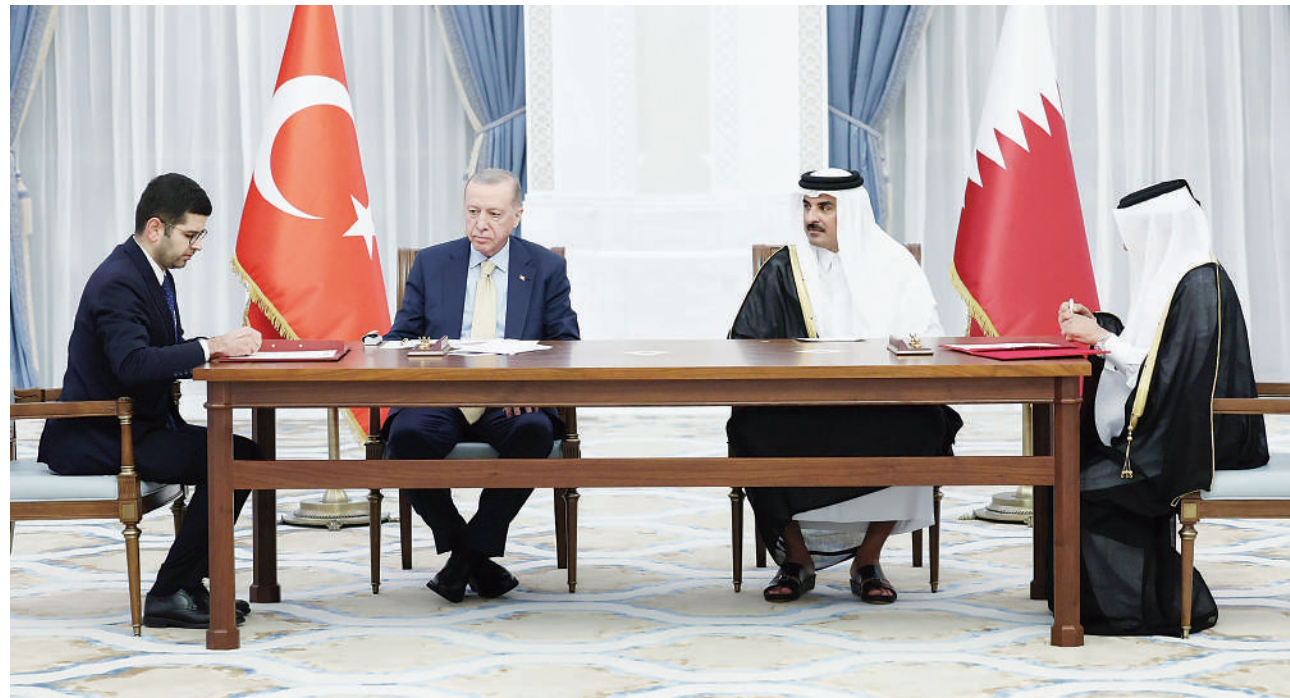
The domestic approval processes of FTAs that Türkiye is conducting with Ukraine, Qatar, Lebanon and Sudan are ongoing.

In this context, a new era began with the publication in the Official Gazette at the beginning of this month of the regulation concerning the Türkiye-Ukraine FTA, which was signed in Ukraine's capital Kyiv on Feb. 3, 2022.

The agreement, which is awaiting approval by the Ukrainian Parliament, will enter into force once the domestic approval process is completed.

The agreement aims to significantly liberalize a large portion of agricultural and industrial products originating from Ukraine.

Moreover, the Türkiye-Qatar Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) was signed in 2018. The agreement, which is currently being negotiated through diplomatic channels with Qatar, aims to liberalize trade in services between the two countries and mutually increase



President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan and Qatari Emir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani (2nd R) participate in the signing ceremony of the economic agreements between the two countries, Doha, Qatar. Photo: Agencies

market entry and investment opportunities for service providers operating in electronic commerce.

The agreement, which also aims to strengthen cooperation in regulations related to e-commerce, is expected to provide various advantages to the Turkish business community in areas ranging from trade in goods to telecommunications services.

At the same time, the domestic approval process in Lebanon is awaiting for the FTA between Türkiye and Lebanon to enter into force. This agreement aims to abolish customs duties applied on mutual industrial products.

In addition, the domestic approval pro-

cesses of the Türkiye-Sudan Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement are ongoing in Türkiye.

With this agreement, it is expected that Sudan will initially reduce its existing customs duties to 30 percent and gradually eliminate them. It is also foreseen that Türkiye will benefit from more advantageous entry conditions for its agricultural and industrial products in the Sudanese market.

The agreement, which also covers capacity-building and technical support issues for Sudan, is expected to contribute to the continued increase of Turkish investments in Sudan. The agreement also aims to boost bilateral trade volume to \$10

billion.

In line with the country's trade policy priorities, it is aimed to expand these networks of agreements. In this context, FTA negotiations with Japan, Indonesia and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) are ongoing.

Technical-level talks continue regarding the Economic Partnership Agreement negotiations with Japan.

Technical discussions are also being held to resume the fifth round of the Türkiye-Indonesia Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) negotiations, which were initiated in Ankara in 2017 during the visit of Indonesian President Joko Widodo to Türkiye.

# EU slashes planned tariff on Tesla's China-made EVs

BRUSSELS

THE European Commission cut on Tuesday its proposed tariff on imports of Tesla cars built in China, and said some Chinese firms in joint ventures with EU automakers may receive lower planned punitive duties on Chinese-made electric vehicles.

In the highest profile European Union probe of alleged Chinese subsidies, the Commission issued draft definitive findings of its anti-subsidy investigation, which has provoked threats of retaliation from Beijing.

It set a new reduced rate of 9 percent for Tesla, lower than the 20.8 percent it had indicated in July.

Tesla had requested a recalculation of its rate to be based on the specific subsidies the company had received, according to the Commission.

The EU executive said on Tuesday it still believed Chinese EV production had benefited from extensive subsidies and proposed final duties of up to 36.3 percent.

That is slightly lower than the maximum provisional duty of 37.6 percent the Commission had set in July for companies that did not cooperate with the EU's anti-subsidy investigation.

Tesla was among the companies classed as cooperating with the EU investigation.

The Commission said it conducted an investigation, including sending a team to Tesla facilities in China, to verify what subsidies the firm had received.

A Commission official said Brussels had concluded that Tesla receives less subsidies from China, compared to the Chinese EV producers Brussels had investigated.

The tariffs are on top of the EU's standard 10 percent duty on car imports.

# Business at Uganda-DR Congo border undeterred by mpox

KAMPALA

BUSINESS at the Mpondwe border crossing with the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is continuing as usual, despite recent health measures implemented to address a potential monkeypox outbreak.

The Ministry of Health has taken proactive steps by deploying a team of health workers and a mobile clinic to manage any suspected cases of monkeypox.

In addition to these efforts, the ministry has established handwashing facilities and a mobile laboratory to test and provide results for suspected cases.

The Minister of ICT and National Guidance, Godfrey Kabbyanga Baluku, visited the site to confirm the implementation of these health measures.

During his visit, the minister reassured the public of the government's commitment to managing the situation and urged the community to remain calm and adhere to standard operating procedures to prevent the spread of the virus.

"The government is in charge and we call upon the community to observe the standard operating procedures to curtail the spread of the virus," he said.

The minister also addressed tourists planning to visit the country, including those attending the Rwenzori Theluji Festival, including the Tusker Lite Mt Rwenzori marathon advising them to proceed with their travel plans as no new cases have been reported.

He highlighted that the government has enhanced security at porous border points to ensure travelers use a designated route for health screenings.

"Government has boosted security at porous borders to ensure people use one route where they undergo health checks."

District Surveillance Officer Bwambale Ararat reported that with additional support from the Ministry of Health, surveillance efforts have been effective.

"All individuals crossing from DRC to Uganda and vice versa have to be checked."

He confirmed that the two previously confirmed cases are recovering and that all new suspected cases have tested negative.

"Two cases confirmed by the Ministry of Health are recovering, and new suspected cases are testing negative."

Overall, the situation remains under control, with ongoing vigilance from health officials and local authorities ensuring the safety of both residents and visitors.

| ITV PGM SCHEDULE                           |   |  |                            |
|--|---|--|----------------------------|
| <b>WEDNESDAY 14 Aug</b>                    | 5:00 Soap 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: Laws of love                       | 9:55 Habari za saa                           | 10:00 Watoto Wetu          |
| 10:30 Jungu Kuu rpt                        | 10:55 Habari za saa                           | 11:00 Mjuzi zaidi                            | 11:40 Maji Kilimanjaro     |
| 11:55 Habari za saa                        | 12:00 Ai Jazeera                              | 12:30 Our Earth                              | 12:55 Habari za saa        |
| 13:00 Dakika 45 rpt                        | 13:30 HABARI                                  | 13:55 Habari za saa                          | 14:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt   |
| 14:40 Mapihi                               | 14:55 Habari za saa                           | 15:00 Meza huru                              | 16:30 Watoto Wetu          |
| 16:30 Music: The Base                      | 17:00 Hapa na Pale                            | 18:15 Mapihi                                 | 18:30 Jarida la wanawake   |
| 18:30 Kipindi maalum: BOT                  | 19:30 Soap: Laws of love                      | 20:00 Habari                                 | 21:05 Abu Yako             |
| 21:50 Ripoti maalum                        | 22:30 Soap: Uzalo                             | 23:00 Jiji letu                              | 23:30 Music: The Base      |
| 00:30 Ai Jazeera                           |   |  |                            |
| <b>THURSDAY 15 Aug</b>                     | 5:00 Soap 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: Laws of love                   | 9:55 Habari za saa                           | 10:00 Watoto Wetu          |
| 10:30 Jungu Kuu rpt                        | 10:55 Habari za saa                           | 11:00 Mjuzi zaidi                            | 11:40 Maji Kilimanjaro     |
| 11:55 Habari za saa                        | 12:00 Ai Jazeera                              | 12:30 Our Earth                              | 12:55 Habari za saa        |
| 13:00 Dakika 45 rpt                        | 13:30 HABARI                                  | 13:55 Habari za saa                          | 14:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt   |
| 14:40 Mapihi                               | 14:55 Habari za saa                           | 15:00 Meza huru                              | 16:30 Watoto Wetu          |
| 16:30 Music: The Base                      | 17:00 Hapa na Pale                            | 18:15 Mapihi                                 | 18:30 Jarida la wanawake   |
| 18:30 Kipindi maalum: BOT                  | 19:30 Soap: Laws of love                      | 20:00 Habari                                 | 21:05 Abu Yako             |
| 21:50 Ripoti maalum                        | 22:30 Soap: Uzalo                             | 23:00 Jiji letu                              | 23:30 Music: The Base      |
| 00:30 Ai Jazeera                           |   |  |                            |
| <b>FRIDAY 16 Aug</b>                       | 5:00 Soap 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: Laws of love                   | 9:55 Habari za saa                           | 10:00 Watoto Wetu          |
| 10:30 Jungu Kuu rpt                        | 10:55 Habari za saa                           | 11:00 Mjuzi zaidi                            | 11:40 Maji Kilimanjaro     |
| 11:55 Habari za saa                        | 12:00 Ai Jazeera                              | 12:30 Our Earth                              | 12:55 Habari za saa        |
| 13:00 Dakika 45 rpt                        | 13:30 HABARI                                  | 13:55 Habari za saa                          | 14:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt   |
| 14:40 Mapihi                               | 14:55 Habari za saa                           | 15:00 Meza huru                              | 16:30 Watoto Wetu          |
| 16:30 Music: The Base                      | 17:00 Hapa na Pale                            | 18:15 Mapihi                                 | 18:30 Jarida la wanawake   |
| 18:30 Kipindi maalum: BOT                  | 19:30 Soap: Laws of love                      | 20:00 Habari                                 | 21:05 Abu Yako             |
| 21:50 Ripoti maalum                        | 22:30 Soap: Uzalo                             | 23:00 Jiji letu                              | 23:30 Music: The Base      |
| 00:30 Ai Jazeera                           |   |  |                            |
| <b>SATURDAY 17 Aug</b>                     | 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi                        | 6:00 HABARI                                  |                            |
| <b>SUNDAY 18 Aug</b>                       | 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi                        | 6:00 HABARI                                  |                            |
| 6:40 KumeKucha                             | 7:00 Habari                                   | 8:00 Ai Jazeera                              |                            |
| 9:00 Watoto Wetu                           | 9:00 Kipindi maalum: Michezo Supa Min Jackpot | 9:00 Watoto Wetu                             |                            |
| 10:00 Soap rpt: Laws of love               | 10:00 Soap rpt: Uzalo rpt                     | 10:30 Ai Jazeera                             |                            |
| 11:45 Hawawumi lakini wamo rpt             | 12:45 Utafiti wako                            | 13:30 Tamasha la Michezo                     |                            |
| 14:00 Mwangaza                             | 15:30 MTV Top 10 rpt                          | 16:30 Kipindi cha kikiristo                  |                            |
| 18:00 Hapa na Pale                         | 18:15 Mapihi                                  | 18:30 Matuko ya wiki                         |                            |
| 19:30 Igizo: Hakufuma                      | 20:00 Habari                                  | 21:05 Igizo: Mizenge                         |                            |
| 21:20 Kipindi maalum: Michezo Supa Jackpot | 21:40 Mjuzi Zaidi                             | 22:15 Soap: Uzalo rpt                        |                            |
| 00:30 Ai Jazeera                           |   |  |                            |
| <b>TUES 13 Aug</b>                         | 06:00 Ai Jazeera                              | 09:00 KumeKucha Michezo rpt                  | 11:30 Monday agenda rpt    |
| 12:15 Spots gazette                        | 12:45 Filler doc                              | 13:00 Telenovela rpt: In Love With Ramon rpt | 14:00 Business Edition Rpt |
| 14:30 Capchat                              | 15:00 In good Shape                           | 15:30 Shamba Lulu                            | 16:30 Bundesliga Kick off  |
| 17:30 Culinary Delights Rpt                | 18:00 Capchat rpt                             | 18:30 Meza huru                              | 19:00 Innovation           |
| 19:30 Our Earth                            | 20:00 Décor Rpt                               | 20:45 Telenovela: In Love With Ramon rpt#41  | 21:30 Capital Prime News   |
| 22:00 Jagna rpt                            | 22:30 Eco@Africa                              | 23:00 Ai Jazeera                             |                            |
| 23:15 Wed 14 Aug                           |   |  |                            |
| 06:00 Ai Jazeera                           | 09:00 KumeKucha Michezo rpt                   | 10:00 Meza Huru Rpt                          | 11:30 Tomorrow Today rpt   |
| 12:00 Capchat                              | 13:00 KumeKucha Michezo rpt                   | 13:30 Meza Huru Rpt                          | 14:00 Dw News Africa rpt   |
| 15:00 Our Earth                            | 16:00 Innovation                              | 17:00 Meza huru                              | 18:00 Sports Gazette       |
| 19:00 Out & About rpt                      | 19:30 Culinary delight rpt                    | 20:00 Sports Gazette                         | 20:30 Our Earth rpt        |
| 21:00 Business Edition Rpt                 | 21:30 Culinary delight rpt                    | 22:00 Business edition rpt                   | 22:30 Monday Agenda Rpt    |
| 22:00 Capital Prime News                   | 22:45 The Décor                               | 23:00 Ai Jazeera                             |                            |
| 23:15 Thu 14 Aug                           |   |  |                            |
| 06:00 Ai Jazeera                           | 09:00 KumeKucha Michezo rpt                   | 10:00 Meza Huru Rpt                          | 11:30 Tomorrow Today rpt   |
| 12:00 Capchat                              | 13:00 KumeKucha Michezo rpt                   | 13:30 Meza Huru Rpt                          | 14:00 Dw News Africa rpt   |
| 15:00 Our Earth                            | 16:00 Innovation                              | 17:00 Meza huru                              | 18:00 Sports Gazette       |
| 19:00 Out & About rpt                      | 19:30 Culinary delight rpt                    | 20:00 Sports Gazette                         | 20:30 Our Earth rpt        |
| 21:00 Business Edition Rpt                 | 21:30 Culinary delight rpt                    | 22:00 Business edition rpt                   | 22:30 Monday Agenda Rpt    |
| 22:00 Capital Prime News                   | 22:45 The Décor                               | 23:00 Ai Jazeera                             |                            |
| 23:15 Fri 16 Aug                           |   |  |                            |
| 06:00 Ai Jazeera                           | 09:00 KumeKucha Michezo rpt                   | 10:00 Meza Huru Rpt                          | 11:30 Tomorrow Today rpt   |
| 12:00 Capchat                              | 13:00 KumeKucha Michezo rpt                   | 13:30 Meza Huru Rpt                          | 14:00 Dw News Africa rpt   |
| 15:00 Our Earth                            | 16:00 Innovation                              | 17:00 Meza huru                              | 18:00 Sports Gazette       |
| 19:00 Out & About rpt                      | 19:30 Culinary delight rpt                    | 20:00 Sports Gazette                         | 20:30 Our Earth rpt        |
| 21:00 Business Edition Rpt                 | 21:30 Culinary delight rpt                    | 22:00 Business edition rpt                   | 22:30 Monday Agenda Rpt    |
| 22:00 Capital Prime News                   | 22:45 The Décor                               | 23:00 Ai Jazeera                             |                            |
| 23:15 Sat 17 Aug                           |   |  |                            |
| 06:00 Ai Jazeera                           | 09:00 KumeKucha Michezo rpt                   | 10:00 Meza Huru Rpt                          | 11:30 Tomorrow Today rpt   |
| 12:00 Capchat                              | 13:00 KumeKucha Michezo rpt                   | 13:30 Meza Huru Rpt                          | 14:00 Dw News Africa rpt   |
| 15:00 Our Earth                            | 16:00 Innovation                              | 17:00 Meza huru                              | 18:00 Sports Gazette       |
| 19:00 Out & About rpt                      | 19:30 Culinary delight rpt                    | 20:00 Sports Gazette                         | 20:30 Our Earth rpt        |
| 21:00 Business Edition Rpt                 | 21:30 Culinary delight rpt                    | 22:00 Business edition rpt                   | 22:30 Monday Agenda Rpt    |
| 22:00 Capital Prime News                   | 22:45 The Décor                               | 23:00 Ai Jazeera                             |                            |
| 23:15 Sun 18 Aug                           |   |  |                            |
| 06:00 Ai Jazeera                           | 09:00 KumeKucha Michezo rpt                   | 10:00 Meza Huru Rpt                          | 11:30 Tomorrow Today rpt   |
| 12:00 Capchat                              | 13:00 KumeKucha Michezo rpt                   | 13:30 Meza Huru Rpt                          | 14:00 Dw News Africa rpt   |
| 15:00 Our Earth                            | 16:00 Innovation                              | 17:00 Meza huru                              | 18:00 Sports Gazette       |
| 19:00 Out & About rpt                      | 19:30 Culinary delight rpt                    | 20:00 Sports Gazette                         | 20:30 Our Earth rpt        |
| 21:00 Business Edition Rpt                 | 21:30 Culinary delight rpt                    | 22:00 Business edition rpt                   | 22:30 Monday Agenda Rpt    |
| 22:00 Capital Prime News                   | 22:45 The Décor                               | 23:00 Ai Jazeera                             |                            |





## WORLD



In this photo released by Malaysia's Department of Information, Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim speak during a business luncheon with China's Premier Li Qiang (not in image) at a hotel in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, June 20, 2024. AP

## Malaysia champions multipolar world order

HONG KONG

MALAYSIA is emerging as a champion of a more multipolar global order, opting to remain non-aligned as it contends with the changing geopolitical situation, analysts said.

While the United States remains one of Malaysia's biggest investors, Southeast Asia's third-biggest economy also "understands the limits and dangers of relying too heavily on the West".

Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim, who has been in power for nearly two years, has criticized the US and its allies over the prolonged conflict in the Gaza Strip, denounced "China-phobia", and rejected external interference in settling the disputes over the South China Sea. In July, Anwar sent an application to Russia, the current chair of BRICS, to join the group of emerging economies led by Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

Awang Azman Awang Pawi, associate professor at the Academy of Malay Studies in University of Malaya, said the Anwar government seeks to position Malaysia as a neutral and non-aligned state, to help it navigate the rising tensions between the US and China.

He said this approach also supports Malaysia's economic interests, as the country can be marketed as a politically stable and neutral location to potential investors.

Malaysia has long been a proponent of non-alignment, having been a member of the Non-Aligned Movement since 1970. It established diplomatic relations with China in 1974 at the height of the Cold War.

Awang Azman said Anwar's stance is a continuation of Malaysia's non-aligned foreign policy but this time with "stronger leanings towards China, reflecting a shift from previous governments that maintained closer ties with Western powers".

Julia Rohnifard, assistant professor at the School of Politics, History and International Relations, University of Nottingham Malaysia, said Malaysia sees the rise of a multipolar world as an opportunity, not a threat.

She said Malaysia's interest in joining

BRICS signifies the country's refusal to be dragged into the "negative geopolitical adventurism of the West that tilts increasingly belligerent against countries such as Russia and China".

Rohnifard said Malaysia also understands where its economic interests lie, as China has been its biggest trading partner for the last 15 years.

"Malaysia understands the limits and dangers of relying too heavily on the West and the rise of China has allowed it to take advantage of China as a counterbalance against the West, especially the US."

Rohnifard said the US pressure against Malaysia's stance on the Israel-Palestine conflict and its refusal to adhere to US sanctions against Iran and Russia is further pushing Malaysia to diversify its foreign policy and hedging among multiple allies.

On the other hand, Malaysia has a positive view of China's mediation efforts in the Middle East, she noted.

Anwar's foreign policy also resonates with the local populace. According to The State of Southeast Asia survey published in April by the ISEAS-Yusof Ishak Institute, more than 80 percent of Malaysians polled ranked the Israel-Palestine conflict as their top geopolitical concern and nearly 60 percent of the respondents supported their government's stance.

More than 66 percent of Malaysian respondents perceived China as the most influential economic power in Southeast Asia and over 75 percent considered China as the preferred alignment choice.

Awang Azman said Anwar's stance on Palestine has strong domestic support in the Muslim-majority nation. But any perceived alignment with non-Western powers like China may raise concerns among segments of the population who view closer ties with Western nations as crucial for economic and security reasons, said the academic.

"The overall impact will depend on how these policies are perceived in the context of Malaysia's economic performance and regional security environment," Awang Azman said.

Agencies

## Israel's Netanyahu supports new bridging proposal for Gaza truce - Blinken

JERUSALEM

ISRAEL has accepted a new proposal for a ceasefire in Gaza and the release of hostages, U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Monday after a meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

During a press conference in Tel Aviv, Blinken said that Netanyahu "confirmed that Israel approves" the new U.S.-backed bridging proposal.

The proposal was presented to Israel and Hamas by Qatari, Egyptian, and U.S. mediators over the weekend.

Blinken (pictured) urged Hamas to approve the bridging proposal, emphasizing the



urgency of addressing the suffering in Gaza, where more than 40,000 have been killed in Israeli assaults, and the need to release the hostages still held by Hamas.

Blinken visited Israel amid ongoing efforts to secure a ceasefire in exchange for the release of Israeli hostages and Palestinian prisoners, before heading to Egypt and Qatar, key mediators in the negotiations.

Netanyahu released a video statement during Blinken's press conference, referring to his meeting with Blinken as "good and important," but did not explicitly voice support for the bridging proposal. The prime minister said the United States "showed understanding to our vital security needs amid joint efforts to release our hostages."

"Hamas had previously dismissed the bridging proposal, claiming it was too aligned with Israel's demands, particularly concerning Israel's insistence on maintaining military forces within the Palestinian enclave, and accused Israel of introducing new demands

## India, Malaysia elevate ties to comprehensive strategic partnership, says PM Modi

NEW DELHI

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi yesterday said that the ties between India and Malaysia will be elevated to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

In a joint press statement with his Malaysian counterpart at Hyderabad House in Delhi, PM Modi said, "After becoming the PM, this is the first visit of Dato' Seri Anwar bin Ibrahim. I am happy to have the opportunity to welcome you at the beginning of my third term. India and Malaysia are completing a decade of partnership and in the last two years, with the support of Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim, our partnership has gained a new momentum and energy."

Prime Minister Modi further said that the investment from Malaysia to India reached over 5 billion dollars last year.

He said, "Today, we discussed extensively all areas of mutual cooperation. We have seen that our bilateral trade is progressing steadily. Last year, investment from Malaysia to India reached over 5 billion dollars. Today we have decided that our partnership will be elevated to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership."

Lauding the India-Malaysia relationship, Prime Minister Modi said that the two countries have "more potential" when it comes to ties, which is why the cooperation must be increased.

He also announced that India's UPI will be collaborating with Malaysian Paynet, and the linkage of the two will be worked upon.

"We have more potential in our relationship. We must increase our cooperation in the field of New technology areas, such as fintech, semiconductor, AI and Quantum. We will be working on linking India's UPI and Malaysian Paynet..." PM Modi underlined during his address.

Before the joint press statements, India and Malaysia exchanged MoUs and Agreements in the presence of Prime Minister Modi and Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim at Hyderabad House here in the national capital.

Earlier today, PM Modi held a bilateral meeting with visiting Malaysian counterpart, Anwar Ibrahim at the Hyderabad House. The discussions between the two leaders were held to further deepen engagement across various domains of partnership between India and Malaysia.

Ibrahim had arrived in the national capital today for a state visit, his first visit to India as the Malaysian premier. He was warmly received by Union Minister of State, V Somanna at the airport.

He also paid homage to Mahatma Gandhi, laying a wreath at Delhi's Rajghat following his meeting with PM Modi. Ibrahim also signed the visitor's book at the Rajghat. ANI



## US Democratic National Convention kicks off amid pro-Palestinian protests

CHICAGO

THE 2024 Democratic National Convention (DNC) kicked off at the United Center in Chicago, the US state of Illinois on Monday, as thousands of pro-Palestinian demonstrators marched near the venue to express their dissatisfaction with the Biden administration's handling of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The convention, where Vice-President Kamala Harris is expected to formally accept the Democratic presidential nomination, is scheduled for Aug 19-22. Minnesota Governor Tim Walz will formally accept the party's vice-presidential nomination.

Thousands of pro-Palestinian protesters marched in a neighborhood park to voice their discontent and anger toward the Biden administration's Israel policy, as the Palestinian death toll from Israeli attacks on the Gaza Strip has surpassed 40,000 since the outbreak of the current conflict on Oct 7, 2023.

Chicago police said that arrests were made but didn't specify the number.

On the opening day of the DNC, both former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and United Auto Workers president Sean Fair gave prime-time speeches.

President Joe Biden, greeted by an enthusiastic crowd of delegates, delivered a nearly hourlong keynote speech in which he highlighted his accomplishments since taking office, lashed out at former President Donald Trump, the Republican nominee, and



US President Joe Biden holds US Vice-President and 2024 Democratic presidential candidate Kamala Harris hand after delivering the keynote address on the first day of the Democratic National Convention (DNC) at the United Center in Chicago, Illinois, on Monday. AFP

urged voters to support Harris in her bid for the White House.

"She's tough, she's experienced and she has enormous integrity," Biden continued. "Her story represents the best American story. And like many of our best presidents, she was also vice-president," Biden said.

As Biden concluded his speech, he was joined on stage by his family, including Jill Biden, as well as Harris and her husband, Doug Emhoff.

As Democrats gathered for the convention, Trump took to social media to criticize his opponent.

"Kamala Harris can't answer how she'd pay for any of her new liberal spending schemes that will bankrupt our country!" Trump said in a

post on Truth Social.

Harris unveiled a sweeping economic agenda on Friday, which includes measures to cut taxes for the middle class, reduce grocery costs, take on price gouging, and lower the costs of owning and renting a home, among others.

In the key swing states that could decide the results of the election, the race between the two remains tight.

According to the latest poll data compiled by Real Clear Politics, Harris leads Trump by 1.0 percentage points in Wisconsin and by 2.0 percentage points in Michigan. In Pennsylvania, Harris trails by 0.2 percentage points.



Pro-Palestine protesters march ahead of the Democratic National Convention on Saturday in Chicago, Illinois. AFP

## South Africa to kick off national parks week to promote natural heritage

JOHANNESBURG

THE South African National Parks (SANParks) said Monday that it will kickstart the 19th National Parks Week next month to raise awareness of the country's conservation of natural and cultural heritage.

All South Africans will be given free access to most of

the 21 national parks under its management during the week, which will be held from Sept. 9 to 13, and extended to Sept. 14 and 15 at selected parks, the SANParks said in a statement.

The annual event has seen an influx of day visitors in all participating parks, and it has been used to cultivate a sense of pride in the country's natu-

ral, cultural, and historical heritage protected by the national parks system, the SANParks said.

Since the inception of National Parks Week in 2006, more than 785,000 day visitors have enjoyed free access to the national parks during the week, according to data from the SANParks.

## Huawei launches cybersecurity training for Zimbabwean officials

HARARE

CHINA'S tech giant Huawei on Monday launched the first cybersecurity training program for Zimbabwean government officials to capacitate them against cyber threats in Harare, the capital of Zimbabwe.

A total of 100 officials from government ministries and agencies participated in the four-day training program organized by Huawei in collaboration

with the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology, Postal and Courier Services.

Topics covered under the training programme include global cybersecurity trends, international security standards, enterprise private protection governance, and enterprise data security governance practice.

In a speech read on his behalf, Huawei Zimbabwe Managing Director Yang



Beaular Chirume, permanent secretary in the Ministry of Information and Communication Technology, Postal and Courier Services, delivers a speech during a training program organized by Huawei in Harare, Zimbabwe, on Monday. Xinhua

Shengwan said Huawei will continue investing in the country's digital future and working hand-in-hand with the government to address cybersecurity challenges.

"Huawei takes cybersecurity seriously, and we have made it a top priority in all of our operations and product development. Huawei invests heavily in research and development to ensure our technologies are secure and resilient against evolving cyber threats," Yang

said.

In addition, he said Huawei is deeply committed to training and equipping local technicians, engineers, and officials with the right cybersecurity knowledge and skills.

Beaular Chirume, permanent secretary in the ministry, highlighted Huawei's contribution to Zimbabwe's digital infrastructure.

"Huawei, thank you very much for coming on board to share with us, to improve

our skills, and to make sure that we share knowledge," said Chirume, while praising Huawei for helping the country build a cyber-resilient workforce and enhancing national security.

Huawei has been operating in Zimbabwe for more than 25 years and continues to play an important role in supporting the country's digital transformation, Yang said.

Xinhua



# African envoys expect deeper ties with China

NAIROBI

AFRICAN diplomats to Kenya have expressed strong optimism for the upcoming Forum on China-Africa Cooperation summit, viewing it as an opportunity to further deepen ties and chart new paths of cooperation toward building a China-Africa community with a shared future.

The diplomats, having toured key Belt and Road Initiative projects in Kenya, including the Mombasa-Nairobi Standard Gauge Railway, lauded the initiative for transforming the continent's infrastructure network and consequently boosting economic growth.

Anouar Ben Youssef, Tunisia's ambassador to Kenya, said the FOCAC summit, scheduled for Sept 4-6 in Beijing, will provide a chance to reaffirm China's engagement with Africa across various sectors beyond infrastructure.

"The summit will also be an opportunity to exchange new views and opportunities for a stronger cooperation between China and Africa," he said.

Youssef emphasized China's readiness to support Africa and urged countries across the continent to align their needs with internal development plans.

Many BRI projects in Kenya reflect China's interest and commitment to help African countries develop in strategic fields such as communications and transport, he said.

Despite the West's unfounded accusations that China is burdening Africa with debt, the evidence of significant infrastructure development across the continent demonstrates China's role as a key partner.

This is in addition to the interest shown by African countries in maintaining and furthering their relationship with China.

Sanyu Manday, counselor at the Uganda



Children wait to board a train of the Mombasa-Nairobi Standard Gauge Railway in Nairobi, Kenya, in October 2023. XINHUA

High Commission in Kenya, said she expects African countries to propose development projects at the FOCAC summit and hopes China can help explore ways to assist in their implementation.

"For Uganda, we are looking at constructing a Standard Gauge Railway to connect with the Kenyan one to further ease transportation and improve trade," she said.

### Regional approach

Manday said she believes that African countries should seek financing and development for BRI projects as a region rather than individually.

This approach, currently being considered by the East African Community, could secure better investment rates and improve economies of scale.

Projects such as the Mombasa-Nairobi Standard Gauge Railway could help in regional integration, improve transportation and foster collective growth among regional countries, she said.

Manday also thanked China for its practical engagement with African countries through models such as public-private partnerships, as was the case with the Nairobi Expressway project.

At a time when Africa is facing high debt challenges and the pressing need for infrastructure projects to boost socioeconomic development, Manday said the public-private partnership model is the way to go.

"We appreciate that Africa has a partner who understands us, can move with us and help us get out of our transportation constraints," she said.

### Engagement strategy

Dampety Bediako Asare, Ghana's high commissioner to Kenya, said each African country should go to the FOCAC summit with an understanding of their development needs and a strategy on how they want to engage China.

He said it should be clear to them whether they want to engage China as a continent or individually and whether the African Union should negotiate on behalf of the continent.

"To benefit fully from the BRI, African countries must prepare adequately, understand what they need, understand their development needs and be able to negotiate effectively," Asare said.

Andrew Sesinyi, Botswana's high commissioner to Kenya, said not only is China a good friend of Africa, but the level of bilateral cooperation is also on the rise.

"The relationship between China and Africa is not a scenario of a relationship between the wolf and the lamb. It's a true cooperation based on equity and mutual benefits," he said. The BRI projects visited by diplomats in Kenya reflect Africa's efforts to attract true partners and investors, he said.

"It's a global village; nobody is going to make it on their own. Whether the developed world or the developing world, we need cooperation," Sesinyi said.

Zhou Pingjian, Chinese ambassador to Kenya, said through the joint efforts by China and Africa, this year's FOCAC summit will be a great success.

"The summit will be an event to celebrate China-Africa friendship, explore cooperation and chart the course for the future under the theme of joining hands to advance modernization and build a high-level China-Africa community with a shared future," he said.

Xinhua

# 'Putin makes it clear that talks with Kiev are now impossible'

MOSCOW



RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin has made it absolutely clear that there cannot be any talks with Kiev after its attack on Russia's borderline Kursk Region, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov (pictured) said.

"The president said it very clearly that following attacks, or even incursion, on the Kursk Region, any talks are impossible. The president also said a very important thing and I would like to draw attention to it that we will give an assessment of this situation later," he said in an interview with the Moscow Kremlin.

Putin programme on the Rossiya-1 television channel. A fragment of the interview was posted by the programme's host Pavel Zarubin on his Telegram channel.

He refuted allegations about contacts ahead of potential Qatar-and Turkey-mediated talks with Kiev, slamming them as mere rumors. "And as for the rumours that has been spreading in recent time about some clandestine contacts to prepare talks Qatar-brokered talks on issues of Russian and Ukrainian energy facilities or rumors that our Turkish neighbors are planning to try to be mediators in the sphere of food security but in the context of ensuring free navigation in the Black Sea, you should understand the real goal of such schemes.

This is done in the wake of the Burgenstock conference, which yielded a decision to set up three working groups - on energy, on food in the context of safe navigation, and on humanitarian issues (prisoner exchanges and so on)," he said.

According to the top Russian diplomat, the entire process within the frames of the conference on Ukraine in Switzerland is unacceptable for Russia because it is about promoting the Zelensky formula as an ultimatum.

"These three working groups have been set up. Their meetings are being prepared and whatever might be said about any hints that Russia would be invited there in some way, this is not true," Lavrov said.

"Because the Burgenstock process is unacceptable for us as its only goal is to promote the ultimatum under the name of the 'Zelensky formula.'" Agencies

# Xi hails Olympians for winning glory for country

BEIJING



PRESIDENT Xi Jinping on Tuesday hailed Chinese Olympians for their performance and sportsmanship at the Paris Olympics, saying they have won glory for the country and the people.

Meeting China's Olympic delegation for Paris 2024 at the Great Hall of the People, Xi, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, urged the Olympians to make further efforts to build China into a sports powerhouse. Xinhua

# Russia blacklists 32 British think tank experts – Russian Foreign Ministry

MOSCOW

RUSSIA has supplemented its sanctions list with the names of 32 experts from British think tanks and consulting agencies, which are known for their anti-Russian policies, the Russian Foreign Ministry said.

"A number of British think tanks, consulting agencies and other such structures are seriously contributing to London's hostile efforts," it said. "That is why, it has been decided to put representatives from a range of such structures on Russia's stop-list and bar them from entering Russia."

The list includes nine structures - Forward Strategy Limited, Institute for Statecraft, Media Diversity Institute, Toro Risk Solutions, Chatham House, Open Knowledge Foundation, Privacy International, Peace Child International, Aga Khan Foundation - and 32 of their employees.

Work on the expansion of the Russian stop-list in response to London's hostile policy will continue," the ministry said.

According to the ministry, these organization are using popular mass media outlets and the internet to "propagate disinformation discrediting the Russian state in a futile attempt to create conditions for destabilizing the political situation in our country."

"Apart from that, contracted by London sponsors, who are seeking to isolate Moscow in the international arena politically and economically, such think tanks are engaged in destructive activities in countries that are unfriendly to Russia, this way undermining the stability and wellbeing of their peoples," the ministry stressed.

"We note that the British government continues its aggressive anti-Russian course by declaring a futile goal of 'dealing a strategic defeat' on our country



'on the battlefield,' making an extensive use of the mechanism of illegitimate sanction restrictions and conducting a lie-

hypocrisy-based propaganda campaign," the ministry said. "All this reveals the Russophobic sentiment in the British politi-

cal establishment and its plans to continue tough systemic confrontation with Russia." Agencies

# Hillary Clinton says it's time for Kamala Harris to break 'glass ceiling'

CHICAGO

HILLARY Clinton has spoken at the Democratic National Convention of her hope that Kamala Harris can finally break the "highest, hardest glass ceiling" in America by becoming the first female president.

Clinton said she had broken a glass ceiling of her own by becoming the first woman to win a major party nomination for president.

"When a barrier falls for one of us, it clears the way for all of us," she said, echoing her convention speech from eight years before.

But while her bid for the presidency in 2016 was historic, it ultimately ended in defeat when she lost the election to Donald Trump.

Now, as the Democratic Party takes its next shot at putting the first woman in the White House, she told a crowd of thousands in Chicago the time had come to pass the torch.

"Together, we've put a lot of cracks in the highest, hardest glass ceiling," Mrs Clinton said. "On the other side of that glass ceiling is Kamala Harris raising her hand and taking the oath of office as our 47th President of the United

States."

Times have changed since Clinton's presidential bid, according to several female delegates and politicians attending the 2024 DNC in Chicago.

Back then, she made her gender a central part of the campaign - a move Ms Harris has seemingly chosen to avoid. Whether the political backdrop has transformed enough for the vice-president to reach the nation's highest office remains an open question.

Clinton "shattered a lot of glass for many people", Minyon Moore, the chair of the Democratic National Convention Committee, told reporters on Monday morning.

But, she added: "It's not easy. We're trying to shift the mindset of people."

Women politicians and delegates who spoke to the BBC said they faced a number of barriers in politics, both in running for office and while serving their communities.

When Mallory McMorrow, a state senator from Michigan, ran for office in 2018, she remembers one woman in her district asked if she was planning on having children.

"She told me to my face, this is not a job for a mom," Ms McMorrow said. She went



on to become the second senator in Michigan history to give birth while in office.

Judy Mount, the first African-American female chair of the Florida Democrats, said it took years for women to be able to serve as chairs of their state political parties.

"People just do not want to see a woman in charge of anything," she said. "They do not."

During her run for president in 2016, Clinton faced a barrage of criticisms over her appearance, her clothing and even the sound of her voice.

She came into the race with more "baggage" than the average candidate, said Deloris Hudson, an Ohio delegate at the DNC.

Voters judged Clinton not only based on her own credentials and record as a sena-

tor and US secretary of state but also on her relationship with her husband, former President Bill Clinton, Ms Hudson said.

Ms Hudson believes many women judged Mrs Clinton for staying with her husband after he had an affair with Monica Lewinsky, an intern in the White House.

Clinton's loss to Trump in 2016 was also a catalyst for

change. It sparked women's marches across the country and propelled a record number of female candidates to run for office in 2018. Now, 28.5% of the House of Representatives is female, compared to just 19.1% in 2017, according to the Pew Research Center.

Meanwhile, over the past decade, the percentage of Americans who believe men are better suited for politics than women fell continuously, according to data from the University of Chicago's National Opinion Research Center.

Several elections later, Ms Harris does not face the same pressure as Mrs Clinton to be "everything to every woman", McMorrow said.

"Since then, we've seen more women running and winning at every single level all the way up that allows us more freedom and flexibility to be ourselves," she said.

Though the vice-president's aides and allies have pointed to deep-rooted sexism she's faced over her career, Ms Harris has tried to focus on her record rather than her gender identity. While Mrs Clinton tried to galvanise voters around her female candidacy, coining the slogan "I'm with Her", Harris has largely

avoided conversations about gender.

The move is perhaps both intentional and natural, Ms McMorrow said.

"There are so many more of us [women politicians] that I don't think you have to mention it anymore," she said.

Instead, this conversation has largely been left up to her supporters, including women and voters of colour who have helped raise millions of dollars for Harris. They have painted the 59-year-old as a younger, fresh alternative to the 78-year-old Trump, and a candidate who has given the Democratic ticket some much-needed momentum with two and a half months until November's election.

For some Democrats like US congresswoman Debbie Dingell of Michigan, Harris's ascension to the top of the ticket is representative of the progress women have made in politics in recent years.

But, she added, there remains more work to be done.

"We need to make sure that we include everybody, that no demographic feels left behind because someone else succeeds," Dingell said. "As a country, I think that's something we've got to continue to work at."



# SPORT



Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA)'s Director of Taxpayer Education and Communication Richard Kayombo (C) hands over a dummy cheque of a sponsorship of 40.5m/- for the Ndondo Cup 2024 to the Managing Director of Shadaka Sports Management, Shaffih Dauda (R). Looking on the left is Edson Muiambo, the Managing Director of SICPA, the key technology partner for TRA's Electronic Tax Stamps. The event was held on Monday in Dar es Salaam. Photo: Correspondent

## Coastal Union coach David Ouma optimistic about turning around 3-0 deficit in CAF Confederation Cup

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

COASTAL Union's head coach, David Ouma, remains optimistic despite his team's heavy 3-0 defeat to Angola's Bravos do Maquis in the first round of the CAF Confederation Cup.

The Kenyan coach insists that the tie is not yet over and is confident that his squad can turn the tables in the return leg.

This year's CAF Confederation Cup marks Coastal Union's return to international competition for the first time since 1989. The team, which finished fourth in the Premier League last season, now faces a daunting challenge.

To progress to the next round, Coastal Union will need to win by at least four goals in the second leg, set to take place in Dar es Salaam this weekend.

Ouma acknowledged the disappointment of the first-leg result but expressed belief in his team's potential to recover.

"The defeat was tough, especially for a team that performed well domestically last season. However, we are determined to rectify our mistakes and come out victorious in the return match," Ouma said.

The coach pinpointed key issues from the first leg, citing poor coordination in the midfield and central defense as major factors in the defeat. Ouma emphasized that addressing these weaknesses will be crucial for their success in the second leg.

"Our midfield and defense need to improve significantly. We've identified the problems and are working diligently to fix them before we face Bravos do Maquis again," he added.

Another factor contributing to Coastal Union's challenging position was their inability to effectively analyze and counter their opponents' strategies.

Ouma noted that his team struggled with recognizing the strengths and weaknesses of Bravos do Maquis, which he views as a critical learning experience.

"We were slow to adapt to their style of play and key players. This is a lesson we have learned and will apply in our preparations for the return leg," Ouma explained.

Coastal Union's last appearance in an international tournament was in 1989 when they participated in the Africa Cup of Champions. This competition eventually merged with the CAF Cup, giving rise to the current CAF Confederation Cup format in 2004.

In addition to their CAF Confederation Cup campaign, Coastal Union are gearing up for the upcoming Premier League season. The team's fixtures for the first five matches have been confirmed, and Coastal Union face a demanding start to the league.

Their opening match of the season will be against KMC FC at the KMC Complex on August 29, kicking off at 4:00 pm. This will be followed by an away fixture against JKT Tanzania on September 25 at Major General Isamuhyo Stadium, scheduled for 2:00 pm.

On October 21, Coastal Union will host Mashujaa FC at the KMC Complex, with the match starting at 4:00 pm.

The fourth round of the league will see Coastal Union take on Namungo FC, with the date and time to be announced later. They will then face Azam FC in the fifth round at the Azam Complex, though the specifics of this fixture are yet to be confirmed.

As Coastal Union prepare for these crucial matches, both in the domestic league and the CAF Confederation Cup, Ouma's leadership and the team's ability to adapt and overcome will be pivotal in their quest for success.

## FIFA rules in favour of Bechem United in battle with Yanga

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

THE world's football governing body, FIFA, has ordered Young Africans to pay Ghanaian club Bechem United \$80,000, the outstanding balance in the transfer fee of Augustine Okrah.

Bechem United lodged a complaint with FIFA against the NBC Premier League champions for failing to pay fully outstanding the transfer fees owed due to Okrah's sale between the two clubs.

According to reports, Young Africans and Bechem agreed on a transfer fee of \$100,000 for Okrah to return to Tanzania for his second spell.

However, Young Africans only paid \$20,000, which was enough for the International Transfer Certificate (ITC) to be released by the Ghanaian side.

The remaining \$80,000 remains unpaid forcing Bechem United to seek FIFA intervention.

FIFA ruled in favour of Bechem United and ordered Young Africans to pay the Ghanaian club the outstanding balance within 45 days to avoid further punishment.

"We refer to the matter of the reference regarding the claim lodged before the FIFA

Football Tribunal opposing the parties of the reference. Its annexes as well as all relevant correspondence in this matter are available in the FIFA Legal Portal.

"In accordance with art. 20 of the Procedural Rules Governing the Football Tribunal (hereinafter: the Procedural Rules), the FIFA General Secretariat proposes to settle this matter as follows:

"The Respondent, Young Africans Sports Club, shall pay the Claimant, Bechem United FC:

- USD 80,000 as outstanding remuneration. Payment (including any applicable interest) shall be made within 45 days as from notification of the confirmation letter;"

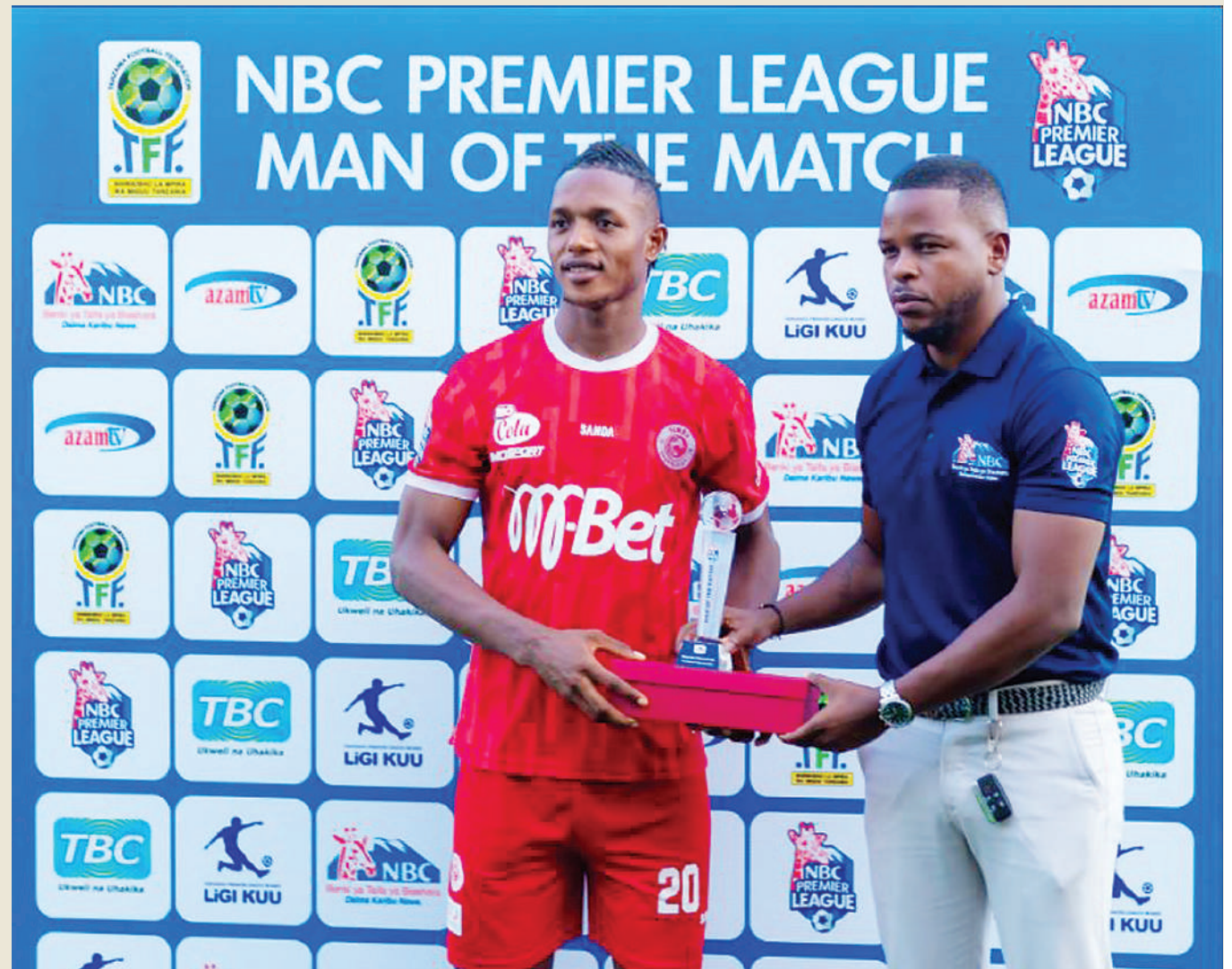
Fifa's ruling, now in our possession, reads in part. The 31-year-old joined the Dar es Salaam giants in the mini transfer window of the 2023/24 season after an incredible start to the Ghana Premier League with Bechem United.

However, Okrah found game time difficult at Young Africans under head coach Miguel Gamondi. He was subsequently one of the players who were released at the end of the season.

He had earlier played for arch-rivals Simba in another short-lived spell in Tanzania.

## SPORTS

## NBC Premier League introduces 'Man of the Match' award to elevate competition and excitement



NBC Bank's Head of Business Banking Ibrahimu Nzutu (R) presenting the award to Simba SC defender, Che Fondoh Malone, who was named the 'Man of the Match' in the first round of the NBC Premier League match between Simba SC and Tabora United from Tabora. The handover took place after the completion of the match between the two teams at the KMC Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam over the weekend. The match ended with Simba SC winning 3-0. NBC Bank is the main sponsor of the league. Photo: Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent

IN a move that has captivated the hearts of football enthusiasts across Tanzania, the National Bank of Commerce (NBC), the main sponsor of the NBC Premier League, has announced the introduction of a revolutionary 'Man of the Match' award aimed at enhancing the excitement and competition within the league.

According to the sponsor, this initiative marks the beginning of a broader effort to elevate the league's standards and boost the overall attraction and competitive spirit among the participating teams.

The curtain-raiser for this innovative award saw Yona Amosi Abel, the goalkeeper of Pamba Jiji FC in Mwanza, being named the best player in the opening match between his team and Prisons FC from Mbeya, which ended in a goalless draw at the CCM Kirumba Stadium.

Leading the charge in Mwanza was the Nyanza Branch Manager of NBC Bank, Innocent Ngavatula, who proudly presented the award to the deserving player. This ceremony was followed by similar award handovers in other regions, including Kigoma, Mbeya, and Dar es Salaam, where league matches were held.

"By officially introducing these awards in every match of the NBC Premier League, we have already presented a total of four

awards to players from different clubs that have played their first-round matches," revealed David Raymond, Head of Marketing at NBC Bank. "In addition to Yona Amosi from Pamba Jiji FC, we have also handed over similar awards to Ibrahim Ame, the central defender from Mashujaa FC, midfielder Emmanuel Keyekheh 'The Sniper' from Singida Black Stars, and Simba SC defender, Che Fondoh Malone."

Raymond emphasized that the introduction of these awards for the best players in each match does not replace the bank's tradition of recognizing the league's best player and coach on a monthly basis.

The primary objective is to infuse the league with more exciting elements, increasing momentum and competition by acknowledging the efforts of players and their coaching staff.

"Through our partnership with the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) and other stakeholders, including various experts in the sport, we will continue to develop innovative ideas that benefit all stakeholders in this league, including the fans," Raymond added, underscoring the bank's unwavering commitment to the development of Tanzanian football.

As the main sponsor of the NBC Premier League, Championship League, and Youth League, the bank has been providing a range of banking services to participating clubs, including bus loans and health insurance coverage for players and coaching staff. Additionally, NBC has been actively involved in organizing championship

celebrations for league winners and sponsoring various sports events organized by the TFF and other stakeholders in the country, including the government.

"Our goal is to ensure that the NBC Premier League, Championship League, and Youth League continue to grow in stature and attract the best talent from across the globe," said Ibrahimu Nzutu, Head of Business Banking at the bank. "By introducing these player awards and continuously enhancing the overall experience, we are confident that the beautiful game in Tanzania will reach new heights of excitement and competitiveness," he added.

The introduction of the 'Man of the Match' award in the NBC Premier League has already generated a buzz among football enthusiasts in the country. As the league progresses, the anticipation is palpable. NBC's unwavering dedication to elevating the sport, coupled with its innovative approach, has solidified its position as a true champion of Tanzanian football, inspiring a new generation of players and fans alike.



Youth soccer players pictured yesterday during a training session at the Jakaya Kikwete Sports Park in Dar es Salaam. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA



## 'Maresca's teamsheet created some new issues to resolve behind the scenes'

By Nizaar Kinsella

CHELSEA'S starting XI for their defeat by Manchester City showed they have good players - but the issue is they have over 30 more whose futures need resolving.

Before kick-off was a statement delivered by Raheem Sterling, who was not in the matchday squad, through his representatives saying: "We look forward to gaining clarity on the situation."

Erling Haaland and Mateo Kovacic got the goals, but Chelsea left Stamford Bridge feeling they at least deserved a draw and possibly even a win over the champions.

Nicolas Jackson, Christopher Nkunku, Romeo Lavia and Wesley Fofana all looked in impressive shape after injury-ruined seasons.

Cole Palmer was quiet but remains a brilliant option as new boss Enzo Maresca tries to balance his midfield alongside £100m men Moises Caicedo and Enzo Fernandez.

Having fixed the defensive issues that dogged pre-season, Maresca was left - like so many previous Blues managers - bemoaning poor finishing.

Chelsea are continuing talks to sign forwards Joao Felix and Victor Osimhen, but the urgent need seems to be to offload players.

Having effectively put Ben Chilwell's future in doubt before kick-off, Maresca did the same with Sterling on Sunday - and, after the match, said Carney Chukwuemeka might also need to seek a move.

A host of others - including Trevoh Chalobah, Romelu Lukaku, Kepa Arrizabalaga, Armando Broja, David Datro Fofana, Cesare Casadei and Angelo Gabriel - are also expected to leave before the 30 August deadline.

If not, Maresca will be left in the tricky position of trying to keep a glut of high-profile players happy.

Sunday's performance was posi-

tive, but Maresca's teamsheet created some new issues to resolve behind the scenes.

Meanwhile, Chelsea have agreed a fee in principle for Atletico Madrid forward Joao Felix, with Conor Gallagher moving in the other direction as part of the deal.

The fee for the 24-year-old Portugal international is undisclosed, but it will allow him to return to Stamford Bridge on a six-year deal with an option for a further season.

Felix's move, which is subject to a medical, will bring him back after a 2023 loan spell at Chelsea.

He scored four goals in 20 appearances in his previous spell in west London.

England midfielder Gallagher, meanwhile, is set to sign a five-year deal with Atletico.

He had been training alone at the club's Cobham training ground after being left in limbo for a week.

The collapse of Chelsea's talks to sign striker Samu Omorodion had delayed Gallagher's £33m move to Madrid, with Atleti needing to raise funds to complete the move by making a major first-team sale.

Felix's move to Chelsea will pave the way for Gallagher to sign on at Wanda Metropolitan Stadium, where he was pictured at nine days ago in anticipation of a move before a delay forced him to fly back to London last Tuesday.

Chelsea will focus on player sales in the lead up deadline day on 30 August but remain interested in Napoli striker Victor Osimhen, as the Italian club continue their efforts to sign Romelu Lukaku, who remains on Chelsea's books but has no future in west London.

Napoli say they have made a second offer to sign Lukaku on loan with a £25.5m obligation to buy.

It is expected to be rejected after falling short of Chelsea's asking price of around £35m.

BBC

## Gundogan could leave Barcelona after one season

By Nizaar Kinsella

ILKAY Gundogan is being allowed to explore options to leave Barcelona this summer.

The 33-year-old has only been at the Catalan club for one full season after opting to leave Manchester City on a free transfer.

Despite being under contract for two more years, Gundogan has been told Barcelona will not stand in his way if he finds a suitable move.

Clubs in England, Spain and Saudi Arabia are reportedly interested in the midfielder, who made 51 appearances across all competitions last season as Barcelona finished second in La Liga.

Barca boss Hansi Flick addressed speculation after Gundogan missed the team's season-opening win against Valencia because of concussion on Saturday.

Flick, who previously managed Gundogan with the Germany national team, said: "I know him very well. I appreciate the player and the person he is."

"We spoke about everything, but it will stay between us. It's not for you to know. I have a feeling he will stay."

Flick is keen to keep Gundogan, but the situation may be influenced by the complicated financial position at Barcelona.

They have reportedly been unable yet to register new £51m signing Dani Olmo because of the Spanish league's squad cost control rules.

Barcelona are also believed to be willing to sell striker Vitor Roque before the transfer deadline.

They recently announced the departure of captain Sergi Roberto, while full-back Julian Araujo left to join Bournemouth last week.

Meanwhile Gundogan has announced his retirement from international football.

After making his debut for his country in 2011, he went on to play 82 times for Germany and captained the side at this summer's European Championship.

Though he described that as a "highlight", he added: "Even before the tournament, I felt a certain tiredness in my body and also in my head, which got me thinking. And the games at club and national level are not getting any less."

BBC

## France soccer great Henry leaves coaching job after winning Olympic silver medal

PARIS

AFTER leading France's Olympic team to a silver medal at the Paris Games, Thierry Henry left his coaching job Monday, with the French soccer federation saying he had cited personal reasons for the departure.

The France great had a contract through the next season and was due to resume coaching the France under-21 team next month in its qualifying group for the 2025 European Championship.

Thanking Henry for his work, federation president Philippe Diallo praised his "great professionalism, his rigor and his love of the blue jersey." Henry was hired one year ago with the Paris Olympics in mind and led the team to the final on Aug. 9, losing 5-3 to Spain after extra time at Parc des Princes.

After the final, the former Arsenal and Barcelona forward gave an elusive answer about his future plans that suggested he might not stay with the U21 team.

"Obtaining the silver medal for my country at the Olympic Games will remain one of the greatest sources of pride of my life," Henry said in a statement Monday.

AP

# Jamie Vardy channels Leicester's title-winning magic to defy the odds again against Tottenham

By Richard Jolly

THERE is still proof of Leicester's penchant for the improbable and it comes in the inimitable figure of Jamie Vardy. His career has been an exercise in the remarkable, and equalising against a Tottenham team who had appeared utterly dominant ranks low in his list of unlikely feats.

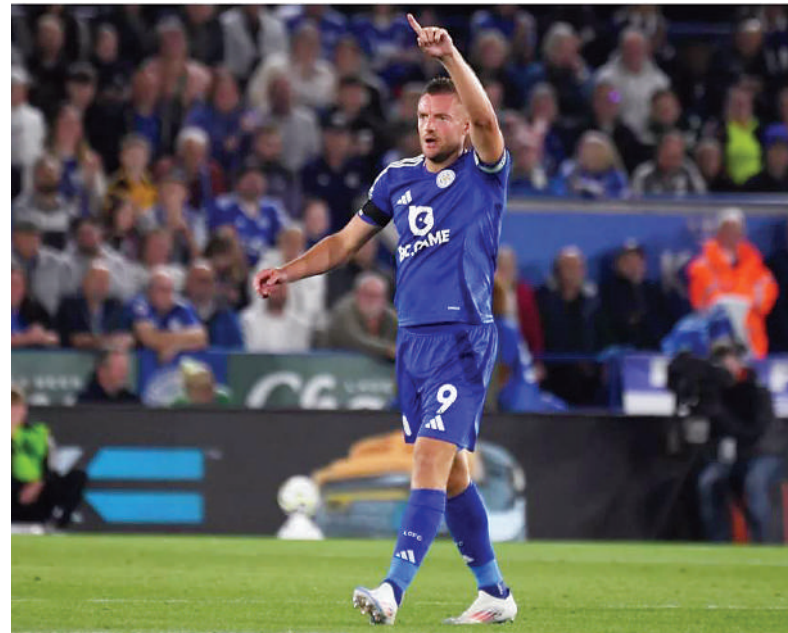
But as long as Leicester have the last remnant of their title-winning team, there is the sense they can conjure some of the spirit of 5000-1 outsiders.

And if those were scarcely the odds before Vardy levelled, Leicester's return to the top flight, eight years after they won it, was shaping up as a chastening affair. For almost an hour, they were out-classed.

But not, it transpired, out of the game. Steve Cooper became the eighth Leicester manager to benefit from a Vardy goal, his own introduction to a new club smoothed by a man signed by Nigel Pearson.

And the Vardy story, one so outlandish it once attracted Hollywood's attention, always has another chapter. He was playing in non-league at 25. He is back in the Premier League at 37. It is not a normal trajectory but then Vardy and normality parted company quite some time ago. In a match when Tottenham's £65m signing Dominic Solanke had seemed the striker likeliest to score, when the Leicester luminary shining was the returning James Maddison, Vardy contrived to upstage both. Maddison, at least, should not be surprised. He has seen this before.

Vardy had been a spectator for much of the first half, stranded apart from his teammates, outpaced when in a race with Tottenham



Vardy, 37, scored the equaliser to earn Leicester a point against Spurs (AP)

ham defenders.

He had not looked fit; indeed, the pre-match expectation was that he was not. But, Cooper had said, Vardy had pronounced himself able to play. And even as the legs seemed slower, the goalscoring instincts were still intact.

When Abdul Fatawu chipped a cross to the far post, unmarked, having evaded the Spurs scorer Pedro Porro, Vardy headed in. It could have been the first of a swift double. Vardy raced on to the new-comer Facundo Buonanotte's pass and rifled a shot that Guglielmo Vicario parried, knocked off his feet by its power.

His evening featured two shots on target and just three completed passes; a sign of how little possession Leicester had but also of the way his game has evolved. He departed, though, to a standing ovation.

He had scored his 137th Premier League goal, roused a previously

subdued stadium and shifted the momentum. It could have yielded a winner without him: substitute Kasey McAteer headed onto the roof of the net and Wilfred Ndidi, bursting forward, drew a diving save from Vicario. But Leicester, unlike their fellow promoted clubs, started their season with a draw.

For Tottenham, a point felt a meagre return for their early excellence. Their evening went wrong in different respects. The loss of Rodrigo Bentancur, stretched off after being given oxygen following a head injury, presents a concern. Two points escaped their grasp just when they seemed to be highlighting Leicester's shortcomings.

City's susceptibility to the aerial ball was apparent even before the opener. They looked frail at set-pieces as Ndidi had to hook the ball off his own line and Cristian Romero headed just wide. Maddison, meanwhile, allied set-piece expertise with class in possession.

Leicester needed few reminders he can be the creator supreme. He nevertheless provided one, marking his first return to the King Power since his 2023 sale with a curled cross. Porro ghosted in to head home, the Spaniard materialising near the penalty spot. This felt like Ange Postecoglou's vision, given his emphasis on attacking, inverted full-backs.

There was a new pillar in his rebuild. Solanke was parachuted in for his debut; other managers have held their major summer signings back but Postecoglou thrust the £65m striker into action.

Solanke showed he can provide a focal point to the attack in a way Heung-Min Son does not. Mats Hermansen saved first a diving header, then a towering one, then a shot on the turn. But if a goal appeared to be coming for a centre-forward, Leicester's veteran attacker instead claimed it.

It felt doubly fitting. Leicester paid tribute to Craig Shakespeare, assistant manager in the title-winning team, among those who helped Vardy become a champion. Relegation in 2023 was a reminder that the unpredictability of sport can cost Leicester, too. But if drama is a constant, after a 97-point campaign last season, and with a probable deduction to come this, Cooper, the Nottingham Forest icon who has arrived at their Midlands rivals, traded Enzo Maresca's permanent possession for defensive resolve.

Leicester were penned in, put under pressure and yet ended up buoyant and, almost, winners. For Cooper, it was a first glimpse of the Vardy effect. For Leicester, yet another.

THE INDEPENDENT

## 'Leicester's greatest' - how 'special' Vardy outshone Solanke

By Gary Rose

ALL eyes had been on Tottenham's new £65m striker as Spurs looked to show they had the firepower to battle for the top four, but instead it was a 37-year-old veteran who stole the limelight.

Dominic Solanke is the man Spurs hope will provide the goals that have been missing since Harry Kane's departure to Bayern Munich last year, and while he was unable to provide the sort of impact he would have liked in Monday's 1-1 draw with Leicester, there is plenty of time on his side.

The night belonged to a player who many would have considered his Premier League days to be behind him - Jamie Vardy.

After Pedro Porro gave Tottenham the lead in a first half they dominated, Vardy equalised with Leicester's first attempt on target just before the hour mark, heading in a cross from close range.

Despite his advancing years, Vardy provided a reminder of his incredible talent in front of goal, something that seems to have improved with age, with this his 104th Premier League goal after the age of 30 - all of them for Leicester.

"I would imagine Vardy is Leicester's greatest ever player," former Liverpool defender Jamie Carragher said on Sky Sports.

"He is a special footballer." "Spurs 'not ruthless enough' but have time to fix it

The story of this game could have been very different if Tottenham had shown more sharpness in front of goal.

After a strong start last season, injuries hampered their bid to finish in the top four, but their lack of cutting edge at times also played a part. That was the case in the opening 45 minutes at King Power Stadium, with Tottenham utterly dominant and creating opportunities, but simply failing to take them.

Solanke missed two, putting headers from decent positions straight at the goalkeeper.

But the former Bournemouth striker was taking up good positions and his team-mates were sometimes guilty of failing to make the most of that with some poor pass-



Jamie Vardy took advantage of some slack Spurs marking to score an unlikely equaliser - Reuters

ing in the final third.

"They were so much in control, but you always feel like they can let you down and concede a goal," added Carragher.

"It was like a pre-season friendly for them for the first half."

Solanke was lethal for Bournemouth last season, scoring 19 goals in the Premier League, and it is far too early to be concerned by his failure to score in his first competitive appearance for Tottenham.

But with the hefty price tag comes pressure to deliver, and he will want a goal sooner rather than later to show that the investment can prove to be money well spent.

"This is a test for him," former Manchester United defender Gary Neville said on Sky Sports.

"There will be moments. There were moments and big chances and he will be judged on moments like that. He needs to make sure he doesn't beat himself up in the next few days.

"He probably should have had one or two, but he will get goals if he carries on doing that."

Despite failing to build on their first-half dominance, Tottenham could have won the game in the final few seconds but finishing again let them down as Richarlison headed wide.

"It was a disappointing outcome for us," Spurs boss Ange Postecoglou told BBC Sport.

"I thought we were excellent [in the] first half and controlled the game.

"We created chances and weren't ruthless enough and wasteful at times, making poor decisions at other times, lacking composure. It's stuff we need to fix. When you are so dominant you need to make sure it is reflected in the scoreline."

"He does what he does" - Vardy steps up

Eight years ago Leicester were celebrating the fairytale of becoming Premier League champions, but this season the priority is to stay up.

They were promoted back to the top flight last term by winning the Championship, but title-winning manager Enzo Maresca left to join Chelsea and a possible points deduction for allegedly breaching profit and sustainability rules still looms.

BBC

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

**Jamie Vardy channels Leicester's title-winning magic to defy the odds again against Tottenham**

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Vijana basketball team players during a training session at the Jakaya Kikwete Sports Park yesterday. PHOTO: JUMANNE JUMA

## Simba confirm striker Freddy Kouablan exit

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SIMBA SC have officially confirmed the departure of Ivorian striker Freddy Michael Kouablan, ending weeks of speculation about his future at the club.

Kouablan, who joined Simba in January on a two-year contract with an additional one-year option, has been released after failing to impress head coach Fadlu Davids.

Kouablan was part of Simba's three-week pre-season training camp in Egypt, but it was reported that coach Davids was not satisfied with the striker's performance.

Despite the signing of Ugandan striker Steven Mukwala, Davids expressed concerns about the attacking options available to him, particularly after a 1-0 derby loss to rivals Young Africans.

Following the defeat, Davids confirmed that the club was actively seeking to bolster their attacking lineup before the August 15 transfer window deadline, which fueled speculation about Kouablan's future.

During this period, Mukwala appeared to be ahead of Kouablan in the pecking order based on performances in pre-season games.

"We need to strengthen in the attacking department for sure. We are working hard behind the scenes to strengthen our team. That is clear," Davids emphasized, signaling that changes were imminent.

Just days before the transfer window closed, Simba signed Cameroonian striker Leonel Ateba from Algerian club USM Alger.

Ateba's arrival forced the club to make difficult decisions regarding their foreign player quota, leading to reports that either Moroccan goalkeeper Ayoub Lakred, who is currently injured, or Kouablan would be released to accommodate the new signing.

Ahmed Ally, Simba's information and communication manager, has since confirmed Kouablan's exit, stating that the striker was not part of Davids' plans for the season.

However, it remains unclear if the club managed to secure a buyer for Kouablan.

"It is true that we parted with Freddy Kouablan after the coach was not satisfied with his level and asked for reinforcement of another attacker who has already arrived," Ally said in a radio interview.

With Kouablan no longer in the squad, Davids will now rely on new signings Mukwala, Ateba, and Mashaka to lead Simba's attack as they aim to secure their first league title in four years during the 2024/25 season.

## Coach Gamondi confident in Prince Dube's goal-scoring potential



Prince Dube

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

YOUNG Africans coach Miguel Gamondi is confident that striker Prince Dube can significantly boost his goal tally in the 2024/25 season by maintaining good positioning and staying calm in front of goal.

The Zimbabwean striker (pictured), who recently joined Young Africans after terminating his contract with Azam, has already made a substantial impact.

In just seven matches, including three competitive fixtures against Simba, Azam, and Vital'O, and four friendlies against FC Augsburg, TS Galaxy, Kaizer Chiefs, and Red Arrows, Dube has netted an impressive four goals.

He has quickly emerged as Gamondi's preferred striker this season, consistently starting in all three competitive matches and outshining fellow forwards Kennedy Musonda, Jean Baleke, and Clement Mzize.

Gamondi has expressed his satisfaction with Dube's performance and believes the striker has the potential to score even more goals. The coach emphasized the importance of Dube maintaining good positioning and composure in front of goal to enhance his goal-scoring ability.

"I've emphasized two key areas for Dube to focus on. Firstly, he needs to be more present inside the opponent's penalty area - I know he has good movements outside the box.

Secondly, he should be calmer and more composed when presented with scoring opportunities. If he can do this, he will significantly increase his goal tally," said Gamondi.

"Our team consistently creates numerous scoring chances, but we often fail to capitalize on them due to a lack of clinical finishing. Dube possesses the talent to become a top-class striker, and by working on these aspects, he can elevate his game to the next level," the Argentine coach added.

Dube's first goal for Young Africans came in a crucial 1-0 win against TS Galaxy, where he capitalized on a pass from Stephane Aziz Ki. The striker also found the back of the net in the emphatic 4-0

victory over Kaizer Chiefs in the Toyota Cup.

Continuing his impressive form, Dube scored in both the Community Shield and CAF Champions League matches. In the Community Shield final against Azam, Dube netted in the 19th minute, finishing off a pass from Mudathir Yahya, contributing to Young Africans' 4-1 victory.

Dube added another goal to his tally in the first leg of the CAF Champions League preliminary round against Burundi's Vital'O, scoring in the fifth minute to help Young Africans secure a commanding 4-0 victory at the Azam Complex in Dar es Salaam.

The reigning Premier League champions, Young Africans, are on the brink of qualifying for the second preliminary round of the CAF Champions League, awaiting the results of their second-leg match against Vital'O FC, scheduled for Saturday at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium.

If they advance, Young Africans will face the winner of the tie between Ethiopian Commercial Bank and Uganda's SC Villa in the next round.

Commercial Bank currently holds a 2-1 lead after the first leg in Kampala.

## Dabo cautions Azam: Expect an aggressive APR in second leg

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

AZAM FC head coach Youssouph Dabo has expressed cautious optimism following his team's narrow 1-0 victory over Rwanda's APR FC in the first leg of the CAF Champions League preliminary round.

The match, held at the Azam Complex in Dar es Salaam, has set the stage for a high-stakes return leg in Kigali, Rwanda, with many questions surrounding what the outcome might be.

The game's only goal came in the 56th minute when Colombian forward Jhonier Blanco converted a penalty after APR FC defender Claude Niyomugabo fouled Azam's star midfielder Feisal Salum, known as 'Fei Toto,' inside the box.

Despite the victory, Dabo admitted that APR FC's performance took him by surprise, as they played differently than he had anticipated.

"APR came at us in a way that was different from what we had studied. It was surprising, but we adapted and managed to make the most of our home advantage," Dabo said after the match.

He emphasized that while his team secured a crucial victory, the job is far from over.

"We need to do more than one job in the return game. The first priority is to protect our lead, but we also can't afford to let them attack us repeatedly. We know they'll come at us hard from the start," he said.

Azam's victory, though vital, places significant pressure on the team as they prepare for the second leg scheduled for August 24, at Kigali's Amahoro Stadium. The aggregate winner of this tie will advance to the next stage, where they will face the winner between Zanzibar's JKU and Egypt's Pyramids FC.

JKU were trounced 6-0 by Pyramids in their first leg match.

Reflecting on the first leg, Dabo acknowledged that his team squandered several scoring opportunities in the first half due to the players' anxiety.

"We missed a lot of chances in the first half because the players were under pressure," he noted. "I had to keep them calm and remind them not to worry. Thankfully, we got the goal and managed to hold on to the lead until the final whistle."

APR FC's presence in Tanzania before the CAF Champions League clash added an interesting layer to the encounter. The Rwandan side had been in the country for about three weeks, participating in the CECAFA Dar Port Kagame Cup, which took place from July 9 to July 21. The Rwandan side topped Group C, which included SC Villa, Singida Black Stars, and Al Merriekh.

All their group stage matches were held at the Azam Complex, giving them familiarity with the venue. However, their Kagame Cup campaign ended in heartbreak when they lost 10-9 on penalties to Zambia's Red Arrows in the final at the KMC Complex Stadium.

While APR were competing in the Kagame Cup, Azam FC were focused on preparations for the new season. They started with a camp in Zanzibar before heading to Morocco, where they learned their CAF Champions League opponents following the release of the tournament schedule on July 11, just two days after the Kagame Cup kicked off.

**EATV TUESDAY**

**TO NIGHT @ 9:00**

**MJADALA**

11:00 DADAZ  
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA  
13:00 Mpera Mpera  
13:30 Kali Za Wana  
13:55 Dondoo Za Michezo  
14:00 SSPORTS (r)  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 Mpera Mpera  
16:00 Zote Kuntu  
16:55 Dondoo Za Michezo  
17:00 SSELECT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 Kali Za Wana  
18:30 #HASHTAG  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
20:00 DADAZ (r)  
21:00 MJADALA  
21:30 Zote Kuntu  
23:00 Kurasa  
23:05 EATV SAA 1

**MJADALA** is a program that brings together stakeholders and the executive elite to discuss timely, national development issues.

The program targets an audience that is aware of current developmental challenges and opportunities and is keen to share, engage and participate in the shopping process.

**eastafrika RADIO**

05:00 Supa Breakfast  
09:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
19:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

**88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM**

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

