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TANZANIA

TUESDAY 10 MAY, 2022

National Pg 3 Govt assures IMF on private sector











Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday being shown around the Medical Stores Department masks factory by supervisor Twahir Mgoolo (R) during an inspection tour he recently declared he would make. Photo: PMC

Ministry stalls investments in key coal, iron projects - MPs

By Songa wa Songa, Dodoma

MEMBERS of Parliament yesterday asked the government to urgently resolve issues stalling \$3bn (6.9trn/-) Liganga iron ore and Mchuchuma coal mining and power projects to give a major boost to industrial development.

Contributing to debate on the 2022/23 budget estimates for the Ministry of Investment, Industry and Trade, several lawmakers said the government is implementing strategic development projects that come with importation of iron costing trillions of shillings instead of starting with exploiting resources abundant in the country.

Josephat Gwajima (Kawe) said that from 2018 to early this year, Tanzania imported iron worth \$2.2bn (over 5trn/-) mainly for the ongoing construction of the Standard Gauge Railway

"We are constructing SGR whose main raw material is iron. How did we start with SGR instead of mining iron at Liganga?" he demanded. "The problem with us as a country is that we

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By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has declared that a few days after the launch of 'The Royal Tour' documentary in the United States, various global stakeholders have emerged to assess the country's forests for the trade in carbon capturing.

Launching the documentary in Dar es Salaam on Sunday, the president said she held talks with big stakeholders in tourism, who expressed readiness to take up business in the country.

"I have had several meetings with notable stakeholders in tourism who, after seeing the film, promised to come," she stated, noting that the film has also showed Tanzania's environmental situation, its forest areas.

"We have already received applications of people dealing in carbon dioxide to come and assess the forests they saw so that we harvest income from carbon dioxide," she

Prof Dos Santos Silayo, the Tanzania Forest Services (TFS) commissioner for conservation, thanked President Samia for high tuned explanation on forests in the film as it was likely to spur more investors into

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Tanzania's carbon trade | 'Self-sufficiency in edible profile up with travel hit oil, sugar likely by 2025'

By Songa wa Songa, Dodoma

THE government yesterday laid down plans to end perpetual shortage of edible oil and sugar in the country through massive subsidy to smallscale farmers and tax incentives for large-scale

Hussein Bashe, the Agriculture minister and his Investment, Industry and Trade counterpart Dr Ashatu Kijaji told the National Assembly that

By 2025 we will no longer import sugar as our local production capacity will satisfy our needs

these measures are "timed to end importation of cooking oil and sugar by 2025."

The plan involves the distribution of subsidized certified sunflower seeds to small-scale growers as a short-term measure to curb edible oil shortage while the long term focuses on tax incentive to large-scale investors in oil palm estates, he said.

As for sugar, the government expects a large increase by the combined output of large factories with small sugar milling facilities operated by Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Societies (AMCOS), he elaborated.

.The minister says Tanzania's annual need for edible oil stands at 5.5 metric tonnes while local production capacity is pegged at 2.5 tonnes. Domestic demand for sugar totals at 470,000 metric tonnes annually at present, with the five

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Patients on TB drugs to use 9 to 12 months

By Guardian Correspondent, Siha

ORAL administration period of tuberculosis (TB) drugs has been reduced from 18 to nine months.

Dr Leonard Subi, the director of the Kibong'oto Infectious Diseases Hospital in Siha District, Kilimanjaro Region explained this change Prof Yunus Mgaya, director general of the National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR) during a visit to the

The change in the schedule of administering TB drugs was part of results



of a scientific research that raised positive results on TB generally and hardcore TB, he stated, explaining that oral administration time was reduced but the range was maintained.

"Before this research, a patient used to take in oral drugs for a period of 18 to 24 months, but now he will be taking for just nine to 12 months," he stated, elaborating that 75 per cent of TB patients coming to the hospital get cured completely and discharged.

The government continues to serve them at home as to meals since the drugs taken need patients to have adequate nutrition during their entire treatment period, he said, thanking the government for a laboratory being built that costs 11.3bn/- set for completion in October.

"We also thank the government for providing us with 1.187bn/- from the Covid-19 recovery funds, spent in the construction of an ICU building as an outpatient wing," the hospital director underlined.

Prof Mgaya said his visit was aimed at identifying areas for joint research activities,

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NMB Bank Plc CEO Ruth Zaipuna pictured in Dar es Salaam at the weekend having a word with cosmetics dealers Haruna Masoud (L) and Hamede Shirima as went from shop to shop in an effort to win popularise the bank's 'Teleza Kidigitali' campaign. The drive revolved around the promotion of a range of services on offer at the bank, among them account opening, 'MshikoFasta', 'Lipa Mkononi' and 'NMB Pesa Wakala'. Photo: Guardian

Tanzania's carbon trade profile up with travel hit

FROM PAGE 1

carbon dioxide harvesting.

Stakeholders deciding to work with Tanzania will strengthen the forest sector as they seek to filter out carbon dioxide to reduce concentrations of hot emissions that increase global warming, he said.

He said TFS is mobilised to ensure robust conservation of forests,

utilising forest areas to woo investors in the tourism sector and seeking out investors for the timber and beekeeping industries.

What President Samia has done will make many people know Tanzania in a more informed way, to see the importance in investing in the forests sector, especially in tree farming and refrain from decimating the country's natural forests, he added.

Self-sufficiency in edible oil, sugar likely by 2025

FROM PAGE 1

sugar processing factories having capacity for a 378,000-tonnes total

"The short-term plan on edible oil output has already kicked off, with initial distribution of 3,000 tonnes of certified sunflower seeds to small-holder farmers," he specified, highlighting that high productivity in palm oil production cannot be achieved through small-scale growers, thus large scale investments and out growers are being pursued.

"We have already provided 10,000 hectors to one oil palm investor and we hope to get others," he said, noting that those investments tied up with small-scale growers in Kigoma and other regions will suffice the country's demand, thus being capable of ending reliance on imports within three years.

Dr Kijaji, winding up debate on the ministry's budget proposals for 2022/23 said the government is making efforts to create an enabling environment for investments and going by the number of investors showing interest, "Tanzania is nearing the end of the tunnel."

She said sugar milling is among top investments in the big industrial parks being built in selected zones especially in Dar es Salaam and Coast regions.

"By 2025 we will no longer import sugar as our local production capacity will satisfy our needs," she declared, following contributions by lawmakers who blamed the government for not taking measures to end the recurring shortage of cooking oil and sugar.

Patients on TB drugs to use 9 to 12 months

FROM PAGE 1

in HIV/Aids and TB, with a national responsibility to research on human diseases, as well facilitating other

institutions to conduct research.

Cooperation established with as NIMR has definite goals in research Kibong'oto Hospital adds strength to NIMR in conducting research at the hospital to control TB in the country,

Govt, development partners improving infrastructure for Kigoma fishermen

By Guardian Reporter, Uvinza

THE government in collaboration with development partners is creating good infrastructure for fishing and provides fishermen along Lake Tanganyika shores with modern fishing gear to add value to their sardines (dagaa) and reduce losses after fishing.

The remarks were made by the Livestock and Fisheries Deputy Minister Abdallah Ulega during his inspection visit to Buhingu and Katumbi villages in Uvinza District, Kigoma Region at the weekend.

Speaking at different times to the residents of the two villages, Ulega said President Samia Suluhu Hassan vows to strengthen the blue economy and that is why the government is creating good infrastructures for processing sardines and other fish products to add value to their products.

"We like to see Kigoma Region produce large quantities of sardines to raise the standard of living of its residents, we do not like to see even a single sardine is lost or go bad, our aim is to see the entire Lake Tanganyika zone benefit through sardines," he

He added that they provide fishing equipment including boats, outboard motors, fishnets and ropes to make sardines fishing a strategic activity for the development of the fishermen.

He called on residents living along the western shores of the Lake to continue taking care of fish breeding grounds to make the occupation sustainable for the present and future

For his part, Uvinza District Commissioner, Hanaf Msabaha said there was need for the government to work together with development partners to establish fish farming projects in the district.

The Director of Tuungane Project being implemented in Kigoma Region, Lukindo Hiza said already they have been collaborating with Uvinza District officials for the construction of a modern fishing port that will help reducing after harvest losses of the sardines.

> We like to see **Kigoma Region** produce large quantities of sardines to raise the standard of living of its residents, we do not like to see even a single sardine is lost or go bad, our aim is to see the entire Lake Tanganyika zone benefit

through sardines



Former president Jakava Kikwete (seated, C) in a group photo with CCBRT Hospital staff and guests in the course of a fundraising gala dinner held in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. He was the chief guest. Through its new maternity and newborn wing and in collaboration with the Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete Foundation, the hospital organised the event to raise funds to help vulnerable pregnant mothers, former obstetric fistula cases, women with disabilities and those referred to the

Ministry stalls investments in key coal, iron projects - MPs

don't have a long-term development vision and our priorities are upside

Neema Mgaya (Special Seats) said it is now over 10 years the country has been discussing the Liganga-Mchuchuma project projects but when an agreement is reached by investor, hurdles prop up and stall the key

"We have scores of steel milling factories that use scarp metals as raw

materials yet we have iron ore waiting to be exploited," she said.

Cosato Chumi (Mafinga Urban) said Liganga iron ore and Mchuchuma coal mining and power projects are not like other ordinary initiatives, but part of strategic development projects, wondering why there is dragging of feet in its implementation.

Dr Ashatu Kijaji, the portfolio minister, said there are land acquisition issues with villages in the project area that are being worked on in tandem

with the Lands ministry and the iron ore mine holds the biggest iron Attorney General's Office.

"We are working with Attorney General to ensure that the pending issues are resolved," she said, noting that officials from the Chief Government Valuer will visit the two villages to sort out the matter.

The Mchuchuma project includes a 600MW coal-fired power station project, where 250MW is to be used by the iron and steel plant, and 350MW added to the national grid. The Liganga

resources in Tanzania with proven reserves of 126m metric tonnes, she said.

The Liganga iron ore and the Mchuchuma coal mining and power projects, billed at \$3bn, were to be implemented by the Tanzania China International Mineral Resources Ltd (TCIMRL) back in 2016. However, the projects stalled as their final approval was delayed for a series of contentious



Vice President Dr Philip Mpango has an audience with former Prime Minister Judge (rtd) Joseph Warioba (L) in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: VPO

TCRA reacts to claims of data bundle changes

By Getrude Mbago

THE Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) has clarified that mobile telecom companies were not robbing people of internet and airtime bundle charges saying that all the prices were correct.

This follows current changes of internet and airtime bundles done by the telecom operators which saw various users taking their anger to social media saying that the prices were unfair.

Addressing reporters in Dar es Salaam yesterday, TCRA director of industry affairs, Emmanuel Manasseh said the increase of modern smartphones with more improved applications are among the factors that makes Tanzanians to experience high usage of data.

"We have conducted an investigation and found that there is no one whom

his/her bundle is chopped but the installing unbeneficial apps. growth in technology and use of modern smartphones remains the major reason," he said.

He acknowledged that data services are the backbone of the digital economy that's why the government has continued to create an environment that facilitates fair operation.

He said that majority of applications in mobile phones now have a number of updates on background, high quality of pictures, with many consumers having low knowledge on how to operate the tools.

He said that TCRA measures every bundle that is sent in the market and it has so far not noticed if the operators were stealing the bundles but rather putting in the market a lot of discounted bundles.

The director urged users to ensure that they install and use only applications which they need and stop

"Laws allow operators to submit changes of bundle prices to the authority in every quarter of the year and then the authority reviews and approves them, despite approving them, we go on by monitoring if the bundles are well packaged and measure if they are fairly used," he explained.

According to him; "As per our study, one Mb is currently sold between 2.03/- to 9.0/- which is fair for both operators and consumers but many of operators have been competitive enough by creating bundles which are much lower than the basic tariffs set by the authority."

He said; "To facilitate smooth and quality communication services there are a number of criteria that need to be considered and these include operation costs, resources, polices, laws and regulations where there is African continent.

tax, levies and other costs.

TCRA director general Dr Jabiri Bakar said if the authority will go with the system of setting up indicative prices on communication bundles, then the costs will be high and there will be no competition.

"Recently consumers of major telecos in the country have raised concern about changes in charges of bundles, with others complaining that they were not informed of the new payments, high price of bundles and rapid perishing, but in reality, the prices are fair," he said.

He noted that reports show that Tanzania is one of the countries that enjoy low prices of data.

According to the report released by Research ICT Africa Internet, data charges in Tanzania are the cheapest in East Africa, the region has one of the cheapest internet charges on the





Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba has a quick word in Dodoma city yesterday with Charambos Tsangarides, an economic and financial adviser with the Africa Department of the International Monetary Fund. The latter is in Tanzania to assess the country's economic and policy situation as part of the implementation of the IMF's plan to extend to the country more loans and other assistance for the implementation of development projects. Photo courtesy of

Government promises to work with private sector to accelerate country's development

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

FINANCE and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba has assured the International Monetary Fund (IMF) that the government will work with the private sector to accelerate the country's development as well as allocate a significant amount of next year's budget to reduce the cost of living of citizens.

Dr Nchemba made the assurance in Dodoma when he met with a team of experts from IMF, led by its economic and financial adviser who oversees the Africa Department at the fund, Charambos Tsangarides.

The team is in the country to assess war between Russia and Ukraine," the economic and policy situation, explained Dr Nchemba. as part of the implementation of the fund's plan to provide Tanzania with Suluhu's directive in the next budget more loans and grants to implement development projects. This came the most productive sectors including after President Samia Suluhu agriculture, livestock, fisheries and Hassan, meeting and talking with the IMF executive director Kristalina Georgieva, in Washington DC, USA,

"One of the things they agreed on was to send a team to the country to see how we can work together to create and strengthen our economy but new financial policies that will help revive the economy from the effects strengthening irrigated agriculture, of Covid-19 as well as the ongoing the blue economy, implementing a

He said that President Samia is that more money will be directed to the development of small businesses to stimulate the economy and employment. At the same time social sectors will be developed to protect human resources.

"This initiative will help revitalize will also boost employment by

blueprint to improve the investment and trade environment, increase crop value chain and enhance tourism activities," Dr Nchemba said.

Tsangarides said that his team will look at national debt resilience as well as various policies that if improved will bring productivity in boosting the country's economic development.

He also suggested that the program being developed aims to increase Tanzania's financial capacity to stimulate economic growth and protect social sectors such as health, education, and water, as well as improve human resources and develop the private sector.

The team of experts will be in the country for two weeks where it will meet with experts from the Ministry of Finance and Planning, the Central Bank of Tanzania and various other stakeholders.

PM directs immediate action against MSD officers allegedly involved in embezzlement

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has directed immediate action to be taken for all officials of the Medical Stores Department (MSD) who are allegedly involved in embezzlement as listed by the Controller and Auditor General (CAG)'s report.

He directed the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) to commence investigation on the matter and make sure that all public servants, officials and issues highlighted by the CAG face legal actions.

He made the directives in Dar es Salaam vesterday when he visited the MSD drug and facemask factories.

He said the CAG report has shown that MSD made purchases of medical equipment worth more than 9bn/without having valid contracts which is illegal.

He also said that MSD made payments worth 3.52bn/- to six bidders without adhering to the procedures and did not inform the department's tender board.

The Premier said MSD made 23 bids worth 8.55bn/- out of the Tanzanian National e-Procurement System (TANeps) which is also contrary to the requirements of the Procurement Act.

He said MSD also made an initial payment amounting to 14.89bn/- to five bidders without any contracts or other agreements that specify the basis for the payment.

He named the bidders as Keko Pharmaceutical Industry, Government Procurement Services Agency (GPSA); Nakuroi Investment Company Ltd; Technical Services and General and Wide Spectrum (T) Ltd. He further said the institution

conducted the procurement process and issued a contract to distribute 'Liquid Syrup' worth 898m/- without the involvement of the MSD tender board.

allowance costs for 61 days of three challenges, so it should be amended.

staff members who went to China for talks so as to bring dialysis machines.

"Three officials went to China to discuss the dialysis machines for 61 days, why didn't they use the Tanzania ambassador to China to do the job?" he

He said in the department there is a huge gap in timely supply of medicines, medical supplies and reagents despite being paid.

He directed the removal of 16 staff in the procurement unit who are not professional and hire those who are experts in the area so as to improve efficiency.

Ummy Mwalimu, Minister for Health commended President Samia for investing in the availability of drugs and medical tools, something which facilitates provision of quality and affordable health services to Tanzanians. "Medicine is life but also business as it affects the interest of all people, so we will continue strengthening systems and implement directives of the top national leaders to improve the sector," she said.

MSD director Mavere Tukai cited some of the challenges facing the institution as the existence of secrecy in prices of health products determined by suppliers who have entered into contracts with producers.

"Another challenge is the lack of a system for obtaining reliable information and a detailed analysis of the markets on quality and affordable products as well as the existence of weaknesses in the procurement unit,"

Tukai said: "We have started to take measures to address this which include equipping the procurement unit with enough requirements including staff and tools, changing the whole procurement system from producers, intelligence and researchers of prices and markets."

The institution was also working on a strategy to review the MSD structure Majaliwa said the department as well as human resources because also spent a total of 215m/- to cover the current one has already shown





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Joe Mwakanjuki Manager, Client Coverage - Oil and Gas

Exim Bank inaugurates life insurance service to cater for formal, informal groups

By Guardian Reporter

EXIM Bank Tanzania has launched a new life insurance product called 'Pamoja Hadi Mwisho' specifically for formal and informal groups, with the aim of increasing more community participation in accessing insurance services in the country.

The product under partnership with Alliance Life Insurance Company includes life insurance for both formal and informal groups, aimed at protecting the groups' members against disasters resulted from deaths, permanent disability and education for bereaved children.

Speaking at the launch of the product in Dar es Salaam earlier today, Exim Bank's Head of Branch Network, Agnes Kaganda, said the service goes hand in hand with the government's commitment to ensure that every citizen has access to insurance services.

"This product has been introduced with the aim of ensuring that Tanzanians are not left behind when it comes to covering themselves, their families and loved ones with the best insurance service. That is why through this product we have touched on formal and informal groups including workers' groups, entrepreneurs, cooperatives, social media groups such as WhatsApp, Facebook, and Telegram and other such groups," she said.

Speaking further about the benefits of the product, the Bank's Acting Head of Bancassurance Melchizedeck Muro said: "Through the product there is no waiting period. Benefits will be issued within 72 hours after receipt of all claim documents. A member of the 'Pamoja Hadi Mwisho' insurance will benefit himself, his partner, children (four children aged 0 - 21 years), parents, and parents' in-laws "He mentioned.

For his part Alliance Life Assurance Bancassurance Manager, Juma Patrice added that, if a member or his/her dependent (Spouse or Children or Parents or In-Laws) dies due to an

accident or illness, a condolence hand of 3.5m/- to 6m/- or 500,000/- to 5m/- will be given to the family of the deceased member or to a member who has lost a child, partner, parent or son-in-law. This condolence hand will be issued within 72 hours, after receiving all the claim documents.

He further explained that through the product, when a member becomes permanently disabled as a result of an accident, a condolence hand ranging from 3.5m/- to 6m/- will be paid upon receipt of all claim documents.

"The 'Pamoja Hadi Mwisho' product recognises the importance of education for children. Thus, if a member dies, leaving the children still in school, his/her family will be provided with a Sh1 million for the purpose of enabling his/her children to continue with their studies in the relevant year without interruption." he noted.

He assured customers that the service is of high quality while noting that they are committed to ensuring that the service is provided to meet the requirements and objectives of its

> This product has been introduced with the aim of ensuring that Tanzanians are not left behind when it comes to covering themselves, their families and loved ones with the best insurance service



Agnes Kaganda (C), Exim Bank's head of branch network, addresses a press conference in Dar es Salaam yesterday during the launch of a life insurance service dubbed 'Pamoja Hadi Mwisho' offered by the bank in partnership with Alliance Life Insurance Company and targeting both formal and informal groups. She is with Exim Bank acting head of bancassurance Melchizedeck Muro (R) and Alliance Life Assurance Bancassurance manager Juma Patrice. Photo: Guai

At least 139 villages in Kagera Region to be connected to power by December

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

AT LEAST 139 out of the 662 villages in Kagera region that do not have access to electricity will be connected to power by December, 2022 it has been revealed.

The deputy minister for Energy, Stephen Byabato told the House that the villages will be connected to electricity under the ongoing phase of the Rural Energy Agency (REA) in the

He was responding to a question by the Special Seats MP, Benardeta Mshashu (CCM), who had wanted to know the number of villages not connected to the power utility in Kagera region.

In a supplementary question, the lawmaker had also wanted to know when the government would connect peripheral wards in Bukoba municipality through REA since they

are categorized as rural areas. "What are the immediate plans to ensure that all villages in Kagera

get connected with electricity?" she In response, the deputy minister said

Kagera region has 662 villages out of which only 139 are yet to be connected with electricity. (All the remaining villages will be connected with power in the ongoing second round of the third phase of REA," said Byabato.

He said the project is implemented in a joint venture between M/S IV Pomy Engineering Company LTD and Qwihaya General Enterprises Co at the cost of 34.078bn/-.

According to the deputy minister the project involves building of 812 kilometers of 33 kilovolt line and installation of 176 equipment in 139 kilometres as well as distribution of 400 kilovolts, connecting 3,058 initial customers.

Govt to purchase 417 vehicles to be distributed in district councils

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

IN effort to improve provision of health services in the country, the government will by the end of 2021/2022 purchase total of 417 vehicles, 195, being ambulances to be distributed in all district councils in the

The deputy minister of State in the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government, Dr Festo Dugange told the National Assembly yesterday, adding that district councils with pressing demands will get more than one vehicle.

He said out of that number 195 vehicles will be ambulances and the remaining; being administrative vehicles will be distributed to all district councils in the county by June, 30th, 2022 or latest July, 2022.

He made the remarks while responding to a supplementary question from the Kilindi MP, Omar Kigua (CCM) who had wanted to know what the government was doing to increase the number of ambulances at district level in effort to ease response to emergency cases.

"When shall the government provide ambulance to the Kilindi district hospital and other district councils with similar shortages?" he asked.

The lawmaker argued that there are increases cases of road accidents in the country, causing deaths, some of which can be avoided if there are immediate response like ambulances

In response, the deputy minister explained that Kilindi district council has one ambulance, located at Songe health centre and is used to serve other nearby health facilities too.

Dr Ndugange also said the government will continue to disburse funds in installments to enable the purchase of ambulance vans to promote and enhance health service delivery across the country.

"On the April 6th this year, President Samia Suluhu Hassan launched the M-Mama initiative which aims to facilitate emergency transport in 12 regions with the participation of private sector stakeholders including, Vodacom Tanzania," he said.

According to him, M-Mama has developed an innovative three-tiered approach to removing these three delays: engaging the community; providing emergency transport for mothers and babies; and strengthening the local health systems so when mothers and babies arrive at a health facility, they receive the quality care service.

Dr Ndugange further said the government has continued to allocate funds for the procurement of medical equipment in installments; this was in response to a supplementary question from Siha MP, Saashisha Mafuwe (CCM).



When shall the government provide ambulance to the Kilindi district hospital and other district councils with similar shortages?



Kilosa district commissioner Majid Mwanga plants a seedling at the district's Ulaya Mbuyuni Primary School at the weekend when launching a tree-planting project dubbed 'Forest and Farm Facility', funded by the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE Zanzibar government, in collaboration with a South African investor has embarked on efforts to rescue Mnemba Island in Unguja North Region that is in danger of extinction due to effects of climate change.

The remarks were made by Zanzibar Minister of state in the President's Office (Labour and, Economy and Investment) Mudrick Ramadhan Soraga in the House of Representatives as he was elaborating on various issues raised by House members who contributed to the Budget estimates for his ministry.

Soraga said Mnemba Island has been

from extinction due to climate change rented to investors from South Africa attacked by strong sea waves causing have not less than USD 300,000

that receives tourists from various parts of the world.

He added that various efforts have started to be taken in confronting the likelihood of the island's extinction from the map of Zanzibar islands.

He mentioned some of the causes that contribute to the island's environmental situation as including illegal fishing activities in its proximity.

erosion along its shores.

Z'bar in efforts to save Mnemba Island

"It is principally a sandy island hence strong waves wear down the land area," he added.

Soraga further said the government will continue mobilising local investors who have been accorded priority to grab investment opportunities

He said a local investor needing He added that the island has been to invest in the tourism sector must

capital, while a foreign investor, by law, must have not less than USD 2.5

He cited other opportunities listed by Zanzibar Investment Promotion Authority (ZIPA) and only available to locals including tour guide operators.

He called upon indigenous traders to emerge and grab these investment opportunities to contribute to the national income through the sector.





Vodacom Tanzania Plc business director Linda Riwa (C, gesturing) inquires about developments at Kibosho District's Mango Primary School as a team of senior executives from the firm inspected projects implemented at the school at the weekend. Third left is Vodacom Tanzania Foundation director Rosalynn Mworia.

Arusha herders advised to dip their livestock

By Guardian Correspondent, Arumeru

ARUSHA District Executive Director Seleman Msumi has called on herders in the district to utilise cattle dips for their livestock to enable them have healthy animals that will earn them more income for their families and the nation in general.

Msumi made the remarks here yesterday when he inaugurated Zone C Cattle Dip that had been refurbished by residents of Lemanda Village, in government's initiative in providing livestock chemicals for use on the dip.

He said: "Diseases such as sleeping sickness and those affecting kidney have been killing livestock at the rate of 70 to 100 per cent, hence I call upon all herders to conduct their activities profitably by dipping animals as well as vaccination against diseases."

The chairman of the committee that oversees Zone C cattle dip, Peter Leskari said the inauguration of the dip Ministry is implementing a strategy

Oldonyosambu ward, following the will revive lost hopes among livestock to improve the livestock sector by keepers who have been losing their animals from various diseases.

> "This cattle dip is giving assurance to you to have health animals, as many herders failed to meet the cost of treating their livestock at home, many of them died, but now we have revived hopes that had been lost," he added.

> Arusha District Livestock Officer, Omary Sembe said the government, through the Livestock and Fisheries

providing dip chemicals for free to prevent diseases that have been killing huge numbers of livestock.

The cattle dip was refurbished by Lemanda Village herders in collaboration with Arusha District Council that provided 2.8m/-, while the government provided 15,000 litres of chemicals.

The dip is expected to treat 90,000 animals including 125,000 cattle, 42,000 sheep and 33,000 goats.

Lack of funding cited as main challenge hindering research

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

LACK of adequate funds to train experts and buy laboratory equipment for various researches has been described as one of the challenges that hinder various researches, especially those related to the health sector, which holds back the sector's contribution for human development.

This was revealed recently by the Coordinator of the Neglected Infectious Diseases (NID) at the Kilimanjaro Clinical Research Institute (KCRI) Prof Jaffu Chilongola during the molecular diagnostics training course which was held in Moshi, Kilimanjaro region. KCRI is the clinical research arm of the KCMC Zonal Referral Hospital.

"Emerging and re-emerging diseases (ERID) outbreaks are becoming frequent in resource limited settings like in Sub-Saharan Africa for many reasons, unfortunately, the capacity in African settings to diagnose and respond to these outbreaks had been stymied by the inadequate expertise and relevant laboratory infrastructure", he said.

Prof Chilongola continued to say that to be prepared for outbreaks, the introduction and application of novel technologies to identify and characterize such pathogens in a one health approach was inevitable.

"This approach will strengthen the capacity of health care facilities in Africa to identify and respond to epidemics when they occur," he noted.

Prof continued to say that to address that gap; KCRI in collaboration with the East African Consortium for Clinical Research (EACCR) organised the fiveday training on Molecular Diagnostics of Neglected Infectious Diseases (NID) with special emphasis on COVID-19.

"The training involves the use of state of the art technologies such as qPCR, sequencing and genomics in identifying the diverse pathogens that lead to outbreaks in illness in the Eastern African region," he said.

He said, "This will not only assist in the training of personnel in this niche area of diagnostics but it will also

assist in the formation of a network of individuals involved in molecular diagnostics".

He added, "The faculty involved in this training will continue to interact with the participants and assist them in establishing molecular diagnostic services at their respective institutions".

For his part, the EACCR Regional Coordinator Dr Erick Muok, said the regional body was a capacity building network comprising of 23 institutions from six countries named, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Sudan and Ethiopia.

"This training is funded by the European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP) and it will involve persons from the six member countries who are already active in molecular work, with the intention of addressing the challenge of the shortage laboratory professionals who can perform diagnostic molecular testing," he said.

Dr Muok continued to say that the training was vital due to the fact that the advancement of molecular biology has transformed the diagnosis and treatment of a wide range of disorders as well as the increasing number of molecular laboratories driven by the increase uses of molecular diagnostics in clinical services.

"Molecular diagnostics has become a vital tool for health care providers in making the proper decisions; it has also become an integral element of the investigations necessary in delivering treatment," he added.

Dr Muok continued to say that rapid technical advancements had also contributed to the improvement of the speed and performance of many molecular tests, resulting in shorter turnaround times and improved clinical services.

"The training involves the use of state of the art technologies such as qPCR, sequencing and genomics in identifying the diverse pathogens that lead to outbreaks in illness in the Eastern African region"



Johns Hopkins Center for Communication Programs (CCP-TZ), Plot 1486, Off Mwaya Street, Msasani Peninsular P.O. Box 105303, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Office Tel: +255 784 164 710. Visit our website: www.ccp.jhu.edu

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

PROVISION OF CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR LARVAL **SOURCE MANAGEMENT SUPPORT TO ZANZIBAR MALARIA ELIMINATION PROGRAM (ZAMEP).**

1. Background and project description

USAID Tanzania Vector Control Activity (TVCA) is a five-year USAID funded contract being implemented by Johns Hopkins University-Centre for Communication Programs (CCP) Tanzania. TVCA implements proven, evidence-based vector control approaches in Tanzania with a focus on insecticide treated nets (ITNs). TVCA works with the Government of Tanzania (Mainland and Zanzibar) and other malaria stakeholders, to support Tanzania in its goal to eliminate malaria which is a public health concern.

CCP is soliciting quotes to award a purchase order for a firm/company to finalize the operational and costed plan for Larval Source Management (LSM), develop a monitoring and evaluation framework for all the Larval Source Management (LSM) processes, develop a Training package, and carry out comprehensive training activities to support Larval Source Management (LSM) implementation. This purchase order will be awarded under USAID Tanzania Vector Control Activity. The procurement is subject to all applicable CCP, USAID, and US Federal Government procurement regulations.

2. Purpose of the consultancy services

This request for proposal (RFP) seeks to identify a qualified local firm/company to finalize the operational plan for LSM, develop a monitoring and evaluation framework for all the LSM processes, develop a Training package, and carry out comprehensive training activities to support LSM implementation

3. Timeframe

Work will commence after the execution of the agreement by both CCP and the Consultant. All deliverables should be completed within the agreed timeframe of the execution of the agreement.

4. Required Experience

Previous experience in larval source management (LSM) in the health sector, is highly desirable.

5. Application Requirements

Interested applicants may request a full RFP document. To infotyca@jhu.edu and the deadline for requesting the RFP document is 13th May 2022 at 5 pm. The deadline for application submission will be on 20th May 2022 at 12:00 noon.



KOZI YA WAFANYAKAZI NDANI YA NDEGE (CABIN CREW)

Chuo Cha Kampuni ya Ndege ya Tanzania (ATCL Training Center) kina furaha kuwatangazia watanzania wote kuwa kwa mara nyingine kitaendesha kozi ya wafanyakazi ndani ya ndege (Cabin Crew) kuanzia tarehe 20th June 2022. Kozi hii ni ya muda wa miezi mitatu (03), chuo kipo uwanja wa ndege wa kimataifa wa Julius Nyerere-Dar es salaam (JNIA) terminal one kwenye jengo la utawala la ATCL karibu kabisa na kituo cha polisi uwanja wa ndege. Chuo kinakaribisha maombi va kujiunga na kozi hii kwa wenye sifa zilizoainishwa hapo chini. Mwisho wa kupokea maombi ni tarehe 20th May 2022

Sifa za mwombaji.

- i. Awe na umri kuanzia miaka 18 hadi miaka 25
- ii. Awe timamu kiakili, kimaumbile na urefu kuanzia futi 5"4 na kuendelea
- iii. Elimu sio chini kidato cha nne na ufaulu mzuri hasa masomo ya kiingereza, Jiografia na Historia
- iv. Aweze kuongea na kuandika kwa ufasaha lugha ya Kiswahili na Kiingereza. Muombaji mwenye

- uelewa wa lugha zaidi ya hizi mbili kama Kiarabu, Kichina, Kihindi na Kifaransa atapewa kipaumbele.
- v. Awe Mtanzania au raia wa kigeni mwenye vibali halali vinavyomruhusu kukaa na kusoma nchini.

Barua ya maombi iambatane na vitu vifuatavyo.

- i. Nakala za vyeti vya shule/chuo alikosoma
- ii. Nakala ya cheti cha kuzaliwa
- iii. Picha mbili ndogo (passport size) na picha moja yenye kuonyesha umbo lote ukubwa wa 6x8
- iv. Curriculum Vitae -CV

Maombi yatumwe kwa:

Principal ATCL Training Institute Box no 543, Dar Email, training@airtanzania.co.tz

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Guardian

NATIONAL.NEWS

PGA sensitised to promote biosecurity, public health

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

MEMBERS of Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) have been tasked to take steps to promote improved biosecurity and public health within their countries to combat biological

Natural Resources and Tourism minister, Dr Pindi Chana made the call in Dar es Salaam yesterday when opening the two-day PGA regional African parliamentary workshop.

The workshop is being attended by members of PGA from Togo, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Gambia, Somalia, South Sudan, Zimbabwe and USA.

She said PGA stands for Parliamentarians for Global Action and this is how and why this organization has always brought added value and stood apart among many organisations in the impact that it has.

The minister said putting in place biological security and public health measures now and implementing them is one such vital way to achieve

"It is similarly important that we also do this at the regional level to ensure the genuine success of such steps that is why your deliberations over the coming two days hold such importance. I am also pleased to hear that you will adopt the traditional PGA Plan of Action," said the minister.

She explained that many people recognise that each must at all times act in accordance with their own procedures and priorities adding that she is confident that, working together, consulting together and coordinating together they can all achieve their collective goals.

"I believe this is the 4th time in less than 10 years that PGA has convened here in Tanzania, taking into account also the inability to do so in the past 2 years, from so many countries across Africa, we are confronted with so many

challenges and threats in the world in which we live today," she said.

On Covid-19 issue, the minister said in Tanzania, the number of tourists who visited the country decreased by 59%, from 1,527,230 tourists in 2019 to 620,867 tourists in 2020 and revenue from same decreased by 72.5% from US\$ 2.6 billion to US\$ 0.715 billion. The decrease had negative implications on businesses, revenue and employment.

In response to these effects, Chana said the government adopted a series of unparalleled measures for prevention, control, and treatment, which has effectively curbed the spread of the epidemic in the country.

She said in 2021 began to show new hopes for the tourism industry in Tanzania whereby the number of international tourists who visited Tanzania in 2021 increased by 48.6 percent from 620,867 tourists in 2020 to 922,692 tourists in 2021.

She said revenue from the same increased by 76% from US \$ 0.715 billion in 2020 to US \$1.3 billion in 2021 Thanks to the global efforts which have begun to put us in motion again.

"It is a fact that for too long we have been unable to meet in the usual way and I therefore wish to commend PGA in taking this initiative so that we can also welcome visitors back to our shores. As Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism of Tanzania, I attach particular importance to meetings of this kind," she said.

She added that tourism means many things, but at its heart, it is about bringing people together, enjoying our company as well as learning from each other and often making the world a better and safer place in the process.

"As a Member of PGA, and long before I became a minister, I have always sought to endorse this reality by helping to convene a number of these regional meetings," she said.



Handeni district executive director Saitoti Stephen (R, in jeans trousers) briefs Tanga regional commissioner Adam Malima (in green cap) yesterday on the construction of the district's Msomela Secondary School. The RC was on an inspection tour of the construction of a permanent shelter for use by members of the pastoralist community being relocated from the Ngorongoro conservation area. Left (in black cap) is Handeni district administrative secretary Boniface Mashaka Mgeta.

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government is conducting assessment in all primary schools in the country to establish the state of infrastructure and carry out the needful repair, deputy minister of State in the President Office, Regional Administration and Local Government (PORALG), David Silinde told the House yesterday.

Silinde explained that there are some 2,147 pre-independence primary schools most of which are in poor state, thus the need to conduct full assessment in all primary schools in the country.

He said infrastructure of the schools are in mixed state as some are dilapidated while others have fairly good infrastructure. The deputy minister made the statement in

Govt reviewing infrastructure damage in primary schools to carry out needful repair, House told

Mwibara MP, Charles Kajege (CCM).

In his main question, the lawmaker had wanted to know when the government would start renovation of Nansimo, Kenkomyo, Kitengule and Namibu primary schools in Mwibara.

"When shall the government renovate these primary schools with broken down infrastructure?" he asked, adding that the schools were built before independence.

In response, the deputy minister noted that many schools in the country will be renovated under the new World Bank-supported program that aims all children, including the most

response to a question asked by the to make preprimary and primary education better and more accessible across the country.

> It is estimated that more than 12 million children in mainland will benefit from the \$ 500 mn/programme, dubbed BOOST, aimed at making Tanzania primary schools safer, more inclusive and child friendly, enhance teachers' subject content knowledge and pedagogical competencies, and strengthen education finance and decentralized

The overall goal is to ensure an education system that supports

service delivery capacity.

marginalized, to enroll early, develop strong foundational skills, complete a quality education.

The deputy minister noted that the assessment to establish the state of the primary schools started on 2nd April,2022 and is expected to end in

"The government will continue renovating old schools in the country as budget allows" noted the deputy minister.

However, Silinde explained that the outcome of the assessment shall be used in preparation of the five-year plan on development and renovation of old schools (2021/2022-2025/2026).



Momba constituency legislator Condester Sichwale shows bottles of hard drinks in the National Assembly in Dodoma city yesterday when contributing to debate on the national Budget estimates for financial year 2022/2023. She recommended that traditional liquor be licensed by the Tanzania Bureau of Standards for sale in the domestic and export markets. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Kenya offers trips on camels

By Special Correspondent

CAMELS are the latest mode of transport carrying tourists across Kenya's Soysambu Reserve. The animals provide a very different

experience from the all-terrain vehicles typically associated with safaris.

"I choose this method of ecotourism over other eco-tourism options like electric vehicles, electric bikes, because even if an electric

forward and we are trying to get away from diesel and burning engines, but it's still a vehicle, and so you are still leaving a footprint, you are still leaving tracks" said tourist Adrien

Using camels also means the tour can get closer to more elusive need on your trip. They don't drink too creatures, such giraffes grazing in the

undergrowth. The owner of Bobong Camels, the safari entrepreneur.

vehicle is good and we are moving Amanda Perrett, explains why camels offer a better alternative compared to vehicles.

"The camel is very good at eating invasive species which helps the environment. And they do not leave a footprint when you walk with them and they carry everything that you much water so they can go up to five days without needing to drink," said

For conservationists, eco-tourism is the best way to preserve nature and resources for future generations.

"This brings nature closer to us and us closer to nature. The more close you nature the more you understand it, the more you will like it and the less that you'll not (be likely) to destroy it, the more you realise that pollution is harming the environment," explains conservationist Henry Ole Sanoi.

As customers become more environmentally-conscious, more and more companies want to offer holidays that don't harm the natural world.

Ghana GNCCI to train 800 young entrepreneurs to leverage AfCTFA with the requisite skills to drive

By Special Correspondent, Accra

The Ghana National Chamber of Commerce and Industry (GNCCI) has initiated a project to train about Tsonam Cleanse Akpeloo, said the 800 young entrepreneurs in the training would enable participants Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) space under a special training project.

The MSME Digital Skills Training project seeks to train and build capacity in digital techniques of the young entrepreneurs to improve their performance in their fields of endeavour and be ready for the Africa Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) opportunities.

The first phase of the MSME Digital Skills Training project has since last week, trained 92 participants with over half being women with the rest to be done in subsequent phases.

It is being organised in partnership with Expertise France and is expected to support participants to integrate and apply knowledge gained from the training on their businesses.

At the launch of the initiative in Accra on April 29, the President of the GNCCI, Clement Osei-Amoako, said the training was expected to equip young entrepreneurs with the needed skill to take advantage of the AfCFTA.

MSME Digital Skills Training project was held in Accra comprising 92 participants with over half being women.

"Generally, participants were excited about the opportunity to develop their digital skills and resolved to follow through the requirements to ensure business growth and resilience post-COVID-19," he said.

Osei-Amoako also noted that: "As part of the project, the Chamber will be organising similar workshops in the remaining seven cities across the country, including Cape Coast, Takoradi, Ho, Kumasi, Koforidua, Sunvani, and Tamale in the coming weeks," he said.

appreciation Expressing Expertise France, the president said the chamber found the collaboration more compelling because technology continued to be a dominant force in driving economic growth.

He said that required conscious efforts to build their human resources

digital transformation and growth of businesses. A Consultant to the Project,

to understand financial options and opportunities for business growth and expansion. He said the project targeted 50 per cent of participants to be women,

transformation, and coached to develop digital transformation plans for their businesses. He said it was expected that businesses would understand, identify and leverage digital platforms

who would be introduced to digital

that would enable them to affirm credibility, enhance visibility and process transactions. He added that the training would enable the MSMEs to take advantage of the opportunities available to participate in the African Continental

Free Trade Area Agreement. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Expertise France, Jérémie Pellet, said the programme to be implemented would result in the development of skills and digital content among MSMEs.

He said the programme launch was "Last week, the first phase of the timely and would yield important results for Ghana's private sector resilience as more than 800 participants were expected to be trained.

Pellet said companies, that participated would also be able to enrol in the digital platforms after the training, enhance their online visibility, boost their credibility and facilitate cross-border transactions.

He said post workshop mentorship and coaching support would also be provided to ensure a better ownership of trained participants.

Pellet said the chamber was one of their partners as they implemented the African Caribbean and Pacific-European Union Programme of Digital Response of the COVID-19 crisis.

...the training would enable the MSMEs to take advantage of the opportunities available to participate in the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement.





Bakari Mnaya, an assistant commissioner for conservation and trade development with the Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA), speaks from inside the Arusha National Park during vesterday's launch of bicycle tourism. P

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

Arusha National Park (ANAPA) has launched a new kind of tourism aimed at reaping more financial benefits from the tourism sector by wooing in more tourists

The new kind of tourism which will allow visitors to climb Mt Meru on bicycles was launched yesterday by TANAPA Assistant Commissioner for Conservation dealing in commercial development Bakari Mnaya.

He said national parks have different environments; hence, they have to congratulate themselves for reaching this step as it stands to increase the

ANAPA comes up with new tourism product

number of foreign tourists to the Mziray said it will take three days to

"This kind of tourism is the second after the one in Mt Kilimanjaro," he

He said the new product stems from preparations in anticipation of a wave of tourists coming to the country following the screening of the 'Royal Tour' documentary featuring President Samia Suluhu Hassan advertising the country's tourism attractions.

ANAPA Head of Conservation, Albert

climb the mountain and get down.

He said during their trip, the tourists will pass through centres from the main gate - Miriakamba Hut, Saddle Hut and on the third day they will reach the mountain's summit and then

He said they have considered safety of tourists by taking measures aimed at assuring the safety of visitors during

their trip up and down the mountain. The Director of Ndorobo safaris, Thad Peterson said ANAPA has never seen a great number of bicycles as yesterday that entered the park area.

"Today we have more than 20 bicycles that will reach the mountain's summit aimed at mobilising tourists to climb Mt Meru," he said.

The Director of Tazama Africa, Jaffary Jah Malima hailed TANAPA and ANAPA officials for agreeing to establish the new kind of tourism in which tourists will ride for more than 20 kms to reach the summit.

Msando hails research work done by SUA

By Guardian Reporter

MOROGORO district commissioner, Albert Msando has hailed the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) for investing in researches that provide solutions to challenges facing the society as well as helping the government to formulate better policies.

DC Msando said most of the studies conducted by SUA facilitate the government to reform policies and strengthen working systems so as to improve people's income and the nation at large.

He made the remarks during the weekend here when addressing a number of academicians, students, innovators and stakeholders during the launch of the Innovation Day at

He commended SUA's leadership and staff for their hard work which help produce graduates who make a significant contribution to the society and the nation by promoting selfemployment and creativity.

"If we will not invest in innovation, then attaining our development goals will be hard, I appreciate the efforts that SUA is doing in investing in students' hard work and innovation so as to have a self-reliant graduates who are able to overcome various challenges and bring development to the people through creativity," he said.

He noted that Tanzania was still lagging behind in the area of innovation as people do not struggle to think and come up with innovative ideas and projects that will help overcome challenges, improve income at individual level and the country at large

"I am so happy to see a good number of graduates from SUA become hardworking and creative people who spends their time thinking well and investing in them to produce positive impacts for them and the country's economy, we need to invest in this, we need to have a generation that have great minds," he added.

He urged young innovators across the country to think beyond their traditional boundaries and come up with creative ideas that would help solve various problems and contribute to the country's development.

SUA deputy vice chancellor Prof Amandus Muhairwa said the innovation day is an opportunity to raise awareness on the use of science, technology and innovation, recognise, award, and promote local innovations and inventions for social economic development.

"This is also a preparation of the national science, Technology and Innovation Competition for 20222 which is organised by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology so as to promote patriotic innovation in the country," he said.

"We as the agricultural university responsible for agriculture in the country recognise the contribution of innovation, this is why we have continued to ensure we equip our departments with required equipment and tools that will help them in designing various technologies to help our communities," he added.

Innovation coordinator consultant at SUA Dr Doreen Ndossy explained that the day is also aimed to envisage and promote innovation and thus help the government to stimulate development of the sector in the country.

By Guardian Reporter

REPRESENTATIVES information, communication and Technology (ICT) sectors from six countries gathered in Dar es Salaam yesterday to attend a conference aimed at unlocking the promise of 5G and advanced technology.

The three-day conference is sponsored by the U.S. government and the United States Telecommunications Training Institute (USTTI) in partnership with Tanzania's Ministry of Information, Communication, and Information Technology (MICIT).

Deputy Minister Kundo Mathew was the keynote speaker at the opening ceremony, which was also attended by the US Ambassador to Tanzania Donald Wright as well as USTTI Chairperson Iim O'Conner.

The purpose of the conference is to share best practices on how to optimize the use of emerging technologies and next generation wireless networks while addressing concerns related to cyber security and privacy.

Tanzania called on to unlock promise of 5G, 6G networks

best practices, the Internet of Things as transportation, financial services, (IOT), and Low Earth Orbit (LEO) electrical distribution, healthcare satellite technology. Participants in the and public health, and many more. conference hailed from Mozambique, Countries and citizens need to be able Rwanda, Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, and the United States. Private sector regulators will not introduce risks that companies represented included Walt Disney Company, Inmarsat, Qualcomm, American Tower, ICANN, Microsoft, and Meta.

In his remarks, Ambassador Wright said that the United States advocates for a vibrant digital economy worldwide that enables all citizens to benefit from the promise of fifth generation (5G) wireless networks and access to broadband internet.

"The stakes for ensuring the security of these networks could not be higher: 5G and 6G technologies are transformative and will touch every aspect of our lives, including

Seminars will explore regulatory critical infrastructure sectors such to trust that telecommunications and threaten national security, privacy, or human rights," Wright said.

> Wright also noted that the conference represents the start of a nearly \$1 million cyber partnership with Tanzania to provide technical assistance in 5G, countering cybercrime, and strengthening cyber security.

The stakes for ensuring the security of these networks could not be higher: 5G and 6G technologies are transformative and will touch every aspect of our lives...



To limit the risks of a resumption of the epidemic, the wearing of masks for the general public, washing hands and keeping distance is made compulsory inside of the auction yard!

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PUBLIC AUCTION OF UNHCR VEHICLES VEHICLES

21st of May 2022 at 11:00 AM in AIRD Mubondo Logistics base

HOW TO BUY AND IMPORTANT TERMS & CONDITIONS: VIEWING of the items (motor vehicles) can be done at the Auction location to verify the

SALE WILL BE ON "AS-IS-WHERE-IS-BASIS" in physical condition and location of the vehicles on the day of the sale

condition of the items for sale, as these are not warranted by the Auctioneer.

Buyer Registration, issuance of bidding numbers & catalogues is at AIRD Mubondo Logistics base, Kibondo Road -12 kms away from Kasulu Town from 16th to 20th of MAY 2022 from 08:00 AM to 04:00 PM and will continue during the auction day of the 21st of MAY 2022 from 08:00 to 10:00 AM. Due to large interest the buyers should preferably ensure they register, get the bidding numbers, and pay the deposits latest by Friday the 20th of May 2022

> THE AUCTION SHALL START at 11:00AM on 21st of May 2022 IN AIRD MUBONDO LOGISTICS BASE - KIGOMA

BIDDING AND DEPOSITS

• ALL BUYERS MUST REGISTER & PAY A REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT IN ADVANCE TO PARTICIPATE. r to participate in the auction. Interested buyers are required to pay a refundable deposit of TZS 2,500,000 for the vehicles. The registration should be paid directly to

the YONO AUCTION MART & CO LTD and is refundable within two working days after the auction (24th of May 2022) if the bidder does not buy any goods from the auction.

PAYMENTS for all purchases must be in form of DIRECT DEPOSIT to the given auctioneer's bank account details

The declared buyer will have to pay 25% of the purchase price by the end of the AUCTION DAY (21st MAY 2022) the remaining 75% will be paid within working 3 days after auction (25th May 2022 closing of Business time). Failure to pay the **75**% will make the deposit (TZS 2.5 M) forfeited and the property will be re-auctioned.

The declared buyers deposit (TZS 2.5 M) will be applied to the purchase price and become a part of the 25% deposit and will NOT BE REFUNDED. NO second bidder will be taken into consideration Sale is subject to confirmation based on reasonable reserved prices.

Please note that all motor vehicles were originally duty and tax exempted, hence it is the obligation and responsibility of the buyer to make sure he/she pays all TAXES and DUTIES within seven days after paying 100% of the price. All expenses and cost in respect of TAXES and CUSTOMS DUTIES shall be borne by the buyer. In case the buyer does not clear the taxes in the period defined (max. 14 days after the auction date the buyer will be charged for extra storage fee.

Neither the AUCTIONEER YONO AUCTION MART & CO LTD nor our PRINCIPAL will be liable for any repairs, transport of the vehicles or refund of collected sales price.



for a living planet

VACANCY: LIVELIHOODS AND VALUE CHAIN SPECIALIST

WWF is seeking to hire for a livelihood and Value Chain Specialist to be based in Arusha, Tanzania

I. Major Duties and Responsibilities

- Development of a comprehensive nature-based community livelihoods strategy for the SOKNOT landscape, including detailed plans to ensure financial sustainability.
- · Elevate and fast-track the development, piloting and implementation of new/improved livelihood solutions aimed at diversifying income streams towards greater livelihood security for communities
- · Lead on the identification of market-based bankable nature-compatible projects and link to potential investors and appropriate partners e.g. social development NGOs, academics, etc
- · Work with external consultants and other peer conservation/social development organizations to incorporate advice on specialist areas (including the development of contracts, support communities to negotiate better business deals with tourism and other nature-based investors, reports etc.).
- Lead on market analyses, including the development of links to market for key products and associated marketing strategies · Identify key value chain opportunities to assist community members (particularly women and youth) to start and scale up
- their business. · Lead on the monitoring and evaluation of data and reporting for project, to track performance/impact and adapt as required
- · Conduct education and awareness activities which will build capacity and assist communities to explore conservation compatible livelihood options in their area.
- · Liaise closely with other Programmes of WWF-Tanzania and the WWF Network in identifying resilient nature-based livelihoods models and ideas that can be customized to priority landscapes globally.
- · Share and document learnings to support the wider development of resilient community livelihoods in the region and globally.
- Report to key stakeholders including donors including the preparation of progress reports. • Ensure implementation of activities is in line with respective donor grants, expectations and planned outcomes.
- · Understanding of socio-economic and cultural aspects of wildlife conservation, including drivers of human-wildlife conflict, poaching and habitat degradation.
- · Experience of qualitative and quantitative social science research methods, including surveys, semi-structured interviews, focus groups, research on sensitive topics and their analysis, research ethics.

Required Qualifications and skills

A minimum of 8 years' active engagement and experience of working with local rural communities on diversifying livelihoods and developing sustainable nature-based solutions. Experience in developing and implementing livelihood, value chains and enterprise strategies, preferably in a natural-resource context, especially within the ecotourism and livestock sectors. Skilled in financial and planning, managing large budgets and project management. Understanding of the factors constraining community-based wildlife utilization in Tanzania and Kenya. Ability to work effectively in a multi-cultural and diverse setting. Understanding of and support to gender issues is a must. Experience of dealing with power differentials and inequalities within and across communities is desirable. Experience of engaging with 'hard to reach' members of society is desirable. Experience of working with communities to support natural resource management and improved livelihoods.

Additional information, including Terms of Reference, can be obtained through web address: https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs_and_opportunities/jobs/. Applications must include a complete Cover Letter & CV with full contact details of three referees and should be addressed to the People & Culture Manager, via email to: hresources@wwftz.org by Tuesday 17th May 2022 at 4:30 pm. Only the shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

> Female applicants are strongly encouraged to apply. WWF is an equal opportunity employer and committed to having a diverse workforce

Note: WWF has a principle of zero-tolerance to fraud and corruption, if you encounter such incident, report by sending an email to **fcci@wwftz.org**

Guardian

Guardia.com Guardian One of the second sec

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

Mother's Day surely shows the gap, not the promise, to mothers

OOKING up what was being said about the World Day of Mothers falling on the Sunday of the second week of May each year, one is met by a series of themes related to the day but which constitute other international days,. One is the International Mother Language Day that was proclaimed by the general conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation and .marked on February 21, while on April 22 there was Mother Earth Day celebrated within the United Nations Decade on Ecosystem Restoration. The theme there was ecosystems, with the planet equated with motherhood.

There is also an International Day of Families where mothers feature more or less prominently as the basis and anchorage of families, which a chronicler says it is meant to promote awareness of issues relating to families and to increase the knowledge of the social, economic and demographic pressures relating to families in transition situations for instance. Verbatim, the same can be said of World Mothers' Day, as mothers bear the brunt of afflictions that hit the environment and impact on families, from cutting rations to absorbing violence from frustrated conjugal partners of all sorts. That has plenty of examples.

The lockdowns due to the outbreak of Covid-19 was tormenting for women worldwide - and for mothers in particular - which only illustrated the permanent burden that it is, to be a mother and especially simply a housewife. Working mothers have greater independence as they are capable of setting out their likes and

dislikes both in their earnings and in their use of time, being limited to home activity may be free of some stresses but likely to be more stressed overall, by comparison. Even in wealthy households stress isn't absent, as often the diminution of material stress brings up other concerns; medical, or psychological.

That is why write ups about World Mothers' Day were bent on the literary rather than the global agenda as such, as this aspect is directed to a whole series of other commemorations, including those directly featuring the dimension of motherhood. One such literary reflection says "mothers are powerful, and on Mother's Day, we celebrate moms who impact our lives and work tirelessly to change the world," which presumes that what mothers do changes the world, not that they have that objective. The importance of mothers is easy to acknowledge but then it is power that is at issue, as only duty flows from motherhood.

The chronicler says the United Nations Foundation knows how important mothers are in promoting prosperity, success and growth in communities around the world, airing the view that the United Nations constantly works to provide mothers the resources they need to lead healthy, happy lives. Frankly that observation would scarcely stand in a school debate, as quickly what is said of mothers would rapidly be absorbed into civic groups, local governments and even ministerial departments. Or female entrepreneurs at the very most, savings groups ultimately where one may at least find many women, not mothers firstly.

Z'bar wage rises good model of purchasing power uplifting

celebrations where a promise for salary uplift was made by President Samia Suluhu Hassan, with a proviso that it will not be anchored on what the Trade Union Congress of Tanzania (TUCTA) had suggested. The organization wanted a comfortable minimum living wage of one million shillings, given to employees by the kindness of government, indeed of the Lady President, instead of anchoring that demand on productivity, expenditure and budgeting. Thus there was some room for a rise.

What is looks like may have been amply gauged by the changes in the Zanzibar wage structure, where President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi set out salary increases to public servants for fiscal 2022/2023, in an address for the delayed apex of World Labour Day at the weekend.

The rises were spread between 15 per cent and 19 per cent of current wages, for beginners and those in work respectively, which is realistic as the national budget scarcely climbs over 20 per cent gross amounts from one year to another. Limiting salary increases to this range implies that equity is being maintained with other sectors of the population.

The basic minimum wage rises from 300,000/- to 347,000/-, which was interpreted as a 15.6 per cent uplift, and as members of Parliament were saying that recent fuel price hikes and of other commodities led to a rise in the cost of living by 21 per cent by sampling, it is a fair deal. The Isles leader said that

recruits with certificate level in social studies will now be paid 382,000/instead of 321,000/-, amounting to a 19 per cent increase, highlighting the fact that the government skipped wage rise across the board to a more selective mode, taking into account qualifications and longevity at work. It is a realistic calculation.

That does not mean that that there is no case for a living wage, which some pundits try to buttress by picking examples of how they are paid in Europe or elsewhere. This concern with welfare parameters while refusing economic structures of advanced countries is one among hallmarks of intellectual and political culture in Africa, not just Tanzania, to be surmounted step by step. We are already far more open within the East African customs union protocol, now being broadened to the Continental African Free Trade Area (CAfFTA), that soon we shall find competition and

openness to be normal. At some point this will be extended to immovable property including land, industries, banks, insurance, natural resources to attract plenty of foreign investments and change the picture. Outside this kind of change, a living wage is totally unlikely as the government uses a third of total budget, implying nearly a half of revenues, paying out or servicing the foreign public debt. Jobs are thus scarce and wages are low, to make ends meet in what is otherwise an inefficient economy where farming by traditional methods takes up three quarters of productive work

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO Circulation Manager: EMMANUEL LYIMO

Newsdesk

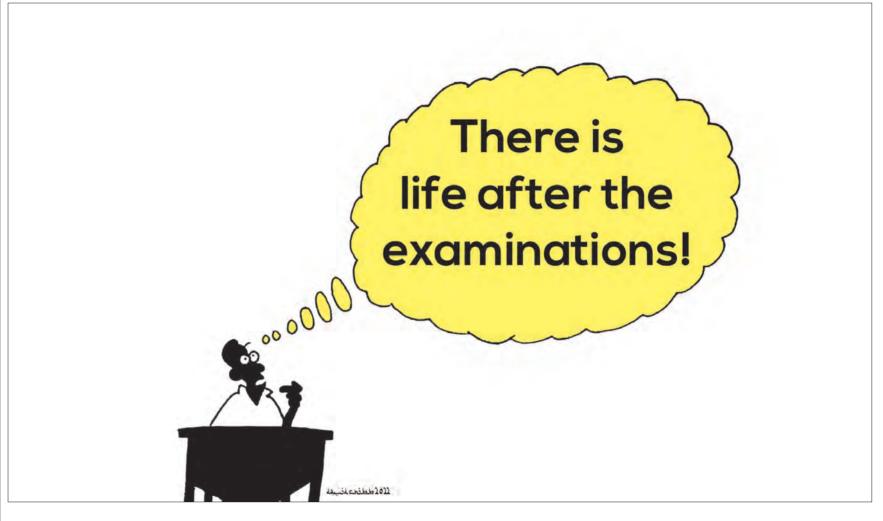
News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON 0757154767 General line: 0745700710

E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz

Advertising

Mobile: 0782253676 E-mails: advertise@guardian.co.tz Website: www.ippmedia.com epaper.ippmedia.com

EDITORIALS.OPINION



By Dr. Mustapha Ahmadu

ITH barely a year away, Nigeria edges closer to what is arguably, the most decisive election in its democratic history. One issue that has dominated political discussions in recent times is the choice of who succeeds the incumbent, President Muhammadu Buhari. Amidst these deliberations, the name "Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan" has remained a recurring decimal in the political permutations.

Within the last year, there have been growing calls for the entrance of Goodluck Jonathan into the race to occupy Aso Rock in 2023. The Otuokeborn politician is no neophyte in the scheme of things, having previously served as Deputy Governor and Governor of his native Bayelsa state, later, Vice-President, Acting President and eventually, President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. His experience and sterling impact in these assignments, not only sets him apart as Nigeria's most experienced political actor, but speaks to his strong character and capacity as a visionary leader and consummate administrator. This makes it easier to understand these agitations.

Nigeria has a rotational power arrangement between the North and the South, albeit unofficial. The current realities favour a power-shift to Southern Nigeria from the North, given that the tenure of the incumbent president, Muhammadu Buhari, a northerner, expires in 2023. What this means is that the next president is expected to be of Southern extraction,

What Jonathan's return means for Nigeria although there are contrary beliefs in - the rare privilege of a double-angled

some quarters, which are more likely than not, inspired by mischief. Some of the calls for Goodluck

Jonathan's presidential bid are predicated on this power rotation. He is widely seen as the most credible, valuable and marketable export from the South.

With hardly any ethnic or religious controversies to his name, Jonathan's democratic credentials easily trounce any other aspirant, a factor which will greatly influence his acceptability and tilts voting outcomes in the North, in his favour. His large pulsating followership across the other regions in the south is also unmatched.

Although a member of the People's Democratic Party (PDP) as at the last elections, the former president has been out of partisan politics for a long while, at least in public glare. There have been reports that he may fly the All Progressive Congress (APC) flag at the 2023 presidential elections. While this has not been confirmed by his camp, it is a testament of his high electoral value.

Sincethepossibilityofhiscandidature became public, Nigerians have been envisioning what Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan's eventual return holds for the polity. With his experience as a former president, there's no gainsaying that Jonathan has a clearer understanding of the challenges bedeviling Nigeria. The last eight years must have also given him an opportunity to assess the

perspective. Surely, this has built him the strong will to contend with these issues head-on.

Dr. Jonathan has already established himself as one who has the interest of Nigerians at heart, as exemplified in 2015 when he shelved his personal ambition to avert a looming crisis, declaring that his ambition was "not worth the blood of any Nigerian."

He also brings with him, a strong reputation as a statesman, a tested patriot and trusted nationalist who is committed to the Nigerian project. As a special envoy who has been facilitating peace in various countries across Africa, there is no doubt that Dr. Jonathan can replicate the same homewards to sooth the ethnic tensions plaguing different parts of the country.

Dr. Jonathan's return will boost and significantly expand the scope of interventions he initiated to improve sectors of the Nigerian economy. Under his watch, Nigeria's economy not only survived major setbacks that greatly affected most advanced nations, it actually grew in leaps and bounds to emerge as Africa's largest economy. His re-emergence renews hope for economic recovery that could revive our now plummeted naira.

For the transportation sector, his pragmatic efforts laid the foundation for a national intermodal transport system which combined roads, railroads, waterways and aviation. It revived Nigeria's rail system which had state of the nation as a private citizen hitherto been moribund for over 30

years, built road infrastructure, and transformed the aviation sector.

With his unrivaled record of all-inclusive engendering an government, Jonathan's return would provide more opportunities for women and youths. While his cabinet ranks as the youngest in Nigeria's democracy, the 35% affirmative action is a clear indication of his commitment to creating opportunities for women in

Dr. Jonathan's experience would largely prove handy in the quest to salvage Nigeria's current struggle with insurgency and banditry. His unwavering commitment to the fight against insecurity saw an end to militancy in the Niger Delta region as well as dealt a convincing blow to the raving insurgency in the North. The purchase of Super Tucano jets amongst other military hardwares, under his watch and the training of elite corps and alliance with foreign mercenaries, proved decisive in the war till the end of his tenure.

As the days go by, it is largely clear that President Buhari's successor could emerge from the South. However, a clearer reality is that Dr. Goodluck Ebele Jonathan trumps every other aspirant, cementing his position as the most valuable and viable politician from the entire Southern region and his return as President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, will usher in an era of recovery, advancement and sustainable development for the country.

Making the right choices for the climate, even in a time of war

By Dean Cooper

HE Ukraine conflict has sent a ripple of change through the global energy sector. Our response can have profound implications for accelerating the energy transition

Recently, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released its latest report, focused on rising global emissions and the solutions needed to mitigate climate change. But despite the significance of this global report, the fact is that all eyes will be on the war in Ukraine.

Like others across the world, we at WWF are appalled by this escalating confrontation. Our hearts and thoughts are with all those in the impacted region.

At the same time, the war in Ukraine has led to ripple effects across the world, particularly in the energy sector, complicating steady gains to address the climate crisis.

We must heed the warnings of scientists, who tell us we have to reduce global emissions by at least 45% by the end of this decade - in just eight years

- if we are to avoid the catastrophic impacts of climate change.

And so the choices we make now, and the way governments respond to the evolving energy crisis, will determine whether we succeed or fail.

Historically, income from fossil fuels has always been a key driver of Russia's economy, relying on Europe's dependence on Russian oil and gas. But following the war in Ukraine, many western countries have quickly declared their intent to downscale their

reliance on Russia's energy exports. The risk however is that these countries replace supplies from Russia with other sources of oil and gas, potentially leading to increased fossil fuel production.

Countries may just encourage new investment in frontier markets such as the Arctic or African countries, or simply change to another supplier of fossil fuels. Only last week, the US announced plans to provide Liquified Natural Gas to Europe, replacing some supply that Europe was receiving from

There is also a risk that politicians decide to extend the lifespan of existing

coal-fired power plants, or delay the closure of nuclear power stations, rather than pursuing the options that have a climate benefit.

There is a glimmer of hope to the

current energy crisis. Energy security is now a top priority in Europe and other parts of the world. This has brought many transformative energy opportunities to the fore, with politicians calling for clean energy responses such as accelerating renewable deployment, energy promoting electric vehicle take-up, increasing energy efficiency, and identifying ways to reduce energy demand.

All of that means that we will need to resolve some related issues. They include disrupted global supply chains, availability of raw materials, and the legal frameworks needed to accelerate approvals and implementation of renewable energy at scale. Despite these challenges, renewables are increasingly recognised as the best

Protecting nature in the course of building new energy infrastructure is

We need to ensure that new renewable energy systems are located outside sensitive conservation areas. Governments and businesses must commit to develop the recycling capacity of relevant resources while reducing the social and environmental impacts of mining.

None of this changes the fact that rapid renewable energy deployment, when carefully planned, is far less destructive to nature than fossil fuels. But governments and investors must be prepared to acknowledge and manage the trade-offs involved.

The war in Ukraine will cast a shadow over Europe for a long time to come, and its impacts will reach far beyond the energy sector. Our smart response must be to reinforce the global shift to clean energy solutions, and thereby reduce the worst impacts of climate change.

choices made without But considering the full consequences can also cause catastrophic damage to the natural environment that we all need in order to survive.

Humanity cannot afford to take the wrong path.

FEATURES

Threats that compromise independent reporting, silence journalists

By Telesphor Magobe

ANZANIA on Tuesday joined other countries across the world to mark World Press Freedom Day (WPFD) celebrated each year on May 3. This global event reminds governments across the world to respect their commitment to protecting press freedom (and journalists in general) and calls journalists to evaluate press freedom and professional ethics and pay tribute to journalists killed in the exercise of their profession.

This year's theme was "Journalism Under Digital Siege", which reflects overt and covert ways in which "journalism is endangered by surveillance and digitally-mediated attacks on journalists, and the consequences of all this on public trust in digital communications," says a UNESCO report.

"Surveillance can expose information gathered by journalists, including from whistle-blowers, and violates the principle of source protection, which is universally considered a prerequisite for freedom of the media and is enshrined in UN Resolutions." It may also put journalists at safety risks.

Although journalists everywhere work in a challenging environment, they are a key link between world governments and their people. As is traditionally put it, journalists inform, educate and entertain members of the public. At times they may overstep their limits and be sources of conflict when their reporting becomes divisive or irresponsible. This, of course, is regretted and should be avoided by all responsible and ethical journalists.

In most cases journalists are the voice of the voiceless, yet when it comes to the abuse of their rights hardly do other people become



their voice. That is - most of the time journalists are left to suffer their plight on their own.

In a report entitled "World Trends in Freedom of Expression and Media Development: Global Report 2021/22" UNESCO, from 2016-2020, recorded 400 killings of journalists. "This figure is about a 20-per cent decrease from the previous five-year period (2011-2015) in which 491 killings were registered." UNESCO further says 2016 was the worst year for journalists, as 102 of them were killed while on duty or were targeted for their work.

Another peak year was 2018, followed by 2019 during which 57 journalists were killed, the lowest number in a decade. In 2020 there was a slight rise, as 62 journalists were killed for their work. UNESCO notes with concern that life-threatening risks exist for journalists everywhere in the world although there are variations from continent to continent, from region to region and from country to country.

UNESCO says a free and safe media environment, together with an end to impunity for crimes against journalists, is essential for receiving reliable information produced by journalists, who can work without fear or favour. Unfortunately, according to UNESCO, every nine in 10 cases of killings of journalists (87 per cent) remain unresolved. This is a worrying trend that tends to silence journalists.

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

In Tanzania journalists have a certain degree of freedom although it could be better than that. The Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania provides for freedom of expression, including media freedom in Article 18. It says "every person (a) has a freedom of opinion and expression of his [or her ideas], (b) has a right to seek, receive and, or disseminate information regardless of national boundaries, (c) has the freedom to communicate and a freedom with protection from interference from his [or her] communication and (d) has a right to be informed at all times of various important events of life and activities of the people and also of issues of importance to society."

Yet, looking at Reporters Without Borders (RSF)'s 2022 World Press Freedom Index, Tanzania ranks 123rd among 180 countries and territories surveyed. Last year, it ranked 124th and because of this it is categorised as a 'partly free' country with some breathing space in press freedom. There is more room to improve in this area and new hope too, thanks to President Samia Suluhu Hassan's promise.

Although the Media Services Act, 2016 makes provisions for the promotion of professionalism in the media industry in Tanzania, it has several sections that restrict media freedom and make journalists work in a precarious environment. For instance, the accreditation of journalists looks to be a good thing, but it may not be so in practice.

Some media stakeholders have challenged some sections of the Media Services Act at the East African Court of Justice (EACJ). In its judgment delivered on March 28,

2019, the EACJ declared that the provisions of sections 7(3)(a), (b), (c), (f), (g), (h), (i), and (j); sections 19, 20 and 21; sections 35, 36, 37, 38, 39 and 40; sections 50 and 54; sections 52 and 53 and sections 58 and 59 of the Media Services Act violate Articles 6(d) and 7(2) of the Treaty establishing the East African Community (EAC)

The United Republic of Tanzania was also directed to take such measures as are necessary, to bring the Media Services Act, into compliance with the Treaty establishing the EAC.

So, although in Tanzania there is breathing space in media freedom, there are also areas that need improvement to make journalists work freely and independently without compromising their profession.

It is good to recall the Windhoek +30 Declaration of 2021, which states that "press freedom, independence and pluralism remain major goals to guarantee information as a public good that serves as a shared resource for the whole of humanity. To these goals we now add those of media viability, transparency of digital platforms, and citizens empowered with media and information literacy...Now, let each of us resolve to do our part to help secure information as a public good as an urgent need today, and as a legacy for those who come after us."

It suffices to say that Tanzania will significantly improve in media freedom if it works on the provisions and sections the EACJ has declared they violate the Treaty that establishes the EAC. Therefore, as a nation let us take this challenge and address it and make Tanzania move from a 'partly free' country to a 'free' country in media freedom and it is not impossible.

Today's proverb: "Hope springs eternal in the human breast."

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

How collective action can move the needle on gender equality

By Kathleen Sherwin, Divya Mathew, Julia Fan, Gretchen Gasteier and Rachel Elliott

URING this year's sixty-sixth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW66), we are eager to see the global community pivot towards more inclusive approaches to advocacy. It's imperative to put the spotlight on women's rights and youth-led organizations in communities that are often left out of key discussions. By handing the mic over to advocates across all backgrounds and ages. we can shift to a model that enables all advocates to take a lead role in policy-making and ultimately translate promises and rhetoric into real impact and accountability.

Since the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic, the ways that the global community works together to push for inclusive progress toward gender equality - progress that fully and effectively engages and equally benefits everyone -- are fundamentally changing. Private conversations between the organizations and people with the resources and privilege to access the halls of power have given way to hybrid events and videoconferences that are open to a more diverse, intergenerational set of stakeholders than ever before. This significant shift began to open the doors to more inclusive partnerships.

Also, during these past two years, a global reckoning called on us all to meaningfully transform our advocacy, practices, and programs. International development organizations, including our own, took a long, overdue look in the mirror, and in some cases, began the deep learning and unlearning needed to acknowledge the persistent power imbalances that plague our sector at large. It's a first step in living up to the values of equity and inclusion - not just on paper, but in practice.

As the world as we know it changed, we were hard at work changing, too. We began actively leveraging our power and influence more intentionally than ever before to center the work and expertise of women's rights and youth-led organizations in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). Now, we are digging deeper to find and use new tools that enable advocates to

co-create and co-lead by themselves so that our work and the Women Deliver 2023 Conference (WD2023) is more inclusive, diverse, consultative, and accessible than ever before.

In "calling us in" and championing our ability to foster more inclusive partnerships across all of our programs, we are taking action to effectively and authentically advocate for, with, and alongside girls and women everywhere, in all their intersecting identities, to catalyze lasting progress on gender equality.

Transforming ourselves is of course a continuous process. Each day, we are learning to do better and to be better. We hope that our key learnings, below, can support our development colleagues, wherever they find themselves on their journey.

1. Accessibility and inclusion must lead the way - in-person and virtually.

According to expert studies, organizations and individuals from LMICs are often underrepresented at global health convenings. From day one, it's urgent to intentionally engage those who have historically been excluded. In planning WD2023, we have leveraged the lessons of the past two years and from prior Women Deliver Conferences.

We used an open application to select one-third of our Conference Advisory Group -- a diverse panel with a balance of technical expertise. Our advisors represent 30 organizations -- 10 individuals are from youth or youth-led organizations and 35 are from LMICs. We have done this to ensure that the Conference is co-created from the start by organizations and individuals representing the intersectional identities of the girls and women we work with and for.

We meet regularly via videoconference with our Advisory Group to co-create the Conference's Global Dialogue, theme, programming, and more, with support from social impact design experts at IDEO.org. IDEO also supports us as we carry out targeted discussions with specific stakeholder groups, including Women Deliver Young Leaders and Alumni, Deliver for Good Country Coalitions, and Conference Sponsors and Funders.

In planning how to shape the dialogue, foster collaboration, and drive collective action before, during, and after the Conference, we're working with our partners



Delegates take a group photo at the Young Leaders & Alumni Workshop at the Women Deliver 2019 Conference in Vancouver, Canada.

to ensure that all Conference advocacy spaces, be they digital or physical, are accessible to all. This includes low-bandwidth options, closed captioning, interpretation in multiple languages, and International Sign Language. On-site, we will also provide trauma-informed specialists, breastfeeding/nursing stations, child safeguarding support, and mental health specialists.

2. Move from meaningful youth engagement to co-leadership and intergenerational action.

It's time to follow the lead of young people, shift away from top-down approaches, and actively provide resources for robust youth co-leadership. According to global consensus, young people have a fundamental right to actively and meaningfully engage in all matters that affect their lives. For international development organizations, this means offering space, support, and compensation that youth need and deserve to co-create a more-gender equal future -- a future from which they have the most to gain

We created the 14-person Young Leaders Program Alumni

Committee, with an honorarium for their valuable expertise, to advise us on strategy and implementation of the Young Leaders Program and ideate youth co-creation opportunities. This committee provides invaluable guidance to ensure the Young Leaders Program models meaningful youth engagement and co-leadership, and effectively meets the needs of Young Leaders on the ground.

Women Deliver also hosts Multi-Country Workshops to foster capacity strengthening, knowledge sharing, and coordinated advocacy on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR) and gender equality. Starting in 2021, these workshops are now designed and led by a Young Leader Planning Committee representing the regions where the workshops take place. They are in the driver's seat as they craft workshop content and programming, while Women Deliver provides logistical support and the virtual space to gather. This co-created process has led to more targeted -- and impactful -- workshops that cater to Young Leaders'

specific needs and build capacity in the issue areas where it's most needed.

3. Elevate diverse voices and support organizations working on the ground.

Incusion and participation have to be integrated into the mission of development work, not a one-off tactic or strategy. Diverse, resilient feminist and women's rights organizations and movements are - and must always be positioned as - the key drivers of change for gender equality and women's rights across the globe.

Over the past two years, we have stepped back to shift power across every aspect of our organization's activities, policies, programs, and behaviors, into the hands of the youth and women's rights groups most impacted by our work. For example, in 2020, in partnership with Girl Effect, as well as with young people themselves, we worked to understand how youth in India, Malawi, and Rwanda use digital platforms to learn about their sexual and reproductive health (SRHR). This project was designed and executed by more

mendations. Moving forward, we must involve girls and women in all aspects of data collection and evidence generation that impacts them. This will ensure that the local knowledge and skills needed to drive sustainable change in their own communities, regions, and countries are an integral part of effective advocacy and decision-making. We're now handing the pen directly to Young Leaders and spotlighting the work of youthled organizations during key advocacy moments. Last year, the Deliver for Good Campaign organized its first ever Continental Conversation -- an idea conceived

than 160 adolescent girls and

young women, who worked

hand in hand with researchers on

the ground in India, Malawi, and

Rwanda to conduct interviews

within their own communities,

as well as to design questions, dis-

cuss results, and generate recom-

by partners in Kenya and Senegal -- as a way to work together towards gender equality in the region. What was first envisioned as a one-off peer-to-peer sharing opportunity via videoconference became understood as a vital, first-of-its-kind Continental Conversation to bridge divides -- some of which had never been crossed. Together, the Campaign's country partners shared their own experiences, lessons, challenges, and successes in advancing gender equality, laying the groundwork for a cross-regional peer-to-peer learning model with the power to accelerate progress on girls' and women's health and rights in Kenya, in Senegal, and around the world. Over the past year, we have

also co-convened multi-sectoral coalitions with diverse partners representing the intersectional identities of girls and women. For example, as part of the SRHR & Climate Justice Coalition, we're working on collective action and coordinated advocacy in partnership with more than 60 representatives from a wide range of civil society organizations. The Coalition is working to advance SRHR and gender equality in the context of climate change from an intersectional and climate justice approach.

The Coalition emerged from the need to break down silos between the SRHR and Climate Justice organizations and movements, facilitate knowledge sharing, jointly mobilize, and amplify the voices and priorities of grassroots organizations. These organizations are led by girls and women, the LGBTQIA+ community, and Indigenous people from LMICs, particularly those most affected by climate change and without continuous access to high-quality SRH services. The Coalition is currently raising awareness of the interlinkages of SRHR and climate change in order to ensure SRHR is a key part of climate change conversations and action strategies ahead of key policy moments, such as CSW66 and COP27.

4. Collect and present data that accurately represents the diverse needs of all girls and women.

Sustainable progress -- and lasting change -- will take all of us. Over the past two years, we've focused on connecting advocates working across different issue areas and collecting gender-disaggregated data. The data is broken down into the many factors that shape people's lives, including race and ethnicity, sexual orientation, disability status, and socioeconomic class in order to drive collective action, the mainstay of transformative change. We also need to engage with data scientists from regions most impacted by this research.

Last year, we partnered with Focus 2030 to carry out a survey of 17 countries on six continents -- representing half of the world's population. An overwhelming majority said they support gender equality, believe that women should be fully engaged in charting our path forward, and expect leaders - political and in business - to take meaningful action to bridge the gender divide. In centering the voices of citizens, we were able to effectively advocate for bigger, bolder commitments by governments and the private sector, ahead of the Generation Equality Forum.

As Women Deliver evolves and grows, we will continue to call upon our partners and funders, including in the private sector, to ensure that the international development world champions and secures robust, feminist funding and resources for women's rights organizations, youth, and other marginalized communities. We hope you will join us in leveraging the changes set into motion during the pandemic and the global reckoning in our sector. Let's work together to bridge existing divides and form inclusive partnerships -- between countries, sectors, and generations.

Guardian

FEATURE

On Liberia's bicentennial and 1821 'land purchase' find

By Nat Galarea Gbessagee

August 2021, President George Manneh Weah set up a 25-member Special Bicentennial Steering Committee to organize and implement appropriate programs for the country's bicentennial anniversary. The main marker for the bicentennial is pegged to January 7, 1822 when the American Society for Colonizing the Free People of Color of the United States (aka the American Colonization Society (ACS)) resettled the first group of freed black American slaves on Providence Island in modern-day Monrovia. The government has declared a one-year celebratory period from December 2021 to December 2022 for the bicentennial in a bid to engender broader participation in bicentennial activities by Diaspora Liberians, persons of Liberian descent, friends of Liberia, and Liberians at home. The theme for the bicentennial is "Liberia: The Land of Return - Commemorating 200 Years of Freedom and Pan-African Leadership," which is meant to signify the country's many historical milestones in intra-Africa and world affairs.

The Providence Island resettlement scheme in 1822 has always generated corresponding historical arguments about the 1821 "land purchase" by ACS agents Dr. Eli Ayers and U.S. Navy Lieutenant Robert Stockton from Dei, Bassa, Vai, and Gola chiefs of the former Grain Coast, now the Republic of Liberia. The key arguments have always been that in the 1820s in Africa and the agrarian world private ownership of land was improbable because land was generally for communal use and not for sales to individuals and organizations. Then there was the argument that Stockton secured Providence Island and adjacent Cape Mesurado from the African chiefs in 1821 through coercion by pointing a gun to the head of one of the chiefs to sign the land purchase agreement. But Liberian Historian Carl Patrick Burrowes disputes that any of this information is true.

I seek in this article, therefore, to reconcile Burrowes' accounts against other historical accounts regarding the sales of land in prehistoric Liberia and the general circumstances of the 1821 "land purchase" agreement between the ACS and the African chiefs. I will also look at the general state of relations between descendants of the freed slaves and those of the African chiefs in light of President William R. Tolbert's 1972 sesquicentennial speech. I will discuss the significance of the bicentennial as well as attempt to disabuse young and old Liberians alike of the idea that identifying, calling, and referring to a fellow Liberian as "Americo-Liberian" is an act of attempted alienation and divisiveness.

Burrowes' Archival Find and Implications

Historian Carl Patrick Burrowes discloses during interviews with various media outlets in late 2021 that while searching through the microfilm archives of the Bushrod Washington Collection at Chicago History Museum in Illinois, USA in August 2021, he found the "original" 1821 land purchase agreement between ACS agents and African chiefs in the files of ACS secretary Elias B. Caldwell. He told the Washington Post that the archival find at the Chicago History Museum was "The most significant discovery of his career," insofar as the "document helps debunk several prevailing myths about the acquisition of territory that became... [Liberia's] capital" (Cavanaugh). These included "Myth 1: Local West African rulers rejected the contract because their societies prohibited the buying and selling of land; Myth 2: The local rulers were unable to comprehend the content of the contract because they did not understand English; and Myth 3: The land was purchased at gunpoint" (Cavanaugh). The Daily Observer also saw the Burrowes find as seeking "to both establish a new perspective from which the nation's history could be told and help clarify and correct long-held beliefs that may have fueled division among peoples" (Staff

The two newspapers appeared more optimistic about the impact of Burrowes' find on contempo-



rary Liberian history and Liberian society at large than Burrowes himself. In an interview with Octavius Obey published on You-Tube in December 2021, Burrowes acknowledged that "The document [he found] in and of itself doesn't speak to the issue, but when we look at the arguments surrounding it and other findings related to it.... for example, the transcripts of the negotiations kept by Ayers" (Obey), then one may conclude otherwise. But, if Burrowes truly believes that the historic purchase agreement he found "does not speak to the issue," then how might it be possible to glean from that very purchase document information on settling the myths alluded to by the Washington Post, or the upbeat rendition proffered by the Daily Observer about the document helping to "clarify and correct long-held beliefs that may have fueled division among peoples for more than a century," let alone the possibility of garnering "a new perspective from which the nation's history could be told"?

Yet, Burrowes insists that the sales of land to private individuals was a routine business activity during the time of the ACS land purchase and argues that the African chiefs understood every term of the 1821 purchase agreement in that the "... local rulers understood Western contracts because they had been involved in business arrangements with Westerners, including pre-purchase agreements, for centuries" (Staff Editor). On myth #3 Burrowes deduces that Stockton was only fond of playing with guns, but that he really did not threaten anyone with a gun during negotiations with African chiefs. Indeed, as a historian and researcher, Burrowes is within his scholarly rights to extrapolate, predict, and give new meaning and new life to the document he found than what the document itself actually stands for and deserves. But these individual interpretations of historical documents like the 1821 purchase agreement cannot be presented as absolute and uncontestable historical facts, especially where the object of analysis has no intrinsic values beyond the subjective opinions of the historian or researcher.

The issue of proof is also complicated by the lack of specificity about the methods Burrowes used to confirm that the purchase agreement he found at the Chicago History Museum was an authentic copy of the original agreement. Then, there are unanswered questions about how and why Ayers came to draft the "original" land purchase agreement in his handwriting rather than in someone else's handwriting or typed it? Who set the price for the land sale at USD300? Who identified the items for the barter exchange in lieu of cash payment? How it became possible that Eli Ayers and John Mills signed the agreement with their full names and signatures, but the traditional leaders only signed unto the agreement individually with an "X" mark under such names as King Long Peter, King George, King Governor, King Jimmy, and so on, as if the chiefs forgot their own names or lacked full names altogether. And why the traditional leaders signed with "X" mark instead of their thumbs or actual signatures, if they were so familiar with western contracts? Amidst these vexing questions, Burrowes' answer to the question, "Any document could be a forgery. How do you know this one is the original?" was less direct and more conjectural or rhetorical: "First of all, the document is in the handwriting of Eli Ayres, the American who signed it on behalf of the ACS. Second, the paper is aged, not modern. Third, its location inspires further confidence in its authenticity... ." (Staff Editor). But can a century-old purchase agreement really be authenticated by handwriting sample, storage location, and archaeological dating method? Maybe so, but not necessarily in

Other Historical Accounts on 1821 "Land Purchase" Story

The purchase document Burrowes found does not cast any new light on contemporary Liberian history, especially the role and place of the indigenous chiefs and their descendants in the founding of Liberia. It also does not explain why the founding date of Liberia is often associated with January 7, 1822 when the ACS resettled the first group of the freed slaves on Providence Island and not on February 20, 1824 when the ACS established the Colony of Liberia, or December 15, 1821 when the ACS and the chiefs signed the purchase agreement. Interestingly, I can remember as a Bassa youth growing up in Liberia that it was not uncommon to hear across Liberian society that the Bassa people sold their land for smoked fish. That assertion puzzled me a lot. and I always wanted to know which land the Bassa people sold, to whom, and for what purpose? I had no ready answers to these questions until in adulthood when I found out that the whole assertion was nothing but a farce, a historical misrepresentation of the 1821 land transaction between agents of the American Colonization Society (ACS) and Dei, Bassa, Vai, and Gola, chiefs of what is today the Republic of Liberia.

In particular, in 1821 the ACS sent Dr. Eli Ayers and navy lieutenant Robert Stockton on the second reconnaissance mission to West Africa (the first mission was in 1818 by Samuel J. Mills and Ebenezer Burgess leading to the Sherbro debacle) to secure suitable land on which to resettle a group of freed slaves. Ayers and Stockton entered a series of negotiations with the local chiefs in 1821 for a piece of land on which to resettle the freed slaves. The net result of those negotiations was the grant of Providence Island, Cape Mesurado, and adjacent areas in current Montserrado County. However, relying on his recent archival find at the Chicago History Museum, Burrowes believes that sales of land was regular business in prehistoric Liberia, and that it is inaccurate that one of the ACS negotiators used a gun during the land negotiations to compel compliance. Many historical accounts stand in contrast to Burrowes' claims, especially that of American naturalist, historian, and freelancer Michael Harwood.

In a 1972 Heritage Magazine article, Harwood provides extensive details on the founding, management, and challenges of the ACS, including the ill-fated Sherbro Island voyage, and the search of fertile land several miles off south of the coast of then British Sierra Leone. Harwood explains that the initial arrangements

between ACS agents and the local African chiefs called for "an annual rent of three hundred dollars" in exchange "for the use of forty square miles of land on the coast south of Sierra Leone" (i.e., Cape Mesurado). However, the management team of the ACS back in the USA "refused to accept the agreement, considering the sum an unjustified tribute to the heathen king who controlled the land," Harwood says. The African chiefs in return refused to sell Cape Mesurado or any indigenous land to the ACS. And the first attempt by Ayres and Stockton to purchase land from the local chiefs through King Peter also failed. Hence, Ayres and Stockton, "After days of waiting for King Peter to palaver again, they [Ayres and Stockton] marched inland to his village and at pistol point forced him to sell. The price for Cape Mesurado was less than three hundred dollars in clothes, guns, powder, rum, tobacco, and trinkets. This 'purchase' from an unwilling seller the American Colonization Society named Liberia--'free land'--and the first settlement there, Monrovia" (Harwood).

Similarly, in "Reluctant Imperialists: The U.S. Navy and Liberia, 1819-1845" Eugene Van Sickle recalls that on December 15, 1821, after a deadlock of several days during the negotiations between ACS representatives Stockton and Avers and King Peter of Cape Mesurado, "Stockton responded to Peter's resistance to American settlement by aiming his pistol at the king's head, threatening to kill him if he did not sell land to the ACS" (267). A third account contrasting Burrowes claims can be found on the website of the U.S. Library of Congress, which is a much larger information source than the Chicago History Museum from which Burrowes found the purchase agreement. Hence, quoting the fourth annual report of the ACS, the Library narrates under the Liberian historical timeline for 1821 that "Stockton took charge of the negotiations with leaders of the Dey and Bassa peoples who lived in the area of Cape Mesurado. At first, the local leaders were reluctant to surrender their peoples' land to the strangers but were forcefully persuaded... to part with a '36 mile long and 3 mile wide' strip of coastal land for trade goods, supplies, weapons, and rum worth approximately \$300" (LOC).

Several other historical accounts speak not only to the persistent grab of indigenous land, but also to the marginalization and exclusion of the African chiefs and their upsprings in the formation and governance of the new nation-state of Liberia. In fact, back in 1825 and 1826, Jehudi Ashmun who succeeded Ayres as ACS governing agent was fond of using excessive force and related aggressive tactics to grab indigenous land to extend the colony of Liberia. Basically, as already established through the historical records quoted above, it was clear that Stockton used a gun to extract land from the chiefs and that Cape Mesurado was sold under duress.

President Tolbert's Sesquicentennial Speech and the 2022 Bicentennial

Liberia is today a multiethnic, multicultural, and multireligious society, with each group having its own identity tags and core values. Historically, tough, all Liberians fall under two dominant demographic groups: 1) Native-Liberian (also called Native people, country people, aborigines, or Bassa, Kpelle, Grebo, or Lorma people, etc. by ethnic affiliation) and 2) Americo-Liberian (also called settlers, pioneers, Congau people, newcomers, Kwee people, or ex-slaves or freed slaves). Yet, since the early 2000s concerted efforts have been mounted in certain quarters of Liberian society to make the term "Americo-Liberian" a hate speech punishable by law. Hence, when the Daily Observer asked Historian Carl Patrick Burrows, "How do you refer to those who came from America to live in Liberia? Some call them Americo-Liberians and exslaves," he not only gives his preference for the word "repatriates," but he also infers that "To label people whose families have lived here for six generations as "Americo-Liberians" is similar to calling all Manlike-speakers 'Malian-Liberians'" (Staff Editor).

Well, the word "Americo-Liberian" is not a "label" in any negative sense, but an identity tag created and used by the freed slaves themselves since the 1800s and 1900s. Americo-Liberians were and remained a powerful political and social group in Liberia. At least "Over 5000 Recaptives - mostly from the Congo region - were also settled [in Liberia], particularly between 1844 and 1863, initially in the care of the Americo-Liberians - as the New World African settlers and their descendants were collectively designated" (Akpan 250). The Americo-Liberian group and their Native-Liberian compatriots have coexisted on the same landmass prior to Liberia's independence in 1847.

RATIBAYAVIPINDI

MONDAY

05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM

09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA

13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO

14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101

TIME PROGRAMME

16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS HALI HALISI 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)

22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)

TIME PROGRAMME

TUESDAY

05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME

22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)

WEDNESDAY

TIME PROGRAMME

05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM

09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA

13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO

16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA

18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME

14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101

18:00-18:10HRS HABARI

21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS

THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME

05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS

21:00-23:00HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA

22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)

TIME PROGRAMME

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22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI

MCHAGANGANYIKO)

SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME

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14:00-16:00HRS ZAIDI YA **UMJUAVYO** 16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEVUMA 18:00-21:00HRS BUZUKI TIME

13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO

21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI

MCHAGANGANYIKO)

SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME

07:00-09:00HRS HABARI NA MATUKIO YA WIKI

09:00-11:00HRS THE SUNDAY 11:00-13:00HRS TOP 20 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CAPITAL

MICHEZONI 16:00-18:00HRS UKURASA WA MBELE 18:00-21:00HRS JIACHIE

21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-01:00HRS LADHA LAINI

01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI

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Kenya hosts three-day regional workshop on enriched ricebreeding

By Special Correspondent

KENYA has for the last three days been hosting Rice Breeding Innovations (RBI) National Agricultural Research and Extension Systems Partners' Annual workshop for East and Southern Africa.

The workshop attended by delegates from the COMESA region, which is the first held in the Country after the COVID 19 pandemic discussed and shared on how countries can be able to strive to achieve rice self-sufficiency in their coun-

Speaking during the workshop, the Kenya Agricultural Livestock and Research Organization (KALRO) Director General Eliud Kireger said Kenya's rice sufficiency ratio is at 14.7 per cent and this state of affairs is a clear indication of need to exchange knowledge among the countries to address the production challenges.

"Currently the rice self-sufficiency ratio for Tanzania and Madagascar is more than 75 per cent while for Kenya and Ethiopia is less than 30 per cent", the DG said in a statement read on his behalf by Dr. Lusike Wasilwa, Head of Crop Sys-

Dr. Kireger noted the importance of transforming Kenya's subsistence from smallholder agriculture to commercially oriented sector that sustainably supports the country's food and nutrition security and socio-economic development.

In view of this, he said that the Government identified rice as one of the three major food security crops along maize and potatoes and currently the annual consumption growth rate for rice is 12 per cent compared to maize at 1 per cent and wheat 4 per cent.

Despite the importance of rice in Kenya, the DG however noted that the domestic sector has not satisfied the increasing demand which continues to escalate by the year.

"The population of the middle class and urbanization of consumers who are increasingly relying on rice for food is growing which means that the demand for food will lead to a significant deficit in milled rice if it is not addressed," he

Currently, he explained, the demand for rice per individual per year is 25.3kgs. In 2020 the domestic rice production was estimated at 181,000 MT while consumption was 1.2



million MT forcing the country to import the 953,000 MT of the rice. In the same period, the bulk of rice consumed in Kenya was im-

He acknowledged that rice production in Kenya is faced by a myriad of challenges with commercial rice varieties available in the country being low yielding and restricted to lowland irrigated ecologies.

ported from Asian Countries at Ksh. 25 billion.

The Meeting Dr. Kireger said, looked at the challenges in rice production and seed systems, exchanged results on promising lines and innovations of all breeding programmes that will be aligned to regional and country products concepts and markets.

Also, top on the discussion list was the Direct Seeded Rice (DSR), A technology for

future, to address the emerging scenario of water and labour shortage, informed opportunities for developing and releasing market driven varieties all geared towards improving productivity and competitiveness of domestic rice resulting to self-sufficiency in East and Southern Africa.

Regional Representative of the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) for Africa, Abdelbagi M. Ismail said that Africa pays more than USD 300 million annually to import rice in East and Southern Africa and in the Sub-Saharan Africa it costs around USD 6.4 billion to import rice from Asia.

"Sub Saharan Africa has resources and enough land of more than 330 million hectares suitable for rice and yet we are only us-

ing 12 million hectares and our yields are also low thus the need to cover this gap in production and reduce our imports," he said

Ismael said that IRRI has come up with various rice seed varieties that can improve the yield of a farmer from 7,000 tonnes to 10,000 tonnes per hectare and ensure they also move from the traditional varieties that have been planted for over 150 years.

He noted the shift in consumer habit and improvement with now most consumers moving to urban counties and no longer wants maize or even cassava and root crops because of longer time in preparation.

"Rice is easy to store, quick to prepare and is palatable and we are seeing a social shift to work hard and be able to satisfy the increas-

ing need in rice by first addressing productivity and quality," Ismail said

He gave an example of Mwea Variety Basmati 370 one of the highest quality rice in Kenya but very old and released in 1958 noting on the need to replace it with the new high end varieties but of the same quality that can produce up to 7 tonnes from the 2 tonnes per hectare that farmers get currently

He challenged Governments to work closely and enforce good policies and release varieties as quickly by engaging the private sector whose role should be geared towards moving from importing around 89 per cent of its rice.

Dr. Lusike acknowledged lack of certified planting material that is making production insufficient, high-priced fertilizer but said the country is trying to improve in terms of proper agricultural practices by deploying plant clin-

"Last week we opened up 12 plant clinics for pest and disease of plants in rice production system that will see over 500 plant doctors provide information on rotational crops in rice products in the areas of Mwea, Bunyala and lunga lunga irrigation schemes," she noted

Kenya's rice sub-sector is aligned to Vision 2030, the Medium-Term Plan III, the Government's Big Four Agenda, the Agricultural Sector Transformation and Growth Strategy, and National Agriculture Investment Plan.

It is supported by technologies, innovations and management practices that are generated and disseminated to stakeholders (KALRO).

The International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) has been partnering with KALRO in technology and infrastructure development, capacity building, knowledge exchange and this has led to the release of the Komboka rice variety - IRO5N221.

In addition, two more varieties CSR36 and O8FAN10 are undergoing testing for distinctness, uniformity and stability and will be released in the near future.

Madagascar is 10th member state to join SADC- MCSCC to watch fishing crimes

By Special Correspondent

THE government of Madagascar has approved the move to sign the South African Development Community Charter establishing the SADC Regional Fisheries Monitoring Control Surveillance Coordination Centre (MCSCC) recently, the regional bloc has said. The objective of the charter is

alisation of the MCSCC, which will coordinate measures relating to fisheries monitoring control and surveillance (MCS) in the SADC region.

During the signing ceremony the Minister of Fisheries and Blue Economy of Madagascar, Dr Paubert T Mahatante said that IUU fishing is a global problem that requires a global approach and adto provide a legal framework for vocated for SADC member states the establishment and operation- to work together towards finding

a regional solution.

"Madagascar already has a network of MCS infrastructure and maritime security, which will benefit the regional efforts in combating IUU fishing and fisheries related crimes. The country is also strategically positioned as a sub-hub to provide better coordination of sub-regional efforts in the South West Indian Ocean

Madagascar becomes the 10th

member state party to the charter aimed at establishing MCSCC, joining Angola, Eswatini, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania and Zambia

Two thirds of the SADC member states are required to sign the charter for it to enter into force, and Mahatante has made a commitment to join the Minister of Seas, Inland Waters and Fisheries of Mozambique to encourage other SADC Ministers who the effect can be devastating for have not yet signed the charter to do so. IUU fishing is one of the main causes of overfishing and a barrier to achieving sustainable management of fish stocks in the SADC region.

Overfishing causes economic losses to SADC countries with overfished stocks being less productive and contributing less to the socio-economy of the region.

In cases where stocks collapse, regional fisheries MCS data and

coastal communities that depend on them for nutrition and liveli-

The Regional MCSCC will assist the SADC region, in providing a sustainable and secure future for its citizens by contributing to sustainable fisheries, empower communities, and build sustainable ecosystems.

information sharing services, including a regional fishing vessel register and a monitoring system; provide regional fisheries surveillance, observer co-ordination services, and Port State measures implementation support services. It will also provide fisheries law enforcement and legal support services, and improve capacity of national MCS in mem-

LGAs leaders empowered on sustainable inclusive quality education for children

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

THE Moshi-based Gabriella Children's Rehabilitation Centre (GCRC) has provided training to various village and ward leaders as well as teachers from various areas in Kilimanjaro Region, in a move aimed at improving sustainable inclusive quality education for all children in the community.

Speaking during the training that held at the centre, GCRC Executive Director, Brenda Shuma said the training is a part of a series of activities to mark the International World Autism Awareness Day (IWAAD) which is observed on April 2, every year aiming to put a spotlight on the hurdles that people with autism and others living with autism face every day.

According to Shuma, most of the African communities tend to hide their children with disabilities at home, particularly those suffering from brain disorders.

"Children with autism and hyperactive brain disorders are less acceptable in the society due to lack of inclusive policies and awareness, that's why GCRC comes up with this special training program for ward executive officers (WEOs) and (VEOs) as well as special needs teachers and caregivers to create awareness to them on autism and other brain disorders for sustainable inclusive quality education for all children in the community," she said.

She added that most parents were unaware that the condition could be treated by special treatment, including rehabilitation, describing autism as a developmental disability that starts appearing in children at the age of three.

Autism children often have intellectual disability requiring specialist support, though some can have normal intelligence and live a relatively normal life.

Shuma who is an occupational therapist said that the disability may impact the child's ability to communicate and interact with others effectively and may have Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (ADHD), a situation that makes the child or youth's brain to be active above normal.

She said autism children often have intellectual disability requiring specialist support, though some can have normal intelligence and live a relatively normal life.

According to her, the disability may impact the child's ability to communicate and interact with others effectively and may have Attention Deficit Hyperactive Disorder (ADHD), a situation that makes the child or youth's brain to be active

"We need to give such children the skills that will make them become productive in society and enable them to enjoy



One of the GCRC's training participants receives his certificate

their lives," she said.

She added, "Issues such as art and craft and cookery, could be taught to improve their competitiveness in the market, including gardening and livestock keep-

She pointed out that her organization has been working with several groups of young disability children teaching them entrepreneurship skills.

The WAAD aims to put a spotlight on the hurdles that people with autism and others living with autism face every day. As a growing global health issue owing to its increasing exposure in the press and common knowl-

edge, autism is an issue that is only gaining more understanding and WAAD activities are planned every year to further increase and develop world knowledge of children and adults who have autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

On Down syndrome, Shuma said: "People with the challenge, on an equal basis with other people, have to enjoy full and access equal rights. This includes the opportunity to participate fully in their communities."

She said that most children with the defects have talents, if developed they can fully contribute to the development of

the country.

"Persons with Down syndrome can achieve optimal quality of life through parental care and support, medical guidance and community based support systems like inclusive education at all levels. This facilitates their participation in mainstream society and the fulfillment of their personal potential," she explained.

World Down Syndrome Day (WDSD), observed on 21 March every year, is a global awareness day which has been officially observed by the United Nations since 2012.

Newly launched e-commerce platform out to link SMEs to West Africa market

By Special Correspondent, Nairobi

SMALL and Medium Enterprises in Africa are set to benefit from a newly launched E-commerce trading platform aimed at promoting intra-Africa

Ancestral House Eastern Africa on-

line trading platform which has its offices in Abuja, Nigeria, and Nairobi, Kenva is aimed at enabling traders to access East and West African markets. This new platform will offer ser-

vices such as business matchmaking, market research, logistics, consumer trends, and behaviors.

Ose Imoukhuede, the chairman, of Ancestral House Eastern Africa said the firm is primarily aimed at boosting connectivity in Africa by encouraging export and imports from within.

"The biggest challenge most SMEs in the continent face is that they cannot easily export goods within the continent, but they can easily export and import goods from other continents despite the Intra Africa trade potential being over USD 1 billion annually," he said.

Shreyas Patel, the partner, on his part, noted that the idea of establishing a trade house structure recognizes the dislocations in Africa which is mainly caused by lack of market information, cultural indifferences, and other trade barriers.

"There are a number of challenges facing the SMEs sector in the continent ranging from lack of market information, inexperienced exporters/ importers, poor logistics infrastructure, inefficient cross-border payment systems/infrastructure, cultural differences, gaps, trust deficit, and

varied Competitive landscape. We want to be the one-stop solution for all these problems and enable them scale up their businesses."

The launch comes at the wake of a vibrant African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) that cover a market of 1.2 billion people and a gross domestic product (GDP) of \$2.5 trillion, across all 55 member States of the African Union.

SMEs account for around 80 percent of the region's businesses and mostly usually struggle to penetrate more advanced overseas markets. However, with AFCFTA, the SMEs are well positioned to tap into regional export destinations and can use regional markets as stepping stones for expanding into overseas markets at a later point.

Africa's large and fast-growing youth population is considered one of its greatest assets, with a central role to play in shaping the development of the continent. Yet, young Africans face numerous challenges that affect their livelihoods and make it difficult for them to thrive.

A new International Trade Centre (ITC) report, Opportunities for Youth Employment and Entrepreneurship: Understanding the African Continental Free Trade Area, explores how youth stand to benefit from the creation of a single market and promotion of key sectors, including manufactur-

ing, agriculture and services. Africa is the youngest continent in the world, with a median age of 19.8 years and 65% of the population under age 25. A third of all youth are expected to live in Africa by 2050.

FEATURE

Guardian

Nigerian democracy in peril as country descends into lawlessness

By Ebenezer Obadare

HE recent attack on a Nigerian railway is the latest chapter in the country's worsening security crisis and tottering democ-

On Monday March 28, some gunmen launched a deadly attack on a Nigerian Railway Corporation (NRC) Abuja-Kaduna evening train carrying an estimated 398 passengers. After detonating explosives on the track (and possibly inside the train, according to conflicting reports in the local media), the gunmen surrounded the immobilised train and started discharging their firearms into the carriages. It took at least an hour before a detachment of the Nigerian military came to the rescue of the passengers, who had cowered under their seats as the bandits fired incessantly.

The incident left at least eight people dead -- among them a young medical doctor, Chinelo Megafu, and Musa Lawal-Ozigi, secretary-general of the country's Trade Union Congress -- and at least another forty-one hospitalised, while the yet unidentified assailants also captured some of the passengers.

The toll on the Muhammadu Buhari administration and Nigeria's tottering democracy is likely to be greater.

The sheer brazenness of the attack throws into relief the administration's so far unsuccessful struggle to impose some kind of public order, even as the country continues to spiral into general lawlessness. Inaugurated in July 2016, the Abuja-Kaduna evening train is a perfect metaphor for this struggle, as a growing number of travelers have embraced the service as travel on the highway between Abuja and Kaduna (a distance of 130 miles) became increasingly unsafe due to the activities of kid-

nappers and sundry gangsters.

Abuja is the seat of the Nigerian Federal Government, while Kaduna houses the Nigerian Defence Academy (NDA).

In recent times, the northwestern state of Kaduna itself has been literally under siege. On March 26, gunmen attacked the Kaduna International Airport, killing an official of the Nigerian Airspace Management Agency (NAMA), after allegedly storming the runway. In March last year, bandits abducted eleven people after a surprise attack on the staff quarters of the Federal Airport Authority of Nigeria (FAAN) in Kaduna. In August, two military officers were killed and at least one kidnapped after bandits attacked the permanent site of the Nigerian Defence Academy (NDA). Over the past several months, attacks on various villages across the State have resulted in the death of dozens. Over the years, authorities in Kaduna and a local Shiite Muslim sect have been at loggerheads, with tensions boiling over in December 2015 after a military crackdown led to the death of 347 Shiites.

The situation in Kaduna is far from unique, the security situation across the country having rapidly deteriorated, even as government at various levels continue to scramble for a solution. According to the New York-based Global Center for the Responsibility to Protect, attacks by bandits across the Nigerian northwest have claimed at least 5,000 lives since 2018. Since 2009, nearly 350,000 people have been killed in the northeastern part of the country due largely to the activities of Boko Haram Islamist insurgents. The number of displaced people in the Lake Chad Basin is estimated at three million.

Violence in Nigeria is multidimensional and pervasive, ranging from perennial herder-farmer clashes to gang violence,

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 280 00-



3 letters ACT, SAD, AOR, ARE, GOD, 4 letters FREE,ROOM,EVEN,AMEN,HIDE,RARE,ORES,STUD 5 letters UHURU, EVOKE, ASHET, GRAPE, REACH, PLATE CLUES: Across TAMED, ATTAR, Down: 1. Paris is the Capital city 6 letters UNESCO, ELEVEN, ENDEAR, SEVERE, SCREAM . new sound produced 2. very enthusiastic 7 letters CURIOUS, tolerate 3. Adam's wife in the Bible 8 letters UNEARNED 4. an upland bird resembling a 9. a holiday taken by a newly blackbird, with a white crescent married couple across the breast WORD-FIT 13.step in a process 14.pull hard 5. the flesh of an animal MAGUFULI ENYATTA 15. a Japanese school of Mahavana 8. a gun causing injury or damage by E L A M O K Buddhism emphasizing the value of the emission of rays 10.turned into bone meditation and intuition 11.a restaurant 17. the hard glossy substance that | A | V | E | R | L | T | T |
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armed robbery, attacks on state infrastructure, especially police stations, airports and power transformers, intercommunal violence, lynching, ritual killings, mob justice, and casual intimidation of ordinary citizens by law enforcement.

More than six million small arms are believed to be in the hands of civilian non-state actors in the country.

Nigerian police use lethal force on the slightest pretext. Ranked the worst in the world by the 2016 World Internal Police and Security Index, the Nigeria Police Force kills an average of 841 citizens every year. Nigeria (estimated population, 200 million) ranks eighth in the top ten of countries with the highest numbers of police killings.

Most murders in Nigeria -- official or otherwise -- go unsolved. The recent spike in vigilante justice, which has seen a ramp up in incidents in which citizens have taken the law into their own hands, owes in large part to distrust of the police and frustration with the justice system. In 2019, the New Yorkbased Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) ranked Nigeria among the thirteen worst countries in unsolved murders of journalists.

Nor has increased spending on security produced a commensurate decrease in insecurity. Between 2015 and 2020, Nigeria budgeted an average of about \$4.2 billion on security, with the total budget for security rising to 2.5 per cent of the GDP in 2020. In 2019, Nigeria had the third largest military budget in Africa, behind only South Africa and Algeria.

While, on paper, security expenditure goes toward the training of soldiers, operations, and purchases of vital military equipment, the reality is much different. Corruption is a major problem, with much of the funds budgeted for security regularly diverted. In 2017, at least \$2 billion out of monies set aside for the Boko Haram campaign were diverted to other uses, including the financing of political activities. In 2016, Vice President Yemi Osinbajo disclosed that about \$15 billion were stolen from the fight against Islamists under the previous

Goodluck Jonathan administration. At the state and local government (LG) levels, governors and local government chairpersons regularly mismanage "security votes," a monthly federal allocation towards security-related expenses within the states. An estimated \$900 million is lost to their mismanagement annually.

Corruption in the security sector has been cited as a factor in some of the recent military takeovers in the region.

In the wake of Monday's attack, President Buhari held an emergency meeting with service chiefs and heads of security agencies and promised to bring the bandits to justice. The Chief of Army Staff, Lieutenant General Faruk Yahaya and Minister of Transportation Rotimi Amaechi both visited the site of the attack and echoed the president's assurance. The latter promised, improbably, that all passenger trains will now be escorted by Nigerian Air Force jets. In truth, most Nigerians feel like Kaduna State Governor Nasir El-Rufai, who confessed to being "angry, frustrated, and feeling totally helpless."

While horse-trading among the political class for next year's all-important elections hums along in the background, it increasingly feels like a sideshow -- an expensive one, to be sure -- to the anarchy that daily life in the country has become. If, as some have plausibly contended, the Nigerian state failed a long time ago, what we seem to be witnessing is the unfolding reel of its agonising decomposition and dismemberment.

It has been long in coming, but what used to be a geographically coherent unit is now effectively a collection of parts barely managing to keep in touch with one another. Nigeria, in theory, has become incommensurate with Nigeria, in reality The first task before the next president (there will be an elec-

tion, the question is what kind) is to put Nigeria back in sync. But first, the incumbent must restore law and order.

Ebenezer Obadare is Douglas Dillon Senior Fellow for Africa Studies at the Council on Foreign Relations (CFR).



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01:00 - 05:00 MUZIKI
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SIVART MONEY

Tuesday 10 May 2022

BUSINESS → ECONOMY → MARKETS → WEALTH



A lecturer who became chocolate maker in her 60s



10 things Warren Buffett says you should do with your money

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EU to turn to Africa in weaning itself off Russian natural gas

Page15

Bank credit to private sector hit the roof at 14pc in 2022

By Mnaku Mbani

■ HE growth of banks' lending to private sector reached the highest level of 14 percent during the end of March this year, signaling increased lenders confidence on the recovering and expanding Tanzanian economy.

The growth represents seven times expansion compared with 2 percent growth recorded during the end of the first quarter of last

Bank of Tanzania (BoT) and banks computations show the stock of credit to private sector reached nearly 22trn/- by March this year from 20trn/- at the end of March last year, or 10 percent annual growth.

"The strong growth was largely attributed by improving business conditions from adverse effects of COVID-19, coupled with supportive monetary and fiscal conditions," BoT has said in its April monthly economic review.

Overall lending rate eased slightly to 16.25 percent compared with 16.29 percent and 16.61 percent in the preceding month and March 2021, respectively.

Similarly, negotiated lending rate charged to prime customers decreased to 13.80 percent compared with 13.99 percent and 14.05 percent recorded in the preceding month and March 2021, respectively.

Economic activities that exhibited strong growth of credit from banks were mining; micro, small and medium enterprises–personal loans; trade and manufacturing.

In terms of shares of the outstanding stock of private sector credit by activities, personal loans, continued to account for the largest share, followed by trade, manufacturing, and tivities of extraction of minerals occurring ver, coal and natural gas.



Small-scale miners at work in Tanzania. Credits to mining & quarrying had increased six fold to 31 percent by March 2022, compared with the contraction of 2.4 percent by March 2021. PHOTO/FILE

The major expansion of credits during the reviewed period recorded on mining and quarrying which reached 31 percent in March 2022, compared with the contraction of 2.4 percent recorded during the year ended in March last year.

According to the National Bureau of Statistics, mining and quarrying include the acnaturally as solids (coal and ores), liquids (petroleum) or gases (natural gas). Mining and quarrying is a six trillion shilling sector with an annual growth rate of 6.5 percent.

NBS data shows the activity expanded to 7.0 percent in fourth quarter in 2021 from 0.2 percent achieved in the similar quarter in 2020. The growth was mainly attributed to an increase in production of diamond, salt, sil-

The second highest credit growth recorded on personal which reached 25.8 percent during the year ending March 2022 from 21 percent recorded during the year ended March 2021.

Personal loans, which includes Small and Medium Entreprises (SMEs) accounted for 38.9 percent of the value of all credits extended to private sector by March this year, a slight expansion from 35.6 percent in March 2021.

Trade, which account for 16.5 percent of the value of all banks' lending to private sector, grew by 23.2 percent in March 2022 from a contraction of 10.3 percent in March 2021 and a contraction of 6.4 percent in April last year.

Trade and repair is an economic activity at 2015 constant price, valued nearly 12trn/- in 2020, according to NBS, with an annual growth of 2 percent in 2020 from 5.5 percent in 2019.

The BOT economic review shows the fourth highest growth recorded by manufacturing at with 20.8 percent growth in March this year from a contraction of 6.5 percent in March last year.

According to NBS, manufacturing activity in Tanzania was valued 12.5trn/-, at current price in 2020 with an annual growth rate of 4.5 percent.

Manufacturing activity involves physical or chemical transformation of materials, substances, or components into final or semi processed goods. The materials include products of agriculture, forestry, fishing, mining and quarrying as well as products of other manufacturing activities.

The activity expanded to 5.0 percent up in the fourth quarter in 2021 from 4.6 percent in the corresponding quarter in 2020. The growth rate was attributed to a general increase in the production of industrial goods, NBS reports.

Credit to agriculture, the largest economic activity in Tanzania valued 32.3trn/- in 2020 grew by 6.2percent in March this year from a contraction of 8.1 percent in March last year. They accounted for 7.6 percent of all credits value from 8.2 percent recorded in March last year.

This sector includes exploitation of vegetable and animal natural resources that comprise of growing of crops, raising and breeding of animals, harvesting of timber and other plants, animals or animal products from a farm or their natural habitats.

During the fourth quarter of last year, the activity recorded a growth rate of 4.2 percent in 2021 down from 5.3 percent achieved in the similar period in 2020, according to NBS.

The BOT report shows banks credits to building and construction also recovered from contraction of 11.9 percent in March last year to a growth of 3.5 percent in March 2022, the highest in one year.

Transport and communication, which accounts for nearly 5 percent of total value of banks credits to private sector fell into contraction of 0.7 percent, compared with a positive growth of 2.7 percent in March 2021.

Credits to hotels and restaurants also contracted by 8.2 percent from a positive growth of 7.9 percent respectively.

Unmet trade finance demand in Tanzania, Kenya now \$4.3bn - AfDB

By Guardian Reporter

UNMET demands for trade finance in Kenya and Tanzania stands at about \$3 billion and \$1.30 billion, respectively, which represents 14 percent and 9 percent of the total value of trade in two countries, respectively, according to May 2022 Trade Finance Demand and Supply in Africa: Evidence from Kenya and Tanzania report findings by the African Development Bank (AfDB).

According to the report, about 1 in 4 exporters in Kenya and 1 in 5 exporters in Tanzania fail to meet some export sales due to a lack of access to trade finance each year.

"We estimate the average value of lost trade due to unmet trade finance demand at \$80,107 and \$24,966 a year per firm in Kenya and Tanzania, respectively," it says.

However, the report findings has found no significant difference between the participation of womenowned businesses in international trade (about 75 percent) and that of men-owned firms (73 percent in the



sample

The survey focused on businesses with five employees or more and sales of at least \$50,000. Sectors of operation were used to stratify the data.

"We focus on the cases of Kenya cent of firms in the two economies

openness of these economies. Firms in Kenya and Tanzania are active in international markets, with significant sectoral diversity," says AfDB. "Close to 63 per-

and Tanzania due to the relative use material inputs and supplies of foreign origin. This is higher than the average of 58.6 percent for the sub-Saharan Africa region as a whole (World Bank, 2022)."

According to the report, the total trade to GDP ratio, a measure

of the relative openness of an economy, stands at about 22 percent and 23 percent for Kenya and Tanzania, respectively, higher than the sub-Saharan Africa average of 17 percent.

Tanzania is a lower-middle-income country with a GDP of over \$60 billion and a population of about 60 million, the secondlargest economy in Eastern Africa.

The agricultural sector dominates its economy, but it is also a major goldproducing country. The country averaged a real GDP growth rate of about 6.5 percent per annum from 2010 to 2020, according to AfDB.

As a result of the COV-ID-19 pandemic, growth plummeted to 2.1 percent in 2020 from 6.8 percent in 2019.

The continental bank noted Tanzania growth is expected to recover in 2022 but not to the pre-COVID average.

Despite significant growth in access to formal financial services, such access remains a significant constraint as only about 17 percent of the population in 2017 used bank services (Government of Tanzania, 2017).

Even those with access face additional challenges because the lending cost by banks in Tanzania remains high, with average lending rates of 17 percent per year (World

Like Kenya. Tanzania runs a trade deficit with its partners, which averaged about \$5.6 billion from 2010 to 2020. The country's top five trading partners are India, China, South Africa, United Arab Emirates, and Switzerland.

It runs a trade deficit with all these countries except for South Africa. Tanzania's trade is even more concentrated than Kenya's, as its top five and top ten trading partners account for 50 percent and 70 percent of its total trade,

The country's top exports are gold and agricultural products, while its main imports are refined petroleum, food, and other consumer goods.

Significant growth in exports by Tanzania firms has been noted. This is reflected in the country's trade deficit, which decreased by about 9 percent per annum between 2016 and 2020

A significant number of firms - 16.5 percent - with a legitimate need for trade finance fail to apply for it. These self-rationed and discouraged applicants cite a history of rejection and fear of default as key drivers for the decision not to apply for trade finance even when it is needed.

Report: Upcountry regions boast more wealth combined than Dar

By Francis Kajubi

DAR ES SALAAM may boast a dollar billionaire and 1,000-plus dollar millionaire but the net worth of wealthy people in Tanzania's commercial capital is lower than the combined wealth of billionaires living in upcountry regions.

This means that wealth people in upcountry regions of Tanzania have higher possibility of growing their wealth fast than those living Dar es Salaam, where infrastructure, markets and financing are more reliable.

According to the Africa Wealth Report 2022 by Henley and Partners combined private wealth in Tanzania was estimated at \$56billion of which \$24 billion owned by wealthy individuals in Dar es Salaam while the remaining \$32billion are owned by wealthy people in upcountry regions, which translates into 57 percent of total wealth.

Various reports, including Forbes Magazine show that Tanzania has only one billionaire who owns a total estimated wealth of \$1.5 billion.

According to the report's data, Tanzania has wealth per capita amounting \$940. Between 2012 and 2022 Tanzania's wealth has grown by 34 percent.

Tanzania is therefore ranked seven out of seventeen reviewed countries, second to Kenya in East Africa. It has 2,486 wealth people in different categories with the growth rate of 34 percent compared to ten years ago.

The report shows Tanzania has 2,400 High Net worth Individuals (HNWIs) with wealth from \$1million to \$9 million, of which 1,300 are living in Dar es Salaam. The remaining 300 live in upcountry

The country has also have 80 multi- dollar millionaires with



Tanzania has wealth per capita amounting \$940

wealth ranging from \$10 million to \$99 million of which 50 are residing in Dar es Salaam and eight centi-millionaires with wealth ranging from \$100 million to \$999million of which seven are residing in Dar

However, the report did not give more details in the state of private wealth in other top regions, of which seem to have dozen of dollar millionaires including Lake Zone and Southern Highlands.

Mining, manufacturing, real estate and equities have remained the main source of wealth among Tanzanian dollar millionaires and

According to the Forbes Billionaires' List: Africa's Richest People 2022, states that as of November 2021, Mohammed Dewji has an estimated net wealth of U\$1.5billion (3.4trn), Africa's 15th richest person and youngest billionaire.

Mohammed Dewji, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Mohammed Entreprises Tanzania Limited (MeTL) who lives in Dar es Salaam, is being named as only dollar billionaire in Tanzania and East Af-

METL is active in textile manufacturing, flour milling, beverages and edible oils in eastern, southern and central Africa. The company operates in at least six African countries and has ambitions to expand to several more.

Dewji leads in the list of top three richest men in Tanzania followed by Rostam Azizi with an estimated net wealth of U\$861million (2.4trn/-). Aziz owns Caspian Mining Company and Taifa Gas just to mention a few.

Said Salim Bakhresa takes number three as the richest man in Tanzania according to Forbes with U\$431million (1.4trn/-). He owns the Bakhresa Group of Companies. According to the report Kenya

private wealth of \$91billion. Kenya has 8,500 high net wealth individuals who own a private

is ranked number five with a total

wealth of \$1million and above. Kenya's wealth per capita is

U\$1,700 of where its total wealth grew by 43 percent during the past ten vears.

Kenya has 340 multi-millionaires with a private wealth of U\$10million and above each. Kenya has 15 cent-millionaires who own private wealth of U\$100million and above each.

Uganda is ranked number 12 in the continent with U\$37billion total private wealth.

It has 1,500 high net worth individuals who own a private wealth of U\$1million each. It has 60 multi-millionaires who own private wealth of U\$10million each.

Just like Tanzania, Uganda has eight centi-millionaires who own a private wealth of U\$100million and above each. Rwanda is ranked number 17

with a total private wealth of \$11bil-

lion. It has 700 high net wealth individuals who own a private wealth of \$1million and above each. It has 30 multi-millionaires

who own a private wealth of U\$10million and above each.

Rwanda's wealth per capita is \$850 and its total wealth grew by 60 percent during the past ten years. Uganda has a wealth per capita of \$820where its total wealth grew by 50 percent during the past ten years. The other Eastern African countries were not included in the report.

SMART MONEY

Guardian

A lecturer who became chocolate maker in her 60s

UCY Katiba Grace did not grow up wishing to be a chocolatier. She has spent 35 years working as a lecturer, teaching English and French at a hospitality university in Switzerland. But after her husband convinced her to move back to Kenya, she had to find something exciting and challenging to do.

That is how Lucy ended up in the chocolate industry. Her company, Grace Chocolaterie, is out to change how Kenyans see and enjoy chocolate.

Her journey however was anything but straightforward.

"My husband, David Grace, wanted to open a coffee shop. Instantly I thought, 'What would go well with coffee?' Lucy tells me at her shop in Shell Station, Kerarapon in Nairobi.

The air is filled with activity as her staff prepares Mother's Day orders. She learned how to make pastries and bread from professionals in France.

During her bread-making course, their instructor took them to a chocolatier. On the other side of the glass, she saw chocolate being made.

The aroma made its way to her reminding her of time spent enjoying chocolate in Switzerland: the smell of cocoa beans, the invitation to taste, eat, dream and love chocolate.

"I just had to learn the craft. I enrolled at a workshop in Belgium, where I studied all there is to chocolatiering," the founder of the enterprise says.

Why Belgium yet she lives in the capital of chocolates?

"Swiss invented milk chocolate but I chose Belgium because being the Mecca of dark chocolate, I'll learn more. Now I have the best of both worlds." In 2019, the mother-of-three moved back to Kenya.

With an investment running into millions, the entrepreneur bought her first batch of cocoa beans from Tanzania and a machine and began producing chocolate manually, as opposed to the machines she had studied with.

Her first products were pralines (a French confectionery that is a cooked mixture of sugar, nuts, and vanilla) which



Lucy Grace, founder of Grace Ch tion, Ngong Road. PHOTO | NMG

she sold to friends and family.

Along the way, she figured that Kenyans love chocolate bars and pivoted into this. But first, she had to overcome the challenge of the Kenyan climate.

"Chocolate is very sensitive to temperature. My lessons were during cool months and in a much cooler environment. But here in Kenya, the weather is hot. The first time I made chocolate, it didn't set. I was so stressed," she recalls. "But I pressed on and as time went by, I got the temperature right."

Having its origins in their home kitchen in Nairobi, working with her husband and sister, the company now employs seven people who turn cocoa mass, the unsweetened soul of chocolate, into sweet chocolate bars. They make white, milk, dark, and caramel.

Three years on, they have grown from selling to individuals in organic markets to having their products occupy space in various retail stores across Nairobi, Nanyuki, Nakuru, and Mombasa..

"The response has been more than amazing. People love the chocolates and are happy to eat and support a "Made in Kenya' chocolate."

The most popular ones are sea salt and caramel flavours. They incorporate out-of-thebox kitchen ingredients such as chilli, ginger, sesame seeds, cucumber, and dried berries among others.

She also has "bean to bar" chocolate made from only two ingredients-cocoa beans and

Grace Chocolaterie uses 80 percent cocoa Station, Ngong Road.

mass from Uganda because it is organic, and cocoa beans from Tanzania.

"Unfortunately, we have to import many raw materials like sea salt, dried raspberries, and strawberries," she notes.

Because of this, they can only make 10 kilos of chocolate per day.

Despite these unsavoury bits of her journey, at 60, Lucy has found something to do for many years to come. Something that she loves doing and excites her soul.

Her children are so proud because they are seeing her do and excel in something she had never done before.

What are her great dreams for the three-yearold company?

"While in Switzerland, I lived in a small town called Neuchatel. I had a favourite chocolate shop located next to the market.

"One of the things I loved about this shop was how I would walk in and be hit by all these beautiful mixes of different aromas from white, milk, and dark and caramel chocolates wafting through the air. I'm not a sweet tooth but I would walk in to buy one chocolate and end up buying more.

"I want to create such an experience for our customers. Also introducing pralines to Kenyans. This would be a wonderful environment for me to work in as I make pralines with ganache that talks to you," she says.Lucy Grace, founder of Grace Chocolaterie, a Kenyan chocolate company located at Keraropon Shell Service

10 things Warren Buffett says to do with your money

WASHINGTON

WARREN Buffett is arguably the best-known, most-respected investor of all time. Buffett is also known for his folksy charm and his memorable quotes about the art of investing.

When you're aiming to reach the top of the mountain, it's usually wise to closely follow the footprints of those who have successfully made the climb before you. Your odds of investing success can increase exponentially if you learn and apply Buffett's best investing tips.

1. Never lose money

One of the most popular pieces of Buffett advice is as follows: "Rule No. 1: Never lose money. Rule No. 2: Never forget rule No. 1." If you're working from a loss, it's that much harder to get back to where you started, let alone to

2. Get high value at a low price

In the 2008 Berkshire Hathaway shareholder letter, Buffett shared another key principle: "Price is what you pay; value is what you get." Losing money can happen when you pay a price that doesn't match the value you get -- such as when you pay high interest on credit card debt or spend on items you'll rarely use.

Instead, live modestly like Buffett by looking for opportunities to get more value at a lower price. "Whether we're talking about socks or stocks, I like buying quality merchandise when it is marked down," Buffett wrote.

3. Form healthy money habits

In a 2007 address at the University of Florida, Buffett said, "Most behavior is habitual, and they say that the chains of habit are too light to be felt until they are too heavy to be broken." Work on building positive money habits, and breaking those that hurt your wallet.

4. Avoid debt, especially Credit

Buffett built his wealth by getting interest to work for him -- instead of working to pay interest, as many Americans do. "I've seen more people fail because of liquor and leverage



-- leverage being borrowed money," Buffett said in a 1991 speech at the University of Notre Dame. "You really don't need leverage in this world much. If you're smart, you're going to make a lot of money without borrowing.

Buffett is especially wary of credit cards. His advice is to avoid them altogether. "Interest rates are very high on credit cards," Buffett once said. "Sometimes they are 18 percent. Sometimes they are 20 percent. If I borrowed money at 18 percent or 20 percent, I'd be broke."

5. Keep cash on hand

Another key to ensuring security is to always keep cash reserves on hand. "We always maintain at least \$20 billion -- and usually far more -- in cash equivalents," Buffett said in the 2014 Berkshire Hathaway annual report.

Businesses and individuals alike might get an itch to put liquid cash to work through investments. "Cash, though, is to a business as oxygen is to an individual: never thought about when it is present, the only thing in mind when it is absent," Buffett said. "When bills come due, only cash is legal tender. Don't leave home

6. Invest in yourself

According to Inc.com, Buffett said, "Invest in as much of yourself as you can. You are your own biggest asset by far." He echoed those sentiments in a CNBC interview when he said, "Anything you do to improve your own talents and make yourself more valuable will get paid off in terms of appropriate real purchasing power."

Those returns are big, too. "Anything you invest in yourself, you get back tenfold," Buffett said. And unlike other assets and investments, "nobody can tax it away; they can't steal it from

7. Learn about money

Part of investing in yourself should be learning more about managing money. As an investor, much of Buffett's job consists of limiting exposure and minimizing risk. And "risk comes from not knowing what you're doing," Buffett once said,

according to Forbes. The more you know about personal finance, the more security you'll have as you minimize risks.

8. Trust a low-cost index fund for your

While much of Buffett's wisdom and advice borders on the philosophical, he has also provided some actionable tips that nearly anyone can apply. For instance, Buffett urges the average investor to purchase index funds.

"Put 10 percent of the cash in short-term government bonds and 90 percent in a very lowcost S&P 500 index fund," he wrote in his 2013 letter to Berkshire Hathaway shareholders.

Buffett has given this advice for years. "If you invested in a very low-cost index fund -- where you don't put the money in at one time, but average in over 10 years -- you'll do better than 90percent of people who start investing at the same time," Buffett said at the 2004 Berkshire Hathaway annual meeting.

9. Give Back

According to Forbes, Buffett once said, "If you're in the luckiest 1 percent of humanity, you owe it to the rest of humanity to think about the other 99 percent." And as a top member of that 1 percent himself, Buffett makes it a point to put his money where his mouth is.

Along with Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates, Buffett is a founder of The Giving Pledge, which is a promise made by more than 100 billionaires to give their fortunes away. While you might not be a billionaire, you can still enrich your life by giving

10. View money as a long-term game Buffett once said, "Someone's sitting in the shade

today because someone planted a tree a long time ago." And it's true. Planting and nurturing the seeds of financial success now will lead to shade to enjoy later in life. That shade might include freedom from debts, a secure retirement or the ability to cover the cost of college for your children.

Such a long-term view of money is central to Buffett's investing decisions. In his 2014 letter to shareholders, he said people should "invest with a multi-decade horizon ... Their focus should remain fixed on attaining significant gains in purchasing power over their investing lifetime." He urged investors not to focus on moments of stock market volatility or economic crisis.

Building true wealth and financial security takes time, and you'll likely encounter financial challenges along the way. But viewing your finances as a lifelong endeavor can help you stay on course despite hardships. That gives you a financial foundation that will last.



Energy Ministry permanent secretary Felchesmi Mramba (right) receives cleaner energy transition report in Tanzania from the Norwegian ambassador to Tanzania, Elisabeth Jacobsen, during it's recent launch. PHOTO/ NORWEGIA EMBASSY

Tanzania commits to cut emission by 35 percent come 2030

By Guardian Correspondent

TANZANIA is targeting to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30 - 35 percent by 2030.

To deliver this climate change ambition, the energy sector has been identified as a priority sector for decarbonization, according to the permanent secretary in the ministry of Energy Eng. Felchesmi Mramba during the launch of cleaner energy transition report by Norwegian embassy in Tanzania.

With the theme "Powering Sustainable Development", the report, which was produced in consultation with the Tanzania Ministry of Energy, aims to provide ways of achieving universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy services by 2030 in Tanzania.

He said; "The government recognizes the importance of the energy sector in the country and we have set broad goals to work with various of the energy sector in driving the development of the other sectors of the economy, it is important that our collaboration the private sector in developing the energy sector is strengthened by various appropriate actions taking place on the ground".

The report also shows ways of increasing the supply of electricity to fuel economic growth and improve livelihoods while avoiding a lock-in to polluting fossil fuels by 2050.

This will be done by promoting cli-

ing options for energy diversification, and promoting climate-smart rural electrification.

Tanzania and Norway have a long history of energy cooperation for more than 50 years ranging from hydro power development to rural electrification, productive use of energy, and support to female engineers.

Speaking about the report, the Norwegian Ambassador to Tanzania, Elisabeth Jacobsen emphasized the urgent need to accelerate the shift to sustainable energy options, namely energy efficiency and renewable energy and added: "Let us power sustainable development with clean and inclusive energy".

Norwegian Embassy to Tanzania is hosting a delegation from the Norwegian-African Business Association (NABA) that is on a 4-day visit in the country.

The visit has presented the group of Norwegian and African businesses with the opportunity to connect with key political stakeholders and leading stakeholders. Given the critical role local businesses, thus gaining insights into doing business in Tanzania as well as developing networks and relationships.

> While in the country, the NABA delegation has held roundtable talks with the Minister of Finance and Planning, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Works, Transport and Communications as well as the Permanent Secretary for Energy and Deputy Permanent Secretary for Investment.

They also met with representatives mate resilient energy systems, explor- from the Government of Zanzibar.

NMB launches campaign to promote digital banking, financial inclusion

By Correspondent Geoffrey Nangai

NMB Bank yesterday launched a customer outreach campaign dubbed "Teleza Kidigitali" seeking to boost financial inclusion and extend financial services to unbanked population.

Speaking during the launch of the campaign in Dar es Salaam yesterday, the NMB Chief Executive Officer Ruth Zaipuna said the campaign reiterates her bank's commitment to the development of financial services in the country while accelerating credit growth, and driving the digital banking agenda.

She said the bank aims to aggressively push the financial inclusion agenda by deepening penetration of the banking sector by taking services closer to customers' at grassroots level.

"The campaign is part of our long-term vision of boosting financial inclusion. We will work around the clock to ensure financial and digital inclusion of millions of Tanzania by bridging the unbanked gap and make banking services accessible to all," she said.

Zaipuna added that her bank would continue to play an integral and indispensable part in the country's journey towards economic progress and urged all Tanzanians without bank accounts to take advantage of the campaign. She said the covid-19 pandemic has enforced businesses across different industries to adapt to the changes significantly faster than expected and introduce new digital initiatives.

"At NMB, we are increasingly focused on digital and technology-powered solutions to ease procedural bottlenecks and the current environment is apt for new solutions that offer faster, automated and digitalized processes," she added. Earlier, the NMB Dar es Salaam Zonal Manager Donatus Richard said the bank's campaign comes with extra benefits that will help fulfill the dreams of an economically vibrant and inclusive Tanzania.

"Through our digital payment solutions, customers will be able to effect payments through NMB Pesa agents without necessarily visiting the bank physically," he said.

He noted that the bank's clients will be able to secure instant loans ranging from 1000/- to 500,000/- without presenting any collateral or security.

"We will be providing instant loans through the 'Mshiko Fasta' product and the terms and conditions are very friendly with no interest rate of collateral. Tanzanians should open up a bank account to enjoy the benefits of this campaign," he said.

Guardian

Wealthy fail to claim 2,600

safe deposit boxes in banks

EU plans to turn to Africa in weaning itself off Russian natural gas imports



BRUSSELS

HE European Union is planning to turn to Africa to help wean itself off Russian natural gas, Bloomberg reported, citing a draft document detailing the trade bloc's energy strategy.

Countries in western Africa, like Nigeria, Senegal, and Angola, in particular have largely untapped potential for liquefied natural gas, the European Commission said in the document, per Bloomberg.

A number of gas pipeline projects linking Africa to Europe have been studied in recent years, and feasibility studies are ongoing to build the world's longest offshore pipeline, carrying natural gas from Nigeria to Morocco and Europe, according to a Nigerian presidential adviser.

Europe gets about 40 percent of its natural gas from Russia, but the country's invasion of Ukraine has accelerated the EU's efforts to reduce reliance on Russian supplies.

The European Commission has proposed cutting EU demand for Russian natural gas by two-thirds before the end of the year under a plan to diversify supplies and speed up the rollout of renewable gases.

The EU has agreed to stop imports of Russian coal starting later this year, but hasn't announced an embargo on natural gas or oil.

In the draft strategy document, the European Commission said it planned to boost imports of liquefied natural gas by 50 billion cubic meters and pipeline gas from countries other than Russia by 10 billion cubic meters, per Bloomberg.

This includes increasing liquefied natural gas imports from the US by 15 billion cubic meters in 2022, with total US imports to Europe of around 50 billion cubic meters each year until 2030.

In addition, the commission said in the document that it planned to support efforts to double the current capacity of the Southern Gas Corridor - which transports natural gas from the Caspian Sea to Europe - to 20 billion cubic meters a year. The bloc also plans to boost liquefied natural gas supplies through a trilateral memorandum of understanding with Egypt and Israel, per Bloomberg.

A European Commission spokesperson told Insider that it was standard policy not to comment on leaked documents, but added: "I can tell you simply that the Commission is working on the development of an International Energy Strategy, and that this is tentatively scheduled for adoption on 18 May."

Japan and South Korea have already redirected some liquefied natural gas to Europe while the Commission is in discussions with Canada to potentially increase gas exports to Europe in the future, Bloomberg reported, citing the draft document.

In 2019, around 16 percent of the EU's natural gas imports came from Norway, 8 percent from Algeria, and 5 percent from Qatar, per the European Commission. These countries and Russia collectively supplied 70 percent of the EU's natural gas imports.

"In terms of pipeline gas, Norway has already increased its deliveries to Europe and both Algeria and Azerbaijan have indicated their willingness to do so," the commission said in the draft document, per Bloomberg. It added that Qatar "stands ready to facilitate swaps with Asian countries."

The commission also plans to import 10 million tons of renewable hydrogen by 2030, Bloomberg reported, citing the draft document.

The International Energy Agency said on April 13 that Russia exports about \$400 million worth of natural gas to the EU every day.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has previously spoken out against European countries continuing to use Russian energy supplies, telling the BBC that they were making money"out of blood."But German Chancellor Olaf Scholz has said a Western embargo on Russian gas imports probably wouldn't stop the war, tellingDer Spiegel that Putin would never have started the war if he were open to economic arguments

store precious jewellery, share certificates, Treasury bills, company certificates and personal documents such as land title deeds, security certificates, and share certificates in banks. The jump in the number of safe de-

WEALTHY individuals and families

have failed to claim 2,648 safe boxes,

despite the State lacking a strong room to keep the secret properties.

The Unclaimed Financial Assets

Authority (Ufaa) said the number of

safe deposit boxes declared by banks

jumped 56 percent from 1,691 in June

It is a global trend for the wealthy to

2020 and 962 in June 2017.

posit boxes declared comes in a year after the value of unclaimed assets rose to Sh54.8 billion marked by a low rate of reuniting the assets with their beneficiaries.

Safe deposit boxes become abandoned if they remain unclaimed for more than two years after the lease or rental period has expired.

Ufaa executives said earlier that the law does not provide how assets other than cash and jewellery found in the safe boxes will be handled.

"Our legal mandate is exclusive to cash or near cash...," the authority told Parliament.

Safety deposit boxes held by banks have been on the radar of the Central Bank of Kenya(CBK) since March 2019 when detectives impounded Sh2 billion in fake currency stashed in one.

The regulator issued a circular requiring financial institutions to verify the contents of the safe boxes as a

way of curbing illegal dealings such as money laundering.

The CBK said in future banks must subject safe boxes to rules governing illicit financing, known as Anti-Money Laundering and Combating the Financing of Terrorism obligations.

Ufaa has blamed the slow pace of reuniting safe deposit boxes, cash, shares and other assets to court cases, paperwork and understaffing at the agency

"Litigation by Institute of Certified Public Accountants of Kenya caused process delays on closure of holder audits and delayed enforcement," Ufaa said in a report tabled before Parliament.

Punitive fines have also discouraged holders from declaring and surrendering the assets prompting the National Treasury to propose a one-year relief on the fines in a bid to increase compliance.

Idle assets are under the law supposed to be declared and surrendered to Ufaa on or before November 1 every year. Holders file nil returns if applicable.

Holders risk a fine of between Ksh7,000 to Ksh50,000 for each day a report on idle assets is withheld or the duty is not performed. Holders also pay a fine of 25 percent of the value of the asset when they fail to surrender it to Ufaa.

The Treasury has proposed relief on all idle assets that should have been declared and surrendered to the State before end of the current financial year.

Foreigners shun India's biggest IPO over market risks

CHENNAI

FOREIGN institutional investors have on the whole steered clear of India's biggest share sale, deeming it too expensive given currency risks and the global market backdrop.

With just hours to go until the end of the subscription period for the \$2.7 billion initial public offering of Life Insurance Corporation of India, foreign institutional funds have put in orders for merely 8 percent of the shares set aside for all institutional buyers.

While the anchor portion of the IPO drew in sovereign funds from Norway and Singapore, most of the shares went to domestic mutual funds.

"Foreign institutional investors have been pulling out heavily in the secondary market since October. The Fed rate hike and the recent slide in the rupee against the dollar further enhances risks of currency depreciation that can erode their asset price gains in India," said Vidya Bala, head of research and co-founder at Chennai-based Primeinvestor.in.

"So there is little reason for them to participate in an IPO, large as it may be."

Dubbed India's "Aramco moment" in reference to Gulf oil giant Saudi Arabia

Dubbed India's "Aramco moment" in reference to Gulf oil giant Saudi Arabian Oil Co.'s \$29.4 billion listing in 2019 -- the world's largest -- the float of LIC has ended up resembling the Aramco IPO not just in scale but in its reliance on domestic investors after foreign buyers deemed the float too expensive.

LIC has been seeking to drum up interest with newspaper advertisements since the start of the year, seeking to take advantage of a retail investment boom in India.

India's government had cut the fundraising of the IPO by about 60 percent as the war in Ukraine roiled markets, denting risk appetite, while rising U.S. interest rates are putting foreign investors off emerging market stocks.

It also cut the valuation it is seeking for the country's oldest insurer, which would be worth 6 trillion rupees (\$78 billion) at the top of the price range.

While foreign investors have shunned the deal, retail buyers have been piling in. Policyholders placed bids for over five times the shares reserved for them, while the employee portion received orders for four times the amount available, stock exchange data showed. Retail investors and policyholders receive discounts on the offer price.

Overall, the IPO has received orders for double the shares on offer, while the tranche for institutional investors is now fully sold.

The muted international investor interest stands in sharp contrast to some of last year's Indian IPOs. One97 Communications Ltd., which operates digital payments firm Paytm, drew in the likes of BlackRock Inc., Canada Pension Plan Investment Board and Teacher Retirement System of Texas, among many others, for its 183 billion rupee share sale last year. Food delivery platform Zomato Ltd. was similarly popular among foreign investors.

However those buyers have been left nursing losses as enthusiasm over India's tech boom waned after some flops. Paytm sank 27 percent on its debut and is now trading 74 percent below its offer price. Zomato had a strong debut last summer but has since lost 20 percent in value.

Investors have also had concerns about LIC's ability to keep market share as

private insurers like HDFC Life Insurance Co. Ltd. and SBI Life Insurance Co. Ltd. expand.

The private sector has been on an aggressive expansion spree during the

The private sector has been on an aggressive expansion spree during the pandemic, growing new individual policy premiums while LIC struggles.

Cheap financing bonanza over, leasing boss tells airlines



DUBLIN

AIRLINES have been warned that the days of abnormally cheap financing costs are over; pointing to higher lease rates amid changes in the way risk is managed after the war in Ukraine.

New money has poured into aviation over the past decade as investors sought refuge from low bond rates in the higher yields available from dollar-denominated hard assets like aircraft.

"For a lot of investors, getting a midsingle-digit return on an aircraft lease is a lot better than getting negative interest rates in bank accounts or 1 to 2 percent returns on government bonds," industry veteran Steven Udvar-Hazy, chairman of Air Lease Corp, told a UK Aviation Club dinner in Dublin.

"I think that's all changing ... The airline industry, from a credit rating point of view did not really deserve those kind of rates. And now I think the sense of reality is coming back in; I think lease rates will go up, interest rates are going up."

Udvar-Hazy, a founder of the leasing industry who began his career advising Aer Lingus while still a student in 1973, said airlines would have to adjust to higher lease rates in the same way as they absorb fuel, labour and other operating

Air Lease last week posted a quarterly loss after an \$800 million write-off of jets stranded in sanctions-hit Russia.

Russia has effectively seized hundreds of

foreign-leased jets after changing the law to prevent their repossession.

"I think as lessors and financial institutions, we have to pay more attention to these risks. And that's another reason that (lease) rates will go up," Udvar-Hazy said.

"Because every leasing company, every bank that's lent money or assets to Russia, is going to build in a cushion on every future transaction. We will all pay a price for that."

Udvar-Hazy and other financiers are holding large back-to-back gatherings in Dublin for the first time since the pandemic.

Lease rates fell some 30 percent during the pandemic but have reached a turning point, Rob Morris, head of global consultancy at Ascend by Cirium, told the Airline Economics conference.



Guardian

WORLD

West continues to ramp up sanctions against Russia

WASHINGTON

THE United States and its Western allies on Sunday announced new sanctions against Russia over the Ukraine crisis, a move that aims to further cripple Moscow's economy but poses severe challenges for global economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Group of Seven (G7) said on Sunday that the bloc will phase out or ban the import of Russian oil following a video conference.

According to its statement, the group will carry out the oil ban over a period of time in order to find alternative supplies. It will also take further actions against Russian banks, and continue sanctions against additional individuals.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky attended the G7 meeting, during which he asked the Western countries to provide more weapons and financial support for Ukraine.

Zelensky said Ukraine is interested in getting the M142 high mobility artillery

rocket system and M270 multiple launch rocket system from the G7 countries, the presidential press service reported.

Ukraine, he said, needs up to \$7 billion per month during the conflict with Russia, and would need about 600 billion dollars for the post-conflict recovery.

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau arrived in Kiev early Sunday and attended the meeting together with Zelensky.

Besides its pledge to G7, the United States on Sunday announced new sanctions targeting Russian state media and the provision of US accounting and consulting services to Russia.

According to a fact sheet issued by the White House, the new sanctions package will target Russia's three major statecontrolled media and prohibit US persons from providing accounting, trust and corporate formation, and management consulting services to any person in Russia.

Briefing reporters on the sanctions package earlier in the day, a senior adfrom Russia and Belarus are facing worsening



A man who fled from a small village near Polohy rests upon his arrival to a reception center for displaced people in Zaporizhzhia, Ukraine, on Sunday. AP

ministration official said the ban does not expand to legal services for now, but the administration is constantly "reevaluating" the sanctions and could broaden them.

The United States has already moved to ban imports of Russian energy, including oil, natural gas and coal. It will also dial up its export control measures, prohibiting US exports of industrial products like engines and bulldozers to Russia, according to the fact sheet.

Over the past months, the Western countries have imposed severe sanctions on Russia in such fields as trade, economy, finance, technology, sports and culture, which has provoked much debate and potentially slowed the recovery of the world economy from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Inflation in many countries surged to record highs following soaring global energy prices. Countries in Africa and the Middle East that rely on imports of foodstuffs and fertilizers

food insecurity.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) said its World Economic Outlook report in April that increasing global energy prices have affected the euro area economy.

The shockwaves of the conflict hurt countries like Italy and Germany more than other European nations because they had "relatively large manufacturing sectors and greater dependence on energy imports from Russia," said the report.

In the report, the agency slashed global growth forecast for 2022 to 3.6 percent amid the Russia-Ukraine conflict, 0.8 percentage point lower than the January projection.

The Ukraine crisis unfolds while the global economy is "on a mending path" but has not yet fully recovered from the COVID-19 pandemic, it said, noting that global economic prospects have worsened "significantly" since the forecast in January.

Former US ambassadors to China weigh in on bilateral ties

WASHINGTON

THREE former US ambassadors to China described the current United States-China relationship as unsatisfactory, unsettling and complicated, but said the two countries are interdependent, and wiser policy decisions and diplomacy



would help fix relations and benefit the world.

J. Stapleton Roy, (pictured) who was ambassador from 1991-95, Gary Locke, who served from 2011-14, and Terry Branstad, from 2017-20, shared their experiences, insights and expectations on US-China relations on Friday at a panel discussion in Washington, DC.

The event was hosted by the Committee of 100, a nonpartisan organization of prominent Chinese Americans in business, government, academia and the arts.

Roy said the current confrontational stance between the US and China doesn't serve the interests of either country. He said there are two "key elements" of US policy toward China: "The first is the one-China policy and the second is the insistence that every issue be resolved peacefully.

Locke warned about serious consequences that would result from US-China confrontation or the decoupling of the two economies.

Branstad said, "There are big contradictions, but the fact is, even despite that, there is interdependency."

Asked by panel moderator Cheng Li, director of the John L. Thornton China Center at the Washington-based Brookings Institution, to choose one word to describe current US-China relations, Roy said "unsatisfactory", Locke said unsettling" and Branstad said "complicated".

"US policy toward China is heavily influenced by the domestic attitude. It did not take into account the fact that China's prosperity has been the engine of growth in East Asia and more probably in the world for much of the last two decades," Roy said.

Locke, who is also a former US secretary of commerce, said: "We are not sure where we are going to go from here. There are a lot of very, very tough issues separating the United States and China."

He noted that the two countries' economies are intertwined and said many US jobs depend on selling goods to China, from agricultural products to Boeing aircraft.

He said that neither Democrats nor Republicans are thinking long-term and understanding the implications of China policy on people, businesses and employees at home as well as in China and around the world.

Branstad said there are "complicated and difficult issues" between the US and China, but he doesn't think they should block bilateral relations.

Regarding areas of differences, the two countries must try to "work those out", he added.

South Sudan declares new cholera outbreak

JUBA

SOUTH Sudanese Ministry of Health on Sunday declared a cholera outbreak following confirmation of eight cases in Rubkona county in the country's Unity States.

The ministry said the move follows tests conducted by the National Public Health Laboratory in Juba that confirmed the

"Public is being urged not to panic but remain calm and observe all the precautionary measures to prevent community transmission and spread in populations with inadequate access to safe drinking water, poor personal hygiene, and inadequate access to improved sanitation facilities," the ministry said in a statement issued in Juba, the capital of South Sudan. It said so far, a total of 31 cases including one death have been reported from Rubkona town and Bentiu IDP camp.

The ministry said the confirmed cases presented with watery diarrhea, vomiting, and dehydration and were admitted and managed at MSF Bentiu protection of civilians (PoC) hospital, noting that all cases have been discharged.

The ministry reported a confirmed case of cholera from Bentiu IDP camp on April 14 and the latest is the first cholera case to be reported in South Sudan since the devastating cholera outbreak in 2017, affecting more than 28,000 people with

The ministry said following the confirmation of the initial case on April 14 it has with support from partners deployed a rapid response team from April 22 to 29 to investigate the causes and support the state-level response. And adequate supplies have also been deployed to support the investigation and treatment of cases in Rubkona county.

According to the ministry, the government with support from its partners conducted two rounds of oral cholera vaccination in Rubkona county in January and March, respectively. 'The ministry of health activated a national and a state cholera task force on April 14 to coordinate all response interventions, heighten surveillance in the Internal Displaced Persons (IDPs) camps and at community levels," it said.

Xinhua

Wang Yi calls on world to listen more to Asian voices

BEIJING

CHINESE State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi Sunday called on the world to listen more to Asian voices with global governance entering "Asian moment."

Wang made the remarks when meeting with Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Prak Sokhonn via video link.

Noting that the world is facing new global challenges, Wang said the Chinese side has put forward global governance system with a view to building a community with a shared future for mankind.

China stands ready to work with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) to implement the two initiatives in this region and uphold regional peace, stability, prosperity and development, Wang said.

bodia, Indonesia and Thailand will successively host the BRICS Leaders' Meeting, the East Asian Leaders' meetings on cooperation, the G20 Leaders' Summit, and the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting, said Wang, adding that this is the "Asian moment" for global governance and the international community expects Asia to play a leading role in this regard.

China is willing to work with the three countries to send a strong message of Asia's commitment to the Global Development Initiative promote peace and development and the Global Security Initiative as well as uphold multilateralto build a more just and equitable ism, and make Asia's contribution to addressing global challenges, Wang stressed, adding that the Chinese side also believes that the world should listen more to Asia's voice, respect its position, and draw on its wisdom.

At the same time, Wang said Asian countries should jointly guard against the Cold War mentality that will undermine peace From next month, China, Camand development in the region.

the capital of Kenya.



Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi meets with Cambodian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Prak Sokhonn via video link on Sunday. XINHUA

While China welcomes counpositive and constructive role in promoting peace and developregional peace and stability or soli-

Sokhonn said Cambodia suptries outside the region to play a ports the Global Development Initiative and the Global Security Initiative, believing that these two ment in the region, it does not initiatives are of particular signifiaccept any action undermining cance under the current circumstances, and would like to conduct

Noting that today's world is very complex and requires the right approach to various challenges, Sokhonn said ASEAN will properly respond to various challenges, maintain friendly and cooperative darity and cooperation, Wang said. close cooperation with China in relations with dialogue partners,

Kenya leverages on hiking, adventure to shore up tourist numbers

KENYA said on Sunday it has tapped into adventure, hiking and mountaineering experiences as key drivers in the recovery of tourism businesses that have been ravaged by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Najib Balala, the cabinet secretary of Tourism and Wildlife, said as part of the sector's diversification and recovery strategy, Kenya is well placed to leverage into these niche segments thanks to the diverse opportunities and attractions found across the desti-

"I encourage Kenyans to visit some of the mountaineering and hiking destinations in the country. They can be a pocket-friendly

CHINA'S wind power industry has

offshore wind power capacity now

ranks first in the world, according to

the National Energy Administration of

largest source of electricity in China.

The amount of electricity generated

from wind in China rose 40.5 percent

year on year to 652.6 billion kWh in

2021, accounting for 7.9 percent of the

Wind power has become the third

China(NEA).

looking for immersive and engaging opporcountry's total electricity consump-

option for many people because they in-

clude day trips which are easily accessible,"

Balala said in a statement issued in Nairobi,

Balala, who spoke after a hiking expedi-

tion at Mt. Longonot, said the foundation of

Kenya known as a leader in Safari also en-

hances the potential of the destination be-

He also noted that adventure tourism is

one of the fastest-growing experiences in

the world today with travelers looking for

According to Balala, mountaineering and

hiking have the potential to improve Ken-

ya's tourism numbers because travelers are

life-changing experiences that suit them.

ing regarded as top in adventure tourism.

registered rapid growth in recent Driven by large-scale development In 2021, China's newly installed caand technological advances, the LCOE pacity of grid-connected wind power of China's onshore wind power in 2021 reached 47.57 million kilowatts, with fell by 40 percent from that in 2010, offshore wind power accounting for and that of the country's offshore wind over one third. The installed wind power dropped by 53 percent from the power capacity of China has exceeded previous year. 300 million kilowatts, and its installed

Thanks to years of efforts, China has gradually alleviated wind curtailment, with its average utilization rate of wind power reaching 96.9 percent.

At the same time, innovation and technology throughout the wind power industry - independent research and development and the manufacturing capacity of core components - in China is also rapidly increasing.

The country is now capable of con-

"We must be ready to demonstrate to both domestic and international visitors that we have more than Beach and Safari experi-People are today also conscious about

their health and hiking is a good fitness and outdoor activity," he said. Balala said tourism earnings increased

60.4 percent to 146 billion shillings (about 1.26 billion U.S. dollars) in 2021 compared to 775 million dollars in 2020, indicating that the country is on an upward trajectory.

Dubbed "Sheer Adventure" destination, Mt. Longonot which rises from the floor of the Great Rift Valley is located within the Mt. Longonot National Park which is one of

the many fascinating, yet least visited attractions of Kenya.

With its cool climate, lush greenery, and stunning views of the Rift Valley, Mt. Longonot which offers a variety of trails for hikers of all fitness levels is also home to wildlife and more than 110 bird species, making it a birding paradise.

The hike at Mt. Longonot was also part of the Balala's preparation for an expedition at Mt. Kenya in mid-May.

The expedition will aim at re-positioning Mt. Kenya as one of the key iconic adventure experience facilities in Africa as well as raising funds toward improving the visitor expe-

China's wind power industry sees rapid growth

ducting independent R&D of megawatt-level wind turbines, and has formed a complete industrial chain of wind power equipment manufactur-

High-capacity wind power generating units have been continuously upgraded and improved in China; and the country has led the world in the application of long blades and high towers of wind turbine generators, among other fields.

Meanwhile, the wide application of new digital technologies has made the design of products for wind power generation and the operation and management of wind farms more intelligent and efficient.

Meanwhile, a large number of Chinese wind power companies have picked up speed in exploring overseas markets, and wind power has become one of China's strategic high-end green equipment manufacturing industries.

China produces half of the components of wind power generating units in the world, and six of the world's top ten wind turbine makers come from China.

Statistics from the Chinese Wind Energy Association suggest that as of the end of 2020, China had exported 2,728 sets of wind power generators with a total capacity of over 6.37 million kW to 38 countries and regions on six continents, including the U.S., the U.K., France and Australia.

Besides, as the world's largest wind power equipment manufacturing base, China sees its output of generators, hubs, chassis, blades, gearboxes, bearings and other components of wind turbines account for 60 percent to 70 percent of the world's total.

By providing clear market expectations and key supportive measures, Chinese government helps stimulate investment in the market and promote technological progress, thus ensuring the steady and orderly development of the country's wind power industry.

Meanwhile, enterprise innovation throughout the entire industrial chain becomes the core driver of the industry's development. Chinese enterprises could

utilize and assimilate the technologies quickly, and built a full-blown industrial system that is globally competitive.

In February, China's National Development and Reform Commission and the NEA issued a guideline on improving the systems, policies and measures for the green and low-carbon transition of energy, stressing that the country would support the construction and rearrangement of new energy electricity generation facilities for more efficient power generation.

China's wind power industry, as the country's major driving force for attaining the goal of peaking carbon dioxide emissions before 2030 and achieving carbon neutrality before 2060, has bright prospects.

People's `Daily



junior high school ahead of the May 9 presidential election in Manila on Sunday. AFP

Philippines on high alert as all systems go for election

MANILA

THE Philippine police and military said on Sunday they were on high alert as last-minute preparations continued for the country's general election, even as the overall situation remained "relatively peaceful".

Filipinos vote on Monday to choose President Rodrigo Duterte's successor, a vice-president, 12 senators, hundreds of congressmen and thousands of governors, mayors and provincial and city councillors.

The presidential race is a rematch between Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr., the son and namesake of the country's late dictator, and Leni Robredo, the human rights lawyer who narrowly beat him in the 2016 vice

Three months of divisive campaigning ended on Saturday, with Marcos and Robredo making final bids to sway undecided voters with patriotic, upbeat messages.

Duterte did not endorse a presidential candidate, but his party backs frontrunners Marcos and his running mate, Duterte's daughter Sara Duterte-Carpio.

"We are ready for any contingencies," Armed Forces chief Lieutenant General Andres Centino told a media briefing with police officer-in-charge Lieutenant General Vicente Danao and senior election commission officials.

"We are committed... to ensure that we have a secure, accurate, free and fair elections tomorrow."

Political violence, cheating allegations and vote-buying marred previous elections in the Philippines. But the police said they have recorded far fewer poll-related offences than in the 2016 general election and 2019 mid-term

"Hopefully we can maintain this tranquillity up to the last day of our electoral process," Danao said.

Philippine National Police spokesperson Jean Fajardo told another briefing the pre-election situation was "relatively peaceful", with 16 election-related offences, including shootings in Nueva Ecija and Ilocos Sur provinces.

Voting will be longer than usual to accommodate CO-

VID-19 safety measures. Guia Morris, principal at Jacinto Zamora Elementary School in Manila, said they have spent weeks cleaning and disinfecting the rooms where voting will be done.

"The teachers are all prepared, and they attended orientation and seminars about the election," she said.

Ethiopia announces new increases in fuel prices

ADDIS ABABA

THE Ethiopia Ministry of Trade and Regional Integration (MoTRI) has announced a decision to hike gas prices by 16 percent starting on Sunday.

The ministry said in a press statement released Saturday evening that the price hike would see gas prices rise from 31.74 Ethiopian Birr (about 62 U.S. cents) per liter to 36.87 Ethiopian Birr per liter.

Ethiopian Birr to 35.43 Ethiopian Birr," the MoTRI state-

The Ethiopian government's latest petroleum products price hikes came after four months of price hike are not kept busy by farming chores. pause. The MoTRI blamed the rising global oil prices for its decision to institute the latest price hikes.

"The Ethiopian government, observing the society's the program covered all administrative current living conditions, hadn't made (fuel) price in- villages in the province seven years latcreases for four months.

However, this decision (fuel price increase freeze) of the Publicity Department of Gansu has created a monthly 10-Billion-Ethiopian Birr deficit provincial Party committee. which otherwise should have been transferred to the consumer, resulting in extreme (financial) pressure braries, housing 31 million books. Each on the government," said the MoTRI in the statement, farmer in the province has access to an warning it will take legal and administrative measures on those "illegal bodies" who use the price hikes to create man-made shortages as well as hike prices on essential commodities.

According to the latest data released by Ethiopia's Central Statistical Agency, the inflation rate in the country rose to a record high of 36.6 percent in April, up from 34.7 percent in March.



Grave consequences loom should NATO expands further

FINNISH President's office has confirmed recently that President Sauli Niinisto would state his position on Finland's NATO membership no later than May 12.

Meanwhile, Tobias Baudin, secretary-general of the ruling Swedish Social Democratic Party, said the party would probably issue a final decision on Sweden's NATO membership on May 15.

Analysts believe that NATO's eastward expansion after the Cold War has increasingly pushed Russia into a corner and failed to make Europe safer.

If NATO expands northwards and incorporates Finland and Sweden - two Nordic countries with longstanding neutral and military non-alignment policies -into its military alliance, it will undoubtedly intensify confrontation with Russia and lead to further deterioration of the security situation in the Baltic Sea region and Europe as a whole, analysts say.

A formal decision for Finland to join NATO will follow a joint meeting of the president and governmental committee on foreign and security policy. Finland shares a more than 1,300-km border with

Finnish media have widely speculated that President Niinisto would support Finland's NATO membership. In neighboring Sweden, parliamentary parties are also in heated discussions over the

Most members of parliament have expressed their support for Sweden joining the bloc, except for the Left Party and the Green



Prevention in Atlanta, Georgia. File photo

Party. Sweden Democrats, the country's thirdlargest party, which previously opposed NATO membership, recently modified its stance, saying it would support Sweden's application if Finland finally decides to join.

On Wednesday, Baudin told TT news agency that the party board would hold an extra meeting on its NATO membership decision on May 15, a date brought forward from the previously scheduled May 24.

Baudin also said that Niinisto would arrive in Stockholm on May 17 for a state visit. Mats Knutson, a domestic political commentator, said recently in an article on Swedish Television SVT that the Swedish Social Democrats' agenda is closely in line with Finland's decision-making agenda, suggesting that Sweden and Finland are coordinating on whether to join NATO.

Several Swedish media outlets have speculated that Sweden and Finland may submit their NATO applications together during the NATO summit in Madrid between Iune 28 and 30.

NATO and the United States, Germany

and other countries have supported the two potential new Nordic members.

In an interview with SVT Thursday, NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg said Sweden could expect an increased presence of NATO troops in the Baltic Sea and around the rest of the country when a possible NATO application is processed.

German Chancellor Olaf Scholz said recently that Sweden and Finland "can count on our support" if they decide to join NATO.

After meeting with U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken, Swedish Foreign Minister Ann Linde told Swedish media on Wednesday that the United States was ready to provide "security assurances" to Sweden during a possible application process to NATO.

However, not all voices within NATO are welcoming. Croatian President Zoran Milanovic said Tuesday that he would block the admission of Sweden and Finland at the NATO summit in Madrid, adding that NATO should first solve some problems in the Balkans before accepting the two coun-

Since the end of the Cold War, NATO, led by the United States, has repeatedly tried to woo Sweden and Finland to the mili-

The two countries joined NATO's Partnership for Peace program in 1994, but they also cooperate with Russia on climate and security. Analysts say that NATO has continued to expand eastward after the end of the Cold War, squeezing Russia's strategic space and alienating Russia-Ukraine relations by inciting "color revolutions," ultimately triggering the current Ukraine crisis.

NATO continued to add fuel to the fire before and after the escalation of the Russian-Ukrainian conflict, attempting to use Ukraine to weaken and even bring down Russia, they say. If Finland and Sweden join NATO, it is bound to increase Russia's sense of insecurity further and trigger corresponding countermeasures, further deteriorating the security situation in Europe, analysts believe.

Sergei Markov, general director of the Moscow-based Institute for Political Studies, told Xinhua recently that the United States is actively encouraging Finland and Sweden to join NATO, with consequences for global security.

If NATO expands further and deploys large-scale military forces in areas close to the Russian border, it will dramatically change the political and security situation. Russia will have to take measures to ensure its own security, he said.

Deputy Chairman of the Russian Security Council Dmitry Medvedev said last month that Russia would have to strengthen its land, naval and air forces in the Baltic Sea should Sweden and Finland join NATO, adding, "there can be no more talk of any nuclear-free status for the Baltics - the balance must be restored."

U.S. foreign affairs columnist Jonathan Power recently said that Sweden's plan to join NATO is playing with fire and will make Sweden less secure.

Thomas Wallgren, professor of philosophy at the University of Helsinki, said on April 11 in a column that Finland joining NATO would be a rash and dangerous mistake and would significantly increase the country's security risks.

Zhang Jun, China's permanent representative to the United Nations, emphasized Thursday at a UN Security Council meeting that the "security of all countries is indivisible."

To base one country's security on the insecurity of other nations is neither reasonable nor operable, he said. Given that the Cold War ended decades ago, NATO should "naturally size up the situation and make necessary adjustments," Zhang said.

Farmers' book houses enriching cultural life of rural residents in Gansu province

AFTER lunch, Zhao Xuecheng sneaked a break and picked up a book about the prevention of plant diseases and insect pests for vegetables.

Reading or borrowing books from the local rural library, or farmers' book house, has become habitual for the 53-year-old farmer from Gaodunying village, Xiaguanying township, Yuzhong county, northwest China's Gansu prov-

an outstanding vegetable grower, told People's Daily that he often reads books about farming at the farmers' book house, as he believes that one should love and invest in what he or she does for a living.

On the book shelves of the farmers' book house in Gaodunying village, which is among the first batch of rural libraries built in Gansu province, there are books about agricultural planting, novel breeding, and law, as well as masterpieces of world literature.

"We have a total of over 15,000 books. Residents can either read the books at the library or borrow them," said librarian Jing Zhenghong, pointing to a thick registration book on which the information of the borrowers is recorded.

"Books about agricultural skills are "One liter of diesel was similarly hiked from 28.98 the favorites of the residents," Jing said. According to him, local farmers would always visit the library to seek better ways of vegetable planting when they

> "Gansu province started piloting the rural library program since 2005, and er," said Wang Chengyong, deputy chief

> So far, Gansu has built 16,321 rural liaverage of 2.6 volumes, and around 120 books are borrowed annually from each rural library. A total of more than 2 million books are borrowed a year across

> Each year, these farmers' book houses get about 6,000 volumes from the Gansu Provincial Library, and their inventory is replenished every six months. The province is divided into seven sections based on natural conditions, cultural backgrounds and customs for targeted distribution of books. Besides, the government also offers training sessions of agricultural skills at these rural libraries.

By integrating rural library and public library resources, Gansu province is making books more accessible for the

In the past, rural libraries and public libraries were independent from each other, but now readers can borrow and read books at libraries in many places with only a library card, which can be applied for with an ID card, said



Books of a farmers' book house are delivered to a villager by horse in Xiling village in Dahe township, Sunan Yugur autonomous county of northwest China's Gansu province. (File photo)

Li Xuhong, deputy director of the management office of Gansu's rural library program.

"The books borrowed from public libraries can be returned to farmers' book houses," Zhao Xuecheng noted.

"This is the book you wanted a few days ago," said Gu Weidong, passing a book to villager Gu Zhenglin. Gu Weidong is the Party head of Xiling village in Dahe township, Sunan Yugur autonomous county of Gansu province. He's also a librarian of the farmers' book house in the village. To deliver the book, he spent nearly an hour on horseback.

According to Gu Weidong, villagers' enthusiasm for reading and borrowing books was low in the 113-household village as there was a huge distance between them and the farmers' book house. To solve this problem, the village decided to make the library "movable" - it is delivering books to the villagers by horse. So far, the "library on horseback" has made over 1,000 deliveries and received more than 300 phone calls for book reser-

In addition, farmers' book houses are also a great place for rural children. "Many children come to farmers' book houses for studying and reading when school is over," said Ni Haijiang, librarian of a farmers' book house in Shiziping village, Mapaoquan township, Maiji district, Tianshui, Gansu province.

"Compared with urban children, rural children have less access to knowledge, so the farmers' book houses are an important bridge linking them with the outside world," Ni explained.

The farmers' book houses have become a "second classroom" for rural children as many of their parents are working out-of-town. "Every day there are about 20 children reading here," Ni said. The farmers' book house where Ni works currently has more than 7,000 books.

The farmers' book houses are following the steps of the times. In 2019, a digital application of the book houses was launched. So far, it has attracted over a million rural readers.

Compared with brick-and-mortar libraries, the digital application comes with much more resources, providing over 33,000 books, 600 electronic journals, 19,000 videos and audios, 77,000 minutes of online lectures and 280,000 minutes of audio books. It has received more than 25 million visits.

From farmland to online library, farmers' book houses are bringing new lifestyles and images to Chinese rural residents.

People's Daily

Early voting starts in Australia election with opp ahead in polls

SYDNEY

EARLY voting began in Australia yesterday two weeks ahead of election day, with surveys showing the opposition center-left Labor Party extending its lead and Prime Minister Scott Morrison suffering a fall in his approval rating.

Amid a campaign dominated by cost-of-living pressure, national security and climate change, a widely watched survey conducted for The Australian newspaper showed Labor leading 54-46 percent on a two-party preferred ing higher living costs as voters' basis against the Morrison-led Liberal Party-National Party coalition government.

Morrison's rating as the country's preferred leader fell a percentage point to 44 percent, the survey showed, leaving him narrowly in front of Leader of the Opposition Anthony Albanese whose rating rose 3 points to 42 percent.

Early voting began a day after a televised debate between Morrison and Albanese who at times yelled at each other, making it hard for either to make a point.

"Scott Morrison didn't have anything to say except shouting. He during this election.

only had smears and that smirk throughout it all," Albanese told reporters on Monday.

Female voters have turned to Labor as the party they believe would better manage worsening cost-of-living pressure, the survey showed, after surging inflation forced the central bank last week to lift its official cash interest rate.

If the coalition's shrinking lead is replicated in the May 21 election, Labor could govern on its own, a survey for the Australian Financial Review showed, revealtop issue. The coalition has a oneseat majority in parliament's lower house.

Millions of Australians are expected to cast their votes in person over the next two weeks at over 500 early-voting centers na-

Advance voting has gained popularity in Australia. About 40 percent of the electorate voted either early or by post in the last national election. Electoral Commissioner Tom

Rogers told ABC television he expected those numbers to increase

Female voters have turned to Labor as the party they believe would better manage worsening cost-of-living pressure, the survey showed, after surging inflation forced the central



Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison (right) and the Opposition Leader Anthony Albanese (left) attend the second leaders' debate of the 2022 federal election campaign at the Nine studio in Sydney on Monday. AFP

SPORT



Mbeya kwanza FC coach rests hopes on Premier League survival

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimb

MBEYA Kwanza FC head coach, Mbwana Makata, has placed high hopes of seeing to it his side remains in the NBC Premier League next season after beating Tanzania Prisons 1-0 at the Maji Maji Stadium in Songea, Ruvuma last week.

Mbeya Kwanza FC, the tie's hosts, scored through Deo Minga who converted a penalty kick and kept their hopes alive in the Premier League.

Makata, who moved to Mbeya Kwanza FC after parting ways with Dodoma Jiji FC, said they have a chance to stay in the topflight due to the points gap between the 14 Premier League teams, excluding the top two sides, Yanga and Simba.

He also said he had words of gratitude to his players for fulfilling their responsibility to fight on the pitch and get the victory.

The tactician pointed out that the secrets that led to his club's triumph are the unity and solidarity that exists in his squad, along with the footballers' willingness to follow the technical bench's instructions.

The gaffer noted: "I am grateful that the team continues to change day by day, and I am confident that in the future there will be good things, we are fighting to continue to get good results that will enable us to be in a safe place and play top-flight football next season.'

"My players, in general, are very dedicated, so I thank and congratulate them, the unity and solidarity they have is the key to this result, as well as following the technical bench's instructions,' Makata stated.

The coach said: "If you look at the

positions, the points gap is low among teams placed third to 16th, the team that will win the remaining games has a great chance to stay in the Premier League next season so we have to continue to get out of the lower positions in the league standings.'

Mbeya Kwanza FC is sitting 15th with 21 points after taking part in 21 games, with the outfit having hopes of remaining in the Premier League if it wins its remaining matches.

The Mbeya club's plan to play home fixtures in Songea, leaving the Sokoine Stadium to rivals Mbeya City FC and Tanzania Prisons, has begun to pay off given the outfit keeps on winning thus boosting hopes of playing in the Premier League next season.

After landing in Songea, Mbeya Kwanza FC managed to find new stakeholders who are eager to see Simba SC and Yanga confront the former in the district, thus creating an environment and influence for the team to emerge victoriously.

The past two seasons that ended without the district having a team in the Mainland Premier League have hurt many, so the move by Mbeya Kwanza FC to move to the district has helped it recover and achieve its goals.

The side's record of having good results in away matches could further give them even more advantage as, even when they were promoted to the Premier League, they used an

The use of Majimaji Stadium will make the outfit dominate all the time, as opposed to the way the club fared at Sokoine Stadium.

The Mbeya stadium had the side competing all the time with city rivals, Mbeya City FC and Tanzania Prisons, and consequently lacked the freedom to prepare adequately.

Harden, Embiid power 76ers past Heat, even series 2-2 PHILADELPHIAJAMES Harden took a can just sense it." sensational step forward in the postseason for the 76ers with step-back 3s that rekindled his dominant form. Joel Embiid is playing better by the game, and the MVP finalist might have his best basketball ahead.

Embiid is ready. So is Harden. And if the Miami Heat can't figure out The Mask and The Beard, the next thing they face could be the offseason. "I don't think we've played our best basketball,"

Harden scored 31 points, Embiid had 24 points and 11 rebounds and the Philadelphia 76ers beat Miami 116-108 on Sunday night in Game 4 to

even the Eastern Conference semifinal series. The Heat won the first two games in Miami with Embiid out with a right orbital fracture and mild concussion. The 76ers won Games 3 and 4 at home with Embiid and his mask in the lineup.

Game 5 is Tuesday night in Miami. Oh yeah, this time Embiid is along for the ride. No wonder the 76ers feel better about their

chances on this trip to Florida. "Joel's going to be able to play," coach Doc Rivers said, laughing.

The Heat pecked away at the lead and got within five until Harden sank his fifth 3-pointer of the game with three minutes left. Harden crushed the Heat on catch-and-shoot 3s and hit

one clutch shot after another for 16 points in the fourth. He at last played in the postseason like the three-time scoring champion the Sixers needed when they traded for him in February. "Nothing really changed. I just made shots," Harden said.

Harden drilled a step-back 3 for a 114-103 lead that sent the crowd into a frenzy – and the Sixers off to Miami with new life. He finished with six 3s, nine assists and seven rebounds.

"It's just James being James," Rivers said. "I felt like he was going to have a big game tonight. You

Jimmy Butler scored 40 points on 13 of 20 shooting from the floor, 12 of 13 free throws and nearly one-man willed the Heat to victory. The Heat, who shot 38% on 3s during the season, missed 28 of 35 3-pointers.

"I thought we had some really good looks. We just missed them," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra

Embiid worked out the Game 3 cobwebs and returned to the dominant form that earned him season-long "MVP!" chants from the Philly diehards. His first quarter was about as good as it gets for the center. He made 5 of 6 shots, including a 3-pointer, and scored 15 points to put the Sixers ahead. Worn out in Game 3 from days of inactivity because of the concussion, Embiid played all 12 minutes in the quarter.

Here's a scary thought for Miami.

"We haven't seen the best of Joel in this series yet," Rivers said. "He's still trying to figure out how to play with that mask sliding all over his face.'

After a scoreless first quarter, Harden followed Embiid's hot start and scored 13 in the second. He missed his first four shots of the game until he buried a 3 and then got rolling. He scored a bucket in transition during a 15-2 run and then waved his arms toward the crowd, calling on them to get louder.

Philadelphia shot 64% from the floor in the half. But 10 turnovers - that Miami converted into 13 points – kept the Sixers from stretching the lead well into double digits. The Sixers made nine 3s in the half to Miami's four.

Butler kept the Heat in the game with six straight points. He hit a layup, was nailed in the face by Embiid – who was whistled for a flagrant, then helped his former teammate to his feet and Butler made the free throw. Butler hit a 3 off the possession and the Heat pulled to 74-70.

SPORTS

World Cup trophy to jet into the country at month's end



Minister for Culture, Arts, and Sports, Mohamed Mchengerwa, takes the spot-kick to signal the official launch of the World Cup trophy tour in Tanzania at a function that took place in Dar es Salaam last week. Witnessing are Coca-Cola Company First Director-General, Unguu Sulay (R), and Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) president Wallace Karia (in white shirt). Tanzania has been selected as one of nine African countries that will host the World Cup trophy tour. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

By Correspondent Lloyd Elipokea

THE most highly prized and most sought-after trophy in the realm of sports, the football World Cup, is set to jet into Tanzania at the end of this month as part of its global tour.

The tour is being made possible due to the collaboration between the world-famous beverages company Coca-Cola and world football's governing body, FIFA.

The deadly and towering French attacker, David Trezeguet, will accompany the World Cup as it arrives in our neck of the woods.

It is hoped then that the arrival of the World Cup will galvanize football officials on our home patch to redouble their efforts to ensure that Tanzania graces this quadrennial football extravaganza one day.

In addition, one hopes that the covimagination of all football enthusiasts, left off last year. and players as well as coaches here in the country.

On a distinctly more mournful note,

local sports fans were recently plunged into profound grief over the untimely passing of American athletics coach, Ron Davis.

Once a budding athlete himself, Davis played an unimaginably instrumental role in the successes of domestic athletics legend Filbert Bayi in the early 1980s.

But his impeccable and selfless exertions do not end there. Davis himself personally saw to it that many gifted local athletes were able to secure scholarships to study at American colleges and universities. The African-American coach also had stints in Nigeria, Sudan, Somalia, Mozambique, and DR Congo where he spent time as a top-

notch athletics coach. Indeed, Davis leaves behind gigantic shoes which may never be sufficiently filled and he will be sorely missed as a glorious chapter in our athletics history closes.

Turning now to tennis, I recently opined on these pages about the female Tunisian tennis star Ons Jabeur's remarkably speedy rise out of the blue to the limelight.

Now a prominent presence on the global women's tennis scene, Jabeur's breakthrough year was indisputably last year when she became the first African and Arab player to battle her way into the top 10 of global women's tennis.

However, to prove that her exceptional labours last year were not eted piece of silverware will fire the a flash in the pan, Jabeur has impressively picked up from where she

Indeed, last weekend, Jabeur superbly got the better of American Jessica Pegula in the final of the Mutua Madrid Open to clinch the title.

Jabeur's triumph was significant because the Madrid Open is among the most elite and highly rated tournaments in women's

tennis globally. Moreover, by dint of her sterling victory, she has become the first African and Arab to lift the trophy in history. Frankly speaking, Jabeur's outstanding progress has been nothing short of a fairytale ascent up to the summit of world women's tennis.

And, at the rate that she is going, Jabeur may very well be on her way to further rewriting the history books of global women's

Hopefully, then, a grand slam title victory may not be out of Jabeur's reach for

Traditional music star takes pride in improving Bongo Flava

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

PROMINENT traditional music artist, Saida Karoli, who held sway in the genre in the early 2000s, says she has made a significant contribution to changing Bongo Flava, with some of the music's artists composing songs with flavours from Saida's

Saida disclosed initially many artists were importing West African flavours, especially the ones from Nigeria, to Tanzania.

"But when I came out they liked my traditional tastes and some of them re-recorded my songs including the one titled 'Maria Salome'," Saida

The artist, who currently lives in Mwanza, said she is proud to see the new generation of youthful local musicians use creativity from traditional music singers, including her, and develop it.

"There are many songs and tastes that I have used, and the artists have shown their acceptance and respect for my work," Saida noted.

Saida pointed out that the decision by the Bongo Flava artists to compose songs with flavour from her tracks makes her turn more creative.

"I know many people think I have plunged into oblivion, but I am continuing doing music in Mwanza," the singer said.

Prominent local musicians, Shariff Thabeet, alias 'Darasa', and Raymond Mwakyusa, alias 'Rayvanny', are some of the musicians that have composed songs and used Saida tracks flavour in the artists' compositions which have become extremely popular.

'Rayvanny' has composed tracks titled 'Mama' and 'Safari', featuring Saida, whereas Darasa's song titled 'Muziki', in which he has featured Bernard Paul 'Ben Pol', has one of



Traditional music artist, Saida Karoli

Saida compositions' flavour.

Saida pointed out she believes the songs she continues to prepare will appeal to Bongo Flava artists and the latter will do remixes for adopted by the new generation of music artists.

The artist revealed she feels happy with how she contributes to the development of traditional music, whose taste has been

Guardian

Real in Madrid derby

MADRID

ATLETICO Madrid held on to beat Real Madrid 1-0 at the Wanda Metropolitano on Sunday in an edition of the city's derby with less on the line than in previous years.

With the 2021-22 LaLiga crown in hand, Carlo Ancelotti rested many of his starters from Real's incredible Champions League semifinal comeback win over Manchester City on Wednesday, including Karim Benzema, Thibaut Courtois and Vinicius Junior.

The hosts broke through near the end of a scoreless first half, when Matheus Cunha drew a penalty on Real Madrid's Nacho and Yannick Carrasco converted the spot kick to give Atleti a 1-0 lead at the break.

"It's a very important win today," said Atleti goalkeeper Jan Oblak, who made a number of good saves in the second half. "It was a very difficult game. Madrid are champions but they played well, they wanted the three points.

"We had a lot of chances in the second half but didn't finish off the game. Luckily we kept a clean sheet and one goal was

Atleti had several opportunities throughout the second half to extend their lead, but Andriy Lunin, deputising for Courtois, made some key saves and Carrasco hit the post just after 75 minutes with only the keeper to beat.

Nacho had a chance to head Real level as full-time approached, but he failed to make good contact with a cross from Vinicius from a chance that the missing Benzema has made a habit of converting all season.

"Karim was tired, he hadn't recovered," Ancelotti said after the match. "The first thing I have to do is avoid problems. Luka [Modric] was a bit tired too, I preferred not to start him.

"The idea is to have the whole squad

available on the 28th. [Luka] Jovic had some problems. We couldn't play out from the back, so the forwards had more difficulties than the rest."

The result keeps Real Madrid on 81 points from 35 games, while Atleti move up 64 points, six ahead of fifth-placed Real Betis in the battle for the final Champions League spot in LaLiga.

Oblak added: "Very happy with the three points in this fight for the Champions League, it's an important step."

One reason for the changes to Real's XI is their looming UCL final against Liverpool on May 28 in Paris, and Lucas Vazquez spoke about the starting lineup after the match.

"The boss picks the team," Vazquez said. 'We go onto the pitch to do as well as possible. We have three games left and then the Champions League final, we'll have to work hard to win the trophy.

"The best way to prepare for the Champions League final is with these three games. In the Spanish league no game is easy."

It was a history making night for Diego Simeone, who notched his 10th victory over Real in 36 tries, passing Luis Aragones as the winningest Atleti coach in Madrid derby history.

"Football is complex," Ancelotti said. "We need to finish this season as well as possible. We have incredible fans, we've had an inconsistent season and they've always been with us. It was emotional today to see our fans, before the game. We have a responsibility to the fans and the club to maintain this level to the end.

"Ancelotti? Admiration. He's an extraordinary coach, winning five different leagues, and admiration for his personality. He's the same when he wins and when he loses. That's what makes you have admiration for

PSG held to 2-2 draw; Marseille restores 3-point lead in 2nd

FRENCH champion Paris Saint-Germain threw away a 2-0 lead to draw 2-2 with 15thplace Troyes in another disappointing performance on Sunday.

PSG was in control of the league game after 25 minutes with goals from central defender Marquinhos, after Angel Di Maria's scored from the penalty spot after Kylian Mbappe was fouled.

But poor defending cost PSG again, as it has several times this season, and Canada forward Ike Ugbo pulled one back in the 30th following a clumsy mistake by defender Nuno Mendes.

Two minutes after the break, PSG central defender Presnel Kimpembe fouled forward Renaud Ripart.

Midfielder Florian Tardieu stepped up to Panenka-style penalty for modest Troyes, which was promoted last season.

Neymar scored again in the 57th, but his goal was ruled out after a video replay showed Mbappe pushing a Troyes player in the back before Neymar received the ball.

Earlier, Marseille showed it can cope without injured playmaker Dimitri Payet, winning 3-0 at Lorient and restoring its three-point lead in second place and the automatic Champions League spot.

with a torn calf muscle and striker Arkadiusz Milik sat out with a minor hip injury.

Marseille scored through striker Bamba years. Nice hosts struggling Saint-Etienne. Dieng in the 39th minute, midfielder Matteo

Guendouzi shortly after halftime and left winger Gerson in the 67th.

Monaco is in third place and three points behind Marseille with two games left. Rennes can move level with Monaco and into third on goal difference if it beats French Cup winner Nantes on Wednesday.

OTHER MATCHES

Farid Boulaya scored a last-minute winner pinpoint cross, and forward Neymar, who as Metz improved its slim chances of avoiding relegation with a 3-2 home win against Lyon, moving off the bottom into 19th place.

> Lyon finished the game with 10 players after midfielder Thiago Mendes was sent off midway through the second half.

> Captain Vincent Pajot and Didier Lamkel Ze put Metz 2-0 ahead before striker Moussa Dembele replied just before the break and equalized in the 85th minute with his 19th league goal in just 28 games this season.

Bordeaux replaced Metz in last place after beat goalkeeper Keylor Navas with a neat losing 4-1 at Angers and sliding closer to relegation. Bordeaux has conceded a leaguehigh 89 goals.

Lens moved into seventh place after winning 2-1 at Reims, with striker Florian Sotoca grabbing his second goal of the game in iniury time.

Clermont moved into 16th and closer to safety by beating Montpellier 2-1 at home, with striker Mohamed Bayo scoring the decisive goal from the penalty spot in the 69th.

Nantes and Nice are both playing games Payet is out for the rest of the campaign on Wednesday because they faced each other in the French Cup final on Saturday, with Nantes winning 1-0 for its first trophy in 21



Earlier, Marseille showed it can cope without injured playmaker Dimitri Payet, winning 3-0 at Lorient and restoring its three-point lead in second place and the automatic Champions League spot

Bragging rights: Atleti beat Man City deserve more than being cast as Liverpool spoilers

MANCHESTER, England

MAYBE this season will always be remembered for Liverpool's bid to win everything, but Manchester City deserve better than to be cast as quadruple party-poopers.

SPORTS

After Liverpool's draw with Tottenham Hotspur and City's 5-0 win over Newcastle United this weekend, Pep Guardiola's side need seven points from their last three games to win the title for the fourth time in the past five years. If they do it -- and with two weeks of the season left, it's still "if" -- it would be a feat only previously achieved in the Premier League era by Sir Alex Ferguson's Manchester United. Should it happen, it's an achievement worthy of more than an asterisk at the bottom of Liverpool's quest for history.

Jurgen Klopp's team have already ensured they will play in every game available to them this season -- impressive in itself -- and could yet end the campaign with the Carabao Cup, FA Cup and Champions League trophies. If City can get over the line in the Premier League, though, they will confirm themselves as the dominant force in English football. Not even Liverpool can match their level of consistent success, and afterwards, Guardiola couldn't resist a dig in the direction of Merseyside.

"Everyone in this country supports Liverpool, the media and everyone," the City manager said. "Of course because Liverpool has an incredible history behind in European competition -- not in Premier Leagues, because they've won one in 30 years -- but it's not a problem

"Liverpool, alongside [Manchester] United, it's the most famous team, with what they have done in history -- in terms of titles, legacy, history, dramas, for many, many things.

"But we are, for the last 10, 11, 12 years, coming there. I know we are sometimes uncomfortable, but I don't care. The people want Liver-



Pep Guardiola

an issue. It's normal. Maybe they have more supporters all around the world and in England maybe more support Liverpool than us."

City face Wolves on Wednesday and Guardiola is having to deal with a defensive injury crisis ahead of the trip to Molineux.

Kyle Walker and John Stones both missed the win over Newcastle and are not expected to play again this season. Ruben Dias, meanwhile, went off at halftime with a muscle problem and is also set to miss the remaining three games. It leaves Guardiola with just Aymeric Laporte, Oleksandr Zinchenko, Joao Cancelo and Nathan Ake, who is carrying an ankle problem, for the final three games against Wolves, West Ham United and Aston Villa.

"We have 13.5 players because Nahtan is not in perfect condition," Guardiola said. "Ruben, Kyle and John are out for the season. In this situation it's not a problem. Rodri can play there, Fernandinho can play there and we have the academy. Everyone has to do extra.

"We have 13.5 players for these games and everyone has to do more and more to help our absences. We arrive with problems and that's all.

"The situation is what it is. We

six right now, it depends what happens the next two games in terms of goal difference, but now Wednesday is the real, real final

"We are going to try to win there. Our destiny is in our hands and this is important. We have to look at ourselves. With one point or three points, nothing's changed. We have to do it."

It's testament to how quickly football can change that a game against Newcastle that was meant to be a test of City's mental strength following their heartbreaking Champions League exit to Real Madrid ended up being an opportunity to put one hand on the Premier League trophy. Guardiola spent his usual Friday news conference talking about the possible psychological scars left by the late capitulation at the Bernabeu, but as it turned out, the best tonic was a Son Heung-Min goal at Anfield.

Tottenham's 1-1 draw at Liverpool on Saturday night eased the pressure ahead of Newcastle's visit to the Etihad, and a fixture that could have been awkward was negotiated with relative ease. The visitors probably should have taken the lead when Chris Wood was presented with a free header six yards out, pool to win more than us; it's not need to do nine points or maybe but it was the only scare dur-

ing an otherwise comfortable afternoon. Raheem Sterling (2), Aymeric Laporte, Rodri and Phil Foden got the goals, and with three games to play, City are three points clear at the

Tuesday 10 May 2022

Flights back from Madrid on Thursday morning were full of supporters concerned that the chastening experience in the Champions League might prompt an implosion in the title race, but by the time Sterling scored after 19 minutes, chants of "champions, champions" were reverberating around the Etihad. Lifting the mood shouldn't be a problem ahead of the trip to Wolverhampton Wanderers on Wednes-

Win at Molineux and at West Ham United on Sunday and City would need a point from their final game against Aston Villa to be crowned champions again. Not bad for a team who were meant to be cracking up.

"With what this team have done, do you have any doubt?" Guardiola asked. "It was the perfect afternoon. We are five years doing this every three days. If some people doubted us, they don't know this team. It's one of the best groups I ever trained in my

"Three points, nine points to play for, four ahead on goal difference. Another final on Wednesday [against Wolves]. The margin between us and Liverpool is so tight and goal difference can happen. It was important we win. "Hopefully we can arrive at the Aston Villa game on the final day of the season with the destiny of the Premier League in our hands. But before that we have incredibly tough games. We are going to try."

Guardiola says he might never get over the disappointment of Madrid. An inexplicable collapse in a Champions League semifinal is a hard thing to get over, but another Premier League triumph -- potentially back-to-back titles for a second time in five years -- is more than just a consolation.

No one has gotten as close to a quadruple as Liverpool are now, but it should not be forgotten that City are also within touching distance of their own slice of history.

Youthful exuberance has served Arsenal well, but nearly costs them vs. Leeds

LONDON

SUNDAY's 2-1 win over Leeds United was an advert for both the precocious and precarious nature of Arsenal's youth. The Gunners took another important step towards Champions League qualification with a vital victory, initially the product of their vibrancy and endeavour in capitalising on an appalling first half from their opponents before giving way to a needlessly nervy finale in which they almost blew a two-goal lead against 10 men.

The catalyst for Arsenal's revival this season has come from a cluster of young players seizing their opportunity to try to redefine modern-day Arsenal: Bukayo Saka is the poster boy, but Martin Odegaard, Emile Smith Rowe and Aaron Ramsdale are among those who've contributed this term beyond initial expectations. Eddie Nketiah and Gabriel Martinelli have joined the party in recent weeks, particularly the former, who scored both goals here and continues to enhance his case for Arsenal to break the impasse over his contract situation with his present deal set to expire in a matter of weeks.

Yet this is a time of the season when talent must be aligned to temperament with the prizes in sight.

Leeds improved after half-time - they could barely have been any worse -- but what should have been a comfortable stroll in the early May sunshine turned into a tense finale after Diego Llorente converted a clever 66th-minute set-piece routine to halve the deficit. Substitute Nicolas Pepe failed to get his head up to see an open goal with goalkeeper Illan Meslier up for a corner in a frantic denouement, a moment which served as a metaphor for the lack of game management that almost cost them dearly.

Nevertheless, they got themselves over the line with Mohamed Elneny a particularly important presence in the final 20 minutes, restricting Leeds on the counterattack and enabling Arsenal to play as much of the game in the opposition half as possi-



There are likely to be nervous moments ahead. They go into Thursday's north London derby at Tottenham Hotspur knowing victory would secure a top-four finish. Yet defeat would leave them a point ahead, and with Spurs facing Burnley a day before Arsenal go to Newcastle United, the Gunners could kick off on Tyneside in fifth place.

These are the stakes at this point in the season.

"When you look at the other games, you see a lot of [handling nerves] because now is the defining moment when a goal can change a whole season and that plays on the back of the mind," Mikel Arteta said after the match. "But I didn't see any of that at the start of the game.

"For a lot of phases we did well but we needed to score the third goal and we had the chances to do that. Then the accident happened when we conceded a set-piece goal and then some nerves had to be handled."

It is difficult to overstate how bad Leeds were in the opening 45 minutes. They gift-wrapped the opening goal for Nketiah as Meslier took a laboured touch in dealing with Luke Ayling's back-pass. Nketiah closed him down quickly -- in a manner Alexandre Lacazette probably would not have done -- to tackle and score in one motion inside the six-yard box. This was just the be-

ginning of a remarkable afternoon for Ayling, his 500th career appearance, as he was given a torrid time by Martinelli, who skipped past him to lay on a second as Nketiah, unmarked 12 yards out, swept home a second inside 10 minutes.

Leeds were shambolic and Ayling compounded their misery by launching himself two-footed into a reckless and idiotic challenge on Martinelli. Inexplicably, referee Chris Kavanagh responded with a yellow card but VAR John Brooks suggested he look at the incident again and the decision was correctly upgraded to a red card.

Ayling is likely to receive a three-game ban and therefore his season could be over. Raphinha could easily have followed him as he furiously protested the decision, but even though he stayed on the pitch, Leeds ended the half with more red cards (one) than shots (zero).

"We dug ourselves a massive hole and made a difficult task much more difficult," said Leeds boss Jesse Marsch, mastering the art of understatement. They almost snatched a point in stoppage-time when Junior Firpo headed a long free kick forward, but Rodrigo could only glance a tame header straight at Rams-

Arsenal hung on and head into Thursday's derby knowing the pressure is all on Spurs in the race to secure fourth spot. They should therefore be able to play with a greater sense of freedom. Young players tend to be able to do that, but they will also need to hold their nerve, too.

ESPN



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SPORT

Man City deserve more than being cast as Liverpool spoilers

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Simba SC goal-getter, John Bocco, shoots to register one of the squad's goals in an NBC Premier League clash against Ruvu Shooting that took place in Dar es Salaam on Sunday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

Simba SC will fight until the end, says coach Pablo



Simba SC forward, Meddie Kagere (2nd L), shoots past Ruvu Shooting players, center back Idd Mobby (L), attacker Abdulrahman Mussa (C), and keeper Mohamed Makaka when the outfits met in a 2021/22 NBC Premier League clash played in Dar es Salaam on Sunday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBASC

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SIMBA SC head coach Pablo Franco has vowed the outfit will continue to fight right until the very end despite seeing their hopes of retaining the NBC Premier League title take a huge dent in recent weeks.

The Msimbazi Reds had fallen 13 points behind leader Yanga on the league standings after three straight draws, the most recent of which came away in a topflight clash against Namungo FC last week. Simba SC did manage a timely boost with a 4-1 win

over Ruvu Shooting in Dar es Salaam on Sunday eve-Coach Franco issued his verdict on the morale-boost-

ing victory over Ruyu Shooting in a post-match interview to the press at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium. The tactician said: "I am for the three points, and hap-

py especially in the second half we understood much better what we needed to do to win the game and, as a result, we scored many goals."

Franco noted: "We also conceded one in a situation where we shouldn't have made several mistakes in a row, we need to solve that."

"I am unhappy because we came to this match with five injured players and another key player, Jonas Mkude, got injured at the beginning of the game."

The gaffer pointed out: "I think now all teams are going to struggle with this situation, for it is the first time this season they are going to be forced to play every three days, something that we are used to."

"We are going to try to keep fighting to play as best as possible until the last minute in the league even if we know it is going to be difficult."

Franco revealed: "We knew they would change some details but not too many. We knew the approach they would take and we tried to take advantage of the fact that we played against them in the Federation Cup, we exploited the situation."

"First half we understood very well, we created three or four clear cut chances. We were lucky we converted one and went into the dressing room with an advantage.'

The tactician disclosed: "However we didn't play well, we did not play with freshness, did not understand the situations that we needed to take advantage of. In the second half, it was different, the game was more open and we had more advantages."

Simba SC has eight games left in the league, with the club set to take on Kagera Sugar tomorrow before turning their guns on the Federation Cup quarterfinal tie against Pamba set to take place in Dar es Salaam on May 14.

Forward John Bocco's struggles explained

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SIMBA SC head coach Pablo Franco Martin has attempted to explain the reasons for the club's forward John Bocco's struggles in the NBC Premier League this season.

Bocco has scored just five goals for Simba in all competitions but only one goal in the league, with the lone goal coming in an NBC Premier League clash against Ruvu Shooting that took place in Dar es Salaam on Sunday.

Bocco was last season's league top scorer with 16 goals in just 20 appearances.

In all competitions, Bocco had 22 goals last season to claim the golden boot and the league's Most Valuable Player award.

He led Simba to the Mainland Tanzania Premier League title, Federation Cup glory, and the quarterfinal of the CAF Champions League.

This season he has been in and out of the Simba squad and also dropped out of the Taifa Stars' recent squad.

Coach Franco claims Bocco's struggle in front of the goal for Simba this season is down to a combination of lack of fitness, injuries, and poor preparation.

The gaffer pointed out: "You are telling me this is his first league goal this season. He was the top scorer last season, he has already scored in other competitions."

Franco disclosed: "We know the quality of John's finishing. It has been a very tough campaign for him because the preparation for the season was not good." "When I arrived here the level of

the players was down and for these seniors who have played a lot of games for many seasons it is even more difficult."

The tactician revealed: "When we arrived he was injured... then when he recovered, he took time to return to the expected fitness level."

"(There was) also a new coach, a new style of training, so it was hard for him. And from there when he was fit, there were few times when small injuries stopped him again," Franco revealed.

"It is the same process, you are getting up and then you have to go down. It is difficult to recover again and to perform."

The gaffer stated: "When he is playing he is always showing the desire to do the best for the team, the ambition of scoring goals, maybe he did not especially at the beginning when he had the chances."

"We know that he is our best striker in terms of finishing accuracy, so it is a matter of confidence, sometimes a little bit of luck. When he is playing he is always adding value to the team."

With eight league games to go, the all-time Mainland Tanzania Premier League top scorer with over 140 goals to his name will try to avoid his worst campaign.

If Bocco fails to score at least one more League goal in Simba's remaining games, then this will be his worst ever league season in terms of goals in his career.



We know that he is our best striker in terms of finishing accuracy, so it is a matter of confidence, sometimes a little bit of luck. When he is playing he is always adding value to the team

Coastal Union reignites hope among fanatics



By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

ry over Polisi Tanzania FC in a top-flight clash played at Mkwakwani Stadium in Tanga last weekend. On Sunday, Coastal Union confronted Polisi Tanzania FC in the

NBC Premier League's 22nd round match, with the former garnering the crucial victory thanks to a first-half strike by goal-getter Abdul Suleiman. The victory has seen the Tanga club, alias 'Wagosi wa Kaya', move

from the last position and cling to 12th position since the resumption of NBC Premier League, having collected 24 points from 22 matches.

Speaking after the match, Coastal Union's spokesman, Miraji Wandi, said the team's fanatics now have all reasons to harbour high hopes for their squad because the outfit has eight matches yet to be played.

Wandi revealed: "Since the resumption of the second phase of NBC Premier League we have so far played seven matches, four away games, and three home games.'

"Yet we have eight matches that have not been played, henceforth,

we can remain in the Premier League next season," he said. Coastal Union played four away games against Azam FC, Kinon-

doni Municipal Council FC, Tanzania Prisons FC, and Mbeya Kwanza Out of those matches, Coastal Union won one game against KMC

FC, commanding a 3-2 win, settled for a 0-0 draw with Azam FC, and lost two games against Tanzania Prisons FC and Mbeya Kwanza FC. Prisons cruised to a 1-0 victory over Coastal Union, whereas Mbeya Kwanza FC commanded a 2-0 victory over Coastal Union in

Coastal Union's three home fixtures played at Mkwakwani Stadium are the ones against Ruvu Shooting, Simba SC, and Polisi Tan-

The Tanga squad suffered a 3-1 loss to Ruvu Shooting, thereafter lost 2-1 to Simba SC.

In the third tie, Coastal Union bounced back with the much-needed 1-0 victory over Polisi Tanzania FC.



Coastal Union FC's players appreciate the side's fans after the completion of its 2021/22 NBC Premier League duel against Simba SC which took place in Dar es Salaam last year. PHOTO: COURTESY OF COASTAL

Flexibles by David Chikoko

