



National Pg 3 Minister on safety of environment



National Pg 4 Vision Care conducts free eye screening



National Pg 6 Farmers trained on agro-technology



2025: MPs want large constituencies divided

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

MEMBERS of Parliament, including the Speaker, Dr Tulia Ackson (pictured) have submitted requests to split their constituencies owing to their large sizes and big populations.

Umyy Nderianaga, the Policy, Coordination and Parliamentary Affairs deputy minister in the Prime Minister's Office made the disclosure here yesterday when responding to a supplementary question from Sophia Mwakagenda (Special Seats-Opposition).

The MP had stated that Mbeya Urban constituency is too large with 36 wards, demanding when it will be split to enable effective representation.

She said the Speaker, Dr Tulia Ackson has already submitted a request for the constituency to be split "which is on the table and when the time arrives the National Electoral Commission will look into it."

Boniface Butondo (Kishapu) for his part said his constituency has 26 wards, asking if there is a government strategy to ensure it is split.

Omari Kigua (Kilindi) had in the original question demanded the government will split Kilindi constituency. In a supplementary question, he queried the government's

TURN TO PAGE 2

EAC ponders harmony in gross vehicle weight

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

MAXIMUM gross vehicle weight requirements on highways of East African Community (EAC) member states features among issues being tabled at the ongoing regional standards committee roundtable.

Magesa Biyani, manager at the Weights and Measures Agency (WMA), said yesterday that harmonisation of vehicle gross weight among the seven EAC partner states is pivotal to eliminating non-tariff barriers impeding trade in the bloc.

A decade ago the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) endorsed the Vehicle Load Control Bill of 2012 seeking to raise the maximum gross vehicle weight on roads to Tanzania's 56 tonnes ceiling.

Tanzania and Uganda both applying 56 tonnes requirement have the highest gross vehicle load permitted in East Africa, while Kenya applies 48 tons and wishes to stick to the tonnage.

Rwanda and Burundi apply 53 tonnes maximum tonnage and are ready to adjust to the proposed 56 tonnes, with Kenya still undecided, officials said.

Under the EALA Bill gross vehicle weight was pegged at 56 metric tonnes, with respective national road authorities auditing at weighbridge and mobile weighbridges to

TURN TO PAGE 2

Media, envoys applaud Samia on press freedom

By Guardian Reporter



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi speaks at the commemoration of the 30th anniversary of World Press Freedom Day held at national level in Zanzibar yesterday. Photo: State House

MEDIA stakeholders have commended efforts by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to create a friendly environment for accelerating access to information.

Kajubi Mukajanga, Media Council of Tanzania (MCT) executive secretary, urged journalists and media institutions to support the president's efforts to ensure the media industry works freely, ethically and professionally.

"It is the responsibility of every journalist to ensure that he/she reports all incidents that humiliate a reporter at work, or cause such writer to be unable to do his work freely and professionally," he said.

This appeal was issued in Zanzibar yesterday at events to mark the 30th anniversary of the World Press Freedom Day, graced by Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi.

This year's theme is 'Shaping a future of rights: Freedom of expression as the driver for all other human rights,' where the Z'bar leader the wave of media organs registration has contributed to enhancing freedom of expression.

It facilitates publishing of news since the two governments value press freedom for the country's development, he said, noting that the Information Services department has on its list 313 newspapers registered countrywide as of last February 20. At independence there were 10 newspapers, he affirmed.

Citing TCRA data, he said that up to February a total of 218 radio stations, 68



We want the government to repeal the oppressive laws that affect media operations

TV stations, eight online radios, 392 online TVs, 73 blogs and 53 cable TV operators were registered, from one radio station at independence.

Dr Mwinyi also applauded President Samia for her efforts to ensure that media laws are reviewed for the wellbeing and development of the sector, as it is key for socio-economic development.

Laws slated for review include the 2016 Media Services Act (No 12 of 2018) whose amendments schedule was put to the first reading in February, he specified.

US Ambassador Michael Battle said journalism is a vital profession, hence the need to ensure press freedom and freedom of expression. The presence of the two will guarantee people's access to justice, he stated.

Canadian High Commissioner Kyle Nunes said a society that has the ability to publicly discuss contested issues enables the media to work properly, provide the platform for productive discussions for the benefit of the wider public.

Swiss Ambassador Didier Chassot lauded the steps taken in ensuring press freedom and freedom of expression, saying it is a shift from the past. Freedom of expression helps in building people's trust in the government, he asserted.

Zlatan Milisic, the United Nations resident coordinator, said that protection and safety of journalists is a fundamental issue in facilitating their work.

Harassing and threatening the lives of journalists is not acceptable, he declared,

TURN TO PAGE 2

Lake Tanganyika ban on fishing rattles MPs

By Francis Kajubi, Dodoma

A SECTION of legislators yesterday criticised the government for placing a three-month ban on fishing activities in Lake Tanganyika.

Contributing to debate on Livestock and Fisheries ministry estimates pegged at 296bn/- later approved by the National

Assembly, a number of lawmakers said the move was slapped without creating an enabling environment in advance for communities that rely on fishing for their daily survival.

Fishermen in lake shore communities had nearly a fortnight before May 15 when the ban takes effect, thus stopping to conduct any fishing but unable to

engage in alternative economic activities, they said.

Abdallah Ulega, the minister, said in delivering estimates for fiscal 2023/24 that during the current financial year the ministry in collaboration with The Nature Conservancy in a project dubbed 'Tuungane' conducted a fishing census on

TURN TO PAGE 2



Dieudonné Fikiri Alimasi (3rd-L), First Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of the Democratic Republic of Congo, pictured in Lubumbashi on Tuesday presenting to CRDB Bank Congo CEO Dr Jessica Nyachiro an operating licence enabling the provision of banking services in the country. Looking on are CRDB Bank Plc Chief Financial Officer Frederick Nshakanabo (C); the Head of Administration at the Tanzanian Embassy in the DRC, Netho Yatega (2nd-L); CRDB Bank Foundation managing director Tully Esther Mwambapa (6th-L), CRDB Bank Plc Treasury and Capital Markets director Alex Ngusaru (R), and CRDB Bank Plc Head of Customer Services Yolanda Uriyo. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



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Media, envoys applaud Samia on press freedom

FROM PAGE 1

noting that penal sentences or destruction of equipment denies citizens their right of expression.

In a statement, ACT-Wazalendo called upon the government to take action to remove oppressive laws that hinder press freedom.

Mwalimu Macheyeki, the Communications, Information Technology and Transport spokesman, said the government enacted media laws that curb media freedom.

"We want the government to

repeal the oppressive laws that affect media operations. There is a need to have new laws drafted by involving all media stakeholders. It is through good laws we can enhance press freedom and growth of the profession," he said.

The government needs to facilitate the setting up of an independent Media Council to protect and defend the rights and interests of journalists. The government also needs to intervene in setting internet bundle prices to promote the growth of the ICT sector, he added.

EAC ponders harmony in gross vehicle weight

FROM PAGE 1

be carried out once a year.

Every weighbridge and mobile weighbridge along the regional trunk road network, would be included, it said.

Cargo trucks in Tanzania need up to seven axles to accommodate the 56 tonnes tonnage upper limit, with trucks in Kenya required to have eight axles to ensure the 48 tonnes are evenly spread across all the wheels, to minimise pressure on paved roads.

Lazaro Msasalaga, the TBS quality management director, said TBS had so far endorsed 69 standards for regional industrial harmonisation, focused on packaging and labelling. Information printed on product labels need to be clear and concise, indicating what exactly is inside the

tin or box, he stated.

Prof Severin Sindayikengera, the Burundi director of standards and quality, chaired the meeting, explaining that harmonisation is vital to ease intra-regional trade.

In order for the EAC to be competitive in international trade the seven member states must come up with unified standards of their products for seamless transactions and speedier movement of raw materials and finished products, he explained.

Bernard Njiraini, the Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS) managing director, said mutual recognition of standard marks on goods produced within the region "cannot be emphasized as member states rely on a variety of products from neighbouring countries."

2025: MPs want large constituencies divided

FROM PAGE 1

strategy in proportional provision of resources for small and large administrative areas.

The deputy minister said that the commission is gearing up for the next civic polls followed by the general election in 2025.

In adhering to procedures and criteria, when the time for demarcation of constituencies

arrives, NEC will issue a proclamation to election stakeholders on the demarcation of constituencies. They will then submit their requests, he stated.

The government recognises that there are large and small administrative areas, to which appropriate social services must be provided. The requests submitted will be addressed by the commission, he added.

UN boss Antonio Guterres visits Kenya to meet Ruto

NAIROBI

United Nations (UN) Secretary-General Antonio Guterres (pictured) is in Kenya for a two-day official visit. During his visit, the UN chief is expected to hold talks with President William Ruto.

The visit comes weeks after a trove of highly confidential documents leaked from the US military's tightly guarded registries suggested that at least one member of the UN's top brass has a deep mistrust for President Ruto.

Confidential chit-chat between Guterres and his deputy Amina Mohammed in mid-February indicates that the US could have been spying on the two bosses for an unspecified period of time.

In one of the conversations that seemingly occurred after the December 2022 African leaders summit in Washington D.C., Mohammed allegedly told her boss, Guterres, that President Ruto

is "ruthless" and that she does not trust him. At the time of the leak, no context was available regarding Mohammed's comments. There is also no confirmation of whether the conversation was formal or casual chit-chat between two colleagues.

The episode thrust the country on the path of a potential diplomatic storm as Nairobi is a key hub for UN operations.

After the leak, UN spokesperson Stephane Dujarric released a statement saying the situation was a "horrendous distortion" of Mohammed's comments and had been "taken out of context."

"She has the highest regard for President Ruto and his leadership," said Dujarric.

The UN had also indicated that Mohammed would visit Nairobi, and reassured the Kenyan government of "their respect and regard for President Ruto."

AGENCIES



President Samia Suluhu Hassan chairs a Cabinet meeting at Chamwino State House in Dodoma Region yesterday. Photo: State House

Lake Tanganyika ban on fishing rattles MPs

FROM PAGE 1

Lake Tanganyika shores.

The census results showed that fishing boats had increased to 11,963 as of December 2022 from 11,506 late 2011, with the number of fishermen clocking 29,383 in 2022 from 26,612 in 2011.

There are 911 fish cages along the lake shores, noted in the fiscal 2023/23 budget speech, thus the ministry ordered the ban to facilitate fish reproduction, as stocks were in peril with a noticeable slide in recent years.

The ban comes while the fishing sector contributed only 1.8 percent to national income in fiscal 2022/23 now hobbling out, with data showing that the sector grew at 2.5

percent, the key occupation for an estimated 4.5m people.

From July 2022 to last month fish catches amounting 426,555.5 tonnes globally were recorded, where 62,772 tonnes (14.7 percent) portion was caught along Lake Tanganyika.

During the period, the government earned 420.57m/- from fishing activities along the lake, seconding Lake Victoria with 2.01bn/- in revenues (70.4 percent of the total), the minister noted.

Aida Kenani (Special Seats), said that the ban is going to affect hundreds of families along the lake and it will not deliver on the targeted increase of fish if illegal fishing isn't properly controlled.

"The ban is not clear," she said, demanding more of target type of fish to be avoided. "Fishing is a core activity for communities along the lake and the ban presents a threat to their survival. How come you ban people from an activity that you have already provided them with licenses," she demanded.

With 45 percent of the lake within DRC sphere, 41 percent in Tanzania and a portion in Burundi and Zambia, fishermen in those countries are not under the ban, she stated.

Nashon Bidyanguze, (Kigoma South) the lake is the backbone of family economies in Kigoma, Rukwa and Katavi regions, raising concern on the ministry's failure to consult

MPs before taking such measures.

He alluded to "serious strategies for promoting fish productivity" in the lake rather than placing a ban on small-scale fishermen, urging alternative economic activities for people to take up as the ban takes effect.

Kirumbe Ng'enda (Kigoma Urban) argued that DRC MPs refused to approve a similar ban, so Tanzanian fishermen are the only affected.

Sylvia Sigula (Special Seats) said nobody intends to challenge government plans to pursue sustainable development in exploiting natural resources but consultations were needed to set an alternative way forward for the people.



The US Ambassador to Tanzania, Michael Anthony Battle, speaks at the commemoration of the 30th anniversary of World Press Freedom Day held at national level in Zanzibar yesterday, with Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi (L) following the proceedings. Photo: Zanzibar State House

Chinese rice breeding tech boosts agricultural development in Asia, Africa

BEIJING

IN a laboratory at the Chinese Academy of Agricultural Sciences (CAAS) in northern Beijing, researchers are busy tagging and editing genes in rice, a key component of the complex breeding process of green super rice (GSR).

As its name suggests, this variety of rice boasts high yields while remaining environmentally friendly.

"We apply the method of genetic screening to put the quality or the traits that we need in the rice," said Xu Jianlong, a professor at the Laboratory for Molecular Rice Breeding under the Institute of Crop Sciences, CAAS.

Since 2008, under the support of Chinese government and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, the laboratory began to develop GSR varieties to boost the agricultural development in resource-poor areas in Africa and Asia.

"We have been breeding different GSR varieties that are able to adapt to different ecological environments in different countries. In Africa, for

example, we breed varieties that are more resilient to drought and high temperature, while in Southeast Asia where typhoons are common, we produce rice that is resilient to collapse and diseases such as bacterial blight," Xu explained.

According to the expert, when super typhoon Haiyan hit the Philippines in 2013, all crops of local rice varieties at the island of Leyte were wiped out. "However, the GSR8 variety we trialed planting there showed better tolerance to flooding, drought and salt damage, with a harvest of 1.2 tons per hectare."

The Philippine government then decided to promote the use of GSR8 seeds, resulting in the rapid expansion of GSR variety to cover 430,000 hectares in 2014. As of 2018, the GSR varieties have been promoted in the Philippines for a total of 1.09 million hectares, accounting for 22.64 percent of the country's rice acreage. By 2021, the cumulative area of GSR varieties reached 10.8 million hectares in the Philippines.

Successful stories were also found in other Asian countries. The

NIBGE-GSRI, which was promoted in Pakistan, has an average yield of about 9.5 tons per hectare, compared to 7 tons for the local variety. Currently, six GSR varieties, including NIBGE-GSRI, 2, 3, 7, 8, and NIAB GSR39, have been certified by the Pakistani authorities, according to CAAS.

For the CAAS experts, the roll-out of the GSR in Africa has been quite challenging, since the agricultural infrastructure there is relatively poor.

With the technical support of CAAS, Green Agriculture West Africa Ltd., attached to Chinese Construction Company CGCOC Group, has developed the GSR variety GAWAL RI to help increase rice production. Validated in Nigeria in 2017, GAWAL RI yielded about 30 percent more than the local variety Faro 44. With its popularization, the average rice yield across Nigeria rose from 1.98 tons per hectare in 2019 to 2.5 tons per hectare in 2022.

"We will make more efforts to help West African countries establish rice seed industry systems and ease their tight food demand," Xu said.

According to CAAS, over the past decade, 78 GSR varieties developed by the GSR project group have been tested, certified, and promoted in 18 countries and regions in Africa and Asia, with a cumulative planting area of over 6 million hectares, benefiting over 1.6 million farmers.

China's experience in rice cultivation and production has made a significant contribution to the food security of Asian and African countries along the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), which launched nearly 10 years ago, Xu said.

As for their future plans, the expert believes that it is very important to "teach them how to breed rice" instead of just "giving them rice."

Currently, 58 postgraduate students from 15 countries are pursuing masters or doctoral degrees in Chinese research institutes. "Also, we have provided advanced training in GSR breeding techniques to nearly 943 scientists and technicians from 15 countries, and there will be more training in the days to come," Xu said.

AGENCIES



The minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment), Dr Selemani Jafo (R) inspects a green house shortly after the launch of ecosystem-based adaptation for rural resilience in Tanzania (EBARR) project coordinated by his office in Mvomero District, Morogoro Region yesterday. Second (R) is Mvomero district commissioner Judith Nguli. Photo: VPO

CDC enables HIV viral load suppression to 13 patients

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke, Kibaha

THE US Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) through Tanzania Health Promotion Support (THPS) has successfully facilitated the HIV viral load suppression by 100 per cent to 13 patients enrolled at the Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) centre at Tumbi regional referral hospital in Coast Region.

The HIV viral load suppression effort is part of the 'Afya Hatua Project' that supports MAT services through Civil Society Organisations namely Organisation of Youth Against Risk Behaviour (OYARBI), Youth and Community Rehabilitation (YCR) and Life and Hope Rehabilitation Organisation (LHRO).

Dr Victor Noah, medical doctor at Tumbi MAT clinic made the remarks on Tuesday in Kibaha, Coast Region when speaking to journalists who visited the hospital during their four-day tour organised by THPS.

He said MAT services such as HIV counselling, testing and holistic treatment of drug dependence has at a great percentage helped in prevention and harm reduction in the community.

"We have successfully managed to suppress HIV viral load by 100 per cent to 13 enrolled patients. This has been easy because those found positive when they came for methadone therapy, are directly enrolled into taking HIV drugs," he said.

Dr Noah added that CDC through THPS has donated a reverse osmosis machine (water filter) used by patients enrolled for methadone doses. He said they have also donated a solar battery and inverter.

Dr Joshua Mharagi, Afya Hatua project officer from THPS said activities conducted by THPS under MAT programme supports implementation of services provided in line with the national guidelines for Tuberculosis (TB) and HIV screening, drug test and COVID-19 vaccination. "We also support service providers to trace defaulters," he added.

Hellen Swai, Community Welfare Officer at Tumbi MAT clinic said out of the 50 youth who were enrolled for methadone at her desk, only 20 are still on board.

Hellen noted that apart from methadone therapy, drug addicts are equipped with financial skills to enable them to make savings. She said they have introduced a

SACCOS - 'Wekeza Mtaji' that has so far a good number of people. "The aim is to enable them to make savings and make investments instead of using all the money to buy drugs," said Hellen, adding some of them have been able to rent houses and start families.

One of the program beneficiaries, Deborah Lema urged youth to avoid using drugs since they are not good for their health. Lema said she was convinced to start using drugs to lose weight, but she ended up being addicted.

"I wanted to lose weight after giving birth to my first child; I became addicted and now I am enrolled for methadone," she said.

THPS works in partnership with the Ministry of Health, President's Office Regional Administration and Local Government (PORALG), Ministry of Home Affairs and the Ministry of Health in Zanzibar. It aims to implement high quality comprehensive services through its facilities in Kigoma, Shinyanga and Coast Region. Some of the services include community based HIV prevention, care and treatment as well as voluntary male circumcision.

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
IMMIGRATION DEPARTMENT
APPLICATION FOR TANZANIA CITIZENSHIP

Notice is hereby given that,
Mr. JOHN RICHARD FURTER
Whose photograph provided above is applying to the Minister of Home Affairs for Tanzania citizenship. His nationality at present is SWITZERLAND. Country of Origin SWITZERLAND. His occupation is BOARD CHAIRMAN. His employer/Business/Address is P.O. Box 91, ARUSHA. He has been in this country since 2010 apart from ARUSHA Region. He has also resided in.....Region.
That any person who knows any reasons why citizenship should not be granted to the applicant, should send a written and signed statement of facts to the Commissioner General of Immigration Services, P.O. Box 512, Dar es Salaam. Using Ref. No. _____
FOR: COMMISSIONER GENERAL OF IMMIGRATION SERVICES

Jafo calls for concerted efforts for environment conservation

By Guardian Reporter

THE Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment) Selemani Jafo has called on Tanzanians to take care of development projects and environment conservation by planting trees as well as protecting the country's natural vegetation.

Jafo made the remarks yesterday as he launched various projects under Ecosystem-Based Adaptation for Rural Resilience (EBARR) in Tanzania coordinated by the Vice President's Office in Mvomero District, Morogoro Region.

The minister launched the projects valued at 520m/- including drilling two deep wells that will use solar power for pumping out the water, construction of water tanks as well as irrigation infrastructures for farmers, a dam able to reserve 252,299 litres of water for irrigation, a small soap factory and a group of mushroom production.

Speaking at to the people different times in villages to benefit from the projects - Melela, Magali and Mingo villages, he said the government vows to make sure people in drought hit areas can engage in economic production.

Jafo commended district officials

for good supervision of the projects.

For her part, Mvomero district commissioner, Judith Nguli thanked minister for visiting the district to launch the projects for the benefit of the residents.

She pledged to work together with his team to supervise and take care of the projects and to make sure they are for the benefit of the people as intended by the government.

DC Nguli also said her district is implementing environment protection activities as a measure against the effects of climate change by educating the public on

the importance of environment protection.

Some of Mvomero residents Fortunato Mathias, Said Salum and Mohamed Seif thanked the government for bringing to them the EBARR project.

They said via the project, they will be able to engage themselves in horticultural activities for income generation.

The EBARR project is also being implemented in Simanjiro (Manyara), Mvomero (Morogoro), Kishapu (Shinyanga) and Unga North 'A' under sponsorship from the United Nations Environment Protection programme (UNEP).

MSPH Tanzania LLC, 7th Floor, Jangid Plaza, Plot No. 06, Chaburuma Road (Off-Ali Hassan Mwinyi Road)
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INVITATION FOR TENDER FOR PROCUREMENT OF MINOR EQUIPMENTS FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2022-2023
PROCUREMENT REFERENCE NUMBER ICAP/TZ/03/2022-2023

Introduction	MSPH Tanzania LLC, known as ICAP, is a non-governmental organization operating in Tanzania since 2004, with funding mainly from the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) through the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). ICAP at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health is the recipient of a five-year PEPFAR-funded cooperative agreement beginning 29th September 2021 from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to support comprehensive community- and facility-based HIV and VMMC services in Mwanza region. MSPH Tanzania LLC - ICAP intends to procure assets for THIS project under PEPFAR/CDC awarded funding.								
General	Tender for procurement of minor equipment for financial year 2022-2023								
Minor Equipment	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Lot No.</th> <th>Description</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Lot 1</td> <td>Supply and Delivery of Fingerprint scanners - 222 Units <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensor technology: Optical Capture method: Touch Image capture area: 0.6" x 0.8 Image size(pixels): 300 x 400 Suggested products <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SecuGen Hamster Pro 20 ZKTeco SLK20R SecuGen Hamster Plus DigitalPersona EikonTouch 710 </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lot 2</td> <td>Supply and Delivery of Desktop computers and associated accessories - 113 Units. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hard disk: 1TB HDD RAM: 8 GB Processor: COREI5 CPU: 3.7 GHz Interface: DisplayPort, HDMI, USB 3.0 port Output: HDMI, DP, VGA Display size: 22 Inch Monitor </td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lot 3</td> <td>Supply and Delivery of Internet Wireless Router - 40 Units. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4G/LTE downlink speed up to 150 Mbps Wireless N connectivity and three Ethernet LAN ports On-board SIM card slot and WAN Internet port Connection with up to 32 Wi-Fi devices Ethernet ports Wall-mountable Internet failover protection </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Lot No.	Description	Lot 1	Supply and Delivery of Fingerprint scanners - 222 Units <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sensor technology: Optical Capture method: Touch Image capture area: 0.6" x 0.8 Image size(pixels): 300 x 400 Suggested products <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SecuGen Hamster Pro 20 ZKTeco SLK20R SecuGen Hamster Plus DigitalPersona EikonTouch 710 	Lot 2	Supply and Delivery of Desktop computers and associated accessories - 113 Units. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hard disk: 1TB HDD RAM: 8 GB Processor: COREI5 CPU: 3.7 GHz Interface: DisplayPort, HDMI, USB 3.0 port Output: HDMI, DP, VGA Display size: 22 Inch Monitor 	Lot 3	Supply and Delivery of Internet Wireless Router - 40 Units. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4G/LTE downlink speed up to 150 Mbps Wireless N connectivity and three Ethernet LAN ports On-board SIM card slot and WAN Internet port Connection with up to 32 Wi-Fi devices Ethernet ports Wall-mountable Internet failover protection
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	Vendor must indicate the delivery period of the items and if they are available in stock. Vendors are allowed to quote various available options that meet the above minimum specifications with their prices in the tender								
Bidders will be required to submit the following documentation.	Business introduction letter, Company profile, Valid business license, Tax identification number (tin), Valid tax clearance certificate, Value added tax registration certificate (if any), Certificate of incorporation (if any), Article of association (if any), Manufacture authorization, Memorandum of association (if any), Experience justification & a recommendation letter from reputable organization.								
Note	The public tender opening will be made in the presence of all bidders or their official representatives, we encourage all bidders to attend through zoom call and Zoom Call link will be sent to all who applied in advance of the meeting. Bids not received and opened in public at the public bid opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances. The tender validity period is 14 days. Selection criteria will be lowest price, technically evaluated/ acceptable based on technical specifications and other criteria described above. MSPH Tanzania reserve the rights to disqualify any offer based on failure to follow solicitation instructions. MSPH reserves the rights to waive minor proposal deficiencies that cannot be corrected prior to award determination to promote competition. MSPH will be contacting all those that have submitted quotes to confirm contact person, address and to confirm if the bid was submitted for this solicitation. The evaluation of bids will be conducted as per MSPH Tanzania LLC - ICAP Procurement Guidelines.								
Application procedure	Interested and eligible vendors should email their electronic quote via email to procurement department at TanzaniaProcurement@cumc.columbia.edu The Internal Tender Committee (ITC), MSPH Tanzania LLC - ICAP at Columbia University, Jangid Plaza 7th Floor - Chaburuma Road, P.O Box 80214, Dar es salaam, Tanzania, all quotes must be in Tanzania Shillings. The deadline for the submission is 10:00am East Africa Time on 20th May 2023.								
Important to note	No tender fee charged for this invitation								

PANAFRICAN ENERGY an Orca Company

Date: 4th May 2023

- As part of its ongoing commitment to good oil field practices, PanAfrican Energy Tanzania Ltd. a Producer, Distributor and Marketer of Natural Gas from the Songo Songo Gas Plant ("Plant") in Kilwa District, Lindi Region hereby intends to contract a registered third party HSE consultant to conduct a detailed HSE audit of its operational practices and procedures. The outcome of the audit shall be affirmation, improvement or optimization of PAET's ongoing operational practices through enhanced HSE mechanisms.
- The potential third party HSE consultant is expected to express its interest and provide a quote for the supply of the following services:

SERVICES
Provision of Third Party HSE Audit will consider full range of HSE related services including: -

- Provision of HSE management systems
- Provision of HSE standards, policies, procedures, and alignment with industry best practices
- Provision of internal HSE training and qualifications
- Provision of risk assessments, job safety analysis (JSA'S) and method statements
- Provision of infrastructure safety integrity in upstream, midstream, and downstream (Engineering and Mechanical)
- Provision of Emergency Response and Disaster management plans
- Preparation for and management of audits, inspection, and observations
- Contractor management
- Monitoring and evaluation
- Waste management

Reference: PAT/EOI/HSE/01/2023 - EXPRESSION OF INTEREST AND REQUEST FOR QUOTE FOR PROVISION OF A THIRD PARTY HSE AUDIT CONSULTANCY SERVICES TO PANAFRICAN ENERGY TANZANIA LIMITED

- Legal compliance

The consultant will be required to provide the following Audit Deliverables:

- Pre -Audit: Outline audit plan and schedule.
- Mid-Audit: Intermediate updates of major observations.
- Post Audit: Final written audit report and exit meeting.

- This call for Eoi signifies the start of an open, transparent and objective tender process.
- The Potential Bidder should be a well-established and reputable company and shall indicate that it is willing, capable, experienced, and competent in supplying the said Services preferably to the Oil & Gas Industries and the Mining Industry. Failure to indicate clearly may result in disqualification.
- Potential Bidders must submit information to demonstrate their technical competency and relevant experience. As a minimum, this must include the following:
 - No less than five years HSE management experience in the oil and gas industry, incorporating upstream, midstream and downstream operations.
 - Appropriate HSE and Lead Auditor certification, preferably from internationally recognized institutions.
 - International experience in leading audits in the oil and gas sector. (Provide at least 3 letters of reference and a list of clientele together with years worked for each)
 - Excellent command of English language - written and verbal.
 - For Tanzania Registered Companies provide Proof of Registration in EWURA's LSSP Database as a Local Service Provider as defined under the Petroleum (Local Content) Regulations 2017 and compliant with the Petroleum (Local Content) regulations 2017 in all aspects.
 - Current annual returns generated from BRELA Online Registration System.
 - Proven relevant technical capability.
 - Proof of registration with local authorities in Tanzania. Attach Company Registration/Incorporation certificate, Tax Identification Number (TIN) and Value Added Tax (VAT) certificates, Valid Business License, Regulatory licenses and permits or compliance certificate (as applicable).
 - Health, Safety and Environmental. (Provide OSHA compliance certificate for the current year/annual subscription, Evidence of safety management system (should have evidence of reporting system and culture, incident and accident investigation process or procedure, Emergency response plan, NEMC registration (if possible), Fire compliance certificate, Appointment of a HSE professional, Medical insurance cover for employee's, Company Performance statistics for 3 years and Environmental Policy).
 - Current approved ESG policy for international companies (For Local companies this will be an added advantage)
 - Proof of financial capability (provide latest approved audited financial statements for the past 3 years) and a Letter from your Bank.
 - Experienced personnel able to exhibit how best it is able to meet the technical and financial aspects of the audit and its readiness to complete the works within the agreed timeline following award of the contract.
- Potential Bidders **MUST** visit the sites on their own costs between **Thursday 11th May to Thursday 18th May 2023**, upon 2 days' notice to PAET by writing to the emails provided in this EOI.
- All correspondence regarding this enquiry shall be in writing and communicated by e-mail, otherwise the potential bidder may be disqualified from tendering at the sole discretion of PanAfrican Energy Tanzania Limited.

All physical responses are to be delivered before 2pm Friday, 26th May 2023 to Bizimana Ntuyabaliwe, Deputy Managing Director, PanAfrican Energy Tanzania Limited, Oyster Plaza, 5th Floor, Haile Selassie Road, P.O. Box 80139, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, (all electronic copies of the RFO are to be sent to the email (ntuyabaliwe@panafricanenergy.com) and a copy to (rmohele@panafricanenergy.com) on the last day of submission).

This announcement has been approved by the Capital Markets and Securities Authority (CMSA)



TANZANIA MORTGAGE REFINANCE COMPANY LIMITED ("TMRC")
(Incorporated in Tanzania under the Companies Act. (Cap 212), Act No 12 of 2002 of the Laws of Tanzania as a limited liability company (certificate of incorporation number 74792))

PUBLIC NOTICE

TMRC MEDIUM TERM NOTE PROGRAMME: TRANCHE 4 PUBLIC OFFER RESULTS AND ALLOCATION ANNOUNCEMENT

Tanzania Mortgage Refinance Company Limited ("TMRC" or "Issuer") hereby announces that the Capital Markets and Securities Authority ("CMSA"), in the exercise of its powers under the Capital Markets and Securities Act (Chapter 79 of the Laws of Tanzania) on 20th March 2023 approved the issuance of TMRC Bond worth TZS 10 billion being the 4th tranche of TMRC TZS 120 billion Medium Term Note Programme.

STATUS OF THE PUBLIC OFFER

TMRC Bond's offer opened on 3rd April 2023 and closed on 24th April 2023. Following the closing date, TMRC is pleased to announce that it received applications for Notes worth Tanzania Shillings 11.2 billion, which is 112.8 percent of the issued amount of Tanzanian Shillings 10 billion.

APPROVAL TO INCREASE THE GREENSHOE OPTION AMOUNT

TMRC received approval from CMSA to issue Tanzania Shillings 10 billion with a green shoe option of Tanzania Shillings 1.28 billion. Following receiving applications worth Tanzanian Shillings 11,280,600,000, representing a subscription level of 112.8%, TMRC has accepted all bids received for the MTN.

RESULTS OF THE PUBLIC OFFER

A summary of the key result statistics of the offer (the "Offer") are set out below:

Issuer	Tanzania Mortgage Refinance Company Limited
Description	Medium Term Note Programme
Tenor	5 years
Status	Senior unsecured and Subordinated
Tranche Number	04
Series Number	TMRC-FXD04/2023/05*
Issue Date	03 rd April 2023
Total Revised Amount Offered (TZS)	10,000,000,000 (with a Greenshoe Option of 1,280,600,000)
Total Bids Received (TZS)	11,280,600,000
Performance rate (%)	112.8%
The total amount accepted (TZS)	11,280,600,000
Interest rate	10.2% per annum
Issue price	Par
Minimum denomination	TZS 1,000,000 (with integral multiples of TZS 1,00,000)
Use of proceeds	The net proceeds from the TMRC Bond will be used for general corporate purposes and to further strengthen

ALLOCATION POLICY

Given the subscription level of 112.8%, TMRC has:

- Decided to exercise the Greenshoe option, making the amount available for allocation sum up to TZS 11,280,600,000, and
- Accepted all valid applications received. Applicants will therefore receive 100% allocation.

CLARIFICATIONS

In need of any further clarifications, applicants are advised to consult their stockbroker or TMRC (email: info@tmrc.co.tz or +255 22 2215102) regarding your application.

SALIENT DATES

Please see below the salient dates following the offer close:

Description	Date
Notification Date (via email/telephone)	8.00 am on Thursday, 04 May 2023
Payment Date (for qualified institutional investors)	4:00 pm on Thursday, 11 May 2023
Issue Date	Monday, 11 May 2023
CDS Account upload date	On or before Friday, 19 May 2023
Listing date	Friday 19 May 2023

APPRECIATION

The management of Tanzania Mortgage Refinance Company Limited wishes to thank all entities that made this landmark bond issuance possible. These include the Board and Management of the Capital Markets and Securities Authority (CMSA); the Board and Management of the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE); TMRC's Lead Transaction Advisor and Sponsoring Broker, Orbit Securities Co Ltd; Legal Advisors; Reporting Accountants; Registrar and Fiscal/Calculating/Paying/Transfer Agent, CSD & Registry Company Limited.

Issued by:
Chief Executive Officer
Tanzania Mortgage Refinance Company Limited
15th Floor, Golden Jubilee (PSPF) Building, Ohio Street,
P. O. Box 7539, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

DATE: 04 May 2023

This announcement has been issued with the approval of the Capital Markets and Securities Authority pursuant to the Capital Markets and Securities (Advertisements) Regulations, G.N. No. 15 of 1997.

Climate change now turns grass thatched roofs on villages houses into metals

By Marc Nkwame - Manyara

THE roofs on traditional huts in Manyara Region are slowly but surely losing their iconic reed and straw thatching.

The roofs are being replaced with factory-made corrugated iron sheets.

Are these positive developments? On the contrary, these happen to be among the negative impacts of climate change in Northern Tanzania.

"The thatching grasses are becoming scarce as other invasive plant species take over the landscapes," residents of Nkaiti Village in the Babati District of Manyara point out.

Their traditional leader, Chief Leteiva Mengaje kiLobulu, admits that many of the indigenous plant species including thatching straws and reeds are rapidly disappearing from the locality.

"That is the reason why many huts now feature iron sheets roofing," he explained, adding that many residents would rather stick to grass thatching but climate change

is forcing them to adapt to new building technologies.

He was addressing members of the Journalists' Environmental Association that were on special assignments through the 'TuhifadhiMaliasili,' programme executed through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), in association with JET.

Many mud-walled houses in the villages dotting rural parts of Arusha and Manyara Regions used to be covered by thatched roofs made from water reeds, combed wheat grass or straw.

Most residents prefer grass thatches because they insulate the house from weather elements such as cold, heat and keep out the noise when it rains.

Thatched roofs, according to Chief Lobulu, are also durable when fixed properly, lasting for more than 30 years after instalments.

Invasive alien plant species are also taking toll on vegetation within the Kwakuchinja and Mswakini Wildlife corridors, the nature passages that connect Tarangire and

Lake Manyara National Parks.

The Executive Secretary of Burunge Wildlife Management Area, Benson Mwaise, mentioned some of the invasive alien species as, *Senna Obtusifolia*, *Indigofera* spp, *Agemona Mexicana*, *Calotropis Procera* and *Datura Stramonium* that are rapidly spreading in addition to inhibiting the growth on indigenous plants.

"Recently there has been yet another latest addition to the list of invasive and harmful species in the form of the alien plant known botanically as *Pyrus Niloticus*," Mwaise maintained.

The fact that the busy Arusha-Dodoma highway cuts through both the Burunge Wildlife Management Area (WMA) and Kwakuchinja Corridor, hundreds of vehicles passing in the area further contributes to the spread of deadly plant seeds.

Alien plant species are also taking a toll on wildlife in the Northern Zone, because as they spread across land, indigenous grass get stifled then eventually weather and die, thus reducing pastures for the ungulates and other grazing creatures.



Reyham Yoldirim (L) a Netherland volunteer and her colleagues cut a ribbon to launch an orphanage centre they rehabilitated for 57m/- which will accommodate 37 children at Hiari Orphanage Centre situated at Kingugi - Mbagala in Temeke District, Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Vision Care conducting free eye screening to 2600 pupils

By Beatrice Philemon

VISION Care Tanzania has conducted free eye screening to 2600 pupils at Tumbi, Kambarage and Mkoani primary schools to assist the visually impaired to get treatment, thus improving their academic performance.

Vision Care Tanzania Country Director, Jieun Park said yesterday that among them, 823 were from Tumbi, 845 from Kambarage and 932 from Mkoani primary school in Coast Region.

The camp was conducted for five days in each school whereas 177 pupils were found with various eye complications at different levels. Of the number, 78 pupils were from Mkoani, 73 from Kambarage and 26 from Tumbi.

Park said the eye examination was conducted by Dr Fadhili Swai and Dr Aoli Shaban, Ophthalmologists from Tumbi Regional Referral Hospital in Coast Region, Martine Francis, Optometrist from Muhimbili National Hospital Mloganzila, and Vision Care Tanzania staff in collaboration with teachers.

"This has been possible through a long term project dubbed: 'Prevention of Blindness through Strengthening the Comprehensive Eye Health System in Tanzania by 2022 which is funded by the Korea International Cooperation Agency

(KOICA)," he said.

Park said Vision Care Tanzania also provided medicine to pupils with eye diseases while others were referred to Tumbi hospital for further check-up to restore their sight with the support from Vision Care Tanzania and KOICA.

Tumbi Regional Referral Hospital, Ophthalmologists Dr Fadhili Swai added that before eye examination interventions, parents were trained on how to identify eye diseases to their children and themselves, eye care, treatment and the kind of precautions to be taken if children want to wear glasses/spectacles and which measures should be taken to keep their eyes healthy and prevent vision loss.

They were also trained on the best way to clean eyeglasses while pupils were educated to eat vegetables including carrots to improve their vision and promote overall eye health.

He said a total of 78 pupils turned up in the eye examination at Mkoani primary school whereas five percent of them were found with refractive errors and 30 percent found with allergic cases.

A father of three, Benjamin Ilunga from Kibaha Mailimoja lauded Vision Care Tanzania saying they have helped pupils to access eye examination for free and receiving treatment.

"We are thankful to Vision Care Tanzania because we have gained knowledge and skills from Ophthalmologists. Now we can detect children with eye problems at home and assist them to get the best treatment on time," he said.

Ilunga said such services help pupils to improve their academic performance, enjoy their studies, thus becoming productive citizens.

He expressed thanks to the management of Mkoani primary school for allowing Vision Care Tanzania to conduct eye examinations to pupils. He called upon other organisations to also support the pupils whose most come from low-income earning families.

Sarah Mghwira, Eye Care Coordinator at the Kibaha District Council warned parents from administering eye drops to children without consulting a doctor or physician.

She appealed to KOICA, International Health Organisation (IHO) and stakeholders to assist them to transport facilities and eye screening equipment so that they can conduct eye screening to pupils in remote areas.

"Transport facilitation will help us to reach pupils at schools in remote areas and conduct educational health programmes to villagers," she said.



Tanzania comedian who is also Airtel Tanzania brand ambassador Lucas Mhaviye popularly known as 'Joti' addresses the audience during the launch of 'Upige Mwingi' promotion at Mbagala Zakhem grounds in Dar es Salaam yesterday. 'Upige Mwingi na Airtel' is a unique promotion that gives every Airtel customer the opportunity to win instant airtime rewards including motorcycles, TVs, fridges, and cash prizes. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Over 3,000 farmers trained on best crops farming technologies

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

OVER 3,000 farmers from Kilosa, Morogoro, Gairo and Mvomero districts in Morogoro Region have started receiving training on how to enhance technologies for the production of various crops.

The plan for training farmers is being jointly organised by the Ilonga centre Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI-Ilonga) in Kilosa District in collaboration with IFAD and AFDP.

Speaking during one of the training sessions held at the Mwalimu Nyerere Nanenane Exhibition Grounds in Morogoro, TARI-Ilonga Consultative Coordinator, Lilian Mwanga said the main aim is to teach farmers on modern farming practices.

Lilian, who is a researcher, said farmers have started to be taught about the technology on crops seeds that have been researched on, farms preparation, planting, use of pesticides, weeding and harvesting.

She said the main aim is to provide farmers with practical training on how to use modern quality seeds

and that during the entire training period, TARI will provide its own instructors.

Meanwhile, TARI-Ilonga researcher, Baraka Daniel said all technologies on seeds that were researched on in the eastern Zone including TARI-Kibaha, TARI-Dakawa, and TARI-Ikara will be taught at the training centre.

Providing training to the farmers, TARI-Ilonga researcher for crops of edible oil extraction, Witness Kundi said they were preparing seed planting blocks for this Year's Nanenane Farmers Exhibition while teaching farmers on technology farming practices.

She said in case the farmers will abide by modern farming practices and abandon traditional farming practices, they can increase their crops yields.

In the same vein, Assistant Maize Crop Researcher from TARI-Ilonga, Aggrey Kiando said they have come to teach farmers on better maize farming practices to enable them increase their yields by using four kinds of maize seeds including Staa, TMVI, Bora and Stuka MI.

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

AUTHORITIES in Dodoma region have continued to strengthen the infrastructure in the education and health sector with the aim of improving and moving services to citizens.

Ally Gugu, Dodoma Regional Administrative Secretary revealed this here on Tuesday when speaking during his official visits in Chemba District to inspect development projects.

Gugu was satisfied with the speed of the construction of

Authorities in Dodoma region to improve infrastructure in education, health sector

classrooms, laboratories and clinics in the villages of Jangalo, Soya and Ombiri where its construction is in the final stages and has cost 90.6m/- for 12 classrooms and 1 laboratory, in terms of the construction of the clinic it has cost of 50m/-.

"The government provides a

lot of money to complete these development projects, I would like to give you an opinion first to ensure that all projects are completed on time, secondly that the projects are completed with high quality," Gugu emphasized.

Gugu also inspected the completion of three classrooms

at Ombiri Primary School, the construction of nine classrooms, the administration building, 30 toilets at Soya Primary School, the completion of one laboratory room at Jangaro Secondary School and the construction of the dispensary at Mlongia village.

Gugu also asked the employees

in the Chamba District to work professionally, cooperatively, love each other and work with quality and avoid working with habits.

Siwema Jumaa, Chemba District Executive Director (DED) said apart from the money from the central government, the implementation of these projects

includes the strong efforts of the people who have built fences for some clinic buildings and classrooms.

Siwema also asked the villagers of Jangalo, Soya and Ombiri to be the number one guardians of the projects as they cost a lot of government money.



Absa Bank Tanzania 2023 Q1 Financial Performance



Absa Bank Tanzania profits up by an impressive 79% in Q1 2023

Absa Bank Tanzania has started the year 2023 on a high continuing on from the positive momentum of the last year. The bank has registered an impressive 79% year on year increase in profit-after-tax (PAT) having grown its PAT to Tzs 9.2billion in first three months of the year as compared to Tzs 5.1billion same time last year. Profit before tax (PBT) has also grown by 69% to Tzs 12.5billion in quarter one 2023 from Tzs 7.3billion achieved in previous year.

This exceptional profit performance is largely driven by a phenomenon revenue growth which registered a 32% increase year on year driven by increases in the net interest income, transactional banking and FX income following the improving economic conditions stimulating further business and customer banking activities the bank's **Managing Director Obedi Laiser** has revealed.

We continue to offer best solutions to our customers financial services needs that is tailor to meet their specific requirements. We have invested well in digital transformation to enable us to provide the best-in-class digital experience to our customers that is complimented very well with our excellent customer service that we provide them, added Obedi Laiser.

Net-interest-income increased by 25% year on year mostly contributed by growth in the customer loans and advances extended to the private sector which is driven by the improving business environment stimulating demand for credit facilities to support businesses needs,

Acting Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Bernard Tesha added on.

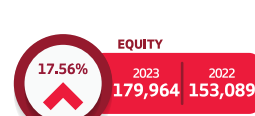
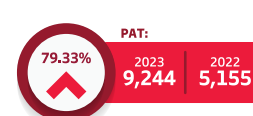
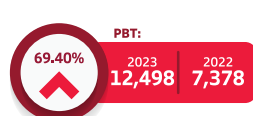
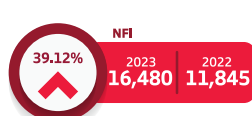
Bernard stated that FX Income and Fees & Commission Income improved from 2021 to 2022 by 62% and 10% respectively largely driven by improving economic conditions and improvement of business environment leading to a growing volume of transactions due to increased customer activities and desirable digital banking services offered by the bank.

Bernard further said that the gross loans & advances increased by 25% year on year to Tzs 690billion, while the total customer deposits recorded an increase of 34% year on year to Tzs 878billion by March 2023. Mobilization of customer deposits mostly driven by competitive pricing and value proposition to esteemed customers has contributed to the annual growth observed in customer deposits. This growth in customer deposits has enabled the similar increase observed in customer loans disbursed more notably in the term lending for businesses & corporations. Favorable business environment has stimulated business activity with Absa Bank leveraging its brand and exceptional customer service to cater to the specific business and customer needs as they arise.

Bernard further highlighted that the banks total assets position improved by 30% year on year to Tzs 1.26 trillion. Total capital position of the bank grew by 27% year on year to Tzs 180 billion from TZS 142 billion largely contributed by the retained profit which was reinvested into the capital of the bank. The bank continues to have a strong capital and liquidity position and operates well above the regulatory and internal capital and liquidity requirements.

Bernard concluded by stating that Absa will continue to leverage the ever-growing opportunities arising from the technological and digital space to ensure we grow and evolve in a more efficient and sustainable manner.

2023 Financial Performance Highlights



*All figures are in million Tanzania Shillings



Lake Group chairman Ally Edha Awadh (C) cuts a ribbon to open officially the Lake Steel new office at Mwanga Tower's in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday. He is flanked by Lake Steel general manager Ajay Jha (L) and the Lake Group commercial director Allan Chonjo. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Clerics urge Tanzanians to adhere to sanitation principles

By Correspondent James Kandoya

CLERICS have called upon the community to adhere to regular principle of sanitation to avoid epidemic diseases including cholera.

They made the call yesterday in Dar es Salaam in a workshop organised by Tanzania Interfaith Partnership (TIP) in collaboration with UNICEF to build the capacity of religious leaders from Ilala District Council how to be safe from epidemic diseases including cholera.

Moses Matonya, from the Christian Community of Tanzania

(CCT) said that if people adhere to sanitation it will be easy to control cholera. "Cholera is waterborne disease, therefore the public must adhere to sanitations principle to be safe from the disease," he said.

Muslim Council of Tanzania Secretary, - Youth Wing, Othman Zuberi said that Islam religion is all about cleanness insisting that therefore, it was important for the community to adhere to the principles of sanitation.

He said every person must observe cleanness to avoid outbreak of epidemic diseases.

"I call upon all people to observe all recommended principles

including washing of hands to avoid cholera," he said.

Dr Raphael Chiligwala on behalf of Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC) called on clergies to take the role of informing the public how to prevent and control the disease.

Canon Peter Chuma from KKKT - Eastern diocese urged people to take precaution by observing sanitation principles.

"Let us clean the environment and wash our hands regular to avoid transmission of bacteria," he said.

Community Health Awareness coordinator from the Regional Administrative Secretary (RAS)

Allan Ndomba said all admitted patients in isolation centre from cholera have been discharged.

She said although there was no new reported case, still people must take precaution.

She said her office has taken a number of initiatives including training to local government leaders and religious leaders.

"I call upon religious leaders to take the role of increasing awareness to the community on how to be safe from the disease," she said.

TIP executive director Hashmi Shelui said since its inception, it has reached over 4 million people through different interventions.

Ruto calls for removal of barriers to movement of people to further boost cross border integration

By Guardian Reporter

KENYAN President William Ruto, has called on the members states of the East African Community (EAC) and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) to remove barriers to the free movement of people, goods and services in order to enhance regional integration in Eastern Africa.

Ruto was speaking during the launch of a flagship report titled 'The State of Migration in the East and Horn of Africa' at the Kenyatta International Convention Centre in Nairobi, Kenya. The report is the product of collaboration between the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), IGAD and EAC.

He said the free movement of people, goods and services was necessary for sustainable growth and development of the East and Horn of African region.

The Kenyan leader said it is the responsibility of the member states in the region to eliminate national boundaries that have since become roadblocks and impediments to the movement of people and commodities across the region, describing national boundaries as old-fashioned and divisive, and urged the region to work together to build bridges of friendship.

"We must not give the credibility to the artificial boundaries that exist in our region and a product of a Conference held in Berlin, Germany that partitioned our Continent and allocated us boundaries. We must bring down these barriers, convert them to stepping stones and build bridges of friendship," said President Ruto.

The President praised the report as a valuable contribution that fills a knowledge gap in the domain of regional integration, particularly in the area of human mobility.

"I appreciate all the wonderful contributions of EAC, IGAD and IOM, the authors, as well as the

entire editorial team for the work that has made the 'State of Migration in East and Horn of Africa Report' such an authoritative and informative publication," he said.

He invited policymakers in the region to use the report's analysis and recommendations to inform their policy-making and implementation efforts to advance the critical element of human mobility, as well as its broader goal of regional integration.

Dr Peter Mathuki, EAC Secretary General said that the report provides policy suggestions to address challenges in advancing the mobility dimensions of regional integration, including labour migration and continued collaboration between Regional Economic Communities (RECs) on areas of common interest.

"I am optimistic that practitioners and policymakers will find this Report a valuable basis for migration-related policy development in an integrated region," said Dr Mathuki.

Dr Mathuki said the EAC is working on an improved legal and regulatory environment to provide for labour mobility by creating the necessary infrastructure in the refugee-hosting areas to attract private sector investment and empower the refugees economically in collaboration with UNHCR, IGAD and the African Development Bank (AfDB).



'I am optimistic that practitioners and policymakers will find this Report a valuable basis for migration-related policy development in an integrated region'

swissport

NOTICE OF THE 38TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the 38th Annual General Meeting of **Swissport Tanzania Plc**, for the year ended 31st December 2022, will be held on Thursday, 25th May 2023 **physically** at **Hyatt Regency Dar es Salaam, The Kilimanjaro** and **virtually** through **Microsoft Teams**. The meeting will start at **12:00 hours**. **Special training to the Shareholders on 'Investment in Shares'** will be conducted prior to the AGM, starting at **10:00 hours**.

AGENDA:

1. Notice and Quorum
2. Confirmation of the Agenda
3. To confirm the minutes of the 37th Annual General Meeting
4. To discuss matters arising from the previous meeting
5. To receive, consider and adopt the Directors' Report, Auditor's Report and Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2022
6. Appropriation of Profits
7. To fix directors' remuneration
8. To appoint External Auditors for the financial year 2023
9. Any other business

NOTES

1. A member wishing to attend the meeting must come with a copy of his/her original Depository Receipt. For those who wish to attend the meeting virtually, are required to submit a copy of his/her share certificate together with his/her personal identification (Passport, National ID or Driving Licence) to **info@cadsecurities.com**. Registration will be closed at **16:00 hours** on **Monday, 22nd May 2023**. Login credentials will be emailed to individual shareholders after successful registration.
2. A member entitled to attend and vote at the meeting is entitled to appoint a **PROXY** to attend and vote on his/her behalf in accordance with the provisions of the Articles and of Association of the Company.
3. A proxy form and identification of the proxy must be deposited at the registered office of the Company or emailed to **info@cadsecurities.com** before registration is closed at **16:00 hours** on **Monday, 22nd May 2023**.
4. For clarifications please call on **+255 777 787845** or **+255 742 691 550**

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
Dated at Dar es Salaam this 4th day of May 2023

KW KAPINGA & PARTNERS
COMPANY SECRETARY

From landing to take-off: we care!

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IFC engagement has potential to ensure PPP thrust credibility

EFFORTS by the government to use private sector sources to raise 2trn/- in total for transport, energy sector projects are a novel thrust of policy initiative, unveiled at an experts' meeting on public-private partnership convened by the Treasury. Those coming across the news simply from the media will be wondering on the structure of such financing, as 2trn/- isn't the sort of money the government can expect to generate from local sources. No figure was attached to external sources.

Yet it appears that this is the key source of financing expected by the Treasury in its presentation on the matter, despite that on a bird's eye view the pursuit of the government for 2trn/- seems tied to local sources. That is half the total amount of state budget funds, and if it was lending by banks it would excessively stretch their resources, even major foreign banks operating locally. But if it is a matter of lining up bankable projects for large commercial credit from the International Finance Corporation, the private sector window of the World Bank, it is a different matter.

Listening to presentation in the PPP workshop with key stakeholders, it appears that the World Bank consortium is waiting for credible ideas from the Treasury, which has to agree with investors at the local level what projects are feasible. If it was in the past things would be fairly simple, as it would be a matter of major firms taking shares in public energy and transport firms. The World Bank no longer pushes that sort of policy orientation, detested by activists all over the world, so it lets needy countries draw up projects avoiding shares of public firms.

One vital area raised for discussion in the workshop is the need for a systematic review of the legal, or regulatory, framework to attract private sector capital. While the main presentation by top Treasury executives did not put the matter clearly that all such projects need to live with state operating firms side by side, that appears to be the case. It is a nightmare how to organise large sums of private investments and World Bank channeling large sums to projects that don't touch key state firms.

A reflection on the past shows that this idea isn't new, and chances of succeeding at this turn may have improved somewhat because of higher expectations in the local and regional markets. So there is a better feasibility situation, but the key bottlenecks remain in place, regarding regulatory guarantees of public sector firms, the factual inability to compete with them. How is 2trn/- directed to projects that are not meant to be competitive, just an extension of public sector capital margins?

Were it that the World Bank was ready to extend \$9bn (the 2trn/-) from the usual concessionary lending that we get for water, education or even power, transport projects, that would be one thing. But IFC works on commercial terms and the mode of repayment is different, thus the credibility of projects is perched at a higher level of profitability projections. Strictly speaking it would require that the key public sector firms are themselves converted into a PPP format, where those infusing capital have controlling shares allowing them to determine project values. It is possible there is a way out of that limitation, if local investors try hard enough.

World should unite to end wars

TODAY, we see a world in which conflict is proliferating, we see a world in which so many wars are taking place, and so we believe it is absolutely essential to remind us all of the lessons of the Second World War that, for the Soviet Union, was considered the Great Patriotic War.

That was an absolutely unimaginable, devastating destruction in the world and we need to pay tribute to those that in the Soviet Union at the same time represented the biggest military effort against Nazism, but also by far the biggest number of sacrifices. Sacrifices especially of human lives, but also sacrifices of all kinds, that the Soviet Union has endured in order to defeat Nazism. We absolutely need to make sure that in the world, this kind of events do not take place anymore.

We see political movements that either confess their neo-Nazi affiliation, or at least use the symbology, the images, the words, for instance, "blood and soil" - we see it repeated in demonstrations in different parts of the world. This is a cancer that is starting to spread again, and it is our duty to do everything possible to make sure that this horrible disease is cured, and the memory of all those that managed to defeat Nazism in 1945, that memory allows us to defeat any form of neo-Nazism in today's time.

We cannot forget the worst crime of the Nazis, which was of course the Holocaust; it was possible for the Soviet troops still to release a few; unfortunately, the overwhelming majority of the Jews and others has been killed. And again, it is interesting to see how hatred, anti-semitism and other forms of hatred, even anti-religious hatred etc, are still again proliferating in the world.

We sincerely hope that the lessons of this May victory, will help us defeat this resurgence of ideas and convictions that we thought had been

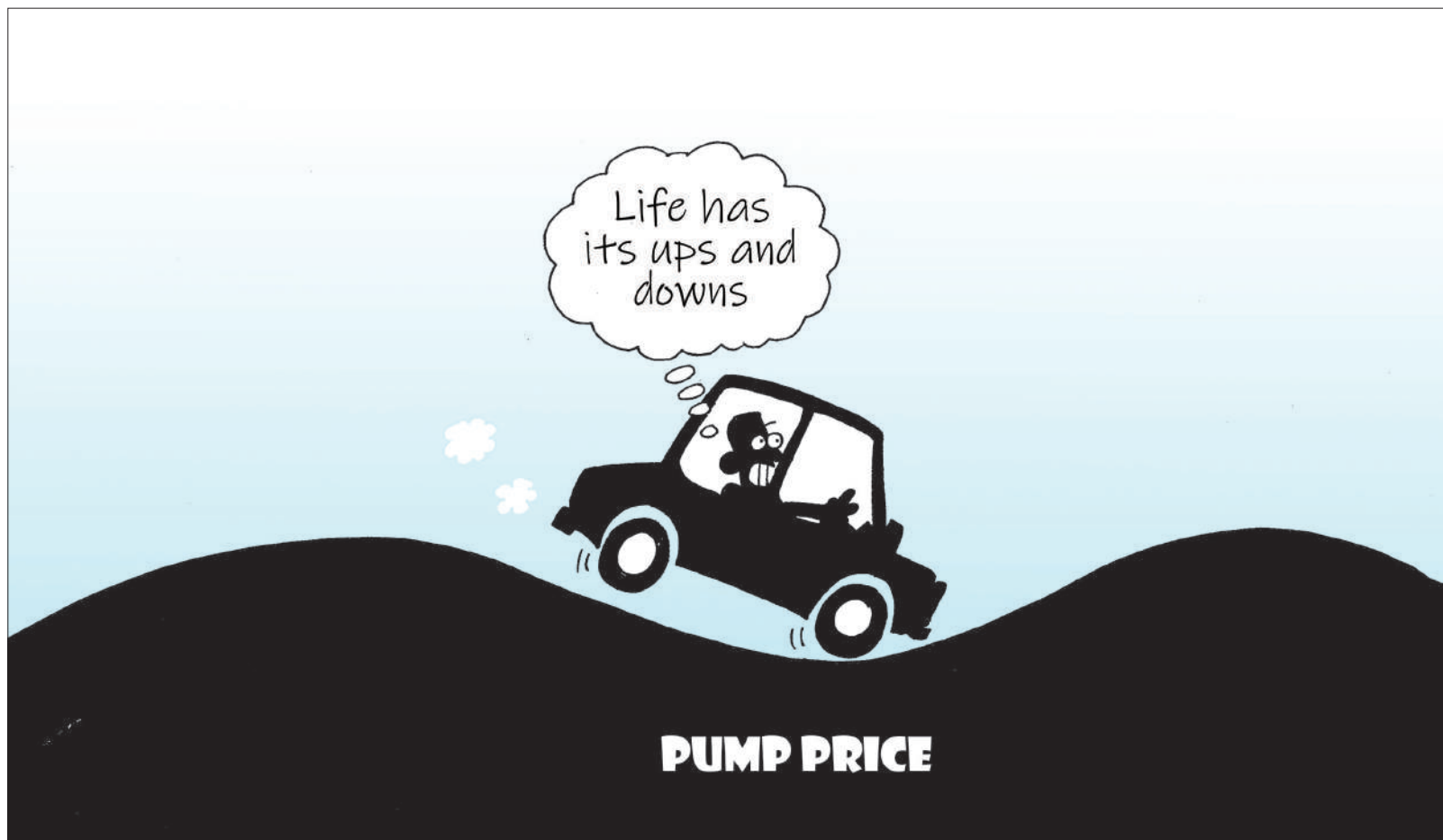
buried forever. It is our duty to do it, because we cannot accept for these ideologies to come back.

By resolution of November in 2004, the UN General Assembly declared 8-9 May as a time of remembrance and reconciliation and, while recognising that member states may have individual days of victory, liberation and commemoration, invited all member states, organisations of the United Nations.

During the commemoration, the Secretary-General called the Second World War "one of the most epic struggles for freedom and liberation in history," adding that "its cost was beyond calculation, beyond comprehension: 40 million civilians dead; 20 million soldiers, nearly half of those in the Soviet Union alone."

In resolution , the General Assembly recalled that the Second World War "brought untold sorrow to humankind, particularly in Europe, Asia, Africa, the Pacific and other parts of the world." It underlined "the progress made since the end of the Second World War in overcoming its legacy and promoting reconciliation, international and regional cooperation and democratic values, human rights and fundamental freedoms, in particular through the United Nations, and the establishment of regional and subregional organisations and other appropriate frameworks."

We see a world in which conflict is proliferating, we see a world in which so many wars are taking place, and so it is absolutely essential to remind us all of the lessons of the Second World War that, for the Soviet Union, was considered the Great Patriotic War.



Power struggle plunges Sudan into anarchy

By Abraham Tekle

KHARTOUM, the capital of Sudan, is in grave danger. As the days passed, the fight between the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), led by Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo (Gen.), also known as Hemedti, and the national army, under the command of Abdel Fattah al-Burhan (Gen.), became increasingly violent.

As of this writing, about 300 civilians have been killed. More than 2,000 people have been injured, and that number is likely to climb as many bodies are still lying in the streets where the fighting has persisted. International organizations and neighboring countries, including Ethiopia, called for a halt to the conflict, but their efforts ultimately failed.

The dispute between the Sudanese generals is a result of a poorly managed transfer of power following the ousting of autocratic dictator Omar Hassan al-Bashir, who ruled the country for nearly three decades.

- Advertisement -Hemedti and al-Burhan had been devoted aides to Sudan's leader, al-Bashir, before their relationship hit rock bottom.

The civil war in Darfur has played a role in Hemedti's rise to prominence. The former businessman-turned-military member was instrumental in Bashir's execution of his grand military operation against the rebel organization. Over 300,000 ethnic Africans were killed in Darfur at

By Nohaila Ibn Farouk

IN early April, when KCB Group announced they are undergoing talks to acquire stakes in Ethiopian lenders, it was easy to sense a feeling of déjà-vu. The second largest bank in Kenya already made plans to expand to Ethiopia back in 2018 but was forced to put them on hold in 2020 due to the situation in the country. Now, KCB is coming back to the plan with renewed vigor and finds itself in a completely different environment than before. What a difference three years make!

Most of the people living today in Ethiopia never had the chance to bank with foreign financial institutions due to the rigid regulations in the country that were put in place since 1974. It was almost 50 years ago when the East African country last allowed foreign financial institutions to operate within its borders. That is about to change as the government's recent efforts to liberalize the banking market in the country are coming into effect.

After years of delays, Ethiopia's road to banking liberalization began in earnest in 2020 and has been fraught with obstacles, with the Covid pandemic and the Tigray civil war upending the country's financial

the hands of Hemedti's Janjaweed militia, which had the support of the government and was ordered to suppress the rebel groups by the president.

Hemedti was able to gain the trust of the president and transform the militia into a formal force, now known as the Rapid Support Force (RSF), after the incident for which Bashir was indicted for war crimes and genocide. In the meantime, Hemedti's involvement in the export of gold and even camels has also contributed to his growing influence.

Al-Burhan, born in Kundu, northern Sudan, in 1960, is in charge of the national army. Sudan, Egypt, and Jordan all contributed to Al Burhan's military education. As Sudan's military attaché, he traveled the world, including China, representing his country. The general commands a military force of over 100,000 strong, the same size as the RSF's.

During Bashir's rule and in the immediate aftermath of the coup d'état orchestrated by the national army that ousted him from power three years ago, Hemedti and al-Burhan cooperated without trouble. Few anticipated a conflict between the two armed forces, given that they had already reached consensus to unify their forces.

Neither the RSF nor the army disagrees with the establishment of a combined army during the transition from a military to a civilian government in Sudan. Disagreement

centers on who should be the next commander of the combined military and how long that should take. The national army wants the unification to be completed within two years, whereas the RSF demanded a 10-year delay before the unification could be completed.

A disagreement over the transfer of suspects, including Bashir, to the International Criminal Court (ICC) over allegations of war crimes by the military and its allies during the 2003 conflict in Darfur has also contributed to the end of what experts refer to as "the partnership of mutual interests" between the two armed forces. Hemedti rejects the demand for accountability for past atrocities, such as the Darfur genocide.

Jeffery Feltman, the former US special envoy for the Horn of Africa, referred to the relationship between the two generals as a "marriage of convenience" in an opinion piece published in the Washington Post this week. He says the two engaged in a "partnership of mutual interests" that undermined civilian hopes for democratic government and pushed back against attempts to hold perpetrators of crimes like the massacre in Darfur to account.

"In the end, that partnership did not define who would end up being on top," Feltman says. "So what you have now is a fight to the death over who is going to prevail, and should military rule continue in Sudan?"

The partnership between the two generals, according to the

US diplomat, was "premised on undermining, delaying, and ultimately derailing Sudan's transition to democratic, civilian rule."

On December 5, 2022, the Sudanese military and a coalition of major civilian actors signed a framework agreement, clearing the way for a new civilian government more than a year after the military seized full authority in an October 2021 coup that resulted in the overthrow of civilian Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok.

According to the agreement, a new prime minister was to be appointed by April 11, 2023, at the latest. The deadline has passed, however, due to disagreements over the incorporation of the RSF into the army.

The warring parties remain unable to reach an agreement through negotiation, although there have been dire predictions that the country may descend into civil war.

Alex de Waal, the executive director of the World Peace Foundation and a research professor, expressed his concern and cautioned that if the ethnic element of the conflict is not going to be managed carefully, it could exacerbate the situation.

"Ethnic factors will probably manifest. The split has historically been more regional than ethnic, but this may change," he warned. He says conflict fragmentation combined with ethnic massacres or displacement and the formation of local ethnic alliances are factors that could drive the shift.

Change is coming to Ethiopian banking

scene. But with Covid receding and a peace agreement being signed late last year, Ethiopia can contemplate returning to normal operations within the country and banking reform should be a priority. With good execution, increased banking competition could help energize the Ethiopian financial sector and help with the country's much-needed recovery. Indeed, the re-opening of some banks in the war-hit Tigray region back in December was hailed as an important indicator of the peace agreement holding up.

Banking liberalization was put off for a long time by Ethiopian authorities out of concern for the effects it might have on domestic financial institutions. The apprehension was rooted in the idea that Ethiopian banks will find it difficult to compete with large international banks who are more accustomed to operating in competitive environments. But as it happened in so many other places, market liberalization and increased competition tend to create an effervescent business environment in which both local and foreign companies can flourish. Indeed, some transformations are already taking place among local

financial institutions that are hoping to improve their position in the new banking landscape.

Last year microfinance company Amhara Credit and Savings Institution (ACSI) became Tsedey Bank. With more than 500 branches across the Amhara region, it is now among the largest private banks in Ethiopia, and heralds even more activity on the market.

Some small companies will undoubtedly be absorbed by larger players during an inevitable wave of consolidation, but others will take their place. Banking liberalization creates an environment which rewards small, agile players perhaps even more than large, established ones and attracts a constant stream of new investors.

Financial liberalization is also likely to accelerate the spread of fintech solutions, whether it's digital banking or mobile money solutions. Foreign competition will force local banks to adapt to the increased consumer demands shaped by the ability to choose from several financial services. The effects can already be seen, and the Ethiopian customer has reasons to be happy.

In anticipation of foreign

companies moving fast to offer digital services in the country, state-owned Ethio Telecom launched TeleBir, the nation's first telecom mobile money service. Now that Kenyan telecom Safaricom announced plans to expand to Ethiopia, including its popular M-Pesa mobile payments platform, Ethiopians will soon be able to pick from two services of this type, where two years ago there were none.

Competing over a field with low penetration and immense room for growth is likely to shape the approach of both TeleBir and Ethiopian M-Pesa into customer-centric models. This productive competition will go a long way towards bringing Ethiopia closer in line with other African nations like Kenya and Nigeria when it comes to modern approaches to banking. Across Africa's largest nations, tech transformations and the relatively low levels of penetration for traditional banking services have created huge momentum for digital finance. From Egypt to South Africa and many places in between, the concept of engagement banking, which uses digital solutions to create a people-first, bespoke experience for customers of digital finance, is burgeoning demand.

Teachers should prepare to encounter learners who always disrupt things

ORDINARILY, MOST teachers come to class with energy and eagerness to start the lesson but unfortunately they face some expressions and attitudes that demand assistance with learning facilities.

This happens because our society has trained us to love and help one another and become a problem as learners go about their studies in a class. Some learners come to school without a pen or pencil because they are aware of the concept of love which drives them to believe that they will get those facilities from their fellows.

Teachers get disturbed when they are forced to stop the lesson due to requests that learners pose to them. Some report to teachers that they have forgotten to come with their pens, pencils or exercise books. Are these genuine teachers' concerns? What is the parents' position? In most cases, these learners hope to get assistance from the teacher either directly or indirectly by asking those with something extra to help. Is this not disruption of the lesson?

One thing which is lacking in upbringing of our children is that we don't tell them who to help and who not to help as helping is limited because people possess things for certain objectives because having should not mean necessarily assisting. It is fair to help people who are in need and in some circumstances people who are economically well off.

If a parent can pay 1mn/- in fees, how can they fail to buy their child a pen not costing more than 200/-? Teachers should expect and prepare to deal with learners who always disrupt lessons with this or that request for help. Yes, some are genuine but there are learners who just enjoy disturbing the peace in the classroom.

Helping one another is a good thing as human beings are not self-sufficient. But do we measure the outcome of those practices depicting love and care for one another? A kind of love which nurtures irresponsibility and lack of sense of care for one's properties is bad. Love should motivate responsibility and initiate an idea of independence.

Teachers find themselves in hard times



CLASSROOM MATTERS

By
Thomas Lyimo

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dealing with these practices of helping one another in the class. There are those pupils who lose their pens and pencils regularly and cases come to teachers. Teachers have to identify these characters and help them change and become more responsible.

As helping one another is what the society accepts and being responsible is what also the society emphasizes, teachers need to help pupils to go about assistance so that eventually we can have a responsible society which can uphold limits because life is not such free.

Teachers need to emphasize on the following:

Take and return. Learners who are given assistance by their fellows should be reminded to return before they go home. They should not be allowed to have a sense of possession over what they have been

given as assistance. This will help them to be responsible and embrace things of their own possession.

Teachers should elaborate to learners that assistance is a favour and not a right. This may help to enable learners not to rely on assistance and eventually become

responsible. It is convincing that knowledge is what motivates actions.

If learners are clearly told that assistance is not their right, they will try to use what they have well. We normally do of what we think. If teachers can change mindsets of learners, they can

help them stand on their own and hence independent individuals in the future. Love and care is a good thing but should have limits.

Follow up. After teachers have allowed some pupils to be assisted, they should make sure that those things given to others are returned to the owners. Also, they have to make sure that those who have been helped turn up with their own facilities the coming day. Learners should be prohibited from relying on assistance if there is no strong reason. Success in life requires seriousness and teachers should make sure that this theme is embraced.

Punishment if repeated. If a learner was assisted with some facilities and told to come with their own the coming day and it appears that they come without, then they may be punished as a way of reminding them to value and keep promises.

There occur challenges when learners are given some facilities by their fellows and they fail to return. Some even lose things given by their fellows and become afraid of telling their parent as they fear punishment. All of these things cause challenges to a teacher in the teaching and learning process.

There must be criteria for assisting someone in a learning environment. When learners are assisted without following some principles, there is danger of developing dependence syndrome in the society whereby people take assistance as a right. There are some wrong accusations in the society that some people are not helping others. Whatever we do should be justifiable. This includes assistance.

People expecting to be helped without fulfilling some conditions may paralyze economic development as well as social relations. If we succeed in eradicating dependence, we create a responsible society. Teaching is making people responsible and independent.

By Valeria Silvestri and Pankras

Luoga

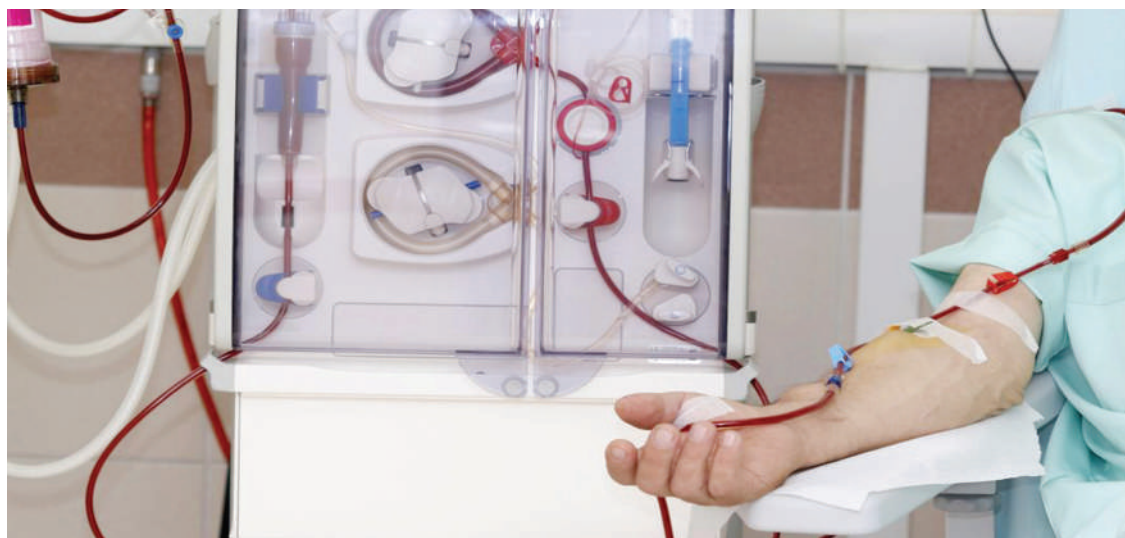
TANZANIAN society is witnessing an increase in the number of people suffering from kidney diseases with majority progressing to kidney failure. This causes a heavy burden to the health system and to the society through expensive treatment. Also, deaths due to kidney diseases are on the rise.

Here are the facts on the issue: kidney failure problem has been potentiated by high burden of hypertension and diabetes. The middle-aged and adult populations are the most affected with both rural and urban settings facing the problem.

In many cases, traditional beliefs such as curse and witchcraft are associated with kidney failure. Unfortunately, most affected individuals do not seek proper treatment at health facilities as recommended by health-care providers. This leads to significant socio-economic issues, including high treatment costs and deaths. However, kidney diseases are preventable by avoiding some of the practices in our society and improving the quality of our health facilities.

Scientific research indicates that there are various causes of kidney failure, with the most common being the use of unapproved herbal drugs; long-term usage of certain medications, including painkillers like ibuprofen; prolonged viral illnesses such as HIV/Aids, hepatitis B and hepatitis C; un-

What we need to do to ease burden of kidney-related diseases, deaths



treated urinary tract infections; uncontrolled diabetes and uncontrolled high blood pressure. Studies also indicate that the situation can be associated with a combination of genetic and environmental factors.

In Tanzania, kidney diseases account for a significant number of deaths per year, particularly in poor rural areas. Unfortunately, in most parts of the country, individuals with kidney diseases are sent to herbal medicines and they only come to health facilities when it is too late. This can cause health damage due to use of traditional herbs which are not scientifically proven. Eventually, the society associates negative consequences with curse, misfortune or witchcraft.

To prevent kidney problems, individuals who do not have kidney diseases should avoid using drugs that are not scientifically approved. Those with diabetes should ensure they control their

blood sugar levels and avoid frequent use of painkillers.

People with kidney problems should be taken to hospital for treatment. If treatment is not offered at that particular facility, the person should be sent to the facility that provides such services. In short, kidney diseases can be easily prevented and if they occur, patients need to seek immediate medical attention.

The situation calls for efforts to combat kidney problems, starting from families and society as a public emergency that requires urgent action from the government and society. If left unresolved, the society and the nation stand to lose many potential people in terms of manpower that could contribute significantly to the development of the nation.

Members of society should ensure they treat and control diseases as recommended by health providers and avoid the use of alternative drugs

that are not scientifically proven for human use. Those who are on long-term medication due to chronic diseases should ensure they follow the advice given by their physicians and control their health conditions as gauged by international standards, especially the WHO.

In traditional culture, kidney is perceived as the organ with a cleansing effect towards contaminants of the body. But the role of kidney is more complex than that. Chronic kidney disease is a progressive condition causing damage to the structure and the function of the kidney, which are many and important and include water balance, blood pressure regulation and red blood cells production stimulation.

Rise and causes of kidney problems in Tanzania

In our country, urbanization has increased the burden of kidney disorders by increasing non-communicable

diseases, infectious diseases and exposure to many environmental toxins.

Between 7 to 15 per cent of people suffer from kidney insufficiency in Tanzania even though many cases can be silent. Both infectious and non-infectious conditions could have a role in damaging renal function.

In children, some genetic conditions can carry an increased risk of renal damage like in the case of sickle cell disease which is more frequent in our country than in other contexts while in adults, chronic hypertension (high blood pressure values), obesity and diabetes (abnormally high values of glucose in blood when fasting) or sometimes a combination of all are a common risk factor.

Among infectious diseases, those affecting the throat or skin or parasitic diseases like malaria and schistosomiasis and viral infections as hepatitis C or HIV which can increase the risk of developing renal insufficiency.

Traditional medicine and h

Up to 80 per cent of the population in Africa, including Tanzania uses traditional medicine in both urban and rural settings and among all socio-economic classes.

It is important to note that many herbs traditionally used as treatment for several conditions such as aloe vera and lemon grass can have side effects that may include kidney toxicity. Patients that suffer kidney dysfunction

can be more prone to the toxic effects of these herbs and remedies. Additionally, herbal remedies are often taken together with drug treatment hence toxicity may be enhanced by combining treatments.

Unsafe practices and treatment delay

Awareness should be increased on the threat of the recent commercialization of traditional medicine. This is because unregulated distribution by non-knowledgeable practitioners for profit may have increased unmonitored and unsafe use, putting patients at risk. This can increase when patients who refer exclusively to traditional medicine delay seeking hospital advice.

Prevention

First of all, prevention is important. Diet and lifestyle are essential in prevention and also improving efficacy of therapy for patients with renal insufficiency. A plant dominant, low-protein diet with low salt intake can help in addition to physical activity, weight loss and smoking cessation.

This prevention also involves avoiding acute kidney injury-associated drug combinations or misuse and abuse of some pain-killer drugs and preventing and promptly treating infections.

Screening for non-communicable risk factors for renal insufficiency like systemic hypertension or diabetes is still not diffused in our country but a check of fasting glucose or blood pressure

assessment in adults can be a good habit toward prevention.

Also, screening for viral conditions such as HIV and hepatitis C, along with adherence to therapy in the patients known to have the disease can prevent or allow the best management of kidney disorders associated with the infection to achieve the maximum benefit of treatment, avoiding and preventing any side effects or addressing them in a timely way.

It is good practice to communicate to the doctor before use of any additional treatment, including herbal remedies use so as to promptly detect contraindications, interactions or address toxicity signs.

It is important not to delay seeking hospital advice when severe conditions manifest after years of silent subclinical pathology but to promptly refer for early management of both infectious and non-infectious diseases. This is embracing a prevention-oriented attitude.

For patients with a diagnosis of renal insufficiency, specialist management is essential to tailor pharmacological treatment and should be sought as soon as possible when symptoms like oedema, anaemia or severe impairment in laboratory investigations occur.

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Rural women's constant struggle for water in Central America

By Edgardo Ayala

“THIS is a very difficult place to live, because of the lack of water,” said Salvadoran farmer Marlene Carballo, as she cooked corn tortillas for lunch for her family, on a scorching day.

Carballo, 23, lives in the Jocote Dulce canton, a remote rural settlement in the municipality of Chinameca, in the eastern Salvadoran department of San Miguel, a region located in what is known as the Central American Dry Corridor.

Acute water crisis

This municipality is one of the 144 in the country that is located in the Dry Corridor, which covers 35 percent of Central America and is home to more than 10.5 million people and where over 73 percent of the rural population lives in poverty and 7.1 million people suffer from severe food insecurity, according to the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

Food security is particularly threatened because the rains are not always constant, which creates major difficulties for agriculture.

“My grandfather has a water tank, and when he has enough, he gives us water, but when he doesn't, we're in trouble,” said the young woman.

When that happens,

they have to buy water, which is not only the case in these remote rural Salvadoran areas, but in the rest of the Central American region where water is scarce, as is almost always the case in the Dry Corridor, which stretches north to south across parts of Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Costa Rica.

When IPS visited several villages in the Jocote Dulce canton in late April, the acute water shortage was evident, since all homes had one or more plastic tanks to store water and many were empty. Women in the forefront of the struggle for water

The persistent water shortage has led rural women in Central America to organize in recent years in community associations to promote projects that help alleviate the scarcity.

In the villages of Jocote Dulce, rainwater harvesting projects, reforestation and the creation of small poultry farms have the support of local and international organizations and financing from European countries.

In some cases, depending on the project and the country, rainwater harvesting is designed only for domestic tasks at home, while in others it includes irrigation of family gardens or providing water for livestock such as cows and chickens.

In other parts of the country and the rest of



Gumerinda Crespo (R) and her daughter Marcela stand next to the kitchen of their house in the Jocote Dulce canton in eastern El Salvador, an area with a chronic water crisis because it is located in the Central American dry corridor. CREDIT: Edgardo Ayala/IPS

Central America, institutions such as FAO have developed water collection systems that in some cases have a filtering mechanism, which makes it potable.

In El Salvador, FAO has been behind the installation of 1,373 of these systems.

Carballo said she and her family are looking forward to the start of the May to November rainy season, to see their new rainwater harvesting system work for the first time.

Through gutters and pipes, the rainwater will run from the roof to a huge polyethylene bag in the yard, which serves as a catchment tank.

“When the bag fills up, we'll be so happy because we'll have plenty of water,”

she said, as she cooked corn tortillas in her “comal”, a clay or metal cylinder used to cook this staple of the Central American diet.

Women suffer the brunt

The harsh burden of water scarcity falls disproportionately on rural women, as national and international reports have shown.

In this sexist society, women are expected to stay at home, in charge of the domestic chores, which include securing water for the family.

“The husbands go to work in the fields, and as women we stay at home, trying to manage the water supply; only we know if there is enough for bathing or cooking,” Santa Gumerinda Crespo told IPS.

Crespo, 48, was feeding her cow and goat in her backyard when IPS visited her. In the yard there was a black plastic-covered tank where the family collects water during the rainy season.

“Without water we are nothing,” Crespo said. “In the past, we used to go to the water hole. It was really hard, sometimes we left at 7:00 at night and came back at 1:00 in the morning,” she said.

In Guatemala, Gloria Díaz also says it is women who bear the brunt of water scarcity in rural families.

“We are the ones who used to go out to look for water and who faced mistreatment and violence when we tried to fill our jugs in the rivers or springs,” Díaz told IPS by telephone from the Sector Plan del Jocote in the Maraxcó Community, in the southeastern Guatemalan municipality and department of Chiquimula.

In that area of the Dry Corridor, water is the most precious asset.

“It's been difficult, because drinking water is brought to us from 28 kilometers away and we can only fill our containers for two hours a month,” she said.

Projects that bring relief and hope. Climate forecasts are not at all hopeful for the remainder of 2023.

The El Niño Southern Oscillation (ENSO) climate phenomenon is likely to occur, which would bring droughts and loss of crops, as it has before.

“When the weather is good, we sow and harvest, and when it is not, we plant less, to see how winter (the rainy season) will shape up; we don't plant everything or we would lose it all,” Salvadoran farmer Marta Moreira, also from Jocote Dulce, told IPS.

Most people in these rural regions depend on subsistence farming, especially corn and beans.

Moreira added that last year her family, made up of herself, her husband and their son, lost most of the corn and bean harvest due to the weather.

In Central America climate change has led to longer than usual periods of drought and to excessive rainfall.

In October 2022, Tropical Storm Julia destroyed 8,000 hectares of corn and bean crops in El Salvador, causing losses of around 17 million dollars.

Given this history of climatic effects, rural families and groups, led mostly by women, have received the support of national and international organizations to carry out projects to alleviate these impacts.

For example, around 100 families from the Jocote Dulce canton benefited in 2010 from a water project financially supported by Luxembourg, to install a dozen community water taps.

Programs for the construction of catchment tanks have also been carried out there, such as the one that supplies water to Crespo's family.

In addition to using the water for household chores, the family gives it to their cow, which provides them with milk every day, and Crespo also makes cheese.

The water collected in the pond “lasts us for almost five months, but if we use it more, only about three or four months,” she said, as she brought more fodder to the family cow.

If she has any milk left over, she sells a couple of liters, she said, bringing

in income that is hard to come by in this remote area reached by steep dirt tracks that are dusty in summer and muddy in the rainy season.

Other families benefited from home poultry farm and fruit tree planting programs.

Drinking water is provided by the community taps, but the water crisis makes it difficult to supply everyone in this rural settlement.

Only 80 percent of rural households in El Salvador have access to piped water, according to official figures.

“The water runs for only three days, then for two days the pipes dry up, and that's how things go, over and over,” said Moreira, who also has a small tank, whose water is not drinkable.

When the rains fail and the reserves run out, families have to buy water from people who bring it in barrels in their pick-up trucks, from Chinameca, about 30 minutes away by car. Each barrel, which costs them about three dollars, contains some 100 liters of water.

The same is true in the Sector Plan del Jocote in Chiquimula, Guatemala, where Díaz lives, and in neighboring communities. “People who can afford it buy it and those who can't, don't,” she said.

Díaz added that families in the area are happy with the rainwater harvesting programs, which make it possible for them to irrigate the collectively farmed gardens, and produce vegetables that are important to their diet.

They also sell their produce to nearby schools.

“We grow vegetables and sell them to the school, that has helped us a lot,” she said.

There are 19 water harvesting systems, each with a capacity of 17,000 liters of water, which is enough to irrigate the gardens for two months. They also have a community tank.

These programs, which have been promoted by FAO and other organizations, with the support of the Guatemalan government, have benefited 5,416 families in 80 settlements in two Guatemalan departments.

However, access to potable drinking water remains a serious problem for the more than eight rural settlements in the Sector Plan del Jocote and the 28,714 families that live there.



A rainwater harvesting system was installed in the home of Marlene Carballo, in the town of Jocote Dulce in eastern El Salvador, in the Central American Dry Corridor, in November 2022. CREDIT: Edgardo Ayala/IPS

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

272 journalists, 94 media outlets face press violations

By Kajubi Mukajanga, Zanzibar

It is 30 years since May 3 of each year was declared as the official day to celebrate World Press Freedom (WPF) by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 1993, many incidents of violence against journalists and their media outlets have not been thoroughly reported.

Journalists have considered all sorts of press violations as challenges and therefore do not report them. Journalists have been reporting major issues that they encounter such as kidnapped, arrest, or loss of life; so most of the relevant information is not in the records.

Establishment of the Database and its Objectives

As a result of this challenge, at the beginning of 2012 the Media Council of Tanzania (MCT) established a national database to record the incidences of press violations that journalists or the media receive. The objectives being to have statistical and evidence based advocacy.

Other objectives are naming and shaming those who harass and hurt journalists, to get regional and international support, to educate the public, to tell journalists that being abused is not an accident at work and not a professional challenge; and to remove impunity.

Incidences of violations recorded by MCT

The violations included suspension of broadcast programmes, ban, harassment, arrests, threats, denial of access, and banning, suspension of media outlets editorial interference, fines, killings, asylum, program cut short, confiscation of work equipment, removed from the scene illegally and self-censorship.

The database has been receiving its information through the media, journalists, press clubs' coordinators of and through those reported on social media.

Number of journalists and media outlets face press violations

In the ten years since the establishment of the MCT database, a total of 272 journalists, among them 219 men and 53 women, suffered from various violations and in the same period, 94 media outlets faced incidences of violations.

Number of violations reported and recorded

The incidents that have been recorded in the MCT database during that period are 271, where arrest 52 incidents, followed by threats from various sources 50



incidents and journalists being denied access to information 45 incidents.

Other violations are assault 25 cases, suspension of the media (29), fines (14), unlawful eviction from the scene 10, kidnapping or disappearance of journalists six cases, harassment 13 cases, and self-censorship four cases.

There are also 15 cases of journalists having their work equipment destroyed and confiscated, while ban of social media three cases, murder three cases, and editorial interference with two cases.

The perpetrators of the incidences

The database shows that the leading institution for most incidents against press freedom was the police which had 51 incidents.

Followed by the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) 21 cases, government ministries 14 cases, district commissioners nine cases, football fans five cases, farmers and pastoralists two cases and unknown people ten cases. MAELEZO eight incidences and regional commissioners seven incidences.

Other perpetrators are militia, ward

executives, councilors, four cases, the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) three cases, the Technical and Electrical Agency (TEMESA) three cases, the court three cases, the political party Chama cha Demokrasia na Maendeleo (CHADEMA), two incidences, Chama cha Mapinduzi (CCM) one event, Zanzibar Broadcasting Commission (ZBC) two events, community development officers two events and Mwananchi Communications Limited two events.

The following perpetrators had one incidence each, and these are religious leaders, Azam Media Group, voters of the Makanyagio Mosque, the Director of Criminal Investigation and the Speaker of the Parliament of the United Republic.

Where did those violations take place?

In 26 regions of Mainland Tanzania, violations of press freedom were recorded in 25 regions. According to the information reported in the ten-year period, Songwe region had no violations.

The following are the ten regions of Mainland Tanzania and their total num-

ber in the brackets Dar es Salaam 43 incidence, Shinyanga (18), Arusha (17), Dodoma (15), Mara (13), Kagera (12), Kilimanjaro (11), Tanga (10), Ruvuma and Singida eight each; and Mwanza, Rukwa and Coast seven each. As for Zanzibar (Unguja and Pemba), a total of 15 incidents were reported during that period.

The violations per year for the past ten years are as follows: 2012 (1), 2013 (38), 2014 (27), 2015 (20), 2016 (32), 2017 (5), 2018 (24), 2019 (40), 2020 (41), 2021 (26) and 2022 (18).

The occurrence of violations has continued to create fear among journalists and the media, resulting in shallow journalism and a lack of investigative reporting.

These violations have also continued to make Tanzania in the lower ranking as per Press Freedom Index. For example, in the World Press Freedom Index reports, Tanzania has continued to decline in the levels of press freedom from 70th place in 2013 to 124th place in 2021 and 123rd place in 2022.

MCT urge journalists

MCT encourages journalists to work

independently, professionally and ethically, and when they face incidences of press violations they should contact the Council for assistance.

Harassments for journalists should not be considered as 'accident at work', but should be reported and recorded so that Tanzania has a record of the press freedom violations incidences that journalists encounter. The presence of information will help show the magnitude of the problem and increase efforts to find a solution. These efforts will be more effective when there is statistical evidence.

Journalists and media institutions should continue to support the efforts done by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to ensure the media industry works freely but ethically and professionally.

It is the responsibility of every journalist to ensure that he/she reports all incidents that humiliate him/her or cause him to be unable to do his work freely and professionally.

Kajubi Mukajanga is the Executive Secretary of Media Council of Tanzania (MCT)

By Guardian Reporter

GEITA Gold Mining Limited (GGML)—a subsidiary of AngloGold Ashanti, one of the world's largest gold producers, operating in 14 countries on four continents and has been operating in Tanzania since 2000 contributing immensely in the development of various sectors.

Simon Shayo, Vice President (Sustainability), Tanzania & Ghana said the company has implemented numerous initiatives to develop its people at all levels, from entry-level and graduates to middle managers and executives, and to promote succession planning to bring more Tanzanians into leadership positions and reduce reliance on foreign expertise.

In an interview recently, Shayo stated that the mining firm employs over 6,400 people, both directly and through contractors, of whom approximately 98 percent are Tanzanian nationals.

"GGML recognises that its employees are the company's most valuable asset and strives to provide them with a safe, healthy and conducive working environment, as well as opportunities to learn, grow and advance professionally," he said.

GGML has also invested in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) projects that promote employment growth and skills development for people in the local community. It has a robust training and development system that covers all aspects of its operations and functions.

"We regularly train its employees in areas including technical skills, safety standards, environmental management, quality control, compliance and ethics, among others. The company also supports its employees in further education and professional development through scholarships, study leave and tuition reimbursement. In addition, GGML offers leadership development programmes for middle management and

GGML develops staff, local community for success

senior executives."

According to him, GGML has been a strong supporter of the government's initiatives to enhance graduate employability in Tanzania and has been running internship and other graduate programmes for several years. It offers internships for students in various disciplines such as engineering, geology, finance, human resources, environment, health and safety, community relations and communications. Through the internships, students gain practical experience and insight into real work situations in a mining environment.

"The internships also serve as a talent pipeline for GGML, as some interns are offered permanent positions upon completion of their studies. In 2022, GGML offered internships to 66 students from various institutions whereas this year the company has offered 50 internships," the firm's Vice President said. "We are also proud sponsor of the

Female Future Programme (FFP), a leadership development programme for women coordinated by the Association of Tanzania Employers (ATE) in collaboration with ESAMI College. The programme aims to equip women with leadership skills and confidence to take up senior positions in their organisations and contribute to the economic development of the country. A total of 73 women have enrolled in the 9th cohort of the FFP, which started in March this year, with five coming from GGML."

"The company also supports other initiatives to promote gender diversity and inclusion in the workplace, such as mentoring, coaching and networking," he said, noting:

"One of the many learning opportunities GGML offers its employees is the MBA Graduate Programme, which was launched in collaboration with the Eastern and Southern African Management Institute (ESAMI) and has proven beneficial to the

company's middle managers. The programme is delivered by external facilitators from renowned institutions such as ESAMI College and Strathmore Business School and covers topics such as strategic management, financial management, project management, change management, team building, communication skills and emotional intelligence therefore, participants learn from some of the most respected figures in the field." It contributes to their professional development as they can strategically develop their entrepreneurial mindset and learn a holistic approach to business.

GGML has a clear succession planning process that identifies employees with high potential and prepares them for future senior roles within the organisation. The process involves talent identification, performance appraisal, career planning, coaching and mentoring, feedback and recognition.

The company also has a localisa-

tion plan that aims to increase the representation of Tanzanians in senior management positions and reduce dependence on expatriates. As a result of these efforts, GGML has achieved a localisation rate of over 80 percent at the senior management level.

GGML is not only committed to developing its own people but also to contributing to the social and economic development of the communities surrounding the mine. The company has implemented various Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) projects that promote employment growth and skills development for people in the local community.

Local entrepreneurs in the Geita Region have greatly benefited since the signing of a capacity building programme in July 2020 between GGML and the National Economic Empowerment Council (NEEC). GGML has long received positive recognition for its efforts to support the host community,

and this initiative has really boosted the fortunes of local entrepreneurs.

Apart from the fact that GGML started its local content initiative as early as 2014 (four years before the Local Content Regulations came into force), there has been an increase in the number of Tanzanian businesses that have been successful in tenders for the supply of goods and services. The capacity building programme led by NEEC and GGML has helped many businesses in the Geita region, including youth, women, and people with disabilities, sharpen their business acumen.

In 2022, during the 46th International Trade Fair in Dar es Salaam, GGML won both the Best Employer and Best Exporter of Minerals Abroad awards. The company was also recognised as a leading taxpayer, taking second place. In addition, GGML was also recognised for its compliance with Workers' Compensation Fund (WCF) procedures at the annual fair.

Drones hold great potential to improve safety of journalists in Africa's volatile situations

By Joyce Chimbi

IN a departure from the past, where journalists in Kenya have freely covered anti-government protests unharmed, a series of events that unfolded in March 2023 have heightened fears of the re-emergence of brutal physical attacks on journalists.

According to the Media Council of Kenya, in a span of two weeks, more than 25 journalists were harassed, arrested and held in police cells, physically attacked, expensive equipment destroyed and footage deleted during the opposition-led demonstrations.

Calvin Tyrus Omondi, who participated in the recent March protests and many others before, tells IPS that "journalists usually cover demonstrations while standing on the side of the police officers because they are safe there. This time round, tear gas canisters were being fired at journalists. Tear gas canisters are used by police officers, so many journalists were very frightened because the canister can hit and kill somebody."

"There were also a few hired goons who did not want the demonstrations to continue and were throwing stones at journalists. The journalists were not safe with the police officers or with the crowds. Some were even robbed."

One of the most brutal incidences was the attack on Cameraman Eric Isinta, who was hit by three tear gas canisters in quick succession on the face and abdomen; he fell from the press vehicle and was seriously injured.

"Access to reliable official information is of critical importance during times of crisis. Trustworthy news and images may help protect civilians and contribute to diffusing tensions. Journalists are often the source of this information," Harrison Manga, Country Director of Media Focus on Africa, tells IPS.

"But journalists are also often the target of the parties in a crisis, as seen in the recent attacks on journalists covering the opposition called demonstrations in Nairobi in March 2023. Press freedom demands that journalists' safety be guaranteed by state and non-state actors alike at all times and especially during times of crisis."

It was, therefore of great concern when notable and influential figures within the government rank openly and publicly intensified verbal attacks against the media fraternity in remarks that erased all doubt about the vulnerabilities of journalists covering volatile political situations.

Dr Jane Thuo, a lecturer in Journalism and Mass Communication tells IPS that against this backdrop, equipment to protect journalists in such volatile situations, where tear gas cannisters are used as weapons and live bullets are fired, are simply not adequate.

Take for instance injured Cameraman Isinta who was wearing protective head gear but still came



close to losing an eye and having his face permanently deformed. A number of journalists suffered head injuries despite wearing helmets as tear gas cannisters were purposely and with precision shot at their heads and face area, or abdomen.



Experts say drone journalism, or the use of unmanned aerial vehicles, holds great potential for news-gathering purposes during a volatile environment such as political protests. Photo: Joyce Chimbi/IPS

"We need to explore technology to keep our journalists safe. Drone journalism or the use of unmanned aerial vehicles holds great potential for news gathering purposes during a volatile environment such as political protests, violent conflict and natural disaster

without placing the lives and health of our journalists at risk," Thuo expounds. She says that drones, which are small unmanned aircrafts operated remotely by a person on the ground, can facilitate journalists to remain true to their calling by providing the public with accurate and timely information without becoming collateral damage or even losing expensive equipment.

Footage of volcanic eruptions, war-torn villages, and nuclear disasters have all been made possible by drone technology, and experts such as Thuo are stressing that the time has come for journalists in Africa, particularly those covering active armed conflict, to turn to drone technology.

make, their news reports more insightful and innovative, especially in the coverage of fast-moving and in areas that are too dangerous for journalists.

Thuo speaks of companies, NGOs and universities that are testing drones in this context, including the Drone Journalism Lab at Nebraska-Lincoln College of Journalism and Mass Communication.

Close home, the african-DRONE, a pan-African community of drone operators and journalists, is committed to using drones.

A picture may well be worth a thousand words, but as camerapersons and photographers find themselves on the receiving end and at risk of serious and life-threatening bodily harm, Thuo says media stakeholders must, as a matter of urgency, begin to explore legislation to facilitate drone journalism in times of crisis.

"We have to factor in the issues of protecting people's privacy, public safety and journalism ethics. It is possible to craft legislation that takes these critical issues into account because they are at the heart of human rights. There is room to weigh the benefits and concerns of gathering news using drones in dangerous situations and establish a progressive legal framework," Thuo observes.

She confirms that drones can indeed be misused, but with wide-ranging consultations with media stakeholders, human rights experts and technical experts in fields such as the aviation industry, "it is possible to establish parameters that enable journalists to revolutionize news coverage using technology such as drones."

Drone Laws in Kenya permit drone ownership by citizens over the age of 18 years, residents, businesses and governments. All drones must be registered by the Kenya Civil Aviation Authority.

Thuo says there is a need to analyze Kenya's drone laws to find out if they restrict or facilitate drone journalism and to what extent and determine steps that relevant stakeholders could take to help improve the safety and security of journalists through innovative technology.

IPS UN Bureau Report

RADIO One RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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



Radio One



Banks record strong performances in Q1, results show

By Guardian Reporter

Commercial banks recorded strong performances during the first quarter of this year, compared with similar period of last year, thanks to the increased lending due to the recovering economy from the impact of Covid-19.

According to the financial statement of selected banks, there have been an increasing profitability, with smaller banks attained profits, compared with losses recorded during the first three months of last year.

Bank of Tanzania (BoT) monthly economic review for April shows credit extended to the private sector recorded an annual growth of 22.9 percent in March 2023, higher than 13.4 percent in the corresponding period in 2022.

The growth was largely on account of improvements in the business environment, and supportive monetary and fiscal policies.

Stanbic bank recorded the strongest profit growth more than three times to 18.3bn/- during the first three months of this year, compared with a profit of 5bn/- in Q1, 2022.

The bank also managed to clean its books, by cutting down impairments on loans and advances to 702mn/- during the first quarter of this year, compared with 4.1bn/- recorded during similar quarter of last year.

People's Bank of Zanzibar (PBZ) also recorded the strong growth of profitability by 50 per-



Bank of Tanzania's Dar es Salaam office

cent to 12.1bn/- compared with 8bn/- respectively due to growth of both interest and non-interest incomes.

The oldest bank in Zanzibar, wholly owned by the government is also ambitious to increase its footprints in Tanzania mainland, through offering both conventional and Sharia compliant banking services.

CRDB Bank, the Tanzania's leading bank in terms of assets has reported solid financial performance during the first quarter

of this year by posting a gross profit of 133bn/-, representing an annual increase of 3.1percent.

The impressive growth of the bank, with operations in Burundi and DRC, was driven by a strong net interest income of 192bn/-, a 9.7 percent increase from the previous year.

Abdulmajid Nsekela, CRDB Bank Group CEO expressed his delight with the performance saying that it demonstrates the Bank's continued strength and a good mo-

mentum in implementing its new medium-term strategy 2023 - 2027.

"The bank intends to maintain this momentum by investing in growth opportunities within the regional investment landscape and leveraging its capabilities to invest in key markets and sectors to potentially bolster this growth," he said.

NBC Bank recorded a net profit of 19bn/- during the first quarter of this year, compared with 17bn/- during similar period of last year, driven by both interest and non-interest income streams while Exim Bank with operations in Tanzania and Comoro, recorded a profit of 19.5bn/- compared to 18bn/- respectively.

NCBA Tanzania managed to clear its 3.7bn/- losses recorded during the first quarter of last year to a profit of 3.2bn/- in Q1, 2023.

In December last year, the Kenya based NCBA Group is investing Ksh2 billion (nearly 40bn/-) in its Tanzanian subsidiary to shore up its capital which was eroded by losses and a rise in defaults due to the economic fallout from the Covid-19 pandemic.

The statements shows Equity bank Tanzania profit grew to 5.2bn/- during the first three months, compared with 3.17bn/- while Diamond Trust bank profit slowed to 3.8bn/- compared with 5.2bn/-

respectively.

Standard chartered bank profit during the first quarter of this year amounted to 20.8bn/- compared with 27.4bn/- respectively, while I&M bank profit slowed to 252mn/- from 1.4bn/- respectively. Akiba Commercial Bank (ACB) profit slowed to 171mn/- from 411mn/-.

The statements show Ecobank net profit increased to 582mn/- compared with 365mn/- respectively, while the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) listed DCB Bank profit increased to 604mn/- in Q1, 2023 from 408mn/- in Q1, 2022.

The financial statements have shown that smaller banks, which many were hit by Covid-19 pandemic, have started to regain the recovery paths, with many moving out of losses pool to profit.

Mwalimu Commercial Bank statements show that a profit of 150mn/- was recorded during the first quarter of this year, compared with a loss of 95mn/- recorded during the first quarter of last year, while Access Bank moved from a loss of 213mn/- to a profit of 401mn/- respectively.

Kilimajaro Cooperative Bank Limited (KCBL) profit nearly doubled to 65.1mn/- compared with 23.1mn/- respectively while Maendeleo Bank profit increased to 439mn/- compared with 357mn/- respectively.

By Guardian Reporter

THE National Bank of Commerce (NBC Bank), has launched a new campaign dubbed "Shinda Mechi Zako na NBC" to enhance its customers' experience and value to boost customers financial growth and country's economy.

The launch of the campaign was held yesterday in Dar es Salaam and was attended by various stakeholders including entrepreneurs, motorcyclists, bank agents and various sports stakeholders.

Speaking during the launch NBC's Head of products, Abel Kaseko said the campaign targets individual customers, employees, small business owners, agents, and others who use NBC's mobile/ digital banking services.

"With the acknowledgment to various challenges facing people in life, NBC is geared to help them face and solve those challenges hence the campaign name "Shinda mechi zako" that translates to "Win your matches".

"Through the campaign, NBC is offering affordable transaction fees, such as free-standing order setup, discounted online payment fees, and access to personal and business loans within 48 hours. Additionally, customers can earn up to 7% interest on their savings through NBC Malengo account. They can also get affordable housing loans to complete their dream homes," he mentioned.

According to Kaseko, the campaign further aims to strengthen its customers' financial well-being and support the government's efforts to provide financial inclusion, grow the economy and provide enabling financial services to Tanzanians. NBC believes that this campaign will provide customers with significant benefits and improve their banking experience and value.

"We believe that this campaign will provide our customers with affordable and convenient banking services, and also help boost their financial well-being," he said.

David Raymond, NBC's Head of Marketing commented on the campaign, "We are excited to launch the 'Shinda Mechi Zako na NBC' campaign in collaboration with selected NBC Premier League Stars as it is part of our continued commitment to provide affordable and convenient banking solutions that meets customer's needs. We believe that these solutions that we are offering will not only enable our customers to successfully meet their financial and social goals but also contribute to the growth of Tanzania's economy."

"For the next three months, our teams will be in every corner of the country educating customers on financial gems available at NBC and we can complete account opening process with instant card issuance," he added.

The campaign aims to promote financial inclusion and encourage more Tanzanians to use banking services. It is also part of NBC's broader commitment to support the

NBC launches deposit campaign to promote savings

Tanzanian government's efforts to build a strong and prosperous economy.

"We believe that this campaign will not only help us reward

our loyal customers but also encourage more Tanzanians to access affordable and convenient banking services," he said.

The "Shinda Mechi Zako na

NBC" campaign is part of NBC's ongoing efforts to enhance its customers' banking experience and provide affordable financial services to its customers.

To participate in the campaign, customers need to have an active NBC account and conduct transactions using the bank's mobile banking app or by visiting

any NBC branch. Customers can make a wide range of transactions, including deposits, withdrawals, bill payments, and fund transfers.



NBC Bank Senior officers including the bank's Head of products, Abel Kaseko (3rd R) NBC's Head of Marketing, David Raymond (L) and the bank's Marketing Manager Ms Alina Kimaryo (R) along with prominent sports stakeholders, motorcycle drivers waving flags to mark the official launch of the bank's new campaign dubbed "Shinda Mechi Zako na NBC" campaign. Photo By Guardian Correspondent

CRDB Bank spreads its cross border wings to DRC

By Guardian Reporter

CRDB Bank Group Plc has continued to increase its footprints within the East African Community (EAC) after the Central Bank of DRC (BCC) issued a license for the bank to establish its subsidiary in the resources rich country.

The license was issued on Tuesday this week, after a meeting between BCC top officials and the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) listed CRDB Bank Plc delegation, led by the chief finance officer Fredrick Nsekanabo.

Presenting the license, the first BCC's Deputy Governor Dieudonné Fikiri Alimasi applauded CRDB Bank for increasing competition in the country's financial sector, in recognition of the bank as one of the best performing within the EAC region.

"We received your application to open a subsidiary here in DRC and we took this move with greater importance regarding the strong economic relationship between our two countries. I would like to congratulate you for your cooperation on what we were telling you to do and this showed your commitment to enter into DRC to do business," the first deputy governor said.

The deputy BCC governor told the CRDB Bank delegation that they have approved the recommendation of appointing Jessica Nyachiro as the managing director of CRDB Bank Congo.

The BCC has also approved the appoint-



Jessica Nyachiro, managing director, CRDB Congo

ment of the subsidiary's members of the board of directors include Dr. Fredrick Msemwa (Tanzanian), Prof. Faustine Bee (Tanzanian), Jeannot Okif'Otete (Congolese), Olivier Duterme (Congolese), Ornella Bomine (Congolese), Rama Bweya (Congolese).

Speaking during the event, the CRDB Bank chief finance officer Fredrick Nsekanabo thanked the central bank of DRC for issuing a license for the bank to do business in the country, explaining that all preparation was already finalized to start operating.

He assured the first deputy governor of BCC that CRDB Bank Congo will forge close collaboration with the central bank to

strengthen the country's financial sector.

The newly appointed CRDB Bank Congo Jessica Nyachiro said they have prepared to ensure provision of quality and innovative services which are conversant to the country's market, through using the experiences from Tanzania and Burundi, while promoting competition.

Explaining on how the bank is expecting to provide services to customers, Nyachiro said they will start with Lubumbashi branch, and through the three-year strategic plan of CRDB Congo, expansion to other regions including Kinshasa, Lualaba, Kasai, Kisangani, Tanganyika, Kivu North and South is on board.

"Our bank has invested heavily on digital platforms; so apart from branches networks, we are also expected to use alternative channels to offer banking services such as agents (CRDB Wakala), SimBanking and internet banking to connect more Congolese to our services," she said.

The CRDB Bank Congo MD said the plans is to be the leading development partner in DRC, assuring the government and the private sector in the country that the bank will be ready to support the implementation of strategic development projects implemented by both public and private sectors.

"Our bank's balance sheet is large which support all economic sectors. As what we have been doing in Tanzania and Burundi, we are also aligned to do so here," she said,

giving an example on how the bank has been supporting the implementation of strategic projects including the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) and Kigoma Port, which also have economic benefits to DRC.

Nyachiro thanked both the Tanzanian President Samia Suluhu Hassan and DRC President Felix Chisekedi for the strengthened economic relation between two countries which had enabled the bank to extend its footprint in the country.

The CRDB Bank Congo customer relations officer Israel Tshimanga Mutamba has invited entrepreneurs in the country, specifically youths and women to exploit opportunities offered by the bank, noting that the bank has financial products and empowerment programmes for the two groups including business management and affordable interest loans.

"I would like to inform my fellow Congolese that if we are going to use this bank well, it will help to improve our lives. Whether you are a student, employee, farmer or entrepreneur; CRDB Bank is ready to serve you. I encourage you to exploit these opportunities," he said.

The Tanzania delegation was also accompanied by senior officials of the Tanzania High Commission in DRC, led by head of administration Netho Yatega, who has played the major role during the processes of ensuring the bank is entering into DRC.

WHAT BANKS CAN DO TO SPUR SAVINGS CULTURE -PART ONE

By Kelvin Mkwawa

Recently, I have been sharing tips on how to save for your personal financial needs: retirement, emergency funds, and the education of your children. Let me begin by stating that we can all agree that there is never going to be enough money to save. This is what you must understand and accept if you want to develop the habit of saving. Here are some of the excuses we all have heard or use for not starting saving today: my salary is too little to save, my children are still in school, let me pay off my mortgage and debt first, let me build my first home first, and many more. Personally, I believe as a society we are lagging on savings which is very critical to our financial well-being.

If you take a moment and look at our society today, you will find out that we have a spending culture; according to World Bank national accounts data, and OECD National Accounts, Tanzania's consumption rate is 65.7% of GDP in

2021. The truth should be told, the majority of Tanzanians' incomes are low and the unemployment rate is relatively high but still developing a saving culture is critical to our personal development and our country as well. As financial intermediaries, banks have a huge role to play in establishing a savings culture in our society. This week I will look into what actions banks can do to spur savings in our culture.

So why should we (as a society) have a culture of saving?

Savings empowers individuals by shifting the saver's perception of his/her situation from a day-to-day struggle to survive (i.e., short-term) to a long-term view of survival based on the savings cushion.

It is estimated that Tanzania's annual infrastructure gap is between \$5-7B billion and that gap hinders our development. One of the major reasons we have this deficiency in our infrastructure budget is because of the limited domestic resources available in our country. With a savings



Kelvin Mkwawa,

culture, our high levels of savings in our society will increase the number of domestic resources available for our investment projects and decrease the need

for the government to seek foreign funds through loans to cover domestic investment.

According to the World Bank collection of development indicators, compiled from officially recognized sources, our annual national gross savings rate is 34.31% in 2020. It is important to note that countries with low internal savings must borrow from abroad which results in a debt service burden. Currently, our country's appetite for borrowing is at an alarming rate which was shown in the Bank of Tanzania (BOT) Monthly Economic Review (MER) report of March 2023. The report stated that our external debt rose to \$28.93B at the end of February 2023. This was an increase of 2% and 30% from the previous year and two (2) years ago respectively. The savings culture will increase our national level of savings hence reducing the borrowing appetite.

The reasons stated above clearly underline the importance of a savings culture in one's confidence and the country's growth. So what can the

banks do to spur a savings culture in our country?

Savings Awareness Campaign - One of the actions banks can take to improve the savings culture in our society is to conduct outreach to schools and communities to teach them the importance of savings and financial literacy. By doing this, the banks will bring more people, especially children and youth into the formal banking sector which will install the culture of savings from an early age. Once young people understand how critical saving is, it will be easier for them to educate others. Therefore, banks should collaborate with schools to create outreach programs that encourage savings.

Next week I will share two more actions that banks can take to spur a savings culture in our society.

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The impact of mobile banking on rural communities in Africa

JOHANNESBURG

The way that people in Africa receive financial services is changing because to mobile banking. This is especially true in rural locations, where typical banking services are hard to come by and can require lengthy travel times to acquire.

Rural Africa's Banking Situation The availability of financial services has historically been restricted in rural Africa. Only 34% of individuals in sub-Saharan Africa have access to formal financial services, according to the World Bank.

This percentage falls to just 14 percent in rural areas. Numerous factors contribute to this lack of accessibility, including a dearth of bank locations, poor infrastructure, and low financial awareness among rural residents.

The difficulties of gaining access to traditional financial services in rural Africa have given rise to mobile banking as a potential solution. In Africa, the number of mobile phone users has significantly increased during the last ten years. As a result, mobile banking has emerged as a viable option for people who lack access to regular banking services to receive financial services.

Africa's rural inhabitants can profit greatly from mobile banking. Its capacity to boost financial inclusion may be its most significant advantage.

Mobile banking has given millions of previously unbanked people access to financial services by allowing them to execute financial transactions using their mobile phones. This has aided in boosting economic expansion and lowering poverty rates in rural areas.

Additionally, the effectiveness and transparency of financial transactions have been enhanced via mobile banking. People can perform transactions safely and openly via mobile banking, lowering the danger of fraud and corruption.

This has aided in boosting banking system credibility, encouraging savings, and encouraging investment in rural areas.

The ability of mobile banking to spur innovation in the financial industry is another advantage.

Fintech businesses now have the chance to provide cutting-edge financial products and services that are specifically suited to the needs of rural communities thanks to mobile banking. These developments have included investing platforms, mobile-based loans, savings, and insurance solutions.

Challenges

Mobile banking in rural Africa confronts a number of difficulties despite its many advantages. The absence of digital literacy in rural communities is one of the biggest obstacles.

Many residents in rural areas are still unfamiliar with mobile technology, and they might not understand how to utilize mobile banking efficiently. Low adoption rates and little use of mobile banking services may result from this.

The lack of infrastructure in rural places is another problem. It might be challenging for users to use mobile banking services in many rural areas of Africa due to the lack of access to electricity and the Internet.

To fully exploit the potential of mobile banking in rural Africa, substantial investment in rural infrastructure is required. This has led to the creation of creative solutions like solar-powered mobile banking kiosks.

Future Prospects

Despite these obstacles, mobile banking in rural Africa has bright future prospects. More people in rural Africa will be able to access financial services as mobile banking becomes more widely available and more reasonably priced as technology develops. This will boost economic expansion, generate employment,

and lessen poverty.

The possibility of empowering women economically is one of the most intriguing possibilities for mobile banking in rural Africa.

Women can use mobile banking to get around traditional hurdles to financial access, like cultural and societal norms that limit their freedom of movement.

Women can access savings, insurance, and credit products with the aid of mobile banking, enhancing their ability to start and build their own enterprises as well as their financial independence.

Mobile banking has revolutionized the way Africans access financial services, especially in rural areas. As such, it becomes fairly obvious that mobile banking can certainly empower rural communities in Africa in several different ways, namely through better access to financial education, microloans, and customized financial products that can help them improve their economic situations.

Financial education is an essential component of mobile banking in rural communities. By providing financial education, mobile banking service providers can help rural communities understand how to use financial services effectively.

This includes understanding how to save money, budget, and manage debt. Financial education can also help rural communities understand the benefits of using mobile banking services over traditional banking services, such as the convenience and lower costs of mobile banking.

Microloans are small loans provided to individuals and small businesses who may not have access to traditional banking services. In rural areas, microloans can be used to support small businesses, agriculture, and other income-generating activities. Mobile banking service providers can provide microloans to rural communities through

their mobile platforms, making it easier for rural communities to access these services. Mobile banking service providers can also use mobile data to assess the creditworthiness of rural communities, making it easier to provide loans to individuals and businesses in these areas.

Mobile banking service providers can develop customized financial products for rural communities. These products can be tailored to meet the unique needs of rural communities, such as providing insurance for crops or livestock.

Mobile banking service providers can also work with local cooperatives and other organizations to provide financial products that are specific to the needs of rural communities.

The way that people in rural Africa obtain financial services is changing thanks to mobile banking. Mobile banking is promoting financial inclusion and economic development in rural areas by giving previously unbanked individuals access to financial services.

Numerous advantages of mobile banking include improved financial transaction efficiency, transparency, and innovation. However, it has issues including poor infrastructure in rural areas and a lack of digital knowledge.

Mobile banking in rural Africa has a bright future ahead of it, with the ability to empower women economically, create jobs, and fight poverty. For mobile banking in rural Africa to fully achieve its promise, more funding is required for rural infrastructure and digital literacy initiatives.

For rural populations in Africa, mobile banking has fundamentally changed the game by allowing them to access financial services that were previously inaccessible. This is paving the way for a better future for rural Africa by promoting economic growth and lowering poverty.

BOA Kenya meets capital requirements on profit increase

NAIROBI

Bank of Africa (BOA) Kenya has adhered to statutory capital requirements after more than doubling its profits in the first three months of the year.

The bank's core capital to total deposit liabilities ratio which had fallen slightly below the recommended eight percent threshold to 7.8 percent in the year ended December 2022 is now at par with the statutory requirement in the three-month period ended March 31, 2023.

During the period, the bank's core capital rose to Sh2.666 billion from Sh2.602 billion at the end of December last year while the lender's total deposit liabilities represented by customer deposits rose to Sh32.95 billion from Sh32.733 billion in December 2022.

The adherence by the bank to capital requirements which are prescribed by the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) points to efforts by the lender to increase its funding from a capital basis in tandem with growing customer deposits.

The slight breach by BOA Kenya was in spite of prior efforts by the bank to raise capital through support from its parent firm, BMCE Bank of Africa which holds a majority 72.41 percent stake.

The efforts included the disposal of BOA Kenya's shareholding in Bank of Africa Uganda and Tanzania which released Sh560.6 million to the lender.

Further, the bank signed

an Sh816.1 million (\$6 million) portfolio-risk sharing guarantee scheme with the International Finance Corporation.

BOA Kenya has doubled its first quarter earnings through March 2023 to Sh115.91 million from Sh56.872 million a year earlier on improved operating income.

The bank's total operating income hit Sh883.47 million from Sh654.85 million with both net interest and non-interest income expanding by 46.6 percent and 20.9 percent respectively.

The greater growth in net interest income was supported by a 5.6 percent expansion in net loans and advances to Sh17.65 billion.

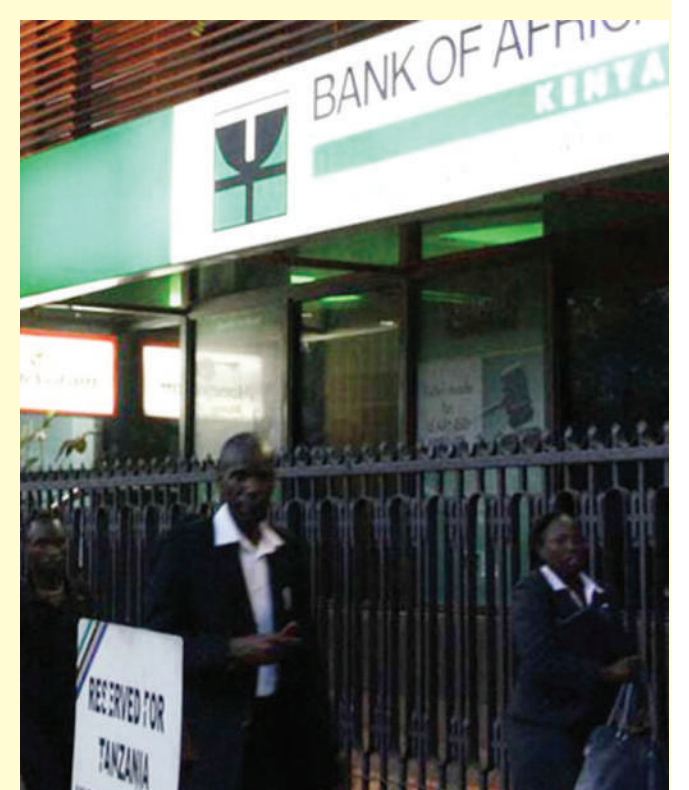
The bank's total shareholder funds have meanwhile grown to Sh5.916 billion from Sh5.677 billion previously.

BOA Kenya now meets all of its minimum statutory capital and liquidity requirements with the liquidity ratio for instance at 51.3 percent against a 20 percent lower threshold.

Other small and medium-sized banks could however see funding pressures this year following the lapse of a regulatory window to comply with strict IFRS 9 accounting standards which require banks to provide for expected credit losses.

The regulatory accommodation, which ended in December 2022, allowed banks to add back some provisions to capital.

BANKING & FINANCE



GIZ, KCB fund to transform youths' economies

By Guardian Reporter

The 2.2bn/- investment by KCB Bank and GIZ to support youth employability through skills and enterprise development to unlock Tanzania's full potential

Youth forms a crucial and huge portion for the country's population. According to the 2022 census results youth accounts to 34.5 percent of the total population, a slight decrease from 34.7 in 2012.

Also, looking at the labour force, Tanzania has reported an increase in the working force (aged 15-64) whereby 52.7 percent are male and 54.2 are female. The increase was 1.6 percent and 0.9 percent respectively.

It is undeniable that, empowering youth becomes a cornerstone towards achieving national development plans.

According to the report by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), integrated Labour Force Survey 2020/21 shows that there is decline in employment to population ratio in Tanzania from 77.4 percent in 2014 to 75.4 percent in 2020/21. The decline is attributed to expanding enrolment in education for working age population compared to previous years.

The report among other things was looking at the ability of an economy to absorb labor in different sectors.

Different studies have shown that skills gap is the most pressing constrain for the unemployment among youth.

To address that, increasing enrolment to vocational training is pointed out as one of the measures to tackle unemployment challenges in the country.

To address this, KCB Bank Tanzania through KCB Foundation has taken a step further by coming up with several initia-

tives that addresses the problem of unemployment through skills and enterprise development.

This is being implemented under the flagship of KCB 2jiajiri programme established in 2016.

Recently, the program has witnessed a very important milestone after launching the new partnership between KCB Foundation and the German Development Cooperation (GIZ) to increase the employability and income generation of 966 Tanzanian youth in the construction sector.

This partnership was launched by the Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania, Kassim Majaliwa Majaliwa who agrees that the country needs sufficient labour force to work in different economic sectors including agriculture, mining, fishing, construction and others.

Furthermore, he commends the move by the two parts, arguing that it will help the country achieve national development plans, including Vision 2025, which seeks to build a competitive and industrial economy for human development.

"Youth empowerment is key in ensuring national economic growth; this is because youth form a huge source of manpower that can work in different sectors.

"This initiative is a sign of your willingness to improve youth employability through skills development that will help them to be employed and develop enterprises. I commend this partnership between KCB Bank Tanzania and GIZ for supporting 960 youth and the government is fully supporting this noble cause," he noted.

The project is implemented in five regions which are Dar es Salaam, Mwanza, Morogoro, Arusha, Kilimanjaro (Moshi). Also, it was covered Zanzibar-Unguja.

According to TNBS (Tanzania

National Bureau of Statistics), in 2019, the construction industry contributed 11.2 percent to GDP, second to Information & Communication Technology.

The sector plays a significant role in the country's economy growth. The growth of this sector attracts the need of skilled workforce to support the existing market demand.

The EUR 846,000 equivalent to 2.2bn/- (rate of 2021) partnership from October 2021 until October 2023 will provide youth with technical and vocational skills training.

The funds will also support the provision of construction toolkits to youth, to enable them to start up business enterprises in the construction sector.

The trainings are provided under the Vocational Education and Training Authority (VETA) in mainland and Vocational Training Authority in Zanzibar (VTA).

The trainings cover 6 months period whereby 3 months involves in-class training and 3 months in field to ensure students receives both theory and hands-on skills.

The beneficiaries are trained on welding, domestic plumbing, electrical installation, aluminium, painting, and sign writing. All these courses have experienced an increased market demand thus offering employment potentials to youth.

Over the years, KCB Bank Tanzania, through KCB Foundation, has been implementing several initiatives dedicated to empower communities inspired by the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), youth being one of the areas of focus.

"KCB Bank, through our Foundation, is pleased to join hands with GIZ to make a lasting and meaningful contribution to the economic development of Tanzania through the youth in the

construction sector. This is because we are cognizant of the role of the youth in the transformation of an economy and how important the construction sector is in driving the growth of Tanzania through its multiplier effects on other industries," says the KCB Group CEO, Paul Russo.

On his side, the Country Director for GIZ, Dr. Mike Falke, says, "We are very happy with the quality and results of this cooperation, which is aligned to the priorities of the government in addressing the skill gap and promoting employment, including the National Skills Development Strategy and the Five-Year Development Plan 2021/22-2025/26," he said.

The KCB Bank Tanzania Board Chairman, John Ulanga, says the program is in line with the bank's strategy to drive sustainability in the country by providing solutions to problems facing Tanzanians and ensuring they deliver a long-lasting impact.

"We are confident that this partnership is for the greater good of youths in Tanzania and will create a long-lasting impact through increased employment, innovation, and entrepreneurship growth, thus creating a sustainable future," said John Ulanga.

The Acting Group Regional Businesses Director and Managing Director of KCB Bank Tanzania, Cosmas Kimario, said the bank is planning to enroll more youth this year to widen the opportunity for many Tanzanians.

"We are happy to announce that this year the KCB Foundation will enroll another 5,000 youths in Tanzania, and this is the largest enrollment we have ever done. We believe that this initiative will create more opportunities and ultimately ensure a greater impact for many Tanzanians," he said.



The US based PacWest Bancorp

Bank pain is just getting started, ex-Fed boss says

WASHINGTON

The US regional banking crisis is far from over and the Federal Reserve should pause its rate hike campaign, according to former Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas President Robert Kaplan.

"I'd prefer to do what's called the hawkish pause, not raise but signal that we are in a tightening stance, because I actually think the banking situation may well be more serious than we currently understand," Kaplan, whose career has also included time as a senior executive at Goldman Sachs Group Inc., said in a Bloomberg Television interview.

Kaplan went on to say that bank equities have been marked down solely because of their over-investment in the US treasuries, while the credit phase, which is "normally more serious," is yet to unfold.

Just a day after Wall Street breathed a sigh of relief with the rescue of First Republic Bank, a drop in US regional lenders fueled renewed concern about financial stability. The S&P 500

fell 1.2% Tuesday in New York as US regional lenders PacWest Bancorp and Western Alliance Bancorp both tumbled at least 15%, on the eve of the US central bank's decision.

Swap traders estimate that the Fed will raise borrowing prices by 25 basis points later Wednesday, raising the key rate to its highest level since 2007. Market pricing also suggests that the increase will represent the apex of the tightening cycle before slower growth forces the Fed to decrease rates later this year.

"It is more important to be able to sustain the current rate for an extended period of time, longer than the market thinks, than to get another 25-50 basis points and risk having to cut again. I think that will be very troubling," said Kaplan, who left the Fed in 2021 after disclosures about his trading activity that drew criticism for potential conflicts of interest.

To combat inflation, the US need fiscal restraints and actions outside the authority of the Federal Reserve, "so I will pause here," he added.

Lloyds' quarterly profits up, loan loss provision climbs

LONDON

Lloyds Banking Group reported an almost 50 per cent jump in first-quarter profits on the back of higher interest rates, but signalled that competition in the mortgage market was intensifying.

A string of interest rate increases from the Bank of England has buoyed profits at the lender, a trend that extended into the first quarter when Lloyds said pre-tax profits climbed to £2.3bn, up from £1.5bn a year earlier.

The group's revenues rose 15 per cent to £4.7bn in the quarter, matching analysts' expectations. Like UK rivals, Lloyds has lifted earnings over the past year despite the squeeze on UK consumers from higher inflation.

But its first-quarter results signalled that pressures on some of its customers are rising. The bank set aside £243mn to cover bad loans, up from £177mn in the same period last year but below the £356mn forecast by analysts.

The bank left its full-year financial forecasts unchanged, taking the shine off the better than expected first-quarter results.

Its net interest margin, the difference between the interest it receives on loans and the rate it pays on deposits, will average more than 3.05 per cent across the year, the bank said. The figure was 3.22 per cent in the quarter, close to what analysts

had expected.

Chief financial officer William Chalmers said the bank was facing headwinds from greater competition in both the mortgage market, where it is the biggest UK lender, and in savings.

"We've seen mortgage margins as low as they've been for a while," he said, as slowing demand from customers forces lenders to compete on price.

The BoE has lifted its base rate to 4.25 per cent and traders are now expecting it to reach around 5 per cent in September.

Shares in the bank were little changed on Wednesday, leaving them up 1 per cent for the year. The stock has been hit by the wider turmoil in the banking sector that has caused the sudden collapse of Silicon Valley Bank and a rescue sale of Credit Suisse in March.

"An uneventful set of results, which may drive some small consensus [earnings per share] upgrades to 2023 on the lower impairment charge, but is unlikely to change consensus for 2024-plus," said analysts at Citigroup, who predicted that bank would improve its guidance at its interim results later in the year.

Lloyds said the level of current account balances dropped by £3.5bn in the first quarter, which it said stemmed from the seasonal impact of tax payments and higher spending by customers because of inflationary pressures.



The program is in line with the bank's strategy to drive sustainability in the country

Airtel launches mobile money promotion campaign

BY Guardian Reporter

Airtel Tanzania has launched a customer promotion - UPIGE MWINGI PROMO (EVERYONE IS A WINNER) where every customer stands a chance of winning rewards when they transact on the Airtel network.

This is a unique promotion where every customer on the Airtel network will be a winner because there is something for everyone to win.

Customers can win Instant rewards of Airtime bonuses, Motorcycles, TV, Fridge, and Cash prizes ranging from 1 million per day to a Mega prize of 50 million.

"That's not all, there's more reason to celebrate because, from today, Airtel removes the charge on Airtel Money balance checks for all customers," says a statement issued yesterday.

In the three months promotion whenever a customer buys an Airtel

Bundle or does an Airtel Money transaction (Send Money, Cash Out, Bill Pay, or Lipa), he/she will get an instant reward of airtime bonus and will also enter a raffle draw to win daily, weekly and monthly prizes.

Customers who do more transactions on Airtel will have a higher chance of winning prizes in the raffle draw. Airtel Wakalas doing a cash out will also be eligible to win prizes under the raffle draw.

The objective of this promotion is to encourage customers and wakalas to use Airtel services and at the same time get an opportunity to get more with Airtel and fulfill their dreams.

There will be daily cash prizes, 90 mega winners for 1mn/- cash daily, 48 winners for weekly prizes of double door fridge, and 55 Smart TVs, 2 winners will stand a chance to win motorcycles in a monthly draw and a Grand win-

ner will walk away with Tsh50. Million.

Speaking yesterday in Dar es Salaam while launching the UPIGE MWINGI PROMO (EVERYONE IS A WINNER) Airtel Tanzania Director of Communications Beatrice Singano said - "Upige Mwingi na Airtel is a unique promotion, where every customer will now get more on using Airtel services. Every customer will win an instant reward of an airtime bonus if he/she does a successfully selected transaction on Airtel Money or buy a bundle. Also, customers will stand a chance to win up to Tsh50.Million cash. The rewards and prizes are another example of how we give value back to our loyal customers".

Airtel Money Director Andrew Rugamba added "At Airtel, we care for our customers and are committed to serving and rewarding all our loyal customers. Airtel Tanzania was the first operator



Airtel Tanzania communications director Beatrice Singano

to remove Levy from low-value Airtel Money transactions for all customers and now Airtel is the first one to remove charges to check Airtel money balance for all customers. This brings additional value to every Airtel customer and makes them a winner."

Singano shared Airtel's plan to reach out to every

corner of Tanzania. "We have been expanding our network and distribution with the rollout of more than 3500 Airtel Money branches and 200,000 wakalas while investing in country-wide 4G network expansion to reach the remotest areas of Tanzania with our superior data network.

WORLD

E. Jean Carroll called after Trump allegedly raped her, friend testifies

WASHINGTON

A friend of E. Jean Carroll on Tuesday backed up the writer's account of being raped by Donald Trump, testifying during a civil trial that she received a phone call about the alleged attack minutes after it occurred.

Author Lisa Birnbach told a jury in Manhattan federal court that she "vividly" remembered Carroll calling her one evening in the spring of 1996 and saying Trump had just attacked her in a dressing room in the lingerie section of the Bergdorf Goodman department store in New York City.

The rape claim arose in Carroll's 2019 memoir, *What Do We Need Men For? A Modest Proposal*. Under cross-examination on Monday, she denied making up her claims to drive publicity for the memoir.

Carroll's civil lawsuit for battery and defamation alleges Trump raped her and then tarred her reputation by

claiming in an October 2022 post on his Truth Social platform that the former *Elle* magazine advice columnist's case was a "complete con job" and a "Hoax and a lie."

Trump, a Republican seeking to regain the US presidency in 2024, has denied the allegations and said he has never met Carroll, whom he accuses of making up the story.

Birnbach, author of many books including *The Official Preppy Handbook*, said Carroll told her Trump slammed her into the wall, pulled down her tights and "penetrated her with his penis."

"I whispered, E. Jean, he raped you. You should go to the police," Birnbach testified.

On Monday, Carroll wrapped up her third day on the witness stand, where she recounted the alleged assault and responded to pointed cross-examination by a lawyer for Trump, who questioned nearly every aspect of her account.

Carroll told jurors last week that



Jessica Leeds talks to reporters as she leaves the federal courthouse after testifying in writer E Jean Carroll's lawsuit against Donald Trump in New York on Tuesday. AP

Trump put his fingers into her vagina, which she called "extremely painful," and then inserted his penis.

Birnbach testified that Carroll refused to go to the police after the alleged rape and asked her to never tell anyone about the incident.

"Instead of wallowing, she puts on lipstick, dusts herself off and moves on," Birnbach said, explaining why her friend stayed silent about the alleged assault for decades.

A lawyer for Trump, W Perry Brandt, probed Birnbach's allegiance to the Democratic Party and open disdain for Trump, citing podcast appearances and social media posts where she described him as a "madman," "narcissistic sociopath" and "Russian agent."

Under questioning from one of Carroll's lawyers, Birnbach said she

would "never in a million years" lie to hurt Trump politically.

Another woman, Jessica Leeds, testified on Tuesday that Trump kissed her, groped her and put his hand up her skirt on a flight in 1979.

Trump has not attended the trial, now in its fifth day. On Monday, he was in Scotland to visit his golf courses there.

Trump's lawyers sought a mistrial on Monday, accusing US district Judge Lewis Kaplan of bias against him in a motion Kaplan swiftly denied from the bench.

Because Carroll's case is civil, she must establish her claims by a preponderance of the evidence, meaning more likely than not, and need not meet the tougher criminal standard of proof beyond a reasonable doubt.

Agencies

West tries to demoralise Russians – Security Council's secretary

MOSCOW

THE purpose of the West's psychological pressure on Russians is to demoralize them and divide the country, Russian Security Council Secretary Nikolay Patrushev has told the daily *Izvestia* in an interview.

"The West is trying to undermine the internal unity of our country and people, to demoralize our citizens, and to instill in them a sense of inferiority," he pointed out.

Patrushev noted that "entire thinktanks in the United States and Europe are working tirelessly to create the most insane pseudoscientific theories."

"They keep talking about the need for reshaping Russians' minds and for making them repent to fellow citizens of other nationalities and religions who are allegedly under so-called imperial oppression," he warned when asked



about the purpose of such pressure from the West.

Patrushev pointed out that several US foundations "are

actively introducing to the Washington elite their memos, hastily written at the request of the US Department of State and Department of Defense, titled 'Failed State: A Guide to Russia's Rupture.' As Patrushev pointed out, their main stake may be on creating and maintaining instability in Russia's neighboring states, as well as information warfare, including support for the "fifth column" and incitement of domestic Russian separat-

ism.

"George Soros' organizations alone allocate \$800 million annually for the creation of fictitious videos, faked photographs and other forgeries in social networks," he noted.

Patrushev noted that the West was trying "to destroy the foundations of all-Russian and ethnic identity, trying hard to impose alien ideas of gender diversity and historical revisionism."

Agencies

Iranian president lands in Syria for first visit since 2011

DAMASCUS

IRANIAN President Ebrahim Raisi landed in Damascus yesterday for talks with his Syrian counterpart Bashar al-Assad, Syrian state media reported, in the first visit by an Iranian head of state since war broke out in Syria in 2011.

With military and economic support from both Iran and Russia, Assad regained control of most of Syria from rebels that were backed by regional countries now seeking dialogue with him.

Raisi's visit comes as Iran and regional rival Saudi Arabia rebuild ties after years of tensions. Arab nations are developing a roadmap to end the 12-year war and reintegrate Syria into the Arab fold.

Speaking to pro-Iran broadcaster al-Mayadeen on the eve of his visit, Raisi said the trip would "consolidate and develop" ties with Syria and other allies, including Lebanese armed group Hezbollah, which also intervened in

Syria on Assad's behalf.

Iranian and Syrian flags lined the airport road yesterday in preparation for the arrival of Raisi and his accompanying delegation, which includes Iran's ministers of oil, defense, foreign affairs and telecommunications.

Syrian state media said "a number of agreements" would be signed during the two-day visit.

Tehran has already supplied Assad's government with credit lines and won business contracts in the telecoms and mining industries, among others.

In parallel, it has become even more entrenched militarily. An Israeli rocket strike on Damascus in February killed Iranian military experts.

Agencies



Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi arrives at Damascus airport, Syria, May 3, 2023. (PHOTO / REUTERS)

Japan should stop moving further down path of military expansion

JAPAN has continuously made erroneous words and deeds to hurt its relations with neighboring countries. The so-called joint communiqué issued after a Group of 7 (G7) foreign ministers meeting in Japan grossly interfered in China's internal affairs and maliciously smeared and discredited China, which reflected the group's deliberate desire to block and contain China.

Besides, Japanese politicians also made erroneous comments on the Taiwan question which concerns the post-war international order.

Such remarks and deeds of the Japanese side are strategically wrong and diplomatically unwise, and will only make regional countries more vigilant about Japan's strategies.

As a country in Asia, Japan has

frequently "invited the wolf into the house" over the recent years. Its diplomatic strategies are becoming dangerous.

As the United States claimed to "shape the strategic environment in which China operates," Japan accelerated the adjustment to its diplomatic and security policies. Last December, it officially approved three updated security and defense-related documents, including the new National Security Strategy, the National Defense Strategy and the Defense Buildup Program, declaring that Japan should have "counterstrike capability," or "enemy base strike capabilities."

According to the three documents, Japan intends to increase

its defense spending between fiscal years 2023 and 2027 by 1.6 times from that between 2019 and 2023. The total defense spending in fiscal year 2027 will be aimed to account for 2 percent of the country's GDP.

This means that Japan, which had once launched wars of aggression, has totally discarded its exclusively defense-oriented policy, which completely deviates from the philosophy of peace in the Japanese constitution.

Seeing China as the "greatest strategic challenge," Japan distorts facts on the Taiwan question, the issue of Diaoyu Island and the South China Sea issue, and keeps fanning the so-called "China threat." It takes this as an excuse to break free from

the post-war order and is moving further down the path of military expansion.

Since this year, the country has made frequent moves to expand its military strength. Its defense budget for fiscal year 2023 jumped 26 percent from a year ago, and it announced a decision to develop a new missile force to obtain the capability of striking targets more than 1,000 kilometers from Japan. It also plans to deploy hypersonic weapons and develop submarine-launched hypersonic missiles with a range of 3,000 kilometers.

It is Japan who seeks military breakthroughs under the excuse of so-called "surrounding security threat" that is making real threats

against regional security.

To loosen constitutional restrictions on military, Japan has constantly elevated the importance of U.S.-Japan alliance in its diplomatic strategies. The country believes that it could seek speculations in the "Indo-Pacific Strategy" of the United States and even introduce the NATO to the Asia-Pacific region by cooperating with the United States. This is serious strategic confusion.

History has proved that the United States is indeed the one that's always steering the U.S.-Japan alliance, and to maintain its own hegemony and interests is always its goal in handling its relations with Japan.

Japan deeply knows the harms of the U.S. hegemony. The United

States once launched seven trade and financial wars against Japan. In September 1985, the United States forced Japan to sign the Plaza Accord, which was believed to have paved the way for Japan's "Lost Decades."

In 1986 the United States and Japan inked the Semiconductor Agreement and renewed it five years later. After the agreement terminated, the U.S. semiconductor industry expanded its market share to around 30 percent in both the global and Japanese markets.

Over the recent years, the United States has not only increased tariffs on steel, aluminum and beef imported from Japan, but also claimed Toyota vehicles to be a national security threat against the United States.

People's Daily

IOM says structured human mobility is key to Horn of Africa's growth, stability

NAIROBI

LONG-TERM growth, peace, and stability in the Horn of Africa region will be dependent on the enactment of policies and legislation to facilitate structured human mobility across borders, says the UN International Organization for Migration (IOM) in a report launched on Tuesday in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi.

The inaugural State of Migration in East and Horn of Africa report, compiled by the IOM in conjunction with the East African Community and Intergovernmental Authority on Development, both regional blocs, says that the free movement of civilians will enable the region to harness the full benefits of integration.

Kenyan President William Ruto in the report's foreword said the Horn of Africa region stood to gain from seamless human mobility, citing sustained economic growth, political stability, and social cohesion.

"Allowing people, goods, and services to move freely across the region and the continent creates opportunities and wealth for Africa and its people," Ruto said, adding that human mobility will be key to realizing aspirations of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

Ruto also said that Kenya was committed to the regional integration agenda, having enacted legal and policy instruments aimed at facilitating the free cross-border movement of skilled labor, goods, and services.

The State of Migration in the East and Horn of Africa report, covering 12 countries, offers a comprehensive insight into the mobility dimension of regional integration, trade, and the impact of migration on health, gender parity, and climate resilience.

In addition, the report calls for enhanced labor mobility, revamping of border posts through digitization, and sustainable reintegration of migrants fleeing turmoil and economic hardships.

The report calls on Horn of Africa states to address climate change, human trafficking, high youth unemployment, and infectious diseases that posed existential threats to the safe, orderly, and human movement of civilians.

Mohammed Abdiker, regional director of the IOM Office for East and Horn of Africa, said human mobility if well-managed has the potential to lift the region out of poverty besides easing inter-communal tensions.

Abdiker noted that by fully integrating migrants and protecting their civil liberties, Horn of Africa countries will address the shortage of skilled labor, and unleash innovations and enterprises. *Xinhua*

Prominent Islamic Jihad leader dies in Israeli prison after hunger strike

RAMALLAH/GAZA

A prominent leader of the Palestinian Islamic Jihad movement (PIJ) on Tuesday died in an Israeli prison after he went on a hunger strike for 86 days, Palestinian and Israeli sources said.

The Palestinian Prisoners' Club Association, a non-governmental organization, said in a press statement that Khader Adnan died after a hunger strike for 86 days.

It is Adnan's sixth hunger strike in Israeli prisons, where he had previously survived five to protest his arrest and administrative detention without trial.

His last hunger strike began on Feb. 5 after an Israeli army force stormed his house in Arraba, south of the northern West Bank city of Jenin, and arrested him for the sixth time.

The Israeli Prison Service said in a statement that Adnan, 45 years old, "was found unconscious in his cell in Nitzan prison." "A medical staff tried to resuscitate his heart before he was transferred to Assaf Harofeh Hospital, where his death was confirmed," said the statement. It added, "Adnan refused to undergo medical examinations and receive treatment during his hunger strike."

Meanwhile, a member of the PIJ Political Bureau in Gaza, Muhammad Al-Hindi, said that his movement mourned Adnan and condemned his death in Israeli prisons.

"We hold the enemy responsible for the crime of assassinating Sheikh Khader Adnan, and the enemy will pay the price for this crime," said Al-Hindi.

According to the Palestinian Prisoners' Club Association, Adnan's death brings the number of Palestinian prisoners who died in Israeli prisons to 237 since 1967, including 75 fatalities due to medical negligence.



We hold the enemy responsible for the crime of assassinating Sheikh Khader Adnan, and the enemy will

Russian embassy in Denmark slams reports that Russian fishing ships used for spying

STOCKHOLM

RUSSIAN Ambassador to Denmark Vladimir Barbin has dismissed the reports saying that Russian fishing ships participate in intelligence activity as nonsense, according to his statement released on Tuesday.

The statement was issued after state-owned television showed a documentary entitled "War in the Shadows" in Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Finland.

"The film 'War in the Shadows' contains unfounded statements about the participation of Russian fishing vessels in intelligence activities. This thesis, unfortunately, has spread in the Danish media, becoming the subject of emotional discussions," the diplomat said.

"Only those who do not have knowledge of the essence of the subject or maliciously want to compromise and destroy the mutually beneficial decades-in-the-making cooperation between Russia and the Faroe Islands in the field of fisheries, can seriously discuss the disinformation nonsense that's being spread in the Danish media today."

The ambassador explained that as a rule, "fishing is carried out as transparently as possible and is controlled by the authorities of the countries in whose waters it is done."

"Russian fishing vessels are regularly inspected both on the high seas and in ports," he said. "The issues of mutual inspections, the use of a satellite tracking system, and the exchange of information on vessels that are involved in fishing are a priority and are reviewed annually at the meetings of the Joint Russian-Norwegian Fisheries Commission and the Joint Russian-Faroese Fisheries Commission."

"Russia's cooperation with both Norway and the Faroe Islands in the field of fisheries is carried out on the basis of intergovernmental agreements and in full compliance with international law," he went on to say.

Cooperation with the Faroe Islands

The Russian ambassador also highlighted the provocative attempts of Danish politicians to distort what the mutually beneficial cooperation between the Faroe Islands and a number of countries and associations in the post-Soviet space was all about.

"Absolutely irresponsible and provocative are also the attempts of some Danish politicians and commentators to present contacts between representatives of the Faroe Islands and the Eurasian Economic Commission, which is the executive body of the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU, includes Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Russia - TASS), on the development of mutually beneficial cooperation as Russia's desire to 'drive a wedge' in relations between Torshavn and Copenhagen, to weaken the ties of the Faroe Islands with the EU," the ambassador said.

He said that "the initiative to conclude a free trade agreement between the Faroe Islands and the EAEU in 2013 was put forward by the Faroe Islands."

"[Then] the optimal format of interaction was sought and only economic arguments were taken into account, given that the EAEU is a purely economic and customs association," Barbin said. "There has never been any political motive in the communication between the Faroe Islands and the EAEU."

Sudan death toll climbs to 550 as rival factions agree to seven-day ceasefire

KHARTOUM

SUDAN'S Health Ministry on Tuesday announced that more than 550 people have been killed in the three weeks of fighting between Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) and Rapid Support Forces (RSF) as the two warring factions agreed to a 7-day ceasefire starting today.

A total of "550 deaths and 4,926 injuries were recorded in all hospitals in Sudanese states," the ministry said in a statement, adding that the situation was calm in all states except for Khartoum and Central Darfur.

Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, the head of the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF), and Mohamed Hamdan Dagalo, the head of the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF), on Tuesday agreed on a seven-day ceasefire mediated by neighboring South Sudan.

Pauline Adhong Malok, the spokesperson for South Sudan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said at a media briefing in Juba, the capital of South Sudan, that the ceasefire, which was negotiated by South Sudanese President Salva Kiir, will start today to pave the way for peace talks between warring factions headed by the two generals.

"The government of the Republic of South Sudan has obtained the consent of the two parties to the current conflict in Sudan to name their representatives to peace talks to be held at any venue of their choice," Malok said.

She added that Kiir, during a telephone conversation with the two warring Sudanese generals, stressed the need for a longer ceasefire and speedy solution to the conflict that broke out in mid-April.

Kiir is the leader of a team of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Assembly of the Heads of State that is negotiating for an end to armed conflict in Sudan.

Earlier, the RSF accused the SAF of violating the humanitarian truce. In a statement on Tuesday, the RSF said it managed to shoot down a SAF military plane, but the SAF spokesman's office could not be reached to comment on the claim.

Meanwhile, the Forces of Freedom and Change Alliance (FFC), a civilian political coalition in Sudan, on Tuesday called on the Sudanese people to stage demonstrations demanding the end of the conflict.

"Today (Tuesday), the alliance called for large-scale protests at the areas which are not affected by the conflict to push for negotiations and stoppage of the war," tweeted Yassir Arman, the FFC's spokesman.

"We, in villages and cities which are not affected by the war, must come out in masses to push for negotiations and stoppage of the war," said Arman.

The Sudanese police forces on Tuesday carried out widespread campaigns in Khartoum to combat crimes, blocking the roads to prevent criminals and outlaws from committing illegal activities.

"This step comes as part of the plan of the police force's command which aims to impose prestige of the state and the rule of law," the press office of the Sudanese police said in a statement. "The campaign tends to secure markets, important commercial sites and vital facilities," it said.

Currently in its third week, the conflict in Sudan, which is concentrated in the capital of Khartoum, has triggered a mass exodus of civilians to neighboring countries, including Egypt, Ethiopia, Chad, and South Sudan.

In addition, foreign countries have evacuated their citizens from Sudan even as the United Nations warns of a looming humanitarian crisis amid a lack of food, clean water, and medicine among civilians trapped in the conflict.



The government of the Republic of South Sudan has obtained the consent of the two parties to the current conflict in Sudan to name their representatives to peace talks to be held at any venue of their choice

Kenya's refugee transit centre overstretched amid new wave of arrivals

NAIROBI

LOOKING frail, thirsty and hungry, Abumukisa Twesenge alighted from a minivan that had transported him from Malaba Town, located at the Kenya-Uganda border.

Twesenge, 52, is among hundreds of refugees who recently arrived at the transit center in Kenya's western town of Kitale on Thursday evening from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Uganda.

The Congolese man has been living with his family of six at Kwamwanja Refugee Settlement in Kamwenge District in southwestern Uganda since he fled the war in his motherland seven years ago.

With insufficient money, Twesenge and his fellow refugees could not buy food on the way. He claimed that life at the refugee camp had become unbearable due to a lack of food, drugs, and other necessities.

"There is no food, my children are not going to school, and there is no money to buy drugs," Twesenge told Xinhua at a makeshift shelter while waiting to be transported to the sprawling Kakuma Refugee Camp located in Kenya's northern county of Turkana.

The former gold miner said he was forced to flee Uganda to escape starvation. "Me and my family were on the verge of succumbing to extreme hunger, and we decided to come to Kenya hoping to get assistance," Twesenge said.

Amid heavy downfall, about 200 families were received by officials of the Kenya Red Cross Society at the temporary shelter. Njabu Dido, 39, is a native of Ituri Province in the DRC



This photo taken on April 27, 2023 shows refugees at a transit center in Kitale, Kenya. Xinhua

who fled fighting at his ancestral village in the early days of April accompanied by his wife and five children. After a long journey, the family landed in western Tanzania, where he was accommodated by well-wishers and engaged in casual work in order to get money to facilitate his travel to Kenya.

"We stayed for two weeks working on local farms before I raised money to travel to Kenya through Uganda. It has been a frustrating journey, but I am happy we have finally arrived in Kenya safely," Dido said.

Janerose Veve, 63, narrated how she and her husband, Fratrsoa Dirokia, cheated death narrowly when armed attackers ambushed their home in eastern DRC and killed her two children.

Veve said surviving members of her family fled to western Uganda, where a life of drudgery took a toll on them until they found solace at the temporary refugee camp in northern Kenya. Nsadiyumua Nestor, a Burundian aged 30 and a father of three, fled his native country in 2014 due to civil strife.

He, together with his wife and children, landed in south-

western Uganda and later relocated to northern Kenya in search of a better life.

According to Kenya Red Cross Society County Coordinator Ruth Miningwo, at least 8,468 refugees have been received at the Kitale transit center in western Kenya since January.

Miningwo said the majority of the refugees are from the DRC and Burundi, and a few are from Rwanda, Uganda and South Sudan.

"We are receiving between 600 and 800 refugees weekly, and since January we have had over 8000 arrivals. Women and children form 60 percent of the families," said Miningwo, adding that the transit center has the capacity to hold about 200 people while the new waves of arrivals have overstretched it.

Xinhua

Chinese vocational training programme welcomed in Thailand

NATAWUT is a Thai employee of a plant under a Chinese refrigeration equipment supplier located in the Thai-Chinese Rayong Industrial Zone in the core area of Thailand's Eastern Economic Corridor over 100 kilometers southeast of Bangkok.

The air condition parts and other products manufactured by the plant are sold to not only Thai customers, but also countries and regions in other ASEAN countries.

Natawut, from central Thailand, speaks fluent Chinese and has a Chinese name Wang Dashan. It was under the assistance from the Luban Workshop, a vocational training program jointly implemented by China and Thailand, that he turned from an impoverished student to an engineer and became a department manager of the Chinese refrigeration equipment supplier.

In March 2016, the world's first Luban Workshop was jointly unveiled by China's Tianjin Bohai Vocational Technology College and Thailand's Ayutthaya Technical College. It marked that China started sharing vocational education resources with other countries.

This first-ever Luban Workshop combines academic education and vocational training, uses advanced teaching equipment and offers courses in both Chinese and Thai languages. It has established 15 practice areas where students can learn to operate various types of machines.

Natawut was enrolled in the Thai Luban Workshop the same year, where he gradually learned that Luban represents not merely a name of a great Chinese craftsman, but the pursuit for craftsmanship and excellence.

Over the past seven years, the students of the Luban Workshop at Ayutthaya Technical College have delivered remarkable performance, winning a number of vocational competitions at the national level and even the ASEAN-level.



Thai students learn technologies of Internet of Things in the Luban Workshop at Ayutthaya Technical College, Thailand, Feb. 20, 2023. (People's Daily/Sun Guangyong)

"They are proud of being students of the Luban Workshop," said Mayuree Sriraboot, principal of Ayutthaya Technical College, adding that the workshop not only improves Thai students' language and vocational skills, but also offers them with broad development opportunities.

"Through learning in the workshop, they have been acquainted with Chinese technologies, products and techniques, and developed skills that match the requirement of Thai enterprises. They are competitive in the job market," the principal said.

Mechatronics, which Natawut majored in, enjoys broad application in industry. After graduating from the Luban Workshop, he worked as an assistant engineer.

"In the Luban Workshop, I learned both knowledge and operational skills. Students there need to learn

the operation of machines, solve practical problems and acquire vocational skills," Natawut told People's Daily.

Thanks to the skills and experiences he gained from the vocational training program, Natawut got many job offers. Finally he chose a Chinese enterprise in the Thai-Chinese Rayong Industrial Zone.

"It is in the Eastern Economic Corridor, the future of Thailand's economic development," he explained.

It is learned that since the Luban Workshop at Ayutthaya Technical College was established in 2016, it has trained 1,227 local students and sent 301 of them to China for vocational education.

Besides, the Luban Workshop also accepts students and teachers from vocational schools in other ASEAN countries and has trained a total of 12,000 people from these countries.

The Thai Luban Workshop improves Thailand's vocational training, further enhances Thai-China education cooperation, and builds closer friendship between the two peoples, said Tanu Vongjinda, secretary-general of the Thai Vocational Education Commission.

He hopes the Luban Workshop can train more professionals, drive technical innovation and upgrade, and make a contribution to the Thai government's 20-Year Strategy, a project also known as Thailand 4.0.

People's Daily



Kigoma's Athanas Emmanuel (R) aims a punch at Bosco Bakari of Dar es Salaam's JKT team in one of the bouts of the past National Open Boxing showdown in Dar es Salaam. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SUPERBOXINGCOACH.BLOGSPOT.COM

Dar boxers suffer defeats in IBA World Boxing Championship

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA'S boxers Alex Isendi and Yusuph Changarawe were on Tuesday knocked out of the ongoing International Amateur Boxing Association (IBA) Men's World Championships held in Uzbekistan.

Isendi lost 5-0 to Tajikistan boxer Usmonov Bakhodur in a Light Welterweight bout while Light Heavyweight pugilist, Changarawe, lost to Georgian boxer Nevarian Otar.

Lukelo Wililo, the Boxing Federation of Tanzania (BFT) president, said the two boxers did a tremendous job but could not win against stronger opponents.

"They did their best but their opponents were too good, Changarawe sustained a cut on one of his eyes in the second round which affected him and his opponent took advantage of this and won," he said.

Wililo said the duo will remain in Uzbekistan until the end of the IBA Men's World Boxing Championships on May 13.

The country is represented by four boxers, Isendi, Changarawe, Kassim Mbundwike, and Alex Sulwa that are led by head coach Samwel Kapungu while Wililo is the leader of the delegation.

Light Middleweight boxer Mbundwike was in action last night as he fought Yeasungeon Peerapat from Thailand.

Mbundwike's compatriot, Super Heavyweight fighter Alex Sulwa will be in action today taking on a boxer from Algeria.

This is the fourth time Tanzania's boxers battle it out in the IBA Men's World Boxing Championships.

The country's senior national men's boxing team, nicknamed 'Ngorongoro Black Rhinos', is made up of four boxers.

Other pugilists constituting the national squad are Kassim Mbundwike

(Light Middleweight), and Super Heavyweight boxer Alex Sulwa who was set to be in action yesterday and tomorrow.

The four have been accompanied by head coach Samwel Kapungu and delegation leader, Wililo.

On Sunday, Wililo pointed out the boxers were geared for improved performance in the IBA Men's World Boxing Championships.

Speaking from Tashkent, Uzbekistan's capital, Wililo said the Tanzanian boxers are ready for the showdown.

He said he is confident of witnessing the boxers grabbing medals as they have trained well and are ready for the championships.

Wililo noted: "We are ready for the IBA Men's World Boxing Championships which gets underway tomorrow (April 30) to May 14."

"Three of our boxers competed in the last edition of Commonwealth Games and two of them - Mbundwike and Changarawe - won bronze medals in the Games, that is one of the reasons we are confident they will get medals in these championships," he said.

Mbundwike defeated Faustino Marion AH Tong of Samoa Island, whereas Changarawe beat Arthur Langelier of St. Lucia via Referee Stop Contest (RSC) to secure a place in the 2022 Commonwealth Games semi-finals.

In the semi-finals, Mbundwike suffered a loss to Mozambican Tiago Muxanga, whereas Changarawe lost to Sean Lazzarini of Scotland.

More than 600 boxers from 104 countries are expected to battle it out in IBA Men's Championships.

Boxers grabbing gold medals are set to be presented with US dollars 200,000 while silver and bronze medalists will each walk away with 100,000 and 50,000 US dollars respectively.

Singida Big Stars' head coach expresses confidence in squad after realizing Yanga's threat

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SINGIDA Big Stars head coach Hans van der Pluijm has expressed confidence ahead of his charges' home clash against Yanga in the 2022/23 NBC Premier League encounter to be played at Liti Stadium in Singida today.

Pluijm's side lost 4-1 to Yanga in the first-round encounter at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium and will be desperate to spoil the opponents' hopes for mounting title defense this season, with the former not in good form at the moment.

The Dutch coach revealed he is aware of the threat Yanga might pose and is preparing his team to deal with it and, possibly, disrupt the latter's plans.

The tactician noted: "I have been observing Yanga in the games they have played in leagues and continental competition, I have seen my opponents are especially good at sticking to the plans by stretching the opposition's backline even when they find it hard to score goals."

The Dutch stated: "We cannot repeat the mistakes we committed in the previous meeting. We ought to be solid because, after this, we will play against them in the Azam Sports Federation Cup semi-final."

"Everything is possible and nothing is impossible when you believe that you can do something for your team," the coach stressed.

Premier League leaders



Singida Big Stars' midfielder, Dário Frederico da Silva (C), celebrates with fellow footballers, Rodrigo Figueiredo (L), and Bruno Gomes when the former scored a goal during this season's NBC Premier League tie played in Singida recently.

Yanga will be back to put their 2-0 loss to age-old rival, Simba SC, behind after garnering success in this season's CAF Confederation Cup, recording a 2-0 aggregate victory over Rivers United of Nigeria in the last eight.

The Tanzania envoys in the second tier of continental competitions have garnered the golden opportunity following the aggregate 2-0 win over Rivers United in the quarterfinals after playing out a

0-0 draw with the Nigerian club in the rematch in Dar es Salaam on Sunday.

Yanga will play Marumo Gallants of South Africa in the semi-finals of the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup.

It is a historical moment for Tanzania, given the country still has a representative in this season's CAF inter-club competitions.

Yanga will have a shift of focus to win the league back-to-back as the squad is placed at

the summit of the league log with 68 points.

The league leader has a five-point gap with age-old rival Simba SC which has amassed 63 points to sit second, with both taking part in 26 games.

Host Singida Big Stars is occupying the third place after collecting 51 points from 26 games played while fourth-placed Azam FC has played one more game whilst notching 53 points.

Firm committed to developing chess in Tanzania

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE Tanzania Chess Premier officials have said they are committed to taking the sport to greater heights in the country by, among others, training many players.

The firm's Director and Head Tutor, Godlove Kimaro, said they are geared to promote the sport in the country.

He said his firm which started in November 2020 is, apart from training players, involved in selling chess equipment. "We are a company

which deals with selling chess equipment, teaching chess to individuals, schools and institutions, chess philanthropy and chess modeling," the official noted.

"We are committed to providing affordable chess equipment as we aim to see that chess is played in the country's schools and many people outside schools are as well playing the game," Kimaro, the FIDE-rated chess player with more than 10 years of experience, said.

He said currently they are providing lessons online and in halls to

more than 20 students.

Kimaro, who is assisted by Frank Lugano, said he is delighted that, in the short period, they have been in operation, players from the firm are doing well in both local and international events.

The idea to see chess played in schools in Tanzania has come at a good time. Chess - a classic game of strategy - was invented more than 1500 years ago in India.

Since its invention, chess has spread to every country in the world, it has received endorsement as an integral

part of education in the United States of America (USA), some European countries, and Asian countries.

The African Chess Federation is lobbying the African Union through the Union's Commission of Education to recognize the sport as vital in the sector.

Scholars have issued some significant factors of the sport in education, saying chess accommodates all modality strengths.

The game also provides a far greater quantity of problems for practice, offers imme-

diately punishments and rewards for problem-solving, and creates either a pattern or thinking system that, when used faithfully, breeds success.

Some years ago, the now-defunct Tanzania Chess Foundation (TCF) academy was formed with the sole aim of promoting education and chess in the country.

Before it went into oblivion, TCF Academy in conjunction with Tanzania Chess Association (TCA) and Garry Kasparov Chess Foundation (KCF) was offering chess classes in some schools.

Sauti za Busara pledge to promote, celebrate cultural diversity

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

SAUTI Za Busara Festival organizers have pledged to continuously promote and celebrate cultural diversity in Tanzania.

The organizers have insisted such effort boosts the national identity and encourages the community to pass it from generation to generation. Sauti za Busara is organized by Busara Promotions.

The festival's Manager, Journey Ramadhan, said so after his team received an honorary award during the Tanzania Music Awards (TMA) gala held in Dar es Salaam last weekend.

Ramadhan also acknowledged the government's effort to promote arts and cultural activities in the country.

"Busara Promotion and Sauti za Busara team acknowl-

edge the endless effort that the government, through its Ministry of Culture, Arts, and Sports and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) have placed to develop the arts and cultural industry in the country," the official pointed out.

"We will maintain our support to promote our cultural diversity in the country and worldwide," he said.

Ramadhan received the award from the Director of Arts Development in the Ministry of Culture, Arts, and Sports Emmanuel Ishengoma, and National Arts Council Executive Secretary Kedmon Mapana.

After receiving the award, the festival manager noted: "First of all, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our government under President Samia Suluhu Has-

san and all institutions and stakeholders for appreciating and seeing the importance of musical art.

"We are very grateful for the honorary award for contributing to the music industry, this institution has contributed significantly to the development of Tanzanian music by allowing artists to show their talents and connect local and foreign artists to work together," the official noted.

Apart from the role of Busara Promotion and the Sauti za Busara Festival, the team has set its sight on promoting arts and the cultural industry.

Ramadhan revealed they had played a vital role in fostering artistic works that have contributed to the artists' economic growth.

The festival moreover attracts visitors from around the world to visit Tanzania and various tourist attractions

every year.

Ramadhan pointed out: "Our festival has also been able to attract visitors from different parts of the world to Zanzibar and Tanzania, thus contributing to the economic growth of Tanzania."

This year's festival, Sauti za Busara, celebrated its 20th anniversary and welcomed artists worldwide.

The festival invited groups of different ages and countries, some of which are the Zanzibar Dhow Countries Music Academy (DCMA) and Young Stars at Ngome Kongwe' Old Fort in Zanzibar to mark the official opening of the 20th edition of Sauti za Busara Festival in February.

After this year's festival climax, the organizers opened doors for artists to register for the 2024 edition and showcase their talent, culture, and passion for music.



Tanzania's Bahati Female Band artists perform at the 2022 Sauti za Busara Festival in Zanzibar. PHOTO: MARC NGOTONIE

Davis, James deliver as Lakers top Curry, Warriors in Game 1

SAN FRANCISCO

LeBRON James no longer has to do it all against Stephen Curry on the big stage, not even close. Anthony Davis plugs the middle and takes away the easy chances inside. Dennis Schröder has the energy to help chase No. 30 all over the court. D'Angelo Russell can hit a big shot with a hand in his face.

That's the thing about these new-look Lakers — they take so much pressure off the game's all-time scoring leader and LeBron believes in them, even with the defending champions on a 14-0 run with their home crowd rocking.

Davis had 30 points, 23 rebounds, five assists and four blocked shots, James added 22 points and 11 rebounds dueling with Stephen Curry in their latest postseason showdown, and Los Angeles held off a late flurry by the Golden State Warriors to win an entertaining Game 1 in the Western Conference semifinals 117-112 on Tuesday night.

"We've been playing playoff basketball for about 2 1/2 months now just to punch our clock to be able to play right now in the postseason," James said. "We were very resilient tonight. ... We know how great they are on their home floor, so to withstand that, it's another good step for our ballclub."

James' 23 points were his third-fewest in 23 playoff games against the Warriors. His previous-low in a win was 27 in Game 7 of 2016 Finals.

Jordan Poole missed a 3-pointer to tie it with 9.7 seconds left as the Warriors' rally in the closing minutes fell short. Curry's 3 with 1:38 left tied the game, then Russell answered right back before Davis blocked a shot by Curry moments later. James missed the first of two free throws with 1:05 to go.

Poole's 3 with 2:48 remaining cut the Lakers' lead to 112-109, and James was called for traveling with 1:53 left.

For all-time scoring leader James and Curry — who has the most 3-pointers ever and is reigning NBA Finals MVP — this is a new chapter in the long rivalry between the superstars after they faced off in four straight NBA Finals from 2015-2018 while James played for Cleveland.

Curry scored 27 points, Splash Brother Klay Thompson had 25, and Kevon Looney grabbed a career-high 23 rebounds for his fourth game of this postseason with 20 or more. He also had 10 points and five assists. Thompson made a 3 with 5:19 to go that cut the Lakers' lead to 112-104.

The defending champion Warriors will try to even the series in Game 2 on Thursday night back on their home floor at Chase Center, where LA fans could be heard chanting "Let's go Lakers!" after the final buzzer.

Davis dominated from the opening tip, making 9 of his first 10 shots, while Russell scored 19 points and dished out six assists against his former team.

"I thought AD had a great game. Obviously he dominated and he got blocked four shots and altered some others," Warriors coach Steve Kerr said. "That's what this team has been doing now for the last few months. They have been one of the best defensive teams in the league for a reason and he's a huge part of that."

James' 3-pointer with 5:23 left in the third put the Lakers ahead by 10, 86-76. Then Thompson's snazzy behind-the-back pass led to a dunk by Gary Payton II over James with 3:48 to go as Golden State cut it to 86-80 and forced a Lakers timeout.

The Lakers finished off Memphis in six games Friday night and had a couple of extra recovery days to get ready as Golden State was pushed to the distance by the young Sacramento Kings and won Game 7 on Sunday. The Warriors were the first reigning champion to come back from behind 2-0 and win a playoff series.

Curry went off for a playoff career-high 50 points, an NBA record for a Game 7. Kerr said he thought his team had an advantage having just played two days earlier.

But the revamped Lakers took it to Golden State just as they did winning the final three regular-season matchups — and Los Angeles is a far different team than the one that lost 123-109 here on Oct. 18 to start the season.

"It was a quick turnaround but can't dwell on it," Thompson said. "... So the morale is not low. We know we let one slip away."

Meanwhile, in New York, Jalen Brunson took the blame when the Knicks dropped the opener of the Eastern Conference semifinals and insisted he needed to be better in Game 2.

Halfway through, it appeared he wasn't.

Struggling again with his shot and this time a sore right ankle as well, Brunson told himself he needed to fight through it.

"Just kind of had to find a way to be mentally tough," he said. "Go out there and do it."

He did, getting New York back to even in the series. Brunson scored 30 points Tuesday night and keyed the run the Knicks needed just in time for a 111-105 victory over a Miami Heat team playing without Jimmy Butler.

Julius Randle returned from a sprained left ankle that sidelined him in Game 1 with 25 points, 12 rebounds and eight assists, and RJ Barrett scored 16 of his 24 points in the first quarter for the No. 5-seeded Knicks. Josh Hart finished with 14 points, 11 rebounds and nine assists.

"I thought Julius gutted it out, played tough. I thought Jalen was fantastic," Knicks coach Tom Thibodeau said. "RJ big, big start to the game for us, so we had a number of guys step up to get it done."

AP

NBA MVP: 76ers' Embiid wins league's top individual honor

By DAN GELSTON

JOEL Embiid began the long process toward NBA MVP as a towering soccer prospect in Africa who never picked up a basketball until he was a teenager.

Once he changed sports for good, Embiid became a generational — albeit often-injured — talent. And, the affable center quickly became the face of the Philadelphia 76ers' rebuilding effort more commonly known as The Process.

He embraced the nickname and is introduced before every home game as Joel "The Process" Embiid.

Embiid can now add MVP.

The All-Star center and two-time league scoring champion, Embiid, who had long lobbied for the award, earned his first NBA MVP trophy Tuesday night, topping two-time winner Nikola Jokic of the Denver Nuggets.

The 29-year-old from Yaoundé, Cameroon, averaged 33.1 points to win his second straight scoring title, averaged 10.2 rebounds and tied a career high with 4.2 assists per game. Embiid has been sidelined with a sprained right knee that cost him one game of the playoff sweep against Brooklyn and the opening game of the Eastern Conference semifinals against Boston, which was won by Philadelphia on Monday night.

Jokic finished runner-up in the MVP voting, and Giannis Antetokounmpo of the Milwaukee Bucks



Philadelphia 76ers' Joel Embiid reacts after a score by Tobias Harris in the first half during Game 2 in the first round of the NBA basketball playoffs against the Brooklyn Nets, Monday, April 17, 2023, in Philadelphia. (AP Photo)

was third. Embiid received 73 first-place votes. Jokic received 15 first-place votes, and Antetokounmpo got 12.

"It's been a long time coming," Embiid said. "A lot of hard work. I've been through a lot. I'm not just talking about basketball. I'm talking about my life. My story. Where I come from. How I got here and what it took for me to be here."

The 76ers watched on TV in Boston and erupted in applause and started chanting "MVP! MVP!" as the big man buried his head in his hands as he sat in a chair in the team hotel. Embiid was in tears as teammates James Harden, Tobias Harris and Tyrese Maxey mobbed him in celebration.

Embiid then vowed "I'll be back" for the playoff series against the Celtics. But as for Game 2 on Wednesday night?

"We shall see," Embiid said.

Play or not, there will be raucous celebration for Embiid once the 76ers return home Friday night for Game 3.

Embiid has been determined to win — and campaigned for — the MVP trophy for years. The third overall pick of the 2014 draft, Embiid missed his first two full seasons with injuries before settling in as one of the top big men of his generation. He was at his best this season when he totaled three 50-point games, including a career-high 59 against Utah in November. He had 13 total 40-point games.

When Embiid totaled 52 points and 13 rebounds in a win against the Celtics in April, coach Doc Rivers boldly declared, "The MVP race is over."

Embiid certainly didn't argue that night with his

coach or Sixers teammates who stumped on his behalf.

"They're probably right," Embiid said. "But we have bigger goals in mind."

His durability played a factor in the vote. Embiid played in 66 games, the second-highest total of his career, even though he has again been hit with injuries in the playoffs.

Embiid is the first 76er to win league MVP since Allen Iverson in 2001. Julius Erving in 1981, Moses Malone in 1983 and Wilt Chamberlain from 1966-1968 are other 76ers to win NBA MVP awards.

Embiid's injury, though, could be the deciding factor in the 76ers' chase for the NBA championship. The Sixers are trying to win their first NBA title since 1983 and advance past the second round for the first time since 2001 — which was the last time a Sixer won the MVP award.

Allen Iverson was named league MVP in 2001. Other 76ers to capture the league's top individual award: Julius Erving, 1981; Moses Malone, 1983; and Wilt Chamberlain, 1966-1968.

Embiid, who graduated from a Florida high school and played a season in college at Kansas, has been every bit the dominant force in the NBA over the past seven seasons. Once the poster child for load management, Embiid has played 134 regular-season games the last two seasons and his 30.6 points last season made him the first international player ever to win an NBA scoring title. He's a

six-time All-Star and was runner-up each of the last two seasons to Jokic.

Antetokounmpo won in 2019 and 2020. Jokic in 2021 and 2022.

Now, the award belongs to Embiid, who didn't pick up a basketball until he was a teenager in Africa, when a friend informed him that very few 7-footers succeed in soccer.

A few months later, Embiid was lured to a basketball camp in the capital of Yaounde run by NBA veteran Luc Mbah a Moute, one of just two players from Cameroon to have played in the NBA. Mbah a Moute persuaded Embiid's parents to let him move 6,000 miles to Florida, and helped enroll him at Montverde Academy, one of the best high school programs in the country. He played just 28 games in his lone season at Kansas before leaving for the NBA.

"I am absolutely thrilled for Joel on winning the MVP award. He is the real deal and deserves every bit of recognition that comes his way," Rivers said. "He embodies everything that the honor stands for. His drive to improve is unmatched, and like the saying 'a dream doesn't become reality through magic, it takes hard work', he's put in the work."

Embiid, who became an American citizen last year, was known early in his career for sucking down Shirley Temples but has worked with sports dietitians to develop healthier eating habits and streamlined his workouts.

Sixers fans can enjoy him for years. Embiid's four-year, \$196 million contract extension doesn't kick in until next season and takes him through 2026-27.

Billboards went up around Philadelphia of Embiid with the slogan "MVP!ID" and Sixers fans serenaded him with "MVP!" chants from pre-game introductions all the way to his final free throw attempts.

Embiid, who shares with his long-time girlfriend a son named in the honor of his late brother, holds career averages of 27.2 points and 11.2 rebounds in 394 career starts. He's a four-time All-NBA selection and three-time All-Defensive Team selection.

This is the fifth consecutive year an international player has been MVP, extending the longest streak in NBA history. It's also the second time that international players finished 1-2-3 in MVP voting; the first time was last season.

Embiid becomes the second winner from Africa, joining Hakeem Olajuwon, the Nigerian who won for Houston in 1994.

"His impact on both sides of the ball places him in rarified air among all-time greats such as Hakeem, Kareem (Abdul-Jabbar) and Wilt," 76ers President Daryl Morey said. "It has been a privilege to watch Joel over the last three seasons and I know this won't be his last accomplishment as we continue to strive toward our ultimate goal of winning an NBA championship."

AP

Frank Lampard has made Chelsea worse than they were under Graham Potter

By Sam Wallace

THESE are rough times to be a Chelsea legend in charge of the club for whom you hold the all-time goalscoring record when the big question is currently: can they beat anyone?

Worth asking because under the caretaker regime of Frank Lampard, Chelsea are six games and six defeats in, and a trip to in-form Bournemouth on Saturday looms like AC Milan away in 1989. The man himself looks mortified at it all, arms tightly folded and sense of embarrassment growing more acute by the game. Defeat to Arsenal, very much the club whom Lampard and the rest of the Chelsea great of the 2000s displaced in the hierarchy around 18 years ago, felt inevitable in the way the opposite generally felt like the case in that era.

Modern Chelsea habitually consumed managerial reputations and sometimes the damage was irreparable for the men who bore it. Never has it scorched through in this way to one of its own. In the tumult of 2020s Chelsea, one sacking just has not been enough for Lampard the manager, once the favourite son of the club's greatest era. At the very least it appears he is going to have to go through a similar humiliation all over

again, whether he hangs on to May 28 or not.

Which cannot obscure the reality that this has been a dreadful period made worse by Lampard's failure to shape this Chelsea squad into anything like a competitive side. What is evident now, deep into the post-Potter maelstrom, is that the mild-mannered Graham might not have been the solution, but he was by no means the biggest problem. Also, the club's ownership had no business re-uniting Lampard with this group of players.

The television cameras did not succeed in seeking out Todd Boehly or Behdad Eghbali among the VIP crowd at the Emirates. The restless venture capitalists, whose grand plans for the club have so far succeeded this season in accumulating fewer points than Crystal Palace, have been impatient for change thus far. There have been two managerial sackings this season. Will they make it a third? It is beginning to seem like Lampard would welcome the chance to no longer be granted this second chance at managing Chelsea.

Indeed, these six games feel like about three years — the rise and fall of a managerial epoch, all of it packed into less than a month. From the early fanbase enthusiasm, to the subsequent grinding defeats, the absence of

any meaningful change and then the dawning realization that none of it was ever going to come. So the second spell of Lampard has bloomed and now withers. The next question being: can Chelsea take another month of it?

Lampard changed the system again for Arsenal, trying to match Mikel Arteta's 4-3-3 formation and in doing so dismantling the back three deployed to such little effect against Real Madrid and then Brentford. They were up against an Arsenal side much more adept at playing that system and exploiting the space and the opportunities that it opened. Never better exemplified by the fact that Martin Odegaard scored two goals of notable similarity in the first half. He did so having twice drifted away

from whoever in a blue shirt had assumed that someone else was supposed to be marking the Arsenal No 8.

Chelsea feel like a team of grievances. Captain Cesar Azpilicueta grim-faced, nurturing some terrible grudge against whoever he holds responsible — possibly Lampard himself. N'Golo Kante and Mateo Kovacic with a scarcely disguised contempt for it all, waiting for this storm to pass so they can examine their options. Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang, back in the side for the first time since the previous defeat to Arsenal in November, playing like a man determined to prove Arteta was absolutely right about him.

It is a curious but not entirely unexpected fact that Jorginho has scored as many goals for Chelsea this season as Aubameyang — three

— despite Jorginho having been at Arsenal since Jan 21. Naturally the midfielder in question played well in this game, and yet such is the Chelsea malaise that it feels redundant to wonder how he might have fared had he been on the other side. It has them all in its grip: Raheem Sterling, Wesley Fofana, the ever more traumatised-looking Mykhailo Mudryk. He has no Chelsea goal now in 14 games and might have warranted more spite from the home fans had they felt that they were missing out on much.

For Lampard it is painful. This was his tenth straight defeat in all competitions as a manager when the end of Everton and whatever this is are fused together. A record unmatched in top-flight football since Arthur Cox at Derby County in 1988.

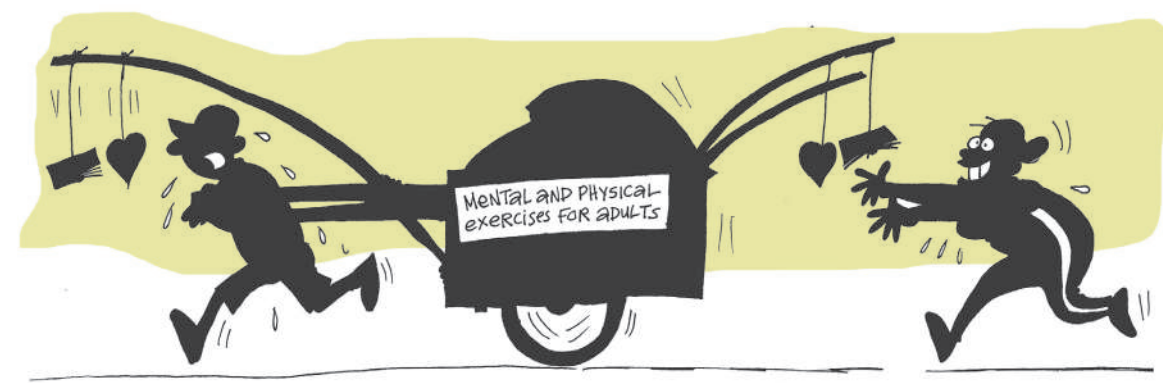
After Saturday's game

at Bournemouth, blazing a trail to safety under one of Lampard's playing contemporaries, Gary O'Neil, comes Nottingham Forest who are wrestling with their own demons. As things stand that Forest game at Stamford Bridge a week on Saturday feels like it could be the last chance for Lampard's second act as Chelsea manager, because after that the fixture list grows very dark indeed. The Etihad Stadium, Old Trafford and then the last day of the season at home to Newcastle United.

There is nothing left for Chelsea to play for this season, lingering in 12th, and with their gaze stoically averted from the relegation struggle taking place just below. Yet also feels like everything is on the line. Because every time it feels like the low point, deeper they go.

THE TELEGRAPH

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

NBA MVP: 76ers' Embiid wins league's top individual honor PAGE 18



Youssouph Dabo

Azam FC appoints Senegalese coach with three PL games left

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

AZAM FC has appointed Senegalese tactician Youssouph Dabo as the outfit's new head coach for three years.

With only three matches left to the end of the current season of NBC Premier League, the new coach is expected to take charge of the club starting with the 2023/24 campaign.

The 43-year-old Dabo will not be a total stranger at Azam FC having worked with defender, Malickou Ndoye, at Teingueth FC before the footballer left for Azam FC in July 2022.

Azam FC has been under the interim management of coach Kalimangonga Ongala since October 2022 when French tactician Denis Lavagne was shown the exit door after a poor run.

In the 2020/21 season, Dabo enabled Teingueth FC to reach the Group Stage of the CAF Champions League by knocking one of the continental showpiece's favourites, Morocco's Raja Casablanca out of the First Preliminary Round.

The first leg tie held in Senegal ended 0-0, as was the case for the rematch played in Casablanca, then it went to a penalty shootout which witnessed Teingueth FC commanding a 3-1 victory.

The appointment of Dabo cannot affect the position of Ongala as the latter may return to the initial position he was serving to continue as the attackers' coach in the squad.

Dabo also coached Simba SC's Senegalese midfielder Pape Ousmane Sakho when the former was coaching Teingueth FC.

His coaching career has seen him handle the Senegal U-20 side between January 2019 and February 2021 besides coaching several clubs in the country.

Ongala has managed to steer the ice cream makers to staying third on the log with 53 points with just three matches left to play although fourth-placed Singida could finish ahead of Azam FC by grabbing victories in the club's remaining matches.

Yanga, Singida Big Stars in a pivotal Premier League showdown



Yanga's right-back, Kibwana Shomari (R), negotiates his way past Singida Big Stars' center-back, Abdulmajid Mangalo, during a 2022/23 NBC Premier League tie which took place in Dar es Salaam last year and ended in a 4-1 victory for Yanga. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

SINGIDA Big Stars and Yanga clash at the Liti Stadium in Singida in an NBC Premier League game that could be vital for the host's chances of a top-three finish while the visitors can tighten their grip on the title with a victory this afternoon.

Fourth-placed Singida Big Stars enjoy an unassailable 14-point gap over fifth-placed Geita Gold FC, meaning the former have already confirmed playing continental football next season.

However, they are still in contention for a top-three finish with third-placed Azam FC.

Hans van der Pluijm-coached Singida Big Stars are only two points adrift of third-placed Azam FC and are aware they can reclaim the third spot with maximum points against the defending champions who might have their minds more focused on next week's continental assignment.

Having conceded 20 goals in 26 league matches, Singida Big Stars boast the third-best defensive record in the division this term, meaning they can count on

their solid backline to keep Yanga at bay.

Up front, Brazilian attacking midfielder Bruno Gomes is Singida's biggest threat in front of goal, weighing in with nine goals and one assist in 23 league appearances so far this season, and he will be their main inspiration in breaching the Yanga defense.

As for Yanga, they head into the afternoon's showdown on the back of a 0-0 draw with Nigerian club Rivers United in a 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup

last-eight rematch last weekend, despite dominating possession while registering a solitary shot on target.

Still, Nasreddine Nabi-coached Yanga advanced to the semi-finals of the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup thanks to a 2-0 aggregate win, setting up a two-legged showdown with South Africa's Marumo Gallants next week.

It is worth noting that Yanga lost their last league match, suffering a 2-0 loss to Simba SC on April 16 at

Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

That said, Nabi's side has won eight of their last 10 league encounters on the road, with 22 victories coming in their previous 26 domestic encounters.

The loss against Simba SC was the first defeat in 12 league games for Yanga. They won each of their previous 12 fixtures, all of which were in the NBC Premier League.

Yanga's star striker Fiston Mayele has racked up 16 goals and two assists in the league this term, while key playmaker Stephane Aziz Ki has bagged eight goals and three assists.

The club's technical bench will have one eye on the game against Marumo Gallants, which is likely to lead to Nabi shuffling his pack following the draw with Rivers United.

Key players might have their minutes managed giving chances to fringe members of the squad to fight for the three points against Singida Big Stars.

Even with rotation in mind, Nabi's men will still be confident of doing the double over Singida Big Stars having crushed them 4-1 in the reverse fixture back in November, with Mayele bagging a hat trick on that occasion.

Prime Minister to grace AUCS Region 4 Council of Sports Ministers meeting

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa is today expected to grace the African Union Sports Council (AUCS) Region 4 Council of Sports Ministers meeting in Arusha.

The meeting is expected to approve Tanzania as the headquarters of the council secretariat.

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Culture, Arts, and Sports Saidi Yakubu said all is set for the Council of Sports Ministers meeting.

Speaking at the end of the AUCS committee of experts meeting on Tuesday, Yakubu said the meeting also tackled the role of sports in addressing macro and social issues affecting the region.

He also informed the delegates of Tanzania's readiness to be the headquarters of AUCS Region 4.

Yakubu said housing the AUCS Region 4 secretariat is part of President Samia Suluhu Hassan's efforts of advancing sports diplomacy policy in the country.

He stated: "We had a very successful committee of AUCS Region 4 Sports experts meeting where we looked at many things to advance Sports in our region and more importantly we presented our proposal to be the headquarters of the AUCS Region 4 secretariat."

"We informed the delegates on our readiness and willingness to become the headquarters of AUCS Region 4 secretariat, hav-

ing the headquarters of the council will among others promote sports diplomacy our President Samia Suluhu Hassan's leadership is advancing," he said.

He promised the delegates that once Tanzania is approved to serve as the headquarters of AUCS Region 4, it will host the AUCS Region 4 Games and hand over awards for best sportsmen and women in the region, seeking to promote sports in the region.

Minister for Culture, Arts, and Sports Pindi Chana and her colleagues from the AUCS Region 4 region are expected to attend the meeting.

Also in attendance is Zanzibar Minister for Information, Youth, Culture, and Sports Tabia Maulid, top sports officials from Tanzania and AUCS Region 4 as well as leaders of national sports federations.

The last time the AUCS Region 4 Council of Sports Ministers held its meeting was in 2018 in Uganda. Since that time, a lot of developments and issues have emerged impacting sports both negatively and positively.

The ministers are expected to articulate these issues and pronounce policy direction to steer the industry and move forward.

Yakubu also said the Council of Sports Ministers will approve strategies and policies that will stimulate and rediscover the trajectory of sports under the new normal that the entire world finds itself in.

The Permanent Secretary further disclosed that the Council of Sports Ministers meeting will also amend the AUCS Region 4 constitution to allow the formation of the Council of Permanent Secretaries.

He revealed the Council of Permanent Secretaries is vital as it makes decisions that are critical to the development of sports in the region.

The ministers are also expected to evaluate and recommend the performance of sports in all member countries.

The Council of Sports Ministers is the supreme policy-making organ of AUCS Region 4 and, among its numerous duties, is to formulate policies and regulations on the administration, organization, and promotion of sports in the region.

Tanzania will resume regional chairmanship as the mandate of the current chairman, Uganda, expires.

More than 100 delegates are in the country for the meetings.

The AUCS is the technical arm of the African Union Commission (AUC) under the Department of Social Affairs, functioning as the supreme authority for the coordination of the African Sports movement.

AUCS Region 4 member states are Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Madagascar, Mauritius, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, Sudan, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda.

Anthony Moya lifts Hanang Fun Race top honour

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

ANTHONY Moya emerged as the overall winner of the Labour Day marathon which was held in Manyara on Monday.

The Fun Run attracted more than 100 athletes and was organized by Orege Safari and Tours in conjunction with Gidabuday Sports & Tourism Foundation.

Wilhelm Gidabuday, one of the Fun Run organizers, said the 10km event started from the entry point of Mount Hanang to Katesh in Manyara District headquarters.

He said the Fun Run was attended by many top personalities in the region including Hanang District Commissioner Janeth Mayanja, and Hanang Member of Parliament Samuel Hayuma.

Manyara Youth Special Seats Member of Parliament Asia Halamga, Council Chairperson Rose Kamili, and top international athletes Faustin Baha Sulle, Simon Sukuma, and Emmanuel Giniki were also in attendance.

manuel Giniki were also in attendance.

Gidabuday thanked all who made the Fun Run a success, revealing that the exploits of local athletes Gabriel Geay and Alphonse Simbu on the international stage are motivating and inspiring many young and upcoming athletes in Hanang District.

"This was a Fun Run which was organized as part of Labour Day celebrations, but we are happy with the huge attendance of runners," the former Athletics Tanzania (AT) secretary-general said.

"It was a Fun Run but it has also motivated and inspired young athletes to work hard so they can become top international runners like Gabriel Geay and Alphonse Simbu," he said.

The top 10 winners in both boys and girls categories in the showdown received a cash prize donated by Hayuma and pairs of shoes donated by an American national of Tanzanian origin, Sydney Gidabuday.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

