



## TECHNOLOGY



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## COMMENTARY



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# Govt to build 14 universities for peripheral regions, 2026

*The university faces financial challenges and was thus unable to construct the needed dormitory*

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa said yesterday that the government is determined to establish 14 university campuses in peripheral regions.

Addressing lecturers and graduates at the 26th graduation ceremony at Iringa University, standing in for President Samia Suluhu Hassan, he said the new campuses are slated for Kigoma, Ruvuma, Singida, Mwanza, Kagera, Tanga, Njombe, Tabora, Manyara, Simiyu, Shinyanga, Lindi, Rukwa and Katavi.

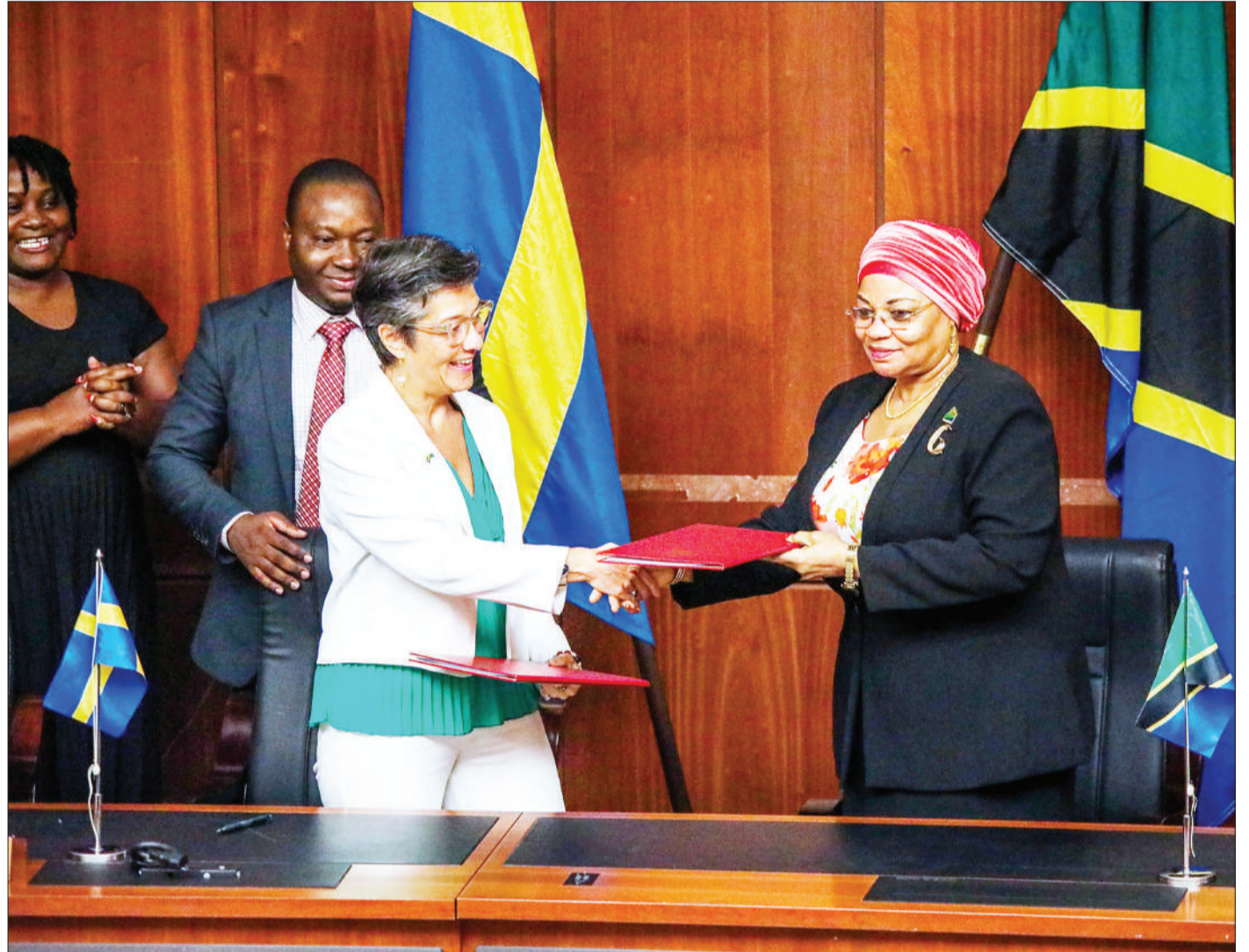
"The move is part of deliberate efforts to

accelerate economic growth in peripheral areas. We also aim to increase opportunities for technical education, knowledge and life skills in specific areas," he stated.

Construction of the new campuses would increase the scope of access to educational enhancement and employment opportunities, while improvement of infrastructure at universities like lecture rooms, laboratories, lecturers' houses and libraries was being pursued, he said.

Under the higher education for economic transformation (HEET) project, the govern-

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Finance ministry permanent secretary Dr Natu El-Maamry Mwamba (R) and Sweden's Ambassador to Tanzania, Charlotta Ozakid Macias, pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday exchanging documents on an agreement involving a 210bn/- grant to be extended by the Global Education Cooperation Institute (GPE) through the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA). It is for the implementation of a Teaching Staff Strengthening Programme in Tanzania, meant to improve the learning environment for students by reforming teaching based on the management of teachers in part by ensuring gender equality and inclusion. Photo: Finance ministry

## SPORTS

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**Azam FC clicks back into gear in a perfect month**

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**Man Utd on brink of Champions League exit, Arsenal and PSV into last 16**

## Murder, poisoning, hard drugs leading in GCLA's test samples

*Sulphur business has grown to 1,016,138 tonnes in 2022/23, shooting up from 99,594 tonnes in 2020/21 and 396,982 tonnes in 2021/22*

By Francis Kajubi

THE majority of samples received for testing at the Government Chemist Laboratory Authority (GCLA) are connected with murder, poisoning and illicit drugs.

David Elias, the GCLA director for forensic services, said at a press conference yesterday that on his part that so far samples related to crime top the list of received samples for testing.

"Samples related to crime are not limited to within the country's borders," he

affirmed, stating that this is the reason the samples lead in diagnosis lists

GCLA has during fiscal 2021/22 and 2022/23 procured eight high technology laboratory diagnosis facilities and 134 small scale diagnosis facilities, altogether costing 9.3bn/-.

Dr Fidelis Mafumiko, the chief government chemist, said at the event in Dar es Salaam yesterday that among the procured diagnosis facilities are inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectroscopy (ICP-OES), a light-based analyti-

cal technique to determine the magnitude of certain elements in a sample.

Other purchased facilities are transesophageal echocardiography (TEE) and transthoracic echocardiography (TTE), sound-based analytical instruments used in the diagnosis of androgenic anabolic steroids (AAS), largely prohibited stimulants among athletes.

"These facilities will greatly complement the provision of sample diagnosis and other related laboratory services," he said, elaborating that the authority had during 2021/22 administered the diagnosis of 155,817 samples, well above the targeted 111,349 samples.

During fiscal 2022/23, 212,306 samples or 133.90 percent of the targeted 158,600 samples were tested, he said, noting that efficiency in diagnosis of samples and

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## 'Average income of surveyed poor well below poverty line'

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

A NEW report assessing the second phase of the poverty alleviation programme has shown that average daily spending for targeted households in 2022 stood at 1,149/-, well below the poverty line of 1,859/- for the Mainland.

George Simbachawene (pictured), the Public Service Management and Good Governance state minister in the President's Office, made this observation here yesterday when launching a report by the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF).

The findings shows the average spend-



ing for a single household per month was 152,621/- in which food took the most share with 113,256/- equivalent to 74.2percent of household spending, he said.

"The monthly spending for targeted households is down compared to monthly household spending in Tan-

zania," he affirmed, noting that most households spend the money given to them through the programme on food instead of investing in revenue generating activities.

The government will now focus on offering education so that the money given to them is invested in revenue generating activities, he said, pointing out that 50-percent of the targeted families are involved in farming, 22 percent in paid activity and 15percent are self-employed.

Upwards of 57 -percent of food consumed in beneficiary households is

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## Sweden hands 210bn/- grant, education support partnership

By Henry Mwangonde

THE government has signed a grant agreement for \$84 million (210bn/-) with the Swedish International Cooperation Agency (SIDA) for implementation of the teachers support programme.

Charlotta-Ozaki Macias, the resident Swedish ambassador said at the Treasury signing ceremony yesterday in Dar es Salaam that the grant was made in liaison with the Global Partnership for Education (GPE), a Washington-based multi-stakeholder organisation.

She said that beyond professional development, the global partnership is not only pursuing improved education quality but also easing the burden on educators.

"Teachers are agents of change. They play a pivotal role in supporting children to learn, as well as in motivating parents to participate in the teaching and learning processes," the envoy noted.

Dr Natu Mwamba, the Treasury permanent secretary, said the overall objective of the GPE teachers support programme is to improve inclusive pupil-based learning.

It will focus on the transformation of teacher workforce planning and management, ensuring gender equality and inclusion, plus an appropriate teaching and learning environment, she said, pointing out that it addresses overcrowded classrooms by establishing model pre-primary classes, reducing class sizes from 113 to 50 pupils.

The programmatic scope and coverage is based on the need to transform the basic education sector for improved, inclusive pupil-based teaching for quality learning

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## Govt to build 14 universities for peripheral regions, 2026

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ment intends to build 34 dormitories, 130 lecture rooms and classrooms, 23 scientific conference halls, teaching laboratories and farm infrastructure, the premier noted.

Completion of the above mentioned projects is expected to increase the number of students enrolled for science, engineering, technology and mathematics (STEM) courses from 40,000 students in 2020 to 106,000 by 2026, he said.

Responding to a request from students for construction of a girls' dormitory, he said the government will take up the quest, after the university council chairperson, Lilian Badi-Manara appealed for the president to help the campus construct a

## Sweden hands 210bn/- grant, education support partnership

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improvements, she said, noting that this should be made on teaching workforce planning and management.

Improvements in gender equality and inclusion in school teaching and learning environment will further catalyse transformative change among the teaching cadre, improving the impact on the basic education system, she further noted.

The overall impact is improved inclusive student-based teaching for quality learning where the Swedish grant elevates the GPE portfolio in Tanzania to \$309, (773bn/-), the Treasury executive stated.

The support received through GPE funds, the first stage from 2013 to 2018 and the second stage from 2019 to 2024 comes up to a substantial \$225m (562bn), she stated.

The project symbolises a shared commitment to empowering teachers, improving gender equality, fostering inclusion, and enhancing the overall teaching and learning environment in our schools.

The agreement aligns with the

dormitory for female students.

The university faces financial challenges and was thus unable to construct the needed dormitory, she said, noting that when girls stay in hostels they feel safer and more disposed to learn.

Most of them have rented rooms in the neighbourhoods the council leader noted, while General Venance Mabeyo (retired), the university dean, awarded certificates to 1,994 graduates including 108 who graduated with Master's degrees in education, business administration and management, social and project development.

Other graduates are in fields like counselling psychology, community development, information and communications technology (ICT) plus international criminal law and human rights.

third five-year plan stretching from 2021/22 to 2025/26, she said, noting that it seeks a competitive and industrial economy for human development to achieve the sustainable development goals or Vision 2030 where imparting skills and learning for self-employment is essential.

The SIDA/GEF grant will finance the programme's actual costs during the 2023/24 to 2026/27 period, with \$29.3m earmarked for enhancing education data collection processes, improving teachers' education, along with recruitment, continuous professional development, motivation and accountability.

Upwards of \$54.8m will fund result-based activities focusing on teacher workforce planning, gender equality, inclusion along with the school teaching and learning environment.

"This grant represents more than just a financial contribution; it symbolizes the collective belief in the transformative power of education and the potential it holds for shaping a brighter future for our nation," she added.

## 'Average income of surveyed poor well below poverty line'

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home-grown or given as gifts from relatives while 43 percent of the food is purchased, he said.

"With these results, I would like to encourage the beneficiaries of the TASAF programme to ensure that they produce food by using opportunities provided by the government or other stakeholders where they live," he appealed.

As rains fall all over the country this is an opportunity to grow rapidly maturing crops such as green vegetables, corn and others, to diminish food shortages, he said.

The survey results show that the beneficiary households live in an unsatisfactory environment, with 38 percent of them having houses with clay walls, he said, directing TASAF and ward level leaders, plus village and neighbourhood levels to monitor that environment.

They should extend helpful advice on how to build at a low cost and use other government agen-

cies such as the National Housing Corporation (NHC) to see how this group can be put on priority list to improve the habitats they live in, he said.

"The government will work on the housing problem in the next plan to see how we can put these beneficiaries in a better environment," he said.

Four percent of programme beneficiaries had visited a bank or other financial institution to open or close an account, he said, elaborating that nine percent of households have accounts in financial institutions.

In the education sector, the enrolment rate for primary education is high, as 86 percent of children in beneficiary households attend primary education.

Despite the high percentage of enrolment and attendance, the rate of absenteeism is still high, with about 33 percent of pupils missing at least one day of school in the two weeks before the day of the survey, he added.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwi escorts President Samia Suluhu Hassan at the Julius Nyerere International Airport yesterday as she moved to jet off to Expo City in Dubai to attend a global climate meeting. The 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference or Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC, more commonly referred to as COP28, will be the 28th UN Climate Change conference. It opened yesterday and is expected to run until December 12. Photo: State House

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on-time issuance of diagnosis results improved during the period.

It takes an average of 11 work days to verify the presence of poison in a submitted sample at present, or 6.5 days to accomplish sample diagnosis related to illicit drugs, fire accidents and explosives, he said.

Still, it takes a maximum of 27 days to find results for a DNA sample test, he said, pointing out that registration of stakeholders in the chemical industry value chain attained 3,371 in 2022/23, up from 2,125 stakeholders in fiscal 2020/21.

## Murder, poisoning, hard drugs leading in GCLA's test samples

The issuance of chemical importation and transportation permits has gradually grown during the past three fiscal years, as in 2020/21 a total of 40,270 permits were issued, climbing to 55,780 permits in 2021/22 and 65,432 permits during 2022/23, he affirmed.

The growth of strategic chemicals business in the country was facilitated during the past three

fiscal financial years, he said, citing business in ammonium nitrate as having grown to 310,300 metric tonnes in 2022/23 from 65,526 metric tonnes in 2020/21 and 135,445 metric tonnes in 2021/22.

Sulphur business has grown to 1,016,138 tonnes in 2022/23, shooting up from 99,594 tonnes in 2020/21 and 396,982 tonnes in 2021/22, he said, citing that so-

dium cyanide business has grown to 37,331 tonnes in 2022/23 from 23,533 tonnes in 2020/21 and 41,461 tonnes in 2021/22.

GLCA revenues have grown to 44.464bn/- in 2021/22 from 31.127bn/- in 2020/21 and 26.059bn/- in 2019/20, he said. Since 2021 the authority has deposited 2.289bn/- in government coffers, he added.



Former president Jakaya Kikwete, Chair of the Board of Directors of the Global Partnership for Education, and GPE chief executive officer Laura Frigenti (l) participate in a roundtable discussion with representatives of civil society organisations in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Tanzania set to host international conference on autism

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA is set to host the International Conference for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders (ICAN) scheduled to take place from 2nd - 3rd December 2023 in Dar es Salaam

The event is organized jointly by Victorious Centre of Excellence and Autism Connect. Victorious Centre of Excellence is an organization that provides extensive rehabilitation therapy services and extracurricular activities to individuals with autism spectrum disorders in Tanzania with the goal to successfully include them into the communities through focused efforts to create social awareness.

AutismConnect is an international

organization committed to creating awareness, providing education and facilitating comprehensive care for individuals with Autism around the world.

Their joint effort will present a two-days conference, which will aim to raise awareness about Autism and provide a platform for professionals and experts from around the world to share experiences and discuss recent developments in the field.

The conference will be graced by Ummu Mwalimu, Minister of Health, who will add further significance to the gathering.

Addressing reporters in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Sarah Laiser, Director of Victorious Center of Excellence and ICAN Chairperson, expressed her excitement about

the conference, stating: "We are excited to host ICAN, as it provides a special opportunity for medical professionals to connect with colleagues dealing with Autism from all corners of the world. The conference aims to facilitate the exchange of ideas and clinical results between parents and professionals, ultimately leading to better care for individuals on the Autism Spectrum."

Tanzania has been chosen as the host for ICAN due to the unique challenges Africa faces in dealing with Autism, according to the organisers.

"The rising incidence of Autism is a pressing concern, with recent research from the USA's CDC revealing a startling 1 in 36 children

diagnosed with autism spectrum disorder. In Tanzania and across Africa, cases have surged over the last two decades, presenting significant challenges. Children affected by autism encounter hurdles in communication, lack speech, face barriers in education, and often exhibit hyperactive and aggressive behaviours," she mentioned.

She said the challenges are further exacerbated by the lack of awareness and cultural beliefs surrounding Autism in Africa.

"In light of these hurdles, ICAN represents hope for our children. This conference is not just an event; it is a catalyst for change, illuminating the path toward a brighter future for individuals on

the Autism Spectrum. Together, we can embrace this opportunity, working hand in hand to bring hope, support, and expertise to those who need it most," she said.

The conference will bring together professionals from Tanzania, Kenya, and Uganda, as well as delegates from various parts of the world.

Laiser said the unique event is an excellent opportunity for professionals to highlight their work, exchange knowledge, and network with peers who are driving progress in Autism research and care.

"Parents of special needs children from different parts of the world will have the chance to learn about the ground breaking work being

done in their own countries and globally," she added.

Dolly Thakkar, Chief Operating Officer of Autism Connect said: "At ICAN, the newest and latest research developments happening all over the world, as well as new treatments for Autism, will be discussed. This conference will provide a unique platform for scientific and medical discussion, with the final beneficiaries being the children on the Autism Spectrum."

According to Thakkar, the conference will also feature distinguished guest speakers from various countries including Tanzania, Kenya, India, United States of America, South Africa, Kuwait and United Arab Emirates (UAE). Photo on Page 4.

# Tanzania's digital economy framework to be launched early next year

By Guardian Reporter

A working group of respected digital experts drawn from public and private institutions have finally endorsed suggestions and recommendations on the proposed national digital economy programme.

The programme, to be known as Tanzanian Digital Economic Framework (DEF), will guide the nation in handling electronic messages and documents in its day-to-day economic activities.

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Information, Communication and Information Technology, Dr Mohammed Abdulla, made the revelation yesterday noting the proposed document which has been endorsed by experts, is a full-fledged official document ready for formal launch.

"We have finished the basic work; the most important part of this national effort on this proposed programme. It will be launched early next year as Tanzania's Digital

Economic Framework (DEF)," Dr Abdulla said, adding that with the work done by experts this is cause to believe that the nation will benefit a lot from the document.

Since November 6, this year, distinguished individuals have worked on the document giving recommendations and suggestions so that Tanzania benefits from the implementation of the framework.

The team worked as the Digital Transformation Working Group (DTWG) of the Tanzania National Business Council (TNBC) and

Abdulla was the group's chairman. The document adopted by the working group will be formally submitted to the National Chairman of the TNBC, President Samia Suluhu Hassan for her perusal, Dr Abdulla said.

TNBC Executive Secretary, Dr Godwill Wanga, praised the work of the working group saying with the DEF in place Tanzania will be able to operate a digital economy that will be a competitive economy in the world.

"The digital economy will cut

down costs in doing business. Therefore, the national economy will grow and the incomes of individual Tanzanians will grow too," he said.

Managing Director of the Azam Media, Tido Mhando, said he believes that Tanzania's media will give support to the DEF because they are obvious significant beneficiaries. "The government's strategies in strengthening ICT are now obvious because the government has been working closely with the private sector

towards having a digital national economy. This has been a very welcome development for the good of the nation," he said.

Chief Executive Officer, Multichoice Tanzania, Jaceline Woiso, promised young people of unreserved support in developing the national digital economy.

"Using the DEF we shall support talented young people who are all out to develop digital initiatives. We also promise to work closely with the education ministry towards that end," she pledged.



Barrick North Mara Gold Mine officials (L) pictured at the firm's premises in Tarime District yesterday briefing visiting directors from the Prime Minister's Office on the mine's operations. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



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**Medical equipment in Tanzania**  
**CMSR-TZ/012519/01/1/2023/09**

CMSR Tanzania intends to award a supply contract for medical equipment to support health centers and hospitals in Tanzania in Dodoma and Zanzibar with financial assistance from the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation named "IMaNHc Improving Maternal and Neonatal Healthcare: Improve maternal and neonatal care in Dodoma and Zanzibar regions of Tanzania through synergies and exchange of good practices " AID 012519/01/1. The tender dossier is available by sending an email to [imanhc.project.tz@gmail.com](mailto:imanhc.project.tz@gmail.com)

The deadline for submission of tenders is **30 January 2024 at 17:00 Est African Time**



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**Request for Proposals (RFP)**

**Consultancy: Designing and Establishment of Technological Innovation Distributed Renewable Energy Ecosystem Model (DREEM) 3.0 Hub for Advancing Climate Change Solutions**

WWF is an international non-governmental organization founded in 1961 working to build a future where people live in harmony with nature. The mission of WWF is to stop degradation of the planet's natural environment by conserving biological diversity, ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable, and promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption, through cooperation with local communities to secure sustainable and resilient rural livelihoods as a key conservation approach with energy and climate change adaptation and mitigation as a cross cutting approach in all program.

During 2023-2025 - the Mott Foundation will support WWF and its partners in Tanzania to concretize these lessons and demonstrate a replicable DREEM Hub and Spoke approach in 2 priority value chains (coastal fisheries, dairy/or potato). The proposed Hub is designed to promote productive use of solar energy (PUSE) technologies to deliver climate change solutions in the proposed value chains and cost-effective sustainable community livelihoods in RUMAKI Plus Seascape and Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT) areas, respectively. This will in turn reduce footprints greenhouse gases (GHGs) emission and increase local community social economic benefits. The Foundation has been supporting the PUSE through DREEM to advance climate solutions in Tanzania, which has undergone several phases, and is currently in its third iteration. The hub will build on the foundation of the ongoing WWF and partners' initiatives across the landscape and seascape.

Terms of Reference (ToRs) has been prepared to guide the experts on the requirement for this assignment. to design and establish sustainable innovative DREEM 3.0 Hub with a network of ecosystem of spoke partners for advancing climate change solutions through PUSE technologies in the marine fisheries and dairy/ or potato value chains.

This is a firm or a team of expert's consultancy work. Interested applicants may get the detailed Terms of Reference (ToR) and specifications through the following website;  
[https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs\\_and\\_opportunities\\_consultancies\\_and\\_tenders/](https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs_and_opportunities_consultancies_and_tenders/) please, submit your full proposal to procurement email at: [procurement@wwftz.org](mailto:procurement@wwftz.org). (Only electronic application will be accepted) and please, also remember that, for uniformity reasons, Technical and financial proposals should indicate the title of the assignment "A Consultancy Work for Designing and Establishment of WWF DREEM 3.0 Hub" addressed to;

**Secretary**  
**Procurement Committee,**  
**WWF Tanzania Country Office, Plot 252 Kiko Street Mikocheni,**  
**P. O. Box 63117, Dar es Salaam.**

The application should be submitted to the above email by or before, before 1000hrs local time,  
**Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2023.**

WWF has a principle of zero tolerance for fraud and corruption, if you encounter such an incident, then report by sending an email to [fcci@wwftz.org](mailto:fcci@wwftz.org).



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**Mr.Emilian C.Kimaro**



**Mr.Nelson J.Gilson**

These two guys have been no longer working with S.E.C. (East African) Company Limited since 2022. The said company will not be responsible for any of their duties or activities in which they were involved.



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Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa waves to Iringa residents shortly after landing at the municipality's Nduli Airport yesterday for onward representation of President Samia Suluhu Hassan at Iringa University's 26th graduation yesterday. Right is Iringa regional commissioner Halima Dendego. Photo: PMO



Check as a visibly desperate Dar es Salaam resident struggles to board a daladala (commuter bus) - and just about makes it - at a spot where a signpost prominently prohibiting such moves... Indeed, necessity knows no law - and laws are made to be broken!! The spot is directly opposite the Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner's Office - along Kawawa Road. Correspondent Jumanne Juma captured the scene yesterday. Photo: Jumanne Juma



Victorious Centre of Excellence director Sarah Laiser (C) briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the upcoming International Conference for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders. Jointly organised by the agency and Autism Connect, it is expected to be held in the city tomorrow and on Sunday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



Iringa University graduands follow speech by stand-in chief guest Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa at the university's 26th graduation held in Iringa municipality yesterday, with the PM representing President Samia Suluhu Hassan. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



Dar es Salaam Water and Sanitation Authority (Dawasa) project coordinator Ramadhani Mtindasi pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday briefing visiting members of the Arusha Water and Sanitation Authority (Auwsa) board of directors on the Kigamboni water project. Photo Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole



Foreign Affairs and East Africa Cooperation deputy minister Mbarouk Nasser Mbarouk delivers address yesterday at the 26th graduation ceremony of the Dar es Salaam-based Dr Salim Ahmed Salim Centre for Foreign Relations. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



Kigamboni district commissioner Halima Bulembo (4th-R) symbolically receives a consignment of chairs and tables from CRDB Bank Plc acting Dar es Salaam Zone manager Muhumiliza Buberwa yesterday. It was assistance by the bank to Lingato Secondary School. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



Manyara regional commissioner Queen Sendiga (R, squatting) in tête-à-tête on Tuesday with Hezekiah Samo of Bassotu ward in Hanang District in the course of her ongoing 'crusade' dubbed "Take a breath, open up and speak to your RC". Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

# COP28 opens with calls for accelerated action against climate crisis

DUBAI

THE United Nations Climate Change Conference COP28 opened yesterday with a resounding call to accelerate collective climate action.

The conference takes place in what is already known to be the hottest year ever recorded in human history and as the impacts of the climate crisis wreak unprecedented havoc on human life and livelihoods around the world.

COP28 in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE), from 30 November to 12 December 2023, is a decisive moment to act on climate commitments and prevent the worst impacts of climate change.

UAE has the presidency for COP28, with Dr Sultan Al Jaber as this year's president.

UN Climate Change Executive Secretary Simon Stiell said: "Over 160 world leaders are headed to Dubai, because only cooperation between nations can get humanity

back in this race. But COP28 cannot be just a photo-op. Leaders must deliver - the message is clear. And as leaders leave Dubai after the opening summit, their message to their negotiators must be equally clear: don't come home without a deal that will make a real difference."

Stiell added: "The reality is that without much more finance flowing to developing countries, a renewables revolution will remain a mirage in the desert. COP28 must turn it into a reality."

Stiell emphasized the need for collaborative efforts to combat climate change, an area in which nations can work together effectively to ensure a sustainable future both for people and the planet.

COP28 President Dr Sultan Al Jaber said: "We don't have any time to waste. We need to take urgent action now to reduce emissions. At COP28, every country and every company will be held to account,

guided by the north star of keeping 1.5°C within reach.

"All parties should be prepared to deliver a high ambition decision in response to the global stocktake that reduces emissions while protecting people, lives and livelihoods," Al Jaber added.

Egyptian Minister of Foreign Affairs and COP27 President Sameh Shoukry said: "It is of crucial importance to continue building on previous achievements, but more importantly to implement what we already agreed upon. We cannot achieve our common goals without having everyone on board, most importantly the Global South. We need to start delivering on climate justice and provide the needed tools that we already agreed upon in Sharm el-Sheikh for funding loss and damage, including the establishment of a fund. One of the major outcomes that has to come out of COP28 is for the fund to be fully operationalized and funded."

This year's COP marks the conclusion of the "global stock take", the first assessment of global progress in implementing the 2015 Paris Agreement.

The findings are stark: the world is not on track to limiting temperature rise to 1.5°C by the end of this century. It does recognize that countries are developing plans for a net-zero future, and the shift to clean energy is gathering speed, but it makes clear that the transition is nowhere near fast enough yet to limit warming within the current ambitions.

A report recently published by UN Climate Change shows that national climate action plans (known as nationally determined contributions, or 'NDCs') would collectively lower greenhouse gas emissions to 2 percent below 2019 levels by 2030, while the science is clear that a 43 percent reduction is needed.

The global stock take must be

a catalyst for greater ambition in meeting the Paris Agreement's goals as nations prepare to submit revised national climate action plans by 2025.

It lays out actions on how to accelerate emissions cuts, strengthen resilience to climate impacts, and provide the support and finance needed for the transformation.

Climate finance stands at the heart of this transformation. Replenishing the Green Climate Fund, doubling financial resources for adaptation and operationalizing the loss and damage fund are key to keeping 1.5°C within reach while leaving no one behind.

Progress on climate finance at COP28 will be crucial to build trust in other negotiation areas and to lay the groundwork for an even more ambitious "New Collective Quantified Goal" for climate finance, which must be in place next year. It will also set the stage for a just and

inclusive transition to renewable energy and the phasing out of fossil fuels.

The World Climate Action Summit (WCAS), hosted by His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE, will convene Heads of State or Government on 1-2 December, when the first part of the COP28 high-level segment will also take place. A resumed high-level segment will take place on 9-10 December.

The WCAS provides Heads of State or Government with the opportunity to set the stage for COP28, build on decisions from previous Conferences of the Parties, raise climate commitments and promote coordinated action to tackle climate change.

The COP28 Presidency will hold open consultations on thematic areas, inviting inputs from the broad mix of stakeholders attending the conference. Consult the COP28 UAE Thematic Program.



**BARRICK**  
NORTH MARA

## DEMOLITION AND CONSTRUCTION OF TWO 1200 M3 CARBON IN LEACH (CIL) TANKS AT NORTH MARA GOLD MINE.

Tender Ref: NM033/2023

North Mara Gold Mine, a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is ultimately owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania requests the submission of Tenders from reputable, experienced, certified, and qualified parties to provide the following service:

### Pre-qualification criteria

- (1) Evidence of suitable HSE, OSHA compliance and site safety program
- (2) Applicant to submit company profile with proven experience in mechanical construction.
- (3) Applicant to submit organizational structure, list of experienced personnel.
- (4) Experience on similar projects by having list of clients with LPO/signed contract and certificate of completion.
- (5) Experiences on welding and fabrication and quality control methodology
- (6) Compliance with local content regulation by having local content plan approved by mining commission.
- (7) Evidence of suitable resources availability - equipments, systems, and qualified personnel (Applicators & Inspectors) on welding and fabrication.
- (8) CRB registration, Class 4 contractor and above.
- (9) Applicant should provide proof to its statements as necessary regarding its financial stability, engineering capabilities, documents complying with Tanzanian laws and Regulations.

### Expression of interest

If your company meets the pre-qualification criteria and would like to be considered to receive the invitation to tender (ITT), an expression of interest (EOI) including your company profile and evidence of compliance with pre-qualification criteria may be submitted to [nm.proposal@barrick.com](mailto:nm.proposal@barrick.com).

Applicants must quote reference "NM Demolition and Construction of two CIL Tanks" in the subject line of your email.

NB: The Company reserves the right to invite any other supplier(s) who did not submit an EOI through this advertisement.

Pre-qualification of any company submitting an "Expression of Interest" shall be at the sole discretion of NMGM.

If you do not hear from us in 21 days after the deadline date, please consider your submission unsuccessful.

### Key Dates

- Last date to submit EOI **07 December 2023**

**North Mara Gold Mine Limited**



NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

## ADVERTISEMENT

TENDER NO: TR185/2023/2024/C/02

### BIDS PROPOSAL

### FOR

## LEASING TO DEVELOP OF A MODERN TYRE MANUFACTURING PLANT AT ARUSHA

**THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION (NDC)** is a government institution, which has a broad mandate as a development and promotion institution to stimulate industrialization in partnership with private sector. NDC on behalf of the Governments owns a Tyre Manufacturing Plant located in Themi Hills Industrial Area within Arusha City.

**OBJECTIVE:** is to secure a Lessee/investor/developer who will lease factory area from NDC for the development and implementation of the Project. The Lessee/investor, developer or firm is free to form a consortium.

**THE PROJECT:** The NDC intends to secure **lessee/investors/developers/firms** to lease factory area in implementing the project. The lessee will be expected to:

- Conduct a comprehensive Feasibility Study and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for a Tyre manufacturing factory to assess the project's viability;
- Implement / Develop a Tyre Manufacturing Plant with a capacity of at least 1,000,000 tyres per annum, including associated infrastructure;
- Undertake operations and maintenance of the Tyre Manufacturing Plant;
- Conduct marketing of Tyre products.

**THE BIDS PROPOSAL:** NDC now seeks eligible Lessee/investors/developers to submit their proposal for the above-mentioned Project.

**PROPOSAL DOCUMENT:** Interested Lessee/investors/developers may apply for the Tyre Manufacturing Project, and follow the requirements as described in the tendering documents found on the **National e-Procurement System of Tanzania (NeST)** via [www.nest.go.tz](http://www.nest.go.tz) Completed proposals must be submitted in English on **NeST** to be able to participate in this tendering process. All Tenders shall be submitted through NeST at or before date and time stipulated as per **NeST**.

Response to Applications in respect of the Leasing of Tyre Manufacturing Project with the following address;

**Managing Director,  
National Development Corporation,  
Development House,  
Kivukoni Front/Ohio Street,  
PO Box 2669,  
Dar es Salaam,  
TANZANIA**

**Telephone: +255 22 2112893  
Email: info@ndc.go.tz**

## Oryx takes clean energy crusade to Mafia Island

By Guardian Correspondent, Mafia

Oryx Gas Tanzania Limited (OGTL), in collaboration with the Mafia district commissioner, has distributed 200 gas cylinders weighing 10 kilogrammes to various groups in an effort to promote clean cooking.

Among the groups who received the gas cylinders include teachers, police officers and women entrepreneurs as the company emphasized on the public to embrace clean cooking to conserve the environment and ensure good health.

Speaking when distributing the cylinders, head of sales at OGTL, Shaban Fundi said the company has decided to collaborate with the office of the District Commissioner to complement government efforts in environmental conservation in the district.

He said apart from conserving the environment, the programme is aimed at protecting the health of users especially women and children to ensure the availability of clean cooking energy in the district. "Our company through our main distributor Tash Oil assures the general public of full availability of clean cooking energy, this offers a long solution to the search for clean cooking energy in the isles.

He said the company is also dedicated to offering the services to

public institutions such as schools and prisons to ensure that they stop using firewood instead use gas.

He added that in the case of seafood processing factories in Mafia Island, which are the biggest users of wood in the district, the company will provide them with gas stoves to avoid economic, health and environmental impacts.

OGTL has been a pioneer in promoting gas usage in the country, most recently from the year 2021; the energy firm has been coordinating efforts to support the government agenda endorsed by President Samia Suluhu Hassan who wishes that by 2032, 80 percent of Tanzanians are using clean cooking energy.

Oryx Energies is one of Africa's largest and longest-established independent providers of oil and gas products and services. Established in 1999, it operates through four main companies in Tanzania.

Mafia District Commissioner Zefania Sumaye commended the company for supporting the government's efforts in taking care of the environment and empowering citizens.

He has urged the people to stop using firewood and use clean energy for cooking while asking the company to take the service to seafood factories which are the biggest users of firewood on the island.

## Envoy cites social norms and poverty as barriers to attainment of gender equality

By Jenifer Gilla

SWITZERLAND'S Ambassador to Tanzania, Didier Chassot, has decried prevailing social norms and economic hardships as barriers to the promotion of gender equality hindering human rights activists to perform their duties.

He said in the last decades, the international and national legal frameworks have been reinforced to promote gender equality through the adoption of gender responsive roles but full implementation still remains to be achieved due to various challenges.

The envoy was speaking during an event to celebrate the International Day of Human Rights Defenders, organized by Coalition for Women Human Rights Defenders Tanzania (CWHRDs), yesterday in Dar es Salaam.

He said the work of Human Rights Defenders was of the greatest importance as it makes it possible to assess the effective application of human rights to promote, push and protect them when needed.

He called on all states to respect the group and to provide them with protection, especially those who are targeted on the basis of their gender or identity and face increased pressure.

"Women human rights defenders in many places face gender specific threats such as gender-based attacks, rape or other forms of sexual violence by opposing prevailing social cultural norms. Women, human or human rights defenders are also vulnerable to stigmatization in their communities," he noted.

He said Tanzania deserves some praise for the progress made towards reducing the gender gap, as the World Economic Forum report shows that this year, Tanzania improved its ranking in the globe Global Gender Gap index, moving from the 60s position last year, out of 146 countries to the 45th position.

He said Switzerland is committed to contributing to strengthening gender inclusive governance and public institutions, increasing the participation of women in decision and opinion making and improving poor young women's livelihoods in Tanzania.

European Union (EU), Political, Press and Information Attaché, Sarah Torp said despite the efforts to implement the Marrakesh declaration, human rights defenders continue to face numerous pressures that needs joint efforts from national and international partners, civil society and local communities to sustain their work and fight against violations of human rights.

She said in 2015 EU Launched a human rights defender's protection

mechanism to support the group world wide, so far the programme has provided support to more than 60,000 human rights defenders and their family members including journalists. "We would like to also recognize the presence of our friends from Tanzania human rights defenders' coalition, whose mandate strongly contributes to building capacity for human rights defenders. In doing so, THRDC also contributes to protecting and facilitating the work of human rights defenders, women human rights defenders," she said.

UN Women Country Director, Hodan Haddou called upon human rights stakeholders to reaffirm support to women human rights defenders, to ensure that it is steadfast read, recognize their effort so as to collectively pave the way towards a more equitable, inclusive, unjust world for all.

She said the group plays a pivotal role in amplifying voices advocating for the inclusion of diverse perspectives in the decision-making processes that shape societies.

She said UN Women is committed to protect and support organizations that protect the lives and by the work of women in the life events to create environments that enable their work support legislations that protect them and advocate for increased financing for women's rights.

Director of the human rights department, from the Ministry of Constitution and Legal Affairs, Dr Anne Malipula, said in efforts to bring about gender equality in 2004, the government started a special desk to deal with public education and women's rights in the country.

She said it has also continued to implement a program to empower women with the aim of increasing economic opportunities and building commercial capacity, access to capital, markets and loans.

"All remaining laws with discriminatory provisions will be amended, especially those related to marriage, property and inheritance to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women," she said.

Coordinator of CWHRDs, Hilda Dadu, said the network was launched in 2020 with seven members and now they have reached 90.

She said in the implementation of their duties to defend human rights, they experience many challenges, including being stigmatized on social networks and physically as opposed to men caused by existing cultural norms.

She said they have been putting their lives in danger because they cannot escape to foreign countries and leave their families, something that men can do.



Oryx Gas sales manager Shaaban Fundi (2nd-L) and Mafia district commissioner Zefania Sumaye (C) present a 10-kg cylinder of cooking gas to a Prisons officer during issuance of 200 cooking stoves to various groups in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## New bank programme to transform Tanzania's education sector

By Henry Mwangonde

STANBIC Bank Tanzania has launched a programme to support the education sector in which parents, school owners and others within the cycle can access loans to pay tuition and develop education infrastructure through digital channels.

Speaking at the event to launch the platform, the bank's head of Public Sector department Doreen Dominick said the aim is to complement government efforts to transform the education sector. "Through this platform, one can

access up to 10bn/- in loans for expansion of school while parents can access a minimum loan of 500,000/- to pay tuition fees through mobile phones," she said.

She said the platform, which aims to benefit the whole education cycle from teachers, owners and students, will be a game changer in the education sector.

"The platform also enables us to use e-commerce which is incorporated in schools to allow parents to pay school fees but also teach the pupils through the Biashara incubator so that they

are marketable in the job market," she added.

The bank has pledged to continue supporting Government efforts in education sector development as part of its commitment to create a better learning environment.

The bank recently launched a ground-breaking ICT Skills Development Programme aimed at developing talent in Cyber Security in order to bridge the Cyber Security skills gap in the market.

Dr Proper Massawe Head of Innovation at COSTECH commended the banks for being

innovative saying the programmes will address some of the hindrances to the development of the education sector.

He said the Commission has been formulating various programmes aimed at facilitating education by harmonising various stages of education to monitor students' progress.

"This helps to save time, our systems have been helping in assessment of students, this shows how important technology is and if scaled up can go a long way into transforming the education sector," he said.



Chief Court Administrator Prof Elisante ole Gabriel (R) briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the strategy Tanzanian courts have lined up to deal with intellectual property cases. With him are Resident Magistrate Marry Kallomo (L) and World Intellectual Property coordinator Upendo Ngitiri. Photo: Correspondent Imani Nathaniel

## WHO celebrates the role of communities in driving progress towards ending HIV/AIDS

By Guardian Reporter

AS the World AIDS Day is celebrated today, the World Health Organization (WHO) has joined international partners to acknowledge the resilience, dedication and innovation exemplified by community leaders and organizations in the response to the HIV epidemic.

From fighting stigma and discrimination, to advocating for access to affordable interventions, and community led services that put people with lived experience at the centre, communities have shaped the HIV response for decades.

Director-General of the World Health Organization Dr Tedros Ghebreyesus said: "People living with or affected by HIV have left an indelible mark on the world with their activism."

He added: "The affected communities who fought for tools to prevent, test and treat HIV enabled 30 million people to access antiretroviral therapy, and helped to avert an unknowable number of infections. We stand together with communities to help end AIDS as a

public health threat by 2030."

Several decades of investments and learning from the HIV epidemic have catalysed broader advancements in global health and national health systems.

The response to HIV strengthened healthcare systems and increased access to services beyond HIV testing and treatment. Investments and infrastructure from the HIV response enabled strong and swift responses to many diseases including COVID-19 and pox.

Despite significant progress, HIV remains a pressing public health issue

Globally, 9.2 million people do not have access to the HIV treatment that they need. Each day 1700 lives are lost from HIV-related causes, and 3500 people are infected, with many not knowing their status or having access to treatment.

Innovations in HIV tools, such as a powerful once a day pill for HIV treatment and accessible viral load testing, have enabled significant progress. The fact that people living with HIV, who take their HIV treatment as prescribed and have no virus detectable in their blood,

have zero risk of transmitting HIV to their sexual partners, is just one such example.

This was the result of years of advocacy and investment, and is a reminder that the target of ending AIDS as a public health threat by 2030 is achievable, provided there is sufficient political will and sustained investments.

Funding, criminalization, and limitations placed on the roles of community champions hinder the progress achieved by community leaders and slow global progress to ending AIDS as a public health threat. Many communities, such as key populations of men who have sex with men, transgender people, sex workers, people who use drugs, and adolescents, still lack access to the prevention, treatment, and care services that they need and deserve. These inequalities continue to drive the uneven progress on HIV.

With less than 7 years to reach this goal, there is still an urgent need for continued funding to HIV programmes so that community leaders can continue reaching those affected.

These efforts are essential to close the gaps in diagnosis and

treatment for children living with HIV, and help all countries move closer to the 95-95-95 targets, which aim for 95 percent of people living with HIV knowing their status, 95 percent of those diagnosed receiving antiretroviral therapy and 95 percent of those on treatment having suppressed viral loads. WHO will continue to work with partners and call on leaders to prioritize the needs of affected populations.

"We call for global solidarity with communities today and every day," said Dr Meg Doherty, WHO Director of Global HIV, Hepatitis, and STI Programmes. "The leadership of affected communities has been vital to moving forward the HIV response, despite the legal, economic and social barriers they face."

Partnership with people living with and affected by HIV is critical to the sustainability and ultimate success of the HIV response. WHO stands with global partners to applaud the role of the communities in closing the testing, treatment and care gaps for those left behind and in driving progress towards ending AIDS as a global public health threat.

## Mining firm wins government praise for empowering people economically

By Guardian Correspondent, Msalala

THE government has congratulated the Barrick North Mara and Bulyanhulu mines for generating jobs, empowering young people economically and achieving social projects.

A team of five directors from various units in the Office of the Prime Minister's Office made a working visit to the Barrick North Mara and Bulyanhulu mines where they expressed their satisfaction with the good work being done by the mines, in providing jobs for Tanzanians, empowering youth economically and achieving social projects.

The visiting directors are in charge of labour, youth, employment and people with disabilities. The visited mines are run by the Barrick Company in partnership with the government through the Twiga Minerals Company.

Ivo Masanja, Human Resources Manager of Barrick North Mara, explained that until now the Barrick North Mara mine has employed 1,391 people of which 96 percent are Tanzanians and 67 percent.

"Therefore, the number of foreigners who are experts employed in the mine has decreased to four percent. In addition, the mine works with 248 contractors, of which 97.5 percent are Tanzanians", he said. Masanja said the mine has a plan to increase the number of women workers, along with continuing to persuade Tanzanians working abroad to return home and provide them with employment.

Barrick North Mara's Relations Manager, Francis Uhadi, explained

to the Directors from PMO that their relations with the community around them have continued to improve, while mentioning the agribusiness project they started to raise the youth economically as one of the successes witnessed.

"Young people benefiting from this agricultural business project have generated 164m/- from sales and we want it to be used as a classroom farm," said Uhadi.

He said 40 percent of the vegetables and spices produced in the project are sold in the Barrick North Mara mine through the AKO Company, and 60 percent are sold in open markets outside the mine.

He also said the mine has put in place a good system to receive and resolve citizens' complaints.

Masanja mentioned acts of invasion, looting of gold stones, destruction of infrastructure and illegal mining as major problems facing the mine at the moment.

In their statement, the Directors from the PMO promised to collaborate with Barrick mines to establish a fund to empower young people economically, so that they can meet their needs and contribute to the development of the nation.

They said that this action will help to reduce the acts of mine invasion and begin to get excited about other opportunities to enable them to bring about development.

"You have done great things in the community, including this plan to build the capacity of young people to be self-employed through agriculture and you to be part of the market for the products they produce," said D Mwigira Mbesi, Director of Youth Development.

## Trial ballooning expedition across entire Serengeti ecosystem verified

By Guardian Correspondent, Serengeti

ADVENTURERS now have the opportunity for traversing the entire Serengeti ecosystem, thanks to the successful experiment of the World's first trans-Serengeti ballooning expedition.

The remarkable ecosystem covers Maasai Mara Game Reserve in Kenya and Serengeti National Park, Ngorongoro Conservation Area and wildlife management areas belonging to communities surrounding the protected belts in Tanzania.

The pioneer of hot air balloon in the country, whose service was for the past three decades confined in Serengeti National Park alone, recently tested the new breath-taking tourism product.

The product gives enthusiasts room to navigate the entire ecosystem the two East Africa countries share as they sample the landscape of the wilderness and reveal hidden treasures of the heritage sites.

"The journey from the sky by hot air balloon offers an unparalleled opportunity for immersing oneself into the enchanting world of the majestic Serengeti National Park," said Mohamed Masudi who participated in the expedition recently.

The renowned BBC presenter-cum-conservationist, Ms Kate Humble, along with a select few clients, joined an expert crew from Serengeti Balloon Safaris to undertake a world first expedition, traversing the entire Serengeti from East to West by hot air balloon.

On November 1, 2023, the expedition team arrived in Serengeti and departed from Eastern Serengeti's Nyabogati area and then, for over five consecutive days, flew westwards before landing on a football pitch in a remote village on the shores of Lake Victoria.

One can imagine an incredible reception that greeted them from the community that had never seen the spectacle of a hot air balloon.

"Each morning the team flew for two hours to make the distance and complete the journey in time," says the Serengeti Balloon Safaris Marketing Manager, Pascal Kirigiti.

The team made the most of the steady morning weather conditions, taking off just before dawn and enjoying the magical Serengeti landscape from the air, traversing over unseen areas and hidden corners of the wilderness.

Owing to exceedingly high rainfall on their penultimate day, Kirigiti said, the team was forced backwards and so needed to extend the planned expedition by one day to complete the journey and land on the shores of Lake Victoria.

"This light footprint adventure offered a totally unique perspective of this famous park, and on the way, the team met resident conservationists and scientists who are undoubtedly the modern heroes of this fabled land," he noted.

Friend of Serengeti Balloon Safaris Kate Humble, who along with her award-winning producer husband, Ludo Graham, captured the magic of this adventure on a camera to make some stunning marketing video clips, as well as compelling articles for major UK and international travel and adventure publications.

A select number of paying clients also joined the expedition, which partnered with Far & Wild Travel, Aardvark Safaris and sabbatical travel company, LINGER.

This expedition was effectively a test flight for Serengeti Balloon Safaris who are looking to expand the ballooning 'journeys' into 2024 with the launch of a repeat trans-Serengeti journey planned for October 2024.

John Corse, Managing Director of Serengeti Balloon Safaris commented: "On behalf of all of the Serengeti Balloon Safaris team, we are thrilled with the result from this first trans-Serengeti test flight.

"It fulfilled a long-term dream of mine to traverse the entire Serengeti ecosystem by air and I have to say the experience was second to none.

"The feeling of adventure combined with the total peace and tranquillity of multiple balloon flights was incredibly special. We look forward to sharing this experience with others in the future."

Corse invites the travel and tourism agents from the market sources to experience Destination Tanzania he referred to as a precious gem whose beauty is unconcealed especially when viewed aboard a balloon.

Since its inception over three decades ago, Serengeti Balloon Safaris boasts flown over 250,000 tourists to experience a different taste of Serengeti National Park.

"Tanzania is home to such fabulous natural areas and seeing them from the air is a true privilege," Corse said.



Dar es Salaam regional commissioner Albert Chalamila (L) exchanges greetings with TIB Development Bank board of directors member Agapiti Kobello (2nd-L) on arrival at the venue of a meeting for stakeholders of the bank's Dar es Salaam zone yesterday. The others are the bank's acting director (Portfolio Management), Zuwena Hemed, acting managing director Lilian Mbassy (2nd-R) and board of directors member Juma Reil. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Babati

MANYARA Regional Commissioner, Queen Sendiga has directed all the district councils to formulate by-laws to control pastoralists moving with their cattle on roads thus costing the government a lot of money for maintenance.

RC Sendiga gave the order yesterday when speaking to members of the regional road board at a meeting which was also attended by officials from the Tanzania National Roads Agency (TANROADS).

"I want each councils to come up with by-laws to control grazing activities in urban areas. You should also continue to provide education on the use of roads to help reduce damages," she added, warning political leaders from interfering with the authorities by defending livestock keepers as they start

## RC orders formulation of by-laws to control cattle grazing

implementing the by-laws.

She added: "Politicians should not interfere with the district authorities as they prohibit pastoralists from grazing on the roads."

Sendiga however urged authorities at district council levels to make sure all the promises made by the top government leaders are implemented, directing them to submit work plans on how they are going to implement the leader's promises.

"We need to work on all the promises made by our leaders; if they promised to construct new bridges, then you should make sure the bridges are constructed," said the Regional Commissioner.

Earlier, TANROADS Acting Manager in Manyara Region, Dutu Masele told the RC said they have allocated 9bn/- for payment of compensation to people who will be affected with road construction projects.

He said they have submitted a request to the Ministry of Works to pay compensation to residents near the 25-kilometer bypass road whose construction is about to begin.

The acting manager mentioned some of the challenges they face as delayed completion of procurement procedures as well as livestock keepers grazing in the streets.

Simanjoro Member of Parliament, Christopher Ole Sendeka urged

district authorities to give priority to local contractors to empower them economically.

He said giving road construction tenders to foreign contractors would not change the life of local people as the money will go outside the country.

Sendeka asked TANROADS to involve MPs in their various plans so that they jointly agree on the roads to be given priority.

Acting Manager, Tanzania Rural and Urban Roads Agency (TARURA) in Manyara Region, Edwin Magiri said that the implementation of development projects has reached 65 percent and that they have so far signed 74 contracts for construction of roads.



The UN Resident Coordinator in Tanzania, Zlatan Milisic (R), highlights a point during a Q-&A session held in Dar es Salaam yesterday with students from various universities. It was during the commemoration of the UN-designated International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People. Left is Palestine Ambassador to Tanzania, Hamdi Abu Ali. Photo: Carlos Banda

## East Africa micro, small and medium enterprises trade fair lined up for Bujumbura on December 5

By Guardian Reporter

PREPARATIONS for the 23rd edition of the East African Community (EAC) Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) trade fair—Jua Kali/Nguvu Kazi exhibition are in high gear.

The 23rd edition of the annual EAC MSMEs trade fair, which will be held under the theme 'Connecting East African MSMEs to enhance intra EAC trade', will attract more than 1,000 artisans from all the seven EAC partner states. It will take

place from December 5th to 15th, 2023 in Bujumbura, Burundi.

The main objective of the trade fair is to contribute towards the realisation of the region's development goals and aspirations by lending support to this budding sector of the economy, which needs public patronage and government support to make it sustainable.

It is also expected to create considerable impact on the image of the sector, which is today seen as the panacea to the daunting question of unemployment and

poverty alleviation in the region.

The trade fair will also feature a daily symposium aimed at enhancing awareness on and the capacity of MSMEs.

The symposia will address matters such as opportunities for MSMEs in the region and under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), importance of trade associations in partner states, tackling Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) and requirements for formalising business in EAC.

Other topics to be discussed at

the symposia include acquiring the Standards Mark in EAC, benefits of value addition and adaptation to appropriate technology for MSMEs in the region, and environment and food security in the EAC.

The 1st EAC MSMEs Trade Fair was held in Arusha, Tanzania in November 1999 during the historic signing of the Treaty for the Establishment of the EAC.

Subsequent to the success of the Arusha exhibition, the EAC Heads of State directed that the exhibition be held annually on rotational basis among the partner states to enhance and revamp the socio-economic integration of the people of East Africa.

FRIDAY 1 DECEMBER 2023

Taking A New Look  
At The News  
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

## TAMWA has to take up new tasks, eclipsing 1987 agenda

**G**ENDER enthusiasts in media houses across Dar es Salaam city were in a festive mood at midweek.

This was in line with the two successive days spent marking 36 years of the founding of the Tanzania Media Women's Association (Tamwa), without doubt the oldest and so far most inspiring of gender-related media organisations.

While there was plenty to celebrate, onlookers may not be surprised to find that it is outside the media context that the organisation had its most noticeable impact. Newsrooms were less their sphere of battle than its anchor.

Remarks made by current Tamwa leaders suggest that there is an aspect in which they also worked to redress errors or grievances in various newsrooms at various points during the period under review.

There was intimation that much remains to be done in that direction - which is quite valid, as the matter cannot entirely be exhausted, including in relation to the 50-50 expectations.

It all presumably applies in an all-round way, whether in boards of directors, managements and newsrooms or indeed elsewhere.

More directly, the newsroom scenario has changed such that problems facing women journalists once they graduate are similar to those young men seeking to eke out a livelihood from the media profession encounter. There is now a shift to what is generally classified as artificial intelligence, things like spell-checking or downloading, apart from enormous proliferation of social media propping up of events.

Clearly and surely, formal news outlets are becoming more of institutional outlets, stakeholders seeking hard data.

At the time Tamwa was being established, employment in media organisations was relatively plentiful.

To add to that, owing to close interactions in newsrooms, most of the complaints relating to what happened there as in other offices had wide room to be monitored.

The past two decades have been different, in part courtesy of the

systematic scaling down of employees in most newsrooms - and these having to survive market pressures.

In that context, newsrooms retained people they really need, or thought they could afford, and implicitly had no gap to cover as regards professional respect or their work being relevant or of utmost utility.

Situations where people mingled in large numbers either in the civil service or in the private sector tended to diminish in the years Tamwa has been in operation. The association's work has been less of crusading for the rights of women in the media but, rather, in the larger society.

But even in that regard, the crucial issue wasn't that this or that right was not recognised but rather that women needed to be empowered.

This is the pivotal parameter of various gender-oriented organisations in our country, first working to raise awareness among women as to their capacities, and facilitating it.

When Tamwa and other agencies move into what are essentially 21st century challenges of working in the media industry, the situation and what ought to be pursued may have to be altered in scope or perspective.

The fact is that many journalists are only partially in employment, given wider room to seek out other legitimate ways of making a proper living, which isn't always easy. But those who are industrious enough or have the skills to seek out clients for what they can professionally deliver are at times even more successful than when spending plenty of time in newsrooms.

This atmosphere is more attuned to professional independence than to collective gender unionism. Thus, it should still be that the recipe of choice for success in media practice, as in other professions, remains a combination of competence, having enough legroom to perform, diligence and having the necessary resources - and not otherwise.

That given, the relentless calls for "revolutionising" the way our newsrooms operate - or are managed - might change not only in tone and tune but also in direction and frequency.

## Wider specialised surgery, sponsored treatment a valuable healthcare input

**W**E have heard the good news: New treatment paths are being initiated at the Muhimbili National Hospital, with the likelihoods of spreading to regional referral hospitals.

This is as the government enhances and consolidates specialist medical capacity, complete with having a specialised fund for the purpose.

The hospital is initiating knee and hip bone replacement surgery, assisted by Global Medicare, a diagnostics firm based in South Asia, with 14 patients being the first attended to.

The new initiative being conducted at MNH's Mloganzila branch should appreciably uplift the hospital's image as a truly modern facility.

An official has said patients were drawn from various regions alongside one from a neighbouring country. They spent not more than three days to have an operation and be released.

The operations were led by a specialist from a Queen Elisabeth Hospital, of which there are quite a few in the UK and elsewhere in the Commonwealth. One of the UK-based medics has confirmed that doctors at Mloganzila have world-class expertise but the facility ultimately ought to have a full-fledged unit to run the service to satisfaction.

This time it is an ad hoc camp, as this way it would be easier to arrange for more visitations and experience sharing with certified foreign institutions. Obviously, this is likely to synchronise with Mloganzila plans.

A top medic at Mloganzila noted that knee, hip and other joint ailments arise from advanced age, sickle cell

condition, bone-related asthmatic ailments and accidents.

None of these critical causes is that directly a lifestyle issue in nature, implying that preventing them isn't merely a matter of education.

Only a professionally run treatment facility qualifies for the work and, with the rise in motor vehicle use at times in a reckless manner, chances of more people needing such attention stands to rise.

Apart from the camp treating only three dozen or so patients, it was a learning environment for doctors or specialised surgery staff from the likes of Temeke Referral Hospital, disability rehabilitation centre CCBRT and the Mbeya Zonal Referral Hospital.

Thus, Mloganzila is slowly but surely becoming a centre of excellence in the manner of the Muhimbili Orthopedic Institute (MOI), just like it is trying to build capacity to emulate the Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute (JKCI) as specialised surgery also gradually takes root step by step there.

There was a disarming assurance from the head of bone or joints surgery team that after the camp is over the services offered there would be pursued there more or less unabated.

People will be referred there from clinics and other hospitals. With specialists from other tertiary medical institutions deployed at the camp, the services will be covering other referral hospitals as well.

That is the scenario on the horizon, so we can't help rejoicing in achievements being registered there. Congratulations to all those behind the life-saving and other feats we are witnessing.

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By Foster Klug and Geir Moulson

**G**LOBAL leaders yesterday paid tribute to former United States Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

However, there was also sharp criticism of the man who remained an influential figure decades after his official service as one of the most powerful diplomats in American history.

Kissinger, who died on Wednesday at 100, drew praise as a skilled defender of US interests. On social media, though, he was widely called a war criminal who left lasting damage throughout the world.

Former US President George W. Bush said "America has lost one of the most dependable and distinctive voices" on foreign affairs, striking a tone shared by many high-level officials both past and present.

"I have long admired the man who fled the Nazis as a young boy from a Jewish family, then fought them in the United States Army," Bush said in a statement.

"When he later became (US) Secretary of State, his appointment as a former refugee said as much about his greatness as it did America's greatness," added the former president.

Kissinger served two presidents, Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford, and dominated foreign policy as the United States withdrew from Vietnam and established ties with China.

In China, Foreign ministry spokesperson Wang Wenbin called Kissinger an "old friend and a good friend of the Chinese people, and a pioneer and builder of China-US relations".

Many on social media in China mourned Kissinger's passing. State broadcaster CCTV shared on social media an old segment showing his first secret visit to China in 1971, when he broached the possibility of establishing US-China relations and met then-Premier Zhou Enlai.

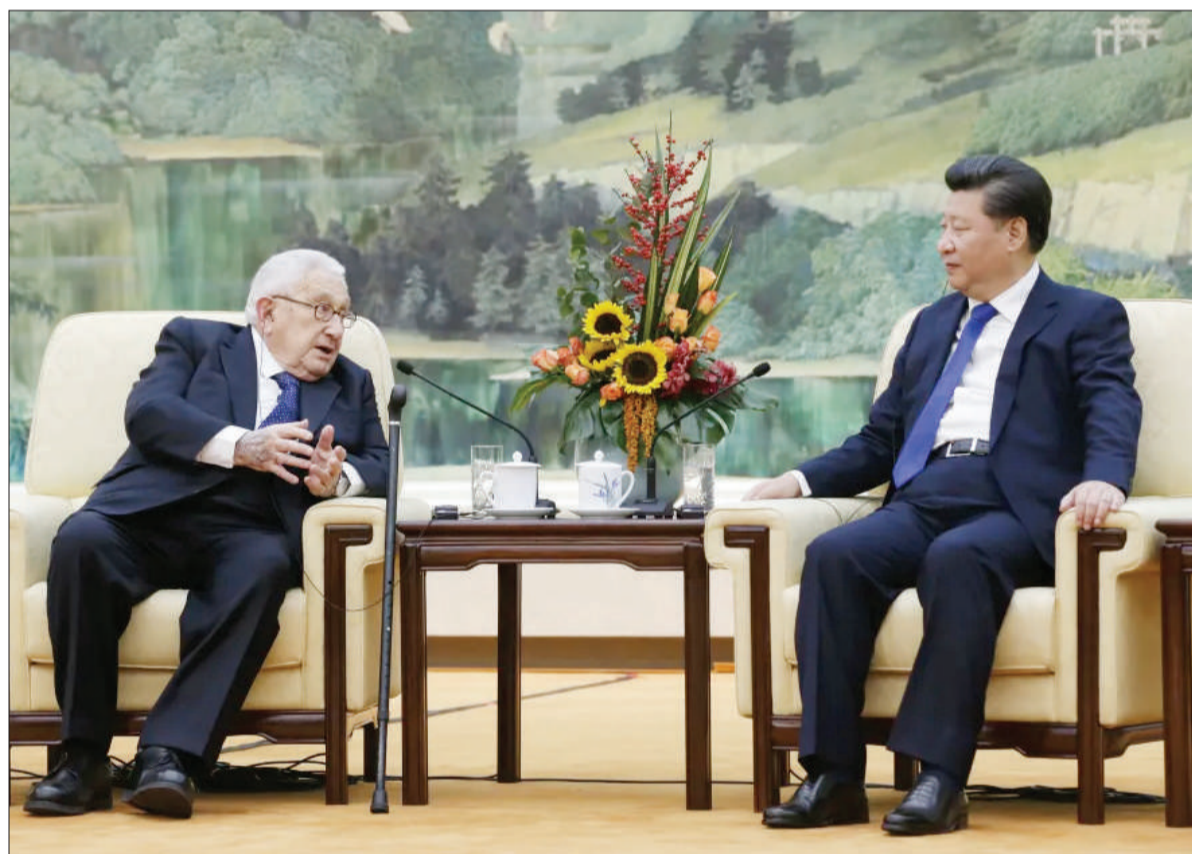
Kissinger exerted uncommon influence on global affairs long after he left office. In July, for instance, he met Chinese leader Xi Jinping in Beijing while US-China relations were at a low point.

Criticism of Kissinger, who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for his role in negotiating a ceasefire in Vietnam in 1973, was especially strong on social media, where many posted celebratory videos in reaction to his death.

A Rolling Stone magazine headline said: "Henry Kissinger, war criminal beloved by America's ruling class, finally dies".

"Henry Kissinger's bombing campaign likely killed hundreds of thousands of Cambodians - and set (a) path for the ravages of the Khmer Rouge," Sophal

## Global leaders pay tribute to Kissinger, even as his record also draws criticism



Chinese President Xi Jinping (R) engaged in a conversation with former US Secretary of State Henry Kissinger, who led the China-US Track Two Dialogue. This was during a meeting held in Beijing on November 2, 2015. Kissinger, the diplomat who dominated foreign policy as the United States extricated itself from Vietnam and broke down barriers with China, died Wednesday. He was 100. Photo courtesy of Associated Press

Ear, a scholar at Arizona State University who studies Cambodia's political economy, wrote on The Conversation.

"The cluster bombs dropped on Cambodia under Kissinger's watch continue to destroy the lives of any man, woman or child who happens across them," Sophal Ear noted.

Youk Chhang, the head of the independent Documentation Centre of Cambodia, described Kissinger's legacy as "controversial" though not widely debated in the country.

He said well over half of Cambodia's population was born after the Khmer Rouge were ousted in 1979, and even those who lived through the civil war and the group's brutal rule recall the US involvement and its B-52 bombers, "but not Henry Kissinger".

Kissinger initiated the Paris negotiations that ultimately provided a face-saving means to get the United States out of a costly war in Vietnam.

Nixon's daughters, Tricia Nixon Cox and Julie Nixon Eisenhower, said their father and Kissinger enjoyed "a partnership that produced a generation of peace for our nation".

"Dr Kissinger played an important role in the historic opening to the People's Republic of China and in advancing détente with the Soviet Union, bold initiatives which initiated the beginning of the end of the Cold War," the Nixon daughters

said in a statement.

"His (Kissinger) 'shuttle diplomacy' to the Middle East helped to advance the relaxation of tensions in that troubled region of the world," the Nixon daughters added in the statement.

Former British Prime Minister Tony Blair meanwhile said he was "in awe" of Kissinger.

"Of course, like anyone who has confronted the most difficult problems of international politics, he (Kissinger) was criticized at times, even denounced," Blair said.

He added: "But I believe he was always motivated not from a coarse 'realpolitik,' but from a genuine love of the free world and the need to protect it. He was a problem solver, whether in respect of the Cold War, the Middle East or China and its rise."

For his part, Israeli President Isaac Herzog said as he met US Secretary of State Antony Blinken in Tel Aviv that Kissinger "laid the cornerstone of the peace agreement, which was later signed with Egypt, and so many other processes around the world I admire."

Blinken said that Kissinger "really set the standard for everyone who followed in this job" and that he was "very privileged to get his counsel many times, including as recently as about a month ago".

"Few people were better students of history. Even fewer people did more to shape history than Henry Kissinger," Blinken said.

Russian President Vladimir Putin said in a message to Kissinger's wife that he was "a wise and far-sighted statesman".

He elaborated: "Kissinger's name is inextricably linked with a pragmatic foreign policy line, which at one time made it possible to achieve détente in international tensions and reach the most important Soviet-American agreements that contributed to the strengthening of global security."

French President Emmanuel Macron wrote on X, formerly known as Twitter, that "Henry Kissinger was a giant of history", adding: "His century of ideas and of diplomacy had a lasting influence on his time and on our world."

Leaders of Kissinger's native Germany paid tribute to the former diplomat, a Jew who fled Nazi rule with his family in his teens.

"His commitment to the transatlantic friendship between the United States and Germany was significant, and he always remained close to his German homeland," Chancellor Olaf Scholz wrote on X.

In a message of condolences to Kissinger's family, German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier wrote that "with his détente and disarmament policy, Henry Kissinger laid the foundation for the end of the Cold War and the democratic transition in eastern Europe" which led to Germany's reunification.

\* Associated Press



# The concept of unfair prejudice and the rights of minority shareholders

## Introduction

Inequality is a well-known and accepted fact of life because human beings cannot be equal financially, thinking capacity, wealth, working environment and many other aspects of life. However, despite the said differences in our ordinary life, this is not a hindrance for people to enter into business or joint income generating activities as they deem fit.

In doing business in the form of either partnership or limited liability company, differences might occur such as division of profit or the manner of running the entity.

In a company setup, subject to rights which may be attached to certain class of shares (for example preferential or founder shares) ordinarily, powers of making decision for the company, voting rights and general day-to-day running of the company is attached to the extent of shareholding percentage which a person or an entity owns in that company.

It is not uncommon for minorities to feel like they are being ignored or their opinions are not being taken into consideration or regarded in the same priority compared to their majority counterparts. This is due to the fact that their investment in the entity is minimal and consequently, their extent of loss is also minimal compared to the majority shareholders.

In case of differences which parties fail to resolve amicably, the aggrieved shareholder can seek intervention of the court of law through legal process so that each person can be comfortable with his or her investment in the company. Just like the most celebrated principle of democracy that majority rules and minority rights, in order to safeguard minority rights in a company setup, company law has put in place the concept of unfair prejudice in which rights of minority or any interested person in the affairs of a company who forms an opinion that the company operations are prejudicial to him or her can seek protection by knocking the doors of a court of law. This article discusses the above concept at length with



UN Human Rights Council in session. Credit: UN Photo/Violaine Martin

in the parameter of the company law.

### Unfair prejudice

The concept of unfair prejudice allows minority shareholders to seek remedies for any violation against majority shareholders in case there is reasonable grounds to believe affairs of the company are being conducted in a manner which is unfairly prejudicial to their interest.

In the landmark case of Ebrahimi vs Westbourne Galleries Ltd (1973) AC 360, the court recognized that the fiduciary relationship between shareholders and the company is not limited to the majority shareholders. Rather, minority shareholders have legitimate expectations regarding company affairs. In simple language, unfair prejudice is just oppression against the minority shareholders in a company. This doctrine is available in section 233 of the Company Act No 12 of 2019.

Unfair prejudice can be in various forms such as breach of the article and memorandum of association where majority shareholders deliberately opt to devalue company shares, excessive award of the directors without any good

basis, mismanagement of the company, company operating at loss, diversion of business to another company in which the majority shareholders hold interest, abuse of power in discharging company transactions, failure to hold annual general meetings, failure to divide dividends to the shareholders when there is justification of super profit in the company. This list is infinite and varies from case to case/

### Elements to prove unfair prejudice

Granting or denying an order of unfair prejudice is a discretion power vested upon any trial court invited by petitioner to issue the said order. However, when a trial court exercises its discretion power, it cannot act arbitrarily or haphazardly but within established sound principles of the law.

Four elements are required to be proved so that the trial court can exercise its discretionary power to grant an order of unfair prejudice. These were well stated in the Misc Commercial case No 20 of 2022 between Velisa Elizabeth Defosse Ingleton vs Joseph Ignature Nuronha and others.

They are (i) the conduct of the com-

pany affairs whereby the court looks at whether the claim is premised on the article of association (constitution of the company) or signed agreement which bind either shareholders or directors of the company and see whether there is violation of the same or not.

Next is (ii) prejudice whereby the court examines the act itself if it is oppressive to the petitioner. Prejudice can be in various forms such as exclusion from decision-making, dividend discrimination, breach of fiduciary duty or oppression of minority rights.

Another one (iii) is unfairly which tests if action or omission done is unfair or not objective. Courts normally regard prejudice claim as unfair if a hypothetical reasonable bystander would believe it to be unfair. Further, fairness is judged in the context of commercial relationship and contractual terms which are set either in the memorandum and articles of association

And (iv) is petitioner interest as a member of the company. There should be a link between the claim and interest of the petitioner in the company. In short, locus is obtained to present the claim once you establish an interest in the company.

### Remedies

Once it is proved that operations of the company is unfair prejudicial to a member of the company, the court of law is vested with discretionary power to issue a wide range of orders with the purpose of ensuring that affairs of the company are operated fairly to members of the company and in accordance with the law.

The orders may include injunction or refraining the company from doing or continuing to do what has been complained about, restoration of shares if the same was taken away, damages in

terms of monetary compensation and the most common which is share buy-out. This is an order against the majority shareholders to purchase minority shares in the company. Many other orders may be issued by court depending on the circumstances of the case presented.

### How to institute a case

Any shareholder (minority or majority shareholders) or any interested person such as legal representative may bring claim of unfair prejudice in court of law. The law stipulates that such a case should be preferred to the High Court which it is the court with mandate to deal with such disputes.

The application is taken to court by way of petition and the claimant is called the petitioner. Grounds which show the unfair prejudice should be well particularized in the petition intended to be filed in court.

Lastly, apart from having in place proper article of association, shareholders may enter into agreement in which various affairs of running a company are provided. It is one of the important legal documents which courts of law look into in case of any dispute between the shareholders.

Note: the material and information contained in this article are for general information purposes only. They only provide either elementary or basic legal knowledge on the above subject. Anyone considering legal action should consult an experienced lawyer to understand current laws and how they may affect a case in question.

You can send questions or comments to our email [info@legisattorneys.co.tz](mailto:info@legisattorneys.co.tz) or postal address Managing Partner, Legis Attorneys, P. O. Box 3750, DSM. You can visit our website [www.legisattorneys.co.tz](http://www.legisattorneys.co.tz)

## 'Let's cooperate in preserving our diverse cultural heritage'

The President of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), Dr Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, was in Tanzania purposely to identify fresh opportunities to bolster ties between the two friendly nations. Our senior journalist Songa wa Songa caught up with him in Dar es Salaam.

Here are excerpts from the interview.

**Q: What is the main objective of your visit?**

**A:** As President of ICCR, Tanzania holds significant importance as a key partner in cultural cooperation. This visit is focused on consolidating our existing collaborations and, more importantly, identifying fresh opportunities to bolster our ties. Engaging with key representatives of the Tanzanian government and connecting with Tanzanian alumni will provide invaluable insights into their expectations while allowing me to articulate a vision for an elevated and expanded partnership with all stakeholders in Tanzania.

**Q: How do you perceive the cultural cooperation between India and Tanzania?**

**A:** Our centuries-old relationship, spanning across the Indian Ocean, has deeply intertwined our cultures, leaving an indelible mark evident even today. The fusion of our culinary delights, languages, music, and art showcases the richness of this cultural exchange. With a substantial Indian diaspora in Tanzania and the enthusiastic embrace of Indian culture by Tanzanians, our cooperation thrives. The Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre in Dar es Salaam stands as a testament to our commitment. We regularly send Indian cultural troupes to participate in Tanzanian festivals, such as the Bagamoyo Festival, and reciprocate by hosting Tanzanian cultural troupes at the prestigious Surajkund Crafts Mela in Faridabad, India.

On a global scale, Prime Minister Modi emphasizes South-South cooperation, particularly in the cultural sphere, where Africa and Latin America share affinities with Indian culture. In the era



Dr Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, President of Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), speaks about the purpose of his visit to Tanzania recently.

of globalization, preserving our diverse cultural heritage is vital, decoupling modernisation from westernisation. Our cultural cooperation is pivotal in safeguarding this diversity, contributing to the world's beauty.

**Q: What are the specific contributions of ICCR in Tanzania?**

**A:** Dar es Salaam hosts one of the four Cultural Centres established by ICCR in the entire African continent, underscoring Tanzania's significance to us. Our Cultural Centre offers free classes in yoga, vocal music, tabla, and Hindi language to a large number of Tanzanians. Tanzania stands as the largest beneficiary of ICCR scholarships in Africa, with an increase in annual scholarship

slots from 75 to 85 last month. Since 2002, a total of 479 Tanzanian students have benefited from ICCR scholarships, covering Bachelors, Masters and PhD programmes. Furthermore, ICCR facilitates scholarships for studying the Indian traditional system of medicine, with a Tanzanian national set to pursue this under the scheme. In 2021, an MoU was signed with the University of Dar es Salaam for the establishment of an ICCR History chair, with the process expected to conclude soon.

**Q: How has India-Tanzania cooperation in culture evolved in recent years?**

**A:** India and Tanzania have maintained a robust cooperation since the

era of Mwalimu Nyerere. However, the momentum significantly increased after Prime Minister Modi's visit to Tanzania in 2016, propelling cooperation across various sectors, including culture. The recent state visit of President Samia last month resulted in the signing of two MoUs related to the cultural sphere, and Tanzania's agreement to be a partner country at the Surajkund Crafts Mela in India. Responding to requests from the Tanzania Kabaddi Sports Association and the National Sports Council, we have deployed two Indian Kabaddi coaches to train Tanzanian players.

**Q: Could you share information on any bilateral agreements regarding culture between India and Tanzania?**

**A:** Certainly. During the state visit of H.E. President Samia Suluhu Hassan, two out of six official MoUs signed were related to sports and culture. The Cultural Exchange Programme for the years 2024-27 outlines the modalities of cooperation in the area of culture. Additionally, an MoU for cooperation in sports between the National Sports Council of Tanzania and the Sports Authority of India was signed, further fortifying collaboration in sports.

Beyond official documents, the essence of our relationship lies in people-to-people connections, surpassing the significance of bilateral agreements. Tanzanian students in India, through their firsthand experiences, actively contribute to the enrichment of our cultural exchange, thereby strengthening these grassroots connections. As a pivotal measure, the establishment of the Tanzania Alumni of India association during this visit serves as a crucial step in organizing and fostering the ongoing engagement of our alumni network.

**Q: Are you satisfied with your visit?**

Absolutely. I had the privilege of engaging with key figures such as Deputy Minister of Culture, Arts and Sports Hamis Mohamed Mwinjuma, Speaker of Zanzibar House of Representatives Zubeir Ali Maulid, Second Vice President of Zanzibar Hemed Suleiman Abdulla, and isles Minister for Tourism and Heritage Simai Muhammed. Our discussions focused on enhancing bilateral cooperation in the realm of culture, including the implementation of the Cultural Exchange Programme. I am happy to share that Tanzania-India Alumni Association has been established during my visit. I am confident that our Tanzanian alumni who have gone on to hold key positions here will act as a bridge between our two nations. Witnessing the popularity of our Cultural Centre, particularly the enthusiasm for Kabaddi, among Tanzanians has reinforced my commitment to intensify our collaborative efforts.

# Salvadoran rural communities face climate injustice



By Edgardo Ayala

FOR decades, poor fishing and farming communities in southern El Salvador have paid the price for the electricity generated by one of the country's five dams, as constant and sometimes extreme rains cause the reservoir to release water that ends up flooding the low-lying area where the families live.

Dozens of communities located in the Bajo Lempa area in southern El Salvador suffer year after year from flooding during the May to November rainy season, when the river overflows its banks and floods corn, beans, and other crops, as well as affecting fishing and other livelihoods.

The ecoregion is the lower stretch of the Lempa River basin, which runs through three Central American countries: it originates in Guatemala, crosses part of Honduras, and then enters El Salvador, where it meanders from the north until flowing into the Pacific Ocean in the south of the country.

The Lempa River basin covers 18,240 square kilometers, shared with Honduras (30 percent) and Guatemala (14 percent). In El Salvador, it stretches across slightly more than half of the territory of just over 21,000 square kilometers.

An estimated 5,000 families live in the 900-square-kilometer Bajo Lempa area. They are dedicated to subsistence farming and fishing and non-intensive cattle ranching, although there are also some families from other regions of the country, with more money, who have acquired land to grow sugar cane.

"In the 32 years that I have lived here, I have been affected just like the rest by many floods," Celina Menjivar told IPS. She is a farmer in San Bartolo, one of the settlements or communities of Bajo Lempa.

"I plant corn, sesame, and cushaw squash (Cucurbita argyrosperma) on a small family plot, but when the floods come, everything is lost, and in the end we

**Luis Avilés, standing on a segment of the rock embankment that protects riverbank communities from the overflow of the Lempa River in southern El Salvador, points to the part of the river that makes a turn in its course and hits the levee hard, undermining it. CREDIT: Edgardo Ayala / IPS**

are left with nothing," said Menjivar, 41.

In addition to subsistence farming, a group of some 50 families set up a cooperative for the organic production of cashew nuts, which they were able to export to the United States, France, and the United Kingdom after achieving certification as organic producers.

But rising production costs and competition from cheaper prices, especially from India, have hampered exports in the last two years. The cooperative is therefore looking to promote new products, such as pistachios and peanuts.

"We have made an effort to ensure that the farmers can at least sell their cashew seeds" on the domestic market, the cooperative's administrative coordinator, Brenda Cerén, told IPS.

### Impact on the most vulnerable

Most of the residents of Bajo Lempa were part of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front (FMLN) guerrillas, who settled on the riverbanks after receiving land in the region as part of the demobilization process at the end of the civil war in 1992.

El Salvador's bloody civil war (1980-1992) left some 75,000 people dead and 8,000 missing in a country that currently has 7.6 million inhabitants.

"Most of the flooding is not due to the rains per se, but to the discharges from the reservoir," said Menjivar, referring to the state-owned 15 de Septiembre hydroelectric plant, the country's largest, located upstream between the departments of San Vicente and Usulután, in central El Salvador.

Another resident of San Bartolo, Manuel Mejía, added: "When there are floods here, everything is lost: crops, livestock, even household goods, everything."

Mejía, a 77-year-old former guerrilla fighter, told IPS that this year's rainy sea-

son did not produce flooding because the storms began late, and this meant that the drainage channels, located along the road leading to the area, did not fill up and were able to handle the rainfall at the end of the rainy season in November.

Increasingly unpredictable and extreme rainfall periods, due to climate change, generate intense storms in short periods of time, and, as a consequence, the reservoir's capacity is easily exceeded and water releases are authorized.

Hence, the poor families of Bajo Lempa pay the cost of the dam's ability to generate electricity for other parts of the country, including those that generate the most income, such as industrial groups and real estate consortiums, whose business activities are among those that have the greatest impact on the environment.

This situation falls under the category of climate justice, or, actually, climate injustice: vulnerable groups are more heavily impacted by extreme weather events fomented by others, whether at the national or global level.

"Certainly there is climate injustice: richer people or sectors of the country, who live in urban areas, benefit more from energy, while poor families, who live on the banks of the rivers, take the hit," environmentalist Ricardo Navarro, director of the Salvadoran Center for Appropriate Technology, told IPS.

The Center is a local affiliate of the international NGO Friends of the Earth.

A light rain that falls for two or three days generates releases from the dam and the overflowing of the Lempa River, which floods the settlements. But of course, the most tragic floods have been caused by tropical storms or hurricanes, such as Hurricane Mitch in October 1998.

Mitch, a category 5 hurricane, the most lethal, caused such heavy rains that the hydroelectric dam filled in a matter of 36 hours and went from discharging 500 cubic meters per second to 11,500 cubic meters per second, according to a study on flooding in the Lower Lempa.

"During Mitch, I lost 40 heads of cattle; they drowned," Luis Avilés, a farmer from the Taura community, told IPS.

"Where we live is like living with a chronic illness; year after year we have this anxiety: wondering whether it will flood a lot this year, if I'll lose my crops, not knowing whether to plant or not," said Avilés, 53.

### Embankment on the verge of collapse

A crucial issue in the impact of the floods is the damage that has been suffered over the years to the levee built with Japanese aid funds years ago and which has not been repaired since then, residents of Bajo Lempa told IPS.

The elevation made of different materials on the river bank to contain the overflowing waters runs 18 kilometers along the right bank of the river, from the Cañada Arenera community, in the municipality of San Nicolás Lempa, to the community of La Pita, near the river's mouth.

"We are in the most vulnerable area of the riverbank, the one that receives the strongest impact of the Lempa, because up there it makes a turn and then it flows down with force," said Avilés, standing on the damaged infrastructure: a wall of rocks tied together with wire, about four meters higher than the level of the river.

This segment of the five-kilometer-long levee is indeed the most damaged; the flow of the river has been undermining the base of the wall more and more.

"This wall protects the communities of Santa Marta, San Bartolo, Rancho Grande, Taura, Puerto Nuevo, Naranjo, and La Pita, and if it were to collapse, it would be a great tragedy," said Avilés, also a former guerrilla fighter.

The deterioration of the stone embankment is clearly visible along its five-kilometer length.

The rest of the dike is not a stone wall but an earthen elevation about two meters high, and it is also damaged.

The repair and maintenance of the embankment is one of the main demands of the inhabitants of Bajo Lempa, but it has never been efficiently addressed by any of the past governments.

### Compensation for damage

Avilés said it is obvious that the country needs to generate electricity "because many sectors, factories, industry, and homes depend on it, but we should also consider the cost that we pay down here," referring to the energy produced by the 15 de Septiembre power plant.

This dam and the other four in the country are managed by the state-owned Comisión Ejecutiva Hidroeléctrica del Río Lempa (CEL). For this reason, he and the other people interviewed argued that the government should take responsibility for the damage and losses caused to the families of Bajo Lempa and create an indemnity or compensation fund.

Avilés said that last year, when there was light flooding, he lost his crop of plantains or cooking bananas, which he had planted on a two-hectare plot. He went to claim compensation from CEL for the 15,000 dollars he had invested.

"They told me that they had nothing to do with it, that the dam was above us and the flooding was below," he said.

Environmental activist Gabriel Labrador, of the NGO Salvadoran Ecological Unit (UES), told IPS that these families have every right to demand an economic compensation fund for losses and damage.

"It is an injustice—the discharges, the vulnerabilities to which people and territories are exposed—which is a systematic practice that is unjust and ends up burdening the most disadvantaged people with more damage and losses," he said.

Meanwhile, the residents of Bajo Lempa, already accustomed to the floods, know that they have no choice but to continue fighting, despite the adversities.

"It would be fair for CEL to say, 'We are going to help you, at least with 50 percent of what was lost', but it doesn't give anything. However, we have no choice but to keep working hard," said Menjivar.

IPS UN Bureau Report

## CAPITAL RADIO

# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

## WFP-funded climate-smart agriculture project in Dodoma makes members of a family 'smile'



By Guardian Correspondent

LIKE most parents, Alex and Grace embrace every opportunity to improve their family's quality of life. Being small-scale farmers in Dodoma, Tanzania, those opportunities have at times been few and far between.

Increasingly unreliable rainfall makes farming a risky business in this area. If you plant sorghum or sunflower, and then you fail to get the rains, the crops will fail, so there is a total loss because there has been an investment in seed,' Alex explains.

They also face challenges getting their produce to market and, having over-

come that hurdle, there is another: 'the market is selective, so if the product is not of great quality, you can't access it', says Alex.

Alex and Grace aren't people who give up easily though, so when the opportunity arose for Alex to take part in Farm Africa's Climate-Smart Agriculture project, funded by the World Food Programme (WFP), two years ago, they seized it.

Alex received training on how to improve the soil, proper use of fertiliser and pesticide, marketing and how to farm crops that are drought resilient, including sorghum.

Before joining the project, I was using local seeds. They

weren't good quality. Farm Africa taught me how to farm sorghum and supplied me with improved seed.

'Before joining the project, I was using local seeds. They weren't good quality', he explains. 'Farm Africa taught me how to farm sorghum and supplied me with improved seed'.

He also received training on the use of irrigation and materials to help him get started. 'That's the best way to adapt to the changing climate,' he says. 'I can now produce maize in the dry season because I can irrigate. And maize is a source of income and a source of food for my family.'

The opening of a new veg-

etable market in Dodoma and Grace's membership in a village savings and loan association has improved cashflow also.

Alex says life would be very different if he hadn't received that push forward from Farm Africa. 'You know, when you get support it makes a difference. Farm Africa pushed me to improve my life. Before, my income didn't reach one million [Tanzanian Shillings (approximately £315)], now I reach from one to two million (£315-£630).'

With the additional income the family has expanded its farming operations and purchased a plot to build a home in the vil-

lage.

As for future aspirations, Alex says 'I want to keep practising farming in the best way possible. I want to know more about new technologies and to learn the newest ways of producing and selling my goods. I would also like to have a good house for my family and I want my kids to get a good education. I hope they get exactly what they want from life.'

You can give more farmers and their families across eastern Africa the best chance of a healthy harvest, even in the driest conditions, by making a donation today.

## SADC holds stakeholders' consultative workshop on setbacks seen at Zambia's Kasumbalesa border post

By Guardian Reporter

THE Southern African Development Community (SADC) Secretariat, in collaboration with the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), has conducted a three-day stakeholders consultative workshop bringing together delegates from the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Zambia.

The workshop was held in Kusaka, Zambia, and was attended by representatives of the two Member States responsible for trade, trade facilitation, customs, security, infrastructure, transport, migration, private sector, transporters associations and International Cooperating Partners (ICPs).

Director of Industrialisation and Trade Department at the SADC Secretariat, Dhunraj Kasse, informed participants that the workshop was being convened in response to the decision of the 43rd SADC Summit of the Heads of State and Governments, in August 2023 in Luanda, Angola, that directed the Secretariat to "constitute an Inter-Ministerial Task Force to find a lasting solution to the continued challenges faced by transporters and drivers at the Kasumbalesa border post."

Dhunraj Kasse underscored the strategic importance of the Kasumbalesa border post in facilitating the cross-border movement of goods in the SADC region given its location at the confluence of several trade corridors in the region.

These include the North-South Corridors, Dar es Salaam Development Corridor, Walvis Bay-Ndola-Lubumbashi Corridor, Beira Development Corridor, and the Lobito Development Corridors.

This, he said, indicates how much benefit the region can accrue by resolving the recurring challenges at Kasumbalesa.

He noted political commitment demonstrated by President Felix Tshisekedi of the DRC and President Hakainde Hichilema of Zambia, observing that the two leaders have demonstrated unappreciated political commitment towards promoting, not only bilateral trade between DRC and Zambia, but also for the SADC region. Therefore, he implored all stakeholders to take the assignment seriously and with urgency.

Deputy Director of Customs and Excise of DRC, Mariano Pitta reiterated in his remarks the critical need to finding lasting solutions at the major border posts, such as Kasumbalesa.

He indicated that the two countries have made progress in implementing the joint Communiqué of 6 March 2023 although more still must be done. He specified that the development and upgrading of satellite border posts such as the Sakania border post is part of an integral strategy of diverting traffic away from the Kasumbalesa border post and there contribute towards decongesting the border post.

At the same event, Director of Domestic Trade from the Ministry of Commerce, Trade, and Industry of Zambia, Mrs. Margaret Moonga-Chikuba, indicated the importance that trade has to regional growth and that trade facilitation at Kasumbalesa border post is vital for growth of the two economies. She further underscored Zambia's commitment to implementing the activities win accordance with the Joint Communiqué.

The main objective of the consultative workshop was to undertake a diagnostic analysis, gather information and with a particular focus on the Private Sector to find a lasting solution to the perennial challenges at Kasumbalesa Border post. The expected outcome was a comprehensive Action plan with clear time frames and deliverables, to be presented to the Inter-Ministerial Task Force of Ministers responsible for Transport, Trade, and Security.

All parties agreed to the establishment of a regional committee to oversee and monitor progress on the implementation of the agreed activities.

The Head of Cooperation at the German Embassy in Zambia, Bernhard Trautner who represented the GIZ reiterated the commitment by the German Government to support SADC and its Member States in the implementation of their trade and regional economic integration priorities. He appreciated the resolution of the Governments of Zambia and DRC to find a lasting solution to the challenges affecting the Kasumbalesa Border post owing to its strategic importance to the region.

The implementation of the 43rd SADC Summit decision will require identifying and resolving the continued challenges faced by transporters and drivers at the Kasumbalesa border crossing between Zambia and the DRC will contribute to the increase in intra-regional trade through increased market access and enhanced compliance of the SADC legal instruments and trade facilitation measures.

## Report : Drought and floods plunge 27 million children into hunger in 2022

By Guardian Reporter

EXTREME weather events plunged more than 27 million children into acute food insecurity in 2022, in 12 of the country's most vulnerable to climate change, the NGO Save the Children announced in its report early this week.

The figure is 135 percent higher than in 2021, according to a data analysis published by the British charity ahead of the UN Climate Conference (COP28), which opened in Dubai yesterday.

Children account for almost half of the 57 million people in food crisis in these 12 countries in 2022 due to drought, floods, and other extreme weather events, according to data from the Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC), an initiative supported by the UN and various NGOs and international institutions to describe the severity of food emergencies.

Of the 12 countries, Ethiopia and Somalia were home to almost half of the 27 million children facing these levels of food insecurity, according to Save the Children. "As climate-re-



Newly displaced Somali women and children gather, just outside of Mogadishu, in Somalia.

lated weather events become more frequent and extreme, we will witness their increasingly brutal consequences on the lives of children," warned Save the Children's Executive Director, Inger Ashing.

The charity is calling on COP28 to take action against climate change, in

particular by recognizing children as "key actors of change", but also to take action against other causes of food insecurity, such as conflict prevention or strengthening health systems.

In Somalia, notes the NGO, recent torrential rains accompanied by se-

vere flooding have driven 650,000 people from their homes, around half of them children.

In Pakistan, more than two million children are still undernourished after floods hit a third of the country in 2022.

On a global scale, Save the Children estimates

that one in three children worldwide (774 million) lives in poverty while exposed to extreme weather events.

In a report published last week, Save the Children indicated that by 2023, 17.6 million children have been or will be facing hunger from birth.

## African School of Economics expands to Zanzibar

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

THE African School of Economics (ASE), the pan-African university developing the frontier of Africa's next generation of scholars, has officially announced its expansion to Zanzibar.

It marks the university's first location in East Africa, with plans for a state-of-the-art campus for African students and world-class faculty.

ASE will also become the latest high-profile addition to the Silicon Zanzibar initiative as it kick-starts the next phase of its expansion plan to become the go-to pan-African centre of higher learning.

In partnership with renowned educational institutions including Princeton University and Indian Institute of Technology Madras, ASE will deliver graduate and undergraduate degree programmes focused on STEM and social science training through three departments - the School of

Arts and Sciences, the School of Business, and the Engineering School.

Strategically, it is the first campus to have a focus on technology, aiming to become part of the tech ecosystem in Silicon Zanzibar. ASE is committed to actively engaging in the launch of tech start-ups, training up the human capital and skills necessary to enable the development and commercialisation of new technology and incubate innovative companies.

To support the upcoming launch, the university will also accelerate its current recruitment drive to attract 50 elite faculty members and 900 students from across the world, providing the highest standard of learning to ensure African students can compete on a global stage.

Speaking on the launch of ASE's new campus, Prof Leonard Wantchekon, Founder and President at ASE, said: "Since launching in 2014, the vision for ASE has always been to establish a pan-African system of univer-

sities and with our first launch in East Africa, it was vital we selected an environment which strongly reflected our ethos. At ASE, we firmly believe it is simply not enough to train up STEM talent, but we must also create an enabling policy environment which empowers their ideas to truly scale."

He added: "Through its Silicon Zanzibar initiative, Zanzibar has made impressive headway in this regard by establishing policies which heavily encourage frontier innovation. Coupled with its strong entrepreneurial spirit and close proximity to a number of well-regarded East African universities, we're fully convinced these qualities make Zanzibar the ideal destination to spearhead the next chapter of our pan-African expansion."

Lela Mussa, Zanzibar Minister for Education said: "Zanzibar is pursuing education transformation to achieve its national development vision. We are promoting international universities and higher learning

institutions to establish campuses here in the isles to support human capital development."

Daniel Yu, founder and CEO of Wasoko, Africa's largest B2B e-commerce network and the official private sector ambassador for Silicon Zanzibar said: "ASE's presence in Zanzibar will undoubtedly have a transformative impact in the development of a crucial pipeline of tech talent for the island and beyond. We look forward to exploring areas of collaboration alongside them in the near future."

The announcement of ASE's launch in Zanzibar follows the recent award of the Global Economy Prize to Prof. Leonard Wantchekon in June 2023 for his visionary work in both establishing ASE as well as his world-leading research in development economics.

Last year, an ASE alumn earned his Princeton Ph.D. and has been appointed assistant professor at New York University

(NYU), a world-class university.

"We congratulate ASE on the expansion of its mission of excellence in research and training to a second regional hub on the continent", said Prof Rodney Priestley, Dean of the Graduate School, and the Pomeroy and Betty Perry Smith Professor of Chemical and Biological Engineering, Princeton University.

Launched in Benin in 2014, ASE was founded to address the twin challenges of a lack of African representation at the forefront of cutting-edge research as well as limited training of top-tier talent on the continent.

With over 2,000 students and alumni, 12+ degree programmes and four campuses across its locations of Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria and Zanzibar, it ranks as one of Africa's leading universities in terms of research quality, the calibre of faculty and students as well as its superb record of graduate placements.

# Failure of emergency protocol blamed for deaths of miners

By Ed Stoddard and Michelle Banda

WHEN being hoisted to the surface at the end of a long shift underground, a miner generally breathes a sigh of relief. The dangers that lurk in the depths recede as the “cage” – which is what it effectively is – ascends to the surface.

On Monday afternoon, 86 Implats mine workers would have been looking forward to returning to the surface and taking a shower. They were spread out among the three levels of the cage, which has a capacity for up to 145 workers. The miners in the bottom level of the cage were unaware that they were in the worst place possible.

Shortly before 5pm on Monday, Implats says, the conveyance lift in 11 Shaft – which is about 1,000m deep, with operations across 20 levels – began its scheduled ascent to 17 Level.

“The conveyance unexpectedly reversed direction and began descending back down through the shaft. The emergency protocol for such an incident was immediately and automatically activated. Regrettably, although the winder rope remained intact, the emergency protocol failed to immediately arrest the lift’s rapid descent,” the company said.

The winder counterweight became snagged for some reason, which resulted in what Implats described in a statement as an “almost instantaneous deceleration”.

It went on to say that the force of this “impacted the 86 employees who were standing upright in the three levels of the lift at the time. Given that the lift was still attached to the winder rope as it slipped, the lift was not in free fall.”

So it was not a “free fall”, but a



A group of miners emerge from 11C shaft at Impala Platinum mine in Rustenburg, 11 miners lost their lives and 75 were injured in an accident on 27 November 2023. (Photo: Felix Dlangamandla)

“rapid descent” of around 160m – which would have been hair-raising enough. Then there was the jarring stop, and the bottom of the cage also hit steel beams near the bottom of the shaft, Implats spokesperson Johan Theron told Daily Maverick. The result was that the miners in the lowest level of the cage experienced the worst casualties.

“The mechanisms used to operate the conveyance system and the safety protocols involved in arresting falls in such systems are known to be safe and are used in mining operations globally.

The failure of the arrest safety protocol is therefore unusual, highlighting the tragic nature of this accident,” Implats said.

Tshegofatso Mphuti, a 23-year-old miner, was one of the survivors of the accident, in which 11 of his colleagues lost their lives and 74 others were injured. Mphuti, who had been working at the mine for a year, was recovering at Impala Medical Services Hospital, and his uncle Lesley Mphuti shared his account.

“Tshegofatso tells us that while they were in the elevator, it tripped twice. It initially seemed to be

ascending, as if preparing to open and let them out, but swiftly descended, leading to the demise of 11 colleagues and leaving him and 74 others injured.

“At the time, they couldn’t ascertain if the elevator was moving up or down. It had jammed and we suspect a line connected to the elevator broke,” Lesley Mphuti said.

Tshegofatso suffered injuries to his back, legs and head.

His uncle expressed deep frustration at the lack of communication from the mining company. “What hurt me the most is the company did not even

call us as families to let us know. I found out about this on a Facebook post and immediately started to look for my nephew because I was worried.

“He is usually home at around 3pm and the latest by 4pm. It was four hours later that my search began. I went to three hospitals before I could locate him in Impala Medical Services.”

Despite the pain and trauma, Lesley Mphuti expressed gratitude that his nephew survived the tragedy, acknowledging the painful reality that others were not as fortunate.

Investigations underway Investigations under way and production has been halted at Rustenburg while checks are made on the winder equipment at other shafts.

Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy Gwede Mantashe visited the mine on Tuesday and was given a briefing about the accident, the worst to hit South Africa’s mining sector since 2001 when 12 miners were killed in an explosion at the Beatrix gold mine in the Free State.

“We have 11 people who have lost their lives. We are mourning the passing of these mineworkers and sympathise with the families. This is a disaster which will require a thorough investigation in line with the Mine Health and Safety Act. It has dented our efforts to move to zero harm,” Mantashe was quoted as saying in a statement.

“Zero harm” refers to the noble industry, labour and government goal of making mining so safe in South Africa that no one dies on the job.

It would be an understatement to describe it as an elusive target, but massive strides have been made on the health and safety front in South Africa’s deep and dangerous mines.

In 2022, fatalities in South Africa’s mining industry hit a record low for a single year since the start of industrial-scale operations in the late 19th century. At 49, it still meant that a miner was killed on average almost every week last year.

This figure was less than a fifth of the 2003 death toll of 270. In the 1980s as many as 800 miners were killed in a single year.

But the Implats disaster means that at least 52 miners have been killed on the job in 2023, so this year will not be a record year for safety.

It is of more than passing interest to note that much of the safety drive has been focused on preventing “falls-of-ground” (FOG) accidents – which means that a rock above literally falls on you with crushing impact. These have long been the leading cause of death, accounting for almost 40% of mine fatalities in South Africa from 2000 to 2021.

The roll-out of safety netting and bolting in the roof of underground mines has been one of the key factors behind a sharp decline in FOG fatalities. Mechanisation, where South Africa’s arduous geology allows it, has also paid huge safety dividends, as it replaces humans with machines in hazardous areas.

But when you are in the cage, you don’t expect a rock to fall on your head. There have been accidents involving them, but they are comparatively rare.

On 1 May 2008 – Workers’ Day, no less – nine employees at Gold Fields’ South Deep mine west of Johannesburg were killed when the conveyance cage they were travelling in dislodged and plummeted more than 60m.

That incident triggered a safety drive under Gold Fields’ former CEO Nick Holland, who had just assumed that role at the time. South Deep is now a totally mechanised and heavily automated mine with a sterling safety record. But humans still descend 3km down – and 3km up – the shaft there and do so safely.

Implats under scrutiny Many questions will be raised about the Implats disaster at a tough time for platinum group metal (PGM) producers, who have seen prices and profits collapse from the record highs they were reaping two years ago. Implats’ share price pointedly had its own rapid descent on Tuesday, falling by more than 8% to extend its losses in 2023 to almost 65%.

“While we have a strong understanding of what happened yesterday, we are still investigating how it could have happened,

and the answer to that question and other concerns may take some time to accurately establish. We are working closely with the relevant authorities and will provide additional updates when possible and appropriate,” Implats said.

That means the accident was preventable, but it is too late for the 11 who died and their families, and the 75 survivors who must have had a harrowing time during the rapid descent and its bone-shattering halt.

This point was not lost on the Association of Mineworkers and Construction Union (Amcu), which last year signed a five-year wage deal with Implats, signalling a new era in the union’s often combative relationship with capital.

“Amcu has been calling for the amendment of the Mine Health and Safety Act for these company bosses to be really accountable, especially to be charged with culpable homicide. Some of these accidents are repeated and is an accident that could have been avoided,” Amcu president Joseph Mathunjwa was quoted as saying by EWN.

Implats will also have to answer questions in the boardroom.

Investors have been among the biggest drivers of the overall mine safety drive in this age of environmental, social and governance concerns, or ESGs, which have risen to the top of corporate agendas. These days they generally don’t like their dividends drenched in blood, and Implats to its credit has also significantly improved its safety record over the years.

Rustenburg accounts for 1.2 million ounces of Implats’ production each year, about a third of its concentrate output. But a temporary closure of the operations does not explain its share price descent on Tuesday. A single fatality will routinely close a mine for at least a couple of days.

Implats has investors, labour and the government breathing down its back. It’s not a great space to be in when PGM prices and margins are on the edge. Expect rocks to fall.

DM

**THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORDS AND WORD FIT - 35 -**

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

**ACROSS:**

- Largest country in North America
- an event regarded as a portent of good/evil
- military commander during Ottoman
- refuse to admit the truth
- east-north-east
- a threat or danger
- a woody perennial plant

**DOWN:**

- system of words or symbols used to represent others
- said at the end of prayers by Christians
- a member of nomadic people of Siberia
- whichever of a specified class might be chosen
- Accept
- a fruit shaped like an elongated melon, with edible orange flesh and small black seeds
- Opposition leader in South Africa
- the members of a household
- headlands
- flowers
- the natural satellite of the earth
- request made in an urgent and emotional manner
- unwell
- shilling

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

PESETA	CRAPE	NEUTER
RIOTERS	AIDE :ALL	OLD
ASHRAM	NOISES	ASK
ETE	TEETH	AMEN
AGO: GE	ADIEU	CAN

**Yesterday's solution**

M	A	I	L	L	S	L	O	W	H	O	T	H	O	M	E
O	V	E	R	T	A	K	E	A	O	L	I	V	E	V	
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**RADIO One** **RATIBA YA MIPINDI** **JUMATATU - JUMAPILI**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME
05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:10 AM YALIYOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS DANKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:10 AM YALIYOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR / MUZIKI 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:10 AM YALIYOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR / MUZIKI 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS CHAGUO LA DJ 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:10 AM YALIYOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18:30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR / MUZIKI 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:05 HRS MALIMBANO YA HOJA 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM COMMERCIALS 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:15 AM NEWS PAPERS REVIEW 07:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA KISWAHILI 09:00 AM WATOTO SHOW 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:15 AM MIWANI YA MAISHA 11:00 AM MTAHA WA MAGOMA 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS CHAGUO LAKO 15:00 HRS MUZIKI NA MICHEZO 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:30 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:15 HRS MIDUNDO MOTOMOTO 18:00 HRS BONGO TEN 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:15 HRS CHEMASHA BONGO 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:03 HRS WEEK END SHOW I 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS WEEK END SHOW II 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS WEEK END SHOW III 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM COMMERCIALS 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:15 AM NEWS PAPERS REVIEW 07:30 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA KISWAHILI 09:00 AM WATOTO SHOW 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:15 AM SUNDAY SPECIAL 11:00 HRS TOP 20 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS CHAGUO LAKO 15:00 HRS MUZIKI NA MICHEZO 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:30 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:30 HRS MAMBO YA PWANI 18:00 HRS AFRICAN PANORAMA 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20:10 HRS MWAU ZANGU 21:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 21:03 HRS MAMBO MSETO 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS RAFIKI I 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS RAFIKI II 01:00-05:00 MUZIKI MCHANGANYIKO	

# GLOBAL FIRMS COMPETING FOR LITHIUM ASSETS IN TANZANIA

## NEVADA

The leading global companies are competing for the development of high-value lithium properties in Tanzania, plus elimination of all cash obligations after transfer of property rights of Titan Lithium, Inc, an emerging company based in Nevada.

Craig Alford, CEO of Nevada-based lithium explorer and developer-CDSG, noted "The results from the initial geochemical sampling are staggering. The size and strength of the Lithium anomaly at Titan 1 is particularly exceptional as it is within an area that has had no previous exploration and both sample lines ended at their northern limit within some of the highest grades of up to 2.79 percent Li2O. These very strong results are being followed up by ongoing sampling and exploration on the Titan 1 Project area."

More results will be announced in the coming weeks, he said.

According to him, vigorous quality control of the samples was maintained and all samples were prepared and analyzed at the independent and ISO 9001-certified African Minerals and Geosciences Centre (AMGC) based in Dar es Salaam.

As part of the work on the largest CDSG Project, Titan 1, two lines of surficial geochemical soil surveys were collected over a section of the nearly 115 square mile (300 sq km) central Prospecting License ("PL").

The lines were run approximately

Northwest-Southeast and spaced 3kms apart.

Results from both lines returned very high Lithium values over extensive distances, two zero values were returned from each line, however, the positive geochemical results indicated lithium values ranging from 100 ppm to highs of 13,000 ppm with average values of 0.55 percent Li2O (2,569ppm Li) over 7.4 miles (12 km) for the west-most line and 1.14 percent Li2O (5,300ppm Li) over 3.7 miles (6 km) for the eastern line.

Values for sodium, potassium, and magnesium broadly mirror and confirm the distribution of the anomalous lithium values.

Potassium oxide (K2O) values ranged as high as 3.6 percent in the results.

The CDSG Titan 1 PL is centered over a vast, sparsely vegetated, flat-lying 'playa' covered by a thin layer of alluvium overlying volcano-sedimentary basin fill.

The area is morphologically and depositonally somewhat similar to the company's WEL project claim area, containing mudstones much like the TLC project (American Lithium Corp.) and the Thacker Pass (Lithium Americas Corp.) projects of Nevada.

The CDSG project is part of a Definitive Agreement with Kilimanjaro Lithium Inc., a private corporation domiciled in Tanzania, whereby CDSG has the exclusive right to earn up to a 100 percent interest in two large Lithium projects, Titan 1 and 2.



Presently, the company has already fulfilled the requirements for 80 percent of the total earn-in on both projects.

To simplify the business descriptions of Titan Lithium (CDSG) and Barrel Energy (BRLL), and how they associate with each other, CDSG is the company's lithium resource holdings company and BRLL is the technology company.

"Management of both companies is very excited to continue the announcements of advancements in Lithium resources, especially, in sharing the completion of the agreement relating to our claystone extraction technology," the company statement says.

On November 22nd, CDSG announced that the companies' board of directors is presently evaluating strategic proposals for future rapid

development of the Titan projects in Tanzania.

Due to the uniquely strong Lithium results returned during exploration, CDSG has received several proposals in relation to the development of the Titan projects.

Both Titan 1 and Titan 2 have attracted a high degree of interest from a number of potential strategic partners, including global industry leaders in the mining industry.

In reviewing the received proposals, the management and board of directors of CDSG are deeply committed to both maximizing value for shareholders of the Company, as well as for the communities near the projects, and for the viability of an actual robust production timeline for these world-class projects.

Management expects that any potential strategic partner will be

committed to contributing to the success of CDSG, supporting the interests of Tanzania, and contributing in a major way to the supply chain to major Electric Vehicle markets.

On November 20th CDSG announced that as a result of restructuring, the company has no further cash payment obligations for 100 percent ownership of the Titan 1 and Titan 2 Prospecting Licenses and that all claims to Net Smelter Return ("NSR") holdings have been relinquished.

The restructuring will result in a \$6,275,000 reduction in payments and potential ownership of NSRs for the company on the projects.

"The Titan Lithium Projects are proving to be world-class standouts in both size and grade," commented Craig Alford, CDSG CEO.

"Gaining full ownership of the projects is an enormous step forward for the Company and its shareholders."

On November 17th CDSG made a major announcement reporting it has completed the full transfer of 100 percent interest in the Titan 1 and Titan 2 Prospecting Licenses in Tanzania into the company's Kilimanjaro Lithium Ltd subsidiary.

Mineral rights in Tanzania are held under a number of types of licenses granted under the country's comprehensive mining act.

Exploration projects are held by a Prospecting License ("PL") which allows the holder to conduct a wide range of exploration work until

such a time as a mining license is required for exploitation.

The vendor completed the transfer of 100 percent of the two Prospecting Licenses for Titan 1 and Titan 2, PL 12353/2023 and PL 12338/2023, into CDSG on November 14, 2023.

The Prospecting Licenses that were transferred were duly recorded pursuant to section 123(1) of the Mining Act in the central register on November 16, 2023.

The two PLs are considered prospective to the discovery of sediment-hosted lithium-style mineralization within a country rich in mineral resources.

Tanzania is endowed with many types of minerals including gold, iron ore, nickel, copper, cobalt, gemstones, industrial minerals as well as rare earth minerals.

Tanzania is the fourth largest gold producer in Africa and home to advanced critical mineral projects such as graphite, lithium, and the high-grade nickel-copper-cobalt Kabanga deposit.

Earlier this year, under a Presidential plan to fast-track such deposits, Tanzania signed agreements worth \$667 million for graphite and rare earth projects with several Australian mining firms.

Also, in February 2023, EV maker Tesla signed an agreement under which it will purchase between 17,500 to 35,000 tons per annum of Anode Active Material (AAM) from a producer in Tanzania.

# Bread-making makes PLWH in Iringa lead improved lives

By Beatrice Philemon, recently in Iringa

People living with HIV/AIDS in Iringa Region are leading much-improved lives now through earning income, after establishing a bread baking project based in Isoka street, Mwangata Ward, in Iringa municipality.

Akiba Lwisa, Itika Group's secretary said this recently when briefing journalists and USAID mission director who visited the group to see the impact of the "Hebu Tuyajenge" project as part of commemorating 20th anniversary of the US President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) achievements in the fight against HIV/AIDS in Iringa region.

This has been possible

through a five-year project implemented by the National council of People Living with HIV/AIDS in Tanzania (NACOPHA) with funding from the PEPFAR and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

He said Itika group is among 32 empowerment groups in Iringa Region benefiting from USAID and PEPFAR support.

NACOPHA trained beneficiaries on how to make high quality bread, save money, obtain loans from the Village Community Bank (VICOPA), financial management, marketing and business plan writing.

They were also encouraged to enroll for National Health Insurance scheme, assess the nutritional status in their family especially low-income earners.

Through the knowledge and skills gained from the project, they have been able to establish a bread baking project and establish a Village Community Bank (VICOPA).

"The fund we get from selling bread products, enabled register for the National Health insurance scheme to 14 members, repay loans obtained from Iringa Municipal council, pay rent, purchase school supplies and pay school fees for children," he said.

The breads production has increased from one 25kg bag of wheat flour to three 25kg bag of wheat flour per day.

Members have also able to deposit 700,000/- into the bank account, and a total of 650,000/- loans have been disbursed to members to set up their own

business.

Loans benefiting members are involved in poultry farming, snacks and bites baking, bakery and food commodities trade.

Also the group has received bakery equipment worth 2mn/- as a seed capital from PEPFAR to set up business that will also improve their nutritional status.

They have also received a generator from NACOPHA to be used in case of a power cut, to prevent discontinuation of baking activities.

He lauded USAID, PEPFAR and NACOPHA for introducing the project because has changed their lives.

He further said, members are now eating three meals a day and set up income generating activities.

For her part, Emma Lu-

pembe, Itika group's chairperson lauded USAID and PEPFAR to help people living with HIV/AIDS to obtain treatment.

"Right now we are looking for donors to help us obtain transport facilities, so that we can distribute our bread products," she said.

Deogratius Rutatwa, NACOPHA's chief executive officer says, the project is implemented in 65 district council in Tanzanian mainland.

So far, 32 empowerment groups of people living with HIV/AIDS have been established in Iringa Municipal Council.

Members have been able to set up income generating activities and are now involved in farming activities, handcraft business, batik tie and dye, horticulture, grains business, tailoring, bakery, animal rearing, lending and saving schemes.

Hebu Tuyajenge project focuses on increasing utilization of HIV testing, treatment and family planning services among adolescents and people living with HIV, strengthening capacity of people living with HIV organizations and structures, as well as improving the enabling environment for the HIV response through economic empowerment.

He said 4,525 groups of people living with HIV/AIDS have been established, 1,792 treatment advocates and 1,150 community action teams that includes youth, women and men living with HIV from 185 districts of Tanzania mainland.



Dar es Salaam regional commissioner Albert Chalamila

## TIB Development bank's project financing generates 30,000 jobs

By Guardian Reporter

A total of 30,000 jobs in different sectors of the economy have been created through the TIB Development Bank's financing.

This was said by the bank's acting managing director Lilian Mbassy when presenting the investment contribution made by the bank in the country, during the period ended in September 2023.

Mbassy said the bank will continue to support the government's efforts in implementing national policies and strategies to increase the speed of development.

The bank recently met with its Dar es Salaam Zone stakeholders to discuss its responsibilities and success in contributing to development in the country.

It also presented the credit opportunities and services provided as well as feedbacks from customers.

Speaking during the opening

the meeting, the Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner, Albert Chalamila thanked the bank for facilitating investment projects that contribute to strengthening development activities.

RC Chalamila said the bank has provided loans worth 110.40bn/- for Dar es Salaam regional projects, out of projects' total investments amounting to more than 900bn/-.

"The continued growth of the bank expands employment opportunities for young Tanzanians who earn their own income and contribute to the development of the national economy," said Chalamila.

RC Chalamila also thanked the President Samia Suluhu Hassan for his commitment to invest in the bank.

On behalf of the bank's board chairman, Agapiti Kobello, the member of the board, said TIB bank will continue to meet its stakeholders on a regular basis.



Itika Group secretary, Akiba Lwisa (2nd L), shows visitors around the group's factory premises

# EXPLORING POTENTIAL IN AFRICA'S REAL ESTATE SECTORS

By Boniface Abudho

Despite, economic slowdowns, escalating fuel prices, and currency devaluations, the African real estate market remains a realm of significant untapped potential.

The challenges encountered in Africa's commercial property sector are strikingly uniform. Take Nigeria, for instance, with its ever-expanding population, now exceeding 200 million people - the highest in the continent.

This population is expected to double within three decades, a trend expected to reverberate in other African countries like Kenya and South Africa. The World Bank estimates that by 2050, Africa's population will surge to at least 2.4bn and could reach 4.2bn within the next century.

While such an unprecedented population surge certainly brings challenges, such as resource constraints, it also presents various opportunities, for example in education, housing, and healthcare. As an example, the escalating costs of educating children abroad, particularly in the United Kingdom and the United States, offer a real prospect for private education providers across the continent.

The ascendance of co-working spaces in markets such as South Africa and Nigeria, the traditional office setup is currently being challenged by the dynamic and flexible environment of co-working spaces. These spaces offer cost savings, flexibility, and heightened productiv-

ity for businesses. For instance, in Lagos, many businesses are shying away from rigid long-term leases and upfront costs associated with conventional offices, opting instead for the flexibility and cost-efficiency inherent in co-working spaces. As of 2020, Nigeria boasted 60 entrepreneurial co-working spaces, surpassing other African nations, with Egypt (59) and South Africa (58) following suit.

The shared amenities offered by co-working spaces eliminate the financial burden of maintenance costs and renting space that isn't used constantly like meeting rooms, enabling businesses to scale up or downsize in response to their requirements without being bound by prolonged leases.

The imperative for affordable housing in Africa is grappling with a severe housing deficit, marked by a shortage of at least 51 million housing units (Centre for Affordable Housing Finance in Africa). Urbanisation and population growth are the prime catalysts for this crisis, leaving governments struggling to meet the surging demand for affordable housing.

On average, over 40,000 people migrate to African cities every day, most of whom cannot afford formal housing or access mortgage loans. This presents an excellent opportunity to provide affordable housing units to address this burgeoning demand.

While Africa remains the most rural region globally, it is urbanising rapidly, exerting immense pressure on urban land and housing provision in the coming decades. Scaling up affordable housing



initiatives can boost national economies, create jobs, revitalise the construction industry, and enhance living conditions and overall well-being for the continent's inhabitants.

For instance, in Nigeria, inadequate housing affects between 14 and 16 million people, while South Africa grapples with a housing shortage of approximately 3.7 million units.

Conversely, Kenya experiences an annual housing demand of 250,000 units but manages to supply only around 50,000 units each year. Various governments have introduced diverse, affordable housing models, but much work remains to satisfy the demand.

The Kenyan Government, for example, launched the Affordable Housing Program in 2017 to deliver 500,000 units

by December 2022. However, it's worth noting that this initiative has struggled to attain its full potential due to financial constraints arising from inadequate budgeting, resulting in various projects stalling.

To further bolster this programme, the Kenyan government has established the National Housing Development Fund (NHDF) to provide funding, targeting the construction of 200 units per constituency.

Data centres

The demand for data centres is also soaring across countries like South Africa and throughout the continent as the world progresses towards a more interconnected and automated future. With the rise in online retail, catalysed largely by the pandemic, requirements for data centres have flourished across the continent.

Data centres provide a cheaper and more efficient IT capability than inbuilt servers, which is aiding their popularity. They also offer cloud services and allow organisations to focus on their core functions.

The African data centre market is projected to experience significant growth in terms of investment, with a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of approximately 15 percent from 2020 to 2026. In 2020, the market size in terms of investment was valued at US\$ 2bn, and it is anticipated to reach US\$ 5bn by 2026.

Investors such as the Agility Logistics Park (ALP), have already recognised the burgeoning demand for data centres in

Africa. The firm recently launched four master-planned data centre campuses in Egypt, Ghana, Saudi Arabia, and Kuwait.

Upon completion, these campuses will contribute a substantial 275,000 sqm of cutting-edge centre capacity to ALP's existing infrastructure in the Middle East and Africa.

However, there is still more work to be done to meet the continent's expanding digital needs. Currently, Africa represents less than 1 percent of the global collocation data centre supply, with South Africa being the main contributor to the continent's capacity.

According to The African Data Centres Association (ADCA), Africa requires approximately 1,000MW of power and at least 700 additional facilities to address the growing demand. This underscores the untapped potential in the African data centre space, which is primed for further development and investment to bridge this digital divide and foster the region's technological advancement.

Overall, untapped opportunities abound in diverse facets of the African real estate sector, with particular emphasis on co-working spaces, affordable housing, and data centres. With Africa's population poised to double by 2050, these opportunities must not be overlooked. Other opportunities lie in specialised residential developments, such as retirement homes, addressing the needs of a growing middle-class elderly population in Africa.

**Boniface Abudho (pictured) is the Research Analyst in Knight Frank**

## Mumbai property registrations increase over 3pc

MUMBAI

Mumbai's real estate market reported 9,255 property registrations in November, according to data from the Maharashtra Inspector General of Registrations and Stamps (IGR), as of 11 am on November 30. The state also raked in Rs 677 crore in revenue from property registrations during the period.

In November 2022, the number of registrations stood at 8,965. Revenue collection, though, saw a minor 1 percent fall from Rs 684 crore in November 2022 to Rs 677 crore this year, according to the Maharashtra government data.

This comes on the back of a strong showing a month earlier. In October 2023, 10,244 properties were registered in Mumbai, a 21 percent year-on-year spike over October 2022. Revenue collections rose 11 percent in October this year to Rs 809 crore from Rs 723 crore in October 2022, according to the data.

Of November's overall registered properties, residential units constituted 80 percent, going by from Knight Frank India. According to the real estate consultancy, the month reported 9,000-plus property registrations despite fewer working days due to a slew of holidays given the festival season.

"In November 2023, Mumbai is set to achieve its most successful November in the past 11 years for property registrations, highlighting the enduring strength of the residential real estate sector. This success is driven by factors such as increasing income levels and a



positive outlook on homeownership, reflecting the unwavering trust of property purchasers in the city's real estate market," Knight Frank India said in its report.

Of the total properties registered, the city's central and western suburbs together constituted over 75 percent as these locations are a hotbed for new launches offering a wide range of modern amenities and good connectivity, according to a Knight Frank India analysis.

Eighty-six percent of western suburb buyers and 85 percent of central suburb purchasers opt to buy within the micro market they were already residing in. This choice was influenced by the familiarity of the location, along

with the availability of products that align with their pricing and feature preferences, the analysis added.

### 2023 performance

In the 11 months of 2023, the city achieved a registration count of 114,069 units, resulting in a substantial revenue accumulation of Rs 9,895 crore for the state treasury. This stands as the highest within the same timeframe since 2013, said the Knight Frank India report.

This surge in property registrations has notably bolstered the Maharashtra government's coffers. The elevated revenue growth can be attributed to factors like registration of higher-value properties and augmented

stamp duty rate, according to the Knight Frank India report.

### Outlook 2024

In its report Outlook 2024 released on November 29, Knight Frank India stated that the residential, office and warehousing markets will remain buoyant next year. It said that Mumbai is expected to see a 5.5 percent increase in prime residential prices in 2024, driven by high demand and strong economic growth.

"The residential sector exhibits substantial growth potential, underscored by sustained demand over the past few years. Notably, there is a pronounced demand for mid- and high-priced residential properties. The resilience of the Indian economy has also

catalysed the recovery of the office sector, which is steadily rebounding from its pandemic-induced downturn. Looking ahead, we envisage a continued upward trajectory for both the residential and office sectors, well supported by ongoing GDP growth," said Shishir Bajjal, chairman and managing director, Knight Frank India.

High-value transactions Further, the Knight Frank India analysis for November 2023 property registrations in Mumbai said that in recent years, there has been a consistent upward trend in the percentage of registrations for properties valued at Rs 1 crore or more. This proportion has risen from 51 percent in January to November 2020 to approximately 57 percent in January to November 2023.

"The increase in property prices, combined with a significant 250 basis point rise in the policy repo rate during the last two years, has had a negative impact on the registration of properties below the Rs 1 crore threshold. However, registrations for properties valued at Rs 1 crore and above have shown a relatively limited impact of these changes," the analysis said.

## DCB Bank services are now accessible through Tigo agents

By Faustine Felician

DCB Bank customers will now access the bank's financial services through Tigo branches network, following the signing of the partnership agreement between two companies.

In the partnership that was officially signed yesterday, customers of the bank will now make their banking transactions through Tigo's services.

Speaking at the brief launch of the service on behalf of the bank's Chief Executive Officer, the legal director, Regina Mduma, said that all Tigo's agents will be responsible for providing DCB banking services to customers nationwide.

"Our goal is to make services easier for our customers, where there is no DCB branch, the customer can still access our services through a Tigo's agency," said Regina.

For his part, Tigo's Chief Officer Angelica Pasha, said that the partnership aims to bring financial services closer to the people.

Pasha said that the mobile telecom companies have a great contribution in helping to deliver the financial services to the places where there are no formal banking services.

"Tigo's serves more than 16 million people, this partnership will make available 10,000 selected agents who will provide DCB bank financial services through this new service we launched today (yesterday)," said Angelica.

The CEO added that the companies will continue to cooperate to ensure that they make things easier for their customers wherever they are and there are still other cooperation services coming in the near future.

## Zanzibar delegation learns poultry farming, aquaculture in Dodoma

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

A delegation of at least 28 people from Zanzibar traveled to Dodoma to learn poultry farming and aquaculture sectors.

The group, including two mayors from Pemba and Unguja as well as one Member of the Parliament (MP) landed in mainland to acquire entrepreneur-

ship skills from Dodoma-based Tusumuke Youth Entrepreneurship Group (TYEG).

The visitors who had prior filed application to come in Dodoma in order to practically learn the key issue on poultry farming and aquaculture landed into the country under the umbrella of the Jumuiya Ya Rafiki Wa Wanawake Na Watoto Zanzibar (RAWAZA), led by their Chair-

person, Tauhida Galoss (MP).

In an exclusive interview with The Guardian yesterday, Tusumuke Group's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Christopher Dioniz, said the team had previously filed an application to come to Dodoma in order to learn the said entrepreneurship skills from his group.

"Actually, we were very delighted to receive a re-

quest from such esteemed people from Zanzibar who considered that we train them on poultry farming and aquaculture, and we accepted their request," he expressed.

He said that after landing in Dodoma, the group, directly started to train the visitors on the areas of their interests.

"We managed to train them on several areas, including hatching of eggs,

poultry feed production and construction of chicken cages," he informed.

Dioniz, expressed further that on the side of aquaculture, they trained the visitors on how best to make fish ponds, how professional to prepare water in the fish ponds before putting the fish, production of fish feed as well as the different types of aquaculture.

"Apart from that, the

visitors also got an opportunity to learn a lot about horticulture during the timely one-day training that we offered to them" he detailed.

And he informed, the training's summit saw a special event tailored for the celebration of the 3rd year of the President of Zanzibar, the colorful event which was held at the Dodoma's famous Esperanza Hotel.

## CONSTRUCTION

# CHINA'S SHATTERED PROPERTY BOND MARKET FINDS HOPES IN SUNAC DEAL

BEIJING

For two hours on an early February morning, Sunac China Holdings Ltd. Chief Financial Officer Gao Xi delivered a tirade against bondholders — hitting the table as he told them the distressed developer had already made its best offer.

The negotiations were fraught enough that some creditors considered walking away during lunch. But Gao returned that afternoon with an apology, paving the way for a restructuring deal that took effect last week and marked the first of its kind by a major Chinese builder since Beijing's deleveraging push three years ago set off a historic industry crisis.

With much of China's financial world now fixated on the troubles at rivals including China Evergrande Group — which faces potential liquidation in a court hearing on Monday — Sunac represents a glimmer of hope for the \$194 billion dollar-bond market for Chinese developers. The company's rocky path to an agreement, pieced together from accounts by more than 10 people familiar with the negotiations, offers a potential roadmap for dozens of distressed developers.

"Sunac just shows restructuring can be done," said Richard Ong, co-chairman of RRJ Capital, one of the creditors. "They should



be the model for Chinese property companies. The government also needs to put pressure on all the companies who don't want to get this done."

Sunac, which declined to comment for this story, needed to restructure \$10.2 billion of debt or a cascade of defaults will threaten the survival of what was once China's third-biggest builder.

At Gao's second face-to-face meeting in Hong Kong since mainland borders reopened, he suggested to bondholders including PAG and Pacific Investment Management Co. that the afternoon session should

be scrapped unless they intend to complete negotiations.

The CFO's about-turn paved the way for the basis of a restructuring deal by around 5 pm. They met again on Feb. 28 to seal terms. Just weeks after that, more than 75% of offshore creditors had signed on the deal. The company won court approval for the plan in October and its restructuring became effective on Nov. 20.

Trouble had long been brewing as Sunac's aggressive expansion — which included buying theme parks — made it the country's most indebted developer in

2017. As financing from banks dried up and home sales slowed, it defaulted on a dollar note in May 2022.

By then, the firm had more than one trillion yuan (\$140 billion) of liabilities.

Differences with creditors were wide in talks conducted online in 2022, the people said, asking not to be identified to preserve relationships. Sunac had proposed swapping some debt for equity at a conversion price of HK\$20 a share, an offer creditors rejected outright with stock trading halted at under HK\$5, the people said.

PJT Partners Inc. and Linklaters LLP advised the ad-hoc group of nine major creditors, which held offshore unsecured liabilities. They included Ashmore Group plc, AM Squared Ltd, Barings LLC, Broad Peak Investment Advisers Pte Ltd, Contrarian Capital Management, and Varde Partners.

AM Squared, Ashmore, Barings, Contrarian, Linklaters, and Pimco declined to comment.

Gao, a company man who joined Sunac in 2007, would gradually come to terms with creditors. A key motivation was the developer's desire to get rid of the de-

faulter label because it'll then get better prices for its assets and be more likely to gain state support, the people said, citing conversations with the CFO.

To win over the bondholders, Chairman Sun Hongbin, whose \$450 million loan was part of the debt under restructuring, would be given the same terms, according to the people. In the end, Sunac and the creditors agreed to a debt-to-equity conversion, while bondholders decided to extend repayment to as long as nine years, from the seven years initially proposed, the people said.

"They were very open as well in terms of willing to consider all options," said RRJ's Ong. By actively engaging with creditors, Sunac has built trust, which will help with future fund-raising efforts, he said.

The deal was noteworthy because it reduced Sunac's debt, instead of just bond payment extensions as commonly in other talks, with Sun's stake diluted to under 25% from almost 40%, according to S&P Global Ratings.

"As bondholders, we are more than willing to work cooperatively with companies like Sunac which has been proactive in its approach toward finding a solution that takes into account the challenges faced by the property sector in China but at the same time, balances the interests of the bondholders and other stakeholders," said Sandeep Gupta, managing director at Broad Peak Investment Advisers Pte Ltd.

White list  
In a sign that Beijing wants to put a floor to the distressed sector, regulators are drafting a list of 50 developers eligible for a range of financing, Bloomberg reported Nov. 20. It's not known if Sunac is

on the list.

While the news sent developer stocks rallying, bonds of distressed companies were largely unchanged, an indication of the pessimism among creditors. All the bonds of Evergrande are trading under less than two cents on the dollar, while Sunac's newly-issued debt are at between nine cents to 16 cents on the dollar, according to Bloomberg-compiled data.

Still, other developers are following in the footsteps of Sunac. Yuzhou Group Holdings Co. may finalize a debt restructuring plan in months, people familiar with the discussions said. Yuzhou didn't reply to Bloomberg's query. China Aoyuan Group said it obtained sufficient support from creditors on Tuesday for a restructuring plan.

Sunac, however, still faces the fraught challenge of generating steady cash flows in a market where demand for homes has plummeted. It needs to achieve at least 15 billion yuan in monthly sales, said Xu Liqiang, fixed income deputy director from Shanghai Silver Leaf Investment Co., citing a presentation made in July.

The company posted just 4.76 billion yuan in contracted sales for October.

Sunac will probably get on the list for state support, which may "create a positive feedback loop on its home sales and funding access," said Zerlina Zeng, senior credit analyst with CreditSights. "That said, for the company to survive and thrive over the longer term, we still need to see a more sustained recovery of home sales and a stabilizing of prices in the secondary markets."

## Apiculture mogul grills Ifunda farmers on pollination by bees

NAIROBI

At least twenty four employees of the Ifunda-based Tam Tam Co Ltd have received special training on the importance of bees in pollination, thanks to Justin Natural Honey Enterprise.

Based in Ifunda ward in of Iringa rural district, the Tam Tam Co. Ltd majors on production of horticulture produce, especially apple farming, but the group faced a pollination problem.

Briefing The Guardian yesterday over the development, the training chief facilitator, Justin Elly Mgeni expressed that, among oth-

ers, the training was tailored to help building awareness from the negative mindset about bees and beekeeping itself among the participated staff.

"During the training, there was a key session of pre and Post-test to trainees, whereby only 25 percent average their understanding pertaining to pollination, while after the workshop, there was a big increase in understanding, up to 85 percent on average," he expressed.

He said during the training, the participants had useful chance to acquire needed knowledge over how to make a use of bees to

support pollination of their plantations, apple trees as well as strawberries.

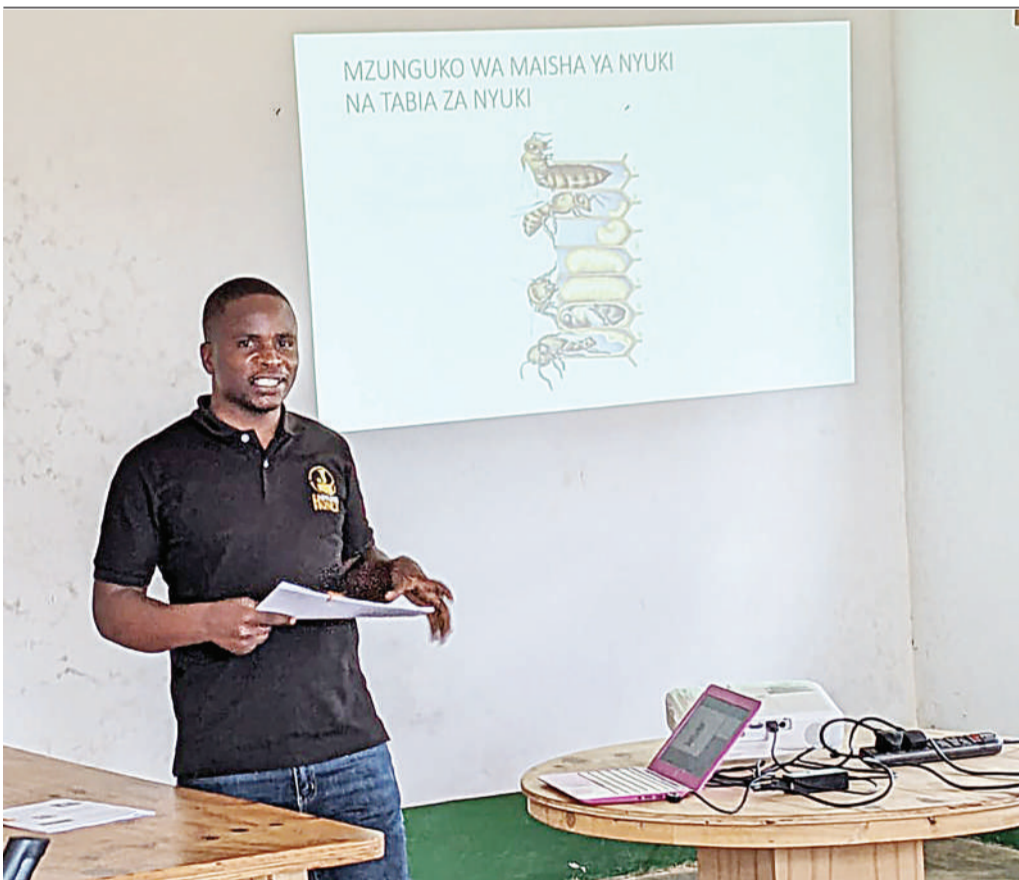
"We as extension service providers, we advised the farmers to grow their crops organically by applying bees as the great agents of pollination, so as to help heighten their yields," Mgeni unveiled.

And he explained that, bee makes excellent pollinators because most of their life is spent collecting pollen, a source of protein that they feed to their developing offspring.

"The most important thing that bees do is pollinate. Pollination is needed

for plants to reproduce, and so many plants depend on bees or other insects as pollinators."

"When a bee collects nectar and pollen from the flower of a plant, some pollen from the stamens—the male reproductive organ of the flower—sticks to the hairs of her body. When she visits the next flower, some of this pollen is rubbed off onto the stigma, or tip of the pistil—the female reproductive organ of the flower. When this happens, fertilization is possible, and a fruit, carrying seeds, can develop," he detailed



Justin Natural Honey Enterprise facilitator, Justin Elly Mgeni

## Dubai bucks global dip in super-prime house sales

DUBAI

Bucking a global downward trend in super-prime residential sales, Dubai again led the world ranking of quarterly deals in this category of residences priced above \$10 million.

A super-prime intelligence report by global property consultant Knight Frank on home sales across 12 markets covered in the three months to September finds that along with Dubai, four other markets saw volumes rise through the last quarter on a year-on-year basis, beating the general decline in this sector.

In Q3, global super-prime residential sales fell 2.4 per cent on a year-on-year basis, with 362 sales across

the 12 markets covered in the three months to September compared to 371 in the same period last year.

"Dubai once again leads the ranking of quarterly sales, a position it has held since Q4 2022. London follows in second position, with Hong Kong sitting in third place," Knight Frank said in its study.

The super-prime market is driven more than most by new-build completions. "Strong sales volumes in 2021 were flattered to an extent by delayed completions in 2020. As we move into 2024, the tailwind from new build sales will weaken as the lower volume of new projects starts through the pandemic begins to be felt."

The volume of super-prime homes sold in Dubai, priced at over \$10 million, totalled \$1.59 billion during Q3, according to Knight Frank's finding.

PNC Menon, chairman of prime property developer Sobha Group, said the data is not surprising as Dubai remains one of the most sought-after destinations for the world's super-rich, thanks to the city's overarching appeal as a safe and splendid melting pot of diverse nationalities and cultures.

"The remarkable growth of Dubai's property sector could be attributed to factors like economic stability, consistent innovation, infrastructure development, and a cosmopolitan lifestyle. The outlook for

the city's realty sector is very bright as Dubai will continue to witness a steady surge in population over the years," said Menon.

"Demand for luxury homes in Dubai remains resilient and supply continues to stubbornly lag demand. The total number of \$10 million home sales in Dubai for the first nine months of the year has hit 277, a record high with three months of the year still left to run. This builds on Dubai's emergence as the world's busiest \$10 million+ sales market during H1, ranking ahead of New York (125), Hong Kong (109), and London (99)," said Faisal Durrani, partner-head of Research, Middle East & Africa.



## WORLD

# COP28: UAE highlights its commitment in climate action

DUBAI

SULTAN Ahmed Al Jaber, Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology and COP28 President, underscored the United Arab Emirates' unwavering commitment to climate action, highlighting the role of the nation's visionary leadership and the collective determination in raising the bar of ambition and solidifying its global position as a pioneer in climate action.

He emphasized that the UAE's approach of openness, partnership building, and cooperation has been instrumental in raising the bar of ambition and achieving tangible progress in addressing climate change.

Al Jaber made the statements during the COP28 media majlis, which was attended on Wednesday by the conference presidency team. It served as a platform to showcase the remarkable strides made in the lead-up to COP28.

Al Jaber commended the COP28 team's dedication and highlighted significant contributions to various areas, including the Loss and Damage Fund to support nations already grappling with the impacts of climate change. Also, in response to the call of the conference presidency, 85 percent of the world's economies have committed to triple the production capacity of renewable energy sources by 2030, while many oil and gas companies have also, for the first time, committed to achieving net-zero emissions by 2050, and to reducing methane emissions to "net zero" by 2030.

He emphasized the presidency's commitment to bridging the gap between ambition and actual achievement by engaging all stakeholders in the negotiations, rebuilding trust in COPs through transparency, clarity, and inclusion.

Al Jaber pointed to the attendance of over 180 heads of state and government at the conference, the presence of a faith pavilion for the first time at a COP, the commitment of several oil companies to achieve climate neutrality, in addition to the record number of requests to attend the conference, which reached 97,000 participants in the blue zone, and 400,000 in the green zone.

COP28's Youth Climate Champion, Shamma Al Mazrui, the Minister of Community Development, emphasized the need to amplify the contributions of global charitable organizations to youth organizations, particularly in developing nations.

She explained that the UAE's decision to create the role of "COP28 Youth Climate Champion" aims to enhance young people's understanding of climate change and empower them to play an active role in addressing its impacts. She commended the leadership's unwavering support for collective action and the emphasis on inclusivity in the preparatory work for the conference.

Mariam bint Mohammed Almeiri, Minister of Climate Change and the Environment, applauded the COP28 team's efforts on the food security front

and underscored the UAE's unwavering commitment to addressing food and agriculture issues within the conference agenda.

She stressed that tackling the global food crisis requires a collective effort, extending beyond governments and the private sector. She advocated for a shift in human lifestyles and consumption patterns to effectively contribute to improving livelihoods.

Razan Al Mubarak, the UN Climate Change High-Level Champion from the COP28 Presidency, highlighted her mission to mobilize stakeholders, inspire action, and empower all segments of society and its institutions to play a leading role in achieving the goals of the Paris Agreement. She showcased examples of the conference presidency team's successful efforts in supporting global climate neutrality initiatives.

COP28 Director-General Ambassador Majid Al Suwaidi reiterated the critical role of financing in achieving tangible climate action. He acknowledged the current insufficiency of readily available, accessible, and affordable climate financing.

He called for an agreement on developing climate financing mechanisms during COP28 and urged all parties to collaborate in fulfilling previous commitments to rebuild trust in the multilateral system, adopt a sustainable future-oriented financial framework, and increase climate financing from billions to trillions of dollars.

Adnan Amin, CEO of COP28, expressed optimism about the collaborative spirit prevailing during the conference preparations. He affirmed the COP28 team's unwavering commitment to constructive cooperation with all parties concerned to forge consensus and achieve reliable and balanced outcomes that send a clear message to the world about the future of climate action.

Simon Steele, Executive Director of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, echoed the sentiment, emphasizing

COP28's significance as the most crucial conference of the parties since the Paris Agreement.

He expressed hope that the achievements of the transitional committees throughout the year will empower the parties to resolve and agree upon complex challenges, and that COP28 will serve as a springboard for ambitious goals and achievements during COP29 and COP30 conferences, ultimately leading to an exponential increase in climate financing from billions to trillions of dollars.

## World's tallest building illuminated ahead of COP28

In a historic first for COPs, the Burj Khalifa, the world's tallest building and one of Dubai's landmarks, was adorned with the logo of the Greening Education Hub - Legacy from the Land of Zayed - in celebration of its official opening at COP28.

Hours before the hub's official opening, the facade of Burj Khalifa was illuminated with video clips showcasing the UAE's historical legacy of sustainability.

The visuals underscored the country's keenness to boost its global network of relationships to integrate sustainability and climate issues into educational systems worldwide. The video served as an invitation to students and the public to explore the hub in the Mobility District at Expo City Dubai throughout COP28 - from 30 Nov to 12 Dec.

The Ministry of Education has fostered partnerships with over 40 international partners, resulting in the development of more than 30 projects and activations around climate education at the Hub.

The hub has attracted participants from 38 countries and will include more than 250 sessions and workshops. The total attendance is projected to exceed 18,000 over 13 days.



Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber (C, the UAE's Minister of Industry and Advanced Technology and COP28 President, Shamma Al Mazrui (L), the UAE's Minister of Community Development, and Simon Steele, Executive Director of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, attend the COP28 media majlis in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates, on Wednesday. (PHOTO / WAM - EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY)

## Qatar says Hamas, Israel agree to extend Gaza truce

JERUSALEM/RAMALLAH/CAIRO/ANKARA/DOHA

HAMAS and Israel have agreed to prolong the humanitarian pause in the Gaza Strip for an additional day, the Qatari Foreign Ministry announced yesterday.

Hamas and Israel have reached an agreement to extend the humanitarian pause in the coastal enclave for an additional day under the existing conditions, the ministry spokesperson Majed bin Mohammed Al Ansari said in a statement.

The cessation of all military activities and the entry of humanitarian aid to Gaza will continue, according to the statement.

In another statement to Qatar News Agency, the spokesperson confirmed that efforts aimed at reaching a permanent ceasefire in the Gaza Strip were ongoing.

Only eight hostages will be released by Hamas on Thursday, according to several Israeli media, as the two Israeli-Russian women released by Hamas earlier on Wednesday will be included in the hostage list for Thursday. In exchange, 30 Palestinians will be released from Israeli prisons.

Overnight, both sides just completed the sixth round of release as part of the truce agreement. A total of 14 hostages, including 10 Israelis and four Thais, were freed on Wednesday night and received by Israeli hospitals for treatment and monitoring on Thursday morning, while 30 Palestinians were released from Israeli prisons.

Meanwhile, amid talks to extend the ceasefire in Gaza, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu reiterated on Wednesday that his country will resume the military campaign to eradicate Hamas.

"There is no situation in which we do not go back to fighting until the end. This is my policy," Netanyahu said in a video statement Wednesday afternoon, adding that the entire security cabinet and government, the soldiers, and the Israeli people are all "behind it."

"From the start of the war, I set three goals: eliminating Hamas, returning all of our hostages, and ensuring that Gaza will never again go back to being a threat to the State of Israel. These three goals still stand," he stressed.

Netanyahu noted that in the past week "a very great achievement" was made, referring to the return of dozens of hostages, among approximately 240 kidnapped by Hamas militants in their deadly attack on southern Israel on Oct 7.

With the truce set to expire on Thursday, intensive discussions are underway to secure a second extension to the ceasefire that will see more hostages released, and more humanitarian aid delivered to Gaza.

On Wednesday, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said Türkiye will step up its efforts for the release of the hostages and establishment of a lasting truce in the Gaza Strip.

"We will accelerate our contacts to release the hostages and make the ceasefire permanent," Erdogan said on X, formerly known as Twitter, on the occasion of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People.

The Turkish government continues to dispatch humanitarian aid for the people of Gaza and has so far sent 12 relief planes and one ship to Egypt, according to Erdogan.

A second ship carrying 1,500 tons of humanitarian aid set sail earlier on Wednesday, according to the Turkish president.

Türkiye brought another 23 Gazan patients, along with their 21 companions, for treatment in the capital Ankara late Wednesday.

Turkish Health Minister Fahrettin Koca, who welcomed them at Etimesgut Airport in Ankara, said Türkiye has so far received a total of 200 people from Gaza, including 114 patients and 86 companions.

Also on Wednesday, Egypt's State Information Service (SIS) Chairman Diaa Rashwan said that so far 575 injured Gazans had been admitted to Egyptian hospitals for treatment after the outbreak of the Israel-Hamas conflict in early October.

Meanwhile, 8,691 foreign and dual nationals, and 1,258 Egyptians have crossed into Egypt from the Gaza Strip, Rashwan said, adding that 421 Palestinians stranded in Egypt entered Gaza during the same period.

He added that 239 planes carrying humanitarian aid to the war-torn Gaza Strip had landed in Egypt's Al-Arish Airport since Oct 21.

According to Rashwan, 2,670 trucks loaded with humanitarian aid and fuel have entered the Gaza Strip through the Rafah crossing since Oct 21.

He reaffirmed Egypt's continued efforts to accelerate the delivery of humanitarian aid to the Gaza Strip in order to alleviate the worsening humanitarian crisis there.

Separately, two young men were killed by Israeli gunfire in the West Bank city of Jenin on Wednesday, raising the death toll of Palestinians in the region to four, sources said.

According to anonymous Palestinian security sources, Mohammad Jamal al-Zabidi and Wissam Hanoun were killed in a residence at the Jenin refugee camp when the Israeli army shot heavily at the house, with explosions heard in the vicinity. **Agencies**

## Former US secretary of state Henry Kissinger dies at age 100

NEW YORK

FORMER US secretary of state Henry Kissinger died on Wednesday at home in Connecticut at the age of 100, Kissinger Associates, Inc said in a statement.

As Secretary of State under presidents Nixon and Ford, Dr Kissinger "played central roles in the opening to China, negotiating the end of the Yom Kippur War in the Middle East, and helping to bring America's role in the Vietnam War to a close," said the statement.

Dr Kissinger has written 21 books on national security matters, it said. "Considered one of America's great statesmen, Dr Kissinger was regularly consulted by American presidents of both political parties and scores of foreign leaders after he finished government service in 1977."

Fifty-two years ago when China and the United States were at a crucial inflection point, Chairman Mao Zedong, Premier Zhou Enlai, President Richard Nixon and Dr Kissinger, made the right decision for China-US cooperation and launched the process of normalizing the China-US relationship.

Kissinger visited China more than 100 times, the most recent one being in late July this year, about two months after he celebrated his 100th birthday, during which Chinese President Xi Jinping met him in Beijing.

On Oct 24, Kissinger was honored at the annual Gala Dinner of The National Committee on US-China Relations in New York City.

All guests gave the distinguished centenarian a standing ovation when Kissinger was



wheelchaired onto the stage. And most of them kept standing up until he finished his over 10-minute speech.

"A peaceful relationship, a cooperative relationship between

the US and China is essential for peace and progress of the world," said Kissinger at the event.

"I'm confident all of you here agree that peace and progress between China and the US is in the self-interest of each country and of the world," he said.

"I've spent literally half of my life working on the US-China relations... I like the Chinese people, I'm impressed by Chinese culture," he said.

Kissinger said he is convinced that the US-China relations depend on "an understanding that the two countries have a unique ability to bring peace and progress to the world, and they also have a unique ability to destroy the world if they're not together."

He expressed confidence that the world's two largest economies will find ways to straighten the strained relationship. "I believe

now, as I believed 50 years ago, that we can find our way through these difficulties."

Kissinger warned that the United States has to properly handle the Taiwan question in light of the Shanghai Communiqué, a historic document that became a key political foundation for the two countries to establish diplomatic ties.

"We in America have to avoid giving the impression that we are walking away from the one-China concept to which we committed ourselves... that was a real commitment in the Shanghai Communiqué," said Kissinger.

Born in Germany in 1923, Kissinger was survived by his wife of nearly 50 years, Nancy Maginnes Kissinger, two children by his first marriage, David and Elizabeth, and five grandchildren.

Xinhua

## To jointly maintain stability, smooth operation of global industrial, supply chains

THE first China International Supply Chain Expo (CISCE) kicked off in Beijing on Nov 28.

As the world's first national-level exhibition themed on supply chains, the event aims at promoting international cooperation on industrial and supply chains, as well as advancing green and low-carbon development and digital transformation. The CISCE will contribute to the healthy development of economic globalization.

The world today is experiencing accelerating changes unseen in a century. Economic globalization is facing counter-currents, and global industrial and supply chains have been impacted.

Chinese President Xi Jinping places high importance on ensuring stable and unimpeded global industrial and supply

chains. With a deep insight into the industrial development trend both at home and abroad, he stressed the importance to support the WTO-centered multilateral trading regime, ensure security and stability of the global industrial and supply chains, and make the "pie" of cooperation bigger to allow development gains to better trickle down to people of all countries.

He also said that maintaining the resilience and stability of the global industrial and supply chains is a vital guarantee for promoting the development of the world economy and serves the common interests of people globally.

His remarks have charted the course for maintaining the stability and smooth

operation of global industrial and supply chains, injecting strong momentum for forging a more equal, inclusive and constructive industrial and supply chain partnership.

China boasts the most industrial categories listed in the United Nations industrial classification. It has maintained its position as the world's largest manufacturing hub for 13 straight years, accounting for nearly 30 percent of the global manufacturing output. Its status as a vital global manufacturing and supply chain hub is increasingly prominent.

The first CISCE marks a new communication and cooperation platform established by China to promote stable

and smooth global industrial and supply chains. With a total exhibition area of 100,000 square meters, it includes five sections of chains and supply chain services, including smart vehicle, green agriculture, clean energy, digital technology, and healthy life.

Over 500 Chinese and foreign enterprises and institutions participate in the expo to showcase their new technologies, products and services in the key sectors of each industrial chain. The CISCE is expected to facilitate the global industrial division of labor, resource allocation, innovation cooperation, and sharing of achievements.

In response to the urgent demand of the international business community to

maintain a stable and smooth industrial and supply chain, the CISCE is committed to promoting open cooperation and mutual benefit. At the first CISCE, 26 percent of exhibitors joining the event are from over 50 countries and regions outside China. In particular, 36 percent of them are American and European companies.

The event includes the opening ceremony of the CISCE and the Global Supply Chain Innovation and Development Forum, six themed forums and side events.

A report on global supply chain promotion and other outcomes were launched, which will help facilitate cooperation between Chinese and foreign

companies in different sectors of industrial and supply chains to seize market opportunities, investment opportunities, and growth opportunities.

The CISCE will serve as an important platform for showcasing the industrial and supply chain advantages of Belt and Road countries, and facilitating their integration into the global industrial and supply chains.

Over the past decade since the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) was proposed, China has engaged in a series of industrial investment and cooperation projects with other Belt and Road countries, covering various sectors such as agriculture, energy, infrastructure, digital economy, and new energy vehicles.

People's Daily



## Barrick supports consolidated standard for responsible mining

TORONTO

THE Copper Mark, Mining Association of Canada, ICMM and the World Gold Council today announced their intention to work together to consolidate their respective responsible mining standards into one single standard.

Barrick supports this initiative and has been an advocate of this consolidation for many years. "Having one standard for responsible mining will not only provide clear direction on what good should look like but would reduce the complexity that exists with the numerous standards currently in circulation," said Barrick president and chief executive Mark Bristow. "It is also crucial that this standard has multi-stakeholder oversight."

Barrick is actively involved in the development of the standard and has representation on the Industry Advisory Board as well as oversight as a member of three of the founding partners.

## Israel receives 6th batch of hostages released by Hamas, says assault will resume as truce ends

JERUSALEM

THE Israeli government confirmed late Wednesday night that the sixth batch of hostages released from the Gaza Strip by Hamas has returned to Israel.

The 16 hostages, including 12 Israelis -- some holding dual citizenship -- and four Thai nationals, will undergo an initial medical examination before being escorted by security forces to hospitals to reunite with their families, according to statements issued by the Israeli Prime Minister's Office and Israel Defense Forces (IDF).

The four-day humanitarian ceasefire between Israel and Hamas, scheduled to expire on Tuesday morning, was extended by two days, the Qatari Foreign Ministry said on Monday.

Israel did not comment on the extension, but said early Tuesday that it approved the release of 50 more female Palestinian prisoners if "more Israeli hostages are released."

More than 200 hostages were taken to Gaza by Hamas militants during their Oct. 7 surprise attack on Israel,

which retaliated by launching deadly airstrikes and a ground offensive in the Gaza Strip.

Israel was widely reported to have insisted that all women and children be released under the framework of the current ceasefire deal, which provided for 50 Israelis to be freed in the first four days of the truce, and the release of 10 Israeli captives for an extra day's pause.

Amid talks to extend the ceasefire in Gaza, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu reiterated on Wednesday that his country will resume the military campaign to eradicate Hamas.

"There is no situation in which we do not go back to fighting until the end. This is my policy," Netanyahu said in a video statement Wednesday, adding that the entire security cabinet and government, the soldiers, and the Israeli people are all "behind it."

"From the start of the war, I set three goals: eliminating Hamas, returning all of our hostages, and ensuring that Gaza will never again go back to being a threat to the State of Israel. These three goals still stand," he stressed.

## EU provides 3.8 mln USD for flood response in Horn of Africa

NAIROBI

THE European Union said Wednesday it has mobilized 3.84 million U.S. dollars in additional humanitarian aid for people affected by devastating floods in Somalia, Ethiopia, and Kenya.

The EU said 2.2 million dollars was allocated to Somalia to support the provision of emergency aid to the people most affected by the current floods, especially along the Juba River basin.

"The EU is also launching a helicopter deployment for hard-to-reach areas in Somalia via the European Humanitarian Response Capacity. This deployment is expected to be launched in December 2023 and last for two months," it said in a statement reaching Xinhua.

The El Nino-induced heavy rains and flash flooding have killed nearly 100 people and affected more than 2.3 million others in Somalia, according to the Somali government. In Ethiopia, the EU said 1.1 million dollars will support humanitarian partners already present in the flood-affected areas.

"The support will be mainly through multi-purpose cash transfers and the distribution of shelter and essential items, including for water purification and treatment," the EU said.

It said the latest funding is in addition to the immediate assistance already being provided on the ground in the Somali, Oromia, and Southern Nations, Nationalities and People's regions.

The raging floods have left at least 46 people dead in Ethiopia while more than 50,000 others have been displaced across the country. According to the EU, 548,000 dollars was allocated to Kenya where heavy rainfall and landslides have particularly affected areas previously hit by a severe drought -- the north-east part of the country.

Nearly 270 people have been killed and more than 900,000 displaced by floods caused by ongoing rains in the Horn of Africa, said the Climate Prediction and Applications Center (ICPAC) of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development Wednesday.

Kenya, Ethiopia and Somalia are the worst hit by the current El Nino rains and the Indian Ocean Dipole weather phenomena, the ICPAC said in a report, stressing that Somalia and Kenya have borne the brunt of these climate-induced rains, ongoing for over a month.

"The Horn of Africa is currently facing intense rainfall and flooding attributed to El Nino. This has resulted in the loss of lives, both human and animal, and significant displacement in Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia," the institution said. Local authorities reported nearly 100 deaths in Somalia, 120 in Kenya and 46 in Ethiopia due to the severe weather.

The ICPAC said that Somalia has the most displaced individuals at 700,000, followed by Kenya at 136,000 and Ethiopia at about 50,000. The total population affected by floods, according to the ICPAC, is estimated to be over 1.5 million in Somalia, 950,000 in Kenya and 101,890 in Ethiopia. The report also indicated extensive destruction of farmlands due to the floods across the three countries.

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## Wang Yi: Two-state solution only way to solve Palestinian question

UNITED NATIONS

THE two-state solution is the only way to fundamentally resolve the Palestinian question, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said Wednesday.

When meeting the press after presiding over a high-level meeting of the UN Security Council on the Palestinian-Israeli issue, Wang, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, stressed that the two-state solution is the only way out.

The settlement of the Palestinian question does not lack for grand plans or slogans, but the courage and actions to stand up for justice, Wang said.

"The two-state solution is the bottom line for international justice. There is no stepping back from that. Independent statehood is an inalienable national right of the Palestinian people, a right that cannot be traded away," he said.

"In the face of the historical injustice long suffered by the Palestinian people, no one has an excuse to procrastinate and there is no justification for inaction.



Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, meets the press after presiding over a high-level meeting of the UN Security Council on the Palestinian-Israeli issue at the UN headquarters in New York on Wednesday. XINHUA

When it comes to the issues bearing on the future of the Palestinian people, no country has a veto right," said Wang.

The Palestinian question is at the heart of the Middle East issue and must be prioritized, rather than marginalized, on the international agenda, he said, noting that only

when the two-state solution is fully implemented can the Middle East enjoy genuine peace and Israel enjoy lasting security.

China calls for the convening of a more broadly-based, more authoritative, and more effective international peace conference to further build consensus on promot-

ing peace and work out a concrete timetable and roadmap to push for a comprehensive, just, and lasting settlement of the Palestinian question, he said.

Xinhua

## In a first, newborn star's spinning disk seen in another galaxy

WASHINGTON

Our sun and other stars form when a dense clump of interstellar gas and dust collapses under its own gravitational pull. Once a star is born at the center of such a cloud, leftover material forms a swirling disk around it that feeds stellar growth and often gives rise to planets.

Newborn stars with these circumstellar disks had been observed by astronomers only in our Milky Way galaxy - until now. Researchers said on Wednesday they have spotted such a disk around a star larger and more luminous than the sun residing in one of

our nearest neighboring galaxies, the Large Magellanic Cloud.

The star, growing and accreting material from the surrounding disk, is about 10 to 20 times more massive than the sun and perhaps 10,000 times more luminous.

As material is drawn by gravity toward a forming star, it flattens into a spinning disk. The newly observed disk has a diameter of about 12,000 times the distance of the Earth to the sun, or roughly 10 times larger than the one that encircled the sun when it formed approximately 4.5 billion years ago.

The star, which also is unleashing

a large jet of material into space, is around 160,000 light years from Earth. A light year is the distance light travels in a year, 5.9 trillion miles (9.5 trillion km).

"This is very exciting," said astronomer Anna McLeod of Durham University in England, lead author of the study published in the journal Nature.

"While we know of many stars like this one being formed in the Large Magellanic Cloud and other galaxies, we have never before observed a circumstellar accretion disk outside of the Milky Way, mainly due to lacking technology. Observing these disks in

other galaxies is very important because it tells us about how stars form in environments different from that of the Milky Way," McLeod added.

The detection was made using the Atacama Large Millimeter/submillimeter Array (ALMA) telescope in Chile's Atacama Desert. Until now, circumstellar disks had been detected only within about 6,500 light years of Earth.

The Large Magellanic Cloud is considered a satellite galaxy of the sprawling Milky Way, as is another galaxy called the Small Magellanic Cloud. Both are smaller than our galaxy and offer different galactic conditions. The

## China contributes to improving global AI governance

IN recent years, artificial intelligence (AI) technology has been rapidly advancing around the world and finding increasingly wider applications.

However, while driving economic and social development, the surge of AI also brings with it security risks and challenges.

In particular, the impacts of AI technology on legal, ethical, and humanitarian aspects, as well as its complex effects on international politics, economy, military, and society, have drawn attention and sparked discussions in the international community. The need for international cooperation and regulatory governance of AI has become particularly urgent.

Earlier this month, 28 countries and regions including China, the United States, the UK and the European Union signed the "Bletchley Declaration" at the first AI Safety Summit, agreeing to build an "internationally inclusive network of scientific research on frontier AI safety."

This October, China launched the Global AI Governance Initiative, which systematically outlines China's proposals on AI governance from three aspects, namely, the development, security and governance of AI, and presents a constructive approach to addressing universal concerns over AI development and governance.

The initiative stresses it is important to uphold a people-centered approach in developing AI, with the goal of increasing the wellbeing of humanity and on the premise of ensuring social security and respecting the rights and interests of humanity, so that AI always develops in a way that is beneficial to human civilization.

As an "enabler" for social development, AI primarily serves to enhance human wellbeing, thus it is important to ensure the robustness and safety of AI technology, said Zeng Yi, director of the International Research Center for AI Ethics and Governance of the Institute of Automation of the Chinese Academy of Sciences.

China explicitly emphasizes a people-centered approach in the Global AI Governance Initiative, which proves that the initiative is globally oriented and aims to benefit all humanity, Zeng added.

"The risks associated with AI technology are characterized by their hidden nature, cross-domain impact, global reach, and long-term effects. Capital's pursuit of profit may lead to the alienation of technology, necessitating sustained, systematic, and collaborative governance efforts at the international level," said Zhang Xin, director of the Digital Economy and Legal Innovation Research Center, the University of International Business and Economics.

In the Global AI Governance Initiative, China proposed that countries should adhere to the principle of developing AI for good, respect the relevant international laws, and align AI development with humanity's common values of peace, development, equity, justice, democracy, and freedom. They should work together to prevent and fight against the misuse and malicious use of AI technologies by terrorists, extreme forces, and transnational organized criminal groups.

China is a major player in the AI sector. Statistics show that the scale of China's core AI industry has exceeded 500 billion yuan (\$70.42 billion), with the number of AI enterprises surpassing 4,300 and innovative achievements continue to emerge.

According to the World Intellectual Property Organiza-



Children learn to paint with artificial intelligent wearing virtual reality headsets at the Hefei University of Economics in east China's Anhui province. (People's Daily Online/Luo Xianyang)

tion, Chinese enterprises and institutions applied for nearly 30,000 AI-related patents in 2022, accounting for over 40 percent of the world's total.

While advancing in technology and related industries, China has been committed to enhancing the security, reliability, controllability, and fairness of AI technology.

In the Global AI Governance Initiative, China proposed that countries should gradually establish and improve relevant laws, regulations and rules, and ensure personal privacy and data security in the R&D and application of AI. It said countries should put ethics first, establish and improve ethical principles, norms, and accountability mechanisms for AI, formulate AI ethical guidelines, and build sci-tech ethical review and regulatory system.

Besides, it is also important to adhere to the principles of fairness and non-discrimination, and avoid biases and discrimination based on ethnicities, beliefs, nationalities, genders, etc.

A study by the International Monetary Fund found that AI and other new technologies may lead to increased investment in developed economies that have already achieved automation, thereby further widening the gap between wealthy and impoverished nations. Experts noted

that in the field of AI, there exist a digital divide and a governance gap between developing and developed countries.

That's why China, in the Global AI Governance Initiative, proposed that all countries, regardless of their size, strength, or social system, should have equal rights to develop and use AI.

Countries should increase the representation and voice of developing countries in global AI governance, and ensure equal rights, equal opportunities, and equal rules for all countries in AI development and governance. Efforts should be made to conduct international cooperation with and provide assistance to developing countries, to bridge the gap in AI and its governance capacity.

According to Zhang Li, a researcher with the China Institutes of Contemporary International Relations, the Global AI Governance Initiative responds to the widespread concerns and attention of the international community, especially developing countries, regarding the development of AI. China's advocacy for governance in the field of AI represents a voice for developing countries and demonstrates its role as a responsible major country in improving global governance, Zhang added.

People's Daily



Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Brand Manager, Catherine Lyakurwa.

## Kilimanjaro Premium Lager proud of record Kili Marathon sponsorship

By Guardian Correspondent

THE Kilimanjaro Premium Lager International Marathon is no doubt one of the biggest and most popular sporting events in the continent, no wonder Kilimanjaro Premium Lager (KPL) has maintained title sponsorship for a record 22 years.

This qualifies as one of the longest sponsorships ever by a single brand for a sporting event.

Kilimanjaro Premium Lager can look back with justified pride at the achievements it has made in the past two decades through this massive thirst-quenching sponsorship!

The very first event attracted hardly 500 social runners who continued to inspire others year after year to make it one of the biggest sporting events in the region.

No doubt that the brand has played a key role in making the event consistent because the sponsorship has never been suspended at any one time during the entire 22 years.

Catherine Lyakurwa, Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Brand Manager, reveals numerous elements have inspired them to continue supporting the event over the years, and among the key elements are the people who also happen to be their valued customers.

"As we all know the event attracts thousands of people from more than 55 countries across the world. Some come to run but many come to have fun with some cold Kili Lagers and enjoy the Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon Experience," Catherine points out.

"This is why we are proud to be associated with this event, dubbed 'The people's race', that also helps to promote Tanzania globally," she says.

According to Catherine, the brand has also been inspired by the development of athletics, the growth of tourism, and cultural promotion as a whole - which the event helps promote in complementing the government's endless efforts.

She says participants have confidence in the event due to the good organization and professionalism portrayed by the main organizers.

"This has also been one of the key motivators for us as the main sponsors and I believe other sponsors have been greatly inspired by this too," she states.

Catherine wants Tanzanians and visitors to travel to Moshi town in Kilimanjaro Region and have a lifetime experience under the splendor of the snow-capped mountain as they look forward to a bigger and more exciting Marathon in 2024 that will leave behind great memories.

"The ambience in Moshi during the Kilimanjaro Marathon is something no one would want to miss, that is why by now most people have already booked hotels and they are

training hard ready for the February 25, 2024 event at the Moshi Cooperative University (MoCU)," she says.

The Kili Marathon weekend is, according to Catherine, always full of fun and flair with 'nyama choma', exciting promotions, and musical events featuring artists at different locations that pull crowds courtesy of Kilimanjaro Premium Lager.

"This is what most of the participants want and for next year's race they are in for a good surprise as we have more varied and exciting activities in store but we will announce details later as the event approaches," she says.

The brand manager says they are well prepared for the 22nd edition of the Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon and have set aside 28m/- in prize money with the top winners in both the male and female categories walking home with 5m/-.

They are proud that as a brand they have been able to make the 42 km race more popular among Tanzanians.

A race that used to attract hardly 200 runners now, according to Catherine, attracts over 800 runners with Tanzanians starting to dominate this long race.

She has a special appeal to fellow sponsors to register for the corporate challenge where they will get to run as a group and the organizers will calculate their average time and announce the winners after the race.

"This is a unique way of bringing us together as employees for team building and also encouraging fitness and a healthy lifestyle in general," she says.

She acknowledges the role played by other sponsors including Tigo-21km, and Gee Soseji-5km, water table sponsors Simba Cement, Kilimanjaro Water, and TPC Sugar.

The marathon's official partners are KiliMedair, Garda World Security, CMC Automobiles, and Salinero Hotel, and official suppliers include Kibo Palace Hotel and Keys Hotel.

She says apart from sponsors, other stakeholders like the Ministry of Culture, Arts and Sports, Kilimanjaro regional and local authorities, Athletics Tanzania, Kilimanjaro Amateur Athletics Association (KAAA), the police force, media, and tourism stakeholders have played quite an instrumental role in ensuring successful Kili Marathon events over the years.

The Kilimanjaro Marathon is organized by the Kilimanjaro Marathon Company Limited and nationally coordinated by Executive Solutions Ltd.

For Catherine, it is not just about running but the fun, the friendship, and the memories galore that come with it, and Kilimanjaro Premium Lager is ready to take this event to greater heights as it marks its 22nd anniversary.

## Familiar grounds: When Simba SC finds coach around Yanga route in past seasons

By Correspondent John Kimbute

SIMBA SC leaders announced a new head coach in Abdelhak Benchikha, an Algerian tactician, just before the first CAF Champions League Group Stage clash with ASEC Mimosas of Ivory Coast.

While the management will have their explanation for making the selection, as well as presentations by pundits on the clubs the coach has managed, there are mixed features of his relatively long curriculum.

The first feature is that he has almost always coached top sides, but then he has hardly survived two years.

It implies that unless his new employers are less demanding than most of those who have used his skills so far, he is likely to remain with the country's most ambitious side for one season, and perhaps a bit of the following seasons.

That would not be quite different from his predecessor, who took the job early in January during the short registration window, as the club sought to end a slippery patch after Pablo Franco Martin left the side.

A similar situation was developing, with pundits and some well-wishers wishing for a local coach to take over the side.

There was a time they appeared to be on the way to winning the debate as rumours in sports talk shows were affirming that the club leadership was incapable of finding the right coach on short notice.

It looked altogether reasonable as coaches' contracts are similar to those of players, going up to the end of the season, and often they make decisions at the end of the season where they will be next.

It is not always the case that the contract is prolonged a year ahead, or with months to go.

That is for instance the way



Simba SC's newly appointed head coach, Algerian Abdelhak Benchikha. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBAS.C

Young Africans SC parted ways with its admirable head coach Prof. Nasreddine Nabi, who virtually took the same plane out as star player Fiston Mayele.

He was still raising his fist in the air with the head coach, and the fans yelling at the solid achievements of the pair, the rest of the squad perhaps just accompanying them.

The club has a philosophy that either worked for a while or has been seen to work until now, where they will have questions to sort out, especially if anything like the Algiers debacle comes across too soon.

Neither the management nor leadership sought to retain the services of either the head coach or the top player, who both had lucrative contracts waiting for signature at different ends of North Africa, in Morocco and Egypt respectively.

The same note was evident in player signing, making no effort to sign overly expensive players.

It has been a rather straight-

forward philosophy that worked, it is now being tested.

Not much of the sort can be said in the case of their rivals across the street, as their player purchasing effort was more intense and heavy, with the team entering a sort of dizzy stage where too many stars wait for time to play.

The coach did not have much choice in the sense of rotation of players, as any mistake becomes intolerable to the fans, even if pundits tend to make an effort to grasp the philosophy of the coach.

The former Simba SC head coach experienced his ups and downs but was on the whole quite successful, for instance, in the way the side held on its own against Al Ahly in the African Football League contest, till the derby.

The problem at the derby arose from the coach, that is, tactics and player selection are well-trodden territory, but the point is that club leadership and technical bench could not

remain friendly, with the fans, without drawing blood somewhere.

As it is midseason and most good coaches are seeing their contracts out at least for a reason, finding a good coach was likely to be tricky but it remained just as urgent as caretakers can't be blamed if the team fails, nor can they build sufficient levels of confidence in a team.

The leadership had to hurry up to find a coach who looks credible, is available, and perhaps succeeds.

In that case, there must be a few good things for the new coach that can be discerned in his CV, apart from the view that he has often been asked to leave at the end of the season.

The noticeable feature is that once, if not twice or thrice, either one or other major club asked for his services again after having terminated his contract in a previous season, after a few years' patch.

And it is with comparable sides like the top-level Algerian, Moroccan, or Tunisian sides that he is used to handling, apart from an equally short stint in the newly modeled Saudi Arabian Premier League.

While this does not suggest that the Msimbazi Street club leadership will not have problems with their new head coach by either the end of the season or the middle of the next season, it illustrates that they have closely checked the feelings of top clubs in those countries.

Not by asking for their views but by looking at the record of their interactions with the new head coach, that in some instances they asked him to come back, having regretted his departure after a while.

It is like Marcio Maximo, coming first to handle the senior national side and later being asked to take up a club.

## Sikinde Original Band ropes in vocalist Mwezingo

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

DAR ES SALAAM-based Sikinde Original Band has boosted its line-up by hiring veteran vocalist, Rashid Mwezingo, who has been doing music in Mwanza for a long time.

Speaking about Mwezingo's arrival, Sikinde Original Band's leader, Abdallah Hembra, said the singer was officially introduced at the band's show in Dar es Salaam last Saturday.

"Mwezingo's arrival makes our band have six singers- Benovilla Anthony, Sharapova, Tabu Mambosasa, Papaa Fanny, Mwezingo, and I," Hembra, also a respected veteran singer, revealed.

Hembra explained that they are continuing to build their team, adding if another talented singer is found, they will take him/her to continue strengthening the band.

"Our band is currently performing several songs including 'Moyo', 'Mchepuko', 'Serengeti', 'Hila za Ndugu', 'Muhtasari wa Kikao', and now we are preparing to practice the song titled 'Pua ya Guruwe'," he said.

The leader pointed out that he and some of his colleagues broke away from the decades-old troupe- Mlimani Park Band- and started Sikinde Original to stage shows for music lovers, adding that they are serious with their profession.

"We will continue to improve our team as much as possible, so, if a suitable musician is found, we will take him/her because our band is made up of musicians, some of whom



Tanzanian dance music singer, Rashid Mwezingo.

are adults whereas others are young," he said.

Mwezingo said he has lived outside Dar es Salaam for many

years, adding that he has decided to return and join the band to continue entertainment activities.

Another veteran vocalist, Rogert Hegga 'Katapila', has recently joined the revived Extra Bongo band, which is currently based in Dar es Salaam.

"Katapila" confirmed the news early this week when he was interviewed by a local radio station, explaining that he has headed to the band with his newly composed track titled 'Jicho la Tatu'.

"With my right mind, I confirm that I have joined Extra Bongo Band, so, I am one of the musicians who make up this troupe's new squad," 'Katapila' revealed.

While the singer was saying so, Extra Bongo Band's Director Ally Choki stated that the entire troupe would be known a few days before the introduction show.

The band hopes to hold a show to introduce its arrival in the local music scene at Sinza in Dar es Salaam on December 2. The troupe will, later, continue doing other shows in and outside Dar es Salaam.

Choki told journalists early this week that Extra Bongo will stage the show unaccompanied.

The vocalist explained the reasons for performing the introduction show without having any other troupe accompanying it, saying that the band has enough songs since it was founded in the early 2000s.

The troupe's director said the songs include 'Nunu', '3x3', 'Mjini Mipango', and many more. He was adamant they are still loved, adding he will add two tracks- 'Kinyago Changu' and 'Penalti ya Mwisho'.

## Arsenal show how the Champions League should be done - Man Utd and Newcastle take note...

By Karl Matchett

IT probably wasn't Mikel Arteta's pre-match team talk, but it could have been. "Forget brinkmanship. Group stage drama is for amateurs and also-rans. Just go out, do the job and wait until the Champions League's proper action starts in February." Perhaps it would have been emphasised with lots of hand gesticulations, had he taken that approach.

After the week's earlier drama involving fellow Premier League teams, Arsenal fans might have been feeling a little left out in that regard, but they shouldn't be. Their side is far more complete, far further along the team-building process and far more prepared to go far in a major European competition. It's probably also fair to note they have a far more routine group, certainly than Newcastle at least.

This 6-0 drubbing of a distinctly second-rate RC Lens showed as much, as does the far more important fact of Arsenal qualifying for the last 16 with a game to spare.

Sevilla collapsing to lose to PSV in the earlier kick-off felt as though it might give more of a contest at the Emirates, perhaps create more of a hint of jeopardy, but in truth it was never the case. A win still guaranteed top spot and in any case, there was more than a mere gulf between these sides.

The early knockings told the truth of the expectation of a home win: Lens fans made the noise but Arsenal had all the control. Takehiro Tomiyasu roused the crowd with a blockbusting run down the flank to nowhere; Kai Havertz dropped a header wide after the Japanese international crossed deep. If he might have done better that time, Havertz did so only a minute later: following a cross into the area, the German got enough of a touch on Gabriel Jesus's clever header into the six-yard box to prod past Brice Samba and over the line. And that was effectively that.

A tempting line to pursue would be of the goal settling the nerves, but none had been on display. Arsenal were assured and competent throughout, clear by 25 minutes and able to bask in a quite literal glow as Lens fans lit a succession of bright red smoke flares at that point, with at least one hurled upwards into a home fans' section above them.

Gunners fans responded with a verbal volley of their own, informing the visitors they appeared to be rather similar in quality to some near north London neighbours, and suggesting they were not particularly good... in rather more rudimentary terms. If the former quip bore no semblance to reality this season, the latter was unfortunately accurate. Lens were a mile off the quality, intensity and even strength of their hosts in the first half, timid and reactive, absurdly out of their depth despite mathematics suggesting they still had a shot at a last-16 place. They don't any more.

The match, the points and Arsenal's own qualification was settled in the space of six minutes.

Bukayo Saka bundled through a couple of challenges, Jesus picked up the loose ball, dummied the last defender and buried a low finish for his fourth of the group stage. Injury and inconsistency may have made him a bystander in the early Golden Boot standings domestically, but he has a goal per game for the Gunners in Europe - the type of contribution they'll need in the latter stages if Arteta believes they can go deep.

Just two minutes later, two became three as Gabriel Martinelli darted infield, curled in a shot and Samba this time parried dreadfully into the hip of Saka, the ball bouncing straight in. The least-technically demanding goal of his career it might have been, but Saka was full of running infield and, not for the first time, made his own luck with his determination to continually be in dangerous areas. It was left to Martinelli, then, to complete the set of front-line goalscorers, perfecting his earlier trick to give Samba no chance and find the far corner for four.

As for Lens, they carried no threat. They offered nothing: neither diligent, compact defensive structure to frustrate and bide their time, nor committing numbers and having a plan to counterattack with regularity.

Elye Wahi, a talented young striker who surely has a much bigger team in his near future, made a handful of clever runs but the closest Lens came to scoring was his left-footed strike across goal, easily saved. Other than that, their best moments were Wahi skinning William Saliba multiple times down the left flank and Kevin Danso thinking about a long-range shot, before opting not to. It was genuinely that poor from them. Even Facundo Medina hitting the post just before the interval was an irrelevance, with the offside flag up. At the other end, Samba saved only one shot all half - and it still resulted in a goal as that was his palm-out into the onrushing Saka.

Yet more torment for the Ligue 1 side was to come before the brief sanctuary of half time, with Martin Odegaard casually thumping in an injury-time volley: unmarked, unchallenged and unstoppable.

To their credit, or perhaps to keep warm on a freezing London night, Lens fans remained bouncing and noisy. With Arteta's team stepping off the gas, job done well before Jorginho's late penalty, their team also fared better in the second 45 but all they have to play for now is third and the Europa League.

THE INDEPENDENT

# Manchester Utd on brink of Champions League exit, Arsenal and PSV into last 16

LONDON

**M**ANCHESTER United are facing elimination from the Champions League in the group stage after squandering a two-goal lead to draw 3-3 with Galatasaray in Istanbul on Wednesday, while Arsenal and PSV Eindhoven secured qualification for the last 16.

Three-time European champions United needed a win in Turkey, against opponents who beat them at Old Trafford last month, in order to keep qualification for the knockout rounds in their hands.

Erik ten Hag's side appeared in control when Alejandro Garnacho's early opener was followed by a stunning strike by Bruno Fernandes on 18 minutes.

Hakim Ziyech pulled one back with a free-kick, only for Scott McTominay to restore the visitors' two-goal advantage early in the second half.

Yet Galatasaray were again given hope when another Ziyech free-kick was fumbled into the net by United goalkeeper Andre Onana, and the hosts equalised thanks to a brilliant 71st-minute strike by Kerem Akturkoglu.

United have now conceded 14 goals in five European matches and this result, combined with FC Copenhagen's 0-0 draw away to already-qualified Bayern Munich, leaves the Premier League side bottom of Group A with one game remaining.

In order to go through they must now beat Bayern at home next month and hope



Galatasaray and Manchester United played out a thrilling 3-3 draw that leaves the English side on the verge of going out of the Champions League. Agencies

Copenhagen and Galatasaray draw.

"We are going in the right direction so I know we will be successful in the long-term but if you want to stay in the Champions League you need to win these games," said Ten Hag.

Gunners hit six - Arsenal's form in Europe this season has been in stark contrast to that of United, and the Gunners romped into the last 16 with a 6-0 demolition of Lens in London.

Mikel Arteta's side were five goals up at the break with Kai Havertz, Gabriel Jesus, Bukayo Saka, Gabriel Martinelli and Martin Odegaard all netting.

Jorginho completed the scoring from a late penalty

as Arsenal gained revenge for their 2-1 defeat by Lens in France last month.

"Today was the day to get it done. We did it in a beautiful way," Arteta told broadcaster TNT Sports.

Arsenal have scored 12 goals without reply in winning their three home matches in Group B and have now wrapped up top spot ahead of PSV, who are also through.

The Dutch side, European Cup winners in 1988, produced a superb comeback to triumph 3-2 away to Sevilla and put themselves out of sight in second place.

Goals by Sergio Ramos and Youssef En-Nesyri had Sevilla 2-0 up, but Lucas Ocampos was sent off for the hosts just before substitute

Ismael Saibari, the Spanish-born Moroccan international, pulled one back for PSV.

They equalised through a Nemanja Gudelj own goal and won it in stoppage time through United States forward Ricardo Pepi.

Sevilla now have to win at Lens next month to salvage a place in the Europa League, the competition they won last season.

- Bellingham scores in Real win -

Real Madrid were already through to the last 16 before hosting Napoli and they clinched top spot in Group C with a 4-2 victory at the Santiago Bernabeu.

Giovanni Simeone, son of Atletico Madrid coach Diego, gave Napoli an early lead,

but Rodrygo equalised immediately, continuing his fine form with a superb strike for his seventh goal in his last seven games.

Jude Bellingham put the hosts ahead with his 15th goal of the season in all competitions only for Andre-Frank Zambo Anguissa to get Napoli back level just after the restart.

However, teenage substitute Nico Paz made it 3-2 for Real with a long-range strike that evaded the goalkeeper's grasp, and Bellingham set up Joselu to wrap up the win late on.

That result prevented Napoli from clinching qualification as they could still be caught by Braga, who drew 1-1 at home to Union Berlin in Portugal despite having Sikou Niakate sent off in the first half.

Robin Gosens fired Union in front but Alvaro Djalo levelled for the hosts after the break.

Real Sociedad and Inter Milan were both already through from Group D and their meeting next month will decide who tops the section.

On Wednesday, a much-changed Inter side recovered from three goals down to draw 3-3 with Benfica in Portugal after Joao Mario scored a first-half hat-trick against his old club.

Marko Arnautovic and Davide Frattesi pulled goals back for Inter before Alexis Sanchez levelled from the penalty spot, and Benfica were reduced to 10 men late on when Antonio Silva was sent off.

Real Sociedad drew 0-0 with Red Bull Salzburg.

AFP

## European stumble shows there are two sides to Manchester United - and neither is working

By Miguel Delaney

FROM hell to purgatory. Manchester United are left in limbo about their European future this season, after a game at Galatasaray where both sides left everything on the pitch. Andre Onana, however, let two free-kicks in.

There was still more to an utterly thrilling 3-3 draw than that, as United lost a lead for the fifth time in five Champions League group games. This was also the second by two goals.

That should torment Erik ten Hag, even as it would have delighted anyone else watching on. This was so much more entertaining than the divinely perfect football we've come to expect from the competition's best level and there is, of course, a lesson in that.

This might have been the way to put on a show. It isn't the way to go about an away game in the Champions League.

There should be an even greater aggravation to that for Ten Hag, though. So much of United's attacking play looked like what you would consider his ideal. It was a long-awaited reminder of last season's best form, particularly Scott McTominay's counter-attacking finish that should have won it.

It was all there. There was connection combined with emphatic force, as was seen



Andre Onana suffered another forgettable evening (REUTERS)

with Alejandro Garnacho's glorious strike for the first after that exquisite little through ball.

There was pure individual inspiration, as seen with Bruno Fernandes' blockbuster. There was then incision at pace, as they cut through Galatasaray for McTominay to slide in.

This is the way United should be playing.

The great question for Ten Hag, that is directly connected to the quandary of how they keep losing leads, is whether they can only play that way by going so open? It is some way removed from Pep Guardiola's suffocation through possession.

It is even further away from so many of United's drab league games. There, there's been a more dour resilience, where performance has actually obscured relatively acceptable form.

This still shouldn't

be acceptable, though. United just shouldn't be in this position. That could have been said before this game, but this made it much worse.

It's like there's no in-between. It's either "control" to the point of boredom or abandon to the point of this chaos.

Galatasaray of course contributed. They were

often as good in attack, and just as porous at the back. The number of chances they were willing to just offer up late on. It's incredible they still came out with a draw.

For that, they can look to United's goalkeeper. One Hakim Ziyech free-kick like that would have been bad enough. Two

might well be a season destroyer. It will be all the worse given he had recovered. There hadn't really been a major error since the supposed turning point of the penalty save against Copenhagen.

It was just another twist in this group stage.

The one excuse that might be made for Onana is that the conditions made it especially difficult, particularly in situations like those free-kicks. It was also like a player as clever as Ziyech knew that. He went for it.

Again, there was more to it than that. Like Galatasaray at the other end, United gave up so many chances that any two or three of a number of efforts could have ended up as goals. Kerem Akturkoglu's brilliant sweeping strike was one. That could have happened many times over.

The chaos reduced

the match to an element of blind luck - especially late on. That last proper move United had, where the ball ricocheted around Fernando Muslera's goal, summed it up.

It could have gone anywhere. As it is, United are going out. It should never have come to that. There are questions for Ten Hag there, beyond his choice of goalkeeper.

How are they this erratic after a year and a half? How is it they have found a relatively forgiving group so punishing? How can translate some of this attacking to the league, without bringing that mayhem at the back?

This is what United need to look to, other than a miracle.

Hell, as Galatasaray still attempted to style their new Rams Park, wasn't the place for that.

THE INDEPENDENT

Gwiji by David Chikoko



# SPORT

Man U on brink of Champions League exit, Arsenal and PSV into last 16

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## Tanzania moves up in latest FIFA world rankings

By Correspondent Michael Mwebi

THE world football governing body, FIFA on Thursday, officially published its latest men's national team global rankings, with Tanzania's senior national soccer team, coached by Adel Amrouche, having climbed one place.

Taifa Stars are now placed 121th in the world. They now occupy 32nd place on the continental rankings, moving above Malawi and Cyprus.

In the 2026 FIFA World Cup qualifiers played in November, Taifa Stars opened their Group Stage campaign with a 1-0 away win over Niger before falling to a 2-0 home defeat to Morocco.

As a result, Tanzania remained with the same number of points but moved up by one place due to other nations' results going in their favour.

The Comoros Islands are the biggest movers. The Islanders enjoyed back-to-back wins against the Central African Republic and Ghana in the World Cup Qualifiers.

Two victories helped Comoros make a significant move up the rankings with 30.88 points, moving them nine places up to 119th, their highest-ever position.

Guinea-Bissau (103rd, up seven spots), Libya (120th, up six), and Rwanda (133rd, up seven) are the other big African movers in the November ranking.

Meanwhile, Morocco remains the number one ranked African side, followed by Senegal, Tunisia, Algeria, and Egypt in the top five.

Amongst the East African countries, Uganda (19th) remains the best-ranked in the CECAFA region followed by Kenya (110th).

World champions Argentina once again lead the pack, with France also unmovable in second place. But Brazil have dropped two places below both England and Belgium into fifth spot, having failed to win any of their last four fixtures.

England were fourth going into the Euro 2024 qualifier but jumped over Brazil - who dropped to fifth after losing to both Colombia and Argentina in their World Cup qualifying games.

Taifa Stars is now focused on the upcoming 2023 Africa Cup of Nations, commencing on January 13, 2024, in Ivory Coast. In the group stage, Ghana is set to face Morocco, DR Congo, and Zambia.

Initially scheduled for June and July 2023, the Africa Cup of Nations Cote d'Ivoire was postponed to be held from January 13 to February 11, 2024, to avoid the matches taking place in the middle of the rainy season.

Tanzania qualified for this 34th edition of the African Cup of Nations by finishing second in Group F of the qualifiers with eight points behind Algeria who dropped just two points in six games.

Amrouche and his charges will play their group stage matches in the town of San-Pédro, 350 km from Abidjan.

They will play on the fifth day of the tournament, January 17, at 6:00 p.m. as they take on World Cup semi-finalist Morocco.

Three days later, they will take on neighbours Zambia on Sunday, January 21 before concluding their games on 24 January with DR Congo.

Group winners, runners-up, and the best four third-placed teams will advance to the round of 16.

# Azam FC clicks back into gear in a perfect month



Azam FC's midfielder Kipre Junior (R) dribbles past Mtwaba Sugar's winger Omary Buzungu as the clubs locked horns in this season's NBC Premier League tie at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam recently. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AZAM FC

By Correspondent Michael Mwebi

IN November, Azam FC was perfect. The club won all three of the squad's NBC Premier League games.

Those results leave Azam FC just two points behind leaders champions Young Africans SC heading into next weekend's action against Kinondoni Municipal Council FC.

October had been a frustrating month for Yousouph Dabo-coached Azam FC. They had been held in the capital city, dropped points carelessly away to Dodoma Jiji FC in a goalless draw. A hard-fought 1-0 win away to Coastal Union followed.

Azam FC, though, ended the month much worse, falling to a 3-2 defeat to defending champions Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, on October 23.

Three days later, Azam FC went down 3-1 to Namungo FC. They conceded six goals in two back-to-back games.

Frustrations and anger that had been bubbling for days finally boiled over. Namungo FC was the visitor to Azam FC at Azam Complex Stadium.

Azam FC, having started the day six points behind title contenders Simba SC and Yanga, were 1-0 down after 10 minutes. Nine minutes later, that became 2-0, and 3-0 shortly after half-time.

Second-half substitute Ayoub Lyanga pulled one back but it was too late, too little as they dropped three points once again.

While defeat in a tie against Yanga is understandable, the defeat to Namungo FC was an extremely bitter pill to swallow.

In moments like these, Azam FC usually points accusing fingers at the head coach.

This time there was no shortage of targets for Azam FC fan frustration, but prime amongst them was CEO Abdulkarim Mohamed 'Popat' and coach Dabo.

The problem is that the 'Popat' does not control the strategy at Azam FC. Disregard the titles the reality is that no one is the boss at the club except the owners. The owners are sometimes

never in sync. This was the head coach, Dabo, whose position seemed untenable but still managed to survive the chop.

The board appeared to have been split. One side called for the immediate firing of Dabo.

The Senegalese coach was accused of losing the dressing room with several vocal key players complaining about his extremely tough training sessions. Reports of a potential dressing room mutiny.

Dabo's intensity, which was widely lauded and seen as a positive thing at the start, was now being viewed as a problem.

His unwillingness to change his approach affected his relationship with some key members of the

first team. This was translated into a lack of belief in how he was preparing them to win matches.

Those who wanted Dabo gone believed the ill-feeling in the dressing room surely played a big part in the back-to-back losses against Yanga and Namungo FC.

With pressure mounting both internally and externally, many believed it was only a matter of when not if Azam FC parted ways with Dabo.

Others raised eyebrows at Dabo's decision to leave Yannick Bangala, Iddy Selemani, and Kipre Junior out of the starting XI for Azam FC's games against Yanga and Namungo FC.

Yet there were other reasons why Dabo was backed by other board members.

There was an awareness within the club that performances and results had to improve, but changing the technical bench was not seen as the immediate solution.

Not all of them believe he had lost the dressing room - and what he is being criticized for is what he was being praised for when he came in. After all, they revealed in his strict adherence to discipline.

Having been forced to sack other coaches for 'losing the dressing room' over tough disciplinary measures, Dabo was viewed as the candidate best placed to achieve long-term success in a club that has become too trigger-happy.

Azam FC faced visits to Mashujaa FC in Kigoma, then another trip to Mbarali District to take on Ihefu SC before welcoming Mtwaba Sugar.

All three were viewed as challenging but winnable games that could change the complexion heading into the new month of November.

In desperate need of a positive response, Dabo made five changes against Mashujaa FC, rotating almost everywhere he could.

The changes helped Azam FC return to the winning column with a convincing 3-0 victory on the road.

A 3-1 comprehensive win against Ihefu SC followed three days later.

A two-week international break gave Dabo more time to work on his squad. The work put on showed when they hammered Mtwaba Sugar 5-0 on Friday, November 24.

Three games, three wins, two clean sheets eleven goals scored and only one conceded was enough proof the team had clicked back into gear.

## Mbeya, Ruvuma boxers gear up for non-title bouts

By Guardian Correspondent

BOXING followers in Songea District and the rest of Ruvuma are expected to be treated to entertaining non-title bouts to be held in the district on December 9.

The fights' organizer, Omary Yazidu, stated they will be held at the Maji Maji Stadium, with domestic professional boxers from within Ruvuma and their counterparts from neighbouring Mbeya districts of Kyela and Tukuyu trading jabs.

In a bout that is likely to attract a lot of attention from boxing fanatics, a prominent Songea-based boxer, Mussa Chitepete, will face Kyela District's Nassoro Bagaza in a six-round Lightweight bout.



Ruvuma's boxer Musa Chitepete (R) aims a right hook on Morogoro's Twaha Kassim during a non-title bout that took place in Dar es Salaam in 2014. Kassim won by Knockout. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SUPERDBOXINGCOACH.BLOGSPOT.COM

Chitepete's record stands at eight wins-three of which came via Knockout (KO), six defeats, two of which

are KOs, and two bouts having been declared a draw.

The outspoken pugilist's most recent bout

came on July 30, 2022, as he took on compatriot Silvester Urio at the same venue and won by points in the fight

stretching six rounds. In his last five bouts, Chitepete came out victorious in two and suffered defeat in the other three.

The December 9 bout against Bagaza will, in this case, turn out to be a platform for Chitepete to prove he has what it takes to showcase his mettle and win bouts.

The day's other bout - a 57kg showdown - will see Karim Mwensa of Songea trade blows with Salini Lenas of Kyela District.

The six-round, 69kg bout pitting Absul Mwayyoma of Songea against Anyosiyse Elia of Tukuyu District will come up later, followed by a round, 67kg fight which will have Chigi Benga of Songea confronting Gwakisa Mwanga. Ben Songa of

Namtumbo District has been scheduled to trade jabs with Niga Mwakaluba of Kyela District in a six-round, 60kg fight.

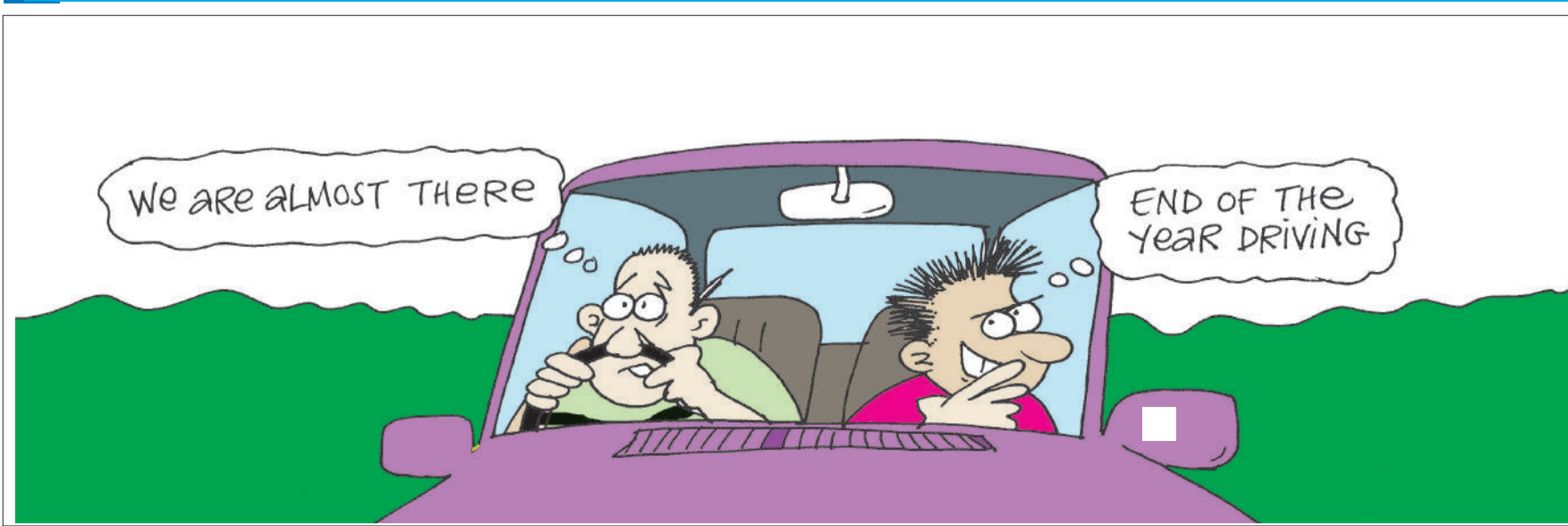
Yunus Bakary Songea is set to fight Musa Elia of Kyela District in an 86kg bout set to stretch for six rounds.

Songea-based Fasiga Majaliwa has been scheduled to come up against Justine Juma of Kyela District in a six-round, 70kg fight.

According to Yazidu, Songea-based firm Lizombe Sports Promotion, owned by its Managing Director Kassim Saiyi Mkumba, is the fights' sponsor.

Yazidu also noted that Songea District Commissioner Kapenjama Ndile will be the guest of honour on the day.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko



**TONIGHT @ 9:00**

**EATV MONDAY**

11:00 DADAZ  
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA  
13:00 Zote Kuntu  
13:30 Kall Za Wana  
13:55 Dondoo Za Michzo  
14:00 SKONGA (I)  
14:30 Planet Bongo (I)  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 Akili & Me  
15:55 Dondoo Za Michzo  
16:00 Zote Kuntu  
16:55 Dondoo Za Michzo  
17:00 SSELEKT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 Kall Za Wana  
18:30 #HASHTAG  
19:00 EATV SAA-1  
20:00 DADAZ (I)  
21:00 5SPORTS  
22:00 Zote Kuntu  
23:00 Eurasa  
23:05 EATV SAA1 (I)

**eastAfrica RADIO**

05:00 Supa Breakfast  
09:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
19:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

**88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM**