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COP27: Samia to lead debate

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Samia fetes plane crash rescue hero

Government to meet costs of burying accident victims

By Guardian Reporter



Caskets bearing the bodies of people killed in Sunday morning's crash-landing of a Precision Air plane into Lake Victoria waters just off Bukoba lined up at the municipality's Kaitaba Stadium yesterday ready for the paying of last respects. Photo: PMO

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has ordered the Ministry of Home Affairs to employ 17-year-old Majaliwa Jackson in the Fire and Rescue Force following his heroic efforts to rescue passengers when the Precision Air plane plunged into Lake Victoria on Sunday morning.

The Head of State directed the relevant authorities to make sure Majaliwa is provided with more training in rescue operations after the talent and spirit he demonstrated in the passenger plane disaster.

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa said at an event to pay respects to the plane crash victims at the Kaitaba Stadium in Bukoba that the president gave the directives over the phone.

Mourners and well wishes filed past the 19 coffins of people who died in the tragic incident in Kagera Region involving a Precision Air plane ATR 42-500 with reg. no 5H-PWF, trying to land at Bukoba Airport with 43 people on board.

These included 39 passengers, two pilots

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Govt set to spend 43.3trn/- next FY

By Mnaku Mbani, Dodoma

TREASURY is projecting 43.29trn/- in government expenditure for the 2023/2024 financial year, an increase of 4.4 percent from 41.48trn/- approved in this year's budget estimates.

Finance and Planning Minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba unveiled this projection yesterday when presenting the national development plan for 2023/2024 and guidelines for the next budget exercise.

He outlined taxes, non-tax revenues, local government taxes, public-private partnerships, loans and credits as major sources for financing the next budget, noting that increased domestic revenue collection is staked in the reviewed estimates.

“The 2023/2024 development plan will enhance the participation of the private sector, build resilience to natural calamities and accidents”

First charge expenditure like financing different projects, servicing the government debt and updating public servants salaries were also taken into account, he said.

Estimated domestic revenue for the year is projected at 31.03trn/-, put at 71.7 percent of total estimates, with the development partners expected to contribute 4.51trn/- or 10.9 percent of total estimates, he said.

The government is also expected to borrow 5.64trn/- from the domestic market, including 3.54trn/- meant for paying matured government securities, that is Treasury bills and bonds. A total of 2.09trn/- will be borrowed for financing development projects, he stated, highlighting that Treasury expects to borrow 2.1trn/- on commercial terms.

Domestic revenue collection targets will be hinged on traders and services providers in special areas to grow their businesses, along with exhaustive identification

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Students' loans audit on, after internal squabbles

By Mnaku Mbani, Dodoma

A SPECIAL audit will be conducted on the Higher Education Students' Loans Board (HESLB), which the legislature has resolved, approving a recommendation by the Social Services and Community Development committee.

Up to the adoption of the recommendation, a clash of perceptions on the conduct of the board surfaced, with MPs discounting assertions of resistance to ministerial directives, surfaced by the Education minister, Prof Adolf Mkenda (pictured). The committee sought that the

Controller and Auditor General (CAG) conduct an in-depth audit on HESLB loan issuance for the past five years after the minister had declared last week that the board was objecting to a special audit.

Committee members said their checks on the matter did not back that claim, after the Speaker, Dr Tulia Ackson directed the committee to summon HESLB executives to check the minister's claims.

Acting committee chairman Musa Sima (Singida Urban) said that interviews with the minister and board officials had indicated no sign of board resistance but errors of communication.

“The committee wanted to find

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Govt set to spend 43.3trn/- next FY

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plus registration of international companies conducting digital business, he said.

A simplified registration regime and investing in technology to ensure exchange of government information will be set up, he said, pointing out that it also relevant to enhancing efficiency in revenue collections at ministerial departments and agencies. Strengthening administrative actions on the management of tax collections is also being figured, he stated.

Government expenditure is being pegged at 43.29trn/-, with 28.26trn/- as recurrent expenditure and 15.03trn/- slated as development funding, equivalent to 34.7 percent of total budget funds.

The recurrent expenditure increase is tied with enhanced debt servicing, public servants' wages and salaries, managing completed development projects like health and education services, preparations for the local government elections for 2024 and preparing the National Development Vision 2050.

"Following the result of the recent population and housing census, it is evident that the costs of providing social services will increase as the population has gone up from 44.9m in 2012 to 61.7m in 2022," he said.

Ongoing construction of the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR), the Julius Nyerere hydropower project, beefing up Air Tanzania Corporation (ATCL), the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP), the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) project, the Mchuchuma and Liganga iron and coal project and the 358MW Ruhudji project in

Njombe were singled out as key projects.

Improving railway infrastructure for the metre gauge along old central railway line and the Cape gauge for the Tanzania-Zambia Railway (Tazara) are other priorities, along with added rolling stock, he said.

New and refurbished rail equipment like wagons, engines and inspection cars will be purchased for ongoing construction projects, plus training on railway and transport technology, he said.

Strategic road infrastructure, roads connecting Tanzania and neighboring countries are key projects for next year, plus widening roads to reduce congestions in cities and rehabilitating major bridges.

New passenger and cargo ships for lake and sea freight are slated, by ship building and marine technology training, he said, pointing at rehabilitating ferry parking, buying new ferries and rehabilitating existing ones.

The government will focus on improving port infrastructure, build inland ports on the perimeters of Dar es Salaam for central corridor transportation, he said, meanwhile as air transport outlays will be improved, and new airports built. Capacity building for aviation training institutions is also projected, the minister noted.

The 2023/2024 development plan will enhance the participation of the private sector, build resilience to natural calamities and accidents, he stated.

The budget projection similarly seeks to maintain resilience amid the global economic slowdown and increased inflationary trends, ensure food security and maintain domestic and regional peace and security, he added.

Students' loans audit on, after internal squabbles

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out whether the HESLB resisted the minister's directives," he said, noting that reviews of official communication have shown no direct evidence of resistance.

A letter from the board dated September 12 recommended certain issues in the terms of references of an audit panel, with board officials saying they received a ministerial letter on the panel but it lacked terms of reference.

The committee noticed that there was a challenge in communications and working relations between HESLB and the ministry, urging improved intra-ministerial communications to speed up the taking of such directives.

The ministerial committee on the matter should pursue its work

in accordance with the terms of references, the acting chairman intoned.

Husna Sekiboko (Special Seats) appealed for enhanced internal communication between and within ministerial departments.

As long as the directives were verbal, a ministerial official could have prepared an internal memo to the permanent secretary for further actions, she remarked.

The minister admitted that he did not actually face resistance from the loans board but he was not satisfied with the speed of executing the task given to the committee.

The committee was not ready to start its work in September, he stated, affirming the need for ensuring improved issuance of students' loans, not engaging in witch hunting.

Refugee crisis in Malawi due to ongoing conflict in eastern DRC

LILONGWE

Malawi is facing an influx of refugees fleeing the recently intensified unrest in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, the World Food Programme (WFP).

The Dzaleka camp, the only refugee camp in the small, poor southern African country located about 40 km from the capital Lilongwe and initially designed to accommodate 10,000 people, now has nearly 56,000 refugees, the majority of whom are Congolese, according to the WFP.

"The situation is alarming," said Paul Turnbull, the UN food aid agency's representative in Malawi. "Conflicts in the Great Lakes region, particularly in the Democratic Republic of Congo, have resulted in a steady flow of refugees into Malawi for more than two decades, with a recent surge in new arrivals.

According to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, 560 new arrivals were recorded in September alone. In March of last year, there were just over 49,000 refugees in the camp.

The vast majority are Congolese (62%), but there are also Burundians (19%) and Rwandans (7%), with the rest coming from Ethiopia and Somalia.

This overpopulation is causing tensions. This week, refugees seized a WFP car to show their displeasure after 600 families were removed from the lists of food distribution beneficiaries, out of the 11,000 in the camp.

"Food assistance should be provided on the basis of vulnerability," Turnbull said, noting that some refugees have opened small businesses or found alternative livelihoods.

Romain Bijangala, a Congolese community representative in the camp, said some were "sleeping on an empty stomach" and "without food aid, they will certainly die."

Eastern DRC has been plagued by violence from armed groups for nearly three decades. Fighting has recently intensified between the "March 23 Movement" (M23), a former Tutsi rebellion that has taken up arms, and the Congolese Armed Forces.



Members of Parliament from Mozambique arrive at the National Parliament premises in Dodoma city yesterday ready for an official visit to Tanzania. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Samia fetes plane crash rescue hero

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and two in-flight attendants, with the premier noting that reports on rescue operations show that 24 people were rescued, 22 passengers and two in-flight attendants. The other 19 people died, being 17 passengers and the two pilots.

The president has directed that the young man be given a job to help with any such efforts in the future, as he had shown courage that he can be relied upon in fire and rescue. "What he needs is more training on how to do the job."

The president similarly directed that the cost for the burial services will be met by the government, hence directing Regional Commissioners in concerned areas to supervise burial activities.

The premier signaled that disaster management committees at the regional and district levels

chaired by regional and district commissioners are lined up for strengthening to enable them to rapidly respond to disasters, conveying heartfelt condolences to bereaved family members.

Majaliwa Jackson, a fisherman at Nyamkazi beach, narrated how he managed to rescue a big number of people now receiving treatment at the regional referral hospital in Bukoba, underlining that it fulfilled a dream to do something for his country.

Jackson said he was busy with his daily activities when he saw a plane from a direction that was clearly unusual, and immediately knew there was an accident.

"Me and four of my colleagues decided to take our canoes and followed where the plane had landed in water to help people trapped inside," he said.

"My friends failed to reach the

place because they did not know how to swim," he said, elaborating that he opted to borrow a paddle with which to hit the door. It opened and people came out, he explained.

Bad luck lingered, though as when trying to repeat the feat on the other side of the plane the exercise misfired. The paddle hit his face and he lost consciousness, finding himself in the hospital by the time he woke up.

Patrick Mwanri, the CEO at Precision Air, in his remarks, said that the plane has been taken out of the water and will be repaired. It will be back on the return trip on time, he affirmed.

Region Commissioner Albert Chalamila asked the government to set up a training mechanism for fishermen, brief them on rescue methods and how to handle emergencies in the water.

He highly appreciated the

fishermen for cooperating with other residents in rescue operations relating to the 26 passengers who survived alive, praising individuals and various companies providing equipment that helped in rescue operations.

Defence and National Service minister Innocent Bashungwa promised that defense and security agencies will draw up a strategic plan to shore up rescue frameworks in potential emergency areas.

Works and Transport minister Prof. Makame Mbarawa sought to allay fears about using air transport, noting that concerned authorities are taking appropriate steps to ensure the safety of local air travel.

Bad weather was all too evident as a Precision Air passenger flight tried to land at Bukoba airport amid a storm. It breached the edge of the water, leading to the death of 19 people and 26 others were injured.



Organisation of Women in Development Efforts (Wajiki) executive director Janeth Mawinza (in head-cloth) exchanges ideas in Dar es Salaam at the weekend with leaders of various other NGOs shortly after a meeting on strategies to combat gender-based violence. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

COP27: Antonio Guterres urges nations to focus on climate change

SHARM EL-SHEIKH

ANTONIO Guterres, United Nations Secretary-General, opens the COP27 with a poignant speech in which he urges nations to focus on global warming and its hazardous impacts further brought to light by the war in Ukraine.

This 27th session of the UN Climate Change Conference in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt with poignancy, stating that the world is on a highway to climate hell with its

foot on the gas pedal.

Guterres also called upon world leaders to focus on the growing urgency of climate change and its hazards further accelerated by the ongoing war in Ukraine.

"We cannot accept that our attention is not focused on climate change. We must of course work together to support peace efforts and end the tremendous suffering. But climate change is on a different timeline and different scale. It is a defining issue of our age. It is the

central challenge of our century. It is unacceptable, outrageous and self-defeating to put it on the back burner. Indeed many of today's conflicts are linked to growing climate chaos. And the war in Ukraine has exposed the profound risk of our fossil fuel addiction," he stated firmly during the opening speech.

Though China is the world's biggest current emitter of greenhouse gases, President Xi Jinping has made it clear that he will not be attending this session of

the COP. President Joe Biden will be attending after the midterms. The U.S., which is the second biggest current emitter, plans to challenge

China's claim to global leadership on climate action with an array of new carbon reduction initiatives. China has a head start on the U.S. in its mass rollout of solar power and electric vehicles.

The participation of these two countries is crucial as the US and China together are responsible for 40% of the world's gas emissions.



Zanzibar First Lady Mariam Mwinyi (R), who is Zanzibar Maisha Bora Foundation chairperson, pictured yesterday presenting a seaweed grinding machine to Safia Hashim Makame (C), chairperson of Ukweli ni Njia Safi Bweleo group of Magharibi B District. Photo: Zanzibar State House

Govt in talks with private local producers on how to increase productivity in fertiliser making

Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

In efforts to ensure the availability of fertiliser at affordable prices in the country, the government is in talks with two private local producers on how to increase productivity, the parliament heard yesterday.

Deputy Minister for Industries, Trade and Investment Dr Exlaud Kigaha told the lawmakers that there are ongoing discussions between the government and the Minjingu Mines and Fertilisers Limited to fine-tune the measures which will facilitate the fertiliser company to increase production from the current 30,000 to 100,000 tonnes of the products every year.

He said in the august House yesterday when responding to Tabora North MP, Athuman Maige (CCM) who expressed his dismay over the worrying fertiliser prices which were increasing at an alarming rate.

"I would like to know what the government was doing to attract more investors in the fertiliser sectors and increase availability of the farm input," said the MP.

In response, the deputy minister said the two companies have started investments in the country and that the government welcomes investors.

He named some of the measures as controlling unofficial prices that are orchestrated by unscrupulous businesspeople as well as announcing indicative prices.

Furthermore, the deputy minister said the government continues attracting more investors to put up fertiliser factories in the country in order to reduce the prices of the products.

He said that it was crucial for the government to collaborate with the private sector in efforts to reduce the price of fertiliser in the country.

He gave an example of the ongoing investment by a Burundi

-based company Itracom Fertilisers Limited which is now putting up a mega factory in Dodoma, which upon completion will have the capacity to produce 600,000 tonnes of fertiliser per year.

In January this year, Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa visited the construction site where he backed a plan by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to allow a Burundi-based investor Itracom to build a fertiliser factory in Dodoma demanding that the plan was appropriate for the development of the country's agriculture sector.

He said the government will oversee the entire construction project to ensure it meets the targets required and subsequently address the shortage of fertiliser among rural farmers.

The prime minister expressed optimism that upon the completion of the project Tanzania could end import dependence on fertilisers.



I would like to know what the government was doing to attract more investors in the fertiliser sectors and increase availability of the farm input

Samia to lead COP27 debate for leaders of twelve nations

By Guardian Reporter

AS the 27th edition of the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27) kicked off in Egypt yesterday, President Samia Suluhu Hassan is expected to lead discussions of leaders from 12 countries today.

The debate will discuss how to facilitate African countries South of the Sahara in the use of alternate

energy for the implementation of the use of clean energy, one of the main agendas at the conference.

Part of the statement said the debate was important due to the necessity to reduce carbon dioxide production in African countries at low cost including providing them with equipment that can easily be used for Africa's development.

Another agenda to be debated is

to beef up funds for sustaining the effects of climate change, how to control the temperature to remain below 1.5 degrees and funds to assist countries that suffered the effects of climate change including drought and floods.

The conference takes place when African countries including Tanzania experiencing the effects of climate change including shortage of food, water, the situation welcomes

drought, and livestock deaths due to lack of food and hinders efforts to attain sustainable goals.

Speaking at the conference, The Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union Affairs and Environment) said Tanzania will oversee climate change agendas, climate change funds, the destruction caused by the effects of climate change as well the reduction of global temperature.

Access Microfinance Bank Tanzania

INVITATION OF TENDERS

Access Microfinance Bank Tanzania Limited has set aside fund in its budget towards the procurement of service for listed below for the year, 2023. Hence, bids from reputable and registered companies are highly invited for the provision of the following services as summarized hereunder: We are expecting to work with supplier/suppliers who are professionals, price conscious, quality oriented and reliable partner(s), it now invites sealed quotations from eligible suppliers of good and services as shown below:

LOT	TENDER No.	DESCRIPTION
LOT 1	TND/OCT/2022/001	Servicing and repair of Motor Vehicles
LOT 2	TND/OCT/2022/002	Servicing of Power Generators
LOT 3	TND/OCT/2022/003	Provision of Sanitary bins services
LOT 4	TND/OCT/2022/004	Provision of Fumigation services
LOT 5	TND/OCT/2022/005	Servicing of APC UPS
LOT 6	TND/OCT/2022/006	Supply and Servicing of CCTV cameras
LOT 7	TND/OCT/2022/007	Supply and Servicing of Firefighting Equipment
LOT 8	TND/OCT/2022/008	Service and Maintenance Air condition
LOT 9	TND/OCT/2022/009	Provisional of security guards
LOT 10	TND/OCT/2022/010	Provision of Drinking water
LOT 11	TND/OCT/2022/011	Provision of cleaning services of office and godown
LOT 12	TND/OCT/2022/012	Servicing and repair of Note counting machine (Glory GFS 120 and GFS 220) (Authorized dealers)
LOT 13	TND/OCT/2022/013	Provision of valuation services
LOT 14	TND/OCT/2022/014	Provision of Auctioneering and Debt collection Services
LOT 15	TND/OCT/2022/015	Electrical works repair
LOT 16	TND/OCT/2022/016	Supply of Generator Fuel (Diesel)
LOT 17	TND/OCT/2022/017	Servicing and repair of Note counting machine (Magner 175FF and Magner M350) (Authorized dealers)
LOT 18	TND/OCT/2022/018	Servicing and repair of Strong room door, Emergency door and Safes. (Authorized dealers for Godrej Volt and Safes)
LOT 19	TND/OCT/2022/019	Support and Operational maintenance service for the intruder alarm system, Access Control and automatic fire detection system for Access Microfinance Bank Tanzania Limited.

- Interested bidders should obtain further information and inspect the bidding document at the office, located at, Access Microfinance Bank Tanzania Limited, Head Quarter, Kijitonyama, Plot No 16 Block 45A Derm House, New Bagamoyo Road (Opposite Makumbusho Village Museum), to the Financial Controls Office 5th Floor from **09:00am to 04:00pm** Monday to Friday exclusive of public holidays.
- Interested bidders are also required to pay **TZS 100,000/-per lot**, a nonrefundable fee to a specific account opened at Access Microfinance Bank Tanzania Limited Account in any Access Microfinance Bank Branches in Dar, Mwanza, Kahama, Iringa, Mbeya and Tabora. Payment slip should be presented to Financial Controls Unit 5th floor Kijitonyama or any Branch to obtain the tender Document you have paid for.
- Interested bidder will be required to deliver a sealed envelope by hand or courier service clearly marked **"with the tender number and title as provided in the above table"** to the address below

Chief Executive Officer
Access Microfinance Bank Tanzania Limited
Derm House,
Plot No. 16, Block 45A, Kijitonyama,
P.O Box 95068, Dar Es Salaam,
Tanzania
Tel: +255-22-2774355, Fax: +255-22-2774340

- The deadline for submission of the bids is on **Friday, December 02nd, 2022 14.30Hrs**
- Opening shall be on the **Friday, December 02nd, 2022 15.00Hrs** in the Bank's board room 5th Floor, for those who will choose to attend in person or through their representatives. Each company should choose not to send more than one person.
- Late bids, portion of bids, electronic bids, will not be accepted.

Access Microfinance Bank Tanzania

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI):

PRE- QUALIFICATION OF SUPPLIERS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS

Access Microfinance Bank Tanzania Limited has set aside fund in its budget towards the procurement of service listed below for the year, 2023. Hence, bids from reputable and registered companies are highly invited for the provision of the following services as summarized here under:

LOT	DESCRIPTION
LOT 1	Supply of Stationeries
LOT 2	Supply of Office Furniture
LOT 3	Supply and Printing of Bank Forms, internal and external Marketing materials, and Promotional materials
LOT 4	Supply of IT accessories and computers

- Interested firms/companies are required to provide information indicating their ability to provide the above-mentioned assignments. Such information may include brochure, description of similar assignment undertaken, availability of appropriate skills among its staff, etc.
- Interested bidders are also required to pay **TZS 100,000/-per lot**, a non-refundable fee to a specific account opened at Access Microfinance Bank Tanzania Limited at any Access Microfinance Bank Branches in Dar es Salaam, Mwanza, Kahama, Iringa, Mbeya and Tabora. Payment slip should be presented to Financial Controls Unit, Access Microfinance Bank Tanzania Limited, Head Quarter, 5th Floor, Kijitonyama, Derm House, New Bagamoyo Road (Opposite Makumbusho Village Museum) or any Branch to obtain the expression of interest (EOI) Document you have paid for.
- Expression of interest shall be delivered in a sealed envelope by hand or courier service clearly marked **"EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR PRE- QUALIFICATIONS OF SUPPLIERS AND SERVICES PROVIDERS, LOT NO....."** before **Friday, December 02nd, 2022 14.30Hrs**

Chief Executive Officer
Access Microfinance Bank Tanzania Limited,
Derm House,
Plot No. 16, Block 45A, Kijitonyama,
P.O Box 95068, Dar Es Salaam,
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Tel: +255-22-2774355,

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- Late bids, portion of bids, electronic bids, will not be accepted.

Online project registration to begin January next year

By Felister Peter

POTENTIAL investors wishing to establish projects in the country will from January next year be able to process their documents, register and apply for permits online.

Under the newly introduced Tanzania electronic window for investment, which will be launched early 2023; investors will ultimately see registration of projects completed in between one and three days starting the 2023/2024 financial year.

Minister for Investment, Trade and Investment, Dr Ashatu Kijaji made the statement in Dar es Salaam yesterday when speaking at the opening of a seminar on implementation of blueprint and its challenges.

"We are finalising processes for the launch of the electronic window for investment. The window will ease registration of projects because submitted documents will be directly seen by top officials of the specific institutions," remarked the minister, adding that the blueprint is being implemented by all the ministries, state agencies and institutions under the supervision of her ministry.

She said twelve government institutions and agencies have been linked to the system. They are the National Identification Authority (NIDA), Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA), Business Registrations and Licensing Agency (BRELA), TIC, immigration and departments for land, labour and employment, Tanzania Medicines and Medical Devices Authority (TMDA), Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS), Tanzania Electric Supply Company (TANESCO) and National Environment Management Council (NEMC).

Dr Kijaji said the new electronic window is different from the one stop facilitation centre operating under the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC).

She however added that TIC has so far been able to reduce registration and issuance of permits to investors from 14 to 7 days and managed to register more than 10,000 projects in the 2021/2022 fiscal year using the one stop facilitation centre.

Dr Kijaji noted that to facilitate

implementation of the blueprint, the government has established special investment and business departments at local government authorities. She said the departments became operational on July 1st this year.

The ministry has also established a special department that deals with implementation of the blueprint-Business Environment Unit (BEU) for purposes of fast tracking its implementation.

"The government has scrapped 232 nuisance taxes and levies in between the 2017/2018 and 2021/2022 financial years. There have been recorded successes whereas stakeholders in the private sector have confirmed the decrease in operation costs as well as improved services at the Dar es Salaam port," added Dr Kijaji.

She said as part of implementation of the blueprint which aims to improve business and investment climate, the government has come up with the new Investment Act, 2022 replacing the Investment Act, 1997. She said under the new act, the government has decreased by 50 percent, capital requirements for a locally owned business to enjoy benefits and protection provided under the investment.

The minister asserted that the Investment Act 1997 had set \$100,000 as the minimum investment value for projects established by locals, the amount which has been reduced to \$50,000.

She added that improvements made by regulatory authorities should not aim to increase income, but rather reduce costs of doing business whereas tax collection have to be done in a friendly way, merging of some activities performed by separate institutions and ensuring that laws, policies and regulations favour business community and protects consumers.

Efforts by the government to improve business and investment climate started back in 1990 when the investment code was launched. In 1996, the government came up with the investment policy and the Investment Act in 1997.

It also established the Business Environment Strengthening in Tanzania (BEST) 2003, Big Results Now (BRN) 2014 and finally the blueprint in 2019.

Government reiterates pledge to revise five year development plan to incorporate youth programme

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government is committed to revising the five-year development plan and incorporating a special youth programme that will create more employment opportunities in the country.

Deputy Minister, Prime Minister's Office (Labour, Youth, Employment & Persons with Disability) Patrobas Katambi said the programme will involve all ministries, government institutions and the private sector.

He said the programme is aimed to provide formal training to 100,000 youths by 2025/2026, adding that through the national programme some 22,296 youths, 3,349 women and 18,947 men throughout the country were reached and their expertise formalised by June 2022.

"This programme is intended to address the employment woes in the country and help to meet the target set by 2020-2025 ruling party's CCM election manifesto, which directs the government to create 8 million jobs," he said.

He added that the programme will also focus on major development projects currently being implemented by the government, whereby its execution must generate direct and indirect employment for youths.

He made the statement in response to a question asked by the Singida Urban MP, Mussa Sirma (CCM), who had wanted to know what the government was doing to help youth that acquired expertise

in non-formal systems.

The objective, he said, is to ensure that any internal government funds as well as funds from donors must be connected to youth development projects since they command 55 per cent of the national labour force.

He said that the government is planning to continue empowering the private sector as it employs the majority of young people.

"We have to enhance the private sector's performance by abolishing several levies and continue reducing bank lending terms and interest rates among other initiatives.

"A total of 145.8bn/- has been allocated countrywide in all councils to support women, youth and people with disabilities, and the ministry will continue to make a close follow-up to ensure the released funds reach and benefit the intended people," Katambi added.

He also said that all the councils countrywide have been directed to provide loans to approximately 14,134 youths who have undergone apprenticeship programmes, for them to create self-employment. He said the government has spent 9bn/- to provide such pieces of training.

Katambi said the government will also continue to improve sectors that employ a good number of youths. He mentioned the leading sectors which employed many Tanzanian youths as agriculture (63.1 per cent), service sector (28.3 per cent) and industrial sector, which command 8.6 per cent.



TotalEnergies Marketing Tanzania Limited managing director Jean Francois Schoepp (L) attends to customers at a Dar es Salaam TotalEnergy filling station yesterday. It was at the launch of the fourth edition of the firm's Customer Week commemoration. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Govt plans to revamp all irrigation schemes with aim of boosting agricultural production

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government plans to revamp all the irrigation schemes across the country in the 2022/2023 financial year with the aim of boosting agricultural production.

In so doing the ministry of agriculture has prioritised budget for that purpose in the new financial year to boost irrigation farming, the parliament heard yesterday.

Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Anthony Mavunde made the statement in response to a question asked by Special Seats MP, Ritha Kabati (CCM) who

had sought to know when the government would look for solutions on challenges facing irrigation farming projects of Mkoga and Kitwiro in Iringa region which she said had stalled.

The deputy minister said the 750 hectares Cherehani Mkoga project and that of Kitwiro with 100 hectares both in Iringa municipality were facing different challenges, among them dilapidated irrigation infrastructures which were constructed long time ago as well as infrastructures that were affected by floods.

Mavunde told the parliament

that through the Irrigation Development Fund the government was continuing with its efforts to look for sources of funding from development partners so as to accomplish different ongoing projects countrywide including the Mkoga and Kitwiro projects in Iringa region.

Agriculture in Tanzania consumes over 90 percent of water with most of it using inefficient gravity open canal and flooding or basin technologies. These methods lead to up to 45 percent water losses, thus a need for irrigation farming.

According to Mavunde the

government was highly prioritising irrigation farming in the country which he said was better placed to revolutionising the country in terms of food security.

The deputy minister said the government was equally reviewing all irrigation projects countrywide to identify those which had stalled so as to put up measures that would see them operating to expectations.

In the next fiscal year, Mavunde said that the government plans to increase the budget for the National Irrigation Commission so that it can discharge its duties efficiently.



Association of Tanzania Employers Executive Officer Suzanne Ndomba (2nd-R, seated) briefs Prof Joyce Ndalichako (to her right), Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Labour, Youth, Employment and Persons with Disabilities) who had just arrived at the venue of Waajiri Health bonanza organised by the association in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Seated (R) is International Labour Organisation Country Director based in Dar es Salaam but covering Tanzania, Burundi, Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Zanzibar to produce 18MW of solar electricity by 2025

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR will have the capacity to produce 18MW of solar electricity every day after the completion of the construction of the solar power project in 2025 which will reduce frequent power outages.

The Minister for Water, Energy and Minerals, Hassan Kaduara made the remarks here at the weekend as he addressed reporters in commemoration of two years of the presidency of Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi and achievements thereof.

He said Zanzibar Electric

Corporation (ZECO) has made great achievements whereby soon it will have a new solar power project including two power substations.

He said among ZECO's achievements is the reduction of power connection costs whereby in the past the consumer had to pay 1.7m/- for each power pole but now the service is free.

He said many people are now applying for power service and since the start of this year more than 18,000 new customers have been connected to power.

He added that ZECO imports the

wooden power poles from S. Africa but their strategy is to have concrete poles to reduce tree cutting.

In regard to safe and clean water supply, the minister said the water sector has been accorded priority as part of the implementation of the 2020-25 CCM Manifesto whose aim is to see water supply reaches the people as well the farming sector.

He said as of now the government is in the final stages in regard to the EXIM bank project that is constructing a total of 10 underground water reservoirs with 32 million litres capacity.

He said in the project 14 wells will be dug in various areas including Kiembesamaki and Kidutani in Unguja where pipe laying work continues.

He said the project expected to be completed early next year will benefit Maungani areas where a 1.5 million litre capacity underground water tank will be constructed.

He added that the government, through Covid-19 funds has set aside a total of 34bn/- for the provision of a safe and clean water supply that will also involve of construction of water reservoirs and the purchase of modern water meters.



Tanga regional commissioner Omary Mgumba (R) listens to Bakari Mhando (L), councillor for Ngomeni ward in Muheza District, after a tour of Tononoka township and Kigongomawe village. The RC used the opportunity moving to resolve a dispute between an investor on Lary farm and local residents said to have "invaded" the farm and put it under sisal. Photo: Correspondent Steven William

Drought kills hundreds of animals inside Kenyan wildlife sanctuaries

NAIROBI

HUNDREDS of wild animals, including elephants and endangered Grevy's zebras, have died in Kenyan wildlife reserves during East Africa's worst drought in decades, according to a report released Friday.

The Kenya Wildlife Service and other bodies counted the deaths of 512 wildebeests, 381 common zebras, 205 elephants, 51 buffalos, 49 Grevy's zebras and 12 giraffes in the past nine months, the report states.

Parts of Kenya have experienced little to no rain over four consecutive seasons in the past two years, which seriously impacted people and animals, including livestock.

Elephants, for example, drink 240 litres (63.40 gallons) of water per day, according to Jim Justus Nyamu, executive director of the Elephant Neighbours Center.

Some of the worst-affected ecosystems are in some of Kenya's most-visited national parks, reserves and conservancies, including

the Amboseli, Laikipia-Samburu and Tsavo areas, according to the report's authors.

They called for an urgent aerial census of wildlife in Amboseli to get a better idea of the drought's impact on wild animals as well as the immediate provision of water and salt licks in the three most impacted regions and increasing the amounts of hay and forage provided for Grevy's zebras in northern regions.

The Kenya Wildlife Service and the Kenyan government have since made increased efforts to mitigate the crisis.



The Kenya Wildlife Service and the Kenyan government have since made increased efforts to mitigate the crisis

UDSM to lead economic inequality, gender disparity conference in Dar

By Francis Kajubi

THE College of Social Sciences (CoSS) at the University of Dar es Salaam has organised a two-day conference to discuss continental and global undergoing social, environmental and economic transformations among others.

Dubbed the Voice of Social Sciences (VSS) biennial international conference will see 80 research papers presented by scholars from China, Spain, the United Kingdom, Denmark, South Africa, Nigeria, Cameroon and from the hosting college. The conference will bring together more than 200 participants from around the world.

Themed: "Social sciences and transformations in the global south" the conference will further feature discussions on social, political, ideological, and technological issues that continue to reinforce unequal power relations within institutions, between the ruling class and the common people, the rich and poor and between the global north and global south economy differences.

The transformations to be put on the table by the elites have manifested through and ushered by responses to recent pandemics, ongoing climatic change implications, natural resources, technological advancement, and political realms with significant implications on everyday lives of the people in the global south.

Dr Muhidini Shangwe, Lecturer at CoSS and VSS Coordinator told the press yesterday that the conference is an attempt to achieve a nuanced understanding of all these dynamics and how people respond to them demand theoretical and empirical reflections by social scientists to inform academic debates, decision-making, policy and programmes.

The African continent is considered to be at the receiving end of transformations that originate from other regions of the world, some changes have recently emanated from within Africa;

The continent is experiencing a redefinition of societal norms, knowledge systems and approaches, and policy landscape," said Dr Shangwe.

According to him, the adoption of information technology and the growing influence of social media in particular are shaping public space and social interactions in significant ways.

The gender binaries that have defined the position of women, youth, people with disabilities and other minorities in society are increasingly redefined. So too, the ensuing political systems are progressively taking a different form from the past.

He said CoSS observes repositioning of the continent which is premised on rediscovering and putting the African knowledge systems at the centre. It also

observes the diversification of diplomatic and trade relations from the West to non-western rising powers.

"The gap between the rich and the poor is expanding across the continent. All these are happening against the realities of the COVID-19 pandemic which contribute to the slowing down of economic growth, with significant impacts on the well-being of the people," he said.

Dr Richard Sambaiga Senior Lecturer CoSS said that this is the 7th VSS conference as the first one was held in 2014. "The conference aims to raise the voices of social scientists on the myriad societal impacts of the ongoing transformations," said Dr Sambaiga.

Dr Sambaiga asserted that the event will bring scholars, practitioners and students from a wide range of social science disciplines, including sociology, political science, economics, statistics, anthropology, geography, environment and related disciplines to engage and advance social science research.

The conference will adopt a hybrid modality whereby both physical and virtual participation and attendance will be facilitated. Virtual participation will be through the Zoom video conferencing platform.

This modality will allow participation in side events such as book launches and editors' forum.

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

TEA to support provision of innovative SDF-funded training through e-learning

THE Tanzania Education Authority (TEA) through the Skill Development Fund (SDF) is supporting the implementation of a project for the provision of an innovative training through E-learning delivery mode (EDM).

TEA has been mandated by the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology to manage the innovative training and e-learning Window financed under SDF, which is financed jointly by the government and the World Bank (WB).

The on-going digital training is expected to cost up to around 2.3bn/- upon its completion whereby among others, it focuses to finance at least 15 local training providers, in terms of building institutions capacity to the tune of being able to effectively provide the innovative training and e-learning.

Masozi Nyirenda, the coordinator for skills development fund at TEA told The Guardian during an interview that the fund was meant to cover for the costs of development and project governance, coordination, monitoring and evaluation funds, among others.

"The programme commenced in October this year and has been designed for implementation in two different phases. During the first phase of the Window, TEA received a total of 1,160,575,895.00/- for supporting smooth implementation of the programme," he said.

Nyirenda further detailed that, so far out of the received funds, TEA has injected a total of 899,949,999.9/- to at least seven involved training

institutions including the Institute of Finance Management (IFM), Institute of Adult Education (IAE), Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology (DIT), Morogoro Vocational Teachers Training College, Ikwiriri Folk Development College, Nzovwe Folk Development College as well as Kibaha Folk Development College.

"As part of the project's first phase, the disbursed funds is assisting the training providers to build capacity of the institutions in terms of building e-learning training platforms, procurement of ICT facilities and software that supports e-learning, capacity building of trainers/ tutors on e-learning pedagogy, converting conventional course contents in e-learning formats," he said.

He added; "A total of 260,625,895.01/- has been set aside to cover for project governance, coordination, monitoring and evaluation."

He disclosed other institutions which are involved in offering the innovative learning programme, in the project's phase two as VETA Kipawa ICT Centre, Tanga Regional Vocational Training and Services Centre, and Kihonda Regional Vocational Training and Services Centre, National College of Tourism and Water Institute, Sengerema Folk Development College, Muhukuru Folk Development College, and Ilula Folk Development College.

Meanwhile, SDF's supervising officer of innovative training and e-learning, Douglas Mwaisaka said

the on-line training was based on cybercrime detection and prevention, smart and defensive driving, community-based tourism, water treatment technologies, dairy farming, post-harvest handling and management.

He added, the programme was part of efforts to cement efforts being initiated by the cooperation with the World Bank (WB) through a special programme, dubbed 'Education and Skills for Productive Jobs' (ESPJ).

He added that the content of innovative training programmes must be made public to allow the public to learn for the purpose of sustainable access to knowledge.

SDF is an initiative under the supervision of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST) which among others focuses to complement efforts by the government to stamp out a challenge of unemployment among the majority of local youth.

Skills Development Fund (SDF) programme focuses to fund diverse training over skill development with an eye to enable youth communities in the country to stand a better opportunity to employ themselves, as well as employ others, with a target to reach out to at least 38,000 youth in the country.

Up to June 2022, TEA disbursed a total of 8.6bn/- for financing 81 projects, with a total of 33,510 youth (17,257 -men, equivalent to 51.5 percent) and 16,253 women-equivalent to 48.5 percent.



RE-ADVERTISEMENT : JOB VACANCY

SOS Children's Villages Tanzania is a local non-government organization affiliated to SOS Children's Villages International, a worldwide child care and protection organization that provides orphaned and destitute children with a permanent home and educational opportunities. Established 60 years ago, SOS Children's Villages International the umbrella organization, currently has Children's Villages and other projects in 135 countries around the world. Globally, it runs the SOS Children's Village Programme which has two main arms, i.e. Family Based Care based at SOS Children's Villages and Family Strengthening Programmes supporting families in local communities. SOS has been working in the United Republic of Tanzania since 1991, and implements its programs in the following locations Zanzibar, Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Mwanza and Iringa. SOS Children's Villages Tanzania seeks to recruit a suitably qualified candidate to fill the following vacant position;

Job Title: National Reintegration Coordinator
Duty station: National Office, Dar es Salaam
Reporting to: Head of Programs

PURPOSE OF THE ROLE

National Reintegration Coordinator provides overall coordination of the three-year project titled "Facilitating Responsible Reintegration of Children and Young People" at the national level by ensuring project quality and effectiveness. The holder of the post will be responsible to ensure the project is implemented to realize the anticipated results.. S/he will assist in the preparation of project implementation work plans, budget implementation and periodic reporting. Also, she/he will undertake partnership roles that include engagement with the government's Ministries, Departments and Agents (MDAs) such the Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups. Other partners include the likeminded organizations and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) working on children and young people reintegration processes.

MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES.

- Coordinate and manage the Responsible Reintegration project work for SOS Children's Villages in Tanzania
- Support and supervise project officers' project activities as national lead including taking overall responsibility for the reintegration coordination and technical capacity building of program staff supporting the reintegration in the field
- Spearhead the process of the design of a local data management systems and procedures for reintegration
- Ensure documentation and the organization of paper-based information are up-to-date.
- Use the database to monitor adherence to procedure on individual cases and ensure that roles and responsibilities are upheld.
- Leads national project team and drives project implementation according to plan, involving relevant staff, government and national CSO representatives.
- Provide thematic expertise on protection of children and young people, child empowerment, and family strengthening in the context of reintegration.
- Ensure that reintegration-focused child protection, livelihoods and other youth and family empowerment activities are implemented in a coordinated, mutually-supportive manner with relevant stakeholders.
- Act as SOS Children's Villages focal point for reintegration project initiatives with SOS Children's Villages in Tanzania.
- Ensure that procedures for the reintegration of children and youth are compliant with national and organizational legislation, standards, and policies
- Ensure project implementation is in accordance with project plan, donor proposal and partnership agreement.
- Submit progress reports as well as provide input for annual donor reports to the Regional Project Lead.
- Regularly updates the Head of Programs and relevant National Office departments of project developments and activities.
- Ensure formal and informal meetings with the Head of Programs and other National Office department heads for information sharing and decision making.
- Seek technical guidance/support from the Head of Programs on a regular basis.
- Participate in national platforms at addressing child vulnerability issues affecting beneficiaries of SOS target group and promotes the work of SOS to various organizations and communities.
- Build strong working relationships with national / location program managers
- Represent the project as well as the SOS Children's Villages Tanzania at internal and external meetings, conferences, and thematic coordination platforms

ACADEMIC QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCES:

- University Degree, preferably master's degree in Child Welfare, Social Work, Sociology or Community Development.
- Minimum 5 years programmatic work experience with an international NGO or other nationally recognized institution.
- Documented experience in case management, child and family tracing, reintegration, and reunification.
- Demonstrated commitment to capacity building of staff, a team player with demonstrable success coordinating program interventions in the reintegration field i.e with children without parental care or living and working in the street
- Experience-based understanding of the inter-relations between children and young people reintegration and alternative care for children, and an ability to shape programming in a way that ensures the needs of reintegrated children are met while also advancing prevention of family separation.
- Knowledge of UNGA, UNCRC, ACRWC, the relevant national legal and policy frameworks
- Good problem solving, strategic planning and analytical skills
- Ability to plan well, set own targets and meet them
- Ability to meet deadlines and work under pressure.
- Willingness to travel and work regularly in field sites with basic standards of living and minimal comfort.
- Be both self-reliant and have the ability to lead and co-operate with others.
- Be able to work under minimum supervision to achieve the set objectives.

HOW TO APPLY:

Interested candidate should submit an application letter by email enclosed by only detailed and updated CV with telephone contacts, email address and details of at least 3 referees. The candidate MUST clearly indicate the title of position applied for. Only contacted candidates for the interview will submit copies of academic and professional certificates. This advert can be obtained on our website <http://www.sos-childrevillages.tanzania.or.tz>. Closing date for application is 17th November, 2022. To apply please send to;

The National Director SOS Children's Villages Tanzania.
 Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
recruit.sostanzania@sos-tanzania.org

Please Note: SOS Children's Villages Tanzania is an equal opportunity employer and committed to keeping children safe from abuse and harm, therefore candidates applying for this post will be subject to child safeguarding recruitment procedures and checks.

Only short listed candidates will be contacted

LHRC urges public to shun harmful traditional beliefs

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

THE Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) has urged the society to shun all harmful traditional beliefs that contribute to the increase of killings among people with albinism and recognise that these are human beings like others.

LHRC executive director, Anna Henga made the call yesterday in Dar es Salaam when issuing a statement to condemn a recent killing of a person with albinism occurred in Kwimba District, Mwanza Region.

The statement also involved the Tanzania Albinism Society (TAS).

Henga said it is a lie and big mistake to believe that organs of a person with albinism can make someone rich.

"We remind the public to put this in their minds, someone can be rich only by working hard and not using other people's organs, they should not believe witch doctors because they are also after money and not anything," she said.

She said the centre has received with great sorrow the information of the killings of Joseph Mathias (50), who was attacked by strangers on November 2, this year at his home.

"They slashed one of his hand something which led him to lose a lot of blood leading to death, we support the government in its measures to ensure that the suspects are caught," she added.

Henga urged the government the Police Force to ensure that all the culprits are immediately caught and sent to court to face their charges.

HIV/Aids intervention project in Morogoro registers success

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

THE Afya Yangu southern project has registered success since its launch in enhancing health of people living with HIV/AIDS, it was said here at the weekend.

Speaking to a delegation from USAID-funded projects, 'Afya Yangu and Kizazi Hodari' who visited care and treatment centres implementing the initiative in Morogoro and Iringa, Morogoro medical officer (RMO), Dr Kusiryu Ukio, said one of the key achievements of the initiative is to enable people living with HIV -Aids to understanding their rights.

"The project has ensured that those who are aware of their HIV-Aids status are enlisted in designated treatment and care Centers, and at the same time give them access to drugs that significantly lower their viral load and so prevent a person to person infection," said Dr Ukio.

Speaking during the tour, Deloitte Tanzania Director of Consulting, Carlton Jones which is the implementing agency for USAID Afya Yangu Southern and USAID Kizazi Hodari said they were contented to partner with the government of the United Republic of Tanzania towards improving lives in six regions in the southern zone, namely, Lindi, Mtwara, Ruvuma, Iringa and Morogoro.

"Deloitte has been partnering with the government of Tanzania for over 16 years in various projects, like 'Tunajali, Tunajali II,' 'Boresha Afya', 'Mwanzo Bora' and currently 'Afya Yangu and Kizazi Hodari', during our tour we have visited treatment and care centers of Sabasaba and Mafinga in Morogoro region and Mafinga in Iringa, where we donated a vehicle that will help to improve the lives of Tanzanians," said Deloitte chief.

USAID 'Afya Yangu' southern director, Dr Merina Njelekela, said they have established 676 centres in the regions that give treatment aimed at curbing the ferocity of the Aids virus and also treat tuberculosis, conduct reproductive health services and screening of uterine cancer for women.

"I call upon all Tanzanians who have tested positive for HIV and those who have not to visit the centers and get advice and also understand their status and for those who are positive to get the treatment that stems infectiousness of the Aids virus, all the services are

"We advise the government to expand investigation to ensure that all promoters of the illegal market of human organs including witch doctors are caught and strong legal measures are taken against them."

The centre is also calling on the Prime Minister's office, Labour, Employment, Youth and People with Disabilities to finalise the process of adoption of the Draft National Strategic Plan for People with Albinism for the year 2020 to 2024 so as to strengthen the fight against challenges facing the group.

"It should be noted that the draft is the product of cooperation between the office, various government institutions and civil society stakeholders that has lasted for about three years now since 2019," he said.

Henga also said that they are also calling on the government to ratify the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, adopted by the African Union (AU) in 2018. This convention looks on the rights of people with disabilities in the real African environment, including recognising the challenges of misconceptions that cause discrimination against people with albinism.

Musa Kabimba, TAS chairman insisted on the need for the government to have long-term strategies to deal with people who kill people with albinism.

"These incidents have a number of negative impacts socially and economically as they can bar investors and tourists for fear of their safety, so we need to fight this challenge," he noted.

provided free," said Dr. Njelekela. Speaking at the event, the USAID 'Kizazi Hodari' southern zone director, Doroth Matoyo said that the project, which is engaged in supporting children living under vulnerable conditions, especially those who have been affected by HIV Aids, said the project has succeeded in a great extent in Ruvuma region despite being launched there in September this year.

"In a duration of three months we have been able to reach out to 27,750 beneficiaries in the region and integrate them in 'Kizazi Hodari' to enable them to get various services like school items, food, and after screening some 1370 children were established to be HIV positive and were linked to various centers in Ruvuma region to access health services," said Doroth.

Receiving a donated vehicle, Mafinga District Commissioner, Saad Mtambule commended the USAID Afya Yangu Southern project for staying at the forefront in supporting Mafinga and Mufindi district councils in Iringa regions to face up to nagging health challenges.

One of the people living with HIV Aids who is a regular client at the Mafinga Health Centre which is under USAID 'Afya Yangu', called on Tanzanians who are living with HIV/AIDS to use drugs properly and adhere to advice from physicians, adding that testing positive did not mark the end of life.

"Immediately after I was diagnosed with HIV in 2006 and at a time when my health had deteriorated drastically, I started taking ARVs with my CD4 reading at 12, after a time it rose up to 81, and by the end of 2016 my CD4 was 1016, when one uses drugs properly, they can live well, and now I have a spouse who has the same status as mine and we enjoy life," said the person living with HIV/AIDS.

The five-year 'Afya Yangu' project, which has a budget of USD 102m, started in November 2021 and comes to an end in November 2026.

The project focuses on giving treatment and counselling services to people living with HIV aids and those suffering from TB, to enhance the skills of health workers through training, construction and innovation of treatment and counseling centres, provision of working equipment like computers, TVs, public address systems, furniture, and boost allowances for caregivers.



Musa Kabimba, chairman of the Tanzania Association of People with Albinism, pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday issuing a joint statement between the association and the Legal and Human Rights Centre condemning the recent killing of a person with albinism in Kwimba District, Mwanza Region. Left is LHRC executive director Anna Henga. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

TAWIRI trains villagers on protection against destructive wildlife in 5 wards

By Guardian Correspondent, Itigi

TANZANIA Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI) under the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism has provided training to residents of five wards in Manyoni and Itigi districts, Singida Region on how to employ friendlier ways to control destructive wildlife, including elephants.

TAWIRI experts conducted the training for residents of Mwamagembe, Sanjaranda, Itigi, Majengo and Kitaraka wards whose farms are frequently invaded by elephants who destroy crops.

The team of experts led by Dr Janemary Ntalwila has trained the residents on some of the ways to control the jumbos by using concentrated light, sound (including that from vuvuzela and car horns) pepper bombs, fireworks, enclosures using white sheets of cloth doused in oil and pepper, pepper bricks and installation of beehives.

The residents were also taught

alternative ways to grow preventive crops in affected areas as one of the ways to reduce invasion by wildlife.

Some of these crops include tobacco, pepper, sim-sim and ginger which can be planted around farms.

Dr Ntalwila said these ways have been proven to be effective in many areas.

The residents have also been educated about some causes in regard to wildlife-human conflicts including the increase of human population in the proximity of

reserve areas, climate change, closure of wildlife corridors, change of wildlife habits and lack of better land use.

Last September, Itigi District Councilors called on the Environment and Natural Resources departments to take immediate steps to control elephants that have been killing and causing injuries to people in the district.

The Councilors made their appeal during their meeting following reports regarding two

women killed by elephants in the incident that happened in Mgandu Ward.

Mgandu ward Councillor, Martin Kapona said the women were killed after being trampled by the jumbos whilst on their farm and the injured one was admitted to St Gaspar Hospital in Itigi.

Kapona said elephants have been a great nuisance in Itigi, they have been invading people's farms, killing and injuring people but the environment and natural resources departments have not been proving any assistance.

Meanwhile, Itigi District Council Chairman, Hussein Simba said basically many areas in Itigi District have been affected by destructive jumbos that create havoc among people's settlements.

He said the main problem is that the environment and natural resources department has only one stationed official hence it is difficult for him to attend to all areas to deal with the invading wildlife.



...elephants have been a great nuisance in Itigi, they have been invading people's farms, killing and injuring people but the environment and natural resources departments have not been proving any assistance



Rehabilitation of Zanzibar's 118-year-old Darajani main mixed-goods market in progress, as found yesterday. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

NGO with focus on churning out female experts releases first batch of 15 fellows

By Guardian Reporter

A Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) with a focus on cultivating female experts to take on leadership roles, Doyenne has released the first batch of 15 fellows selected from 141 applications.

Speaking at the ceremony, ambassador of the Netherlands to Tanzania who is also the host for the programme Wiebe de Boer said the initiative will help to bridge the existing gender gap in leadership.

He said the essence of having leadership programmes,

particularly for young female leaders, is to prepare them for the future, in order to ensure a successful world in gender equality.

"It is high time to prepare female youngsters to be competent enough to fill the existing gender gaps in decision-making. We are glad to find out that this is exactly what Niongoze Fellowship does," he said.

Fatma Kauga, the founder and executive director of the Doyenne Organisation, also expressed her appreciation to the embassy for its sponsorship, which allowed the organisation to expand its class size

in comparison to the prior cohort.

"Through your financial support, we have been able to increase the size of our class and outreach of the programme such that we all gathered here today to inaugurate the second cohort of another incredible 15 young leaders from eleven universities in Tanzania."

She also reached out to other stakeholders to enlist their assistance in creating a future of competent female leaders.

She then acknowledged the diversity of the second cohort of the Niongoze fellowship, which

includes accountants, social workers, computer scientists, lawyers, and other professionals.

The night was also graced by Kinondoni district commissioner Godwin Gondwe who stressed how privileged the fellows were and exhorted them to make the best use of the fellowship to impact other girls in their communities.

An additional highlight of the evening was a statement made by Khadija Msumi, one of the fellows. Out of 38 universities both inside and outside the country.

She expressed how fortunate she was to be among the selected fellows. She went on to explain how thrilled she was to be starting over and embarking on a path of new experiences, connections, and transformation.



CAMFED Tanzania national director Nasikiwa Duke (R) presents a laptop to Health ministry permanent secretary Prof Abel Makubi (L) at a ceremony held at the Lugalo Military College of Medical Science in Dar es Salaam yesterday. The event involved the presentation of a laptop to each of 287 nursing and midwifery scholars from 20 public colleges in Tanzania. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

CAMFED hands over 486m/- worth laptops to girls pursuing nursing, midwifery studies

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

CAMFED Tanzania has handed over 287 laptop computers worth 486.9m/- to 287 girls' beneficiaries pursuing nursing and midwifery studies in 20 public health colleges countrywide.

The handover event was held yesterday at the Lugalo Military College of Medical Science in Dar es Salaam and was graced by Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Health, Prof Abel Makubi.

CAMFED National Director, Nasikiwa Duke said the donation fulfills the organisation's financial and material support that other organisations have failed to provide.

"We have handed over 287 laptop computers worth 486.9m/- as a support to nursing and midwifery scholars to ensure they continue with studies even after classroom learning hours," she said.

Duke added: "CAMFED support girls from secondary to university level; we have seen the government struggling to support girls especially those who have opted for science subjects. We have provided the laptops in support of the government's efforts to ensure more girls for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) subjects."

Prof Abel Makubi commended the organisation's initiative to

offer 287 computers. He said the donation is part of implementation of resolutions made by the two bodies to help girls in different public health colleges.

"I would like to congratulate CAMFED for this support. It is a result of our partnership resolutions that we should work to improve learning conditions for girls taking science subjects," he said, calling upon stakeholders to also support the field and girls in general.

Ministry of Health Training Director, Dr Saitore Laizer said that CAMFED support will enable more girls to continue with their studies because there are a

number of girls who have been opting to drop studies over lack of school fees.

"Let us continue working together and see how we can do better," he said.

Dativa Hundi, a nursing and midwifery Diploma student from Lugalo Military College of Medical Health who is also a CAMFED beneficiary said the opportunity has come at the right time, noting her task is to put efforts in studies to meet her parents' as well as her future dreams.

Some of the beneficiaries came from Bugando Medical Health and Bagamoyo Medical Health Colleges.

KCMC set to introduce cardiothoracic centre

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

THE Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre (KCMC) through its Zonal Referral Hospital has embarked on strategies which will make the health facility introduce a Cardiothoracic Centre to increase surgery related services within the institution.

Prof Gileard Masenga KCMC ZRH Executive Director said this here yesterday when opening the 3rd Netcare Surgical Conference, which was held in Moshi, Kilimanjaro region, recently.

"The surgical fraternity is robust with multiple specialties; the field is growing up rapidly to include further subspecialties; as a hospital we are also advancing to pace with global development, hence the reason to introduce a cardiothoracic centre here (KCMC) which will have neurosurgical services among many other developments," he added.

According to him, the main concerns as far as the surgery services were concerned was the moving as a whole, all the related surgery services which include obstetrics, gynaecology and anaesthesia, so as to influence policy.

"In the past we have been working as silos which has delayed a number of developments; we are all surgical providers therefore we have to work as a team, let's find a common strategy that will make our theaters work," he said.

He added: "This conference is the platform for all of us as surgical stakeholders to discuss on how best we can improve access to safe surgery to our people in all clinical spheres".

Speaking during the conference which coincided with the 96th KCMC Postgraduate Seminar, the Netcare Foundation Founder and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Dr Mugisha Nkoronko, aimed at bringing together surgeons so that they can discuss, reflect on activities related to the profession to see how to improve their services and when there are challenges to discuss on how to address them.

"For surgeons, this conference themed 'Strengthening Access to

Safe and Quality Surgery', is very important especially when put in mind that in Tanzania surgical diseases burden seats at 19 percent, contributing to mortality by 17 percent," he noted, adding, only 59 percent of health facilities offer surgical services.

He added that, worldwide, 5 billion people lack access to safe surgery while the majority of them live in lower and middle income countries Tanzania included, therefore this conference is expected to discuss and come with innovation to lower this numbers.

In his presentation during the occasion Dr Ekwaro Obuku from one of the oldest East African higher learning institution, the Uganda's Makerere University, urged health experts including surgeons to make sure different researches which they perform do contribute in the well-being of patients as well as improving the health services in general.

"Let us create habits of publishing our studies so that they could prevail through serving patients, the researchers will also contribute a lot in improving health services; if we don't do that, our research works will be locked somewhere in cupboards, this means what we know won't help the community," he added.



In the past we have been working as silos which has delayed a number of developments; we are all surgical providers therefore we have to work as a team, let's find a common strategy that will make our theaters work

'Africa can be renewable energy powerhouse'

By Special Correspondent

AFRICA can become a renewable energy powerhouse if rich nations help the continent in the global battle against climate change, according to Minouche Shafik, director of the London School of Economics.

Speaking at the UN Climate Change Conference in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt on Nov. 7, Shafik insisted the green industrial revolution could become the new growth story for Africa if properly implemented, and added that it could turn the world economy sustainable.

She said: "Africa is responsible for just one percent of the stock of carbon emissions, but it will be the hardest hit by climate change. That cannot be right."

"Many African countries are in the sunshine, wind, rivers and forests. With the support and lower cost of capital, these nations could leapfrog the energy systems of the past."

During her speech, Shafik noted that the current economy should be changed to create a better future, which should be sustainable and free from carbon emissions.

She added: "Humans are the cause of climate change, and we have the means to stop it by changing our economy. We should change it by making needed investments, and creating cities where can move, live and breathe. The food we eat should regenerate the earth rather than deplete it."

She further pointed out that transforming the planet to a sustainable home for living, as outlined in the Paris agreement, demands \$4 to \$6 trillion per year globally.

According to Shafik, both the public sector and the private sector should work together to meet climate goals, and governments should also formulate necessary policy frameworks to make it happen.

"Public sector investments will play a key role while fighting climate change. Despite current fiscal constraints, these investments can be financed, as they will fetch positive returns," said Shafik.

She added: "The private sector too has an important role in fighting climate change. The government has to provide clear policy frameworks and guarantees."

She also warned that humanity is going to suffer a lot if climate change issues are not addressed.

"The economy of the future is our choice. Climate change and biodiversity loss are here, and we are already suffering the consequences. We can overcome

this climate change by choosing a different economy for the future," she added.

Earlier during the event, UN Secretary-General António Guterres urged that

developed and emerging economies should work together to accelerate the energy transition, as planet earth is already on the verge of irreversible climate chaos.

He also added that the Group of 20 countries should accelerate the energy transition within the decade to avoid the dire consequences associated with climate change.

"Global temperatures keep rising. We are on a highway to climate hell with our foot on the accelerator. We are getting dangerously close to the point of no return," said Guterres.

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PUBLIC AUCTION

By the order of The High Court of Tanzania - Labour Division at Dar es Salaam, I shall sell by the public auction land plot (Godown) on the following decree debtor.

The auction shall be held on the place, day and date as indicated in a table below:-

SN	EXECUTING COURT	CASE NUMBER	DECREE HOLDER VS DECREE DEBTOR	PROPERTY FOR SALE	DATE, TIME AND LOCATION FOR AUCTION
1	High Court of Tanzania - Labour Division at Dar Es Salaam.	Execution No. 474 of 2020	Charles Mateso & 43 others Vs Business Times Limited	GODOWN, Plot No. 2396/202 LUGODA STREET - GEREZANI AREA.	The Place of Auction will be at the Godown Lugoda Street Gerezani area on 17 th day of November, 2022 at 10:00am

CONDITIONS OF SALE
A prospective buyer will be required to deposit 25% of the auction purchase price immediately after the fall of hammer. The remaining 75% to be paid within 14 days from the date of auction, failure of which the deposited amount will be forfeited and the property resold after fresh notification.
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THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

IN THE FAIR COMPETITION TRIBUNAL OF TANZANIA
AT DAR ES SALAAM

APPEAL NO. 17 OF 2022

BETWEEN

OGADA ONGITO OGWENO APPELLANT

AND

MIC TANZANIA PLC 1ST RESPONDENT

TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS
REGULATORY AUTHORITY..... 2ND RESPONDENT

(Notice pursuant to Rule 16 of the Fair Competition Tribunal Rules, 2012)

TAKE NOTICE THAT an appeal has been lodged in the Tribunal against the whole decision of the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) dated 23rd September, 2022 in which TCRA found that the 1st Respondent wrongly deactivated the Appellant's mobile phone number without justification consequently ordered the 1st Respondent to pay TZS 100,000 as compensation to the Appellant after the Appellant had failed to prove specific damages claimed.

The Appellant contends, among others, that TCRA erred in law and in fact in awarding TZS 100,000 as compensation without affording the Appellant the right to be heard and without fully considering the claims raised by the Appellant. Thus, the Appellant prays that the decision of TCRA be set aside with costs.

BY THIS PUBLIC NOTICE any person who considers that he has sufficient interest may apply to intervene in the proceedings within seven days of the first publication of this notice to the Fair Competition Tribunal, 2nd Floor, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology Building, Jamhuri Street, Dar Es Salaam.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL of the Tribunal this 8th November, 2022.

REGISTRAR.

TUESDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2022

Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

With this particular tragedy, will we now act differently?

WHEN it comes to reflecting on tragic incidents and ways to forestall the preventable ones, or to minimise harm where prevention is out of consideration, it is hard indeed for anyone to see logic in suggestions that one is doing little more than logging a dead horse.

Tragedies mean an immense lot to individuals, households as well as all types of communities - all the way to the international level.

Sunday morning's crash landing by a Precision Air passenger plane on a scheduled flight from Dar es Salaam to Bukoba - with the loss of 19 people on board - is the most recent such tragedy in our country.

Naturally, many people have reacted to incident in characteristically similar disaster-time style: they have expressed profound sorrow, shock, anger, frustration, disbelief and what have you.

As widely expected, some have made impassioned appeals for stringent measures to guard against recurrences of similar incidents, or at least ensure a mitigation of the consequences should the worst come to the worst.

However, usually no sooner has the post-tragedy dust of death and suffering settled than it is business as usual again.

We said as much some years ago when fire gutted a dormitory at Idodi Secondary School in Iringa District, killing 22 girl students and injuring scores. Apparently, the fire was caused by a candle left burning after the student who lit it fell asleep while studying.

There was a nationwide outcry, with people fronting all manner of magnificent ideas on how to curb the prevalence and incidence of fire outbreaks in schools - or at least mitigate damage.

One of the solutions recommended was the use of solar-powered lamps, especially in schools located in rural areas, which were less likely to cause fires while also cutting costs as they last longer than 'ordinary' lamps or lanterns.

Another was the installation of fire extinguishers in school buildings, particularly dormitories, across the country.

We doubt whether the relevant authorities have worked on any of these suggestions with the expected seriousness and urgency.

Now, Idodi came and went, and it has been largely business as usual in many such and other subsequent scenarios. And, as we slumbered and soon forgot, disasters have

continued to strike.

For instance, sometime after the Idodi incident, at least 100 girl students at a secondary school in Dar es Salaam miraculously cheated death after fire razed their dormitory.

Among the students were those sitting their National Form Six Examinations, and it was widely feared that the trauma that would follow would inevitably have a direct bearing on their examination results. It was noted that the dormitory gutted by the inferno had a single door with grilled windows, an evident danger in the event of an emergency. It was much similar in the Idodi case!

The lessons this has for us hardly call for elaboration, but who would be expected to ensure that fool-proof safety standards were not only put in place but also routinely monitored and reviewed?

The health sector has long shown the right way forward in that permission to build a hospital, dispensary or health centre will be given only if those concerned observed a set of standards meant to make the facilities adequately people-friendly.

This is with regard to ventilation, movement of doctors, nurses, patients and visitors, and the possibility of swift evacuation of the sick, etc., in the emergency of a disaster.

We have been wondering why this did not apply to all sectors and institutions - even normal residences! Instead, many buildings have been turned into such impenetrable 'fortresses' that only miracles have been ensuring that disasters do not degenerate into catastrophes or calamities.

We have further turned our lives into a cheap commodity by allowing filling stations to mushroom in residential areas, posing very clear danger to people and their property, and no one seems to care.

It is much the same scenario in respect of road and other traffic crashes. But instead of gunning for permanent solutions we often deceive ourselves with cosmetic moves that lead nowhere.

Without scientifically thought-out and stringently implemented standards, we will be perpetual victims of disasters - some totally unnecessary.

The sooner we act by way of devising and implementing both preventive and remedial measures, all the better for all of us. But, oh, how soon we forget! And, oh, how soon will we move as circumstances demand?

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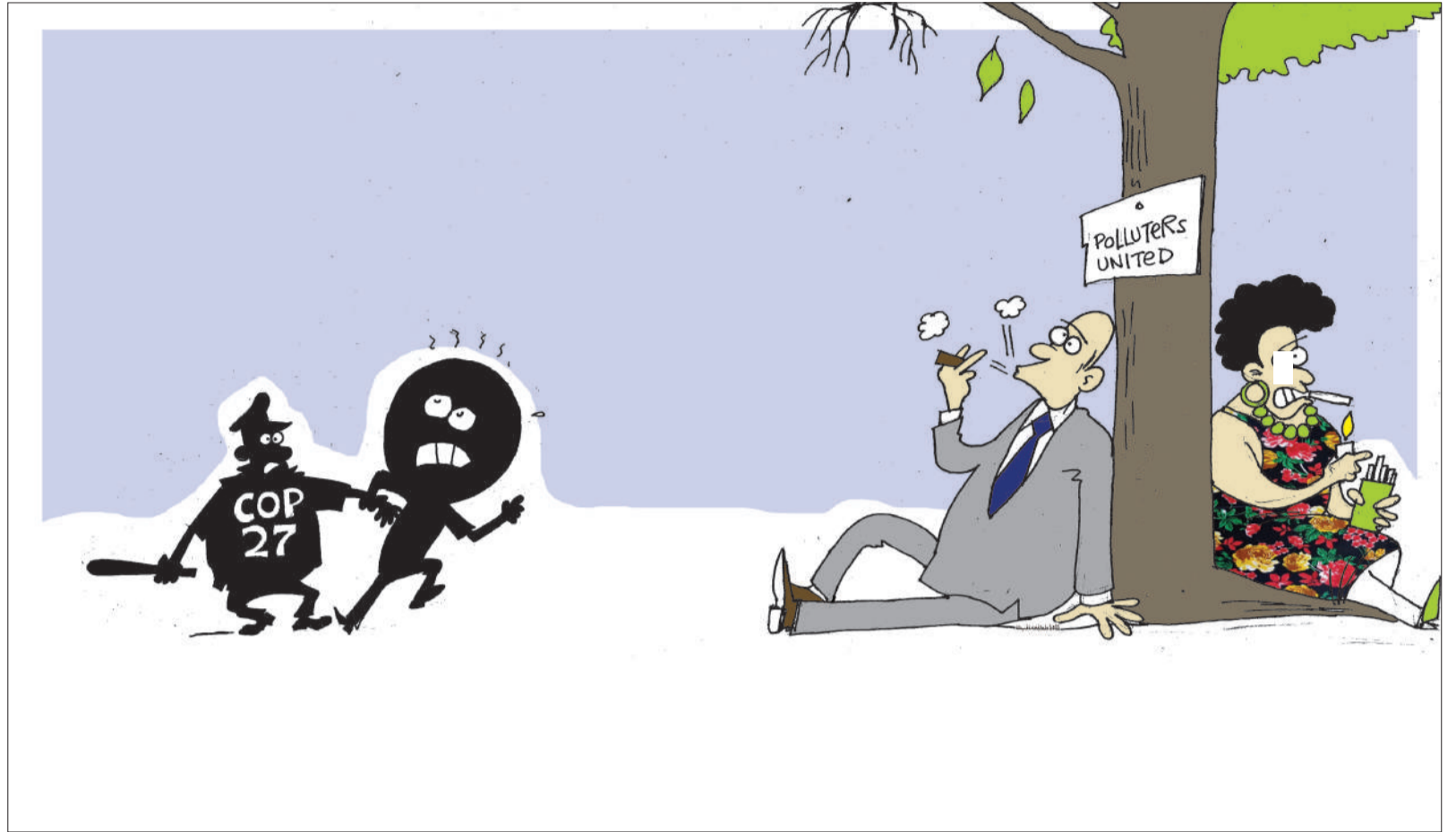
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Raising the resilience of your organisation (Part 1)

By Dana Maor, Michael Park, and Brooke Weddle

Weddle

REPEATEDLY rebounding from disruption is tough, but some companies have a recipe for success: a systems mindset emphasizing agility, psychological safety, adaptable leadership, and cohesive culture.

Resilient organisations don't just bounce back from misfortune or change; they bounce forward. They absorb the shocks and turn them into opportunities to capture sustainable, inclusive growth.

When challenges emerge, leaders and teams in resilient organizations quickly assess the situation, reorient themselves, double down on what's working, and walk away from what's not.

Cultivating such organizational resilience is difficult, however - especially these days, when business leaders, frontline workers and business units are being buffeted by multiple disruptions at once.

Think of the war in Ukraine, the decline in markets, the global Covid-19 pandemic and resulting Great Attrition in talent, and increased evidence of climate change.

This most recent bout of misfortune and change is vexing in its own way. After all, how often have economic downturns coincided with talent shortages, for instance, or been driven by supply chain challenges?

But the reality is that there is no shelf life on change and no expiration date on organizational resilience. There will always be more uncertainty, more change, and a constant push for teams to realize outcomes more quickly.

The companies that cultivate organizational resilience - driven not only by crisis but also by opportunity - can gain an important, lasting advantage over competitors.

For proof, consider McKinsey's early research on the relationship between companies' organizational health and their financial performance during the Covid-19 pandemic.

It shows that those businesses exhibiting healthy, resilient behaviors - such as knowledge sharing, performance reviews, and bottom-up innovation - were less likely than "unhealthy" organizations to go bankrupt over the following two years.

Where should organizations start? McKinsey's body of research and work over decades with organizations seeking to be more resilient points to the need to bolster capabilities at four levels.

One: They can build an agile organisation; a shift towards faster, federated, data-informed decision making and "good enough" outcomes can make it easier for leaders and teams to test, learn, and adjust in the wake of complex business challenges.

Two: They can build self-sufficient teams that, when held accountable and given ownership of outcomes, feel empowered to carry out strategic plans and stay close to customers, and which, through premortems, postmortems, and other feedback loops and mechanisms, have the information they need to continually change course or innovate.

Three: They can find and promote adaptable leaders who don't just react when faced with, say, a natural disaster, a competitor's moves, or a change in team dynamics.

They take the time to coach team members through the change. They catalyze new behaviors, and they develop capabilities that can help set the conditions for both a short-term response and long-term resiliency.

Four: And they can invest in talent and culture - now and for the future. The companies that focus on building resilient operations, teams and leaders may gain a two-way talent advantage: such adaptable environments are more likely to attract top talent who will have a greater chance of success and, in turn, be more likely to perpetuate a cycle of resiliency.

Senior management will need to tackle all four of these capabilities in the short term - probably simultaneously. They will have to assess the speed at which they make decisions (which, if you ask most managers, is usually not fast enough), whether existing operating models allow for quick pivots when markets change or disruptions occur, and whether their employee value propositions are attracting the "right" talent.

It will take time to cultivate organizational resilience, but taking steps now can pay off later. Previous McKinsey research shows that, during the last economic downturn, about 10 per cent of publicly traded companies in the research base fared materially better than the rest.

A closer look at these "resilient" shows that by the time the downturn had reached its trough in 2009, their earnings as measured by earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and repayment had risen by 10 per cent, while industry peers had lost nearly 15 per cent.

Many organizations were forced to revamp their strategies, operations and employee value propositions quickly during the Covid-19 pandemic, given supply

shortages, customers' changing needs, and employees' changing expectations for what the typical work environment should look like.

Some, but not all, say that they intend to learn from those experiences and continue on an agile track so that they'll be better able to meet future challenges.

They recognize that each crisis or opportunity is different in its own way, and so may require different kinds of structures and resources, deployed in different ways and at different times.

Beyond just physically bolstering production capacity, supply chains, technology systems, and the like, these companies have found ways to build flexible, resilient environments that allow for dynamic, efficient decision making and better time management.

In most companies, specific decision-making authority is rarely spelled out. The question of "who has the decision-making power?" can send teams and individuals running in different directions looking for approvals, and, as a result, important business decisions can end up being stalled.

This can be especially problematic during times of crisis or disruption, when business leaders are aiming for both speed and quality when it comes to decision making, often without understanding that it's not an either/or proposition.

It does no good, for instance, to move fast on a procurement decision only to have to reverse course a month later because one leader failed to get input from other functional leaders on the terms of that decision.

To accelerate their decision making, leaders should pause to distinguish among the types of decisions (big bet, cross-cutting, delegated) they may be required to make, as well as the level of risk involved, and adapt their approaches accordingly.

Particularly for big-bet decisions, it may be useful for companies to establish a nerve centre or a decision-making body comprising a subset of senior leaders or key stakeholders who can respond to events in real time, using real-world data.

This team would report back to the CEO and others in senior management frequently to ensure alignment, but it would be empowered to act quickly on daily decisions.

Apart from distinguishing among different types of decisions, business leaders should encourage employees to continually explore for themselves the question of "who has the decision-making power?"

And, for each specific situation, it is important to clarify what needs to

be communicated, who needs to be consulted and, ultimately, who has the final call.

To encourage more accountability and transparency, one renewable-energy company established a 30-minute "role card" conversation that managers needed to have with their direct reports.

In these conversations, managers explicitly laid out the decision rights and accountability metrics for each direct report.

Through this effort, the company sped up the decision-making process and ensured that its decisions were customer focused.

A recent McKinsey survey found that, in the post-Covid-19 era, 80 per cent of executives were considering or already implementing changes in the content, structure and pace of business meetings - this, after taking time to ask themselves what the meetings were actually for?

In one consumer-goods company, for instance, meetings must now be 30 minutes or less and attendees are required to review materials in advance; the time is to be used for true problem solving - not presentations.

Other companies have designated certain days as meeting-free or focused on tasks that facilitate innovation, such as peer-learning labs and hack-a-thons.

But it may not be enough to look only at meeting hygiene; leaders and teams should also take a moment to ask themselves about their own time management practices and priorities.

For instance: Are they in the room with the right people at the right time? Are they spending sufficient time with their direct reports?

Leaders and teams should plan to come back to these questions occasionally - at the beginning and end of every new project, for instance, or when changing roles or responsibilities.

The actual work of the organisation should be carried out by teams that, when faced with new and imperfect information, feel motivated and empowered to act.

To cultivate organizational resilience and to ensure adaptability, companies will need to think differently about how teams are structured and managed, as well as how they are connected across the organisation.

What's more, companies will need to provide support systems that allow employees to engage in creative collisions and debates, give and share feedback honestly, and continually incorporate that feedback into their routines so that they will be better able to adapt to any future challenges.

• A McKinsey & Company dispatch. To be continued.

Efforts to ensure quality health service delivery must continue

IT was heartening some years gone by once seeing government authorities moving around in Dar es Salaam in what was understood to be a bid to identify and discipline hospitals, dispensaries, health centres, clinics and other institutions or facilities of the kind reportedly operating in suspicious or outright unacceptable conditions.

Phrased less euphemistically, it is that the facilities targeted were operating illegally and ought to have closed shop immediately and thereafter face the full wrath of the law for conducting illegal business.

We only hoped that those behind the current crackdown are vigilant enough to have discovered that some of the facilities they have ordered closed have swiftly changed names and were still very much in business.

It was only to be hoped that the authorities would have disabused themselves of the belief that it

was only the facilities they had blacklisted that deserved the negative label.

Rather, they were advised to learn from a previous scenario that led people into wrongly believing that it was only private hospitals and dispensaries that were running unacceptably.

We found it hard to believe that things had gone so awry that some health providers were operating unlicensed for as long as a decade and it was only now that legal action against them was being contemplated.

Considering the importance of ensuring universal sustainably quality health service delivery, we fully subscribe to any and all efforts to make it impossible for health service providers to tolerate or entertain any form of foul play.

These efforts should not prove a wild goose chase. They ought to continue - and leave a mark of excellence in the public health service domain.

By John Ainger and Laura Millan Lombrana for Bloomberg

Ten things to watch for at COP27 in Egypt

FEW nations have more at stake at the COP27 gathering in the Egyptian seaside town of Sharm el-Sheikh than Pakistan, the country exemplifying the deep inequality lying within the climate change conundrum. Pakistan contributes less than 1% of planet-warming fossil fuel emissions today, but this summer it suffered devastating rains made worse by the climate crisis that flooded a third of its territory and caused an estimated \$30-billion in damages.

"The Global North must realise that this is a global issue which is impacting developing countries at the moment in a disproportionate way, but its impacts are climbing and they are spreading," said Munir Akram, the Pakistani diplomat chairing the G77 group of developing nations. "It's the ultimate test of human rationality to be able to work together despite all the differences that we have politically."

Disagreements over who should pay for the harm done by climate-driven extreme weather events will be at the heart of discussions at COP27, the first to be held in Africa since 2016. While developing nations want to see compensation for the impacts of a warming they didn't cause, rich countries remain wary of opening a door that could lead to unlimited financial claims.

Some past COP meetings have resulted in landmark agreements that shaped humanity's fight against climate change. In 1997, signatories of the Kyoto Protocol acknowledged that the planet was warming because of manmade greenhouse gas emissions and committed to reducing them. In 2015, global leaders agreed under the Paris Agreement to make the necessary emissions cuts to keep global temperatures below a 2°C increase by the end of the century, and ideally close to 1.5°C.

COP27 is unlikely to land a historic deal in that fashion. Labelled as the "implementation" COP by the Egyptian presidency, it instead aims to turn past commitments into reality.

Here are 10 things to watch out for in this year's climate gathering:

Who's going – and who isn't

More than 100 heads of state and governments will descend into Sharm el-Sheikh for the conference. Among the most relevant names are US President Joe Biden, Brazil's presidential election winner Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva and UK Premier Rishi Sunak, who made a U-turn on an initial decision not to turn up after former Prime Minister Boris Johnson announced he was attending. Also, there will be European Commission President Ursula Von der Leyen, along with European leaders like France's Emmanuel Macron and Germany's Olaf Scholz.

African presidents, including Kenya's William Ruto and Senegal's Macky Sall, will be prominent voices among developing nation leaders, while Pakistan's Climate Minister Sherry Rehman will probably lead the debate on climate justice. South Africa's Cyril Ramaphosa will also be in attendance.

Possibly the most relevant absence will be that of Chinese leader Xi Jinping, although activist Greta Thunberg's decision not to go made headlines too. And there'll be fewer big beasts of finance and business than a year ago: Larry Fink, the boss of mega-investor Blackrock, will stay away, as will the CEOs of Citigroup and Standard Chartered. All three turned up in Glasgow.

Loss and damage

There's little time for frivolities as the first day is expected to be dominated by an agenda fight over a



Simon Stiell, UN climate chief, speaks at an opening session at the COP27 UN Climate Summit on Sunday, in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt. AP

key bit of climate jargon: loss and damage. That's the term used to describe the economic and cultural devastation caused by centuries of unchecked fossil-fuel use by industrialised nations.

While it is looking increasingly likely that there will be such an agenda item, the key question is what it will cover. Developing countries and small island states want a clear reference to new funding facilities that will help cover the loss and damage caused by increasingly extreme weather events, but the US and the EU are loath to be on the line for what they see as potentially unlimited compensation claims. The outcome of the fight has the potential to make or break the summit right from the start.

"We shouldn't discount the importance of just having this on the agenda," said Ani Dasgupta, president and chief executive officer of the World Resources Institute, a nonprofit research organisation. And if it doesn't happen, "there's a big risk of vulnerable countries walking away from this."

Climate finance

Should they walk away, it's because they've been burned before. Rich countries have repeatedly failed to live up to a pledge to provide \$100-billion of climate finance annually – a goal that is already seen as woefully insufficient to

cover poorer countries' needs. One of the key barometers for success will be realising that goal, but also working on a post-2025 climate finance target that could be in the trillions of dollars. In addition, last year's outcome called for a doubling of adaptation finance to help the global south future-proof themselves for worsening climate impacts.

Mobilising trillions of dollars will not be possible without the support of the private sector, but there are still major doubts over its commitment to the climate and whether it can prevent "greenwashing," especially as the climate crisis has once again boosted the allure of fossil-fuel investments. Multilateral development banks – like the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the European Investment Bank – will also be in the spotlight to stump up more cash.

Coal and Just Energy Transition Partnerships

UN climate summits have tended to focus on the responsibilities the richest owe to the poorest, often leaving out one key demographic that will be crucial to transition: coal-reliant middle-income countries. An \$8.5-billion package for South Africa was announced last year in a bid to redress that, and there are plans afoot for more.

Indonesia could announce its own Just Energy Transition Partnership alongside donors like the US and the EU at the Group of 20 meeting in Bali, which runs during the second week of COP27.

Similar deals with Vietnam and Senegal are in the pipeline before the end of the year, while one with India is slated for 2023. Also, watch to see if rich donor countries and South Africa finally agree on how the funds are spent.

Methane pledge updates

Since its unveiling last year, the Global Methane Pledge – a commitment to cut emissions of one of the most potent greenhouse gases by 30% by the end of the decade – has garnered more than 120 signatures. China and India are the main absentees, but there is hope that the former may still announce its own methane-cutting plan during COP27. Work is ongoing to get other major methane emitters like Algeria, Azerbaijan and Turkmenistan to sign up.

The main thing now is to show that countries are making efforts to actually live up to that commitment, especially as emissions are still rising. Watch out for a methane ministerial meeting that includes all the signatories, as well as a joint declaration by fossil-fuel importers and producers on how they plan to clean up. Coun-

tries will also present their status reports, which will likely show that cutting emissions is still an uphill struggle. The EU, for example, is making major progress on cutting discharges in the energy and waste sectors, but doing the same for agriculture remains near impossible.

Carbon markets

One COP after delegations agreed on rules for a global carbon market under the Paris Agreement, negotiators at COP27 will need to establish strict guidelines to ensure the credits used in the global carbon market represent real emissions reductions. The current agreement allows for the trading of old carbon credits that don't necessarily reduce emissions.

Climate ambition surprises

Countries can update their climate commitments any time under the Paris Agreement, and many committed to do so at COP26 in Glasgow. Very few of these commitments have been honoured, but watch out for surprise announcements at the meeting in Sharm el-Sheikh. Last year, India unexpectedly set a net-zero emissions target for 2070.

The science reality check

Negotiations at COP27 will be highly technical, with delegates likely to spend hours fighting over commas and wording. But diplomats will need to keep in mind that, despite recent progress, the world is still on track to warm above the 2°C target set by the Paris Agreement. The latest research forecasts warming between 2.1°C and 2.9°C by the end of the century and scientists warn the window to act is closing fast.

The celebrity factor

The more than 45,000 people accredited for COP27 include climate diplomats, but also some of the world's most famous people. Last year, actor and water activist Leonardo DiCaprio turned up, along with actress Emma Watson and former US President Barack Obama. Expect actors and singers to liven up the mood and gather crowds of enthusiasts.

And the serious side

Traditionally, mass protests by climate activists have brought the voice of global citizens to an otherwise dull and secluded gathering. This time might be different, with activists reporting unprecedented difficulties and unaffordable costs to arrive in Sharm el-Sheikh. Still, on everyone's minds will be prominent Egyptian-British activist Alaa Abd El-Fattah, who is currently in jail and started a hunger strike last April. Abd El-Fattah has vowed to stop drinking water on the first day of COP27. **DM**

Mozambican environmentalist builds house with 200,000 recycled bottles

MAPUTO

MACANETA, an underdeveloped beach resort located on the northern outskirts of Mozambique's capital Maputo, may be less known to foreign visitors. However, one new project has recently been added to the resort's few attractions: a house built with recycled glass bottles.

It is where the temperamental Incomati River meets the Indian Ocean. For visitors who come specifically for the house and look at it from a distance, it seems to be unremarkable, blending in with the landscape.

But if you stay closer and look for a while, you may feel a touch of art by the exquisiteness of the structure. Glass bottles in various colors are horizontally embedded into concrete walls, becoming part of the structure, as well as decorating the entire building.

The floors and passageways of the various spaces of the house are covered with the upside-down bottles, which are carefully hammered deep into the ground.

The house includes a living room, kitchen, bathroom and even two outbuildings that serve as a library and meeting space. If you look closely enough, you'll notice that even the bricks, the basic building units of the house, are made of concrete mixed with tiny shiny pieces of glass.

These could be bottles for whiskey, gin, wine or even olive oil. When staying inside and experiencing the tranquility brought by the dimmed natural light shining through the colorful



Mozambican environmentalist Carlos Serra shares the story and idea of his glass-bottle house in front of the camera in Macaneta, Mozambique on Nov. 5, 2022. Macaneta, an underdeveloped beach resort located on the northern outskirts of Mozambique's capital Maputo, may be less known to foreign visitors. However, one new project has recently been added to the resort's few attractions: a house built with recycled glass bottles. Photo: Xinhua

glass bottles, people can't help but think how wonderful it is to make discarded glass bottles to be so useful again.

In fact, Mozambique's unique geographic location also means that it can be one of the most vulnerable countries on Earth to climate change, which brings a natural sense of crisis and endless sources of inspiration to the local environmentalists when it

comes to protecting the environment and promoting harmony between human and nature.

The designer and builder of the house, Mozambican environmentalist Carlos Serra and his team, shared with Xinhua their original ideas behind the house's construction.

As an environmental activist and a professor who once majored in urban planning and en-

vironmental law, Serra said he has identified many threats that the country faces in terms of the environmental protection and climate change, and he also noticed the incredible potential that his people have got to deal with these threats.

The idea of building a house with glass bottles is part of an environment education initiative named Repensar, which means "Rethink" in Portuguese.

The professor explained that he wants to "deconstruct" the concept of garbage by using the recycled glass bottles as a fantastic construction material. "Discarded glass bottles can be both a prob-

lem and a potential for solution in the environment.

As they attract a whole set of pests. A bottle, for example, can be a mosquito breeding ground, and when broken it poses a very high risk for the safety of people, it can cause accidents at public places," said Serra.

Like Serra said, solid waste can cause tragedies if not handled properly. This has been borne out by the notorious collapse of the Hulene dump in 2018. As an open-air landfill on the outskirts of Maputo, Hulene eventually expanded into a 17-hectare mountain of garbage as the city has been producing more waste than it can process.

In February 2018, following a heavy rain, the dump collapsed and killed at least 16 residents. While using glass as the main material, Serra said his team wanted to remove as many ditched bottles from the environment as possible, who not only searched for bottles at public places themselves but also paid money for what the villagers brought to them.

They even built up a small value chain. "We instilled in people the idea that they can deliver the recycled bottles to us for some cash. Unfortunately, it was not enough for this chain to be fairer, but we paid what was possible to the collectors so that they could have some income," said Serra.

From May 2019 to 2022, Serra's Repensar project has recycled 700 tonnes of glass bottles. He and his team spent 14 months, using up an estimated 200,000 glass bottles including both the intact and ground ones, to build what he calls the "eco-center" of the project. Serra said he believes they have already achieved the goal of promoting environmental education through the bizarre house, "because just visiting the house helps."

As these bottles are of different colors, different patterns, they end up creating a magical effect on anyone who visits us," he said.

"If we run out of bottles, we'll go for another type of solution, see that plastic can also be done a lot with it, but the most important point is to have a drastic reduction in the use of conventional materials like cement and sand, especially because the extraction of these materials in the environment also causes impacts. We are always studying alternatives," said Serra.

Xinhua

BULAWAYO

Africa: Will COP27 deliver or be a climate forum of empty promises?

AFRICA is counting on COP27 to deliver it from climate change. But will it?

Global leaders from more than 125 countries gather in the resort city of Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, for the 27th meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), from November 6-18, 2022. The UNFCCC is a global treaty mandating signatories to prevent "dangerous human-induced interference with the climate system by stabilizing greenhouse gas concentrations".

The Convention puts the responsibility of cutting dangerous carbon emissions on the shoulders of developed countries. The major carbon emission emitters are China, the European Union, the United States, Australia, Japan, India, and Russia.

Africa contributes 3.8 percent of the world's emissions of carbon dioxide (CO2) from fossil fuels and industry. However, it is experiencing significant impacts from climate change.

From Angola to Zimbabwe, cyclones, floods, high temperatures, and droughts are killing and displacing millions of Africa as climate change upends a continent unable to cope with its devastating impacts.

Dubbed the 'African COP', COP27 convenes in a changed world experiencing a combination of economic and political crises, including food and fuel crises. There are mixed expectations on how to save the world from a fiery Armageddon as climate change rises. For Africa, more is expected from COP27 than at any other time.

The money and adaptation COP

The African Group of Negotiators (AGN) says Africa is expecting to see the implementation of commitments made at COP26 for advancing the implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and addressing the adverse climate change.

"African countries have committed the most ambitious NDCs under the Paris Agreement now the priority should be how to implement these targets. And for these, developed countries should deliver on their climate finance pledges," Selam Kidane Abebe, Legal Advisor to the AGN, explained.

Abebe contended that the special needs and special circumstances of Africa are a priority for the AGN, as the recognition was reflected under the UNFCCC decisions. Such recognition is also important as Africa contributes less of the total historical and current emissions, and climate change is impacting Africa's development trajectory, so even if African countries have strong development plans, their trajectory is going to be impacted by the adverse impacts of climate change," she said, noting that African countries were investing up to 9% of the GDP on adaptation, money that should be invested in development sectors.



A farmer in Nkayi, Zimbabwe, looks at an empty granary following a poor rainy season. Africa is experiencing massive impacts due to climate change. IPS

In 2009, developed countries committed to giving \$100 billion annually until 2020 to help developing countries reduce emissions and cope with climate change. The money never came, and this target has been moved to 2023. Will it ever arrive?

"We hope so because it is the responsibility of developed countries to come forward with it," Ambassador Wael Aboulmagd, Special Advisor to the COP27 President, told a media briefing in the buildup to COP27 last week.

"In all reality \$100 billion is not going to solve the problem; it is not even close to addressing a fraction of the climate needs... the numbers are in trillions. The overall financial landscape needs to be revisited," Aboulmagd noted, convinced that developed countries must be nudged to find a workable solution in climate finance.

Loss and damage

Finance is at the heart of the COP27 negotiations. Africa is anxious for a solution to the issue of loss and damage and is pushing for finance to address loss and damage as a result of global warming.

age and is pushing for finance to address loss and damage as a result of global warming.

At COP27, the argument is that developed countries largely responsible for climate change should pay for the loss of life and damage to property and infrastructure, not to mention economic and cultural losses endured by developing countries that do not have the means to deal with the impacts of climate change.

An argument has been toyed with is that why not allow African countries to raise their emissions levels and develop their economies as developed countries did in industrializing? In Egypt, Africa is hoping to get commitments towards a specific loss and damage facility. Developed countries are reluctant to pick up the tab.

While countries have strengthened their commitments to tackle the climate crisis, climate change is not letting up. Floods in Nigeria, Pakistan, and South Africa, droughts in Kenya and Somalia, and food crises in the Horn of Africa have led to massive deaths and huge damage to homes and infrastructure that cannot be recovered. Who will pay for the climate damage?

"COP27 must provide a clear and time-bound roadmap on closing the finance gap for addressing loss and damage," UN Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres, said last week at the launch of the UNEP Adaptation Gap Report. He argued that: "This will be a central litmus test for success at COP27".

Climate change is hitting Africa hard, and extreme weather could cost the continent \$50 billion annually by 2050, according to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO). Human activities, largely the burning of fossil fuels like coal, gas, and oil, have released emissions that are causing global warming.

According to scientists at the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), life would be threatened should global temperatures rise beyond 1.8C. The Paris Agreement pledges have meant to limit global temperature rises to 1.5C.

The COP Presidency is convinced a balanced approach that meets various interests is needed. Questions abound on what should be the arrangement for loss and damage, what kind of funding entity will be there, and who should bear liability and compensation.

"As the COP27 Presidency, we are impartial and want all parties to be on the same page to agree and address all these issues. I think we have a good chance of doing that at this COP," he said, expressing optimism that loss and damage will be on the agenda.

Hot energy finance

Despite some countries developing new and revising their NDCs, to raise their emission reduction targets in line with the Paris Agreement, switching to clean energy and phasing out coal has been slow. Rising fuel prices as a result of the Ukraine war have flipped the script. Some developed countries are increasing subsidies for fossil fuels, while others have fired up coal plants and natural gas lines to fill the energy gap. Even China has recently approved new coal mines.

But should Africa - yearning to boost industrialization - abandon fossil fuel dependence and join the race for renewables?

"The speed of this energy transition should not be the same for every country around the world, many African countries are languishing in extreme poverty, and they make the case that if we are being told to keep that resource underground for the global good then the international community has to come up with a package to allow us otherwise to eliminate poverty and pursue our sustainable development goals," opined Aboulmagd.

Truce deal to reverse multifaceted conflict-induced socioeconomic challenges in Ethiopia

THE recently signed peace accord between the Ethiopian government and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) would potentially reverse the multifaceted conflict-induced socio-economic challenges, an Ethiopian scholar has said.

Costantinos Bt. Costantinos, a professor of public policy at Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia, told Xinhua that the armed conflict in Northern Ethiopia, which erupted in November 2020, has affected human development across all the affected areas, resulting in "heavy losses of lives, livelihoods and physical infrastructure."

He recalled the Ethiopian government's reports saying that the impact of the armed conflict in Northern Ethiopia has had "a devastating effect on the nation."

Ethiopia, Africa's second most populous nation, has seen a devastating conflict between government-allied troops and forces loyal to the TPLF for the past two

years, which left thousands dead and millions in urgent need of humanitarian assistance.

The peace accord was signed in the South African capital Pretoria, days after an African Union (AU)-led negotiation, which was facilitated by Olusegun Obasanjo, the AU high representative for the Horn of Africa and former president of Nigeria, along with the former president of Kenya Uhuru Kenyatta, and former deputy president of South Africa Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka.

The two parties in the Ethiopian conflict have formally agreed to the cessation of hostilities and orderly disarmament, Obasanjo said at a press briefing on the outcomes of the negotiation.

The deal also includes restoring law and order, restoring services and unhindered access to humanitarian supplies, he said.

Noting the conflict has "scared investors away from the Ethiopian market, especially recently after the po-



Redwan Hussien Rameto (2nd L), representative of the Ethiopian government, and Getachew Reda (2nd R), representative of the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), sign a peace agreement in Pretoria, South Africa, Nov. 2, 2022. (Photo by Alet Pretorius/Xinhua)

litical and security situation worsened," Costantinos said the peace accord is potentially seen as a good news with regard to foreign direct investments inflow into the country.

"Global companies closed their operations in Ethiopia," he said, adding that the companies' decision was encouraged by the U.S. administration's suspension of Ethiopia's membership in

the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) due to allegations of gross human rights violations during the current conflict. He emphasized that the new peace deal would also solve

challenges concerning foreign aid interruption, loans and debt servicing.

Costantinos said "Interruption of international aid can be a deadly measure for Ethiopia," adding "The suspension caused a huge loss for Ethiopia which relied on foreign aid to fund various development projects across the country."

He recalled Moody's Investors Service decision to lower Ethiopia's sovereign credit rating, a sign of the country's deteriorating economy and growing concerns over the country's ability to pay off debts.

According to him, the Ethiopian economy has endured critical challenges emanated from the conflict. Costantinos further cited the 2022 International Monetary Fund (IMF) Report on the Ethiopian Economy that indicated the Ethiopian economy has been subject to multiple shocks over the past two and a half years, including the COVID-19 pandemic, drought, conflict in the north of Ethiopia,

and the Ukraine crisis.

"This has created significant macroeconomic and humanitarian challenges," said Costantinos, who also served as an economic adviser to the African Union (AU) and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA).

Costantinos argued that the worsening economic situation was leading to social unrest, adding risks to the economy, and the conflict has led to death, displacement as well as the destruction of decades of progress on healthcare.

He said the signing of the peace pact between the Ethiopian government and the TPLF - the de facto ruler of Ethiopia's northernmost Tigray region, would help deal with the conflict-induced socio-economic challenges and the resumption of efforts to address similar challenges as well as climate-related impacts of the conflict, as armed conflict often exacerbates vulnerability to climate change.

Xinhua

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS HALI HALISI 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS KIPIMA JOTO 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO	07:30-10:00HRS DK 90 DUNIANI 10:00-11:00HRS KADOGOO 11:00-13:00HRS BONGO HITS 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS ZAIDI YA UMJUAVYO 16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEVUMA 18:00-21:00HRS BOZUKI 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

Cultural tourism also gets earmarked for Udzungwa Mountains National Park

By Guardian Correspondent, Kilombero

The new cultural tourism using traditional domestic items is set to start soon for tourists visiting various areas of Mt Udzungwa National Park, in Kilombero District, Morogoro Region.

Athumani masumila, traditional leader of Pogoro tribe (Mbui) revealed this here over the weekend at a task force meeting that discussed the project to introduce various traditionally made items for attracting tourists usually found in the Ngoni and pogoro clans in Mang'ula A and Mangula B that border Mount Udzungwa National Park.

The meeting was organised through the cooperation of the Udzungwa Mountains National Park officials, Association Mazingira Tanzania (AMNGO) as the project's implementer and the Eastern Arc Mountains Conservation Endowment Fund (EAMCEF) as the main sponsor.

Masumila said the new kind of tourism will begin after procedures to advertise it in collaboration with conservation stakeholders, completion by Udzungwa Mountains National Park in mobilising for this kind of cultural tourism and the ongoing registration of groups in Mang'ula Division that borders the National Park.

Masumila said it will be conducted day and night with tourists embarking inside a locally made dish that will purportedly take them to wherever they want tour and return, noting that the main condition for such kind of aerial 'transport' is for one to close his eyes as whoever opens them would allegedly fall off.

"It is the same as airplane, but for these their use engines but in our traditional means of aerial transport we use charms," Masumila boasted.

He said the cost for such kind of "aerial transport" will be announced and everything will be advertised "in collaboration with other stakeholders."

Udzungwa Ngoma Cultural Group chairman Deodatus Ngalama claimed that they have using this kind of transport frequently just like normal means of travel when travelling to different areas.

"We have used this kind of transport when visiting Tabora, Kigoma, Mtwara for a short time and in great safety," he

bragged.

Facilitating the creation of cultural tourism products to be sold to all types of tourists at a two-day meeting Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) lecturer, Mathew Sengelela said the time has come for cultural products to be sold now to tourists.

He said the move will provide income to the villagers bordering protected areas and reduce crime resulting from relying on forest products and wildlife to run their lives.

Sengelela mentioned the natural products, which were used in the past and which will be sold to foreigners and provide the people with foreign currency as food, clothing, and rice with the name of the Pogoro tribe, medicines, drums, various work tools, traditional houses, rituals and ancient narratives.

Richard Nchasi, AMNGO coordinator said that the cultural tourism project is to bring together citizens and tourists directly to sell their products and change their lives with foreign currency so that they can run their lives.

"These two dance groups of 45 people from the Udzungwa Cultural group they benefit by educating the whole community about tourism and culture potentials to end poverty in the area.

He said AMNGO in collaboration with stakeholders will prepare an area of about two acres with cultural products to be sold together.

Richard Hayri, Udzungwa Mountains National Park's conservation officer said: "The project objectives of the to establish cultural tourism is to increase the value of the Udzungwa area to cause tourists to stay longer and thus by using or buying natural products they will leave money foreign to the Man'gula area.

"Tourists will talk to each other about the sweetness of the culture of these tribes as it makes them happy and thus they will come in large numbers to see for themselves and bring a lot of foreign money for the development of Tanzanians," he said.

Udzungwa National Park Assistant Conservation Commissioner, Abel Mtui asked the dance and tourism groups to stop the habit of spending money they collect and instead they should inculcate a saving culture for future use.



Athumani Masumila, traditional leader of the Pogoro tribe (Mbui)

No more fishing as drought cripples Mtera Dam

By Guardian Reporter, Mpwapwa

RESIDENTS in Mpwapwa District, Dodoma Region are complaining on the hardship of life due to severe drought which has hit the area and threatening the existence of Mtera dam and its resources.

The citizens say, what is happening in the area is the result of climate change that has affected the Mtera Dam, which was a source of income and food for the residents of the area through fishing.

Happy Sanga, one of the residents at Chungu village in Mtera ward said: "The situation is so tough, I have a family of nine people, my husband left here to search for life on the other side but where he is, things are also hard."

She says her husband left to Singida two years ago for fishing but still he cannot support us with anything as life is also hard for her.

"We don't have any help, even if you decide to cut firewood but no one is there to buy, so we survive with anything which we get, husband can take up to a month an send only 10,000/-, so drought has brought a lot of challenge in our area," she narrates.

The situation also confronts Agatha Mwanja, a fish seller at the village saying that many fishermen have left the dam now as there is nothing they can get to run their lives.

"Many households here are run by women because husbands are not here, they left the village to search for

life in other areas, women are the one who have to wake up thinking on how they are going to feed their children and other family members," she says.

Agatha notes that this is the fourth year that the dam has suffered from a lack of fish due to the effects of climate change and the area is currently inhabited by women and girls due to many men fleeing due to the situation in Mtera dam.

According to her, the situation has also forced some parents to leave their children on their own and shift to other areas to search for jobs. This affects children's development and attendance in school.

"Our husbands, who are mostly fishermen, have run away from us and our economy and businesses have shaken, we don't have money to afford purchasing fish brought here from Tabora," she says.

Elizabeth Nyauringo, a Mtera resident says she has a role to take care of a family of 10 people after her husband left them four years ago.

"Because I don't have the capability to take care of all these people, we have been ending up taking one meal per day, Mtera dam was our savior but things have now changed and we are living in pain," she says.

Halima Punyee, a mother of seven also complains that her husband has nothing to do now due to lack of fish in Mtera dam and now she is the one to take care of the family.



"I have two children in secondary school and I need to work hard to ensure that I get an amount to clear their hostel expenses, I have been spending time in forests to search for firewood so that I can sell to get money," Haima explains.

Fish sellers chairperson at Mtera, Selina Ndahani says earlier, they were getting a fish at a cost of 3500/- but currently the price of the same fish has risen to 7,500/-.

"Due to this and because we need to get some income,

we are forced to buy them. We purchase a bucket of 10kg at a price of 83,000 including oil expenses and get 90,000/-, so the profit here is only 7,000/-, you can see how hard it is," she asserts.

According to her, even in agriculture things are the same as they have tried farming but they didn't get good harvests due to poor rains.

She calls on the government to come up with strategies so as to rescue the community from acute poverty.

"The government can help us through provision of small loans to enable us engage in other small income generating activities, we are surviving through debts from big traders who bring fish here from other regions," she says.

Amon Kodi, a Mtera-based fish trader admits many fishermen have abandoned their families due to economic hardship. "It's a fifth year in a row there have not been enough fish in the pond, the situation has worsened this year," he says.

The situation has deteriorated to the point that, even if you have 1,000 fishnets to trap them, you may not be able to catch even one fish, the experts have not explained what is at stake.

"Here in Mtera, the economic situation is bad, especially for fishermen. Until now, the fishermen of Mtera Dam are largely absent, even if you pass by the camp, you will only find women and children," he says, noting that many fishermen have moved to Tabora, Manyara, and Bahi.

Another fisherman, Richard Nkondola says that catching fish in the dam has become a challenge compared to previous years.

He stresses: "In those good days a small canoe like this could bring 30 to 40 kilos, but now if you are lucky it brings three kilos or nothing at all."

"Here in Chungu, many fishermen have left, there are just less than 10 helpless fishermen in the camp, their job now is to fetch and sell water," Ndokola says.

Shanghai CIIE connects Chinese Dream with the world's

BEIJING. INSIDE an exhibit booth of about 20 square meters, people stopped at handmade Afghan carpets and rugs, admiring the unique design, softness and natural dyes that had made the crafts among the finest in the world for centuries.

"One large carpet usually takes a family six to nine months to weave and these beautiful and durable carpets show the heritage of craftsmanship passed down through generations of families in Afghanistan," said Ali Faiz, a 28-year-old merchant who participated in the China International Import Expo (CIIE) for the third time.

Carpets used to be among Afghanistan's most important trade and export goods. But the industry is declining due to decades of conflicts and Western sanctions. When Faiz brought the carpets to the Chinese market, he also took with him the hope of people in the war-torn country.

Since it was launched in 2018, the CIIE has been carrying the hopes of people, both in China and the other countries, to advance shared prosperity and progress through international trade and business cooperation.

And this global fair has turned Faiz's dream for a better life into reality.

A MARKET FOR THE WORLD

Through the CIIE, Faiz has received orders for over 2,000 carpets, which he said have brought a year's worth of income to more than 2,000 Afghan families. Thirty-eight-year-old Boston Barati's family is one of them.

Growing up in a slum on the

outskirts of the Afghan capital Kabul, Barati learned carpet weaving when he was a child and never thought he could own a workshop before his carpets were sold to China.

Walking through a courtyard in Kabul packed with wool threads, several weavers were busy knotting yarn around the warp which made the base of a carpet before they used dyed yarn as a pile to create the carpet's design. Barati was sitting next to them, drawing carpet patterns with a computer.

"My life was changed after I started exporting the products to China," Barati said. "I built this house and bought a new car thanks to our successful business in China."

Faiz and Barati were not the only ones to seize the moment for a changed future. Since the debut of the CIIE, China has been encouraging and assisting companies from the least developed countries to join the expo to seize opportunities presented by China's development.

At the ongoing exhibition, from Afghan handicrafts to Rwandan coffee, from the cutting-edge medical instruments designed in Silicon Valley to giant mining equipment in Brazil, enterprises across the globe are exploring the opportunities in China, the second largest economy in the world, to grow their international businesses.

The CIIE has become a showcase of China's new development paradigm, a platform for high-standard opening-up, and a public good for the whole world, Chinese President Xi Jinping said Friday when addressing the opening ceremony of the fifth CIIE via video.

"The most important thing about the Chinese economy is that it's predictable," said Khairy Tourk, a



Visitors experience rowing machines at the Consumer Goods exhibition area of the fifth China International Import Expo (CIIE) at the National Exhibition and Convention Center (Shanghai) in east China's Shanghai, Nov. 5, 2022. (Xinhua/Zhang Jiansong)

professor of economics at the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago. "It is enjoying a steady and positive growth, a stable currency, and a financially strong foundation. That's why China is a very attractive country to invest in."

A MARKET SHARED BY ALL

Since its first edition, the CIIE has demonstrated China's commitment to high-level opening-up and widening market access to the rest of the world, contributing to global growth with the country's high-quality development.

"The CIIE is bringing the best of innovation from the world to China, but also showcasing the

best of innovation of China to the world," said Fabrice Megarbane, L'Oreal North Asia Zone president and chief executive officer of L'Oreal China.

Five years on, China has been forging ahead towards shared growth with all partners having the same vision. Eyeing China's huge and more open market, comprehensive industrial system, and ever-improving business environment, many foreign-funded businesses are doubling down on their investments in the country.

Conducting business in China for 65 years, ZEISS, the world's leading enterprise of optical and

optoelectronics technology, has a strong and firm mission for the future in China, the company's largest single market.

Last month it launched a 25-million-US-dollar project in Suzhou city, a manufacturing hub in southeastern China, aiming to provide localized research and development and manufacturing services for all business segments of ZEISS. The company said the new project would empower it to offer better solutions and innovations to its global market.

The global crisis, trade problems and the COVID-19 pandemic haven't softened the company's business in China, said Maximilian Foerst, president and CEO of ZEISS Greater China.

The Chinese market is "becoming larger and larger every single year, which means that (the market in) China is growing faster than the rest of ZEISS," Foerst added.

Many transnational corporations share similar views on the prospects of China's development. According to the Chinese Ministry of Commerce, foreign direct investment in the Chinese mainland, in actual use, expanded 18.9 percent year on year to 155.3 billion dollars in the first three quarters of 2022.

By amplifying the interplay between domestic and international markets and resources, China will work with all countries and parties to share the opportunities in its vast market on its journey toward realizing the Chinese Dream of national rejuvenation.

"We will step up efforts to cultivate a robust domestic market, upgrade trade in goods, develop new mechanisms for trade in services, and import more quality products," Xi said.

A MARKET ACCESSIBLE TO ALL

For ZEISS, the rapidly growing industry of new energy vehicles in China has become the company's new source of growth in the future. It has been building up teams to focus on x-ray technologies for

new energy vehicles, particularly batteries.

"Why are we doing it in China? Because I'm pretty sure China is the largest single market of new energy vehicles," Foerst said, adding that "the products we develop here will go into the factories the Chinese companies are building up in Europe, the U.S., and the rest of the world."

For years, China has been striving to create a more favorable environment and easier access for foreign companies to tap the potential of the Chinese market. As a result, more transnational companies such as Volkswagen have decided to expand their business in China.

This year, a total of 145 nations, regions and international organizations, and enterprises from 127 nations and regions will participate in the week-long CIIE that kicked off on Saturday.

"I think there are no other ones in the world which are able to bring so many industries, so many country representatives and have this dialogue that allows us really to look at opportunities," Megarbane said.

After 25 years of development, L'Oreal has made China its second biggest market in the world. "We still see a lot of potential and opportunities," Megarbane added. "That's the sense of our investment."

Among the participants at the CIIE, Japanese companies are expecting to increase their exports to China as the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership that took effect on Jan. 1 has substantially reduced taxes.

Meanwhile, the world's largest free trade agreement also encouraged more companies from Singapore, New Zealand and other regional countries to explore the Chinese market. And close connectivity, such as the China-Laos railway, has put trade on a fast track.

In September, the first freight train carrying containers from Kashgar city in China's Xinjiang arrived in the border town of Hairatan in Afghanistan.

"It is a milestone and a positive step towards boosting trade and economic relations between Afghanistan and the neighboring countries," said the local governor, Qudratullah Abu Hamza.

"Opening up is going to benefit China a lot, and it is also important in terms of South-South cooperation, where African countries, Latin American countries and Southeast Asian countries can have more access to China," said Costantinos Bt. Costantinos, a professor of public policy at Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia.

After the operation of the freight train service, Faiz would not have to ship his carpets all the way to Shanghai via Istanbul in the future. Moreover, his dream and the dreams of the people in Afghanistan will be more closely connected with the aspirations of the Chinese people.

As Xi has said, "the Chinese Dream is after all a dream of the people." It can be fulfilled only when it is linked with the people's yearning for a better life. ■

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 384 00--

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

3 letters EVE, ZEN, TUG,
4 letters AFAR, MENU, MEAT,
5 letters FRESH, STAGE, TUBER, ADOWA, VOICE, BELOW, ELOPE
6 letters FRANCE, ARDENT, ENDURE, RAYGUN, EATERY, ENAMEL,
7 letters MEGABIT
8 letters OSSIFIED
9 letters RINGOUZEL, HONEY MOON

CLUES: Across

- nicknamed Bulldozer
- country speaking English and maori
- the area of variation between limits in a particular scale
- a dish of meat and vegetables cooked slowly
- a person who is in charge of a Newspaper
- the place where one lives
- a mischievous child
- Bamako is her Capital city
- grumble
- two sides of a leaf of a book
- the time from noon to evening

CLUES: Down

- a king or queen
- a wild white or yellow flower, especially a daisy
- burned materials to produce heat make less powerful
- lowest in rank
- lowly
- gegwaw
- a charge payable to use road
- word meaning you exist
- once more
- Village Jesus turned water to wine
- an immoral act

WORD-FIT

G R A B B L E L
F R O B E N O U N
A G E N T E G
B U A H O M A G E
B E M B A Y E
Y O N O T R Y
K A T A N G A O
M A S T E M U
A I D E S T A I N
D U E L E E R

CROSSWORD

K E N Y A T T A
L I B Y A A M O K
I O A S I S
M A S S E S S
N N C A R E E R
J U N E M E U
A U N U F R O M
R A I D E R S P
O O F A Y E

RADIO One RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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



Faulu Microfinance Bank to close six branches, focus on digital road **Page14**



Chinese projects protect sea turtles in Ghana **Page14**



Nigeria-Morocco pipeline is project for present and future generations **Page15**

Oil market firm, bakery forge strategic links

By Guardian Reporter

TOTALEnergies Marketing Tanzania Limited in partnership with Royal Oven Bakery has opened a royal food one stop shop where customers can enjoy a free beef burger upon the purchase of one.

The shop along Bagamoyo road in Dar es Salaam was launched yesterday as the energy company marks the beginning of the customer service week.

Speaking during the launching event, TotalEnergies Managing Director Jean Francois Schoepp said, "Customers are the heartbeat of our business and the drive of our transformation, growth and innovation to ensure that we continue to meet and exceed their demands and expectations on our services."

According to him, during the week, the company invites its customers to enjoy its service, participate in different promotions which will be run in the stations and share feedback with us in regards to our products and services.

"At TotalEnergies we believe that Customer Service Week is more than celebrating customers but also having meaningful exchange and receiving feedback;

For this we urge our customers to utilize our online platforms which will be presented in the stations this week and send us feedback which we will be glad to go through and improve our products and services for your satisfaction," he asserted.

He said the company also invites its customers to enjoy different offers and promotions that are available at its stations and stand a chance to



TotalEnergies Marketing Tanzania Limited Managing Director Jean Francois Schoepp (2nd-L) launches Royal Oven Bakery at TotalEnergy Bagamoyo Rd in Dar es Salaam as it unveils the edition of its Customer Week, which carries the theme "With you every step of the way". Left is Royal Oven General Manager, Patrick Meme and right is TotalEnergy Network Director: Abdul Rahim Siddique

win several gifts including a free beef burger, t-shirts, caps, and key rings. Royal Oven Bakery General Manager Patrick Meme said: "Royal Oven is very happy to partner with

TotalEnergies and be part of its one stop station concept where we will be offering customers with fresh pastries, burger, pizza, cakes and so much more every day from 6am

to 10pm." TotalEnergies Legal and Corporate Affairs Director, Getrude Mpanjile, said during the week customers can get various gifts.

ASA to put in modern irrigation infrastructure in its three seed farms

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE Agricultural Seeds Agency (ASA) is set to install modern irrigation infrastructures at its three seeds production farms in Morogoro, Tabora and Arusha regions.

The project which will see the Agency's investing 8bn/- will cover the Msimba seeds farms in Kilosa, Morogoro (200 hectares), Kilimi farm -Nzega Tabora (400 hectares) and the Ngaramtoni farm in Arusha region with 200 hectares.

Anthony Mavunde Deputy Agriculture Minister said this here yesterday when speaking during the launch of the project.

Mavunde (pictured) said that the government is determined to scale-up irrigation infrastructures investments at ASA seed farms in order to help achieve the government's ambition to have the country's agriculture sector growing by 10 percent by 2030.

He said the ministry is keen at strengthening ties with seed stakeholders from the private sector so as to increase the country's seed production capacity and thus, to enable Tanzania to deter importation of seeds varieties from abroad.

"ASA has 17 seeds producing farms, but the farms are not delivering fruitful results because the Agency had for years been relying on rains to support production. This has to change because the scenario is impeding farmers to get seeds at the proper time," he said.

The minister said that the government is de-



termined to see ASA install modern irrigation schemes at all farms to enable seeds production throughout the year, the development which will automatically see farmers across

the country to be supplied with needed seeds, and in proper time.

"ASA's seed production has increased to 49,000 tons this year from 20,000 tons last year. We

remain optimistic that setting-up of the vast irrigation facilities will bring a big contribution to supporting an important increase in seed production at the Agency's farms," he said.

Mavunde challenged relevant stakeholders from the private sector to chip-in and worked closely with ASA to increase seeds production in order to make the country attain needed

strides towards self-sufficiency in seed production and availability.

The minister said the government was currently working to construct 14 major water dams with capacity to store 130.5m/-cubic meters of water as part to make irrigation farming successful and thus, strengthening performance of the country's agriculture sector.

"The team of experts has already completed the vital work of going through all the 22 major basins across the country, including Lake Victoria, Malagarasi, Manonga River, Songwe River, Ifakara-Idete, Kilombero, Mkomazi-Rufiji, Pangani and all others, in readiness to construct major irrigation schemes at the potential areas in the next fiscal year," he informed.

ASA's Chief Executive Officer Dr. Sophia Kashenge said in implementing the irrigation infrastructure project, which will totally cover an average of 800 hectares at its farms, the Agency has entered into a working contract with the Pro Agro Global Ltd.

She said that installation of the irrigation facilities is expected to benefit the community surrounding the projects, especially by getting technical education and operating plants while increasing production by producing two or three times a season.

"As of now, production of quality seeds in the country is still low because the demand is at least 187,000 tons while the current production is less than 60,000 tons," she communicated.

Agro Global Ltd Director General Bryson Maro, assured that his company will work professionally to ensure the vital project for the metamorphosis of the country's seed production sector is being implemented timely and needed quality.

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

Newly registered projects to create 53,632 jobs

A TOTAL of 53,600 Tanzanians are expected to be employed by the new 329 registered investment projects by both local and foreign investors.

Finance and Planning Minister Dr Migulu Nchemba (pictured) unveiled this yesterday in the National Assembly when presenting the national development plan for 2023/2024 and guidelines for the proposed revenue and expenditure for the next financial year.

The minister said the participation of the private sector to the economy has increased, whereby a total 329 projects,

including 127 by foreigners, 111 by local Tanzanians and 91 by partnership between Tanzanians and foreigners valued \$4.51 billion have been registered.

He said the government's intention is to involve and empower the private sector on economic activities in projects and services provision through the government budget.

"Through continued improvement of the business and investment environment and collaboration with the private sector, positive results have been realized through increased production from manufacturing as this has created

impacts on the agriculture sector and job creation," he said.

During the first quarter of the 2022/2023 financial year, the minister said, the Bagamoyo Sugar Factory started production of an estimated 250,000 tonnes per year.

Also, Kagera Sugar, Kilombero, TPC Moshi and Mtibwa Sugar factories have continued to increase production expansion which will increase sugar production in Tanzania.

According to the sugar board, Tanzania will be self-sufficient in sugar by 2025 as efforts are underway to plug the 60,000 tonne deficit.



"Expectations are that, when all these factories will start producing at maximum capacity, the shortages of sugar will be reduced during 2024/2025," he noted.

The minister said the Mkwawa Tobacco factory has

also resumed operations after securing strategic investor and available data show during this year, the factory has generated 800 jobs, bought large quantities of tobacco leaves from farmers which has created competitive prices for the crop.

"All these are part of collaboration between the government and private sector under the sixth phase government of President Samia Suluhu Hassan," he asserted.

The minister said during the next financial year the government will continue to increase the participation of the private sector on business and invest-

ment while remaining resilient against external shocks caused by the slowing down of global economic growth.

He said the objective of the next financial year development plan is expected to stimulate an inclusive and competitive economy, strengthen the capacity of industrial production and provision of social services, promote business and investment and develop human resources.

Meanwhile, the minister has said the economy is projected to grow 5.3 percent next year from projected 4.7 percent this year and 4.9 percent in 2021.

He said the government will continue fighting inflation, mainly food inflation, to ensure that it remains at a single digit of between three and five percent.

Tax revenue is expected to reach 12 percent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) during the next financial year (2023/2024) from projected 11.7 percent during the current financial year (2022/2023).

The budget deficit, including grants, will continue to remain below three percent of the GDP, the minister said.

According to him, the foreign currency reserves will remain strong enough to cover four months of imports of goods and services.

Faulu Microfinance Bank to close six branches, focus on digital road



A Faulu Microfinance bank in Nyeri.

NAIROBI

FAULU Microfinance Bank will close six branches in April next year, becoming the latest financial institution to trim its physical branch network amid increased investment in digital banking services.

The branches to be closed are Gikomba, Limuru, Nanyuki, Kiserian, Homabay and Bondo.

Faulu said in a statement that customers currently served at these outlets will be moved to the OTC, Kawangware, Nyeri, Rongai, Migori, and Ugunja branches

respectively.

"Operations in the affected branches shall cease with effect from close of business April 14, 2023," said the microfinance institution in a notice.

"We encourage our customers to visit us at any of our other banking outlets or transact using our alternative channels which include: Faulu agents, DigiCash App, mobile banking... and using the Faulu Visa Debit Cards."

Trimming of the branch count is expected to significantly cut rent expenditure as customers are pushed to digital platforms such as mobile banking.

It was not immediately clear if the closure of the four branches will result in job losses as has been witnessed among other financial institutions that have taken this route.

The planned closures at Faulu follow a similar decision last year when the microlender shuttered outlets in Nakuru, Taita Taveta, Meru, and Kirinyaga.

Faulu previously reported that it had 56 branches and 630 agents serving 480,000 customers drawn mainly from the civil service with some entrepreneurs in retail, agriculture, and manufacturing sectors.

Other lenders that have closed branches in recent years include Absa Bank Kenya and Standard Chartered Bank Kenya. Financial institutions are investing heavily

in mobile and internet banking on, which a majority of transactions are now executed.

Major banks have said over 90 percent of transaction volumes now occur on digital platforms, reducing the need for opening new branches and in some cases resulting in the trimming of excess physical outlets.

Some institutions, however, continue to expand selectively to address market gaps, with branches seen as critical for new customer acquisitions, especially for retail-focused institutions. NCBA Bank and Co-op Bank are among the few financiers that are still expanding their physical footprint.

NCBA earlier announced it would open 12 new branches in Kenya this year as part of its local and regional expansion.

Co-op Bank also announced it would open seven new branches in the country this year, expanding its physical presence in areas it sees opportunities to grow its customer base.

RwandAir launches direct flight to London

KIGALI

HEATHROW Airport, a major international airport in London on Monday, November 7, welcomed RwandAir maiden direct flight in a move intended to cater for the airline's growing demand.

A highly placed source confirmed to The New Times that the national carrier landed in the morning hours of Monday. Passengers left Kigali around midnight.

The inaugural flight puts an end to a five-year long indirect service, where passengers traveling to London previously went through Brussels.

The new four times weekly service will be operated by A330 Aircraft, configured with two cabins (economy and business).

According to the airline, this is an increase from the airline's three times a week service.

Flights are expected to depart Kigali every Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday at 23:35pm, arriving in London at 06:20am the following morning.

The return flight departs the British capital at 20:30pm every Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, arriving at the Kigali International Airport at 07:00 the following morning.

According to RwandAir, the schedule will also provide quick and easy connections via Kigali to a wealth of destinations in Africa, the Middle East and Asia.

"We are excited to launch direct flights to London, which are on sale from today, due to the popularity of our current services," RwandAir's Chief Executive, Yvonne Manzi Makolo, said in an earlier interview.

"The UK is an incredibly important market for us, and we know our customers will value the shorter flight times and increased connections that will be offered by the new service," she added.

RwandAir has previously laid out plans to improve connections for those traveling from 'further afield'.

Just recently, the airline announced that it was exploring the possibility of joining the Oneworld Alliance, a major network bringing together different commercial airlines around the world.

RwandAir currently serves 28 destinations across East, Central, West, and Southern Africa, the Middle East, Europe and Asia.

The national carrier RwandAir is set to join The Oneworld Alliance, a major network bringing together different commercial airlines around the world.

According to officials, the move will significantly strengthen the carrier's performance both on the African continent and beyond.

Established in February 1999, the alliance, which as of 2020 operating a fleet of 3,296 aircraft and serving about 1,000 airports in 170 countries worldwide, is one of the biggest network in the world.

It means that a member airline of the alliance is able to access all these destinations on a single itinerary. With its partnership with Qatar Airways a core member of the alliance, RwandAir stands a chance to join Oneworld, and



the former has pledged to provide guidance and necessary support to fully integrate.

"We will do everything within our ability to bring them to the standard to be ready to join as a full member or an associate member," said Akbar Al Baker, the CEO of Qatar Airways while speaking at the Aviation Summit that took place in Kigali this week.

Al Baker is also the current chairperson of Oneworld Alliance.

Al Baker added that: "We saw this potential in the place that is right in the centre of Africa, and the relationship they have with the state of Qatar, I found that this is the right place. This is about confidence and relationship, economic interest for both countries with each and this is what we are going to do."

He said that among the plans the two airlines have through their partnership is to build a training institution to train cabin crew, ground staff, equipment operators, engineers and also train pilots in Rwanda.

"We have a training school in Qatar with advanced facilities and that will be expanded here to make it a centre of excellence for aviation in Africa," he added.

a core member of the alliance, RwandAir stands a chance to join Oneworld, and the former has pledged to provide guidance and necessary support to fully integrate.

Rwandair CEO, Yvonne Makolo said that the airline is already working with Qatar Airways and works are underway to upgrade the airline to the standards of Qatar Airways which is a five-star airline.

"Joining Oneworld will help us gradually improve our products and services and what we are offering to our passengers," she said.

Makolo added that setting up a training institution for aviation will be very beneficial since they will not have to fly their staff to different countries for training.

Oneworld member airlines work together to deliver consistently a superior, seamless travel experience, with special privileges and rewards for frequent flyers, including earning and redeeming miles and points across the entire alliance network.

For now, the national carrier operates in more than 28 countries in Africa, Europe and Asia.

Chinese projects protect sea turtles in Ghana

ACCRA

GHANA'S coastline on the Atlantic Ocean is home to at least three species of sea turtles.

In this natural habitat, they live, breed, and prosper, but have also been constantly facing poaching, sea pollution, and some other threats.

While many Ghanaians devote themselves to protecting the endangered species, more and more Chinese who engage in port projects in Ghana are joining in their effort.

On Friday afternoon, Chinese workers of CRCC Harbor & Channel Engineering Bureau Group Limited undertaking the Jamestown port project in Ghana received a call from locals, crying for help to rescue two trapped sea turtles along the coast.

The workers rushed to the scene, located the two sea turtles in bad condition, and conveyed them carefully back to their base by the seaside.

With the help of local workers, a temporary shelter for the turtles was quickly set up, and clean water and food were timely provided.

"We consulted local animal protectors to make sure all procedures are done correctly, and the turtles recovered their strength quickly," said Hu Yuechuan, office director of the China-aided project.

Later in the day, some Chinese workers carried the turtles to the beach and released them back into the Atlantic Ocean. They cheered when the two swam far and the heads poked out of the water.

According to Hu, since last year, the

Chinese staff have rescued four sea turtles stranded onshore, from which they have gained more knowledge about the sea turtle and their prevention. "Such cases made us come to realize the importance of protecting the creature."

In its response, the project established a task force engaging in the prevention, enhanced their regular patrol along the seaside, and encouraged local fishermen to share relevant information.

"The sea turtle plays an integral part in the marine ecosystem, nobody should shy away from the responsibility of protecting them," Hu added.

As China-Ghana cooperation flourishes in recent years, Chinese-aided or Chinese-built infrastructure projects sprung up across Ghana, many of which take eco-logical protection as a top priority.

In east Ghana's Tema port, the Chinese-built and largest port in the country, a sea turtle hatchery was built by Chinese workers as early as 2017 to safeguard the vulnerable species that are sensitive to noise and artificial lights.

The Chinese project cooperated with the local wildlife society and residents nearby to meticulously care for the sea turtle eggs and create a favorable environment for them to breed, which was applauded by animal protectors.

Justice Affukaah, a Ghanaian worker of the Jamestown port project, praised Chinese projects' efforts to conserve sea turtles.

"They are shouldering their responsibility for protecting Ghana's eco-environment, which deserves a thumb-up," he said.



Chinese workers clean two rescued sea turtles at Jamestown port, Accra, capital of Ghana, Nov. 4, 2022.

SMEs to access capital through stock market

NAIROBI

SMALL firms listing on the Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE) Growth and Enterprise Markets segment will finally be able to raise funds through the capital markets under updated listing rules by the sector regulator that will see the creation of two new segments tailored specifically for SMEs.

The CMA said in its quarter three market soundness report that the changes proposed through the draft Capital Markets (Securities) (Public Offers Listing and Disclosures) Regulations, coupled with the recently gazetted Investment Based Crowdfunding regulations, will open a new avenue for capital raising for SMEs that have traditionally struggled to access debt from banks.

The draft regulations, which were put up for public participation in May have introduced two new market segments known as SME Fixed Income Securities Market Segment (SME FISMS) and the Small and Medium Enterprises Market Segment (SMEMS).

The SME FISMS segment will allow small firms to issue debt securities with an initial offer size below Sh250 million or an amount set by CMA, while the SMEMS will allow for the listing of non-debt securities issued by SMEs.

"Unlike the Main Investment Market Segment (MIMS) and the Alternative Investment Market Segments (AIMS), companies listed on the GEMS market cannot raise capital despite the listing," said CMA soundness report. "The draft

public offers regulations, currently at the tail end of drafting will for the first time allow SMEs to raise equity and debt capital, enabling thousands of SMEs trading today to raise capital via the capital markets which traditionally have only been accessed by medium and large enterprises."

The regulator added that corporate governance requirements for SMEs will be tooled to ensure that they are commensurate with their sizes.

Inability of GEMS-listed firms to raise capital through the NSE has partly contributed to the low uptake of the product since it was introduced in 2013.

The GEMS firms enter the market through introduction, meaning they have also suffered from limited liquidity – and therefore poor price discovery – due to low shareholder numbers.

The MIMS segment carries the bulk of listed firms at the bourse, accounting for 49 out of the 63 stocks in the market.

The AIMS segment, which slots in between the main segment and GEMS in terms of minimum capital requirements, has nine counters while GEMS has five counters listed – which will drop to four if shareholders of NBV approve a motion to shift to the main investment segment.

Home Afrika was the first GEMS listing in July 2013, and it was expected at the time that the relative ease of listing on the segment would attract a higher number of companies to the market, which would thereafter provide a stream of main market listings down the road.



King Mohammed VI

King Mohammed VI: Nigeria-Morocco pipeline is project for present and future generations

ABAT

KING Mohammed VI celebrated the Nigeria-Morocco gas pipeline project, emphasizing its goal in a bid to support accelerating socio-economic development on the continent.

The King expressed satisfaction with the gas project during his speech, commemorating the 47th anniversary of the Green March on Sunday.

While the Green march helped the country to regain its territorial integrity and sovereignty over its southern provinces, the country continued to be determined to initiate economic-driven campaigns to foster development in the region, benefiting not only Morocco but the whole continent.

The monarch emphasized that Morocco's southern provinces have served as a link between Morocco and its African roots at the "human, spiritual, cultural, and economic levels," stressing that the Moroccan approach is in line with special relations that Morocco enjoys with other African countries.

As part of the country's determination to consolidate these ties, Morocco worked along with Nigeria on a gas pipeline project, which is more than "just a bilateral project between two sister nations," the King said.

"I want this to be a strategic project that benefits all of West Africa - a region which is home to more than 440 million people," the King said, stressing that the project provides opportunities, particularly in terms of energy security.

"This is a project for peace for African economic integration and for co-development: a project for the present and for the future generations," King Mohammed VI said.

The 5,600-kilometer-long pipeline project will span over 13 countries along the Atlantic coast, with the ambition of benefiting over 340 million inhabitants.

The pipeline, of which Morocco will be home to 1,672 kilometers of, will connect the Nigerian gas to Europe through Morocco, Mauritania, Senegal, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory

Coast, Ghana, Togo, and Benin.

Investors contributing to the project are set to put in a budget of \$25 billion to carry out the gas pipeline.

The much-anticipated project was first initiated by King Mohammed VI and Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari in 2016. The project aims to promote regional integration in the west African region and reinforce African energy security.

King Mohammed VI set the ambition to see the project as a major "flagship project," linking Africa to Europe, extending his appreciation to all regional and international institutions which expressed their wish to participate in its implementation.

The King also expressed Morocco's determination to work with Nigeria and other stakeholders closely and responsibility to implement the project "as soon as possible."

Morocco and Nigeria hold frequent talks to exchange views and talks about the pipeline project.

The latest meeting took place today, when Moroccan ambassador to the UK Hakim Hajoui met with Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari and High Commissioner to the UK Sarafa Tunji.

During the meeting, the Moroccan diplomat delivered a message from King Mohammed VI. The meeting comes as part of the two countries' determination to place more priority and importance on economic cooperation.

In addition to the gas pipeline, King Mohammed VI emphasized Morocco's satisfaction with the growing support for its position and territorial integrity.

The monarch, however, emphasized the importance of remaining mobilized to defend the country's unity.

"To continue to be faithful to the spirit of the Green March and its everlasting oath, we need to remain mobilized and vigilant in order to

defend our nation's unity, achieve greater progress, and strengthen Morocco's bonds with its African roots," he said.

Morocco's position has been witnessing growing support from the international community - with many countries describing the Moroccan Autonomy Plan as a credible and serious basis to end the dispute over Western Sahara.

Over 90 UN member states expressed support for the autonomy initiative as the only solution to the regional dispute.

The plan suggests making the Sahara region a semi-autonomous territory under Morocco's sovereignty, allowing the region's inhabitants to manage their social, economic, and political affairs while Morocco handles defense and diplomacy.

As part of the massive international support, over 27 countries have opened consulates general in the southern provinces of Dakhla and Laayoune, reflecting their support for and recognition of Morocco's territorial integrity and sovereignty over Western Sahara.

In his speech on the anniversary of the Revolution of King and People in August, King Mohammed VI renewed satisfaction with the opening of international representations in the region and thanked countries for their support for Morocco's territorial integrity. The total openings include nearly 40% of African countries.

"I should like to say how much I value the position adopted by our brothers in Africa; approximately 40% of African countries from five regional groups have opened consulates in Laayoune and Dakhla," the King said in his speech.

In Europe, more than 10 countries have publicly expressed support for Morocco's Autonomy Plan, including Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, and Spain.

African tourism on spotlight at ATLF

BY EMELIKE OBINNA

FROM the friendly immigration staff and their seamless processing of visa-on-arrival at Sir Seretse Khama International Airport, transfers to hotels, meet and greet by the organisers, exciting welcome and opening shows, the 2022 edition of the African Tourism Leadership Forum (ATLF) was a spectacle to behold, amid lingering memories for the participants.

Again, the venues were appropriate and kudos to the organisers sense of judgment. The Peermont Walmont Hotel at The Grand Palm, Gaborone, the host hotel and the Gaborone International Convention Center (GICC), host venue, combined their world-class facilities to aid the huge success of the forum, which was easily attested by delegates from across the world, most of whom were in Botswana for the first time.

For three days, October 24-26, 2022, over 400 delegates, across industry thought leaders and value chain from over 40 countries across the world, especially from within the continent, gathered under one roof to think, rethink and act tourism at this year's ATLF, which is the 5th edition.

To underscore the importance of the event, Mokgweetsi Masisi, president of Botswana, graced the ATLF 2022 with his eminent presence. Of course, that is expected of a president who knows the potential of tourism and is willing to grow the sector for more impact on lives and the economy at large.

In his speech at the opening ceremony, the Botswana president commended the organisers for berthing the event in his country for the first, despite having preferred bidders, while highlighting the huge potential of the tourism industry and the need for sector stakeholders to collaborate for the common good of the continent's tourism.

"Our Continent is renowned for its beauty and the quality of establishments and high service excellence. Now more than ever before, we must continue to maintain this enviable reputation.

However, to harness this potential we have to work together. The only way to achieve success and unprecedented tourism growth, and job creation, is by coming together, capitalizing on each other's strengths and working as one," President Masisi emphasized.

Considering the fact that Africa is part of today's fast-paced world, President Masisi urged African tourism entrepreneurs, think-tanks, SMEs and other stakeholders to take advantage of technology in order to create platforms for inclusive engagements and enforce the needed paradigm shift in the continent's travel and tourism sector.

On the push for intra-Africa travel and exchanges, which many said is being hampered by a lack of political will by governments across Africa, the president noted that his government has formulated a new tourism policy that will promote active citizens participation and also encourage more exchanges with other African countries.

He disclosed further that Botswana is encouraging intra-Africa travel with its easy visa and designation of some countries as visa-free.

Excited with the good news from Botswana, Kwakye Donkor, CEO, African Tourism Partners (ATP), organisers of the forum, noted that Botswana has shown a good example with the new tourism policy, and that the 54 countries and their huge population offer great business potential for SMEs and private sector in the travel sector, amid booming travels that will impact Africa's economy positively.

"As a gathering of industry thought leaders, this year's Forum is focused on advancing the call of the sector to be intentional about practicalise measures and initiatives that will strengthen and accelerate intra-Africa travel and tourism development through trade, partnerships and investments," Donkor said earlier in his message.

Also considering that the globe fast recovering from the impact of the pandemic, the war in Russia and talks of global recession, which may likely impact Africa's tourism arrivals and receipts, Donkor explained that against the above background, the 5th ATLF & Awards was focused on igniting intra-Africa tourism through inclusive intra-Africa trade, partnerships and Investments.

"I am pleased to indicate that ATP is committed to working with host Botswana and the rest of the continent as well as partners such as the UNWTO, BDO, ICCA and others to champion this course.

"It is our believe that ATP will continue to collaborate and work across the African tourism ecosystem to strengthen Brand Africa's Competitiveness with a futuristic mindset," the ATP CEO said further.

The ATLF 2022 had many exciting programmes even from the opening day on private sector and masterclasses on digitalization, Meetings Incentives and Conferencing sector (MICE), among others.

The good thing and in line with lessons learnt during the pandemic, the ATLF 2022 has hybrid platforms as well to enable those who cannot make it to Botswana to participate and contribute also.

The flexibility of the meetings excited Wincey Ramaphoi, acting board chairperson for Botswana Tourism Organisation, who was glad that ATLF 2022 was happening at a time Africa was in need to build its productive capacities, deepen regional integration and pursue economic diversification.

Apart from the MICE and Digitalisation sessions, there was also a private sector and national tourism organisations roundtable, where experts aired their views on the way forward for African tourism.

One of the experts, Elcia Grandcourt, regional director for Africa at the World Tourism Organization (UNWTO), proposed more exchanges across Africa to spur economic growth within the continent, curb revenue leakages and capital flight to destinations outside of Africa by Africans.



Some top dignitaries at ATLF 2022 at Gaborone International Convention Centre recently

VIEW FROM THE TOP

WORLD

COP27 starts with deal to discuss climate compensation

SHARM EL-SHEIKH

DELEGATES from nearly 200 countries kicked off the UN climate summit in Egypt on Sunday with an agreement to discuss compensating poor nations for mounting damage linked to global warming, placing the controversial topic on the agenda for the first time since climate talks began decades ago.

The agreement set a constructive tone for the COP27 summit in the seaside resort town of Sharm el-Sheikh, where governments hope to keep alive a goal to avert the worst impacts of planetary warming even as a slew of crises - from a land war in Europe to rampant inflation - distract the international focus.

For more than a decade, wealthy nations have rejected official discussions on what is referred to as loss and damage, the term used to describe rich nations paying out funds to help poor countries cope with the consequences of global warming for which they bear little blame.

At COP26 last year in Glasgow, high-income nations, including the United States and the European Union blocked a proposal for a loss and damage financing body, instead supporting a three-year dialogue for funding discussions.

But pressure to address the issue has been increasing as weather calamities mount, including this year's floods in Pakistan that caused economic losses of more than \$30 billion and left hundreds of thousands homeless.

"The inclusion of this agenda reflects

a sense of solidarity for the victims of climate disasters," COP27 President Sameh Shoukry told the opening plenary.

He added the decision created "an institutionally stable space" for discussion of funding for loss and damage, and that the talks are intended to lead to a conclusive decision "no later than 2024".

The issue could ramp up diplomatic tensions already stretched by Russia's war on Ukraine, a surge in energy prices and the risks of economic recession triggered by inflation.

Negotiations on Saturday night before the agenda's adoption "were extremely challenging," Harjeet Singh, head of global political strategy at the non-profit Climate Action Network International, said.

Bangladeshi-based environmental research body, the International Centre for Climate Change and Development, said it was "good news" loss and damage was officially on the agenda.

"Now the real work begins to make finance a reality," said Saleemul Huq, director of the center who serves as an adviser to the Climate Vulnerable Forum group of 58 countries.

Broken promises

The climate talks begin under a cloud of skepticism that world governments are doing enough to address global warming.

A United Nations report released last week showed global emissions on track to rise 10.6 percent by 2030 compared

with 2010 levels. Scientists say those emissions must drop 43 percent by that time to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius (2.7 degrees Fahrenheit) above pre-industrial temperatures as targeted by the Paris Agreement of 2015 - the threshold above which climate change risks spinning out of control.

Rich nations are also underperforming on a promise to provide \$100 billion per year by 2020 to help developing countries cut CO2 emissions and adapt to climate change, for example by building infrastructure to protect drinking water supplies from rising seas.

And many countries, including the United States and members of the European Union, are calling for increased supply of fossil fuels to help bring down consumer energy prices, a trend that risks delaying a global shift toward cleaner energy.

Despite increased momentum to address loss and damage due to a rise in climate change-fuelled disasters, COP27 faces headwinds to raising cash - with western governments' budgets depleted from huge spending to shield their citizens from the economic fallout of Russia's special military operation in Ukraine.

So far, only two small countries have offered funding for loss and damage. Denmark committed 100 million Dan-

ish crowns, and Scotland pledged £2 million (\$2.28 million).

By comparison, some research suggests climate-linked losses could reach \$580 billion per year by 2030.

Inside the UN negotiations this week, small island states - whose vulnerability to climate change has seen them play an outsized role in past UN talks - will push a proposal for a UN-hosted "response fund" to pool and distribute cash to countries struck by disasters.

Others are looking outside of the formal UN negotiations, where any deal requires unanimous approval from all countries and progress can be achingly slow.

The "V20" group of 58 climate-vulnerable countries and the Group of 7 rich nations will launch a "Global Shield" to strengthen insurance and disaster protection finance. Germany is expected to commit money for the scheme.

"What's needed is a mosaic of approaches," said Alex Scott, climate diplomacy expert at think tank E3G. Scott said this should also include fixing issues with existing UN climate funds, which struggle with years-long delays in dispersing finance and complex application processes that prevent some poor countries from accessing support.

Agencies



Participants walk outside of the Sharm El Sheikh International Convention Centre before the COP27 climate summit opening in Egypt's Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt on Sunday. REUTERS

Ex-President points to Kiev regime's nuke illusions among reasons for special op

MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S decision to hold its special military operation was largely impacted by Kiev's threats to resume its nuclear program, Deputy Secretary of the Russian Security Council Dmitry Medvedev wrote on his VKontakte page yesterday.

He stated that the Kiev regime "is weeping bitterly over the 1994 Budapest Memorandum decision on withdrawing [Ukraine's] nuclear arsenal inherited from the USSR located on their territory." "And also [the Ukrainian leaders said] that they would have used it against us and their own citizens with diabolical pleasure," Medvedev (pictured) stressed. "Which they unambiguously hinted at when they threatened to resume the nuclear program, which largely triggered the special military operation," he wrote.

That said, Medvedev who served as President of Russia (2008-2012) and the nation's prime minister (2012-2020), noted that all Ukrainian presidents, from Leonid Kravchuk to Vladimir Zelensky, later described Ukraine rejecting its nuclear arsenal as a forced measure "although Kiev had no means to maintain the 'might' they obtained by accident."

Medvedev also noted the fact that the decision to pull the nuclear arsenal out of Ukraine was made under severe pressure by Washington.

He cited South Africa as a contrasting example which was "the first and only country possessing nuclear weapons, the potential to produce them, the command complex and the means of delivery to make an important political decision to reject all of this voluntarily."

"After which it joined the NPT (the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons - TASS) and became one of the initiators of concluding the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (the Pelindaba Treaty) in 1996," he added.

The deputy secretary of the Russian Security Council also noted that the democratic government that came to power after the fall of apartheid "adopted a responsible and sovereign stance with regards to their people, neighboring countries and the entire global community and nowadays does not regret the choice made 30 years ago; it is proud of it and offers a path to others with their own example."

"This is precisely why South Africa today is the most important representative of the global architecture of a new multipolar world order being shaped. Pretoria, on equal footing with Russia, China, India and Brazil, is a key element of the well-coordinated BRICS mechanism," Medvedev concluded. Agencies



Pope says EU states should share responsibility for migrants

ABOARD THE PAPAL PLANE

POPE Francis said on Sunday European Union member states should share responsibility for taking in migrants and not just leave it to the countries where people arrive.

He spoke as migration triggered fresh political tensions in Italy, where there has been a stand-off between the government and charity ships trying to disembark migrants.

"The European Union has to take up a policy of collaboration and help. It can't leave Cyprus, Greece, Italy and Spain

with the responsibility of all the migrants that arrive on their shores," he told reporters on the plane returning from a four-day trip to Bahrain.

"Each government of the European Union should agree on how many migrants it can take," Francis said.

"Migration policy has to be agreed upon by all countries. There can't be a policy without consensus," he said.

Matteo Salvini, head of Italy's anti-immigrant League party and deputy prime minister in the new right-wing government, thanked the pope for

his "words of great wisdom".

"Italy can not be left alone and cannot take in everyone," Salvini added in a statement.

Migration policy has to be agreed upon by all countries. There can't be a policy



Right-wing elections victory rules out serious solution to Palestinian-Israeli conflict

RAMALLAH

PALESTINIAN analysts have ruled out any serious or real breakthrough in resolving the Palestinian-Israeli conflict after former Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and his right-wing bloc secured a clear majority in the parliamentary elections held on Nov. 1.

They said in separate interviews with Xinhua that the victory of the right-wing in the Israeli general elections is a result of the growing extremism in Israeli society, and will have a negative effect on resolving the Palestinian-Israeli conflict in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

On Thursday, the Israeli Cen-

tral Elections Committee announced in an official statement that the Netanyahu bloc consisting of the Likud and other right-wing and religious parties obtained 64 seats in the 120-seat parliament while the bloc of outgoing Prime Minister Yair Lapid won 51 seats.

Hani Al-Masri, director of the Ramallah-based Palestinian Center for Policy Research and Strategic Studies, warned that the return of Netanyahu's right-wing forces to rule in partnership with "extremist symbols" is "worse than all expectations." "Forming a government by Netanyahu with the participation of religious right-wing parties is

dangerous and will lead to the displacement of the Palestinians from inside Israel to the West Bank and from the West Bank to abroad," he said.

Al-Masri expected a rise in "Israeli aggression against the Palestinians," including "the Judaization of Jerusalem and Al-Aqsa Mosque at greater and faster rates and the imposition of Israeli laws on the West Bank." In the first official Palestinian comment on the election results, Palestinian Prime Minister Mohammed Ishtaye said the Palestinian leadership and people have no illusions that the ballot boxes could produce a partner for peace (with the Palestinians).

"The results confirmed what we were certain that we have no partner in Israel for peace amid the aggressive Israeli policies and practices our people are suffering from, which violate all international decisions and laws," he said in a statement on Wednesday.

Sadeq Al-Shafiee, a political analyst from the West Bank city of Ramallah, expected the new Israeli government to "use the most extreme degree of excessive violence to deal with the Palestinians trying to confront occupation."

"The Israeli voters' choice of the right is evidence of rejecting any peace agreement with

the Palestinians, or negotiation over the establishment of a Palestinian national entity on any part," he explained. Abdulmajid Sweilem, a Ramallah-based political analyst, suggested the Palestinians "get rid of the signed agreements," because "the next Israeli government is not only a non-partner but hostile to peace." "What the elections in Israel resulted in is an opportunity for Fatah Movement led by Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas and (Gaza's ruling movement) Hamas to rise up against reality, end their internal division and make real unity to confront the coming future," Sweilem said. Xinhua

China's Beidou reaches world-leading level - white paper

CHINA'S BeiDou Navigation Satellite System (BDS) is now a top-class system with cutting-edge technologies, pioneering design and powerful functions, according to a white paper published on Nov.4 by the State Council Information Office.

The 12,000-word paper, titled "China's BeiDou Navigation Satellite System in the New Era," consists of six main parts including the operation management and governance of the BDS, as well as the sustainable development of the BDS applications industry.

According to the paper, China began to develop its own navigation satellite system in 1994. BDS-1 entered service and began providing positioning services in China at the end of 2000. On July 31, 2020, Chinese President Xi Jinping announced to the world that

BDS-3 was officially commissioned - a sign that BDS began to provide global services.

After many years in development, it has become an important new element of China's infrastructure, providing high-accuracy, round-the-clock positioning, navigation and timing services to global users in all weathers, the paper said.

The system has reached a world-leading level in core technologies in terms of hybrid constellation, inter-satellite links, and signal structure that follow international standards.

The paper also noted BeiDou's outstanding batch production capability, saying 18 rockets have deployed 30 BDS satellites into

orbit in less than three years, "a pace unmatched by any other country."

China will further upgrade BDS technologies, functions and services in the future, the paper said.

The country will help improve people's wellbeing and promote human progress by achieving the goal to create a comprehensive spatiotemporal system that is more extensive, more integrated, and more intelligent, and that provides flexible, smart, precise and secure navigation, positioning and timing services.

The paper also highlighted the international cooperation and applications of BeiDou in building a global community of

shared future. According to the paper, the country has engaged in active cooperation with other countries and international organizations on technology R&D and the satellite navigation industry by setting up overseas BDS application and industrialization promotion centers.

It is strengthening cooperation with regional organizations such as ASEAN, the African Union, the League of Arab States, and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, and releasing BDS-based solutions in the fields of smart cities, public security, precision agriculture, digital transport, and disaster prevention and mitigation, which are being piloted in Asia, Africa,

and Latin America.

"China is ready to share its achievements in developing BDS, and it will work with all countries to promote the development of navigation satellite systems, venture into deeper space, and make an even greater contribution to building a global community of shared future and a better world," the paper said.

People's Daily

The paper also noted BeiDou's outstanding batch production capability, saying 18 rockets have deployed

Once again, Malaysia's Anwar bids to become prime minister

TAMBUN

AFTER two decades as opposition leader, Malaysia's Anwar Ibrahim was poised to finally become prime minister in 2020. But his alliance collapsed from infighting, leaving him as far away as ever from the top job.

Now, Anwar, 75, is hitting the national campaign trail again, trying to convince Malaysians to vote for him in the Nov 19 election as he looks to finally fulfill his long-held dream of becoming prime minister.

He was in his element on the stump: joking with supporters as he peppered his speech with Quranic verses and Malay folklore to condemn his rivals and burnish his leadership credentials.

"I'm optimistic," Anwar told Reuters late on Friday after a packed day of campaigning at his constituency Tambun in west Malaysia, referring to his coalition's chances of victory and changing the political landscape in multi-ethnic, Muslim-majority Malaysia.

"We are here to emphasize governance and anti-corruption, and rid this country of racism and religious bigotry," he said. Anwar's alliance faces two other coalitions in the election - one led by incumbent Prime Minister Ismail Sabri Yaakob and the other by former premier Muhyiddin Yassin. There are several other parties in the running, including one founded by another former prime minister Mahathir Mohamad, a factor that is expected to split the votes more than ever before.

Opinion polls predict a tight race with no single party or coalition being able to win a simple majority needed to form the government.

Anwar has support from the ethnic-Chinese and Indian minorities, who form a third of the electorate, and from voters in urban areas. In Tambun town, he attracted hundreds at a campaign stop, with crowds spilling onto the road and the driver of a passing ambulance flashing Anwar a thumbs-up sign.

But he lacks widespread appeal among majority Malays due to his opposition to affirmative action favoring them and past allegations of sodomy, a crime in Malaysia. Anwar has spent around a decade in jail on sodomy and corruption charges. A survey by independent pollster Merdeka Center showed that Anwar lags behind his two rivals in



Malaysian opposition leader Anwar Ibrahim speaks during an interview with Reuters in Tambun, Perak, Malaysia Nov 4, 2022. REUTERS

popularity by 8 to 12 percentage points despite a recent uptick.

However, his multi-ethnic coalition was the most favored by voters at 26 percent, although nearly 31 percent were yet to decide who to vote for, Merdeka said. Ismail's Barisan Nasional coalition came in second at 24 percent.

No alliance

Anwar said he will not work with Ismail's or Muhyiddin's coalitions due to "fundamental differences", despite polls saying that alliances would be necessary to form the next government.

"Any form of coalition will be a major setback because you are having a coalition

with essentially racist or Muslim fanatics," said Anwar. He also ruled out working with friend-turned-foe Mahathir.

Barisan is led by a Malay nationalist party. Muhyiddin's coalition also prioritizes ethnic Malay interests and includes an Islamist party that has touted shariah law.

Anwar, who was deputy to Mahathir when he was prime minister in his first term, came close to the premiership after the opposition defeated Barisan for the first time in Malaysia's history in the 2018 election.

His party had joined hands with Mahathir amid widespread anger against the government over the multi-billion-dollar IMDB corruption scandal. Anwar was in prison during the 2018 election on what he says were politically-motivated sodomy charges, and later pardoned. Mahathir became prime minister and promised to hand over power to Anwar in two years. Anwar's wife took over as deputy prime minister, but the coalition collapsed in 22 months due to infighting over the transition.

Muhyiddin briefly became prime minister but Barisan came back to power in 2021 with Ismail at the helm as part of another alliance.

Oh Ei Sun, a senior fellow with Singapore's Institute of International Affairs, said Anwar was not likely to get enough Malay support to reach the finish line. "More of the rural Malay voters will flow back to (Barisan) in particular and Malay parties in general," he said. Anwar is also facing pressure from some in his own coalition to step down and make way for new leadership after over two decades at the helm.

Asked if this election would be his last, Anwar said he knew his limits. "Whether I am considered relevant or not in the next few years, that's for the people to decide," he said.

Agencies

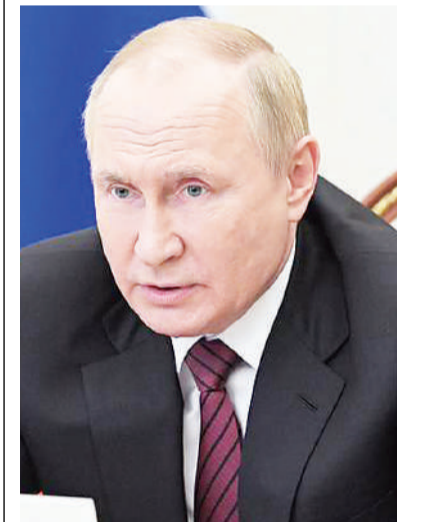
President Putin orders environmental protection missions be set up in Donbass

MOSCOW

ENVIRONMENTAL missions will be sent to the Donetsk and Lugansk People's Republics (DPR, LPR) to minimize the damage to the local natural surroundings that have suffered from military activities, according to an order that Russian President Vladimir Putin issued following a meeting with participants in an environmental youth forum.

The document, published on the Kremlin's website yesterday, points out that the Russian government, together with the DPR and LPR authorities and the autonomous non-profit organization the Garden of Memory, are going "to develop a program to send environmental humanitarian missions to the Donetsk and Lugansk People's Republics and train personnel for government bodies in the two regions, which will have powers in the field of environmental protection and natural resources, as well as to ensure the implementation of the program in order to minimize the damage that natural sites have suffered from military activities."

Putin expects to receive a report on the matter by February 1, 2023, and continue to get annual reports. Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin and the regional heads have been appointed responsible for the activity.



Xinhua

Truce deal to reverse socioeconomic challenges in Ethiopia

ADDIS ABABA

THE recently signed peace accord between the Ethiopian government and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) would potentially reverse the multifaceted conflict-induced socio-economic challenges, an Ethiopian scholar has said.

Constantinos Bt. Constantinos, a professor of public policy at Addis Ababa University in Ethiopia, told Xinhua that the armed conflict in Northern Ethiopia, which erupted in November 2020, has affected

human development across all the affected areas, resulting in "heavy losses of lives, livelihoods and physical infrastructure."

"He recalled the Ethiopian government's reports saying that the impact of the armed conflict in Northern Ethiopia has had "a devastating effect on the nation." Ethiopia, Africa's second most populous nation, has seen a devastating conflict between government-allied troops and forces loyal to the TPLF for the past two years, which left thousands dead and

millions in urgent need of humanitarian assistance.

The peace accord was signed in the South African capital Pretoria, days after an African Union (AU)-led negotiation, which was facilitated by Olusegun Obasanjo, the AU high representative for the Horn of Africa and former president of Nigeria, along with the former president of Kenya Uhuru Kenyatta, and former deputy president of South Africa Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka.

The two parties in the Ethiopian conflict have formally

agreed to the cessation of hostilities and orderly disarmament, Obasanjo said at a press briefing on the outcomes of the negotiation. The deal also includes restoring law and order, restoring services and unhindered access to humanitarian supplies, he said.

Noting the conflict has "scared investors away from the Ethiopian market, especially recently after the political and security situation worsened,"

Constantinos said the peace accord is potentially seen as a good news with regard to for-

eign direct investments inflow into the country. "Global companies closed their operations in Ethiopia," he said, adding that the companies' decision was encouraged by the U.S. administration's suspension of Ethiopia's membership in the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) due to allegations of gross human rights violations during the current conflict.

He emphasized that the new peace deal would also solve challenges concerning foreign aid interruption, loans and

debt servicing.

Constantinos said "Interruption of international aid can be a deadly measure for Ethiopia," adding "The suspension caused a huge loss for Ethiopia which relied on foreign aid to fund various development projects across the country."

He recalled Moody's Investors Service decision to lower Ethiopia's sovereign credit rating, a sign of the country's deteriorating economy and growing concerns over the country's ability to pay off debts.

Xinhua

Shanghai's Hongqiao Central Business District sees prosperous development of foreign trade

IN west Shanghai, a piece of land covering 151.4 square kilometers and adjacent to the Shanghai Hongqiao International Airport and the Shanghai Hongqiao Railway Station, is generating nearly 10 percent of the economic aggregate of the Yangtze River Delta with less than 2 percent of the delta's total area.

This piece of land is the Hongqiao Central Business District (CBD). It attracted major projects worth 120 billion yuan (\$16.47 billion) in the first eight months of 2022.

Asia Socks Inc. is a company based in the Hongqiao CBD. It sources finished socks from Southeast Asia and sells them to European and American merchants. The company has exported a total of \$2 million of socks.

Shanghai Totole Food Ltd., another company headquartered in the Hongqiao CBD, not only has established a sales network that covers China but also sells its products to countries in the West and the Middle East.

Besides, Shanghai Wooray Metals Group Co., Ltd. in the Hongqiao CBD reported revenue of 75 billion yuan in the first half of this year.

Companies in the central business district, driven by multiple factors, are forging ahead despite adversity.

Yang Xubo, head of the business development department of the administration committee of the Hongqiao CBD, introduced that the Hongqiao CBD recently named 30 companies as trade-oriented headquarters according to their annual revenue and other performance.



Foreign merchants visit the Food and Agricultural Products exhibition area at the fourth China International Import Expo (CIIE), November 2021. The CIIE, as a world-class exhibition, serves as a platform for foreign trade enterprises. (Photo by Zhai Huiyong/People's Daily Online)

Besides, the central business district is also home to a batch of "backup" enterprises of this type, which help foster a brighter future.

"Despite the impacts from COVID-19 in the second quarter, the Hongqiao CBD still enjoys robust momentum for foreign trade," said Mao Xiangyu, another official with the administration committee of the Hongqiao CBD.

"We are engaged in the development and sales of plant protection products and new fine chemical materials. We are doing business in Shanghai because of its geographical and platform advantages," said Bu Mingxing, general manager of CAC Shanghai International Trading Co., Ltd., which is located on No. 365 of Linshong Road, Changning district of Shanghai.

He told People's Daily that the Hongqiao CBD enjoys obvious geographical advantages and is home to many business plat-

forms.

According to him, his company has established cooperation with multiple transnational corporations and sells its products to overseas destinations after having participated in trade exhibitions held in the Hongqiao CBD, such as the China International Agrochemical & Crop Protection Exhibition.

"The China International Import Expo (CIIE) is seeing a constantly expanding spillover effect. We have set up permanent exhibition platforms such as the Hongqiao Import Commodity Exhibition and Trade Center and the Greenland Global Commodity Trading Hub, as well as ten 10-billion-yuan distribution centers of imported commodities, including an international coffee port," said Cai Jun, the CEO of a Shanghai-based enterprise operating the Hongqiao Import Commodity Exhibition and Trade Center.

Great platforms help enterprises pursue larger goals. In the Hongqiao CBD, there are trade service platforms such as the Hongqiao Overseas Trade Center and the Hongqiao International Central Legal Hub; there are demonstration bases of service trade facilitation such as the Shanghai Hongqiao Linkong Business Park and the Xihongqiao business district; there are cross-border e-commerce demonstration zones such as the Hongqiao Import Commodity Exhibition and Trade Center.

Offshore trade, new models of cross-border e-commerce, bonded exhibition, exhibits-turned-bonded commodities, exhibits-turned cross-border commodities and other new business forms are seeing rapid development. Innovative policies of the CIIE regarding customs clearance facilitation, capital settlement, investment facilitation and exit & entry of personnel have been upgraded to regular rules.

Recently, logistics company OCS ANA Group received its Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Business Travel Card. "Compared with business visas, the APEC Business Travel Card can make business activities more efficient," said Yu Tianli, deputy general manager of OCS ANA Group China.

Great services make resilient foreign trade in the Hongqiao CBD, and also boost the confidence of foreign trade enterprises in the district in coping with challenges.

People's Daily

US midterms: Biden warns of threats, Trump hints at running

NEW YORK

PRESIDENT Joe Biden warned that a Republican win in Tuesday's midterm elections could weaken US democracy, while former President Donald Trump hinted at another White House bid, two days before votes in which Republicans could gain control of both chambers of Congress.

The comments, made at dueling rallies held in New York and Florida, highlighted the grim prospects that Biden's Democrats face, despite fulfilling his promises to boost clean-energy incentives and rebuild crumbling roads and bridges.

Republicans have hammered Biden for high inflation and increased crime in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, and non-partisan forecasters favor them to win control of the House of Representatives - and possibly the Senate as well. Democrats' early leads in Senate races in Georgia, Pennsylvania and Nevada have evaporated.

Control of even one chamber would allow Republicans to stymie Democrat Biden's legislative agenda and launch potentially damaging investigations.

Biden warned that many Republican candidates are threatening democratic norms by echoing Trump's false claims about a stolen election in 2020. "Democracy is literally on the ballot," he told students at Sarah Lawrence College, north of New York City. "You can't only love the coun-



US President Joe Biden and former President Barack Obama attend a campaign for Democratic US senatorial candidate John Fetterman and Democratic nominee for Pennsylvania governor Josh Shapiro in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, US on Saturday. REUTERS

try when you win."

At a Trump rally in Miami, meanwhile, the former president recycled many of his unfounded complaints about the 2020 election and hinted that he may soon announce another presidential bid. "I will probably have to do it again, but stay tuned," he said, castigating the Biden administration for everything from violent crime to dirty airports.

Trump's advisers say an announcement about the 2024 presidential election could come sometime this month.

Despite Biden's warnings about democracy, many of his fellow Democrats have emphasized more practical matters, such as their work to lower prescription drug prices and defend Social Security. While many have campaigned on abortion rights, opinion polls show that has faded as a top voter concern.

Republicans have questioned Democrats' support for law enforcement and harnessed concerns about crime, which has emerged as a major election issue after murder rates increased during the COVID pandemic.

"In two short years, do you not feel the pain?" Republican Senate candidate Herschel Walker said at a rally in Georgia. "This is on their watch." Democrats have been saddled by Biden's unpopularity, which has forced him to hold back from campaigning in competitive states. Only 40 percent of Americans approve of his job performance, according to a Reuters/Ipsos poll completed on Tuesday.

Biden spoke in normally safe Democratic territory outside New York City, where Republicans are threatening to make gains.

New York's Democratic Governor Kathy Hochul is facing an unexpectedly stiff challenge from Republican Lee Zeldin, while Democratic House incumbents are locked in tight battles throughout the state.

SPORT



Former Azam FC's head coach, Denis Lavagne. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AZAM FC

Azam FC prolongs record firing of coaches

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

COACHING in a competitive soccer league is not only a profession that has the potential to be rewarding from a wide range of perspectives but also a profession known for its high demands and pressures, especially at the high profile leagues.

Coaches typically face a large number of varied demands associated with the working context such as unrealistic performance demands, management, administration, interpersonal, and organizational stress.

Moreover, the context is complex, dynamic, unpredictable, highly competitive, and involves extensive amounts of travel days and work hours without boundaries that may lead to work and home life interference.

Stress is and will always be an integral part and key feature of coaching at this level, coupled with unrealistic performance demands and job insecurity.

This is especially relevant for prominent team sports including football, which also involve thousands, and sometimes millions, of engaged and passionate fans, media, stakeholders, and sponsors.

Indeed, high-performance coaching, in general, is a profession that is vulnerable to mental health problems and in particular football, little mistakes committed by the tactician will end in the tactician losing his job because clubs' owners always need positive outcomes.

In Mainland Tanzania's Premier League, many outfits that have hired foreign coaches have ended up terminating their agreements with the tacticians either a few days before contract expiry or shortly after contract signing.

Records show that traditional rivals Simba SC and Yanga are the leading teams that have hired foreign coaches since they were established in 1935 (Yanga) and 1936 (Simba SC).

Azam FC is another outfit that has hired foreign coaches despite its infancy in the sport in comparison with Simba SC and Yanga SC.

Chamazi-based Azam FC was founded in 2004 and was then known as Mzizima Football Club, one year later the club's owners changed its name to Azam Sports Club. In 2006, the outfit was named Azam Football Club, the side started using its home stadium Azam Complex in 2010.

Since the outfit started battling it out in Mainland Tanzania Premier League, other local competitions, and continental inter-club showdowns, the outfit has lifted 10 trophies.

Azam FC has clinched one Premier League top honour, five Mapinduzi Cup showdown's top honours, two trophies in the Kagame Cup tournament, one Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) title, and one Community Shield.

In the 2013/14 Vodacom Premier League, the outfit won the league unbeaten, the squad boasted an unbeaten record in 26 matches in a run that stretched to 38 games from the 18th round of the 2012/13 season to the round of 2014/15 season.

In 2015, the club became the first in Tanzania's soccer history to win the Kagame Cup tournament's top honour without conceding a goal.

The list of foreign tacticians that have coached Azam FC is astonishingly long, with the tacticians making their way out of the squad for either one or more reasons.

The biggest reason that brought about the tacticians' contract termination is the side's poor results in Mainland Tanzania Premier League and CAF club tournaments.

Dutch tactician Hans van der Pluijm and his assistant Juma Mwambusi were fired by Azam FC's management following the outfit's poor performance.

Pluijm who is now Singida Big Stars' head coach and Mwambusi that is the head coach for Ihefu SC joined Azam FC on July 1, 2018, from Yanga and left the outfit on February 20, 2019.

French coach Denis Lavagne joined Azam FC on September 7, 2022, two weeks after the club had fired American coach Abdihamid Moallin.

Lavagne, sadly, became the only foreign coach who stayed with the outfit for the shortest time, spanning 47 days, losing his job for poor performance.

Moallin an American of Somali origin joined Azam FC on July 1, 2021, as the club's Technical Director.

In January 2022 he was appointed as the outfit's head coach to replace Zambian coach George Lwandamina who was fired following a poor performance at the start of the 2021/22 NBC Premier League. Moallin was fired on August 2022.

Lwandamina joined Azam FC on December 3, 2020, and was in charge of the club in the CAF Confederation Cup, which witnessed the outfit crash out of the Second Preliminary Round after losing to Pyramids FC of Egypt. The Zambian coach parted ways with the club on June 30, 2021.

English tactician Stewart Hall will remain in Azam FC's memories as the most successful coach at the outfit, leading the side's technical bench for two different terms.

He led Azam FC to the 2015 CECAFA Kagame Cup triumph, it was the first regional silverware that Azam FC managed to win.

But Hall left Azam FC after having failed to clinch the then Vodacom Premier League title in his three spells as the side's head coach.

The tactician then joined Sofapaka FC of Kenya where he stayed for about two months before making his way back to Azam FC after the outfit's management had parted ways with Serbian tactician Boris Bunjak who joined the side on August 8, 2012, and stayed until December 30, 2012.

Before moving to Sofapaka FC, Hall joined Azam FC to replace Cameroonian Joseph Omog who guided the club to its first Premier League triumph.

Omog who stayed at Azam FC for about 14 months was fired immediately after Azam FC had succumbed to a 3-0 loss to Sudan's El Merreikh in the return leg of CAF Champions League's First Preliminary Round in Khartoum.

But Omog will also be remembered at Azam FC for having led the outfit to triumph in the 2013/14 Vodacom Premier League. He joined Azam FC in December 2013 and left the outfit in March 2015. Romanian Aristica Cioaba had as well taken charge of Azam FC for two different terms.

He joined the club on January 11, 2017, and exited on November 26, 2018, as the club's management was dismayed by the series of poor results it had notched.

The Romanian's position was taken by Burundian tactician Etienne Ndaryagije who served for two years.

After Ndaryagije had secured the opportunity to coach Tanzania's senior national team 'Taifa Stars', Azam FC's management recalled Cioaba and sealed a one-year agreement with the gaffer but

Unfortunately, the tactician served for 12 matches in the Mainland Premier League having witnessed his outfit losing 1-0 to Yanga and succumbing to a similar loss to Kinondoni Municipal Council FC.

SPORTS

Yanga's visible exit in 2022/23 CAF CC raising the bar on player recruitment

By Correspondent John Kimbute

WITH the first leg goalless draw on the part of Mainland Tanzania Premier League champions Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, in the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup Additional Second Preliminary Round tie against Tunisia's Club Africain, hope appears to be lost on the faces of its fans, not having the hope that the side could turn the table on their opponents in its away match.

While that kind of result isn't necessarily out of reach, it isn't projected by the fan base and most pundits, as the easier guess is that Yanga exits the tournament.

The discussion is already on the post-exit scenario, on what needs to be done to get a credible side.

Unlike the situation at the time that the side drew one-all with top Sudanese club Al Hilal SC, this time there are no fingers pointed at particular players for a bad show, being either off form or not pushing themselves.

There is a wiser atmosphere on the sort of players the club needs to get ahead with continental tournaments, and none of the earlier braggadocio that the side was excellent, and would eclipse their next street rivals, Simba SC.

The focus is no longer on the local context but the wider context, as their rivals have demonstrated the ability to show clout in that sphere too.

As is usually the case, dissatisfaction with team performance quickly becomes dissatisfaction with club leadership, and there are clear rumblings in that direction but are unlikely to take any real form as yet.

There are two reasons for that, namely the relative youthfulness both of the leadership and the sponsorship format, that both these need to be given time to either settle or consolidate.

It is true that Yanga fans may have an axe to grind about team performance but loyalty looks solid, yet.

This benefit of the doubt of the fans over the club leadership looks like it will be applicable to head coach Nasreddine Nabi as well, despite that his case isn't as strong as that of club officials, and faith in GSM Group's sponsorship format.

Just as there is plenty of faith in both the company and its seconded senior official who is now running the club, faith in the coach can be said to be extremely high, or it has been so most of the season, starting from the later stages of the previous season.



Tanzania's Yanga midfielder, Khalid Aucho (C), dribbles past one of the defenders for Club Africain of Tunisia during the first leg of the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup Additional Second Preliminary Round which took place in Dar es Salaam last week. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

Little has changed in the faith that club officials or even the fans think of the Tunisian expert.

There is an additional circumstance that might just as well help Nabi in the current standoff with at least a few disgruntled fans, or perhaps some officials.

It is an apparent decision by Simba SC to end the search for a coach based on good outcomes by Juma Mgunda. His CV nowhere compares with Nabi's exploits.

This comes down to the view that Mgunda is doing well with the Simba SC as the group is already solid and performing in all departments, even if their next-street rivals have what it takes to hold them or edge them in local tournaments.

The few outings that Yanga have chalked in continental engagements this season has borne out a clear truth, that it is nowhere near their rivals' performance over the past few years, where even top continental sides can't be sure of either winning or drawing the local or away fixture.

Only if the side turns the tables in Tunis could that imagination be realized, but that prospect can't be read on the fans' faces now.

Instead, the success that Mgunda is registering can sober up Yanga fans that the issue is less the coach than the solidity of the team in various departments, and indeed the fans are beginning to face the stark reality of player abilities.

No consensus has as yet emerged on the match fitness and selection suitability of veteran captain Bakari Nondo Mwamnyeto, though it appears that central defender Dickson Job also has his critics. Upfront, Aziz Ki has passed the test, not Tuisila Kisinda.

What is happening may have been predictable all along, but then the level of late previous season intensity of festivity did not allow much reflection in that area, as

the test for a good team was one that could beat Simba SC twice, or thrice as it happened.

The Rivers United letdown was easy to explain as it was tied to player registration shenanigans at the start of the season, while this time the side was in its proper capacity. The coach feared for a key player failing to turn out, and they all did.

It is noticeable that the mood at Yanga is coming full circle, as the downturn or seemingly failure in the second-tier competition while their rivals braced on was too much to bear.

A leading sporting newspaper on the match day preview said in a hail of confidence that there is no language that Yanga's fans and members wish to hear from 4 pm at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium, but winning.

It was at least helpful that they did not lose, as the intensity of pain could touch off club chaos.

Njombe boxer to face Malawian opponent in fight next month

By Guardian Correspondent

AN up-and-coming Tanzanian professional pugilist Erasto Kabuje based in Makambako District, Njombe have got an opportunity to showcase his mettle, coming up against Raston Kayira of Malawi in an international non-title fight early next month.

The bout's coordinator Omari Yazidu revealed Kabuje fighting in the Featherweight division, will trade blows with the Malawian fighter in the fight scheduled for December 9 at Mid Town Hall in Makambako.

The Makambako pugilist has taken part in three fights, losing all via Knockout. The coordinator stated only one bout has so far been placed on Boxrec, a network that keeps records of professional pugilists from all over the world.

Omary noted the eight-round bout will be preceded by several bouts stretching four rounds including two fights that will bring together female pugilists, one of whom is promising Tanzanian female boxer Halima Yazidu.

The coordinator noted that Halima will come up against her compatriot, Walid Hasani of Sumbawanga.

In women's other fight, Makambako-based Debora Mwenda will trade punches with popular Dar es Salaam boxer, Halima Bandola, in a Super Featherweight bout that will stretch four rounds.

Tanzanian pugilists, Amos Kada of Makambako and Joseph Peter of Kyela, will face each other in a four-round, 90kg bout.

The coordinator pointed out the bouts have been organized by Jackson Mahuve of Mahuve Finacall firm based in Makambako, seeking to develop boxing in Njombe and the rest of Southern Highland Zone's regions.

Omari moreover noted preparations for the fights are going on well.

Halima's coming bout is an opportunity for the stylish pugilist to prove she still has what it takes to punish opponents and garner win in fights.

The Featherweight boxer, popularly known as 'Mafia Lady', has battled it out in five bouts, registering victory in four and losing one.

The orthodox fighter that has 165cm reach has not had much opportunity to take the ring and showcase her prowess in recent years.

Halima's recent two bouts had witnessed the pugilist cruising to win in one and succumbing to defeat in one.

The fighter defeated compatriot Amina Ally by Knockout in the third round of a four-round non-title fight that took place at Sky Point venue at Chamazi on October 22, 2017.

Halima, later on, lost to Zambian Catherine Phiri by Knockout in an eight-round international non-title fight that took place at City Mall, Solwezi in Zambia on April 28, 2018.



Makambako District's professional pugilist, Erasto Kabuje.

Belgium, Croatia veterans hoping to defy advancing years in Qatar

LONDON

BELGIUM and Croatia's ageing star players are looking forward to one last tilt at World Cup glory in Qatar, but will have to get past a dangerous Morocco side and tournament debutants Canada just to reach the knockout phase.

Roberto Martinez's Belgians are the Group F favourites, boasting a host of household names including Kevin De Bruyne, Romelu Lukaku and Eden Hazard.

Croatia, runners-up at the last World Cup to France, will again be led in midfield by the evergreen Luka Modric as they hope to surpass expectations again.

But Belgium, who finished third in 2018, have questions hovering over their defence, with a combined age of 68 for centre-backs Toby Alderweireld and Jan Vertonghen, both now playing club football back home.

There are also worries over key players in forward positions.

Captain Hazard has mustered just 11 starts for Real Madrid since the start of last season, while Lukaku has only made two substitute appearances since August due to a muscle problem.

"Is Eden Hazard still an important player for the national team? Yes, 100 percent," Martinez told RTBF last month.

"I think his experience, the way he affects the opposition, the way he's still beating players, he's creating a real threat.

"For me it's a profile that is one of the best in the world in terms of being able to play."

The Red Devils remain in the lofty position of second in the FIFA rankings, though, behind only Brazil, and will be hopeful of finally ditching their tag of 'nearly-men' in recent championships.

Belgium have not failed to reach the quarter-finals of a major tournament since missing out on qualification for Euro 2012.

Canada will be Belgium's first oppo-

nents on November 23 as the North Americans make only their second appearance in the tournament and first since 1986.

But any thoughts the Canadians will be pushovers are likely to be misplaced, after John Herdman led his young side to the finals as the winners of CONCACAF qualifying.

Englishman Herdman took Canada to the 2015 Women's World Cup quarter-finals.

Their top scorer in qualifying was Cyle Larin, who plays for Belgian champions Club Brugge, while Bayern Munich wing-back Alphonso Davies has returned in good form after a Covid-related heart problem.

- Can Croatia produce again? -

Croatia enjoyed a wonderful four weeks in Russia four years ago, with a run to the final of which the highlights included a 3-0 thumping of Argentina and a dramatic extra-time victory over England in the semi-finals.

Zlatko Dalic had only taken the reins as coach during qualifying for that competition but remains at the helm.

His team arrive in Qatar fresh from reaching the Nations League finals, emerging as winners of a group which featured world champions France and Euro 2020 semi-finalists Denmark.

Mario Mandzukic and Ivan Rakitic have retired since the last World Cup, but 37-year-old captain Luka Modric, winger Ivan Perisic and midfielder Mateo Kovacic remain.

Morocco, Croatia's first opponents, sacked coach Wahid Halilhodzic just three months before the tournament and appointed Walid Regragui.

Halilhodzic had controversially sidelined star players Nussair Mazraoui of Bayern and Chelsea's Hakim Ziyech before being dismissed.

Morocco impressed for large periods of their matches in 2018, as they returned to the World Cup for the first time in 20 years, but struggled in front of goal and finished bottom of their group.

AFP

Belgium's golden generation face last stand at World Cup

BELGIUM'S "golden generation" have one more chance to shed their reputation as serial underachievers after Kevin De Bruyne signalled the end of an era by admitting the World Cup in Qatar is likely to be his last.

Boasting a star-studded line-up featuring De Bruyne, Thibaut Courtois, Eden Hazard and Romelu Lukaku, Belgium will be ranked as one of the favourites when the tournament gets underway on November 20.

Yet Belgium have struggled to live up to the hype in the decade since their talented crop burst onto the international stage with a revelatory 4-2 win over the Netherlands in 2012.

At the 2014 World Cup, Belgium bowed out against Argentina in the quarter-finals.

Four years later they lost to France in the World Cup semi-finals in what so far rates as the best run of an era that promised so much for the Red Devils.

For a team regarded as potential title winners, those exits and a pair of European Championship quarter-final defeats in 2016 and 2020 were not rewarding enough, leading to Belgium being labelled underachievers.

Former Belgium coach George Leekens questioned the mentality of Roberto Martinez's side in a scathing assessment of their failure to win a trophy.

"Without a trophy, we climbed to first place in the FIFA rankings. But this first rank means nothing," Leekens said.

"When you don't dare to do things, nothing is with you. This mentality and this will to win does not exist in Martinez's group."

With the vast majority of Belgium's stars now in their 30s, this World Cup looks increasingly certain to be the generation's last stand.

Emerging talents Lois Openda, 22, Charles De Ketelaere, 21, and Amadou Onana, 21, offer hope for a bright Belgium future.

But De Bruyne, Hazard, Courtois, Toby Alderweireld, Jan Vertonghen, Alex Witsel and Dries Mertens will be retired or well past their best by the next World Cup in 2026.

- 'We haven't won anything' -

Hazard, Belgium's captain since 2015, acknowledges his team face a defining moment when they head to Qatar.

"There's always talk of the golden generation but there's some truth to it. We've spent almost 10 years together," Hazard said.

"Of course, we've got an incredible generation of players, but we still haven't won anything. If we really want to earn that golden generation nickname, I think that's the one thing we still need to do."

Martinez, in his sixth year as Belgium boss, will hope De Bruyne's realisation that he may not play in another World Cup adds a sense of urgency to the rest of the squad's 30-somethings.

The Manchester City midfielder will bring his family to the Gulf state for Belgium's Group F games against Canada, Morocco and Croatia as he wants his children to see him play in the World Cup at least once.

"My family are going over for the group stages. I am obviously 31 and I don't know what will happen in four years. This is the first time my kids can come to the World Cup," De Bruyne said.

"That is why they are coming. It will be special, an event I don't want them to miss. They are six, four and two. The eldest two of them follow the football a bit but the daughter, not really, but she can go and enjoy the sun and play in the pool.

"I'm excited. It will be my third one and it is always special. These events are great as everyone is watching it. It is big but there is no point to stress about it."

AFP

Arsenal looks a genuine title contender after Chelsea win

MANCHESTER, England

MIKEL Arteta is making believers out of Arsenal doubters, while his predecessor Unai Emery has unfinished business in the Premier League.

It was a good day for Gunners managers past and present as Arsenal moved back to the top of the table with a 1-0 win against Chelsea on Sunday and Aston Villa stunned Manchester United 3-1 in Emery's first game in charge.

The win at Villa Park saw Emery taste triumph – at the first opportunity – with his new club, something the Spaniard hadn't achieved in his previous seven games with Arsenal. That run ultimately saw Emery replaced by Arteta.

Emery has returned to England three years later to see his former team transformed.

Arsenal's win against Chelsea overcame the latest test of its title credentials. Victory in the final round of games before the World Cup will ensure Arsenal is top of the table for Christmas, with the domestic calendar resuming Dec. 26.

The celebrations at Manchester City after a late 2-1 win against Fulham on Saturday underlined the level of threat that Arteta's Arsenal presents to the reigning champions.

And when Gabriel pounced after 63 minutes at Stamford Bridge it strengthened the growing belief that Arsenal can maintain a genuine challenge.

"Individually, collectively, that's as good as I've seen an Arsenal team in years," former defender Martin Keown told BT Sport. "Desire, tenacity, hunger, it's all there. They're ready to win."

Arsenal fans have experienced many false dawns in the past, but a run of 11 wins from 13 games at the start of the season has set a pace that even City cannot match.

Not that Arteta is ready to publicly declare his team is in contention for the title.

"Just look at the last six years, what Manchester City have done," he said. "With the best manager in the world, the best team in the world.



Arsenal's Bukayo Saka, third from left back to the camera, celebrates with teammates after scoring the opening goal during the English Premier League soccer match between Chelsea and Arsenal at Stamford Bridge Stadium in London, Sunday, Nov. 6, 2022. (AP Photo)

"They have shown it consistently in every single competition. We have to be very, very respectful of that."

Emery will hope to earn the respect that didn't always come his way when he was in charge at Arsenal.

A manager with nine major trophies to his name lasted just 18 months at the Emirates Stadium and was largely dismissed as a failure.

The rehabilitation of his reputation in England could not have got off to a better start, with Villa 2-0 up against United within 11 minutes.

"I think we made the first step today," Emery said afterward. "I am a privileged man to be here and to win against them."

"It's only one step and we have to achieve regularity and we have to achieve being consistent in the next matches – at home and away. We have a lot of work to do."

SALAH DOWNS SPURS

Mohamed Salah made it nine goals in his last eight games in all competitions to secure Liverpool's

first away win in the league this season.

The Egyptian struck twice in the first half to set up Liverpool's 2-1 win against Tottenham, with Harry Kane scoring for the hosts.

"I'm focused on making a difference and managed to do so today," Salah told Sky Sports.

NEWCASTLE RUN CONTINUES

It's now six wins from seven games for third-place Newcastle after beating Southampton 4-1 on Sunday, but manager Eddie Howe still wasn't satisfied.

"The overall performance was below where it has been," Howe told BBC Sport. "Recently we've played at a really high level consistently and today dropped below it."

"I don't think we were particularly good with the ball. I'm not being over dramatic or critical, the players have done brilliantly and it's not easy to win in the Premier League at home or away. We've won comfortably but I think the lads know they weren't quite there today."

Miguel Almiron, Chris Wood, Joe Willock and Bruno Guimaraes

scored for Newcastle.

TEN HAG: 'NOT ACCEPTABLE'

Manchester United manager Erik ten Hag criticized his players after the defeat at Villa.

It is the third time United has lost away in the Premier League this season. "Our players are experienced," he told Sky Sports. "You have to read the game and get right the organization. Not concede two (early) goals – that's totally unnecessary.

"It starts with the players following the rules. It looked like they (Aston Villa) were fresher. That's not acceptable. Players have to take responsibility and be ready."

MOYES BEMOANS GIFTS

West Ham manager David Moyes said his team gifted Crystal Palace a 2-1 win.

"We scored against the run of play then we gave away a terrible goal," he said. "We hadn't played well, but it was still even at halftime.

"For all the things Palace did well, their good play didn't lead to goals. Our bad play got them the first goal and the second was bad play as well."

AP

From refugee camp to World Cup: Davies relishing Canada mission

TORONTO

WHEN Alphonso Davies runs out onto the turf of the Al Rayyan Stadium to face a star-studded Belgium on November 23 it will mark the latest step of a remarkable journey that has taken him from a refugee camp to the World Cup.

The fleet-footed Canada and Bayern Munich winger has crammed so much into his record-breaking career that it is easy to forget he is still only 22.

At an age when many professionals are still feeling their way into the upper echelons of the sport, Davies is already a seasoned veteran.

Four Bundesliga titles, a Champions League winners' medal and a FIFA Club World Cup crown are just some of the honours Davies has gathered in a professional career that began as a 15-year-old in Major League Soccer.

It's all a far cry from how the buccaneering wing-back started life.

Davies was born at the turn of the century in a refugee camp in Ghana, where he spent the first four years of his life after his parents fled civil war in Liberia.

"When we went to get our food, we had to step over corpses," according to Davies' mother, Victoria, in a grim reference to life in the camp.

To escape the squalor, his parents migrated to Canada, first to Windsor, Ontario, then to Edmonton, Alberta.

In the country where ice hockey is king, Davies started to show huge potential with a football in after-school games at primary school and his talent was quickly spotted.

"The child was a gift to the game," remembered Tim Adams, founder of the after-school league 'Free Footie' where Davies first stood out.

He joined a football academy in Edmonton and as a 14-year-old he impressed on trial in Vancouver, where he joined the Whitecaps youth system. Then the records started tumbling. Aged 15 years and eight months, he became the youngest Canadian to play in the MLS.



Alphonso Davies

- 'Anything's possible' -

Aged 16, seven months, he became the youngest Canadian international, named in the squad days after becoming a citizen.

In July 2017, Davies ended up as the joint top-scorer with three goals at the CONCACAF Gold Cup as Canada lost in the quarter-finals to Jamaica, who in turn went down 2-1 to the USA in the final.

Craig Dalrymple, his former coach in Vancouver, compares Davies to France's teen star Kylian Mbappe "for his power and speed", but the youngster admits Lionel Messi is his idol.

In 2018, Davies was signed by Bayern Munich in a then record deal for an MLS player worth up to \$22 million.

After a handful of appearances in the 2018-2019 season, Davies' career took off in the 2019-2020 campaign, notably with a typically electrifying performance in a 3-0 Champions League away victory over Chelsea.

That pandemic-interrupted season ended with Davies winning the Champions League in a 1-0 Bayern victory over Paris Saint-Germain, making him the first Canadian international to win the title.

Although an integral part of the Canada squad that qualified for the World

Cup for the first time in 36 years, Davies was sidelined for several months this year after developing the inflammatory heart condition myocarditis following a Covid-19 infection.

Having battled back to fitness, he limped off with a thigh injury in Bayern's 3-2 win against Hertha Berlin on November 5, but the club quickly said his World Cup participation was not in danger.

Davies is relishing being one of Canada's team leaders in Qatar even though he admits to nerves about finally playing in a World Cup.

"I'm gonna be a little bit nervous (at the World Cup)," Davies said in a recent interview.

"But for me it's just: We made it to this point for a reason and each and every one of us have to be confident in ourselves and go out there and show what we have."

Canada coach John Herdman jokes however that Davies is probably secretly thinking of winning the World Cup.

"He embodies what this team is about, what this country is about – the confidence, the swagger, the anything's possible," Herdman said.

"This kid is a refugee from West Africa, who's got Champions League trophies, all these Bundesliga titles, and he's 22 years old. So, I'm sure he's thinking he's winning this World Cup.

"And that's the new Canadian mindset."

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Arsenal looks a genuine title contender after Chelsea win

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

Simba SC coach braced for stiff opposition from Singida Big Stars

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA SC's interim head coach Juma Mgunda expects tough opposition when the squad comes up against Singida Big Stars in the 2022/23 NBC Premier League clash which will be played at Liti Stadium in Singida tomorrow.

After posting a 5-0 win over Mtibwa Sugar, Simba SC is in full confidence having faced tough fixtures, some of which saw the club come up against Yanga and Azam FC.

In the duels against Azam FC and Yanga, Simba SC collected one point, settling for a 1-1 draw with Yanga and going down 1-0 to Azam FC.

Mgunda, famously known for deploying a modern style consisting of a lot of passes and speed, had a chance to analyze Singida Big Stars' approach and how to face them and the next step is giving his players methods to win the match.

The outspoken tactician said: "I have seen Singida Big Stars, they are a good team with good players boasting lots of experience, I think it will be a competitive match for us with a lot to learn from."

Mgunda revealed: "Many of their players have played for Simba SC and Yanga. They have that elite mentality going into games like these."

"We are aware of the threat they possess, they score goals even when their forwards are struggling and midfielders have contributed to goals too," Mgunda stated. "We want to collect as many points as possible on away grounds, something we struggled with last season," he revealed.

In preparation for the coming match, Simba SC will have all players after the return of the defensive midfielders Sadio Kanoute and Victor Akpan, defenders Shomari Kapombe, Israel Mwenda, and Mohamed Ouattara, and midfielder Jimmyson Mwanuke who were injured.

The game, which will be played at Liti Stadium, is the two clubs' first meeting, as this is Singida Big Stars' debut season in the Premier League after garnering promotion having performed well in the previous season's Championship League, formerly termed First Division League, the squad was known as DTB FC before changing ownership.

While Simba SC boasts of the quality of its squad full of stars, especially the ones making the attacking area, Singida Big Stars also has a quality striker in Meddie Kagere, something that will make the match exciting.



Tanzanian artist Sharif Said Juma alias 'Jay Melody' performs at a concert, termed 'Kendwa Rocks Full Moon Party', held in Zanzibar last weekend. NMB Bank was one of the main sponsors of the concert whereby the institution's customers who paid bills with either their NMB Mastercards or by scanning the NMB QR were given a 10% discount of their bills. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

TO NIGHT @ 9:00

MJADALA

EATV TUESDAY

11:00 DADAZ
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA
13:00 Mpera Mpera
13:30 Kali Za Wana
13:55 Dandao Za Michezo
14:00 5SPORTS (I)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Mpera Mpera
15:55 Dandao Za Michezo
16:00 Hot Spot
16:30 Zote Kuntu
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 Kali Za Wana
18:30 #HASHTAG
19:00 EATV SAA I
20:00 DADAZ (I)
21:00 MJADALA
21:30 Zote Kuntu
23:00 Kurasa
23:05 Club Bangers

MJADALA is a program that brings together stakeholders and the executive elite to discuss timely, national development issues.

The program targets an audience that is aware of current developmental challenges and opportunities and is keen to share, engage and participate in the shaping process.

eastafrica RADIO

04:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Pimeli Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM



Six Mwitaka of the Rukwa regional basketball team slots in a point as CRDB Youth squad's guards try to keep him in check as the two squads locked horns in the 2022 CRDB Taifa Cup tournament's clash in Tanga yesterday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Kigoma beats Morogoro in 2022 CRDB Taifa Cup showpiece

By Guardian Correspondent, Tanga

KIGOMA regional basketball side defeated Morogoro 48-45 in the women's category of the ongoing CRDB Taifa Cup tournament that is taking place in Tanga.

The match's eventual losers had led the first quarter 15-14 and kept on taking control in the second quarter for a 26-22 half-time lead.

Kigoma though changed their playing pattern into more attacking and defending for a 14-all in the third quarter.

They were in great form in the last quarter to unexpectedly take a 12-5 lead in the last quarter.

Meanwhile, Arusha was in scintillating form and registered a 48-38 victory over their neighbours Kilimanjaro in an entertaining match that took place at the same venue.

It was the third consecutive defeat for Kilimanjaro which had earlier lost to Mwanza and Dodoma.

Much as Kilimanjaro managed to narrowly lead 9-8 in the first quarter, they went into the break trailing Arusha 19-14.

Arusha tactically changed their game approach, opting to make forays into their opponents' arc and stretching their lead in the third quarter 16-13.

Arusha's Maria Mbaga notched 16 points despite missing some free throws, teammate Victoria Laizer took seven rebounds for her side.

Kilimanjaro squad's head coach Daud Hizzah however defended his players saying the ballers are lacking experience.

"We have lost all of our three outings against Arusha, Mwanza, and Dodoma because of inexperience," he said.

The event has been sponsored by CRDB Bank, involving 36 regional hoops teams battling it out in men's and women's categories.

The tournament's winners will walk away with trophies and cash prizes amounting to 10m/- set aside for winners of either category.

There are also other cash prizes for the runners-up and third-placed squads as well as other hefty prizes for individual performances.

Coach confident of Simba Queens' chances to win 2022 CAF Women's Champions League



Simba Queens head coach Charles Lukula. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA QUEENS FC

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA'S Simba Queens SC's head coach Charles Lukula is never lacking in the confidence department.

In this case, though, he is talking about winning the 2022 CAF Women's Champions League that is taking place in Morocco.

After gunning down Zambia Women's Premier League and reigning COSAFA Zonal Qualifiers' champions Green Buffaloes in Group A to qualify for the continental showdown's semi-finals on Saturday, Lukula is confident Simba Queens have a genuine shot at lifting the CAF Women's Champions League silverware.

"I've started thinking about the trophy, I can win the trophy be-

cause I have a better team. I didn't come here to make the numbers but to make a mark and I'm feeling confident I'm going to win this trophy although this is my first time, I trust my team 100 percent to achieve it," Lukula told CAF Media.

The 45-year-old Ugandan, who joined Tanzania's Women's Premier League champions from Ugandan side She Corporates FC just a few weeks before the competition, attributed the team's progress on the pitch to the incredible administrative support.

"When it comes to administrative support, Simba Queens is the best. Although I joined them very late for the period of preparation, they provided everything I needed in those three weeks," Lukula continued.

The coach stated: "That is the reason why you see we are performing well in every game and the players adopted my playing style very quickly because I was with

them in the same group in the CECAFA Zonal qualifiers."

Lukula disclosed: "I knew them there, which made it easier for me to adapt to know every player, and that is the reason why I've no reason to worry that one day we shall get it right."

Simba Queens is the first East African club to reach the last four of the CAF Women's Champions League finals and is now just two steps away from the title dream.

Tomorrow, they will lock horns with South Africa's Mamelodi Sundowns Ladies, with the final of the 2022 CAF Women's Champions League at stake.

Mamelodi Sundowns Ladies who are the tournament defending champions, the side defeated DR Congo outfit TP Mazembe WFC 2-0 in their final Group B match played at Grand Stade de Marrakech on Sunday evening to top Group B with nine points.

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Arusha was in scintillating form and registered a 48-38 victory over their neighbours Kilimanjaro in an entertaining match that took place at the same venue

Flexibles by David Chikoko

