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TANZANIA

FRIDAY 14 JANUARY, 2022

SECURITY



MWINYI FOR STRONGER JKT-JKU

GOVERNANCE



POOR OUALITY OF NEW CLASSROOMS IRKS RC PAGE4

ACCIDENT



TWO FOUND DEAD IN GOLDMINING

EDUCATION



DC WARNS PARENTS ON SCHOOL ENROLMENT PAGE6



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Respecting authority is paramount, says Samia

Lukuvi to coordinate government business

By Correspondent James Kandoya

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan yesterday called on newly appointed cabinet ministers and other top officials to work diligently in serving Tanzanians and respect lawful

authorities as per the oath they take upon appointment.

In a post swearing-in address, the president said public institutions underline the legitimacy of those who hold those offices,

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yesterday for the continuation of the proceedings of his criminal case. Photo: Correspon

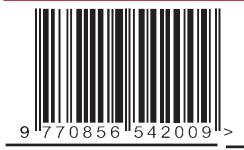
'Human rights court facing tests in 2022'

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

THE year 2022 comes with peculiar challenges that the African Court on Human and People's Rights must work to solve, the court's president, Lady Justice Imani Aboud (pictured) has declared.

"The African Court will certainly encounter challenges that are common to the administration of justice in Africa during a time when justice will remain largely virtual," she said in the judicial entity's New Year statement.

"These challenges include upholding fair trial rights, developing adequate solutions to emerging socio-political litigation, and



enforcing effective remedies in an era of increased assertion of sovereignty by states," the statement underlined.

"In the year 2022, the African Court will therefore assume the huge task of delivering human rights justice in a regional environment impacted by the global democracy crisis. For this, the court will have to withstand the challenges that the operational environment will undoubtedly affect its operation," she asserted.

The court needs to grapple with the crucial need to best capitalize on its now well established operational capacity to harness quality and greater authority, she stated, affirming that realising this aim necessarily involves internal institutional reform.

"But it certainly requires external stakeholders to reinvent their judicial engagement in a way that helps the court unleash its full justice-delivering potential, as envisaged by the African Union and fervently awaited by Africans," the court president

The Arusha-based Pan-African Court is

TURN TO PAGE 2

Sand quarry pit collapses, leaving three people dead

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

AN abandoned sand quarry pit caved in on five people on Wednesday at Mlima CCM in Muriet ward, Arusha Region, leaving three of them dead.

Regional Police Commander Justine Masejo said the five were digging for murram before a huge chunk of soil broke loose and fell on them.

District Commissioner Said Mtanda confirmed the incident, as he headed for the quarry to help in supervising rescue

He conveyed his condolences to the families of the deceased, but declared: "I would like to stress that the government has been prohibiting quarrying activities in these areas after assessing the possibilities

that the government has been prohibiting quarrying activities in these areas after assessing the possibilities of disaster striking

I would like to stress

The DC ordered police, the Mining Commission and the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) to mount patrols in the area and in all other places where quarry activities continue despite being prohibited.

Anyone found disregarding the directives would face legal action, he

while Muriet health centre doctor in charge Hamisi Balewa confirmed having received the bodies of the three people.

Peter Kachema, the chairman of the Murram Mining Association in the area, said the two people who survived the incident had fled shortly before the pit collapsed.

TPDF member (31) 'stabs, kills father'

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

POLICE in Mbeya Region have arrested a TPDF soldier, Mussa Ndonde (31) from Ruvu JKT camp at Mlandizi in Coast Region, suspected of killing his own father, Edward Ndonde (75), resident of Lumbila area in Mbeya City.

It is claimed that the suspect attacked the deceased with a knife and cut off one of his hands, with Acting Regional Police Commander Christina Musyani (pictured) saying here yesterday that the incident happened on Wednesday at around nine in



the morning.

As to the cause of the murder, Musyani said the suspect accused his late father for being a magician, using his charms on him so that he does not become successful in his undertakings.

"Earlier, the suspect arrived at the house of the deceased unannounced and went straight to the sitting room and fiercely started attacking him leading to his death," she said.

The body of the deceased was preserved at the Mbeya Zonal Referral Hospital for examination while the suspect was admitted to the same hospital under police guard, after he was attacked by neighbours upon seeing what he had done to his father.

Acting RPC Musyani reproved the incident saying they will make sure the suspect answers for his crime in court, urging people to stop believing in

40 illegal immigrants from Ethiopia arrested in Iringa

By Guardian Correspondent, Iringa

POLICE in collaboration with immigration officers in Iringa Region have arrested 40 Ethiopia nationals for allegedly entering the country illegally.

Police Iringa Regional Commander, Allan Bukumbi told reporters here that the suspects were arrested on Wednesday along the Iringa-Mbeya highway after they were abandoned in a truck with registration number T517 DJY owned by Deogratius Kimambo, a Kilimanjaro Region resident.

Bukumbi said the arrest of the suspected illegal immigrants was a continuation of various on-going operations in the region aimed at combating criminal incidents.

"In efforts to strengthen security and safety in our region, we've continued to conduct various patrols and anti-crime searches, the operations have been producing positive outcomes which include arresting of various criminals and properties," he said, noting:

"On January 12, this year at around 4:45pm at Ugwachanya area in Mseke ward, Iringa municipality, while on patrol, the Police Force was able to seize a vehicle with registration number T517 DJY-Mitsubish Fuso which belongs to Deogratius Kimambo of Moshi in Kilimanjaro region being abandoned on the Iringa-Mbeya highway by an unidentified driver."

He named some of the arrested Ethiopian nationals as Cosoin Nyele (20) and Tomes Kebere (21), along with other suspects who entered the country through Namanga border crossing.

RPC Bukumbi said the suspects were en-route to Mbeya and will be brought to court after investigation.

In another incident, on January 11, this year at around 3pm on the Iringa - Njombe highway in

Changalawe area of Mafinga Town in Mufindi District, Iringa Region, police officers in collaboration with security officers at the Ruaha national park arrested two suspects transporting 17 elephant tusks, two whole teeth and a hippo tooth on a motorcycle.

The suspects were identified as Ezekiel Patrick (43) and George Ng'umbi (25), both farmers and residents of Kinyanambo in Mafinga town. They were transporting the government trophies on a motorcycle with registration number MC.171 CBO owned by

The police force also, on January 7, this year arrested Paul Kalinga (47), a farmer and resident of Igangindundu in Kiponzero ward with two elephant tusks.

In its patrol also in various areas of Watalisori, Ifuwa and Udekwa in Kilolo District, the Police Force caught various weapons, including three shotguns, three rifles and five gobole which were mostly used to implement illegal wildlife hunting.

Police have also arrested a hardcore thief of motorcycles in Iringa Municipal identified as Godson Kahemela whom after a search in his house was found with various theft items including a motorcycle with registration MC. 770 AJF, a 56- inch mattress in the country 56, a small ORYX gas cylinder, one Aboder subwoofer and various clothes.

The regional police commander said Kahemela injured three police officers before he was arrested.



...the suspects were en-route to Mbeya and will be brought to court after investigation



President Samia Suluhu Hassan pictured at Chamwino State House in Dodoma yesterday swearing in Said Shaibu Mussa as Tanzania's Ambassador to

Respecting authority is paramount, says Samia

FROM PAGE 1

explaining that the presidency is a vital institution and even if one doesn't like Samia, patriotism requires that the person show respect for the presidency.

"If you don't like Samia, just respect your country," she affirmed, underlining that the presidency was an institution and not a person, expressing discomfort with faulty constitutional views where people think of a person rather than that institution as such.

President Samia said anyone holding the presidency represents that institution and no one has an option about respecting that institution, in wishing well for the country.

Citing scriptures, President Samia said since all power comes from God; therefore, if you don't like Samia respect divinity, knowing that the president's power to rule comes from divinity.

The new appointees must not to ignore what the presidency is obliged to do for the public interest, demanding that they assess themselves in relation to the oath they took upon appointment, to be sure of their commitment to lead the way in serving the community.

"Although no one is perfect, weaknesses should not override duty," she said, referring to files containing work assessments of everyone. "When I go deep, I find that most of you did not respect or work as per the oaths taken upon appointment."

She expressed concern on the way misunderstandings among leaders lead to leakage of classified public information on social media, urging that officials should ensure there is no leakage of classified public information. They need to ensure they solve problems wisely

in the ministries they lead "instead of shouting or showing masculinity," she cautioned.

The president reminded ministers to avoid nepotism, to recruit staff based on qualifications, warning that it kills institutional performance. When implementing their duties, ministers must assess themselves if they are on the right track in serving the public, she emphasised.

Former Lands minister William Lukuvi has meanwhile been tasked with a new role as coordinator of government business, working from the State House.

Explaining the roles of the senior member of the cabinet, President Samia cited challenges experienced as to coordinating government work, which hinders efficiency, as the department of coordination within the Prime Minister's Office was inadequate.

Lukuvi shall work with the office of the Chief Secretary hand in hand to coordinates government work, liaising the work of different sectors and monitoring performance in all ministries, the president underlined.

"We have had challenges in coordination of operations of government in key sectors that affect our people directly such as water, health, education and others. Now Lukuvi will help us with this," she said.

A few sectors have a direct impact on the people so they must be given priority and closely coordinated, she further noted, citing the sectors as education, health, water and rural electrification

"Those who have been ministers and deputy ministers are aware that there was lack of coordination and cooperation between various sectors, with every agency or

ministry working on its own," she

'Human rights court facing tests in 2022'

back to the heart of human rights justice in Africa in the course of this year, she remarked, commending member states of the African Union for their unwavering commitment to engage in a constructive dialogue with the court.

The dialogue aims at conducting a review of their role in promoting human rights justice in the AU member states, she stated, affirming that it was also important to note that the protection of human rights cannot be fully realised without the active participation of African citizens and the support of non-government actors, as they represent the people of Africa.

"The African Court therefore hopes that African civil society joins the court's reform process by actively engaging with the African Union, individual states, and the court," the statement noted, urging citizens all over the continent to "proactively engage with the court directly and through African civil societies to ensure the effective protection of their rights and fundamental freedoms."

Human rights justice is at the center of the debate on current threats to democratisation in Africa, with a growing general concern that human rights will be the primary victim of a new global trend of unconstitutional changes

of government and relapse to similarly working to bring states authoritarianism, the leading jurist lamented.

"Should African governments renew their commitment to the original aim that led to the establishment of the African Court, it is certain that, by readapting itself to cope with and respond to today's challenges, the court will make an unprecedented contribution to resolving the regional democracy crisis currently facing the continent," she further asserted.

"My message for this year is therefore a call for all stakeholders to build an alliance towards three main achievements: pursue quality justice; place States at the heart of the discourse on human rights justice; and devise strategies to promote Africa's contribution to overcome the global and regional democracy crisis."

In the past two years, the African Court has adjusted itself to the fastchanging sphere of international human rights justice, especially in handling the challenges brought by the Covid-19 pandemic, underlining that court achievements since the advent of the pandemic show a consistent trend of increased 'productivity.'

Despite the difficulty of holding in-person sessions, it has almost doubled its judicial output by delivering several judgments in one calendar year, the statement added.



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has an audience at Zanzibar State House yesterday with Chief of National Service Major General Rajabu Mabele (2nd-L), who went to introduce himself. Left is Zanzibar JKU Chief Commander Colonel Makame Abdalla Daima. Photo: State House

RC directs local councils to submit weekly reports on students' enrolment

By Guardian Correspondent, Rungwe

ALL local councils in Mbeya Region have been directed that on every Friday they should submit to his office a report on the number of students in elementary classes who were enrolled in the region's various primary schools.

The directives were given here

Commissioner, Juma Homera during his investigation visit of various projects implemented with Covid-19 funds in the education and health sectors in Rungwe and Busokelo district councils.

He said the submission of such reports should start as soon as schools open.

"Our region is among regions

enroll students at elementary school in the country, attaining 46 per cent countrywide, but the situation is far from being satisfactory, we should increase enrolment efforts in order to do wee nationally," said RC Homera.

In another development, Homera was handed with more than 70 classrooms whose construction was Form I students soon after schools are open.

He praised Rungwe and Busokelo district officials for completing in time classrooms construction as well as the construction of new secondary school through Covid-19 funds provided to build classrooms.

Mwankunga thanked the government for providing them with funds for various development projects, the projects that will ensure provision of better social services to the people.

He added that apart from the completion of these projects, including those for health centres, For his part, Rungwe District dispensaries and schools, still there

Wednesday by Mbeya Regional that have been making big efforts to completed at 100 per cent for use by Council Chairman, Mpokigwa was the huge challenge regarding staff shortage, and appealed to the government to employ more staff in both the health and education sectors.

For his part, Rungwe District Commissioner, Dr Vincent Anney said all ongoing projects are fully supervised, and wished that all of them to be completed by April this





President Samia Suluhu Hassan swears in Aisha Amour (R) as Works and Transport ministry (Works) permanent secretary at Chamwino State House in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: State House

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

DODOMA magistrate court has sentenced Dar es Salaam resident, Kitareti Mahuti to two years' imprisonment and 2m/- fine after being found guilty of pretending to be Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA)'s officer.

In his ruling on case number 170 of 2019, Resident Magistrate, Aloyce Katemana said the court was satisfied with the evidence tabled by the complainant. The accused is said to have committed the offence in different regions in the country.

He said the court has been convinced beyond reasonable doubt that the accused committed the offence and sentenced to jail term and a fine in addition, adding that the sentence should serve

Dar es Salaam man jailed for impersonating a TRA officer

as a lesson to others with similar intentions.

"The accused person is sentenced to serve a term of two (2) years imprisonment and pay Tsh 2,000,000 /= as fine" reads the imprisonment order sent to the Isanga Prison's Superintendent Officer.

Earlier, government attorney, Miyango Kezilahabi told the court that the accused was reigned for the first time in 2019 for the similar offence.

TRA's Legal Officer, Hadija Senzia

said the accused at different times used forged TRA identity card, going round, threatening to take action on owners of guest houses and lodges who do not issue EFD machines.

She added that during his 'operation' the accused used to inspect the traders and business people, threatening to take disciplinary measures due to various offences.

"He used many fake documents, threatening and saying that he is from TRA and can take serious measures for failure to use EFD

receipt machines if they do not give him money" she said.

She said during the coning spree, the accused used different unofficial names on the identity cards with numbers indicating he was TRA officer.

"He had a fake TRA identity card bearing the name Miringe James, tax officer" she added.

Senzia noted that the accused was arrested in August, 2019 after going round in different regions in the country, posing as TRA officer as he used Toyota IST car.

Dr Mwinyi demands closer links between JKT and JKU

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has called on the good relationship between the Tanzania National Service (JKT) and Zanzibar National Service (JKU) insisting the need for further cooperation in training and construction projects.

Dr Mwinyi made the statement at the State House yesterday when he met with the Chief of National Service (CNS), Brigadier General, Rajabu Mabele.

He said that JKT is already ahead of JKU in many aspects including implementation of construction projects. He said since JKT has been implementing the projects for many years, it is high that JKU also extends its activities to start executing construction projects.

Dr Mwinyi added that JKU should also establish its own commercial wing which will be undertaking construction projects across the country.

Earlier, Brigadier General Mabele informed President Mwinyi on the long-time existing relationship between JKT and JKU, saying they have been partnering in a number of activities since 2001.

He said they started cooperating in conducting training as well as during national celebrations and development projects. He said a lot of successes have been recorded since the two armies started cooperating in provision of training to its officers.

Brigadier General Mabele said that for the first time the Tanzania People's Defense Forces (TPDF) commercial wing Suma-JKT has been contracted to construct a branch of the Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial Academy (MNMA) Zanzibar. He said that Suma-JKT has been engaging officers from JKU in the project implementation for purposes of sharing experience.

He promised President Mwinyi of continued support to JKU to

ensure they gain experience and achieve its targeted goals of being able to execute major construction projects.

Meanwhile, President Mwinyi met with a delegation from the US-based 54gene, a genomics research company focused on Africans accompanied by Nassor Ahmed Mazrui, Zanzibar's Minister for Health, Social Welfare, Elderly, Gender, and Children.

President Mwinyi assured the company of Zanzibar's readiness to cooperate with them in improving the health sector especially in development of software for data management as well as the use modern laboratories in disease diagnosis.

The Health Minister said it was important for Zanzibar to start using modern laboratories in disease diagnosis to able to know the type of diseases that attacks people most and find ways to protect residents from contracting them.

...JKT is already ahead of JKU in many aspects including implementation of construction projects. He said since **JKT** has been implementing the projects for many years, it is high that JKU also extends its activities to start executing construction projects.





SEEKING PASSIONATE AND ETHICALLY MOTIVATED TANZANIAN PROFESSIONALS.

Tanzania Cheshire Foundation (TCF) in partnership with Leonard Cheshire (LC) have been awarded a three-year grant to deliver an innovative Inclusive-Education Project in Tanzania.

Tanzania Cheshire Foundation (TCF) in partnership with Leonard Cheshire (LC) have been awarded a three-year grant to deliver an innovative Inclusive-Education Project in Tanzania.

TCF and LC in partnership, are excited to be commencing work as part of a wider consortium on this new multi-year Disability Inclusive Development (DID) project in Shinyanga City, Shinyanga district council in Shinyanga region and Misungwi in Mwanza region of Tanzania, in line with the National Inclusive Education Strategy (NIES). The project aims to increase the enrolment and retention of children with disabilities in education, to increase their learning and improve their life-chances focusing on inclusive education for pre-primary and primary school-going age children.

(FCDO). The 16 Inclusive Futures partners are working together to include people with disabilities in health, work, education, and tackle stigma and discrimination through the Disability Inclusive Development (DID) programme. Together we are using a range of innovations to promote the importance of disability inclusion, aligning closely with the work of governments.

LC is part of the Inclusive Futures consortium, funded by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office

TCF and LC in partnership as part of a wider consortium will work closely together with government officials and OPDs as well as a range of stakeholders at local level, striving to improve the implementation and accountability of inclusive education in Tanzania.

We are looking for experienced disability inclusion role models, and ethically motivated Tanzanian professionals for three critical positions, available to start immediately

Consortium Project Manager (45,000,000 – 52,000,000 TZS) to coordinate delivery on behalf of the Consortium project

https://careers.leonardcheshire.org/jobs/vacancy/consortium-project-manager--08823-tanzania/8843/description/

National Technical Advisor (IE) (part-time 3 days p/week c.28,800,000 – 34,800,000 TZS pro-rata) to provide guidance and technical advice on Inclusive Education https://careers.leonardcheshire.org/jobs/vacancy/national-technical-adviser--08825-tanzania/8845/description/

Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Manager (MEL) (38,000,000 - 43,000,000 TZS)

to lead on MEL and accountability practices

https://careers.leonardcheshire.org/jobs/vacancy/monitoring-evaluation--learning-manager-08824-tanzania/8844/d
escription/

About you — First and foremost, you must be passionate about and committed to disability inclusion and safeguarding and be personally driven to make a difference in the lives of children. You must have proven experience of working in a consortium programme dealing effectively with multiple stakeholders across government, OPDs, and with local community groups. This is a real opportunity to make a meaningful impact in Tanzania.

Application process - All interested candidates must apply via the links associated to the vacancies. Only candidates who apply online will be considered. In your application, please include your CV and a cover letter giving your motivation to apply and your availability). Full job description details are available in each link. We welcome applications from all sections of the community and actively encourage professionals with disabilities to apply. This will be a fast-faced recruitment process and we are seeking for candidates available to start immediately.

We reserve the right to close this vacancy once suitable candidates have been identified.

JOB - READVERTISED

JOB TITLE: FINANCIAL COMPLIANCE OFFICER



YOUR POSITION WITH TNC

The Financial Compliance Officer provides highly specialized finance/accounting-related services to the Africa Region business unit in all compliance aspects of finance/accounting. They ensure that Audit, Taxation, Return Filing and other operational regulatory compliance requirements within the region are met. The position will be based at any of the following TNC office locations: Arusha, Cape Town, or Nairobi regional office.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

The Financial Compliance Officer provides highly specialized services in one or more of the following functions: audit coordination; taxation; accounting; management controls and reporting; compliance certification or similar financial activities for the Africa business unit financial management. They have a high level of expertise in their area(s) of specialization to administer and maintain finance activities in accordance with TNC policies and procedures and best practices in financial/organizational management. The Financial Compliance Officer provides assistance to all levels of personnel in their specialty area. They respond to complex employee/management questions and problems based on advanced knowledge of the subject area in addressing financial related problems.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's Degree in Finance, Accounting, Business Administration or related field and 4 years' related experience or equivalent combination.
- Experience with relational databases especially MS Excel and accounting packages
- Experience using accounting and financial reporting systems
- Experience in handling audit and tax matters of clients from countries other than their resident countries.
- Technical command of spreadsheet programs, general ledger reports and other financial management tools.
- Experience in supporting multiple projects in various locations and/or countries.
- Experience with government regulations related to grants and contracts
- Experience in manipulating, analyzing & interpreting data.

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Submit CV and cover letter separately using the upload buttons online. All applications must be submitted in the system prior to end of day **January 30th 2022.**

Friday 14 January 2022

Guardian

NATIONAL.NEWS

Coalition to hold survey on causes of women's killings

By Beatrice Philemon

THE Coalition for Women Human Rights Defenders is fundraising for a countrywide survey to develop the main source of killings of women in

Addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday, CWHRDT coordinator Hilda Dadu said: "We're targeting 150m/-, which will be okay for the study. During the survey, we'll visit in different areas and have a face-face interviews with men, women, youth, legal aid providers, gender desk in police stations and other people to identify the cause of femicide that is very high than in the past years."

Hilda said: "In recent years women are killed for being suspected witchcraft in rural areas, but right now gender-related killings of women are very high in Tanzania and as defenders we're very concerned with the high level of femicide in our country."

According to her, women are routinely killed by their husband, partner and their children for love envy or inheriting property.

So far, eight women have been killed by their spouses and children, that's why we want to conduct research to see what the causes are and what should be done to prevent this femicide.

" I thought, this is not true, the cause of women killings is depressing because right now mental health problem is very high for Tanzanians due to poverty, lack of employment, conflicts between two families or relatives, gender based violence for both women and men, sitting at home idle with no work, no movement and other issues," she said.

Hilda said a country-wide survey will help them to come up with new compressive strategy and legal action to protect women, urging government to take stronger actions to prevent femicide across

the country, end to GBV and take legal action for all suspects or killers because women have right to live and to be valued similarly to men.

According to her, social welfare officers should also take serious measures to assist local communities on what they encounter in their families, giving them proper advice in accordance with the main challenges they have and even visit in their localities and have a faceto- face discussion with them to investigate the source of the killings.

The coalition said the obtained report should be submitted to Psychiatrists to see their mental health conditions that in turn will help them to access medications and even provide therapy for them, the main goal is to protect femicide that is very high across the country.

Highlighting on parents, Hilda pointed out that parents should also listen their children once they come to report what they encounter from their husband or partners, don't ignore them, allow them to say everything that they thought can cause killings to them instead of telling them to be patience in

Media organizations should also take serious measures to identify and report these incidents so that the government can be aware on what is going on across the country, have a proper data on femicide and later on take legal actions for killers, the statement said.

All human rights defenders and activists should come up with new programme to visit in local communities to solve the main challenges they encounter in their localities.

So far, eight women have been killed by their spouses and children, that's why we want to conduct research to see what the causes are and what should be done to prevent this femicide.



Goodluck Moshi (R), Vodacom Tanzania's head of digital innovation and care, presents a dummy cheque for 10m/- to Lilian Haule of Tegeta in Dar es Salaam for winning the firm's 'Tusua mapene' promotion raffle held in the city yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Kondoa

DODOMA regionalcommissioner, Anthony Mtaka has said he is not pleased with classrooms constructed by Kondoa Town Council in the region due to their poor quality.

RC Mtaka expressed his displeasure here on Wednesday at his meeting with officials of the

He said the classrooms were to be built within 90 days, instead this time was extended with very poor workmanship withstanding.

In the circumstances, he called

Dodoma RC Mtaka far from pleased with new classrooms

upon Council officials to work among themselves, council officials together and stop unnecessary wrangling that retard development projects in their area.

"I hail you for completing 24 classrooms construction for the money given, but I am not satisfied with the quality thereof," RC Mtaka said.

He added that instead of wrangling

should come up issues that will spur development in the area including the education sector and economy.

For the part, Kondoa Town Council officials asked for an additional refuse collecting truck due to huge work load as the town's population continues to increase every day.

Chimichimi Ward Chairman said his ward has been a great producer of solid waste and this is shown by shortage of refuse trucks.

He added: "Since the coming of the new Council Executive Director, he had never had a meeting with us chairmen, hence he should come to meet us to know about various challenges we face." he added



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR MOBILE CAMP PROVISION

Ngwena Tanzania Ltd are seeking an expression of interest for mobile camp provision, based in the Lindi province.

Requirements are as follows:

Accommodation for 6 senior ensuited rooms. Shared accommodation for 30 (2 person rooms) without ensuite

Shared ablutions for 30 people including shower blocks Kitchen unit, fully fitted (please list inclusions of equipment)

2 x reefer 1 x freezer unit Dining room unit for 20 people Office units to accommodate 10 desks Generator sufficient for all facilities

All buildings to be air conditioned Fixtures and fittings to be included where possible.

Seeking new or second hand options for purchase.

Please send all expressions of interest to Emmanuel Njau at enjau@ev1minerals.com.au no later than 28th January 2022.

Mbeya Region planning two schools to cater for students with disabilities

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

AUTHORITRIES in Mbeya Region are set to build two special schools - primary and secondary for children with disabilities aimed to solve the challenge from large number of students to learn in tranquil surroundings.

This was revealed on Wednesday by Mbeya Regional Commissioner, Juma Homera at a meeting that discussed various issues plaguing people with disabilities in the region.

He said they plan to build modern be a solution," he said. schools for children with disabilities that will incorporate friendly learning infrastructures.

He said the schools will be demonstration schools for the country and that the government, in collaboration with various stakeholders will accomplish the project.

"We have seen various obstacles facing students with disabilities including classes and other infrastructures for learning hence we hope the schools will



CONSULTANCY POSITION FOR PROFESSIONAL RAPPORTEUR AND TRANSLATION EXPERTS

PricewaterhouseCoopers Limited (PwC) invites eligible candidates to indicate their interest to provide individual consultancy services as Professional Rapporteur & Translator to the Field Support Services Project (FSSP) Tanzania...

The experts will provide technical support and advice to Global Affairs Canada and its implementing

A candidate is eligible to apply for one or both two positions. The minimum key qualifications for each position are as outlined below..

Rapporteur services:

- · A bachelor's degree in Secretarial services, Languages or other social studies, from a
- Skills in short handwriting, preferably with a speed of 200 words per minute. Typing skills, preferably with a speed of 60 words per minute.
- 5 years' Work experience in providing rapporteur services to or for international development programmes. At a minimum candidate should have experience leading the development, writing, and drafting/editing of technical reports or proceedings.

- A bachelor's degree in Languages or other social studies, from a recognized institution. 5 years' Work experience in providing translation and interpretation services (English -
- Swahili and vice versa). Demonstrated experience in translation of professional/official documents (English -
- Swahili and vice versa) for international development programmes.
- Proven experience of working with international development organizations/agencies Proven experience in providing transcription services

In addition to the key qualifications above, the incumbent is also expected to demonstrate the skills and competencies in Advanced professional proficiency in spoken and written English - level 4 and Kiswahili - level 4 as explained in

http://www.international.gc.ca/ifait-iaeci/test_levels-niveaux.aspx?lang=eng

Interested individual candidates may obtain detailed description of these services by sending a request email to procurement@fssptz.org. Requests for further information will be received up to three working days prior to the submission deadline. Any request received later than that may not be

Interested candidates should send their Expressions of Interest (EoIs) ONLY electronically to procurement@fssptz.org not later than 26th January 2022 at 23:59 hours. Late Expressions of Interest shall not be accepted for evaluation, irrespective of the circumstances.

FSSP Manager

Regional Professions Officer, Wilbroad Yangha said the government has provided a total of 15bn/for the construction of classrooms.

He said the primary school with special needs - Katumba II Primary School in Rungwe District has been allocated 80m/ for the construction of a dormitory, 90m/for the administrative building and three classrooms aimed at reducing classrooms congestion at school.

He added Katumba II Primary School is faced with a huge challenge in regard to classrooms infrastructure due to a huge influx of students from various areas of the country.



We have seen various obstacles facing students with disabilities including classes and other infrastructures for learning hence we hope the schools will be a solution



Iringa Regional Police commander Allan Bukumbi (R) and Immigration officer Agnes Luziga (L) in vigilant wait yesterday before 40 people said to be illegal immigrants of Ethiopian nationality held after being abandoned yesterday along the Iringa-Mbeya highway. Photo: Correspondent Francis God

Two people found dead in restricted goldmining area in Muheza District

By Guardian Correspondent, Muheza

TWO people have been found dead in a restricted gold mine located at Sakale area, Mbomole ward in Muheza District, Tanga Region.

Tanga Regional Police Commander Sofia Jongo said the two had earlier gone missing before they were found dead in the mine after a long search.

She said the police force is holding three soldiers of the National Service Corporation (SUMA JKT) to interrogate them on the matter.

She named the deceased as Enock Robert and William Lamwai saying that they were killed on Tuesday, this week.

"Initial reports show that the deceased were killed and dumped in the gold mine. We found their bodies that were injured by sharp objects and tied with ropes," she said.

Commander Jongo said the deceased were illegally extracting minerals in the Amani Nature Forest Reserve and their relatives were

searching for them as they had no information on their whereabouts.

She said the Amani Nature Forest Reserve has entered into a contract with Suma JKT to conduct security of the forest including the incident area which has been banned from mining operations so as to prevent environmental degradation.

According to RPC Jongo, people in the Sakale area have been accusing Suma JKT soldiers of being responsible for the killings in the forest.

"This is why we are investigating it and we have arrested three soldiers to conduct more interrogations," RPC Jongo asserted.

Mbomole ward councilor
Robert Gongwe said after the
killings information, Muheza
District Commissioner, District
Commissioner (DED) Nassib
Mmbaga and the security and safety
committee went to the area.

"This is why we are investigating it and we have arrested three soldiers to conduct more interrogations"

US-based organisation extends 2bn/- support to reforestation initiative, as more assistance due

By Beatrice Philemon

THE US-based organization—Saving Nature has provided 26m/- to Amani Friends of Nature in Muheza District, Tanga Region to support reforestation efforts at a state owned Magamba Forest Nature Reserve (MNFR).

Amani Friends of Nature, Executive Director, Joyneth Mbogo said yesterday that they have already started to plant trees whereas a total of 320 indigenous tree species have been planted in an effort to regenerate the forest.

Mbogo said the funds were provided in June last year and that they are expecting to receive more funds depending on the outcomes of the on-going tree planting

"Our plans are to plant trees on at least 127 hectares at the Magamba Forest Nature Reserve. This will be accomplished after receiving more funds from our partner in the US," she said.

She commended Saving Nature for their financial support which has also helped them to extend reforestation efforts to West Usambara Mountains which suffers from extensive habitat loss and fragmentation.

The organization has also received 1m/- from the Director of Capacity Strengthening and Partnership Natural Resources Institute, University of Greenwich based in UK, Tim Chancellor to improve bird watching classroom and other activities.

She said the funds are used to train people from villages adjacent to the Amani Nature Reserve on bird watching to make sure they benefit from their conservation activities.

More than 50 adults and schoolchildren attend the weekly training sessions at the Amani botanical garden, she added

Shaban Mwasoni of the East Usambara Mountains Eco-Cultural Tourism Group, who is one of the teachers in the bird watching programme, said participants are taught on how to identify different bird species and their sounds. "They learn about bird behaviour, habitat and ecology and gain an appreciation for the value of local biodiversity. In a typical training session participants identify as many as 42 different bird species," he said.

The organization has also requested \$140,000 from TerraMatch based in the USA to plant indigenous trees in the buffer zone around Amani Nature Reserve and Magamba Forest Nature Reserve with the aim of increasing forest habitat for birds and other endangered and endemic species.

The organization has applied for more funds from JRS Biodiversity Foundation to specifically use the funds for enhancement of the bird monitoring and bird watching training

According to Mwasoni they still need 20 binoculars worth 3m/- to support bird watching, 20 bird guide books worth 2m/-, a camera, printer and photocopying machine worth 2m/-.

Amani Friends of Nature was officially registered in 2020 with its main activities being to plant trees, conduct research and environmental conservation training in communities surrounding the reserve.



Our plans are to plant trees on at least 127 hectares at the Magamba Forest Nature Reserve. This will be accomplished after receiving more funds from our partner in the US

BANK Tariff Guide 0.70pp (excluding community account) 0.70pp ATM VISA DEBIT CARD ATM withdrawal from KCB ATMs equiva**l**en (per transaction ATMs (Tanzania) ATM withdrawal from Non-KCB 6500 per each ATMs (International) ATM mini statements Minimum withdrawals ATM Card Repalcement (lost destroyed cards) equivale Unpaid Standing Order (penalty) SD unpaid cheque ankers Cheque TT's INTERNATIONAL 50USD(TZS equiv 13USD (TZS equiv Inward TT (excluding community equivalent equivalent accounts) 10USD (TZS equiv I0USD(Eur Recall of funds/Cancellation of TT equivalent equivalent Amendment of TT (Customer 10USD (TZS equiv-0USD(Euro equivalent equivalent EFT (KCB Tanzania to any local bank) TISS/local TT (excluding commu n/a 870 East African Payments (EAPS) n/a INIMUM A/C OPENING BAL-Current Account-Compa ny(SME&CORPORATE) 100000 100 5000 Mapato Account KCB Simba Savers 35000 before 2200 OTHER SERVICES 8% for denom-8% for denomina Forex Cash Deposits (smalle are less than than USD 50 **ACCOUNT MAINTAINANCE FEES** 0.50% 0.50% Simba, Cub, Community & Student >10million 0.1% ma ersonal currer personal curren personal current account 10.000. edger Fees - Current Accounts 10GBP/Business 16GBP/Corporate (excluding community and salary) corporate account Corporate 20GBP Ledger Fees - Savings Accounts (excluding Simba, Cub, salary & Student Accounts) THIRD PARTY ENCASHMENT thdrawal fee to be paid by the SALARY PROCE 130 CERTIFICATE OF BALANCE Balance of Account (Flat fee per equivalent equivalent equivalent Auditors Confirmation (flat per equivalent equivalent equivalent ference Letters

SIMBA SAVERS ACCOUNT

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Account

TRADE FINANCE	
IMPORT LETTER OF CREDIT	
LC ISSUANCE/extension/increase amount Normal Amendment	1.3% Per Quarter 130 USD
Release Commision/Ic document processing	20 USD
RETIREMENT	0.30% minimum 100 maximum 200
CANCELATION EXPORT LETTER OF CREDIT	260 USD
ADVISING	200 USD
NEGOTIATION DISCOUNTING	0.60% min 200 max 300
AVALIZATION	0.80%
DOCUMENTS FOR COLLECTION	
Documents HANDLING FEE COURIER	150 USD 150 USD
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Issuance fee	1.30%
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STARTIMES	Free
ZUKU	Free
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AZAM	Free
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Please note: All taxes included

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Signed 15.1.2021 Signed 15.1.2021

Date

Signature



Manyoni District Council likely to find itself in soup over land buyers' money

By Guardian Correspondent, Singida

MANYONI District Council in Singida Region could find itself in soup following claims that it received more than 600m/- from the people on promise of providing them with land for farming, but after four years now that has not happened.

Following the claims that the people who paid the money into special council account as instructed, Singida Regional Commissioner, Dr Binilith Mahenge on Wednesday convened a meeting of the Manyoni Cashew Nuts Projects Committee.

In the meeting, Manyoni District Commissioner, Rahabu Mwagisa directed for closure all accounts that receive money for purchase of land for farms until full verification is made.

Meanwhile RC Mahenge instructed the Committee that by Monday, January 17 this year it should issue a correct report on the project that will first be perused by the Regional Administrative Secretary (RAS) before being sent to him.

Mahenge said he directed for the report to be submitted afresh as an earlier one was deficient as the names of the people who allegedly paid the money for purchase of farms were missing while he had them himself while the total money paid was not stated.

He said it is totally unacceptable to receive the money from the people but fail to prepare a comprehensive report thereon.

"Executive Director, district Commissioner, I direct you that the report should be prepared afresh and it should show the size of land area allocated to the purchaser, how many people submitted applications and paid, costs of application forms and transport for officials, what

were your conditions, and all such other details including total money received and in which banks was it deposited," he added.

He said he wants the issue to be finalised and he leaves it to the executive Director dealt under the supervision of RAS and should not be left to the committee alone.

Manyoni District Council Internal Auditor who is also a member of the committee, Aderaide Rweikiza said a full comprehensive report on the entire project exists and will be submitted to the RC.

Executive Director, district Commissioner, I direct you that the report should be prepared afresh and it should show the size of land area allocated to the purchaser, how many people submitted applications and paid, costs of application forms and transport for officials, what were your conditions, and all such other details including total money received and in which banks was it deposited



Devotha Mayala, public relations officer with the Tanga Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Authority, has a word with water stakeholders in Muheza

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

KILOSA district commissioner Majdi Mwanga has threatened to arrest and bring to justice parents and guardians who fail to send their children to school on January 17, this

DC Mwanga said this in Kilosa at a public meeting with the people on mobilizing development activities including the education sector.

The district commissioner said that in order to see all first-form one students enter the classrooms on January 17, this year; his office has drafted agreements between parents and guardians regarding controlling the behavior of some parents as a source of students dropping out of school.

He said the move was to

DC: Parents failing to take their children to school risk 'trouble'

implement Article 11 (2) and (3) of the congratulated President Samia children who have reached school Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania, which emphasizes the basic right to education.

"We have prepared agreements that aim to strengthen the management of parents and guardians, fulfill the responsibility to care for their children, and have been distributed in secondary schools and government and village and ward government offices," said the Kilosa district commissioner.

For his part, CCM chairman in Kilosa District, Ameir Mbaraka

Suluhu Hassan for equipping Kilosa district with 4.3bn/- spent on the construction of 186 classrooms.

Kilosa District Council executive director, Kisena Mabuba said, the council is scheduled for 9,405 students who are expected to start their first form studies on January 17, this year.

Mabuba said another initiative is to encourage early and firstgrade enrollment from pastoralist communities.

"I want the pastoralist community to come forward and enroll their

age so that they can avoid the hand of the law," said Mabuba.

However, he said, the council will continue the process of registering high schools, to provide opportunities for primary school students to overcome the need to walk long distances.

Some residents of Gezaulole Village in the district, Everine Mlinga said that most of the parents and guardians have already reached the agreements and there are no difficulties in its implementation.

Katavi cassava farmers lined up for supplies of high-grade TARI seeds

By Guardian Correspondent, Mpanda

CASSAVA farmers in Katavi Region are faced with the lack of quality cassava seeds, hence they continue using traditional seeds that take long time to harvest as well as not being resistant to diseases.

The remarks were made by Mwanza based TARI-Ukiriguru researcher, Habai Masunga soon after distributing modern quality cassava seeds to farmers in Katavi Region.

Masunga said the seeds will be a saviour to the farmers as they produce bigger harvests thereby increasing their incomes.

"We are distributing these seeds to three regions - Katavi, Kigoma and Tabora and the main aim for selecting these regions is that they are best suited for cassava cultivation due to the friendly climate therein,"

He said they were distributing three kinds of seeds including 'mkombozi' type totaling 116,000 seedlings of which Nsimbo District will receive 54,000 seedlings.

Nsimbo Ward Agriculture officer, Nemes Matindi said even those farmers who had lost hope will come back to the fold and grow cassava.

"In the past, our farmers were

cultivating seeds that had no certainty of better yield and were not resistant to diseases, my call to them is that these quality seeds should spread to all villages staring the coming farming season and you should be proud to be the first users to cultivate the new seeds," Matindi

For their part, some farmers who received the seedlings, including Joseph Kisimba, Ibrahim Mzutu and Pius Abel thanked TARI for supplying thee the seeds and pledged to abide by farming procedures regarding cassava cultivation.



We are distributing these seeds to three regions - Katavi, **Kigoma and Tabora** and the main aim for selecting these regions is that they are best suited for cassava cultivation due to the friendly climate therein



Simanjiro District Council planning officer Heri Kuria pictured yesterday presenting the council's 25.267bn/- draft budget for financial year 2022/2023.

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

MOROGORO Urban Abdulaziz Abood has donated 28m/- to complete the construction of classrooms and toilets in 18 Secondary Schools in Morogoro Municipality as a move to support the education sector.

The classrooms and toilets are different from those built under the International Monetary Fund (IMF)'s financial assistance and debt service relief to Tanzania facing the economic impact of the COVID-19

MP donates cash to complete classroom, toilet construction in 18 schools in Moro

Classroom construction was completed on December 25, last year, and to accommodate all selected Form One students in modern toilet facilities," the MP said. January 2022.

"I recently made a visit to 18 challenges posed by the people wards to inspect the construction of he was able to contribute 28m/-

Samia Suluhu Hassan. The challenge is for the classrooms that have been built are lack of classrooms and

Abood said that by accepting the classrooms for the Covid-19 project towards classrooms and toilets that

money will be used to buy bricks, concrete, toilets, masks, clean and safe water facilities.

Morogoro Municipal Secondary Jaribu Education Officer, Malambughi, commended the lawmaker for providing financial

with funding provided by President have just started to be built, and the classrooms and toilets built by the people to overcome the shortage and shortage of toilets for students.

He said: "I hope the Municipal Leadership that this assistance will enable the completion of these classrooms on time and will be the responsibility of the council to support for the completion of complete the demolition of these

fences and this will continue to reduce student overcrowding in the classrooms."

For his part, Kola Hill Secondary School acting headteacher, Felister Shavo said: "The school needs to build another toilet with 30 holes for male students and 35 holes for girls according to the number of students at 1,149."

Shayo said, currently the existing toilet has 40 holes for male students and 45 for girls, a number that does not match the number of 1,149



Consolata Mushi (L), National Kiswahili Council's acting executive secretary, pictured in Zanzibar yesterday speaking at a joint meeting with policy and planning directors from Zanzibar's Culture, Arts and Sports ministry. The thrust was on ways to improve the language. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Too soon to treat Covid-19 like flu as Omicron spreads - WHO

By Special Correspondent

IT is too soon for countries to be treating COVID as an endemic illness like flu, the World Health Organisation (WHO) has warned, because there is still a "huge amount of uncertainty" regarding the spread of the Omicron variant.

Omicron is on track to infect more than half of Europeans in the next two months, WHO's Europe director Hans Kluge told reporters.

Omicron on track to infect more than half of Europeans in two

Europe saw more than seven million new reported cases in

the first week of 2022, more than known to be in at least a third of doubling over a two-week period.

"At this rate, the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation forecasts that more than 50% of the population in the region will be infected with Omicron in the next six to eight weeks," Mr Kluge said during a news briefing, referring to a research centre at the University of Washington.

Fifty out of 53 countries in Europe and central Asia have logged cases of the more transmissible variant.

Since it was first reported by scientists in South Africa in November, the COVID-19 strain has spread internationally and is now

countries.

The transition from pandemic to endemic

Several studies have shown the risk of hospitalisation from Omicron is lower than from Delta. But the WHO has cautioned more

studies are still needed to prove this. Spain's Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez said on Monday that it may be time to track the ongoing COVID crisis in a similar method to the flu due to its lethality falling.

He said: "I believe that we have the conditions for, with precaution, slowly, opening the debate at the technical level and at the level of health professionals, but also at the European level, to start evaluating the evolution of this disease with different parameters than we have until now."

At the weekend, Zahawi told Sky News' Trevor Phillips on Sunday: "I hope we will be one of the first major economies to demonstrate to the world how you transition from pandemic to endemic, and then deal with this however long it remains with us, whether that's five six, seven, 10 years."

WHO's senior emergency officer for Europe, Catherine Smallwood, has since warned against treating the virus as endemic.

She said: "We still have a huge amount of uncertainty and a virus that is evolving quite quickly, imposing new challenges. We are certainly not at the point where we are able to call it endemic."

Deforestation behind rise in frequency of thunderstorms locally in West Africa - study

By Special Correspondent

THE frequency of thunderstorms in some fast-growing African coastal cities has doubled over the past 30 years, many of which are related to the impact of deforestation on the region's climate, according to a new study.

The study led by the United Kingdom Centre for Ecology and Hydrology (UKCEH) revealed that more frequent storm activity in coastal areas is a second, previously unrecognised, way in which deforestation can increase flooding.

This study examined southern West Africa, a coastal region where deforestation has been ongoing since 1900 within a 300-km coastal

It analysed three decades of satellite data from southern West Africa to see how meteorological patterns changed as a result of deforestation through changes in heating and humidity of the atmosphere.

The removal of vegetation increases rainwater runoff and landslides, which happened in Sierra Leone's capital, Freetown, in August 2017 when 1,100 people died.

There are two rainy seasons (March-June and September-November) along the south coast of southern West Africa (March-June and September-November), with a little dry season in July and August.

The little dry season coincides with the peak of the West African monsoon, which brings heavy rain further north in West Africa.

The researchers found that the removal of large areas of woodland greatly exacerbated the effects of global warming in the coastal areas of the region, which includes Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Ghana and Nigeria.

In deforested areas, the frequency

of storms has doubled since 1991, but the increase in forested areas has been around 40 per cent.

Deforestation is not the only driver of land surface temperature (LST) trends. At small scales, urbanisation strongly increases LST, affecting parts of Southern Nigeria in particular.

The deforested land had been turned over to use for agriculture and fuel for cooking to support nearby growing populations but the storms and rainfall affect urban as well as rural areas.

The study was published in the journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS).

Chris Taylor, UKCEH professor, who led the study, said: "The extent of increase in coastal storm activity is likely to vary in different regions, depending on the local climate, but we would expect deforestation to have a similar effect in other coastal deforested areas."

In Africa and South-East Asia, large areas of coastal tropical forest are being destroyed, global climate change has had an impact on communities and drainage and other infrastructures are often ill-equipped to cope with major flooding.

In Sierra Leone's capital Freetown in particular, the residents are already suffering from multiple, damaging effects of climate change, including extreme temperatures and flash flooding from storms.

Nearly 2.4 billion people (about 40 per cent of the world's population) live within 100 km (60 miles) and more than 600 million people (around 10 per cent of the world's population) live in coastal areas that are less than 10 meters above sea level of the coast, according to the United Nations factsheet.

Large numbers of people live close to the sea because of the food and economic benefits that it provides.



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: PROVISION OF FIELD **EQUIPMENT FOR EACOP. REFFERENCE NO: 0010007360**

TotalEnergies East Africa Midstream B.V. (Company) Tanzania, an Oil and Gas company, invites experienced and reputable organizations to express their interest in providing field equipment to the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) project.

The EACOP project involves the construction and operation of a buried, cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil from the Lake Albert area in Uganda to the eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale in Hoima District, Uganda to Chongoleani, Tanga Region, in Tanzania. The length of the pipeline is 1,443 km, of which 1,147 km will be in Tanzania.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES:

The required field equipment includes:

- Large and medium sized Marquee tents with open drop sides.
- Plastic chairs, tables & dustbins. • 5KW petrol powered, portable generator.
- 5m, 10m, 15m extension power cables. • Rechargeable handheld radios/Walkie-talkies and charging equipment.
- Mobile hand sanitisers.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:

- Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority and Tax (TRA) Clearance Certificate for the latest year available.
- Proof of registration with the Occupation Safety and Health Authority OSHA. • Application for registration with the EWURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at
- the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended. • Compliance with Petroleum Local Content Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition.
- Proof of available stock or ability to stock at short notice.

Companies which have the ability, capacity and resources to implement the activities listed above should express their interest by sending together with the documents stated in the above section through an email to eacop-tz.eoi.1000001@totalenergies.com (max. email size 20Mb) on or before 15:00 hours East African Time (EAT), on 21st January 2022. Email subject should be 0010007360.

Note: The EACOP project will review and assess the documents provided by the interested companies to derive a list of prequalified companies. Only prequalified companies will receive, subject to signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), invitation to submit bids in furtherance of the call for tender process. All Expression of Interests should be submitted in English Language.



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: GRAVE REMOVAL AND RE-INTERMENT SERVICES FOR EACOP. REFFERENCE NO: 0010007361

TotalEnergies East Africa Midstream B.V. (Company) Tanzania, an Oil and Gas company, invites experienced and reputable organizations to express their interest in planning and executing of the relocation and re-internment of graves along the route affected by the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) project. This process will include conducting the required engagement activities with regional and local authorities and the affected families.

The EACOP project involves the construction and operation of a buried, cross-border pipeline to transport crude oil from the Lake Albert area in Uganda to the eastern coast of Tanzania for export to international markets. The pipeline will run from Kabaale in Hoima District, Uganda to Chongoleani, Tanga Region, in Tanzania. The length of the pipeline is 1,443 km, of which 1,147 km will be in Tanzania.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES:

The grave relocation and re-internment services will comprise the following:

- Confirming coordinates and locations of graves as provided by Company
- Conducting engagement with district and local authorities including District Health Officers to arrange all legal requirements for grave removals
- Conducting engagement with affected families to ensure all grave removal ceremonies have been conducted and compensation have been paid.
- Conducting engagement with affected families and community leaders to identify places where
- the graves will be relocated. Working with local authorities to identify labourers to conduct the grave removal
- Secure all required Health, Safety and Énvironmental (HSE) equipment to safely deliver the grave re-interment exercise

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:

- Experience relocating & reinterment of graves in Tanzania for industrial or other projects
- Experience engaging authorities for grave removal activities in Tanzania • Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority and Tax (TRA) Clearance Certificate
- for the latest year available. Proof of registration with Occupation Safety and Health Authority - OSHA Application for registration with the EWURÁ Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at
- the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended. Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition.

Companies which have the ability, capacity and resources to implement the activities listed above should express their interest by sending together with the documents stated in the above section through an email to eacop-tz.eoi.1000001@totalenergies.com (max. email size 20Mb) on or before 15:00 hours East African Time (EAT), on 21st January 2022. Email subject should be 0010007361

Note: The EACOP project will review and assess the documents provided by the interested companies to derive a list of prequalified companies. Only prequalified companies will receive, subject to signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), invitation to submit bids in furtherance of the call for tender process. All Expression of Interests should be submitted in English Language.

Guardia.com

FRIDAY 14 JANUARY 2022

Taking A New Look At The News ESTABLISHED IN 1995

Politics ought to consider the past to be relevant today and tomorrow

OMPARING past performance with current methods or techniques is routine in marking important events in a country's life.

A ready example would be how various governments react to crises of confidence or cabinet conscience at one time or another.

We have just marked 60 years of Tanganyika's Independence and 58 years of the Zanzibar Revolution in the background of ideological debates within the ruling party.

That was only to be expected, as vigorous internal communication is healthy for any community, all the more so if that happens to be a political party all the more so.

Founder president Julius Nyerere retired as ruling party chairman in 1990, five years after leaving office. His parting words - to CCM delegates -included these: "Without a strong CCM, our country will be unstable."

It is definitely the case that our country isn't unstable, though that should not translate into suggesting that it is all hearty handshakes within the ruling CCM and between it and opposition parties.

The political landscape may not be as smooth as some quarters would wish to see, which some analysts may describe as only natural.

This is especially common whenever there is no sufficient inter-party and even intra-party agreement or harmony - most particularly when watershed elections are just around the corner.

In a situation of ideological harmony, things would tend to reduce themselves cases calling for orientation relating to personal ambitions which could be handled by the relevant party organs and procedures.

More complicated situations,

though, would demand more principled stances reaching the level of more highly placed party organs.

When, on the contrary, there is an appreciable difference in orientations, any malaise coming up would have to do with such divergence, and more issues of principle would emerge.

With respect to questions of development strategy, for instance, impressions created along the decades would include what is right - or wrong - in relation to the country's economy. When such issues are raised they surely merit a principled response.

In his time, Mwalimu Nyerere at one point in time came up with an essay examining the issues involved - as he did when Tanzania faulted relations with Britain after having quarrelled with West Germany the year before as the government refused to rescind recognition of East Germany.

Mwalimu issued a celebrated paper entitled: 'Principles and Development', and Kwame Nkrumah's government (in Ghana) was overthrown a year later.

Then, come October 1966, students of the then University College of Dar es Salaam demonstrated against (among other things) the National Service, following which Mwalimu brought in the Arusha Declaration.

Much of this has surely witnessed natural adjustments over the years - some positive and others not as much.

Of most importance and relevance would be those thoughts, ideas and views aired as freely as possible so as to move the political conscience for the good of the country and the nation and which, if not addressed to satisfaction, would result in acrimony not benefiting the people.

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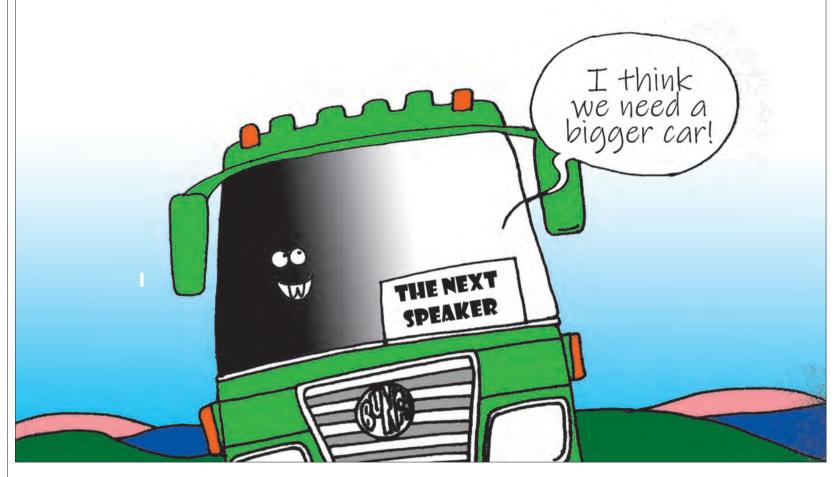
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Trust in media is low worldwide. Are media outlets reaching out to the wrong people?

By Rick Edmonds

HERE are countless efforts to increase trust in news. Few have reached beyond existing readers and likely subscribers to the truly skeptical.

It has become an article of faith among editors and reporters that they need to come up with strategic efforts to build reader trust. However, a report late last year from the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism at the University of Oxford offers a sobering caution.

It is that few of countless efforts to build reader trust have reached beyond existing readers and likely subscribers to the truly skeptical.

I asked Rasmus Kleis Nielsen, director of the institute, whether this should be read as pessimism about the entire trust effort of the last several years.

He said: "I would say realism. Even if the truth is not entirely welcome ... we need to be clear-eyed about the incentives (at play)."

Right now, those incentives turn out to be foremost retaining subscribers or broadcast audiences, often paired with adding a new paid digital base, according to the report.

That means that "few individual news organisations have clear incentives for investing in building trust with indifferent, skeptical or outright hostile parts of the public" - while, additionally, few of the organisations with trustbuilding initiatives "can point to systematic efforts for tracking their effectiveness".

The conclusions were based on focus group conversations with journalists from four countries the US, the UK, Brazil and India. An earlier Reuters survey report last summer meanwhile found that trust levels are low worldwide, with the United States ranking last among 46 countries surveyed.

On the one hand, according to Nielsen, the principal measure of trust is the attitude of lay users alone. But he and co-author Benjamin Toff thought that it was worth digging deeper into how the trust challenge is playing out within news organisations.

Given finite resources, it may make sense to individual organisations to focus engagement efforts narrowly on best prospects, the Reuters report authors write. They say the trouble is "for journalism more generally".

The authors elaborate that if each news outlet focuses on building trust with those already most likely to trust them, the people most

indifferent to or distrusting towards news - who are most difficult to reach and most resistant to such appeals, and frankly often less commercially attractive - are at risk of being left

compete for attention, trust, and reader revenue from the same, often already relatively trusting (and privileged) parts of the public.

indicated awareness of the problem and offered some experimental solutions their organisations are

a new New York Times trust team in September, said the paper shares the Reuters perspective that there are groups of "hardcore loyalists who already believe you" and the

a third, middle group who might be those who do not yet know what to think: "Maybe it's a younger audience, maybe it's someone who

to defining that group may be social media comments, many of them based just on the incomplete picture a headline paints rather than an assessment of the whole story. Such posts may point the way to subsequent stories needed to address commenters' news concerns.

Suki Dardarian, senior managing editor and vice president of The Star Tribune in Minneapolis, offered a similar perspective from a regional newspaper.

disinterested people, how hard do I have to work to get those people, when I have a bunch of younger people coming in who might be more interested? Like, I'm not saying I'm writing them off, but you know, if I have to make some choices ..."

She also spoke of Star Tribune initiatives considered successes in trust-building. Internal metrics suggested that reader interest in uplifting stories so The Star Tribune has markedly upped its storytelling about faith, religion and spirituality.

about lifestyle challenges, like cutting back on sugar or improving sleep, prompted the creation of a community format on those topics which has attracted thousands of

the report concludes that there are no easy answers, especially in a climate of polarisation and mediabashing politicians.

But it argues: "Much of the public sees journalism and news media as powerful institutions ... and are unlikely to accept that the root of the problem lies elsewhere, or that they have few options at their disposal. Thus, giving up on building trust may look like a lack of real interest in the issue."

I asked Nielsen for further thoughts on what outlets might do. He offered three. "Familiarity does not breed contempt, and that's quite encouraging," he said, adding that media outlets should not be reticent to "show the value of their work."

thinks that outlets "should be as clear as possible about the mission of the organisation," particularly in an era where large segments of the public suspect hidden agendas. "You need to have ideals. Say it and then show it."

He said he has noticed (as I have) how many of the best digital startups are explicit about their mission and editorial standards. Many newspapers, by contrast, "may be 100 years old, but it is easy to forget that, especially among a community of younger readers, what you stand for may not be known", he noted.

Third, Nielsen suggests - just as the report does - that outlets need to spend some time facing facts about what they think about alternate trust strategies.

"No one can do everything," he said, adding that it has however been easy to back into a narrow approach without much reflection.

He offered, as examples of creative approaches, a Canadian Broadcast Corporation initiative to embed journalists in pop-up newsrooms in remote Indigenous communities or the Los Angeles Times' "reckoning with its own history" of inadequately covering the many ethnic and racial groups it intends to serve.

Looking forward, suggested that media outlets could borrow a page from the playbook of successful politicians. "You do one set of things to energise the base and another to reach the undecideds".

His agenda for 2022 includes more academic work to understand the everyday impact of platforms and devising online experiments to see what's working among what's being tried.

I also asked for a reaction to the report from Joy Mayer, founder and director of Trusting News and a Poynter adjunct faculty member. "It gets at some absolutely crucial tensions. There are choices to be made about who you want to serve,' she said.

Even if the goal ends up being just

to seek a broader audience, she said, "you are going to encounter people who are hostile ... and there are others who are misinformed or have reasons to be mistrustful".

Her six-year-old project, cosponsored by the Reynolds Institute at the University of Missouri and the American Press Institute, has embarked on a series of experiments under the banner of "the road to pluralism".

It has been A-B testing, for instance - as the Reuters report recommends - whether explicit links to a mission statement make a given piece of Second, Nielsen also said he content more credible.

> The Reuters report that hostile assaults from some politicians on "the media", so prevalent here, are a huge issue also for the Brazilian and Indian editors who participated in the study.

> The report found that the level of hostility towards journalists and their organisations, together with echo chambers for animosity and misinformation, have induced a grim mood among many journalists.

> It doesn't recommend any easy solution, but I would concur with the Reuters authors that this is no time to give up on identifying persuadable audience segments and a sustained effort to gain their trust. And for realism, as Nielsen suggested, about how far along outlets actually are.

> Rick Edmonds is media business analyst for the Poynter Institute, where he has done research and writing for the last fifteen years.



If they're older, disinterested people, how hard do I have to work to get those people, when I have a bunch of younger people coming in who might be more interested? Like, I'm not saying I'm writing them off, but you know, if I have to make some choices ...

after moving to reopen schools, following nationwide Covid-19 lockdowns that lasted nearly two years. However, the country still has daunting challenges on its hands

Well done, Uganda, for re-opening

schools after 2 years of lockdowns

as it battles new waves of Omicron variant infections, as is the case in a number of other African countries.

has in the past week

been breathing fresh air

Many parts of the world, especially the more developed ones with independent and reliable national data networks among hospitals and care homes, Africa has only a patchy capacity for such reporting and generally feels disinclined to be entirely transparent.

The fact is that Uganda's travails with inhibiting Covid-19 infections were nowhere near ending as yet, given the situation at the country's numerous border crossing points especially with Kenya.

Truck drivers were being directed to take a test for infection even with having a certificate from Kenya or say Tanzania (as Malaba was an affected crossing point as well), and also pay Kshs30 for the test (close to 60,000/here), in disregard of having an exit negative test certificate.

The cause of this mishap wasn't being explained in thorough terms, but it can be figured out that officials fear that papers can be stamped for a bit of cash, whether routinely or exceptionally - if it is in just one country, one border post or it is a general habit.

More recent information was suggesting that the test (or retesting) requirement had now been removed, and also the test cash

This means that trucks will now be moving to and fro in the usual

EIGHBOURING Uganda manner, after clearing several kilometers of backlog.

That is precisely why lorry drivers and other people should seek to be vaccinated and carry with them digital certificates of vaccination, as mere tests don't guard against being infected, which also implies starting to spread infection once one is infected.

But there is no East African Community-wide mandatory vaccination pass requirement as yet in place, as discussions so far have been focusing on testing, not

Trouble is that too much vaccine hesitancy is still being experienced around the world, and often in countries with high numbers of infections and deaths during the spread of earlier variants of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The latest variant, Omicron, is credited with rapid infection rates but with relatively low hospitalisation and a scant death rate compared with the Delta variant.

What this implies is that vaccine hesitancy will be boosted by this opening, namely, that people prepare for mild or strong bouts of headache or chest pains, even fever and vomiting, but they know that it will take only a short whole and all will be well again.

That would essentially mean that EAC customs officials at territorial border points need to be ready for the tests and mutual recognition of certificates for a while to come.

The major explanation here is that it is unlikely that EAC partner states will move into mandatory vaccine passports (or passes) any time soon. So, all concerned ought to play ball -

behind or further alienated. They say many of those the

outlets target for attention already

Editors in the discussions trying.

Paul Volpe, who became editor of "unconvertible who never will".

The Times is focusing on defining is not exposed as much to media."

Volpe continued that one avenue

She said: "If they're older,

Similarly, an annual feature

For the toughest groups to reach,

Guardian

ADVERTISEMENT



Made under Regulation 11 Minimum disclosures of charges and fees

	Current Accounts (a) Required minimum opening balance		
	i) Personal Banking ii) Prestige iii) Premier (Relationship balance) iv) Business Banking v) Corporate	TZS 20,000/ Salary amount TZS 20,000/ Salary amount TZS 80,000,000 / Salary amount TZS 100,000 to 500,000 TZS 250,000 to 1,000,000	\$ 50/£ 50/EUR : \$ 50/£ 50/EUR ! £ 30,00 JSD 500; GBP 300 to USD 1,000; GBP 1,000; EUR 2,51
	(b) Monthly service fee (breakdown per product type) i) Personal Banking ii) Prestige iii) Premier (Relationship balance) iv) Business Banking	Free to 9,5 00 TZS 10,000 to 20,000 free for above TZS 30M TZS 40,000 balance \$ TZS 80m; else free TZS 20,000 to 35,000	\$ 10/ E 10/ €: \$ 10/ E 10/ €: \$ 10/ E 10/ €: TZS 40,000 balance & 3 0k; else fr USD/GBP/EUR 15 to
	v) Corporate	TZS 26,000 free for above TZS 300M, else free	USD/GBP/EUR 12 to USD 26 GBP 20.0; EUR 26.2; free for above TZS 300
	(c) Cheque withdrawal over the counter i) Personal Banking	TZS 4,000 for amounts up to TZS 25mln, else 0.12%	1.2% of the value, min \$/£/4
	ii) Prestige iii) Premier (Relationship balance)	of value max TZS 100,000 TZS 4,000 for amount up to TZS 25mln else 0.12% of value m 1% of value for amount above USD/EUR/GBP/KES/ZAR 10,00	
	iv) Business Banking v) Corporate	TZS 4,000 for amounts up to 25million, 0.12% for amounts exceeding TZS 25million; Max TZS 120,000.00	1% up to USD 20,000; GBP 20,00 EUR 20,000. 2.3% above USD 20,000; GBP 20,00 EUR 20,000. Minimum USD 20; GBP 10; EUR
	(d) Fees per ATM withdrawal Local	TZS 1,200 for amount <200,000 and TZS. 1,500 for amount :	>= 200,000 \$(
	International (e) ATM mini statement Off us	TZS 8,000 TZS 2,500	
_	On us (f) Interim statement per page Retail	TZS 2,500	N \$2/£N/A/€N
	Business Banking Corporate	Free	FI
	(g) Periodic scheduled statement (h) Cheque book Retail	N/A TZS 500 per Leaf	
	Business Banking		
	- 100 Leaf Corporate	TZS 50,000	TZS 50,000 USD ,GBP, EUR equivale
	- 25 Leaf - 50 Leaf	TZS 15,000 TZS 20,000	TZS 15,000 USD ,GBP, EUR equivale
	- 100 Leaf - 200 Leaf (i) Dishonoured cheque	TZS 40,000 TZS 80,000	TZS 40,000 USD ,GBP, EUR equivale TZS 80,000 USD ,GBP, EUR equivale
	Retail Business Banking Corporate	TZS 65,000 1.2% of value, min TZS 120,000: max TZS 360,000 US 1% of value min. TZS 100,000	\$ 50/ £ N/A/ € N D 120; GBP 65: max USD 360; GBP 180; EUR equivale USD ,GBP, EUR equivale
	(j) Special clearance Retail	N/A	\$1
_	Business Banking Corporate (k) Counter cheque	TZS 25,000 - N/A	USD 25; GBP 13 EUR 22
	(I) Stop payment Retail Business Banking	TZS 50 ,000 TZS 30,000 USD 30;	\$ 30/ £ N/A/ \in N GBP 25; EUR equivalen/USD 25; GBP 16;EUR equivalen/
	Corporate (m) Standing order	TZS 25,000	USD, GBP, EUR
	Retail Business Banking	TZS 30,000 (Other banks) Commercial(Other banks) TZS 25,000	
	Corporate	Enter. Relashioship TZS 25,000 Enter. Portfolio TZS 25,000 TZS 25,000	
_	(n) Balance enquiry Retail	on us TZS 1,000 of us TZS 1,500	TZS 2,500 USD ,GBP, EUR equivale
	Business Banking Corporate (o) Annual Card Fee	N/A N/A TZS 10,000 OR Eqv. in USD	N N
	(p) ATM card renewal or replacement (indicate costs for different card types)	TZS 20,000	\$
	(q) Overdrawn account interest charge Retail Business Banking	35% ;Min TZS 8,000 to 20,000 TZS 50,000	TZS 50, 0
	Corporate (r) Unarranged overdraft	Interest at 35%	
	(s) Interbank transfer Retail		
	i) Inward telegraphic transfers ii) Outward telegraphic transfers-beneficiary/applicant	0.3% of value min USD 12,max USD 100 0.3% of value min USD 55,max USD 200	
	iii) Foreign bank draft iv) Inward transfers (Local) v) Outward transfers (TISS)	0.3% of value min USD 40, max USD 265 Free Free TZS 11800 Equivalent TZS 11800	
	Business Banking/ Corporate i) Inward telegraphic transfers ii) Outward telegraphic transfers-beneficiary/applicant		USD 12; GBP6; EUR 12
	Business Banking/ Commercial - Enter. Relashioship		\$60 flat fee for value up to \$10,000, else 0.25% of valumin \$60 min; \$280 max; GBP, EUR equivalent \$60 flat fee for value up to \$10,000, else 0.25% of value
	- Enter Portfolio		min \$60 min; \$280 max ; GBP, EUR equivalent \$60 flat fee for value up to \$10,000, else 0.25% of valu min \$60 min; \$280 max ; GBP, EUR equivalent
	Corporate iii) Foreign bank draft Business Banking/ Commercial		0.28% of value. USD 85min; USD 280 max; GBP equiva
	- Enter. Relashioship - Enter. Portfolio		0.28% of value. USD 85min; USD 280 max; GBP equive 0.28% of value. USD 85min; USD 280 max; GBP equive
	Corporate iv) Inward transfers v) Outward transfers (TISS)	Free TZS 11800	Free TZS 11800
	(t) Bill payments through ATM (u) Deposit fee (Counter)	Free	Free
	Retail Business Banking/Corporate	0.3% of value for any amount above TZS, 100M, max TZS 100,000 Free	above USD/EUR/GBP 10,000 max USD/EUR/GBP Fi
	(v) Other (Counter withdrawal fees)i) Personal Banking/Barclays Direct	TZS 4,000 for amounts up to 25Mil, else 0.12% for amounts exceeding 25Mil;max 100,000	1.18% of value min \$6/£6/EU
	ii) Prestige	TZS4000 for transaction amount below TZS 2M	1.18% of value min \$6/£6/EUF
	iii) Premier iv) Business Banking v) Corporate	1% of the amount that exceed USD/GBP/EUR 10,000	
	Savings Accounts (Disclose for product specific types)		
	(a) Required minimum opening balance i) Personal Banking ii) Prestige / Bonus Saving	TZS 20,000 TZS 30,000	USD/GBP/EUR 25 or KES2000/ZAR 3
	iii) Premier (Relationship balance) (b) Monthly service fee	Minimum relationship balance of TZS 80M	٨
	i) Personal Banking ii) Prestige / Bonus Saving iii) Premier (Relationship balance)	7,000 for monthly average balance below TZS. 200k, else free 7,000 for monthly average balance below TZS. 1m, else free	USD/GBP/EUI
	(c) Interim statement (d) Account closure	TZS 2,500 TZS 30,000	TZS 2,5 TZS 30,0
	Electronic Banking (a) Internet banking monthly fee		
	Retail Business Banking/ Corporate (b) Internet transfers	2500 annual fee TZS 23,000 (Business Banking)	
	Retail Business Banking/ Corporate	Free on-us accounts	
_	(c) SMS Banking (d) Wallet to bank transfer (e) Other (Mobile wallet transfer fees)	Free TZS 1,000 TZS 1,500 to TZS 4,500	Fi
	Foreign Exchange Transaction (a) Purchase/sale of TCs transactions over the counter		
	(b) Purchase of foreign cheque (c) Sale/purchase of cash passport (d) Telegraphic transfer	N/A N/A	
	Retail Business Banking/ Corporate	0.3% of value min USD 55, max USD 200 0.28% of value. USD 60 min; USD 280 max ; GBP, EUR equiva	olent
	(e) Telex/SWIFT Retail Business Banking/ Corporate		
_	(f) Tranfer from foreign currency denominated account to local current account (within bank and to other bank)	Free on-us accounts	
tive	Rates for Loans and Advances		
itive	Lending Rates Personal Loans	13% - 20% per annum (Negotiable)	8% - 10% per annum for Foreign currer
itive	Lending Rates Personal Loans (a) Processing/Arrangement/Appraisal fee i) Personal loans ii) Overdrafts	1% of the facility 1% of overdraft exposure	8% - 10% per annum for Foreign currer
ative	Lending Rates Personal Loans (a) Processing/Arrangement/Appraisal fee i) Personal loans	1% of the facility	8% - 10% per annum for Foreign currer

Made under Regulation 11

Fixed Deposit Call Account Foreign Currency Account (Fixed/Call)	Min Operating Bal. TZS 10000 Min Operating Bal. TZS 10000 USD 10000 OR
Type of Account Business current account	Opening Bal. TZS 2500000; Min Bal 1000
Transactional and service fees (per month) Penalty for balances below limit Penalty for overdrawn account	TZS 800 Per Item.Min 26 TZS 14200 per m Interest @
Cash withdrawal from TZS Customer Foreign Currency Account (CFC)	
Customer Foreign Currency Account (CFC) Minimum balance Transactional and service fees (per month)	USD.EUR 2500;GBP 1: USD/EUR 1000;GBP USD/EUR 0.80 PER ITEM;GBP 0.5 PER ITEM; MIN USD/EUR 26;GB
Penalty for balances below limit Penalty for overdrawn account	USD/EUR 14;GI USD Interest @ 25%;GBP Interest @ 20%;EUR
Cash withdrawal from CFC Transfer From TZS to CFC / CFC to TZS Cash Deposit - Small deniminations (\$20,\$10,\$5,\$1)	1% UP TO USD/EUR/GBP 10000;2% Above that amount,MIN USD/EUR 25;GBI
Local Currency Transactions Outward remittance (TISS/RTGS)	TZS 11
Amendment fee for Outward remittances / Swift / Telegraphic Transfers by customer or by bank Inward Transfers (TISS/RTGS) Investigation fees for non receipt of funds (T/T) where funds have been received	
Poreign Currency Transactions Outward remittances / Swift / Telegraphic Transfers	0.25%-0.3% OF VAL, MIN 55-60 I
Swift message retrieval after 3 months	200-295 USD/GBP/EUR respect USD 3.00 per mes:
Amendment fee for Outward remittances / Swift / Telegraphic Transfers by customer or by bank Foreign Cheques deposits (Only TZS from Kenya) Inward Foreign Bank Draft	1% OF VAL TRANSACTION,MAX USD 118;GBP/EUR 1%MIN USD 35,MAX USD USD 35 PER
Foreign Bank Draft Inward Swift Transfers	0.25% OF VAL,USD 90MIN,USD MAX 295;GBP/EUR USD/GBP/EUR 11.8;T25 Lack of funds USD 130, Other reaso
Returned foreign cheques Investigation fees for non receipt of funds (T/T, Swift) where funds have been received Standing Order	Lack of funds USD 130, Other reaso
Standing order set-up Standing order	TZS 12000;USD/EUR 12;G Within Barclays TZS 6000;USD 7, GBP 5, EUR 5 Per
Standing order Amend / Stop standing Order	Other Banks;TZS 25000;USD 25;GBP 15, EUR 15 Per TZS 25000;USD 25;GBP 25, EUR 25 Per
Unpaid standing order Absa Integrator - Internet Banking Onboarding/Set Up	TZS 60000;USD 60;GBP 30, EUR 30 Per
Salary processing/Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT) SWIFT Payment/ Cross border	TZS 2200;USD/EUR/GBP EQV Per USD 65 OR EQV, PLUS USD 30 Intermediary charge if o
Direct Debit (within Barclays Tanzania) Book Transfer (Own Accounts) TISS/RTOS	TZS 1:
Integrator Monthly Fee Host to Host Set Up Fee	TZS 20000;EUR/USD/GBP EQV AND TZS 50,000 EUR/USD/GBP EQV For view Quotation available on req
Token Replacement/Extra Token fee Per token (3 tokens free) Bank Direct Bank Direct Cash - Cash Intransit	Token Replacement/Extra Token fee Per token (3 tokens free), TZS 200,000 for E
Bank Direct Lash - (Lash Intransit Bank Direct Mail - Courier Service Mobile Bulk Disbursement	Quotation available on rec Quotation available on rec
Transfer to M-Pesa; TigoPesa; Airtel Money; EzyPesa, Halopesa Other Service Charges	TZS 2
Manual processing of salaries W. Closure of Account	ithin Barclays TZ;TZS 12000 PER ITEM;With other Banks TZS 12000;GBP/EUR/USD
Within 6 months of account opening After 6 months of account opening	TZS 36000;USD 36;GBP 24;EUR TZS 25000;USD 25;GBP 13;EUR
Dormant Account Reactivation Cheque Stop payment instructions	TZS 7000;USD/GBP 7;EUR LEAF LOST:TZS 30000;USD 30;GBP 25 PER NOTICE;BOOK LOST:TZS 60 USD/GBP 60 PER BOOK;\Lack of funds/Aany reason:TZS 35400;USD41;GBf
Statements - Monthly statement	
- Interim statement - Duplicate statement (up to 3 months) per month - Duplicate statement (over 3 months) per month	TZS 3500;USD/GBP 3.5;EUR TZS 8500;USD/GBP 8;EUR
Cheque images, per cheque MT/900/910/920/940/941/942/950 Statements	TZS 26000;USD 20;GBP14;EUR USD 13 PER MSG,MIN 70 USD,MAX 410
MT 101 Messages Issuance of Manager's cheque Managers Cheque cancellation charges	SWIFT USD 60;RTGS TZS 11800 OR USD EQV;EFT TZS 2200 OR USD TZS 26000;USD 20 PER ITEM;CBP/EUR TZS 14200;USD 14;GBP 8;EUR
Reply to Audit Letters/Audit Report Confirmation/Audit/ Certificate of Balances	TZS 130000;USD 132;GBP 66;EUR TZS 35000;USD 35;GBP 30 Per customer req
Registration of Foreign Loan at BOT Special Clearance Unpaid/Returned Cheques	SD 470 Once off processing/Registartion Fee;USD 710 Annual fees–Loan administr. TZS 53000;USD 66;GB
Insufficient Funds (Refer to drawer) Uncollected cheque book (after 3 months)	1% OF VAL MIN TZS 100,000;USD/GBP/EUR TZS 14000;USD/GBP 14;EUR
Cheque Books - 25 Leaf - 50 Leaf	TZS 15,000;USD/GBP/EUR TZS 20,000;USD/GBP/EUR
- 100 Leaf - 200 Leaf	TZS 40,000;USD/GBP/EUR TZS 40,000;USD/GBP/EUR TZS 80,000;USD/GBP/EUR
Search fee for documents (2-6 months) Search fee for documents (6 months and above) Lending and Deposit Rates	TZS 8300;USD/GBP 8;EUR -TZS 20000;USD 20;GBP 14;EUR
Prime Rate Deposit Rates	Quotation available on rec Quotation available on rec
Trade Finance Guarantees	
Facility Handling Fee Cash Covered	3.33%pa,min USD 590pq& 0.85 USD 65 3.33%p.a, min US5:
Amendmen Extension to next quarter	USD 118 0.85% per qu
Cancellation Amount Increase Letters of Credit - Imports	USD 118 0.85% per quarter on the differ
Risk Margin Handling Fees	0.85% per quarter, min USD 590 per qu USD115
Swift charge Examination Extension to next quarter	USD115 USD115 0.85% per quarter, min USD 590 per qu
Extension to next quarter Risk Margin on acceptance Cancellation	0.85% per quarter, min GSD 590 per qu 0.85% per quarter, min USD 590 per qu USD118
Letters of Credit - Exports Advising Commission	USD 415 (all inclu
Swift charge Documents examination fee Courier charge	USD 64 USD USD 115
Risk Margin on acceptance Confirmation	0.85% per quarter, min USD 590 per qu 0.85% per quarter, min USD 590 per qu
Letters of Credit Refinancing Interest on Refinance	Current Lending Rate (negoti
Commission on Refinance Letters of Credit Discounting	
Interest on Discounting - confirmed LC Interest on Discounting - non confirmed LC Bills Discounting (Bills of Exchange including cheques)	Current Lending Rate (negoti Current Lending Rate (negoti
Interest on Discounting Documentary Collection - Export	Current Lending
Handling charge Courier charge	USD 413 Flat inclusiv Inclusive in a
Chasing commission Documentary Collection - Import	Inclusive in a
Commission Swift charge	USD 413 Flat inclusir Inclusive in a
Avalising charges Outward Bills for Collection (Clean collections & TCs)	
Outward Bills for Collection (Clean Collections & TCs) Commission Chasing charges	
Unpaid charges Unpaid charge Inward Bills for Collection	
Commission Indicative Rates for Deposits	TZS L
1 month 2 months	4.00% 0. 4.50% 0.
3 months 6 months	4.75% 0. 6.00% 0.
9 months	6.25%

The tarrifs were effective from 30th August 2020 Rates

We, the undersigned have examined the above information and hereby declare that the information is true and correct to the best of our knowledge and information.

	Name	Designation	Date	Signature
1	Abdi Mohamed	Managing Director		
2	Obedi Laiser	Chief Financial Officer		
3	George Binde	Chief Internal Auditor		

Guardian

Afro-descendants in Costa Rica: A movement for justice, equity

By Allegra María del Pilar

Baiocchi

'AN André is a cheerful young outgoing superb and aspiring schoolteacher. Indeed, wants to become the best schoolteacher in Costa Rica. Fortified by his own will and the encouragement of his family, he overcame violence and adversity to become an outstanding university student.

Yet, in spite of his accomplishments, people cross the street when they see him coming their way. They hide their belongings when he approaches them on the bus. Guards and staff single him out for surveillance when he enters a supermarket. Police search him and seize his belongings even when he is in a crowd in a public space.

Deeply affected by these experiences, Jan André is now fighting for the rights of people of African descent in Costa Rica.

Inspired by Jan's work, my colleagues and I decided that the UN has a crucial role in collecting and sharing the life stories of Afro-Costa Ricans. The resulting stories are collected under an initiative called "I am Afrodescendant in Costa Rica and this is my story."

Published online and in the form of a book, these stories were also designed to celebrate the first International Day for People of African Descent and the bicentenary of Costa Rica's independence.

With this initiative, we wanted to stop talking about Afro-descendants in the abstract and instead introduce our read-



The cover of the "I am Afro-descendant in Costa Rica and this is my story," online publication. Cedit: UN

ers to a variety of women and men, young and old, rural and urban. All of them as unique individuals who help make Costa Rica what it is today.

What have we learned from these stories?

On the one hand, we were able to reveal the incredible diversity of the Afro-descendant community in Costa Rica, the life stories, struggles and dreams true to each one of our profiles. On the other hand, however, we identified a shared experience of discrimination and injustice, a common sense of not being 'seen' in their own country and a collective strength that is borne out of families and communities.

It is not for Afro-descendants to "overcome" the discrimination and exclusion to which they are subjected. It is up to all of us to eradicate racism and the enduring legacy of slavery.

That is why, in December 2020, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution that 31 August would henceforth be the International Day for Peo-

ple of African Descent. The resolution was initiated by the Government of Costa Rica, led by its Vice-President, Epsy Campbell, and garnered the support of 52 member states.

With UNFPA as the leading entity, we in Costa Rica marked the first commemoration of this international day last year.

"The legacy of slavery echoes down the centuries," UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed reminded us as part of this commemoration. "The world has not vet overcome racism. Equality and justice for all still elude us. Millions of people of African descent continue to suffer systematic discrimination, perpetuating inequality, oppression and marginalization."

When we ensure equal opportunities for all populations to achieve their

potential and the fulfillment of their rights, we are creating a fairer and more prosperous society for all of us.

The International Day for People of African Descent is a chance to promote the diverse heritage and extraordinary contributions of the African Diaspora. It is also a call to action, a call for all of us to commit ourselves every day throughout the year to build a culture of ever-greater freedom, inclusion, equity and opportunity.

Allegra María del Pilar Baiocchi is UN Coordinator Costa Rica. Editorial support was provided by Carolina Lorenzo, Development Coordination Office, and Paul Van DeCarr. Development Coordination Office. To learn more about the United Nation's work in Costa Rica.

Climate action incomplete without women's contribution

By Joyce Chimbi

UDY Wangari is one of an estimated 800,000 smallholder potato farmers who, according to the National Potato Council of Kenya, contribute at least Ser cent of the total potato production.

In a good season, her two acres in Molo in Kenya's Rift Valley region produce between 60 to 80 90kg bags of potato per acre. Due to drastic and erratic weather patterns, Wangari tells IPS that a good season is often not guaranteed.

"We have two potato planting seasons, and we plant before the rains begin. Sometimes we plant too early and other times too late because we are not able to properly read the weather."

"The rains come too early or too late. Two years after I started potato farming back in 2018, I lost all my potatoes to heavy rainfall,"

Women make up 75 percent of the agricultural labour force in this East African nation.

Overall, women also manage approximately 40 percent of the smallholder farms. As pillars of food production and largely lacking in financial and technical support, women are increasingly exposed to the effects of climate change and consequent land

"We may be in the same storm, but we are definitely not in the same boat. Nowhere is this truer than for women in the face of climate change," says Patricia Scotland, the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth.

A Commonwealth report titled Gender Integration for Climate Action: A Review of Commonwealth Member Country Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), presented at the recent UN climate summit COP26, shows how underrepresentation of women in climate policies and plans, poor access to climate finance, technologies, and lack of capacity for effective decision-making compounds inequality.

The lack of representation also creates a barrier to women fully contributing to climate action, reinforcing the circle, and continuing vulnerability.

However, the report also showed that countries are increasingly acknowledging



Women make of the agricul-tural labour ya. Women to the effects of climate change, and a Commonwealth report without their inputs, climate action policies compound inequality. Credit: Joyce Chimbi/IPS

the vulnerability and inequality of women in climate action, taking concrete steps to

At the heart of the review is a macro-level overview of the extent of gender integration in NDCs - the technical term for national climate action plans under the Paris Agreement - in Commonwealth member countries. The study covered both 'intended' NDCs, and new or revised NDCs submitted to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) before 26 July 2021.

Overall, 65 percent of Commonwealth countries included gender as a cross-cutting or mainstreaming priority in new or updated NDCs.

"Without women, these commitments to limit global warming won't be reached," says Scotland, adding that the Commonwealth Secretariat has undertaken to strengthen gender engagement within the respective NDCs of its 54 member states.

Countries have also identified challenges, particularly in finance, where international

support is urgently needed. "The Kingdom of Eswatini recognises gender as a cross-cutting issue with the National Development Strategy and National Development Policy calling for the mainstreaming of gender equity," says Duduzile Nhlengethwa-Masina, Director of the Eswatini Meteorological Service in the Ministry of Tourism and Environmental Affairs.

"In developing the NDC, we specifically engaged gender and women groups. This included having a session with Women in Parliament in October 2020 and another on Climate Change and Gender in November 2020.'

These activities encouraged women politicians to plant trees in the country's capital. They also initiated the idea of a women's group to increase women's involvement in climate action and ensure it is gender sensitive.

Furthermore, Nhlengethwa-Masina tells IPS that a gender assessment of policies was undertaken and baselines and indicators for gender-sensitive mitigation and adaptation developed. "A National Gender Policy was developed

in 2021, and climate change was incorporated into this, through support from the Commonwealth Climate Finance Access Hub," Nhlengethwa-Masina confirms.

Similarly, small island nations such as Saint Lucia recognise the crucial link between climate action, gender, and women's empowerment.

Saint Lucia's Chief Sustainable Development and Environment Officer, Annette Rattigan-Leo, says that "gender and women feature more prominently in climate action

interventions and strategies."

Country-wide policies, including the NDC, the National Adaptation Plan and sectoral strategies, clearly state the need to consider genderrelated factors. At the same time, the Department of Gender has drafted a National Gender Equality Policy and Strategy to mainstream the issue across various sectors.

Saint Lucia is currently implementing a project to mainstream gender in disaster recovery and climate resilience while improving women's economic autonomy, supported by Canada and the UK.

The role of women in smart agriculture practices, including agro-processing, is now embraced nationally. While not the main economic stay, agriculture contributes significantly to the country's rev-

"Noteworthy, women have assumed entrepreneurial roles over regular farming skills, in womenonly farming groups. Consequently, as entrepreneurs, women can actively influence the strategic decision-making requirements necessary for the agriculture sector to become more climate-resilient," says Rattigan-Leo.

In Namibia, the head of the Monitoring and Evaluation Unit at the Environmental Investment Fund, Aina-Maria Iteta, hopes to strengthen ongoing efforts to emphasise gender inclusivity in the country's National Climate Change Policy and implementation strat-

Namibia's Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism has appointed a UNFCCC National Focal Point on Gender. However, "a lot still needs to be done from creating awareness, developing an action plan, and ensuring a budget to support such initiatives is in place," she tells IPS.

Experts such as Iteta are quick

to point out that even though the review finds considerable progress towards gender representation in policies, plans and strategies, additional financial and technical support is needed.

"There is a gap on the budgeting of climate action on gender, overall. Gender initiatives or actions are always planned and funded on an ad hoc basis making it difficult to ensure this goal of gender mainstreaming in climate action is achieved," Iteta says. "The Commonwealth can facilitate access to financing gender climate-action initiatives.

Rattigan-Leo adds that St Lucia is looking to adopt "gender budgeting" into the development of the annual national budget/estimates.

"Capacity building specific to strategic gender budget approaches is an area that can benefit from the Commonwealth Climate Finance Access Hub's expertise. With the country's existing financial constraints, especially in the face of COVID-19 related recovery efforts, it would help to determine

the best entry points," she says. Nhlengethwa-Masina also welcomed more technical assistance in line with the specific needs of relevant agencies and women groups in Eswatini.

For local farmers such as Wangari, the help cannot come soon enough because they continue to struggle to survive and provide for their families on the front lines of climate change.

"If we do not tackle climate change with sufficient urgency and success, those on the wrong end of inequalities, especially women, will bear the hardest burden," Secretary-General Scotland concluded.

"Climate action is, therefore, incomplete without the contribution of women."

WEDNESDAY

05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM

21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)

THURSDAY

05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA

21:00-23:00HRS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI

MCHAGANGANYIKO)

FRIDAY

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 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS KIPIMA JOTO

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MALUMBANO YA HOJA



Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO

By Margaret Kadiri

HE UN climate summit COP26, held in November 2021, focused the world's attention on the urgent need to tackle climate change and concluded with 197 countries agreeing to the Glasgow climate pact. But opinions on the summit's success are polarised.

We owe a profound gratitude to the developing nations - including those from Africa - who agreed to the pact. In doing so, they chose not to insist that richer developed nations, whose historical and ongoing greenhouse gas emissions have largely caused the climate crisis, pay reparations to them for the damage they've inflicted.

African nations continue to hold the unenviable position of being disproportionately vulnerable to climate change. Although the continent accounts for the smallest share of global greenhouse gas emissions - only 3.8% it's already heating faster than the rest of the world.

And if the target of limiting global warming to 1.5 above preindustrial levels is missed, Africa could be facing catastrophic temperature increases of up to 3 by

At the same time, the threat to GDP of African nations that are most vulnerable to these changes - meaning the amount of economic activity that stands to be lost if these changes are severe enough - is projected to increase from £660 billion in 2018 to over £1 trillion in 2023. That's almost half of the continent's projected GDP.

Given these estimates, Africa's climate resilience must exceed the global norm. And some steps are being taken to protect the continent against the worst climate consequences through investments from national govern-

Africa faces an uphill battle against western emissions to combat climate change



such as the African Development Bank and the UN Environment Programme are also leading climate change adaptation measures, like working to protect mangroves on over 200 million hectares of land.

However, the estimated yearly cost of this kind of climate adaptation for developing nations is around £52 billion - and is expected

ments and the private sector. Organisations to rise to between £100-220 billion by 2030. While developed nations agreed in the Glasgow pact to double climate change contributions to their developing counterparts by about £29 billion by 2025, this amount is just a fraction of what's needed.

> One way to close this gap could be to leverage the Paris climate agreement, specifically, a subsection of article six that allows

countries with high emissions, such as the US and UK, to offset them through investing in sustainable initiatives like reforestation in low-emitting countries: including those in Africa. Such partnerships could act as a catalyst for the growth of low carbon energy projects such as solar, geothermal and wind power.

Another option could be to redirect local government money towards sustainable schemes. The total amount provided by African national governments in fossil fuel subsidies rose to £55 billion in 2015 alone, causing calls for "phasing down" these subsidies to be enshrined in the Glasgow climate pact.

Since subsidy money was flowing into an industry employing less than 1% of Africa's workforce, it could instead be invested back into African economies, creating inclusive, environmentally friendly job opportunities. For example, it might be used to fund startups like Gjenge Makers: a Kenyan business making paving blocks and tiles out of recycled plastic.

Despite contributing the least to the changing climate, many African nations are also taking strides to transition to renewable energy. The world's largest concentrated solar power (CSP) facility in Morocco, Noor Power Plant, converts the Sun's energy to electricity for around two million households.

Unlike more widely used photovoltaic panels, CSP enables solar energy to be stored for nights and cloudy days. The facility generates more than a third of Morocco's power while reducing carbon emissions by around 690,000 tonnes per year.

Projects like these don't just create more jobs, they also make more money. Up to £236 billion of new business opportunities that aim to climate-proof food and land systems - including preserving local forest ecosystems and restoring degraded landscapes - could be added each year to Africa's economies between now and 2030.

Margaret Kadiri, Lecturer in Physical Geography, King's College, London



GGML technicians at one of the mining sites

GGML to start using TANESCO electricity come late this year

By Guardian Reporter

EITA regional commissioner Rosemary Senyamule said the grid connection to the Geita Gold Mine Limited (GGML) is underway with the construction of the special lines going to the mine reaching 90 per cent.

The move comes after the completion of a project to build a large Mpomvu power station located in Geita City with a capacity of 90

The RC made the statement yesterday in Geita following reports circulating on social media that the Tanzania Electricity Supply Corpo-

ration (TANESCO) had failed to deliver the electricity needed by the investor Geita Gold Mine.

Elaborating further, Senyamule said in the case of the Mine (GGML) they are in the process of constructing a Kilovolt 33 emission power station to be 11 Kilovolt within a 40 Megawatt GGML mine.

"GGML uses a different voltage level than that distributed by TA-NESCO so we expect all operations until December 2022 to be completed," he said.

The GGML mine uses more than 40 MW produced using diesel fuel generators since 2018.

However, TANESCO's plans have been implementing the Mpovu project to ensure it delivers more than 20 MW of electricity to the mine.

The Mpomvu substation, which covers an area of about five hectares, will receive 220 Kilovolt and supply 33 kilovolt and will benefit 11 villages affected by the project and 1,424 residents nearby the mine.

Neighboring regions such as Mwanza and Kagera will also benefit from the electricity.

The massive project has cost more than 50bn/- to enable the people of Geita Region and surrounding areas to have reliable and affordable

In addition, the RC said that upon completion of the Geita Power Station it will enable the region to have reliable electricity that will attract various investment in the area.

For its part, the GGML Company has confirmed that the process of expanding the paraphernalia of transformers is in the process of procurement and construction of the facility is expected to be completed by November 2022.

The company's vice president, Simon Shayo, said GGML had finalized the negotiations and drafted a power selling agreement with TA-NESCO to ensure the company had access to reliable and quality electricity to avoid disrupting production activities.

'African American women are 40pc more likely to die of breast cancer

By Anthony Hill

ABOUT one in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime. Experts say African American women are more likely to die of breast cancer than white women.

According to the American Cancer Society, African American women are 40% more likely to die of breast cancer than white women and are twice as likely to die if they're over 50.

Polk County Schools updates COVID-19 protocols amid omicron

"I was diagnosed in May of 2007," said Tiffany Lott, a breast cancer survivor. "I found it by a self-examination." She was just 38 years old with two young children when she was diagnosed. Though she had to go through several rounds of chemo and radiation, she said her faith and her family got her through. "My husband was absolutely wonderful. I had a very good circle. My mom was there for me, my grandmother, my sister, my brother. So, everyone was very

positive." Dr Monique Gary with Novartis, a pharmaceutical company, said, Black women are more likely to be diagnosed at a later stage. "Our access and utilization of screening is deferential in different areas, in rural areas, in areas of lower social-economic status. There is less uptick in annual screenings," said Dr. Garv.

Dr Gary said the pandemic has exacerbated these disparities. That is why Novartis launched the "More Than Just Words" initiative, to not just bring awareness about the disparities that exist in breast cancer for Black women, but to do something about them.

"We can say a lot. We can put the process."

words on the internet, but how do we reach people and impact those lives and measure that influence."

In order to do that, they are focusing on three things: highlighting stories and narratives from Black women to Black doctors, providing informational toolkits so Black women know exactly what to ask their doctors and doctors know how to provide the best care for Black women, and increasing health literacy.

"We're really going to try to demystify what cancer care looks like and what breast health and preventative screening looks like."

They are even teaming up with famous people to get the message out there like Grammy-nominated singer, Jazmine Sullivan.

"She's sharing her lived experience with her family and her advocacy and her influence in the community."

Dr Hatem Soliman with the Moffitt Cancer Center said it is very important that women stay on their check-ups.

"Starting at age 40 and going up is usually when most women would begin routine mammographic screening," said Dr Soliman.

He also said, if breast cancer is in your family, you should start to get screenings at an age 10 years younger than the youngest relative to be diagnosed with breast cancer. So, having that conversation with your relatives about your family health history is essential.

As for Lott - the breast cancer survivor - she has a few messages for Black women. "First is that your life is worth living. Early detection is fabulous and no matter what they say to you, there's life after the diagnosis. So go through

Legal tussle over Zulu royal family succession 'could take years to resolve'

By Chris Makhaye

EVERAL aspects of the disputes in a civil matter tions of the Zulu royal family were debated on Tuesday and Wednesday in the Pietermaritzburg High Court.

In the first application, Queen Sibongile Dlamini Zulu, who married the late Zulu King Goodwill Zwelithini kaBhekuzulu in 1969, sought a declaratory order stating hers was the only valid and legal marital union with the late king, that the marriages of the late king's five other wives be declared invalid and illegal, and that she is entitled to 50 per cent of all the late king's substantial estates, believed to be worth hundreds of millions.

The presiding judge in the matter, KwaZulu-Natal Deputy Judge President Isaac Madondo, ruled on Wednesday that Queen Sibongile could not amend her founding court papers, saying such amendments had been sought at the eleventh hour without any valid or adequate reasons for do-

After this ruling, the court heard applications by Queen Sibongile's two daughters, Ntandoyenkosi Zulu and Ntombizosuthu Zulu-Duma, who are challenging the late king's will and are asking the

court to interdict the process that will culminate in the coronation of Prince Misuzulu Zulu as the next Zulu king.

Prince Misuzulu and the traditional prime minister of the Zulu Kingdom, Mangosuthu Buthelezi, have been cited as first and second respondents in both these applications.

King Goodwill Zwelithini died in March 2021 in a Durban hospital after suffering from Covid-19 and diabetes complications. In his will, the late king nominated his wife, Queen Mantfombi Dlamini Zulu (the sister of King Mswati of Eswatini) as the regent of the Zulus.

Mantfombi Oueen died about a month later. on 29 April 2021. In her own will, which was read shortly after her funeral. she nominated her son Prince Misuzulu to take over the reign of the Zulu kingdom.

announcement was greeted with mixed feelings by the members of the Zulu royal family, with some endorsing this nomination and others showing displeasure and/ or total opposition.

In their application, the late king's daughters contend that the signature on their father's supposed will is forged and they want the court to hold a trial or hearing on the validity of this will. They also want the court to stop all processes about the Zulu



Zulu warriors arrive at the Pietermaritzburg High Court to show support for King Misuzulu kaZwelithini Zulu on 12 January 2022. (Photo: Phumlani Thabethe)

roval succession until the matter of the will has been determined by the

The daughters are joined in court by Prince Mbonisi Zulu, the brother of the late king, both in questioning the validity of the will and in seeking a court interdict in the appointment of the new Zulu king.

Advocate Nigel Redman SC argued on behalf of the princesses that the signature on the king's will could have been forged to achieve the objective of appointing Misuzulu as the new king.

He said the signature on the will and other documents signed by the late king had been examined by several signature ex-

perts, who saw "shocking inconsistency" and "obvious dissimilarities" in them and the signature on the will seemed to have been done by a "drunk person or a child".

Advocate Griffiths Madonsela SC argued that the court should dismiss the application by the princesses as they had failed to prove to the court how they would be adversely affected on both matters. Madonsela said the minutes of the meeting in which the late king's will was read clearly show that not only did the two princesses participate, but they also endorsed the king's appointment of Queen Mantfombi as the

On Wednesday after-

regent.

noon, Judge Madondo adjourned the proceeding, saying he wanted to be even years. given some time to apply his mind to these matters. He did not say when the

rulings. Mpumelelo Zikalala, a Durban-based constitutional expert and legal commentator, said he expected the legal tussle between the royals to take months if not years to resolve.

court would resume or

when he would deliver his

"There are a number of issues that will need to be thrashed out and argued in court before they could be determined. These include the will and the nomination of the successor where witnesses will have to come and give oral evidence. This would take weeks, months and

"Even when the ruling has been made, the losing side or sides are likely to take it up on appeal and this matter can go up to the Constitutional Court. The alternative would be when both parties abandon the court action and decide to sit down and resolve these matters amicably. But at the moment I don't see that happening and the vacuum in the Zulu throne will remain for a longer time," Zikalala

Prince Thulani Zulu, who spoke on behalf of the section of the Zulu royal family that supports the elevation of Prince Misizulu, and other members

of the royals, including Prince Misizulu's second Nozizwe Mulela-Zulu, listened attentively to the proceedings in the court chambers.

Prince Thulani Zulu said they are happy with the hearings so far.

"So far our lawyers have handled this case very well and I think we are on the road to victory. We, as the Zulus, know who our king is. The undisputed king of the Zulus is King Misizulu. Others are just hallucinating.

"We are just tolerating this court process. When the time is right the Zulu people will install their king and nobody, including government, will say anything about it," he said.

A group of Zulu maidens outside the court were led by Nomagugu Ngobese, a cultural activist and founder of the Pietermaritzburg-based Nomkhubulwane Culture and Youth Development Organisation. Ngobese said they came to show their support to Prince Misuzulu.

"He is our king... any other pretender is a fake. We Zulu are very proud people and we cannot be ruled by fakes," she said.

Prince Thulani Zulu added that despite the KZN government switching off the financial taps that sustained the late king, the Zulu nation is still able to fulfil its duties. He said the family will

be commemorating the Battle of Isandlwana in northern KZN. The battle took place on 22 January 1879 where the Zulus, using spears and other traditional weapons, defeated the British Army that had invaded Zululand.

Prince Thulani Zulu said: "King Misuzulu will be presiding over this and other future ceremonies." A timeline of royal in-

trigues 1968:

Zulu King Cyprian Bhekuzulu dies of natural causes and a regent, Prince Mcwavizeni, is appointed as the Zulu regent. Intrigues in the royal house come to the fore when a plot to poison Prince Goodwill Zwelithini - to prevent him from ascending to the Zulu throne - is discovered and he is spirited away to live with his relatives in rural Mpumalanga (then Northern Transvaal).

September 1969:

Zulu prince and front-

runner to the throne of the Zulu, Goodwill Zwelithini, marries Sibongile Winifred, in community of property.

December 1970:

Prince Goodwill Zwelithini is crowned as the new king of the Zulus.

March 2021:

King Goodwill Zwelithini dies in a Durban hospital from Covid-19 and diabetes complications.

April 2021:

The official mourning for the Zulu king ends and the will of the late king is read to a meeting attended by members of the royal family. In the will, the late king nominates his wife as the regent of the Zulus.

29 April 2021:

Queen Mantfombi Dlamini-Zulu is buried in a private ceremony in KwaZulu-Natal after dying unexpectedly.

May 2021:

Queen Mantfombi's will is read by Zulu royal family lawyers. In her will, she names her son as the successor to the Zulu monarch. This is accepted by some members of the Zulu royal family, while others reject it out of hand.

2 May 2021:

Queen Sibongile Dlamini applies for an urgent court interdict seeking to set aside the implementation of the late king's will.

June 2021:

Two of the late king's daughters, princesses Ntombizosuthu Ntandokayise, launch a separate court application challenging the validity of their father's will and interdicting the process of installing the new Zulu king.

2 December 2021

Prince Mboniso Zulu, the late king's half-brother, launches an urgent court interdict to prevent the process leading to the coronation of Prince Misuzulu as the new Zulu king.

11/12 January 2022:

The Pietermaritzburg High Court hears arguments and counter-arguments on various aspects of the Zulu royal family disputes. Judgment on the matters is reserved.

THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 204 00he Guardian have given you no clues, only a list of words grid. SPY, ARK, ROB 3 LETTERS: 4 LETTERS: POOL, TOES, SKIN, GAIN, SUSS, AIDE NOTE (7 WORDS) 5 LETTERS: ADOBE, SHARP, HELLO, NOISE, fit into t SWALE (5 WORDS) CLUES: Across <u>Down:</u> BEACON, SPREAD, ASSETS, EMBARK 6 LETTERS: Breath Selling of black African's BEACON (5 WORDS) to develop Confess that all 7 LETTERS: MOROCCO intelligent, bright Capital of Italy 8 LETTERS: SCRABBLE a large edible fish of warm to put together with something 10 LETTERS: SUGAR CANES seas CROSSWORD WORD-FIT admonish, advise 10 useless ETCORNS 11 luck, fate a public paved road as in a NGINEROOM town or city 13 Largest continent in the World O V E R 15 cure division into phases E A S E L I O N E N A M E S 17 Church of England 12 Capital of Greece T G V S E R E N E B S A P A S T O R 19 the percentage charged on the 14 glowing R E A I A E D I T S N 16 respond to something in a exchange of one currency to particular way ЕТНІС another 20 ten less than thirty 17 Amateur Athletic Association OLOMBIA UNDERACT 18 an unpleasant person

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S HRS CHAGUO LA DJ
O HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS)
O HRS AFRO BRIEF
O OTOMOTO

1:00 HRS BONGO TEN

1:30 HRS SPOTI LEO

1:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN

1:5 HRS CHEMSHA BONGO

1:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF

1:03 HRS WEEK END SHOW I

1:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24) 18.30 HRS DIRÁ YÁ DÚMIA BBC
19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO
20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN
20.10 HRS MATANGAZO / MUZIKI
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22.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS)
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PROPERTY MATCH DISCOVER INFORM INSPIRE

FRIDAY 14 JANUARY 2022

MLIMANI CITY'S BOTSWANA INVESTOR SAYS DUBAI PROPERTY DEAL LEGITIMATE

By Property Watch Reporter

URNSTAR Holdings Limited, the Botswana based parent company of Mlimani City Holdings has said that it is taking legal action against its agent and real estate dealer in Dubai who are accused of an attempt to cheat on the 85 million pula Palazzo Venezia housing project.

In a statement to assure its investors who include Botswana Public Officers Pension Fund with an 11 percent stake and Debswana Pension Fund with 1.87 percent, Turnstar Holdings board of directors said in a statement last week that the purchased property is legitimate but that there are some legal issues surrounding it.

"As with all investments made by the company, the Turnstar board has had full knowledge of and oversight into the investment made by Turnstar relating to a Dubai property via Bucephalus Holding Limited," the statement said.

The board of the Botswana Stock Exchange listed company which has also been accused of keeping off the Dubai investment on its books by media reports in Gaborone, explained that to the contrary, the Dubai investment was in fact approved by the Turnstar board on



One of the main entrances to Mlimani City Mall in Dar es Salaam.

9 December 2019, on an armslength basis, and the agreement signed on 28 January 2020 was fully authorized.

"The relevant investment has been fully recorded and disclosed in Turnstar's financial statements as an advance and Turnstar's auditors have at all times been furnished with the necessary information," the statement argued.

Explaining further about the mandate given to Turnstar Man- and stockholders who have in-

aging Director, Gulaam Abdoola, the board said, "The agreement between Turnstar and Abdoola signed on 8 June 2021 was entered into to grant to Abdoola agency and assumption rights, on an assigned basis, to institute, progress and enforce litigation proceedings in relation to the relevant investment in Dubai."

Media reports in Botswana warned in December last year that thousands of pensioners vested in Turnstar Holdings' shares may lose tens of millions of Pula following the Botswana Stock Exchange listed company's investment in a shady real estate deal in Dubai.

Botswana's largest listed property company announced three years ago that it had extended its portfolio to the Middle East by acquiring a P85 million fivestorey building at one of Dubai's upcoming commercial areas. The 15.6 square metre Palazzo

Venezia house has eight units, one shop and a double-parking basement.

Botswana's Sunday Standard has turned up information that the whole deal was a scam and the property value was inflated by more than 50 percent. "While Turnstar Holdings in its 2021 annual report states the value of the Dubai property at P87 million, the actual value of the property is about P40 million. This means the property value in the annual report is overstated close to P50 million," the investigative newspaper stated.

Sunday Standard investigations have turned up a valuation of the property by the Dubai Land Commission which shows that the property is currently valued at AED 12, 722925,38 which is about P40 million. The value of the property would actually be much lower, but was helped by the appreciation of the Dubai Dirham against the Botswana Pula between the time the property was bought and

In response to the allegations, Turnstar board said, "Notwithstanding the above, in the interests of good corporate governance and full transparency, the Turnstar Board has appointed a Gaborone law firm to conduct an independent legal forensic investigation into all aspects of the relevant investment and Turnstar's investment in the Palazzo Venezia property in Dubai."

How mass thefts of railway infrastructure are derailing South Africa's economies

JOHANNESBURG

Wholesale looting of railway infrastructure is the latest blow to an already embattled South African economy, chocking exports, as shippers struggle to find enough cargo carriages to transport their goods to ports.

Kilometres of railway lines and overhead cables are stolen, often in broad daylight, on a daily basis. According to the state-owned logistics operator Transnet, in November alone, more than 200km of heavy gauge steel rails were stolen across the country to be sold for scrap.

'Rail has failed in one of its most important functions for the South African economy," says Mike Schussler, a Johannesburg economist. Trains that carry some of the country's key exports, such as coal and grains, are frequently cancelled or delayed. Almost all freight rail falls under Transnet, a state-owned corporation.

One of the country's largest coal producers Exxaro, said in a recent earnings guidance that it estimates the industry is likely to export no more than 58.8 million tonnes of coal this year. Another coal producer, Thungela, puts the number closer to 55 million tonnes. In normal years, about 75 million tonnes of coal is exported.

Instead, coal producers are now forced to turn to road freight, a costly and slower alternative, says Mr Schussler. "We are seeing a lot of lorries on the roads carrying coal. This is a very inefficient system."

Other crucial mineral exports are being slowed as well. Mining industry representative body The Minerals Council estimates the country will this year lose well more than 30 billion rand (\$1.8bn) in export revenue from coal, iron ore and chrome, as a result of ailing rail infrastructure and operations.

The losses of infrastructure show no signs of slowing down. In a note published in December, Transnet said 33,500 metres of overhead copper cables had been stolen in the first week of the month alone.

"It's possible to fix the overhead lines that provide the electricity the trains require," says David Williams, who recently authored a report for the Johannesburgbased Brenthurst Foundation, on the state of the country's logistics infrastructure.

"But in many instances the tracks themselves have been stolen. At stations. the buildings themselves have been looted for corrugated iron, bricks for building and so on." Even signalling equipment has been removed. Most of the stolen items end up being sold for scrap or in some cases, used for building material in the growing squatter settlements surrounding the country's urban areas.

Theft of public infrastructure has been an ongoing problem for years, but the coronavirus pandemic and disruptions to staffing, particularly security personnel at stations, has led to wholesale plunder. This is especially damaging now, as exports were one of the few good stories the country has enjoyed in recent years.

KRA deploys new technology to nab landlords

NAIROBI

The taxman has stepped up the onslaught on tax-evading landlords through the latest mapping technology, in addition to accessing bank records on rental income and utility transactions with utilities such as Kenya Power.

The Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) is implementing a block management system that will use geographic information system (GIS) to map outbuildings in various residences, a top official said. The system will classify various estates into blocks of flats where the KRA will identify landlords who are tax-compliant and those not in its tax net, and detect new buildings springing up.

"We are investing in block management and geo-mapping systems to map out all these urban areas like Nairobi and Mombasa and get to know where these landlords are and who is paying what tax and who is not paying what tax," KRA Commissioner for Legal Services and Board Co-ordination Paul Matuku said in an interview. "It is work in progress in that area (rental income tax) and we will bring all of them (landlords)



Times Tower in Nairobi, the headquarters of Kenya Revenue Authority.

The KRA currently relies on its capability to feed financial transactions of individuals and businesses from third parties into its Data Warehouse and Business Intelligence (DWBI) platform to catch tax-evading property owners.

The revenue agency has in the past backed access to third-party data from banks and utility providers as "instrumental in the identification of the landlords." Some 76,025 real estate owners were roped into the tax net in

three years through June 2021, the latest data show, beating a target of 66,000 landlords it had set for the period.

That was also a growth of 29 percent more than 58,934 property owners recruited in the previous three years between July 2015 and June 2018. The taxman is banking on the block management strategy to get hold of additional real estate owners in the coming years.

"Block Management Strategy involves tax service offices mapping out their

specific areas of jurisdiction into blocks and sub-blocks for better focus," KRA said via email on Tuesday. "We will be targeting all existing landlords who are not tax compliant as well as those with upcoming buildings (both residential and commercial)."

Landlords with annual rental income of between Sh288,000 (Sh24,000 per month) and Sh15 million (Sh1.25 million per month) are required to file a monthly tax return declaring the gross earnings rent from which tax payable is computed at the rate of 10 percent. Section 6A of Income Tax Act further

requires property owners with rental income of less than Sh24,000 a month or more than Sh1.25 million to declare such earnings together with other revenue sources when filing annual income tax returns.

The revenue agency says in the current three-year strategic plan for the period ending June 2024, it targets to map 100 percent of the blocks using GIS by end of June. "The use of geo-spatial mapping technology is yet to commence, but still in our plans for implementation," the KRA said.

The agency has identified real estate (landlords), high net-worth individuals (HNWI), small traders especially those in informal settings and businesses operating online, among others, as sectors with high potential for growing revenue.

Global ports operator DP World has begun construction of Senegal's Ndayane deepwater port, the Dubai-based company's biggest port investment in Africa to date and a project that is set to boost the country's position as a major trade hub and gateway to West Af-

DP World and the Senegal government have laid the first stone to mark the start of construction of the new Port of Ndayane, the company said in a statement on Tuesday. The investment of more than \$1 billion in two phases to develop Port of Ndayane is also the largest single private deal in the history of Senegal, it said.

"With the Port of Ndayane, Senegal will have state-of-the-art port

infrastructure that will reinforce our country's position as a major trade hub and gateway in West Africa," Senegal's President Macky Sall said. "It will unlock significant economic opportunities for local businesses, create jobs, and increase Senegal's attractiveness to foreign investors."

The step follows the concession agreement signed in December 2020 between DP World and the Senegal government to build and operate a new port at Ndayane, about 50 kilometres from the existing Port of Dakar. DP World has been significantly expanding its footprint in Africa as it seeks to tap into lucrative trade routes in the region. It has existing investments in Egypt, Algeria, Djibouti, Rwanda, Somaliland, Mozambique and Senegal, according to its website.

The infrastructure project reflects growing partnerships between Dubai and African markets aimed at supporting development in the continent, the company said. "We will bring all our expertise, technology and capability to this port project, the completion of which will support Senegal's development over the next century," said Sultan bin Sulayem, group chairman and chief executive of DP World. The first phase of the port development will include a container terminal with 840 metres of quay and a new 5km marine channel designed to handle two 336m vessels simultaneously, and capable of handling the largest container vessels in the world. It will increase container han-

dling capacity by 1.2 million Twenty Foot Equivalent Units (TEUs) a the time.

year. In the second phase, an additional container quay of 410m will be developed. DP World also plans to develop an economic and industrial zone next to the port and near the Blaise Diagne International Airport, creating an integrated multi-modal transportation, logistics and industrial hub, it said.

In October, DP World partnered with UK-based development finance institution and impact investor CDC Group to create a \$1.7bn investment platform for Africa. It will invest in origin and destination ports, inland container depots, economic zones and other logistics across Africa to increase trade, create new job opportunities and broaden access to



DP World and the government of Senegal have laid the essential goods, DP World said at first stone to mark the start of construction of the new

Port of Ndayane.

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CONSTRUCTION

SBL'S INVESTMENT IN SPIRIT MAKING PLANT **IN MOSHI WAS PROVED MILESTONE IN 2021**

By Property Watch Reporter

NE of the most outstanding investments made Serengeti Breweries Limited last year was expansion of its factories in Dar es Salaam, Mwanza and Moshi where billions of shillings were spent.

But perhaps the most significant investment was that of a spirits manufacturing plant which was commissioned by Prime Minister, Kassim Majaliwa during the third quarter of 2021. "I would like to congratulate Serengeti Breweries for this state of the art investment which will not only create more jobs but also boost government revenue in terms of taxes," said Majaliwa.

He pointed out that the government of President Samia Suluhu Hassan is ready to work with serious investors such as SBL because industrialization remains the main focus of the country's five year development plan.



SBL-refurbished plant in Moshi municipality.

made significant efforts to create a friendly environment for private investments to strive so as to encourage more manufacturing of goods locally," the PM noted saving the new Moshi spirits plant and related expansion of its other factories will also benefit smallholder farmers who supply raw materials.

"In this regard, SBL's investment enables us to be in a better position manufacture more products internally and

"The government has the surplus to regional and global markets," he added while assuring SBL investors of full cooperation from the

> SBL which has been working with hundreds of smallholder farmers from eight regions of the country, gets over 70 percent of inputs for the manufacturing alcoholic drinks of locally. The brewer has contracted over 400 cereal farmers in Arusha, Dodoma, Kilimanjaro, Manyara, Mara, Mwanza,

Morogoro and Singida regions who supply the raw materials.

Briefing the PM on SBL's investments, Managing Director, Mark Ocitti said the commissioned plant was the company's first spirits production factory and that the investment was worth 15.6bn/-. Ocitti said the plant was one of the major projects under the company's three year development plan which started in 2019.

"This demand for cereals that in Dar es Salaam to

SBL sources from local growers of maize, barley and sorghum for beer production. It will also create more direct and indirect job opportunities and expand the firm's distribution product footprint nationally," he said.

The SBL chief executive further noted that, prior to the commissioning of the Moshi spirits facility, SBL was a net importer of all of its spirits brands hence spent hard currency to get the products into the local market.

"With this plant therefore, we are also saving foreign currency used to import liquor and spirits manufactured outside Tanzania." Ocitti noted while unveiling that in total, the brewer has invested over 76bn/in the expansion of factories and capital boosting since 2019.

Out of the amount, expansion 31bn/- was invested will create increased between 2019 and 2020 expand the brewery; and the Moshi brewery in 2020. "Our plan is to invest a total of 124bn/by end which will take our total investment in Tanzania to over 200bn/-," Ocitti told the PM.

Through investment made so far, SBL has created direct employment for over 800 while thousands of others are indirectly employed across its value chain. Those employed include restaurants, pubs and bar staff, transporters, farmers and agro-input dealers.

The SBL chief said with the coming into being of the African Continental Free Trade Area agreement; resumption of Bagamoyo mega port and Special Economic Zone's negotiations plus finalization of the U\$3.5 billion East African Crude Oil Pipeline project with Uganda, the future of rapid economic growth for Tanzania is real.

"We thank President Samia Suluhu Hassan's shuttle diplomacy which has started bearing fruits because east Africa is opening up," the SBL Managing Director stated saying the brewer will invest more to exploit the promising market potential in Africa.

KMRC seeks Sh1.4 billion from first corporate bond

The Kenya Mortgage Refinance Company (KMRC) is targeting to raise an initial Sh1.4 billion in its bond issuance that will eventually see the company take a total of Sh10.5 billion for onward lending to financial institutions.

The company on Wednesday received approval from the Capital Markets Authority (CMA) to roll out the medium-term bond programme. KMRC did not however announce the date of the first tranche issuance, saying that it is still making preparations such as onboarding transaction advisors.

"The cash raised from the issuance, whose first tranche is Sh1.4 billion, will be disbursed to participating primary mortgage lenders (PMLs), for onward lending to mortgagers," said KMRC chief executive officer Johnstone Oltetia.

"Through this issuance, KMRC seeks to build its profile as a regular issuer of bonds in the Kenyan capital market as we work to raise more long-term capital, thereby refinancing more home loans and making them affordable and accessible for Kenyans." The KMRC has a credit line of Sh18 billion committed by the World Bank through the National Treasury, and Sh10 billion from the African Development Bank.

It in turn offers funds to banks and Saccos for onward lending at an annual interest of five percent, thus allowing these institutions to offer cheaper mortgage loans to customers at stable rates. Ahead of the rollout of the bond programme, KMRC has already acquired a credit rating from South African agency GCR —which gave the company an issuer rating of AA- in August 2021.

It had also announced earlier in 2020 that it would seek to have the AfDB act as guarantor for its bond issuance, thus riding on the top credit rating of the pan African lender as it continues to build up its credibility among investors.

Its bond issuance is also a boost to the corporate bond market, which is now showing signs of recovery following a series of successful issuances by listed brewer EABL, Family Bank, Centum and student housing developer Acorn Holdings.

"This is a major milestone which positions the capital markets as a source of funding to support productive economic activities such as the delivery of affordable housing, which is one of the pillars of the National Big Four Agenda," said CMA chief executive Wyckliffe Shamiah.

Ten million Airtel Money subscribers start receiving 2.01bn/- 'dividend'

By Property Watch Reporter

10 million Airtel Money platform subscribers have started receiving through their mobile wallets part of the over 2.01bn/- earned in profits made during the third quarter of last year.

Announcing the good news in Dar es Salaam mid this week, Airtel Money Director, Isack Nchunda said those who qualify for a share of the spoils are only those whose mobile money accounts were active between July and September 2021.

"We are extremely gratified to see the growth of Airtel Money users day after day as the platform continues to be a major foundation for their economic activities. We are currently disbursing billions of shillings to our customers who have been using the platform during the period. These payments go directly into their Airtel Money accounts," Nchunda said. He said the profit will

be paid to individual customers, retail agents and business partners based on their Airtel



Airtel Money director Isaack Nchunda speaks in Dar es Salaam mid this week to announce that subscribers of the mobile money platform will start receiving over 2.01bn/- in profit made during the third quarter of 2021. He is with Airtel Money brand manager Gillian Rugumamu. Photo courtesy of Airtel.

Money wallet transactions Nchunda said the share of interest payment will depend on the level of activity the user has had

airtime purchases.

revolutionary mobile money platform has played a huge role in building final inclusion on Airtel Money for the and access to services in said period and involve the country. Women and transfers, bill payments and youth have seen the ease

and convenience of using Airtel Money and are taking advantage of the numerous services that simplify and improve their lives," the Airtel Money Director added.

"It has also been a key

resource empowering small businesses. For us at Airtel Tanzania Plc, our priority is to make sure that this platform remains the most agile and responsive to customer needs," he added.

African Development Bank due to support agro-industrial processing in Mozambique

MAPUTO

The African Development Bank (ADB) has approved a grant of 47 million US dollars for Mozambique's Pemba-Lichinga Integrated Development Corridor.

The development corridor, running across northern Mozambique, is a Special Agro-Industrial Processing Zone intended to stimulate agricultural production and help small scale farmers to move out of subsistence farming through providing infrastructure, marketing, and training.

According to a statement from the Bank, the grant will support the first phase of the project which will help imtivity and agribusiness development in the northern tackling important factors

focus on institutional capacity, skills, and entrepreneurship to spur growth in the agricultural value chain.

The project will also pilot improved policy and development coordination between the authorities in Niassa province and national departments, especially with the Ministry of Industry and Trade and the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Develop-

Commenting on the approval of the grant by the Bank's board of directors, Mozambique's Minister of Industry and Trade, Carlos Mesquita, described the project as a "game-changer" that would transform the prove agricultural produc- economy, promote social inclusion, and foster peace by

province of Niassa and will such as development infrastructure.

The Bank's Country Manager for Mozambique, Cesar Augusto Mba Abogo, highlighted the importance of Special Agro-Industrial Processing Zones as a shared facility to enable agricultural producers, processors, aggregators, and distributors to operate in the same neighbourhood to reduce transaction costs, share business development services and increase productivity and competitiveness.

The African Development Bank financed its first project in Mozambique in 1977 and since then has focussed on supporting projects covering agriculture, transport, water and sanitation, energy, communications,



Kenya Mortgage Refinance Company's CEO, Johnston Oltetia, speaks in Nairobi last week.

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CONSTRUCTION



UAE'S FERTIGLOBE SET TO PLAY 'BIG ROLE' IN GLOBAL ENERGY TRANSITION

ABU DHABI

ertiglobe, the Abu Dhabibased chemicals joint venture of energy major Adnoc and Netherlandslisted OCI, is investing in several initiatives to produce low and zero-carbon ammonia to help the world reduce its carbon footprint, its chief executive said.

The company, the world's top seaborne exporter of urea and ammonia, seeks to help existing and new clients looking to use hydrogen in the form of ammonia for marine fuels, power generation and other industrial applications, Ahmed El Hoshy told The National in an interview.

"We are going to play a very big role in the energy transition because there is a lot of discussion around hydrogen being a solution and its ability to provide energy," said Mr El Hoshy, who is also chief executive of OCI.

"Today, hydrogen – for our purposes ammonia – can be used to decarbonise over 80 and potentially 90 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions." Ammonia allows for the easy transport of hydrogen, the blue form of which is derived from gas and the green version from splitting water into hydrogen and oxygen using renewable sources.

Ammonia – largely used in fertilisers and industrial applications from manufacturing of plastics to textiles and



Fertiglobe's Fertil plant in Ruwais.

pesticides, automotive and cosmetics - when heated to extract hydrogen does not produce carbon.

gaining Hydrogen importance as the fuel of the future and low-carbon hydrogen is deemed essential in decarbonising hard-to-abate industrial sectors including heavy transport in the future. "Why we think we are well positioned is that a good 50 plus per cent of hydrogen today is delivered in form of ammonia and methanol, and ammonia has

the lion's share of that," he said. "If we can produce it in a low-

carbon way or no-carbon way, for which we have a few initiatives we are working on now, we can deliver this product all over the world," Mr El Hoshy said. Fertiglobe is constantly looking at what it considers "low-hanging fruit" and is prioritising capital expenditure on its existing asset base to debottleneck capacity and convert feedstock from natural gas to hydrogen.

"We have announced some projects and we are working on other projects that aren't announced [yet]. When you think about capex, we are in a good position," he said. Some of these upgrade schemes are at idea stage while others are at feasibility or development stages, he said, declining to specify the amount the company plans to spend.

"We are in a position now that is once in a generation type of opportunity ... we see open playing field ahead of us and we are happy to commit investments." change

Hoshy said.

Governments and energy companies around the world are exploring ways on how to use clean hydrogen to lower greenhouse gas emissions and help them reach their net-zero carbon ambitions. The UAE and other countries around the broader Mena region are already pursuing plans to make hydrogen a part of their energy mix and tap into the clean fuel's potential for different industrial applications.

Last year, Adnoc, Mubadala Investment Company and Abu Dhabi holding company ADQ formed an alliance to develop a global hydrogen hub. Adnoc subsequently announced plans to build a blue ammonia plant in Ruwais, while Abu Dhabi Portsowned Kizad said it would invest \$1 billion in a green ammonia plant.

Other Gulf states are also pursuing similar plans. Oman plans to develop a \$30bn green hydrogen plant, the biggest in the world upon completion, which will be powered by 25 gigawatts of wind and solar energy.

Saudi Arabia, the world's largest oil exporter, is also building a massive green hydrogen plant in Neom. Acwa Power and Air Products are building the \$5bn project, which has a capacity of 4 gigawatts and can produce 650 tonnes of hydrogen a day.

Fertiglobe, which currently

Fertiglobe's asset base, Mr El produces 1.5 million tonnes of ammonia a year, has several projects in the pipeline that will significantly increase its capacity. The company will continue to serve fertiliser and industrial markets, a business that is growing at low-tomid single digit percentages and has potential to grow more.

"But where we see a lot of excitement is on the nascent market, which is using ammonia as a fuel," Mr El Hoshy said. In August last year, Fertiglobe and Adnoc sent blue ammonia shipments to Japan and the company see East Asian consumers of ammonia ramping up demand in the future. However, prospects of growth for ammonia as clean energy fuel are even brighter, he said.

"Today, clean energy demand for ammonia is close to zero [but] by the middle of the decade we see it upwards of 8 million tonnes and by end of 2030 it could be over triple that amount," Mr El Hoshy said. Fertiglobe has a "very big advantage" and is able to capitalise on demand boom as it has the infrastructure and the company is backed by "very supportive sponsors in Adnoc and OCI".

The company has already announced 1 million tonnes of future capacity through its partnership with Ta'ziz in Abu Dhabi, 70,000 tonnes of production increase in its existing Fertil plant in the UAE's downstream centre in Ruwais and it aims to boost green ammonia production by 90,000 tonnes in Egypt.

M&G picks Australia, Japan and Singapore as 2022 targets



M&G Real Estate's ESR Yatomi Distribution Centre near Nagoya, Japan.

TOKYO

Australia, Japan and Singapore stand out as the top real estate investment locations in Asia Pacific this year considering the bright recovery prospects in these markets, said UK-based asset manager M&G Real Estate, which is focusing on the logistics, office and residential sectors as it targets these markets.

Australia's office market is geared for a cyclical recovery while the country's logistics sector continues to benefit from a burgeoning e-commerce sector, said Eunice Khoo, manager of the Asia research team at M&G Real Estate, during an online briefing on Tuesday.

In Asia, Khoo said Singapore's favourable environment innovation will continue to attract tech firms this year, while healthy demand for real estate in Japan's major cities will drive growth in Asia's second-largest economy.

The real estate division of UK fund manager M&G Investments, which manages \$48 billion in assets globally, has shown its belief in its

strategy through a series of recent deals including backing a pair of ESR warehouse deals in Japan last year. In September, the asset manager also bought a half stake in the 35-storey EY Centre at 200 George Street in Sydney for A\$577 million (then \$421million).

While it maintains a "cautiously optimistic" regional economic outlook for 2022, M&G sees the higher vaccination rates in its top target locations allowing office and retail assets to benefit from the return of white collar workers and foot traffic as Asia Pacific continues to battle COVID-19.

Khoo is predicting demand for office and logistics space in Australia will fuel the recovery, with the pandemic-induced e-commerce boom continuing to bolster the logistics segment, especially in major cities like Sydney and Melbourne. For the office market, the M&G executive is projecting rents will turn around this year and that the segment remain resilient to future risks and threats of inflation.

"In terms of ESG (environmental,

social and governance), for instance in the office market, it's something that's pretty developed and advanced, landlords as well as developers have been factoring sustainability into the assets for a very long time already," she said. "There are long leases and indexation of leases to inflation [as well], which then makes the asset even more resilient to potential rising inflation." In Asia, Khoo noted that Singapore has become a preferred headquarters location for global tech firms, thanks in part to its commitment to innovation. That tech-centric approach has paid off in deals such as e-commerce titan Amazon's expansion into a new three-storey office in Marina Bay late last year while China's Tencent Holdings opened its first Singapore office in 2020.

In 2019 M&G Real Estate invested S\$400 million (then \$295 million) to forward fund Surbana Jurong's new office campus in Singapore's Jurong Innovation District, which will be the engineering and infrastructure consultancy firm's new headquarters when it is completed this year.

"In Japan, the demand drivers in real estate fundamentals still count on the number of people occupying real estate space and Tokyo is the largest city that we have among the developed APAC markets," Khoo said, adding that the country provides a great buffer against rising inflation and interest rates which can provide some shelter for real estate

Aside from investing in ESR projects in Tokyo and Nagoya last year, the fund manager also paid \$50 million to pick up two apartment blocks in Osaka as it continues to bank on Japan's hot multi-family market. This follows a similar purchase three years earlier when it bought a portfolio of residential buildings in Chiba, Fukuoka, and Osaka for \$83.7 million.

While the region's top investment destinations seemed to have been agreed upon, M&G Real Estate's fund manager for Asia Richard van den Berg said logistics and residential sectors will likely continue recording strong value increases this year while the retail sector may see a soft rebound in income once restrictions are lifted. Within these sectors the Singapore-based fund manager said that core strategies will remain the safest option for investors wary of inflation and interest rate risks over the next 12 months.

"[On the threats of] rising inflation and rising interest rates, I think that kind of backdrop is extremely attractive for core and low-risk investors," van der Ber said in the same briefing. "That is where you would want to be in a period of uncertainty so if we're moving in that uncertain period, I would see that the core and prime assets will be much more resilient than the more opportunistic or value-add type of strategies."

For José Pellicer, the firm's global head of investment strategy, the most promising strategy is to focus on assets that align with ESG standards, as such properties are more resilient to future climate and environmental risks.

"It is about the kind of capital expenditure that we need to plan as real estate investors over the next 10 years to make sure that our net zero commitments by 2050 are honored and that our assets don't get stranded on the way, because stranded assets are not going to be in demand for tenants," he



Saudi Arabia has plans to finalise a major development strategy for Riyadh this year as it seeks to transform it into a major global city economy by 2030.

Saudi Arabia's push to attract regional headquarters will boost property sector

Saudi Arabia's move to encourage multinational companies to set up their regional headquarters in the kingdom will benefit the office sector in the Arab world's largest economy, according to a report.

The decision is expected to prompt "regional occupiers to review their office footprint across the Middle East and start planning for the long term," the report by the Kuwait Financial Centre (Markaz) said. "The KSA will undoubtedly benefit from the increased market share of office occupiers in the region." Last year, Saudi Arabia said it will stop giving contracts to any company that has its regional headquarters outside the kingdom from 2024.

The move was being taken to promote the establishment of local businesses by foreign companies that deal with the kingdom's government, its agencies and related funds, the Saudi Press Agency reported in February. Following the decision, 44 multinational companies, including PepsiCo, Baker

Hughes, Halliburton, Philips, Schlumberger and Novartis, have relocated their regional headquarters to the kingdom.

"The 44 companies that have announced plans to establish their regional headquarters in Riyadh are expected to bring 67 billion Saudi riyals [\$17.86bn] worth of investment to the economy and provide 30,000 job opportunities by 2030," global consultancy Knight Frank has said in a report.

"Clearly, this suggests that demand for office space is not only being created, but is likely to be sustained, at least in Riyadh." Saudi Arabia has plans to finalise a major development strategy for Riyadh this year as it seeks to transform it into a major global city economy by 2030.

The kingdom aims to transform Riyadh into one of the top 10 city economies globally, doubling its population to 15 million to 20 million, while increasing the number of visitors to more than 40 million by 2030, the board of the Royal Commission for Riyadh City said last month.

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WORLD

UK PM Johnson apologises for attending lockdown party

LONDON

BRITISH Prime Minister Boris Johnson offered his "heartfelt apologies" on Wednesday for attending a "bring your own booze" gathering at his official residence during the country's first coronavirus lockdown as opponents said he must resign.

Johnson admitted for the first time that he had attended the party at 10 Downing Street on May 20, 2020, when COVID-19 rules limited social gatherings to a bare minimum, and said he understood the anger the revelations had caused.

"I went into that garden just after six on the 20th of May 2020 to thank groups of staff before going back into my office 25 minutes later to continue working," he said. "With hindsight, I should have sent everyone back in-

Opposition Labour Party leader Keir Starmer said Johnson must now resign and that the public thought him a liar.

"The party's over, prime minister," Starmer told him.

"After months of deceit and decep-

tion, the pathetic spectacle of a man who has run out of road. His defense that he didn't realize he was at a party is so ridiculous that is actually offensive to the British public."

'PARTY IS OVER'

Anger has grown since ITV News reported Johnson and partner Carrie mingled with about 40 staff in the Downing Street garden after his Principal Private Secretary Martin Revnolds sent an email invitation asking attendees to "bring your own booze".

Numerous people, including some lawmakers, have described how the rules kept them from the bedsides of dying loved ones last May in contrast to the events in Downing Street.

Some of Johnson's own Conservative members of parliament (MPs) have said how he responded on Wednesday to the growing furor would determine his fu-

"His survival is in the balance at the moment," said one senior Conservative MP, speaking on condition of anonymity due to the sensitivity of the situation.

Two snap opinion polls on Tuesday



Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson

showed well over half of respondents thought Johnson should resign.

But while parliament resounded with demands for his head, Johnson's biographer Andrew Gimson said he was unlikely to quit unless forced out by his parliamentary colleagues.

"He will be looking for a way through this. He is not the resigning type," Gimson said.

When details of the gathering first emerged, Johnson said he could not comment until a senior government official, Sue Gray, concludes an internal investigation into other allegations that he and his officials held rule-breaking parties.

In response to the calls for his resignation, he again deferred to Gray's investigation.

"I cannot anticipate the conclusions of the current inquiry, I have learned enough to know that there were things we simply did not get

right. And I must take responsibility,"

Just two years after Johnson's election triumph, and less than six after he led the Brexit campaign to victory in 2016's EU referendum, speculation about his leadership is now rife.

There are mutterings that Conservative MPs, who can trigger a leadership challenge if 54 of the 360 in parliament write letters of no confidence, are sharpening their knives.

Last month, the Conservatives lost a parliamentary seat they had held for almost 200 years while the party's comfortable lead over Labour in opinion polls has also evaporated.

A series of missteps and scandals and public anger over the government's handling of the COVID-19 pandemic, rising energy bills and concerns about surging inflation have fueled Conservative unease.

Kenya banking on cultural heritage to shore up tourist numbers

NAIROBI

KENYA will leverage the rich culture of its more than 40 ethnic communities alongside the presence of worldrenowned prehistoric sites to boost tourist arrivals, officials said Wednesday.

Najib Balala, the cabinet secretary in the Ministry of Wildlife and Tourism said that as part of the sector's diversification, the government will develop cultural products

foreign visitors.

"Kenya has over 40 ethnic groupings and with this comes a cultural richness that is loved, and that people from across the world want to experience," Balala remarked during the handing over of UN World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) Best Tourism village certificate to the prehistoric Olorgesailie village located in Kajiado county, south-east of the capital, Nairobi.

that can appeal to local and among 44 villages that were fresh insight into the hunter-

recognized by UNWTO during its 2021 general meeting in Madrid, Spain, adding that the prehistoric site has reaffirmed Kenya's reputation as cradle of

Decades ago, archeologists unearthed egg-shaped and razor-sharp hand axes at Olorgesailie that were more than one million years old in their quest to understand the evolution of

The abundance of tools at He said that Olergesaille was the prehistoric site provided gatherer occupation of the early man and his evolution over a period spanning more than one million years.

Balala noted that Olorgesailie village and other archeological sites have provided an alternative experience to tourists as the sector gradually recovered from pandemic related disruptions.

He said the government was committed to growth of cultural and archeological tourism as a means to boost foreign exchange earnings and

create jobs for skilled youth. Betty Radier, CEO of the Kenya Tourism Board (KTB)

said that sprucing up of the country's prehistoric sites had gone overdrive to ensure they had a steady flow of local and international visitors. According to Radier, sus-

tainability of the tourism sector in a pandemic era hinges on diversification, revamping transport infrastructure, enhanced security and a predictable regulatory environment.

Xinhua

Russia won't be intimidated by 'crippling' sanctions, ambassador to US says

THE US Congress' call for new sanctions against Russia, including restrictions on the country's leadership, will not intimidate Moscow, Russian Ambassador to the United States Anatoly Antonov said in response to media questions.

"We believe that the calls on the Capitol Hill for the introduction of 'crippling' anti-Russian restrictions, as well as personal sanctions against the top leadership of the Russian Federation, are provocative and hopeless. We will not be intimidated by restrictions," he said, according to a statement published on the embassy's Facebook page.

"Behind the demands of lawmakers to punish our country more painfully lies an attempt to influence Russia against the background of ongoing negotiations on European security. We see such pressure as the inability of the United States to defend its point of view at the negotiating table in a reasoned manner," Antonov pointed out.

According to him, "the assertions about the alleged plan of an attack on a neighboring state being hatched by our coun-

try are a figment of the sick imagination of local Russophobic circles." "This is the result of their mental disorder.

The answer is unambiguous: we have no aggressive intentions towards Ukraine," the envoy stressed, adding: "It seems that US politicians have launched the myth of an 'imminent Russian invasion of Ukraine' in the media and are now facing their own phobias."

The Russian ambassador emphasized that "in these circumstances, we would recommend American lawmakers to engage in the formation of a bipartisan consensus on the withdrawal of the USA from the deepest economic and political

"We are against confrontation. Our choice is to build equal pragmatic relations between Russia and the USA. It is time for politicians in Washington to abandon threats. Such a strategy will not bring any benefit to the US people. International security, which needs wise and thoughtful actions, will lose. We have presented our initiatives to bring the situation out of the crisis. On January 10, they were explained in Geneva, and on Janu-



ary 12 in the framework of the Russia-NA-TO Council in Brussels," Antonov noted.

"We are waiting for an adequate response - not in the form of populist statements, but reasoned written proposals," the Russian envoy added.

On Wednesday, a group of US lawmakers unveiled a bill to impose restrictions on Russia, which is related to tensions around Ukraine and includes sanctions against Russian President Vladimir Putin, the country's prime minister, foreign and defense ministers, the chief of the General Staff and other top military officials.

Openness and integration are an unstoppable trend of history

Restrictions may also target the Nord Stream 2 gas pipeline project.

The West and Kiev have recently been spreading allegations about Russia's potential invasion of Ukraine. Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov castigated these claims as "empty and unfounded", serving as a ploy to escalate tensions, pointing out that Russia did not pose any threat whatsoever to anyone.

However, Peskov did not rule out the possibility of provocations aimed at justifying such allegations and warned that attempts to use military force to resolve the crisis in southeastern Ukraine would have serious consequences.

On Wednesday, a meeting of the Russia-NATO Council took place in Brussels, which was the second round of consultations between Russia and Western countries on Moscow's proposals on European security.

The first meeting in the series, which involved Russia and the United States, was held in Geneva on January 10, and the third round of talks will take place on the OSCE platform in Vienna on January Agencies

8 member states lose right to vote at UN due to unpaid dues

CAPE TOWN

UNITED NATIONS - Iran and Venezuela are among the eight countries whose rights to vote at the United Nations have been revoked due to unpaid dues, a UN spokesperson said Wednesday.

In his letter to the General Assembly on Tuesday, Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said a total of 11 countries are behind in their payments, Paulina Kubiak, spokesperson for Abdulla Shahid, president of the 76th session of the UN General Assembly, said at the daily press briefing.

Under Article 19 of the Charter of the United Nations, a member state in arrears in the payment of its dues in an amount that equals or exceeds the contributions due for two preceding years can lose its vote in the General Assembly.

An exception is allowed if the member state can show that "conditions beyond its control" contributed to this inability to pay. The UN chief said in his letter that this will be the case for the Comoro Islands, Sao Tome and Principe, and Somalia in 2022.

Iran, Sudan, Venezuela, Antigua and Barbuda, Congo, Guinea, Papua New Guinea and Vanuatu are the eight countries that no longer have the right to vote, according to UN chief's letter obtained by Xinhua.

For each of them to recover their vote, Guterres outlined the minimum amount they must pay. Iran needs \$18.4 million and Venezuela \$39.8 million.

China, Turkey to further advance ties

NANJING

Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi held talks with Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu on Wednesday, and both sides agreed to deepen all-round cooperation to further advance bilateral ties.

During their talks, held in Wuxi, east China's Jiangsu province, Wang said that under the guidance of the two heads of state, China-Turkey relations have maintained their development momentum and anti-pandemic cooperation has become a new highlight of bilateral ties.

Wang suggested that the two countries, as strategic partners, should be committed to enhancing mutual trust and support. The two sides should support each other in safeguarding their respective sovereignty, security and development interests, and abide by non-interference in each other's internal affairs, a basic norm governing international

Wang also expressed the hope that the two countries would not participate in activities against each other on international occasions and would enhance communication and mutual understanding through bilateral channels on differences in historical and national cognition.

Hailing the importance that Turkey attaches to pragmatic cooperation with China, Wang called on the two sides to further synergize their development strategies, advance landmark projects such as nuclear power project, and expand cooperation in such areas as new energy, 5G, cloud computing and big data.

Cavusoglu said Turkey appreciates the positive role of Turkey-China economic, trade and investment cooperation and interconnection in enhancing Turkey's economic strength, and is willing to strengthen the docking of Turkey's "Middle Corridor" plan with the Belt and Road Initiative.

Turkey stands ready to actively promote the cooperation on nuclear power between the two sides and fully tap the great potential of cooperation on new energy, Cavusoglu

The two sides agreed to strengthen cultural and peopleto-people exchanges. Cavusoglu said that Beijing will become the only city to host both the Summer and Winter Olympics, and he believed that the Beijing Winter Olympics will be as successful as the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games.

They also exchanged views on the situation in Kazakhstan and other international and regional issues of common concern.

Wang said China values Turkey's unique role in regional and international affairs, and is willing to strengthen multilateral coordination and cooperation, jointly safeguard true multilateralism, promote the democratization of international relations, and safeguard the common interests of emerging market economies, including China and Turkey.



Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi (right) holds talks with Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu in Wuxi, east China's Jiangsu province, on Wednesday. XINHUA

THE Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, or RCEP, entered into force, which attracted

huge attention from the world. As the most promising free trade area covering the largest population and most diverse membership, the RCEP fully demonstrates the confidence and resolution of relevant parties in jointly safeguarding multilateralism and free trade, and promoting regional economic inte-

gration. It will further integrate industrial and supply chains in the region and promote cross-border trade and investment, injecting new momentum for regional and global economic re-

The world is going through pro-

found changes and a pandemic unseen in a century, and economic globalization running up against

headwinds from rising unilateralism

and protectionism. Member countries of the RCEP, which have different social systems, come from different cultural backgrounds, and are in different development stages, have implemented the modern, comprehensive, highquality, and mutually beneficial free

trade agreement as scheduled. They once again proved with concrete actions that economic globalization is irreversible, and openness and integration an unstoppable historical trend. They also proved that to safeguard multilateralism, adhere to opening cooperation, promote free trade and strive for common prosperity is a common aspiration of regional countries and their peoples, as well as the right choice to cope with challenges and promote win-win cooperation.

The RCEP, officially entering into force, will significantly promote regional economic integration and boost regional trade and investment. With a number of promises made on the opening of cargo and service trade, as well as investment, the free trade pact offers institutional guarantee for trade and investment facilitation, and more than 90 percent of merchandise trade between approved members will eventually be subject to zero tariffs under the pact.

The RCEP will further integrate the industrial and supply chains in the Asia-Pacific region, energize regional investment, and give play to the complementary advantages of member countries in technology, manufacturing, agriculture and other sectors.

The RCEP is expected to help its members increase export, stocks of outbound investment and GDP by 10.4 percent, 2.6 percent and 1.8 percent, respectively, compared with the baseline, by 2025. This will greatly mitigate the negative impacts from COVID-19 on regional economy and enhance the confidence of the world in economic recovery.

Thai Deputy Prime Minister and Commerce Minister Jurin Laksanawisit noted that the implementation of the RCEP will create a favorable external environment for the development of its member countries and enhance their resilience in coping with economic challenges.

The RCEP implementation marks a new milestone for China's opening-

As the largest economy among the members of the free trade agreement, China has conformed to the trend of regional cooperation and

development, and was the first to have ratified the RCEP.

China is a huge market with over 1.4 billion people and more than 400 million middle-income earners. It imports around \$2.5 trillion of merchandise and services on an annual

The country will provide broader market space for regional economic development and support it with a diverse industrial system, and better join the integrated development of industrial and supply chains in the region and the construction of an integrated market, so as to contribute its strength to the promotion of regional prosperity and global recovery.

People's Daily

Moscow expects West to give written response to Russia's initiatives

BRUSSELS

THE discussions that Russia and the West had at Wednesday's meeting of the Russia-NATO Council, the first such event since 2019, were useful and direct.

They have not led to any agreements but made it possible for the parties to understand each other's position and realize that Russia and NATO still view fundamental issues differently.

Russia expects the United States and other NATO countries to give a written response to Moscow's security initiatives, and will decide whether it is reasonable to continue talks or move to other measures to ensure national security.

To sum up the event, TASS has put together the key statements of Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Grushko and the Russian Defense Ministry.

Response to proposals

Grushko pointed out that Russia had clarified all of its concerns at the meeting and called on the other party to commit its proposals to paper.

The senior Russian diplomat added that there were reasons to expect NATO members to do it in the near future but it was too early to talk about further contacts.

Diplomatic presence

The Russian deputy foreign minister noted that Moscow would consider restoring its permanent mission to NATO, provided that the alliance changed its policy and abandoned attempts to raise tensions.

He also stressed that Russia would not allow anyone to make decisions about its diplomatic presence.

De-escalation in Ukraine

Grushko stated that in the fourhour meeting, discussions of the Ukraine issue had lasted one and a half hours.

He also said that de-escalation in the country was possible based on the Minsk Agreements. However, he emphasized the need to make Kiev fully implement its obligations under the accords.

The Russian diplomat added that once it was done, "there will be no threat to Ukraine's security and territorial integrity." According to him, if NATO is really interested in deany kind of military assistance to Ukraine, including weapons supplies, and withdraw inspectors, instructors, officers and soldiers.

Political and military tools

Grushko also told reporters that Moscow could not accept NATO's approach to the principle of indivisible security as the alliance viewed it "as the indivisible security of NATO member states."

He pointed out that ignoring the interests of other countries and trying to build a security system "against Russia" and without Russia would lead to nothing.

Moreover, in his words, Russia will use all the tools that it has to ensure its security, including political and military ones.



The deputy foreign minister stressed that Russia would respond with a policy of counter-deterrence to NATO's policy of deterrence and with counter-intimidation to intimidation.

"If it's about searching for vulnerabilities in Russia's defense system, we will look for NATO's vulnerabilities. It's not our choice but if we fail to overturn the current dangerous course of events, there will be no other option," Grushko said, adding that it would be better to overcome the crisis by finding "a reasonable balance of interests.

Expansion as a threat

Grushko noted that one of Russia's core demands was that NATO put an end to its eastward expansion, namely to former Soviet countries. According to him, the necessary element of the agenda was the need for NATO to give legal guarantees that it would not expand to the east.

Defense Ministry's remarks

Russian Deputy Defense Minister Alexander Fomin, in turn, clarified Russia's views of the current European security situation and the military aspects of Russia's draft agreement on security guarantees, according to a statement by the Defense Ministry.

Fomin stated that "Russia-NATO relations have reached a critically low level" amid global instability, the threat of terrorism, a looming arms race and the decay of the European security ar-

chitecture. According to the Defense Ministry, Russia emphasized at the meeting that it "has repeatedly called on the alliance to take measures to ease tensions" but NATO gave no response, which created conditions for incidents and conflicts.

Issues to resolve

The Russian Defense Ministry said that in such a situation, Russian Presiescalation, it should stop providing dent Vladimir Putin had made a decision to send Moscow's draft agreements on legally binding security guarantees to the United States and NATO.

> The ministry listed the key issues that required solutions.

> First, it is the need for NATO to guarantee that it will not expand to the east.

Second, it is about obligations not to deploy more US intermediate and short-range missiles to Europe because such a move may dramatically worsen the security situation on the continent.

Third, it is about restricting military activities in Europe and steps to increase the size of the so-called forward deployed forces.

"Russia expects to hold constructive discussions in order to promptly prepare agreements on security guarantees," the ministry's statement quoted Fomin as saying. Agencies



According to the Defense Ministry, Russia emphasized at the meeting that it "has repeatedly called on the alliance to take measures to ease tensions" but NATO gave no response, which created conditions for incidents and conflicts

Zimbabwean artist makes artistic statements out of trash

CHITUNGWIZA

ONE man's trash is another man's treasure! The saying literally describes the works of Johnson Zuze, a 36-yearold Zimbabwean mixed media artist who makes artistic statements out of

Armed with nothing but his hands and the junk he collects from dumpsites in his hometown of Chitungwiza, about 30 km south of Harare, the capital of Zimbabwe, Zuze is fighting hard for raising awareness about the protection of the environment -- not by words but through visual artistic expressions.

"What I do is I collect items of urban junk either from street corners or landfills and I give them new existence beyond their primary use into a poetic justice dimension," Zuze told Xinhua.

His latest piece titled "Save and Protect," is an art installation resembling a full-size elephant completely made out of recycled materials.

The self-taught artist said the idea behind the piece, which is a commissioned artwork for a regular client in the United States, is to give new existence to daily objects and present them with a lively presence beyond their primary use.

The symbolic figure, which is made partly of snare wire used by poachers and other recycled materials such as glass and ceramic items, speaks of two pressing issues -- recycling and the protection of wildlife.

The whole structure, which took him more than five months to complete, was erected without any welding but with hand fastened wires only. The only tool involved was an angle grinding machine.

To make the piece structurally sound, the core skeleton was made using spring wire, a type of wire that resists corrosion, but is not friendly to work with because of its spring nature and resistance to tension. The other



Johnson Zuze, a mixed media artist, works on his latest piece of art made from recycled materials in Chitungwiza, Zimbabwe, on Dec. 29, 2021. File photo

wires that make up the structure are est herd of elephants in the fences from the pre-colonial era which people are now replacing with precast concrete walls, thereby presenting a challenge to waste management authorities.

The rest of the objects are non-biodegradable items such as bottles and ceramic items, which give the work resistance to harsh weather conditions.

Zuze said it's high time people adopted sustainable ways of managing waste, adding that if not managed properly, non-biodegradable waste will present challenges to future generations.

"A bottle needs something like a million years to decompose. So those are the materials that I usually target. Those that take long to decompose," Zuze said.

In addition to being widely available, bottles and ceramic items maintain color and texture without fading over time, he said.

The talented artist said the use of snare wire is a statement against poaching, which is a major issue in Zimbabwe.

Zimbabwe houses the second larg-

world, and poachers continue to endanger the lives of the giant land mammals.

Inspired by his parents, Zuze had his early works mainly made of wire despite no formal training in creative art.

Growing up in the high-density township of Chitungwiza, Zuze said his father used to make craft art, kitchen and hardware products using wire, and his mother used to print fabrics.

The artist said his interest in recycling was sparked after the burning down of his family house in 2009 and he went through the remains to express himself.

From the remains of the burnt house, he collected metal items such as spoons and wire and created a work called "Beautiful Struggle." He said the work was meant to portray the image that hope can still be found even in unimaginable situations.

The artwork established him as one of the pioneers of his genre of art in Zimbabwe, kick-starting his

career as a mixed media artist. It also earned him an award at Harare-based Gallery Delta on an exhibition event titled "Unity

exhibition." Since then, the artist has managed to attain 11 awards on different occasions, including the National Arts Merit Award

(NAMA) in 2016. Known as one of the pioneers of found object art in Zimbabwe, Zuze has groomed many artists of the same genre who used his template to create their own identities.

He said art in itself is a powerful means of selfexpression, as it communicates messages that cannot always be described in words but are felt and shared among communities. While many artists are struggling with pandemic-related disruptions to the art industry, Zuze took advantage of the increased use of the internet during the pandemic to market his works.

"During the start of the pandemic, I started to receive more commissioned works, maybe because I was using the internet more than before," he said.

His work has gained worldwide acclaim, and later this year he will hold a solo exhibition in the United Kingdom. The works for the show are currently under construction and will be reviewed by the public in he coming months.

Nighttime economy thrives in China's Xinjiang

NIGHTTIME economy is currently prospering in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region, creating splendid scenarios of consumption and entertainment for the people there after the night falls.

The Xinjiang International Grand Bazaar, one of the most famous landmarks in Urumqi, capital of Xinjiang, has turned into a shiny star in the night where visitors and local residents can enjoy both tempting food and beautiful sceneries. The tourist attraction now runs 24 hours a day, and is receiving nearly 30,000 visits on a daily basis.

For Zhang Ying, a local resident in Urumqi, nighttime economy means more time for shopping. In the past, malls would always close at an early time, and Zhang, who clocks off at work later than that, could hit the malls and dine out with friends only on week-

"Now many malls have extended their operation hours, and that's why me and my colleagues are hanging out here today. Later, we'll watch a movie together," Zhang told People's Daily.

Nighttime economy not only tickles people's taste buds, but also is attractive culturally. In night markets, brilliant performances are seen everywhere, such as traditional Chinese operas, talk shows, music, and even xiangsheng, also known as crosstalk or comic dialogue.

The municipal library of Urumqi, as well as other cultural places in the city extended their operation hours, too, and many ski resorts have launched



People shop at the Xinjiang International Grand Bazaar, northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region, Nov. 26, 2021. File photo

nighttime skiing activities. The Silk Road Ski Resort in Urumqi received nearly 500 ski enthusiasts on the first day it launched a night skiing program in November the last year.

Nighttime economy, apart from making people's night life more splendid, is also bringing more income to relevant businesses and employees.

Wu Xiaohui, a service assistant at the skincare and cosmetics department of the Wuika Plaza, Urumqi, was still serving customers at nearly 23:00. "Though the extension of operation hours made our work more tiring, we feel happy about it. My sales performance went up rapidly, and so did my salary and bonuses," she told People's Daily.

Vice operations manager of the

mall Peng Li said the mall used to close at 21:00, and now it has extended the operation hours and is running 24 hours a day on holidays. The mall is seeing more customers at night, and its revenue has increased by more than 12 percent from a year ago, Peng

Given the prospering nighttime economy, Nureli Wulayin, owner of a night market stall in Xinjiang's Kashgar now gets up very early in the morning to prepare food. The man now earns over 1,000 yuan (\$156.81) each night from the barbecue and lamb intestine soup he makes. "My customers are mostly local residents, which makes my income stable," he said.

Nighttime economy also created more jobs for local communi-

ties. The 37 night markets and 20 flea markets in Xinjiang's Changji Hui autonomous prefecture are visited by around 80,000 people per day, generating daily revenue of 2.8 million yuan and creating more than 3,000 jobs.

Such healthy development of nighttime economy couldn't have been achieved without delicacy management and services. Eight parking lots around the Xinjiang International Grand Bazaar offer nighttime discounts in parking fees, and temporary routes of night buses have been launched. Other commercial zones in Urumgi have also established new temporary parking space and offered favorable parking policies.

The Urumqi High-Tech Industrial Development Zone has launched nighttime winter activities covering six major themes, as well as two nighttime tour routes. Besides, it has been offering a series of discounts for wider participation.

Ma Huiliang, head of the commerce bureau of the Urumqi High-Tech Industrial Development Zone, told People's Daily that there are 26 supermarkets and malls joining nighttime economy in nine locations of the

Apart from offering extra parking space, the commerce bureau has also worked with local neighborhood committees and relevant administrations for electricity and fire safety inspections, so as to ensure safe production and solid pandemic control for businesses, Ma said.

People's Daily

NEW YORK

DOCTORS say there is a dangerous trend of people deliberately contracting the highly contagious Omicron variant to "get it over with".

It is "all the rage", Paul Offit, director of the Vaccine Education Center at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, told CNN.

"It's caught on like wildfire. And it's widespread, coming from all types of people the vaccinated and boosted and the anti-vaxxers. You'd be cra-

zy to try to get infected with this. It's like playing with dynamite," Robert Murphy, executive director of the Havey Institute for Global Health at Northwestern University's Feinberg School of Medicine, told CNN. "People are talking about

Omicron like it's a bad cold. It is not a bad cold. It's a lifethreatening disease."

Offit said it is true that if someone catches Omicron

as opposed to Delta, "you're less likely to be hospitalized, less likely to go to the ICU, less likely to be put on a mechanical ventilator and less likely to die and that's true of all age groups".

'Less severe'

"But that doesn't mean that it can't be a severe illness," he added. "It's just less severe. But you don't have a zero percent chance of dying. You should never want to get in-

Doctors hit out at 'crazy' Omicron-chasing trend

While most people have spent the last two years trying to avoid contracting CO-VID-19, the Times reported that some parents are taking their children to "COVID-19 parties" to deliberately infect them so that they will have natural immunity in theory.

In one social media video, a woman purposely tries to get the coronavirus by sharing a

glass of orange juice with her

COVID-positive daughter. In another video, a brideto-be is purposefully attempting to get infected. In the 15-second video, the woman embraced several people and swapped drinks at a nightclub.

The video had 121,000 views on TikTok.

The logic behind the trend, according to various TikTok

videos and other posts, is to contract the virus and "speed up the process".

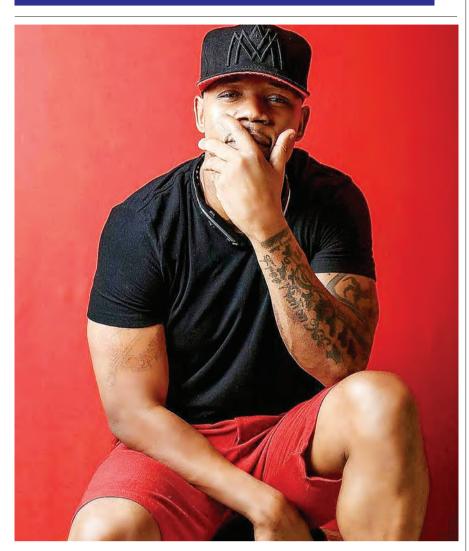
People who have contracted Omicron could also get long-lasting COVID-19. An estimated 100 million people around the world have or have had long COVID-19, according to a study by researchers at the University of Michigan released in November. "People don't know if they're going to (be one)

of the folks who are able to endure an infection with few long-term consequences," Laolu Fayanju, regional medical director for Oak Street Health in Ohio, told Time magazine. There is no reason to intentionally take that risk, he added.

Catching Omicron on purpose also can stress the healthcare system, Murphy said. The US set a new CO-VID-19 hospitalization record on Monday, with 140,000 CO-VID-related patients staying in hospitals.

Friday 14 January, 2022

Guardian



Yanga's newly signed winger, Denis Nka Hip Hop artist, Emmanuel Elibariki, alias 'Ney wa

Hip Hop artist snubs fascination over love songs

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

PROMINENT Hip Hop artist, Emmanuel Elibariki, alias 'Ney wa Mitego', has said that he has no plans to dwell on composing and singing either love songs or songs that praise people.

The singer noted instead he will continue to focus on composing songs will tell them the truth," he said. that educate people on various aspects including social and politics.

Elibariki, who released a new track titled 'Hunijui' in December last vear, issued the comments during an interview on his stance on music.

"I am not bothered by those who claim that I am attacking others through my music, the truth is that my songs are inspiring and I will continue to compose such kinds of songs," the singer noted.

many of his songs irritate many people, especially those who do not like to be

told the truth, but the situation does not make him fear telling the truth.

"First of all, we have to understand that, as an artist, I am not forced to sing what a section of music followers want, I compose what I want to convey to the community, so I am not afraid of anyone whether he is a leader or not, I

The artist who has of late been riding high in domestic music circles with such hits as 'Shika Adabu Yako', 'Niwachane', and many others, further stated people who have been issuing rude remarks about him do not know

Elibariki noted: "There is my song titled 'Acha Niongee', it has sparked an online chat because of the truth that I sing."

"Those who know what I'm singing He pointed out that he is aware love my songs, I will keep on exposing those who do not understand me."

It is difficult for foreign football players to pass trials in Tanzania

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

AKING a trip to Tanzania for trials at the country's renowned outfits, Simba SC and Yanga, is probably the most difficult move done by a soccer player.

The footballer has little chance of performing well in the trials and securing a move to either of the two clubs.

There are three foreign players attending trials at Simba SC that, later yesterday evening, confronted Azam FC in the 2022 Mapinduzi Cup final in Zanzibar.

The footballers are Sudanese, Sharaf Shiboub, Nigerian David Udoh, and Ivorian Cheick Ahmed Tenena Moukoro.

On the first day a foreign soccer player will feature in a game, he will find out fans are eagerly awaiting him.

The soccer lovers are eagerly awaiting the player to see whether he is good or not and the followers comment on the player's competence on their terms.

They do not take an outfit's technical bench's criteria into consideration.

Even the outfit's officials do the same, they hardly consider the criteria set by either coach or the technical bench.

The soccer fanatics' first criterion is the soccer player's ability to play football.

The followers are normally impressed with a soccer player's ability to execute stylish nutmegs, dribbles, drills, and other skills that are out of this world.

Soccer fans do not know what they want from the player. The coach may know what he wants, but the rest do not know.

The coach may want an intelligent midfielder, a midfielder who quickly executes passes and launches a quick attack, a central midfielder who knows how to be in the right place at the right time.

Football experts call it tactical awareness. A side may have showed his edge. a player who has a lot of talent, He later became a mainstay but he has no tactical awareness.

There are so many things. The coach and his staff on the technical bench may see a player with these qualities, but fans and officials may not notice them because the player in question is not very exciting and aggressive.

As a result, the player is denied a contract. But then there is a player who can be sure of his talent.

Unfortunately, he finds himself in a new country, new peo-



Selem View FC player when the clubs locked horns in a 2022 Mapinduzi Cup match in Zanzibar on January 5.

ple, new environment, new food, new climate, everything is new to him.

He needs time to get used to the environment before he shows his edge. Edges may exist, but he still needs time.

I know of many foreign players who would have been denied a contract if they had come to Tanzania on trials.

A simple example is a midfielder, Tadeo Lwanga. He terminated his contract with an Egyptian club and started playing for Simba SC in the previous Mapinduzi Cup.

The footballer appeared to be a normal player. Simba SC enthusiasts started asking each other if the outfit had made a poor signing.

The worst thing was fans of Simba SC's rivals, Yanga, and some of the outfit's officials

teased the midfielder. Luckily Lwanga had a contract. Slowly he began to prove

The more he got used to the environment, the more he

of the club. Some players need something like this.

When did football followers in Tanzania know the importance of former Simba SC's Brazilian midfielder, Gerson

If the midfielder had come for trials I do not think he would have passed the trials. Luckily he had a contract in hand. The player's importance came into view later.

When forward Donald Ngo-

ma joined Yanga he appeared to be a normal striker.

Some fans mocked the forward by comparing him to one of Yanga's former strikers, Idd Mbaga, who failed at the club.

The followers claimed they did not see the difference between Ngoma and Mbaga.

Ngoma later emerged as one of the best attackers in Tanzania. I think his success came about after he had worked hard in practice at a time some Yanga fans were comparing him to Mbaga.

If Ngoma was on trial, Yanga leaders would have abandoned him.

Some players become more stable once they get used to the environment.

Much as Simba SC saw Mozambican winger Jose Luis Miquissone's brilliance when he was turning out for UD Songo, some of the former's supporters started comparing him to a local winger, Shiza Kichuya, once Miquissone started at a slow pace once he joined the club.

If he had come for a trial it is no wonder some followers would have consulted the outfit and suggested the club should opt-out of roping him

Luckily he had a contract with the club and he began to shine. This is the difficulty existing in the country's football.

Yanga recently brought in Mozambican midfielder, Jimmy Julio Ukonde, for trials. In my eyes, he is a good player, but he needed time.

And if he had met competent foreign professionals including Fiston Mayele, Djuma Shabani, Jesus Moloko, and others, who came to Yanga later, it would not be a surprise he would have been much better.

However, Yanga put Ukonde to the test with players who are not quite competent, he also looked normal as the team was not playing well.

However, his possession of the ball was of a high standard. He had unique qualities on his feet. Unfortunately, he came in for tri-

Football supporters fail to understand the science of football. The most important thing right now is for leaders to focus more on expanding the scope of making scouts confident with the player they are seeking to rope

When they opt out of handing such a player contract they have nothing to experiment with.

In Tanzanian football, a good player can be cut off from trials after playing for 15 minutes in a

It would be better for sides to thoroughly assess the footballer and then give the player a con-Even if he could not impress in

the first match, the outfit's leaders know there is something to look forward to when the player stays and perform well in his next game.

In Europe, many tests are performed on young players. Ghanaian Michael Essien, for example, had been to Manchester United when was a youthful footballer.

What they are looking for is a chance to take the player and put him in the youth team seeking an opportunity to play for the senior team.

They are looking for a variety of qualities on the pitch and their decisions will look more like whether it would be a good idea to invest in the player in question for future use, or if they will be able to develop the youngster elsewhere.

Others being tested are players who have already shown their potential in place but found themselves without a team for a relatively short period due to either injuries or termination of their contracts elsewhere.

Domestic outfits are testing footballers who were first-team players in their previous outfits.

Why do outfits not opt-out of taking impromptu decisions and go watch footballers play to be satisfied with their standards?

Female artistes to dominate Sauti za Busara 2022

By Guardian Correspondent

AS stage is being set for this year's Sauti za Busara festival slated for next month in Zanzibar, it has been revealed that the event will feature more female artists.

A statement released yesterday by the festival's organizers said the 19th edition of Sauti za Busara is scheduled to take place from February 11-13 at its usual venue, Stone Town, and is expected to attract performers and revelers from Africa and

As always, the festival shines a spotlight on live music from across Africa, including young and upcoming talents laying a special emphasis on female performers from Tanzania, Uganda, South Africa, the Democratic Republic of Congo, and Zambia.

Among headline artistes is



Entertainment revelers flock to a venue to watch a past Sauti za Busara festival's show in Zanzibar.

Sampa The Great, whose unique blend of African Hip-Hop is a journey to self-discovery, a climb to enlightenment as fuelled by her experiences living in Australia, and

physical, spiritual, and cultural inspirations from her ancestral home in Zambia.

Sampa The Great has performed at many of the world's most iconic festivals, winning a director, revealed. "All artists at

wave of adoring fans with her energetic shows.

"We don't select artists simply because they are women," Yusuf Mahmoud, the festival

Sauti za Busara perform quality music with originality, innovation, and energy, as will be loud and clear when Sampa The Great (Zambia), Siti & The Band (Zanzibar), Msaki and Nomfusi

Kerunen (Uganda), Fanie Fayar (Congo), and Upendo Manase (Tanzania) perform next month under the banner 'Paza Sauti: Amplifying Women's Voices," Mahmoud added. Other artistes high-

(South Africa), Suzan

lights at this coming edition include Sjava (South Africa), Sholo Mwamba, and Wamwiduka Band (Tanzania), Maallem Abdelkebir Merchane (Morocco), Dendri Stambeli Movement (Tunisia), Sylent Ngo and Evans 'Pfumela' Mapfumo (Zimbabwe), Zan Ubuntu and Nadi Ikhwan Safaa (Zanzibar) and many others.

For almost two decades, Sauti za Busara festival has been the pivot for a regional music ecosystem that expands horizons whilst offering platforms for employment, trade, artistic expression, collaboration, networking, training,

The festival is also fostering social cohesion, unity, and solidarity across borders. Zanzibar President,

and skills development.

Hussein Mwinyi, recently commended the festival for bringing many benefits to the islands. Addressing tial sponsors, he said: "I

congratulate the Sauti za Busara team for their great commitment and achievements to keep the festival alive, and special thanks to all the donors and sponsors who make it possible." Mwinyi added: "I also

congratulate and thank the many musicians who have made this a globally renowned event that attracts more and more visitors each year."

Special prices are offered for all Tanzanians attending the event, at either 6,000/- daily or 16,000/- for an all-festival three-day pass.

Africa Cup of Nations: Referee blunder, security concerns mar Wednesday

LIMBE, Cameroon

A MAJOR refereeing blunder and serious security concerns overshadowed Wednesday's games at the African Cup of Nations in Cameroon.

The referee in charge of the Mali-Tunisia game caused chaos by twice blowing the final whistle too early, incensing coaches on the losing team and causing a lengthy debate about whether the match would have to be restarted.

Mali was ahead 1-0 when referee Janny Sikazwe of Zambia ended the game early in the western city of Limbe. But it was Tunisia that refused to come back out 30 minutes later when officials tried to restart the match, with the coach saying his players were already in their ice baths by then.

While the farcical scenes created more negative headlines for the tournament, there were more serious concerns away from the matches.

The Cameroon news agency reported that a gun battle between separatist rebels and government soldiers left two dead and five injured in Buea, a city 20 kilometers (12 miles) from Limbe and where the Mali squad is based. "Heavily armed" rebels fired guns indiscriminately near a training stadium used by the Mali squad, the Cameroon news agency said.

The fighting was a stark reminder that Cameroon's African Cup is not just unfolding under the shadow of the coronavirus, but also during a far less publicized but violent rebellion playing out in the western part of the country. The fighting is precariously close to where Group F teams Mali, Tunisia, Mauritania, and Gambia will operate.

And if that wasn't enough problems to contend with on Day 4, the sound system temporarily failed at Limbe Stadium before the day's second game, causing Mauritania and Gambia players to stand around waiting to sing national anthems.

There was one feel-good moment at least: Gambia's Ablie Jallow sent a shot arrowing into the top corner from outside the penalty area to give his country a 1-0 victory in its first appearance at the continent's soccer showpiece.

Max-Alain Gradel scored with an equally-good long range shot in the sixth minute to give 2015 champion Ivory Coast a 1-0 win over Equatorial Guinea in Wednesday's last game. It meant nine of the first 12 games at the tournament have ended

But there's no doubt which incident was the talking point of the day.

With Mali leading Tunisia 1-0, referee Sikazwe first blew for full time after only 85 minutes. He seemed to realize his big blunder and restarted

He then sent off Mali substitute El Bilal Toure in the 87th minute for a rash tackle - also a questionable decision. But Sikazwe blew full time again about 20 seconds before the 90 minutes were up, according to the clock at the stadium and on TV broadcasts. About three minutes of added time had been expected.

The second early whistle infuriated Tunisia coach Mondher Kebaier and other members of the coaching staff. Kebaier ran to confront the referee while pointing angrily at his own watch and Sikazwe had to be escorted from the field by security officials. One of the match officials shoved a Tunisian official during the commotion, stoking the situation.

There were then suggestions that the game would be restarted and reports that organizers had burst into Mali's post-game news conference and told coach Mohamed Magassouba that his players had to get back on the field to play another three minutes.

Officials gathered on the field about 30 minutes after the game ended and were seen in discussions. Mali players also came back out but Tunisia refused to re-start the game.

"The players were in their ice baths and then he (the referee) asked us to come back out," said Tunisia coach Kebaier. "In 30 years in this business I have never seen anything like it."

There was no official word from the Confederation of African Football on any decisions made over the game and it appeared the 1-0 win for Mali

would stand. Sikazwe was temporarily suspended by CAF in 2018 following accusations of match-fixing for his performance in charge of an African club game. The Zambian was an official at the World Cup in Russia earlier that year and refereed two games

Ibrahima Kone scored from the penalty spot for Mali's goal after a handball by Ellyes Skhiri. Tunisia was awarded a late penalty, also for handball and after a video review by Sikazwe. Tunisia captain Wahbi Khazri had his powerful penalty saved. Mali held on with 10 men after Toure's red card, although not for as long as they should have had to with Sikazwe ending it early.

The violence in Buea led to more questions over why organizers chose it as a suitable base for African Cup teams considering the volatile situation. Buea, the regional capital, has seen many deadly clashes because of an insurrection by Englishspeaking separatists. More than 3,000 people have been killed in the fighting across the western part of Cameroon since it erupted five years ago.

There was a heavy police and military presence outside the Limbe Stadium and a military helicopter hovered overhead during the Mali-Tunisia game.

Tunisia-Mali ref mess threatens to overshadow AFCON

By Ed Dove, Special to ESPN

HE early days of the 2021 Africa Cup of Nations have been fraught with incident, from positive coronavirus tests to Burkina Faso alleging "scandal" around CAF's coronavirus protocols, but none of it compared to the refereeing storm that engulfed the final moments of Mali's 1-0 victory over Tunisia in Limbe, Cameroon, on Wednesday.

Referee Janny Sikazwe had made a series of questionable decisions through the course of the contest, with two questionable penalty decisions before a bewildering final five minutes -- or, to be more accurate, four minutes 42 seconds.

Sikazwe appeared to initially blow for full-time after 85 minutes and 11 seconds, then ignored a VAR recommendation to overturn a red card, and finally called full-time on the contest at 89 minutes 42 seconds. It's one thing to cut injury time a little short or misjudge how much stoppage time should be added, but to end the game before 90 minutes, without even referring to the fourth official for a sense of how much time ought to be added, is yet another headache for CAF to



: Janny Sikazwe

manage. (Considering there were two penalties, a drinks break, several substitutions by both teams and two decisions reviewed by pitch-side monitor, there was no doubting the need for added time.)

Tunisia, trailing 1-0 after Ibrahima Kone's 48th-minute spot-kick -- awarded when Ellyes Skhiri's hand blocked a Boubakar Kiki Kouyate shot -- were apoplectic when the referee ended the game early. They turned their attention to the linesman near their technical area before pursuing Sikazwe, only for security officials to intervene and escort the official away. Such conduct is unacceptable, but their unhappiness was understandable.

CAF interrupted the post-match news conferences to announce that the match would be resumed and the final minutes played, but it was an act of reconciliation Tunisia were unwilling or unable to accept. Mali took to the field with 10 men -- forward El Bilal Toure was sent off shortly before Sikazwe ended the match -- once again to honour the final stages of the contest, but Tunisia did not. Coach Mondher Kebaier later explained that his players "were already in their ice baths" before they departed the stadium.

In the end, their decision not to return to the field may well count against them when CAF review what happened; Tunisia have already lodged a complaint over Sikazwe's conduct and have requested that the game be replayed.

To their credit, Mali were fully focused on moving forward. "We can only control what's happening on the pitch," Mali coach Mohamed Magassouba told journalists after the match. "Off the field, that's down to the organisers. We were told to return and play and the players were more than willing, but unfortunately our opponents didn't want to come out."

There must be an inquisition into Sikazwe's performance; he is among CAF's most experienced officials, with over a decade and a half of fixtures under his belt. While there have been controversies -- he was acquitted of corruption allegations in January 2019 after a CAF Champions League game between Tunisians Esper-

ance and Primeiro de Agosto of Angola -- he has been considered among the continent's finest officials. At the 2018 World Cup, he presided over Belgium's victory over Panama and Poland's win over Japan -making him the first-ever Zambian referee at FIFA's biggest competition -and he also took charge of the 2017 Nations Cup final, as Cameroon defeated Egypt 2-1.

Some might point to testing conditions -- it was 36 degrees Celsius (96 degrees Fahrenheit) and 65% humidity at the Stade de Limbe when the fixture began -- but the 42-year-old teacher has been officiating big matches in similar conditions for over a decade.

Before the early fulltime whistle, Wednesday's Group F game involved a litany of poor decisions, with reasonable questions about both handball penalty calls -- one after the contribution of VAR -- and a red card shown to Toure for a clumsy tackle. Each of those incidents should have added up to significant stoppage time, not to mention the nine substitutions, yet Sikazwe -having already attempted to end the match after 85 minutes -- still curtailed things before the 90 were done.

"He's practically deprived us of seven or

eight minutes of additional time," Tunisia manager Kebaier told journalists after the match. "[Sikazwe's] decision is inexplicable. I've been coaching for almost 30 years, and I've never seen a situation like this. The fourth official was preparing to lift the board and then the whistle was blown.

"I can't even begin to understand how he took this decision," he added. "We'll see what decisions will follow this one."

We might never know the true explanation for Sikazwe's actions, but CAF must act quickly and attempt to restore the integrity of a competition that has been badly dented by Wednesday's mess. His actions will now overshadow the quality we've already seen at this tournament, the organisation of the Cameroonian hosts -- OK, the Mauritania anthem debacle wasn't great -the importance of Mali's victory and the outstanding performance of their goalkeeper, Ibrahim Mounkoro.

Yet you can bet that Sikazwe's awful display will be used as yet another reason for fans to judge the continent's sport, African officiating and the legitimacy of the Nations Cup.

Oh, and Mali won by the way, 1-0.

Monumental task of fixing Spurs beginning to dawn on Conte

LONDON

ANTONIO Conte has always been a coach with the rare ability to deliver a quick-fix and silverware at the same within touching distance time, but then again, he of the elite in recent seahas never previously had to deal with a challenge like Tottenham Hotspur.

As Spurs exited the Carabao Cup with a 3-0 aggregate semifinal loss to Chelsea, accompanied by chants of "Tottenham Hotspur, it's happening again," from the visiting fans, Conte merely became the latest Tottenham manager to discover that this is a club that always stumbles when the pressure is on.

"At the end of the two games Chelsea deserved he goes, they will bank to reach the final in this competition, we have to be honest," Spurs manager Conte said. "In the second half we created many chances to score and we deserved a result better than losing 1-0 but if you have a judgement over the two games Chelsea deserved to win."

Conte, appointed manager in November following the dismissal of Nuno Espirito Santo after less than six months in charge, has already realised that big changes need to be made at the club, but his usual approach of shock therapy, which has brought success in his first seasons at Juventus, Chelsea and Inter Milan, won't work at Spurs.

This time, he needs to hit the reset button. The only problem for Conte is that he may also have to sanction the departure of Harry Kane in order to bring in the finances required to fund a much-needed rebuild.

It's a Catch-22 situ-

ation. Spurs without Kane does not even bear thinking about -- he is their only world-class player and one whose goals have kept the team

But even with Kane, who had a goal disallowed for offside as Spurs chased the game in the second-half, Tottenham were easily brushed aside by Chelsea, who reached their third major cup final (four if you count the UEFA Super Cup) since coach Thomas Tuchel took charge 12 months ago.

Dealing with Kane is the easy bit, however. If he stays, Spurs retain their best player; if at least £100 million to spend on reinforcements.

The problem for Conte is what to do with the rest of the players who are either not good enough or exposed by inferior quality around them. Other than Kane and the injured Heung-min Son, he really doesn't have much to work with.

For this game, the Italian selected a team largely made up of players fighting for their future at the club, but apart from Kane (who has made it clear for almost a year now that he wants to leave), none of them did anything to suggest to Conte that they deserve a reprieve.

Matt Doherty, Harry Winks, Emerson Royal and Giovani Lo Celso all confirmed their lack of sufficient quality or commitment, while substitute winger Bryan Gil displayed none of the flair he was expected to bring when he arrived from Sevilla last sum-



Antonio Conte

Dele Alli, meanwhile, remained unused on the bench, while there was no place at all for club record signing Tanguy Ndombele, who was booed off by fans following an unimpressive display during Sunday's FA Cup win against EFL League One team Morecambe.

Sources have told ESPN that Conte would happily offload all of those players, plus Netherlands midfielder Steven Bergwijn, if the right offers come in this month but, in a game that has been hit hard by the financial impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, it would be wishful thinking to expect Spurs to raise substantial funds via sales. But Tottenham's prob-

lems run deeper than a lack of quality within the squad. It is also a club that needs stability off the pitch having had three permanent managers -- and interim Ryan

Mason -- since Mauricio Pochettino took the club to the Champions League final in 2019.

Less than three years have passed since that defeat against Liverpool in Madrid, but all of the promise displayed Pochettino's Spurs has been progressively eroded by a combination of poor recruitment and misjudged managerial appointments -- Jose Mourinho and Nuno -since Pochettino left in November 2019.

The players have suffered as a consequence. confidence Their has been drained by Mourinho and Nuno and the squad is now imbalanced -- a mash-up of players signed by three different managers with different tactical requirements.

Those same players were made to look like rookies by Chelsea, who played with the confidence, arrogance and belief of a team that has won big and knows how to do it again.

Conte has the pedigree to turn it around and put Spurs back on track, but he has never been a team-builder during his

time as a top-level coach, so he is entering new territory at Spurs and, if the combustible personality which led to his exits from Chelsea and Inter resurfaces, he may not even hang around to see the job through.

But right now, Spurs aren't even showing signs of competing. As soon as Antonio Rudiger headed Chelsea into the lead in this game on 17 minutes to make it 3-0 on aggregate, Spurs looked bereft of hope.

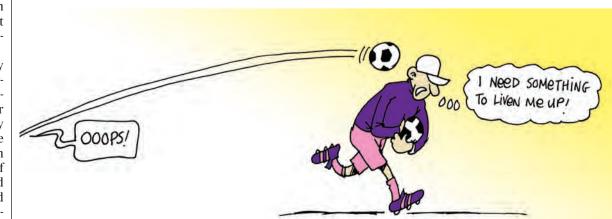
Yes, they had two penalties rightly overturned by VAR, after referee Andre Marriner had pointed to the spot, and Kane was unhappy at seeing his "goal" ruled out on 63 minutes, but Tuchel and his players never looked in danger of surrendering their advantage.

It was a routine win for Chelsea, who will face Liverpool or Arsenal in the final at Wembley on Feb. 27, as Spurs fell short once again.

Conte has it all to do, but at least he has already worked that out. Fixing it will be the toughest job of his career

ESPN

by David Chikoko



Guardian www.ippmedia.com

GP Pak Stars clinch inaugural DC-MCC T20 Cup tournament top honour

Tunisia-Mali ref mess threatens to overshadow **AFCON**

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Pak Stars lifted the maiden

Balakrishna Foundation Dar

es Salaam Cricket (DC)-Mala-

bar Cricket Club (MCC) T20

Cup tournament's silverware

with a 19-run victory over

Upanga SC B side in the final

which took place on Wednes-

GP Pak Stars raced to 143

runs, dropping eight wickets

in the allotted 20 overs, after

Hussain, the side's skipper,

made his experience count

given he was three runs short

of a half-century, nailing

Fellow batsmen, Sarfaraz

Tare and Sultan Qureshi, also

put solid knocks to show and

posted 29 runs and 18 runs

Sheraz Khan, who opened

Saqib Ul Hassan, deployed

as a middle-order batsman,

somewhat boosted the club's

the innings with Hussain,

chipped in with 17 runs.

score, notching 16 runs.

respectively.

three fours and three sixes.

taking the crease first.

sain put stellar

displays at the

By Guardian Reporter

Paralympic Committee meeting postponed

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE Tanzania Paralympic Committee (TPC) executive committee meeting, which was scheduled for Wednesday in Dar es Salaam, has been postponed to the end of this month.

Ramadhan Namkoveka, TPC secretary-general, said the meeting was postponed so that the committee could prepare well for other logistics.

The official stated: "The executive committee meeting which was to be held last Wednesday has been postponed to January 23.'

Namkoveka added: "There are some problems which led us to postpone the meeting. Some of them are that we have not received a response from the Registrar of Sports Associations and Clubs on our amended constitution."

"The International Paralympic Committee also advised us to make some amendments on our constitution, the committee wants a constitution which will go in line with its constitutional vision and mission,' the official disclosed.

"We, on Wednesday, sent them the draft of our constitution for their approval" he said.

He however said the TPC annual general meeting will be held on January 30 that was earlier announced.

Namkoveka revealed recently TPC has arranged several activities which include seeing to it that Tanzania performs well at next year's Commonwealth Games, All Africa Games, and the 2024 France Para-

TPC set the bronze medal as domestic para athletes' target at the coming France 2024 Paralympics.

He disclosed the information after Tanzania's Paralympic squad's head coach, Bahati Mgunda, presented a report on the side's stint in the Tokyo 2020 Paralympics to the TPC.

The TPC official said the report was prepared by the coach, South Africa-based consultant, Michael Louwrens, and experts from Nippon University.

Namkoveka disclosed: "It included recommendations and suggestions on the team's current and future performance at international events."

He said the meeting was very crucial as it has provided TPC and the coach an opportunity to make recommendations on the way forward based on the performance of the team in recent games.

He said the report has recommended that TPC should maintain the current team, arrange team and individual training, athletes should attend the gym regularly and improve fitness.

Namkoveka also said the report suggested that TPC should organize more events that will be used to tap new talents.

The TPC official revealed: "The committee, Tanzania Para Athletes Association (TPAA) and other stakeholders met on Wednesday in Dar es Salaam, among other issues, the national team coach, Mgunda, presented his report."

"He explained that lack of resources is hindering the growth of Paralympic sports in the country, suggested a lot of issues including the one recommending that TPC ought to set bronze as domestic Para athletes' target at the 2024 France Paralympics."

He said following the recommendations, TPC will start athletes' preparations for the 2024 Paralympics

He asked stakeholders, the private sector, and others to help them to realize the Para athletes' dream of winning a bronze medal in the 2024 Paralympic

At the just ended Tokyo Paralympics, Tanzania was represented by two athletes, Sauda Njopeka and Ignatius Mtweve.

The TPC official said the athletes' performance was encouraging.

"The Paralympics is the biggest event, the performances of the two are very encouraging, they posted season-best in their respective categories."

"It must be known that Mtweve was the only Afri-

can in his group," he said.



 ${\bf GPPak Stars' players celebrate with the trophy after the inaugural Balakrishna Foundation}$ Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC)-Malabar Cricket Club (MCC) T20 Cup tournament's final against Upanga SC B outfit held on Wednesday. GP Pak Stars cruised to 19-run victory over Upanga SC B outfit to lift the trophy. PHOTO: COURTESY OF MCC

Much as Upanga SC B outfit's bowlers, Karim Kiseto, Shivan Kamania, and Arjan Rabadiya, put spirited showing, they could not prevent GP Pak Stars from ending the innings with a convincing total.

Kiseto ended with three wickets, fellow bowlers, Kamania and Rabadiya, notched two wickets apiece.

Notching 144 runs to emerge victorious proved to be tall order for the Upanga SC B squad, as the side's batting unit ended with 124 runs all out in 20 overs.

Opener Kiseto was the batsman with the most runs, notching 34 runs that consisted of two boundaries and a six.

This is the second title for the year 2021 for GP Pak Stars after winning the Kazim Nasser Memorial League (KNML) Division B 30 overs title.

Upanga SC B team was playing its

third final of the 2021 season, having won the season's DC Cup's Division C top honour and DC KNML Division C title earlier in the year.

Sheraz Khan of GP Pak Stars was voted as the DC-MCC T20 Cup's Man of the Series, the tournament's best batsman award went to Muzammil Hussain from the same side.

Ayaz Mustafa of GP Pak Stars lifted the showpiece's best bowler prize, best wicketkeeper prize was won by Abbas Adamji of Annadil Burhani.

GP Pak Stars' Muzamill Hussain laid his hands on the final's Man of the Match prize to cap a fantastic outing for the club.

The tournament, organized by MCC in association with DC and Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA), was officially inaugurated in Dar es Salam in 2016.

The tournament, which was not

held last year due to the coronavirus outbreak, involves 16 teams this time

The teams that have taken part in the tournament are Estim, Aga Khan SC, Shree Kutchi Leva Patel Sports Center (SKLPSC), Tamil Nadu Sports Club, GP, Alaf Aces, K&P Constructions outfit, and Caravans Cricket

Lions Cricket Club, Union SC, Sandy's Super Strikers, Annadil Burhani, Dar Cricket Club (DCC), Dar Black Panthers, Upanga SC, and hosts, MCC, complete the list.

The 16 teams had been divided into four groups playing against each other in the round-robin phase, with the top two winners in each group qualifying for the quarterfinals.

The eight teams proceeded to the knockout stage and battled for progression to the semi-finals, with the last two reaching the finals.

The tournament had witnessed 31 matches being played during seven weeks, with the final due to be played at Leaders Club ground this month.

Other matches were played at the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club oval.

Balakrishna Foundation is the competition's main sponsor. Other supporting sponsors include Estim Constructions Limited, Alliance Insurance Limited, Canara Bank Limited, Nida Textiles Limited, NTS- Bosch, Tanzanair Limited, Kivingu, Cosmos Group, Alliance Finance Limited, Eleven Agri Limited, and Rickshaw Travels Limited.

Unoplast Tanzania Limited, Honest Logistics Limited, Davis & Shirtliff Limited, Hitech Sai, METL Group, Abacus, UC Unity, ABC Emporio, Flashnet, A-One Products, and Bottlers Limited are also the co-sponsors.

Essar Life of Style, Gathani Tanzania Limited, Aurobindo, Xtreme Fitness, Target Brands, Ahead Africa Solutions, Regal Pharmaceuticals Limited, Unity Computers, Tanzindia Assurance Company Limited, and Wipro Technologies Tanzania Limited complete the co-sponsors list.

KMC FC out to defeat Prisons in NBC Premier League



Kinondoni Municipal Council (KMC) FC striker, Charles Ilanfya (L), goes for a header as Ruvu Shooting defender, Santos Mazengo, seeks to block the former during this season's NBC Premier League match that took place in Dar es Salaam last year. PHOTO: COURTESY OF KMC FC

By Correspondent Joseph Mcheka-

THIS season's NBC Premier League side, Kinondoni Municipal Council (KMC) FC, has said away league match against Tanzania Prisons that will take place at Nelson Mandela Stadium in Rukwa.

Christina Mwagala, KMC FC information officer, issued the statement yesterday, saying the club's players are in good shape and they are looking for good results in Rukwa.

She said during the period in which the league was suspended due to the 2022 Mapinduzi Cup which was held in Zanzibar, KMC FC's technical panel worked hard to address the team's weaknesses.

Christina said the coming in of new head coach Thierry Hitimana has boosted morale in the camp.

The official pointed out: "We are ready to face Tanzania Prisons on Sunday at Nelson Mandela Stadium and, after that game, we will play against Mbeya Kwanza FC at Sokoine Stadium in Mbeya."

"The team is ready for both games, morale is high in the camp

especially after the coming in of our new head coach Thierry Hitimana," she said.

KMC FC sits 12th in the topflight standing and interestingly it is well prepared for Sunday's the Sunday game will be the first Premier League assignment for both Hitimana and Tanzania Prisons head coach, Patrick Odhiambo at their respective clubs. Odhiambo had previously

served as head coach of Biashara United while Hitimana was an assistant coach at Simba SC. KMC FC recently conceded that

the ongoing season is extremely tough and they need to work hard to realize their dream of finishing among the top four positions. KMC FC failed to collect six points in the past two games

against Simba SC, conceding a 4-1 defeat, and thereafter notching a 1-1 draw with Ruvu Shooting. Although KMC FC is not performing well, it has skillful and

talented players who can defeat any club in the domestic topflight. The team boasts of having good

players capable of winning any game but it seems they are not dedicated and courageous.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

DO YOU MIND IF WE DISREGARD YOUR PRIVACY FOR A FEW MINUTES IN ORDER TO FURTHER OUR OWN PERSORNAL GOALS?

