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## TRANSPORT



**SPAIN TO SUPPORT SGR CONSTRUCTION**  
PAGE 3

## ROADS



**50BN/- TO BUILD ROADS IN IRINGA**  
PAGE 4

## AGRICULTURE



**MOROGORO RESOLVES TO GROW MORE CLOVES**  
PAGE 6

## ASSISTANCE



**'SEEK ASSISTANCE FROM LEGAL AID TEAM'**  
PAGE 7



Vice President Dr Philip Mpango pictured at the United Nations headquarters in New York yesterday contributing to the high-level leaders' debate on development financing relating to ways to achieve the 17 global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Photo: VPO

# Minister: Govt preparing new foreign policy work format

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE government is finalising a new foreign policy format which, once completed, will be released to the public for intense evaluation.

January Makamba, the Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation minister, made this affirmation yesterday at his first meeting with members of the diplomatic corps.

He said that the meeting was meant to provide a platform to interact with members of the diplomatic corps on different matters touching on bilateral relations, trade and business.

He issued an assurance to the foreign diplomats of the government's intention to accelerate its efforts towards realizing common

objectives of wide sections of the African and international community.

He listed recent achievements of the government as including improvement in the pursuit of democracy and political reconciliations, exemplified by lifting the ban on activities of political parties.

He said the government has improved the business environment and opened doors for trade channels with other countries, laying emphasis on economic diplomacy in daily tasks of the ministry.

Samwel Shelukindo, the deputy permanent secretary, said dialogue at the meeting was part of constructive engagement in working

TURN TO PAGE 2

## VP: Private sector role vital in realising SDGs

By Guardian Correspondent, New York

INVOLVING the private sector is essential in addressing the shortage of development funds for implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) worldwide.

Vice President Dr Philip Mpango made this observation here yesterday when contributing to debate by top officials among obstacles to realization of development goals tied up with finding solutions for realising SDGs.

In the meeting held on the sidelines of the annual conference of the United Nations General Assembly, the VP said that friendly policies are needed to encourage the private sector to participate in achieving SDGs.

Elaborating, he said that a recent report on Africa's Economic Outlook for 2023 regarding alternative development sponsorship details the manner in which the private sector can play a role as a vital stakeholder in attaining SDGs.

Through regional and international cooperation, various African countries including Tanzania have succeeded in setting out specific avenues for accessing private sector financing, including creating an investors' SDGs roadmap.

In enhancing the pace of infrastructure construction, Tanzania has used a World Bank supported modality setting out engineering, procurement, construction and financing (EPC+F) contracts.

This facilitates aid financing directed to the private sector especially for transport infrastructure, he said, citing other examples as including the issuance of the treasury bills for the purpose.

Tanzania first issued such bills valued at \$300m floated by CRDB Bank and directed at easing investments in environmental projects for roads, alternative energy sources, industry,

TURN TO PAGE 2

By Guardian Reporter

## 'Most African children aged 10 unable to read'

PARTICIPANTS of the Human Capital Africa (HCA) roundtable have called for urgent action to address the fact that nine out of 10 children in Africa are unable to read with understanding by the age of ten.

Dr Obiageli Ezekwesili, the HCA founder and CEO, made this appeal at a stakeholders' event held alongside the United Nations General Assembly annual meeting in New York, emphasizing the need for urgent measures to address the learning crisis.

Leaders across the continent need to take ownership of the challenge, she said, underlining that education is a key catalyst to resolve many of the challenges faced by the

**"We must invest in children and the infrastructure to ensure children have what they require to learn"**

continent.

"Every child deserves quality education and this can only be achieved if we all take responsibility and invest in foundational literacy and numeracy wherever we are," she said, suggesting that if this is not done, the ripple effect will extend beyond Africa, to the economies of developed countries.

Setting the right foundations for learning during early years, before the child ends grades two and

TURN TO PAGE 2



## Govt to raise power output to 10,000mw

By Henry Mwangonde

THE government is working towards enabling 10,000 megawatts production by the year 2030, which demands that investors join the pool.

Prof Kitila Mkumbo, the Planning and Investments minister of state in the President's Office, made this declaration when addressing the just-ended two-day 5th Tanzania Energy Congress in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

He listed six factors making Tanzania a most suitable investment destination, including an inclusive road network reaching most productive areas, a wide array of water bodies suitable for power generation, factors that are beebef by political stability as key factors that investors need to make such decisions.

He said the country is endowed with natural resources now capped by a vast road network facilitating investors to transport their goods to any destination in the various trade zones in which Tanzania is involved.

The government has been working tirelessly to uplift the transport infrastructure to make it easy for investors to target local and foreign markets, he said.

The current political will to improve the investment and business climate with President Samia Suluhu Hassan was making Tanzania an even better place among the list of the best places to invest at present, he said.

He said the government has put in place policies to allow investment in the sector to facilitate economic growth, promoting private sector participation and local firms.

Pointing out that Tanzania is endowed with natural resources suitable for vast energy

TURN TO PAGE 2



Ocean Business Partners Tanzania Ltd director Abdulsamad Abdulrahim (R), a co-organiser of the just-ended Fifth Tanzania Energy Congress held in Dar es Salaam, pictured on Wednesday presenting an international-class trophy to Benoit Araman, managing director of Oryx Gas Tanzania. The award was in recognition of the firm's efforts in facilitating the transition from fossil-based to clean cooking energy. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



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## Minister: Govt preparing new foreign policy work format

FROM PAGE 1  
together for deeper impact engagement.

The meeting was clear testimony of readiness of foreign diplomats to work with the government, he remarked in his first outdoor meeting since taking over at the ministry, leaving the Energy ministry.

He replaced Dr Stergomena Tax who was reassigned as Defence and National Service minister, the post she held before being shifted to Foreign Affairs and East African cooperation.

The new portfolio holder

underlined the wish to deepen ties and maintain regular dialogue with members of the diplomatic corps, in a bid to strengthen existing bilateral relations.

Dialogue with members of the diplomatic corps is important in ensuring a common understanding of issues is reached between Tanzania and other countries, he said.

Relations between the government and envoys is beneficial as it also creates an environment to enable foreign diplomats to fulfil their mandates, he added.

## 'Most African children aged 10 unable to read'

FROM PAGE 1

three, is fundamental and can change the situation faster, she stated.

Mark Suzman, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation CEO, said the world community believes every child deserves a quality education. "A great education is essential for a healthy future for all. By 2050, one in every four people on the planet will be African," he asserted, elaborating that half of the African population will be under 25 years of age at that time, by current trends.

Madalitso Kambauwa, the Education minister for Malawi, said that work to improve education in Africa is being led by committed governments across the continent, taking ownership of the need to develop solutions addressing the learning crisis.

Prof Jeffrey Sachs, a veteran development economist and lead UN adviser for sustainable development goals, said that concern with adolescent education failure was "the most important meeting taking place

this week at the UN.

He said education was the most important goal for Africa as there is no investment that has a higher economic, social, financial or human return than education. "There is no development without education," he emphasized.

"We must invest in children and the infrastructure to ensure children have what they require to learn. There is a need for a plan to ensure every child in Africa has access to free education at the upper secondary school level. The biggest question in my 43-year career is why we are not investing as much in education - education is everything," the expert intoned.

The HCA convention brought together Heads of State, Education ministers, business leaders, civil society organisations, and African educators from different zones.

It was intended to discuss the crucial role of foundational learning in enhancing education for the future of Africa, highlighting the leadership being demonstrated across the continent to tackle this issue.

## VP: Private sector role vital in realising SDGs

FROM PAGE 1

construction and water sectors.

Collaboration between the public sector and private companies was enhancing the pace of economic revival, after the central bank established procedures for credit to commercial banks meant for lending

to farmers at single digit interest rates.

The outcome of this cooperation plan is noticed in the higher pace of increasing loans to farmers that has increased from 7.3 per cent annual increase in the year ending June 2021 to 46.4 per cent increase for the year ending June 2023, he added.

## Kenya to host global green energy meeting

NAIROBI

KEY players propagating for renewable energy use around the world converge in Nairobi in October to explore opportunities available in Kenya.

An estimated 400 delegates and industry players from 37 countries are set to attend the three-day event that runs from October 4 to October 6.

The meeting comes at time the country plans to scale up its e-mobility with the expansion of Bus Rapid Transit system specifically for electric buses.

The gathering will bring together 70 foreign firms from around the globe as the country also mulls tapping on green hydrogen.

The event to be hosted by Renewable Energy Forum Africa (REFA) is expected to attract delegates from 250 companies.

The CEO of African Solar Industry Association (AFSIA) John Van Zutlen said the expo will bring together start-ups and investors looking to tap on solar projects.

"The core of our event is to connect people who are developing tangible projects and are looking for financing," Zutlen said.

He said REFA 2023 is set to provide a platform for showcasing innovative solutions for start-ups and existing investors and entrepreneurs and will host around 150 exhibitors.

The edition, which will focus on green hydrogen and wind, solar and storage and E-Mobility, is expected to set pace on acceleration and adoption

of renewable energy technologies for investors in Africa.

Africa is now emerging as a hub for renewable energy with abundant natural resources and a growing demand for and reliable power.

The intensified impacts of Climate change have prompted more discussions to on building resilient energy systems with measures than can withstand challenges posed by climate change.

Kenya currently generates more than 70 percent of its energy from renewable sources like geothermal, hydro and wind energy, with the solar energy sector becoming attractive for industrial and home use.

Globally the country is one of the major players in the geothermal space and ranks among the top ten in installed geothermal generation capacity.

According to the World Bank, the deployment of solar mini grids has increased in Sub-Saharan Africa, from around 500 installed in 2010 to more than 3,000 installed today.

UNEP on the other hand says while 60 percent of the world's best solar sites are located in Africa the potential is yet to be fully exploited as this only harnesses one percent of the power.



**The core of our event is to connect people who are developing tangible projects and are looking for financing**



Finance minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba (R) exchanges greetings with Spain's Industries, Trade and Tourism minister, Xiana Mendez, shortly after talks in Madrid yesterday. Spain expressed readiness to participate in the implementation of Tanzania's Standard Gauge Railway construction project through Export Credit Agency-ECA. Photo: Finance ministry

## Govt to raise power output to 10,000mw

FROM PAGE 1

production, he said that the plan is to make the country emerge as one of the largest energy producers in Africa with a substantial surplus for export markets.

Equally important is the establishment of a regional natural

gas infrastructure, and investment in renewable energy, he stated, elaborating that this needs to be done in tandem with local content development, plus skills and capacity building for small and medium scale enterprises.

He affirmed that Tanzania is

spearheading initiatives to bring onboard issues of clean cooking energy, with deliberations at the energy congress expected to help the region come up with common strategies to develop the energy sector.

Deliberations at the congress covered a wide range of areas in the energy

sector, from electricity generation, transmission and distribution to petroleum exploration, natural gas production and distribution.

Final consumer issues exemplified by power plants, industries and household use were extensively discussed, the minister noted.



Tourists from Poland visit Freddie Mercury Museum at Mji Mkongwe (Stone Town) in Zanzibar yesterday. Freddie (born in Zanzibar in 1946, died in Nov 1991) was a British singer-songwriter who achieved worldwide fame as the lead vocalist and pianist of the rock band Queen. Regarded as one of the greatest singers in the history of rock music, he was known for his flamboyant stage persona and four-octave vocal range. Mercury defied the conventions of a rock frontman with his theatrical style, influencing the band's artistic direction. Photo: Correspondent Martin Kabemba

## UN calls for more humanitarian aid to Sudan

KHARTOUM

THE United Nations has summoned the governments of Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Qatar, as well as the European Union and the African Union, calling for increased support for humanitarian action as Sudan's neighbours face a constant influx of refugees and returnees.

According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), millions of people - particularly in Khartoum, Darfur and Kordofan - have no access to food, water, shelter, electricity, education or health care.

Malnutrition rates are on the rise, pointing to premature death for 700,000 Sudanese children suffering from severe acute malnutrition. Half the population is acutely food insecure, and more than 6 million people are just one step away from starvation. Measles and other diseases are endemic, and sexual and gender-based violence

takes a heavy toll on women and girls.

More than 7 million people, including 3.3 million children, have been driven from their homes, and more than 1 million have sought refuge in the Central African Republic, Chad, Egypt, Ethiopia and South Sudan.

The international response plan must be strengthened

In the short term, aid to the population must be stepped up. The Humanitarian Response Plan for Sudan needs 2.6 billion dollars to help 18 million people until the end of the year. However, it is currently only 31% funded.

The Sudan Regional Refugee Assistance Plan, meanwhile, is only 27% funded and is seeking \$1 billion to support refugees, returnees and host communities in five of Sudan's neighbouring countries.

At a pledging ceremony in Geneva in June, according to an OCHA and UNHCR press release, donors pledged nearly 1.5 billion dollars for the response in Sudan and the region.

## UNESCO puts Rwanda genocide memorials on World Heritage list

KIGALI

FOUR memorials to the 1994 genocide in Rwanda of more than 800,000 people, mainly Tutsi, were added to UNESCO's World Heritage list on Wednesday, the UN cultural body said.

The sites at Nyamata, Murambi, Gisozi and Bisesero commemorating the mass killings were "just inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage list", the organisation posted on X (formerly Twitter).

The four sites commemorate the genocide that targeted the Tutsi minority in large part but also moderate Hutus who were shot, beaten or hacked to death by Hutu extremists between April and July 1994.

"This historic decision will help safeguard memory, counter denial and strengthen genocide prevention efforts globally. #NeverAgain," Rwandan government spokeswoman Yolande Makolo posted on X.

The UNESCO move was also welcomed by Naphthali Ahishakiye, executive secretary of Ibuka, the association representing survivors of the genocide.

"This will make the genocide that was committed in Rwanda against the Tutsi more known across the world," he said.

Skulls, bone fragments, torn clothing and images of piled up corpses confront visitors to the Kigali Genocide Memorial in Gisozi, the final resting place of around 250,000 victims.

Each year more are buried as new graves are uncovered around the country, with remains also housed at a former Catholic church at Nyamata, a school complex at Murambi and a memorial at Bisesero built in 1998.

In addition to human remains, the sites also feature material evidence of the 100-day killing spree by Hutu extremist forces - spears, machetes, clubs and bladed weapons.

Three of the sites were themselves the scene of massacres. At Nyamata, more than 45,000 people who had sought shelter in the church were slaughtered in one day, according to UNESCO.

Its chapel now houses the clothing and rosaries worn by the victims along with the weapons used by the perpetrators of the killings.

Mass graves are situated behind the church, with a vault that houses the skulls of victims and other human remains, according to the memorial's website.

At Murambi, tens of thousands of people who were encouraged to take refuge in the technical school on the pretext of ensuring their safety were executed in one of the genocide's bloodiest episodes.

At Bisesero, a "resistance memorial" pays tribute to Tutsis who fought back with spears and stones as Hutu extremists murdered hundreds of people in the surrounding hills.

The genocide was unleashed shortly after the ethnic Hutu president was killed when his plane was shot down in an attack blamed by the government on Tutsi rebels.

The killing ended only when the Tutsi-led Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF) took over in July 1994, having having defeated the Hutu extremists.

Trials of genocide suspects have been held in Rwanda, at a UN tribunal in the Tanzanian city of Arusha, as well as in France, Belgium and the United States among others.





CRDB Bank's chief commercial officer, Boma Raballa (R), signs an agreement with KCMC Hospital executive director Prof Gileard Masenga on ways to strengthen the hospital's revenue collection system. The event was held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Looking on (standing, from R) are CRDB's northern regional manager Chiku Issa; the bank's director for primary and intermediate clients, Bonaventura Paul; and the hospital's finance director, Hilda Mungure. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Firm wins best international Award of the Year from 5th Tanzania Energy Congress

By Guardian Reporter

ORYX Gas Tanzania Limited (OGTL) has won the Best International Company of the Year Award offered by organisers of the 5th Tanzania Energy Congress 2023.

The award was presented to the company in Dar es Salaam yesterday alongside the energy conference that brought together stakeholders from the oil and gas industry. The energy firm has won the award for the first time.

Presenting the award, the organizer of the international conference, Abdulsamad Abdulrahim said that the energy company has for the first time received the award as an international company in the energy sector.

He said the company has in the past 12 months emerged and contributed commercially and technically in developing the oil and gas sector in Tanzania.

Abdulrahim who is also the Honorary Ambassador for Brazil in Zanzibar and Director of Ocean Business Partner who are co-organizers of the event, noted that the award is meant to recognize innovation and business creativity that are geared to make positive changes in the sector.

"This award is offered to a company or organization that has made tremendous contributions in the industry in Tanzania. A company that has proved itself to be an industry leader in the specific field of oil and gas," he added.

Abdulrahim added: "The Company that has brought about development to the people and expanded the knowledge and learning in the commercial and technical aspects of the oil and gas industry."

Explaining, he said while searching for the winner, votes were cast through the Tanzania Energy Congress 2023 page and Oryx Energies emerged as the leader for this year.

"May I congratulate the Oryx team

for their incredible contribution and innovative ideas to accelerate the growth of the LPG industry in Tanzania," he added.

In his address after receiving the award, Executive Director of Oryx Gas Tanzania Limited, Benoite Araman, said the company has done a lot for the community in a short period of time.

He said that Oryx gas has provided more than 13,000 gas cylinders and stoves to women from various groups including entrepreneurs across the country. He said the move is part of the company's efforts towards facilitating the transformation from fossil to clean cooking energy.

Araman used the opportunity to thank the government under President Samia Suluhu Hassan and through the Rural Energy Agency (REA) for providing subsidies for gas cylinders.

**This award is offered to a company or organization that has made tremendous contributions in the industry in Tanzania. A company that has proved itself to be an industry leader in the specific field of oil and gas**

## Spain to participate in construction of SGR

By Guardian Correspondent, Madrid

SPAIN, through its Export Credit Agency (ECA), has expressed interest in participating in the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) construction project by providing loans, loan guarantees and insurance to the country's companies that will be part of the project.

They are to be part of SGR railway from Makutupora to Mwanza and Tabora - Kigoma to Malagarasi, due to the importance of the project for the country's development.

Xiana Mendez, Secretary of State in Spanish Ministry of Industry, Trade and Tourism made the pledge yesterday when she met with Finance Minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba, where they discussed best ways to strengthen cooperation between the two

countries, including the construction of SGR project.

She said that Spain recognizes the importance of the project for Tanzania as it is for that country since its completion will increase the value chain of investment and trade and become a business hub in the African region.

Xiana praised Tanzania's strong economy and the presence of a good investment environment, a move that has made many companies from Spain want to participate in investment and construction of infrastructure projects that will stimulate Tanzania's economic growth, including renewable energy.

She also pledged that her country will open an office in Dar es Salaam due to the increase in commercial

relations between the two countries in order to facilitate those commercial activities.

Dr Nchemba, thanked Spain through ECA, for showing interest in enabling Spanish companies that will carry out their business activities and construction of various infrastructures in Tanzania, including the Railway Project, loans, loan guarantees and insurance for companies that participate in the construction of projects outside of Tanzania, that country.

"The participation of the Export Credit Agency in implementing the strategic project is important for the development of the country and for the long-term cooperation between Spain and Tanzania, and for the development of the people in

general," he said.

He said that in strengthening the relationship and preparations to implement the financing of the SGR, the contractor has sought 12 Spanish companies that will supply the equipment that will be used to build the railway and asked the Deputy Minister and his Government in general to persuade more companies from the country to participate in the construction of the project that.

Dr Nchemba said that the SGR project is important for Tanzania due to being a business gateway for 7 countries in the African region and the Great Lakes that do not border the sea and that when it is completed it will stimulate business activities, transport and transportation and ultimately increase the national income.




**RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES COVERING THE PERIOD 01 JAN 2023- 30 JUNE 2023**

Management and Development for Health (MDH) was incorporated in August 19, 2009 as an indigenous Tanzanian Non-Governmental Organization focusing primarily on public health service and research in the United Republic of Tanzania and subsequently registered under NGO Registrar as a local NGO at national level, Mainland, Tanzania. It is also registered in Zanzibar.

S/N	Project Name	Name of the Stakeholder who render the fund	Funds Received (TZS'000)	Expenditure (TZS'000)	Fund Purposes
1	Afya Kwanza	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	44,431,272	44,348,699	Provision of Comprehensive HIV Prevention, Care, Treatment, and Support services in the United Republic of Tanzania
2	Global Fund- HIV/TB Grant	Global Fund - AMREF	2,360,379	2,057,560	Support TB Case Detection and Care Services in Community in the United Republic of Tanzania
3	National Health Laboratory Services (NHLS) in United Republic of Tanzania	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	5,620,860	4,813,684	Strengthening the Quality, Accessibility, and Sustainability of The National Health Laboratory Services (NHLS) In United Republic of Tanzania
4	USAID Afya Yangu Southern Zone -	United States Agency for International Development (USAID) - Deloitte Consulting Limited	5,173,671	5,095,265	Support HIV, TB and Malaria Care and Treatment Services in the Southern Zone of Tanzania
5	Afya Jumuishi	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	25,470,500	17,863,052	Provision of Comprehensive HIV Prevention, Care, Treatment, and Support services in the United Republic of Tanzania
6	EAPOC	The European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP).		47,271*	Support improvement of Viral Suppression among Children, adolescent and young People Living with HIV in East Africa also known as East Africa Point of Care Viral load Study (EAPoC VL Study).
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>83,056,682</b>	<b>74,225,531</b>	

\*Some or full amount were received prior to the reporting period

Until Everyone is Healthy



**RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES COVERING THE PERIOD 01 JULY 2022- 31 DEC 2022**

Management and Development for Health (MDH) was incorporated in August 19, 2009 as an indigenous Tanzanian Non-Governmental Organization focusing primarily on public health service and research in the United Republic of Tanzania and subsequently registered under NGO Registrar as a local NGO at national level, Mainland, Tanzania. It is also registered in Zanzibar.

S/N	Project Name	Name of the Stakeholder who render the fund	Funds Received (TZS'000)	Expenditure (TZS'000)	Fund Purposes
1	Afya Kwanza	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	60,537,726*	63,042,803	Provision of Comprehensive HIV Prevention, Care, Treatment, and Support services in the United Republic of Tanzania
2	Global Fund-HIV/TB Grant	Global Fund - AMREF	2,108,451*	2,425,386	Support TB Case Detection and Care Services in Community in the United Republic of Tanzania
3	National Health Laboratory Services (NHLS) in United Republic of Tanzania	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	8,162,072	8,100,817	Strengthening the Quality, Accessibility, and Sustainability of The National Health Laboratory Services (NHLS) In United Republic of Tanzania
4	USAID Afya Yangu Southern Zone -	United States Agency for International Development (USAID) - Deloitte Consulting Limited	2,830,027	2,621,135	Support HIV, TB and Malaria Care and Treatment Services in the Southern Zone of Tanzania
5	Data for Health	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	1,184,155*	1,679,946	Support collaboration and effective coordination of program Implementing Partners (IPs) in the development, deployment and scale up of capacity to sustain an effective national high quality, Health Information System (HIS) that accommodate key health information and enables data driven decision making at all levels in the United Republic of Tanzania
6	Afya Jumuishi	Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)	29,612,412	27,202,066	Provision of Comprehensive HIV Prevention, Care, Treatment, and Support services in the United Republic of Tanzania
7	EAPOC	The European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP).	219,976	12,496	Support improvement of Viral Suppression among Children, adolescent and young People Living with HIV in East Africa also known as East Africa Point of Care Viral load Study (EAPoC VL Study).
8	CASH TRANSFER	The University of California	147,631	21,993	Support the use of cash transfers to enrolled clients in order to assess adherence patterns. It is currently being conducted in Mwanza, Geita, Shinyanga and Kagera. MDH is a stakeholder responsible for taking part in the VL component, ensuring all samples are collected, transported, tested and results are returned to the sites.
<b>Grand Total</b>			<b>104,802,450</b>	<b>105,106,642</b>	

\*Some or full amount were received prior to the reporting period

Until Everyone is Healthy



## Govt committed to developing smart cities and communities to address key challenges

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE government has expressed commitment to fully implement agreements and suggestions by communication experts in the development of smart cities and communities.

Deputy Minister of Information, Communication and Information Technology, Engineer Kundo Mathew made the statement when speaking at the opening of the ITU-T Study Group 20 (SG20) meeting in Arusha.

The meeting brought together global experts to deliberate on seven pivotal questions shaping the future of the communication sector.

He said: "Dodoma city has been designated as a pilot for smart cities in Tanzania, from which other cities in the country are set to draw inspiration," Kundo said.

He added: "For Tanzania, the successful hosting of the SG20 meetings is a major achievement."

Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA), Director of Industry Affairs of TCRA, Eng Mwesigwa Felician emphasised the significance of the outcomes of these meetings, stating that they are set to drive critical developments in the ever-evolving digital technologies landscape.

He highlighted how the new standards and recommendations emerging from the meetings will be instrumental in realising the integration of ICT into our daily lives.

"The deployment of these standards will pave the way for technological advancements that lead the application of ICT in our daily lives," he stressed.

Felician outlined that the standards will support the deployment of IoT and smart cities and communities, address key challenges and opportunities in big data and AI usage within the communication sector, and enhance security and privacy solutions.

The successful completion of the SG20 meetings is being seen as a testament to the robust collaboration between Tanzania and the ITU, reflecting the global commitment to advancing the communication sector. These outcomes are expected to have a profound impact

not only on Tanzania but also on the global communication sector.

Ansbert Pallangyo, a resident of Arusha and an ICT expert, commented on the significance of the meetings, stating, "I am very sure the successful completion of the SG20 meetings is a testament to the strong collaboration between Tanzania and the ITU, as well as the commitment of the global community to advancing the communication sector; the outcomes of the meetings will have a significant impact on the development of communication sector in Tanzania and around the world."

Dr Emmanuel Manasseh, a senior lecturer at Nelson Mandela University in Arusha and an expert in ICTs, expressed his optimism about the expected outcomes of the SG20 meetings, anticipating several significant benefits for Tanzania.

He stated, "I am confident that this meeting will have a positive impact on our country in various key areas. One such area is the acceleration of IoT deployment, where the standards and recommendations are poised to expedite the adoption of IoT technologies across diverse industries, including agriculture, healthcare, and education in Tanzania. Additionally, the discussions around enhancing smart cities and communities hold promise. I am hopeful that the recommendations will lead to more sustainable and inclusive smart cities and communities, leveraging technology to enhance efficiency and service delivery."

The successful culmination of the SG20 meetings represents a momentous step towards shaping a digital future not only for Tanzania but also for the broader global landscape.

This achievement has the power to revolutionise various industries, elevate service quality, and narrow societal disparities.

The high-profile two-week conference is in harmony with the government's recently unveiled strategy to position Tanzania as a leading destination for conference tourism. In line with this initiative, delegates from ITU-T SG 20 were treated to an enriching excursion to Ngorongoro over the past weekend.



Shinyanga regional commissioner Christina Mndeme tries her hand at carpentry when on an inspection tour of construction work at Ngilimba Secondary School at Ulowa in Kahama District on Monday. She is with Kahama district commissioner Mboni Mhita. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## 50bn/- to build 33km tarmac roads in Iringa

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Tanzania Rural and Urban Roads Agency (TARURA), has set aside more than 50bn/- for the construction of 33-kilometres of tarmac roads in Iringa through the Roads to Inclusion and Social Economic Opportunities (RISE) project.

The project is aimed at bringing social services accessible to communities as well as smooth crops and commodities transportation.

TARURA Chief Executive Office, Engineer Victor Seff issued the announcement during a technical

committee inspection visit of the construction of 19-kilometre Wenda-Mgama at the Iringa municipality.

They also inspected mobilisation of resources for the construction of Mtili-Ifwagi in which 14-construction of tarmac road will be done in Mufindi district council whereas all contractors are on site.

"We conducted the inspection visit with the RISE project technical committee to see if the contractors are performing as per TARURA contracts terms and timing and if there are any challenges to be settled on time," said Eng Seff.

He underscored the need for the

timely completion of the projects as the government is committed to see improved infrastructure for easy access to social services and economic development activities.

Eng Seff instructed TARURA-Iringa regional manager to make close monitoring and supervision of the projects as well as ensure timely delivery of the needed resources for smooth project undertakings.

He advised the communities surrounding the projects to form groups and attend training offered so that they take up maintenance and protection of the road's activities for their economic wellbeing but

also durability of the roads for social services access.

TARURA is implementing the RISE project in rural areas to open up social and link the communities with economic opportunities in the regions of Iringa, Geita, Tanga and Lindi.

In 2021, TARURA launched the plans to spend 3.6tri/- in the next five years to widen its road network countrywide.

With the plan, the government envisaged to increase the distance of upgraded roads to tarmac level from the current 2,404.90 to about 3,855.65 kilometres.



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MINISTRY OF INFORMATION, COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY,

### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### VACANCIES AT THE UNIVERSAL POSTAL UNION (UPU)

The Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA), is quasi-independent Government body established under the Tanzania Communication Regulatory Act No.12 of 2003 to regulate communications and broadcasting sectors in Tanzania.

On behalf of Universal Postal Union (International Bureau a second oldest International Organization worldwide) which is a primary forum for cooperation between postal sector players hereby invites applications from suitably qualified Tanzanians to fill the following post available.

**POST: Digital Inclusion Expert (grade P 2, non-core) Policy, Regulation and Markets Directorate.**

**Deadline for receipt of applications: 4 October, 2023**

**Vacancy Notice is available on the UPU website [www.upu.int/en/Univesal-Postal-Union/Careers](http://www.upu.int/en/Univesal-Postal-Union/Careers)**

**Email:** Applicant wishing to be considered are asked to complete the Official application form and apply via the UPU's e-recruit system ([erecruit.upu.int](http://erecruit.upu.int)). Each application must be accompanied by an official authorization from the Head of the appropriate authority submitting the application. This authorization should be signed and dated and sent by e-mail to [erecruit@upu.int](mailto:erecruit@upu.int).

**Issued by:**

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## Indonesia for closer relations with Tanzania in mining

By Guardian Reporter

INDONESIAN Ambassador to Tanzania, Tri Yogo Jatmiko, has stressed his country's cooperation with Tanzania in advertising the new direction of the Ministry of Minerals - "VISION 2030: Minerals is Life and Wealth".

The vision is meant to promote various investment opportunities in Tanzania's mineral sector.

Ambassador Jatmiko made the remarks on Wednesday after brief discussions with the Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Minerals, Kheri Mahimbali, the discussions that focused on the cooperation of the two countries in mining activities.

"Tanzania is blessed with various

mineral resources that are in high demand worldwide. Through this Vision the mineral sector will go to advertise the country in Indonesia and explain to investors about various existing opportunities," said Jatmiko.

Meanwhile, Ambassador Jatmiko showered praise on Anthony Mavunde, the Minister for Minerals for his appointment to the post by President Samia Suluhu Hassan.

He said his country will offer adequate cooperation to woo investors in the minerals sector.

Ministry's Permanent Secretary Heri Mahimbali stressed that Tanzania will accord cooperation by empowering various experts in the ministry in areas needed including training for adding value to the minerals and

other specialized training for a few instructors who will become tutors in providing training in important areas.

"We need cooperation in the mining of strategic minerals through State Mining Corporation (STAMICO) and the government will collaborate in order the mining is done here in the country," said PS Mahimbali.

He also invited them to participate in the International Forum on Mining Sector Investment slated for October 25 and 26 this year, adding that the forum will promote various investment opportunities in the country.

The brief Meeting was also attended by Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Minerals, Dr AbdulRahman Mwangi and various ministry's experts.



For residents of Magungu in Chemba District, Dodoma Region, the use of donkeys in transporting water, foodstuffs and various other items remains widespread. Correspondent Peter Mkwavila captured this scene at the village yesterday.





Industry and Trade minister Dr Ashatu Kijaji (R), accompanied by National Development Corporation managing director Dr Nicolaus Shombe (L) and Tanzania Biotech Products Ltd general manager Rafael Moya shortly after arriving at the TBPL premises at Kibaha in Coast Region yesterday for a tour. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

## Police vow to take stern steps against violations endangering road safety

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

POLICE in Morogoro Region in collaboration with other road infrastructures stakeholders plan to take steps against motorists who park their vehicles on roadsides thereby violating the Road Traffic Law Cap 168, as well making regular road patrols and providing training to drivers.

Morogoro regional Police Commander, Alex Mkama named the road infrastructures stakeholders before drivers of huge trucks in a special crackdown against violators of road traffic laws including TANROADS, LATRA and TARURA.

He also named some of the laws that ban the haphazard parking of vehicles at roadsides as including the Road Traffic Act (Cap 168), Road Control Act and the Transport and Licensing Act (Cap 317).

RPC Mkama also lashed out at recently established habits by drivers of huge trucks on improper use of roads that threaten the lives of other road users by haphazard parking their vehicles on roads through fatigue, of their vehicles breakdown by placing tree branches along the road saying the practice is not right and also unlawful.

He also named other unlawful road habits as abandoning the vehicles along the main highways, making minor and major repairs along main highways as well as feeding wildlife on the roadsides.

"When they fail to observe road traffic laws by engaging in such practices, we say that all that is unlawful, stern legal steps will be taken against them, we shall remove and tow the vehicles at our cost and owners thereof will have to pay back as well as taking them to court," he added.

He also said there are also some drivers who sabotage road infrastructures by removing rails from the roadsides or spilling hazardous

liquids along the road.

Hence RPC Mkama called on all road users to respect road traffic laws in order to spur the country's economic growth as well as sparing the lives of innocent Tanzanians.

Ally Shafi, a truck driver, resident of Dar es Salaam said internal roads that are narrow need great care by drivers to avert accidents.

He also called on the road traffic police to closely concentrate on big passenger buses, and not big trucks, in the whole issue of road accidents, saying many drivers of big trucks respect traffic laws.



**When they fail to observe road traffic laws by engaging in such practices, we say that all that is unlawful, stern legal steps will be taken against them, we shall remove and tow the vehicles at our cost and owners thereof will have to pay back as well as taking them to court**

## Use mercury appropriately, NEMC tells artisanal miners

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE National Environmental Management Council (NEMC) has cautioned miners on inappropriate use of mercury in their activities, saying apart from posing health risks; it contributes in destruction of the ecology system.

Dr Befrina Igulu, NEMC coordinator of a project to control made the call in Geita Region yesterday when speaking at an exercise to demonstrate the correct use of modern technology in

gold processing.

"We should take precautions before the impact occurs; the government wishes to achieve its goal of reducing pollution caused by the unsustainable use of water and soil," she said, calling upon small scale miners to use the acquired knowledge to enhance environmental conservation.

She said that NEMC has been using stakeholders such as the Chief Government Chemist, State Mining Corporation (STAMICO) and the Ministry of Health to

provide education to miners and the community around mines on environmental conservation.

She commended miners for attending the training that aimed at improving their working environment and taking care of the environment through proper use of mercury.

"This training has come at the right time considering the increase in small-scale miners in the country," he said.

One of the artisanal miners, Alex Bawazir from Nyarugusu said they use mercury every day, adding the

acquired knowledge will help in conserving the environment.

Lilian Lukambuz, the Director of Environmental Impact Assessment at NEMC, said miners need education to save the environment and their health. She said mining is a large sector that uses technology in mining that can have an impact on the environment.

"Our main goal was to educate small scale miners on safe use of mercury in their activities. We have also trained them on alternative gold processing methods," she said.

## PJT-MMAMA programme bringing positive results to Chunya District

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

IMPLEMENTATION of the National Inclusive Programme on Children's Upbringing and Early Development (PJT-MMAMA) has been cited to bring positive results in Chunya District, Mbeya Region owing to its close follow-up on pregnant women to ensure they receive basic medical examinations.

Submitting the Programme's implementation report at Assessment Meeting for the Third Quarter for Mbeya Region, Chunya District Community Development Officer, Nasrat Mkupete said as for now there has been a huge response for pregnant women to undergo examination on their health statuses.

She said stakeholders, in

collaboration with health centres, have been working together in making sure pregnant women attend clinics for examinations and to make sure the society is given education on the collection of reports of attendance to clinics.

Nasrat explained that examinations on pregnant women aim to find out any diseases that can cause the child to be of poor health adding that the tests are mainly for HIV, syphilis, Malaria and blood content.

"Another activity done was to monitor all children born between April and June get the required jabs and in this we have attained big achievements because so far children under five years of age have received the required jabs," she said.

She added that the main goals of the Programme for the PJT-MMAMA Third quarter was to reach 5,581 pregnant women in the period April to June this year, saying this goal has been attained as planned.

Earlier, opening the meeting, Community Development Officer from the Ministry of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups, Joel Mwakapala said the government wants the Programme's positive results to start being discerned starting from families of implementing officials. He said problems regarding children's upbringing have also been seen in the families of those implementing the Programme, the issue that can undermine government's goals.



Serengeti Breweries Ltd communications and sustainability manager Rispa Hatibu briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday on the Oktoberfest 2023 media launch slated for October 21. The festival is devised as event to unite people from all walks of life in savouring the unique flavours sounds and traditions of Tanzania. Photo: Correspondent



### JOB VACANCY

**About Us**

The Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) is a global community conservation organization that advances the vision and work of Dr. Jane Goodall by conserving chimpanzees and inspiring communities to conserve the natural world we all share, we improve the lives of people, animals, and the environment. We strongly believe everything is connected and everyone can make a difference.

The Jane Goodall Institute Tanzania (JGI-TZ) is a reputable and rapidly expanding non-governmental organization committed to wildlife research, conservation, socio-economic development, and environmental education. The Jane Goodall Institute Tanzania (JGI-TZ) was founded in 2001 by Dr. Jane Goodall, DBE. The JGI Tanzania with its partners makes a difference through community centered conservation, chimpanzees research projects, youths' environmental education, the innovative use of science and technology, we work closely with local communities in Tanzania, inspiring hope through a collective power of individual action.

The Jane Goodall Institute Tanzania with funding from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) to support implementation of the new USAID funded project, Tumaini Kupitia Vitendo (TKV) is currently seeking to recruit a suitably qualified and competent Tanzanian to fill the following vacant position:

**Job Vacancy: Senior Livelihoods and Rural Finance Officer**

**Program:** Tumaini Kupitia Vitendo (TKV)

**Work Station:** Kigoma or Mpanda

**Reporting Line:** Deputy Chief of Party (DCOP)

**Job Summary:**

The Senior Livelihoods and Rural Finance Officer (SLRFO) will support a range of activities to improve the lives of rural citizens in Western Tanzania. The SLRFO will lead execution of the project's support for Village Savings and Loans, microfinance provision and development of new conservation-oriented enterprises and livelihoods. To a large extent, the livelihood activities within the landscape rely on agriculture - crop production, livestock keeping and fishing. Thus a knowledge in agricultural value chains/agribusiness is highly sought for. The position will be based in Kigoma or Mpanda, Tanzania.

**Key Responsibilities and Duties:**

Main responsibilities will include but not limited to:

- To improve access to finance for alternative, environmentally friendly rural livelihoods (new financial services and products from banks, support for VSLAs, impact investment, etc.).
- To strengthen management capacity and governance of community development groups (farmers, beekeepers, mushroom collection groups, AMCOs/Cooperatives, etc.) on how to set up, manage and share benefits from member-owned institutions.
- Serve as the principal liaison between financial institutions - including banks and microfinance institutions, impact investors, and other financial services providers.
- To improve market access by forging linkages with key off-takers for the products produced by the target groups/communities.
- Provide technical leadership to operationalize support for alternative livelihoods and enterprises that promote biodiversity conservation, climate change adaptation and sustainable development.
- Lead the technical preparation of the project annual work plans and quarterly reports.
- Supervise and verify the quality of rural finance and alternative livelihood related services delivered by service providers to stakeholders.

**Required Job Qualifications and Experience:**

- Master's degree in community focused economic development and entrepreneurship, rural development, agribusiness, cooperative development or a related field; A bachelor's degree with commensurate field experience will also be considered.
- At least 5 years of experience supporting village level rural economic development. Experience with organizing farmers/rural communities for finance and markets, finance provision, through Village Savings and Loan systems, banking or other institutions. Ideally with some management responsibility.
- Experience in engaging the private sector, developing and/or marketing inclusive financial products, including micro, small and medium or even large loans that support new livelihoods and enterprises.
- Experience integrating livelihoods improvement with biodiversity conservation (conservation enterprises like Eco-tourism, forest products, or other livelihoods that are environmentally friendly and sustainable).
- Fluent English and Swahili, written and oral communication skills.

**Application Procedure:**

All applications should be submitted together with the most recent Curriculum Vitae (CV)/resume, copy of relevant academic certificates & transcripts, testimonials, three names of reputable referees, day-time telephone number or e-mail address, and should be sent to the following e-mail address: [recruitment@janegoodall.or.tz](mailto:recruitment@janegoodall.or.tz)

Only the final shortlisted candidates will be interviewed and provided with interview feedback.

**Deadline:** Thursday, 28<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 before 5pm in the evening.

JGI Tanzania is an equal opportunity employer and considers all applicants on the basis of merit without regard to race, national or tribal origin, religious belief, gender, and marital status.

QUALIFIED FEMALE APPLICANTS ARE HIGHLY ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.



## French energy firm: We'll continue extending help Tanzania's electrification, industrialisation schemes

By Carlos Banda

FRENCH oil and gas exploration company Maurel & Prom (M&P) has pledged its support to the electrification and industrialization in Tanzania, citing that its ongoing flagship projects give account of its goal to power the east African nation with sustainable energy.

Nicolas Engel, M&P General Manager made the statement yesterday when speaking at the just-ended 5th Tanzania Energy Congress in Dar es Salaam.

According to Engel, the firm which has been operating in the country for almost two decades has in recent years together with its partners Wentworth and TPDC have upgraded the capacity of the Mnazi Bay field natural gas field by 60% in response to the increasing energy demand in Tanzania, a milestone achieved in a period of 7 years with Lost Time Injury (LTIs) recorded.

Engel noted: "Tanzania holds a good position in some of M&P's most impactful projects. With a contribution of around 35% to the Tanzanian energy demand, our operation is key to the country and we take our role of operator and all associated responsibilities very seriously. Our ongoing projects and growing strategy further illustrate M&P's wish to commit to the long-term and to continue providing gas supply in support of the electrification and industrialization of the country."

He pointed out that, M&P Tanzania also strives to procure services locally to support the nation's growing economy by adding more worth to the energy sector value chain through creation of job opportunities and stimulating various industries in the country.

On Energy Congress, Engel highlighted the significance of such platforms, enabling stakeholders to come together with a shared vision and

actively contribute to the advancement of Tanzania's energy sector.

The firm which is among the key sponsors of the event pledged the commitment to support the country's energy sector following Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa's note in the conference that the government has put in place policies enabling investments in the sector to promote private sector participation, calling on local companies to take discussions with experienced and capital liquid companies to explore opportunities for possible joint ventures.

The firm's exploration activities have recorded a working interest in gas production of 48.06% on the Mnazi Bay permit which was 47.2% mmcf for the first half of 2023, a growth of 12 per cent from the second half of 2022.

M&P Tanzania's operations began in Tanzania almost twenty years ago. The company is essentially known for its work in the Mnazi Bay natural gas field located at the south of the country next to Mtwara, and also owns a 60% stake in BRM licence and the Mkuranga discovery.



**Our ongoing projects and growing strategy further illustrate M&P's wish to commit to the long-term and to continue providing gas supply in support of the electrification and industrialization of the country**

## Morogoro resolves to expand clove farming

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

IN a focused bid to grow cloves extensively in Morogoro Region, the Southern Agricultural Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT) and Morogoro regional authorities have sponsored a five-day study tour of 20 farmers to learn clove farming in Zanzibar.

The team is led by Morogoro Regional Administrative Secretary, Dr Musa Ally Musa and 10 strategic officials from agriculture, cooperatives and trade departments.

SAGCOT Kilombero Cluster Manager John Nakei told reporters before the team left for Zanzibar yesterday that the move is a focused agro-effort aimed at extensive growing of cloves on the Mainland because Tanzania has ample unused arable land.

He said last year 20,000 clove seedlings were grown and given free to Morogoro farmers. "Farmers' response was overwhelming. So SAGCOT and the RC's office decided that the best move forward is to have this study tour so that farmers can learn on the spot from Zanzibar counterparts," he explained.

So far cloves are grown in Morogoro rural, Kilombero districts and in Morogoro and Mlimba district councils. In 2022 Morogoro Region produced some 2,000 tonnes of cloves while Zanzibar produced 4,000

tonnes, Dr Ally explained.

Nakei said during tripartite consultations between SAGCOT, Mainland and Isles representatives it was explained that Tanzania remains one of the major world clove growers, clove prices are steadily going up but the crop is mainly grown in Zanzibar. It was resolved that clove growing should first be introduced to Morogoro Region, later on it would be spread to other regions.

Tanzania has 44 million of enviable arable land, but only 24 per cent is known to be utilized. It has a growing population, and therefore a growing prospective youthful population of farmers. According to the 2022 Census, Mainland Tanzania has 59,851,347 people and Zanzibar 1889,773 and the majority of Tanzanians are smallholder farmers. Cloves, a preliminary spice, are used differently in different countries. Tanzania's horticultural products like fruits, herbs and spices are important ingredients in Tanzanian restaurants and hotels and elsewhere.

Tanzania apparently has a growing tourism industry too. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has urged Tanzania to appreciate the fact that there is an opportunity to integrate pro-poor strategies into the international tourism agenda.

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE Zanzibar government has been advised to revoke the agreement awarding Africa Global Logistics (AGL) from France to operate the Malindi Port if the firm will not restore original levies imposed on traders using the port.

This advice has been given by the Deputy Publicity and Communications Secretary of ACT-Wazalendo Salum Bimani as he addressed reporters after traders refused to clear their

## Zanzibar govt advised to revoke AGL contract at Malindi Port

goods from the port opposing the huge rates of clearing charges imposed by the firm since it took over the port on September 18 this year.

"If this fails, we want the Zanzibar government to annul the AGL agreement and return the operations of Malindi Port to Zanzibar Ports Corporation (ZPC)," said Bimani.

He said that before reaching the step, the party wants the government to



Maurel & Prom general manager Nicolas Engel (L, with microphone) pictured in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday briefing Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa and Deputy Prime Minister Doto Biteko (R), who is also Energy minister, on the firm's operations. Engel expressed the company's commitment to supporting efforts to make Tanzania's energy economy and development more sustainable. This was at the M&P pavilion at an exhibition held in tandem with the just-ended 5th Tanzanian Energy Congress. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Mining and technology expo to bring in 400 participants

By Guardian Correspondent, Geita

GEITA Regional Commissioner, Martin Shigela has commended organisers of this year's Geita Mining and Technology Exhibition, which is to bring on board more than 400 participants.

RC Shigela made the remarks here when briefing journalists on this mining expo that has been organized by the Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML) and other players

He said that apart from locals, the event has also attracted exhibitors from Burundi, China, India and DR

Congo.

According to Shigela, last year, more than 250 companies participated. The new development is a result of a better environment created by the region.

"We've created a better environment for organisations involved in mineral research, mining using simple technologies, screening and value addition to help small-scale miners grow commercially," he said.

"I welcome investors to invest in refining and value addition industries to educate our citizens and miners to get rid of the use of dangerous chemicals such as mercury. I also

welcome all citizens, especially those involved in value addition. I ask them to come in large numbers because the demonstrations started yesterday on 20 September 2023," he said.

GGML's Senior Manager for Sustainability, Gilbert Mworira, said the show has had a unique appeal since its inception due to GGML's funding through the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) fund which enabled the construction of the EPZA area as well as the exhibition site.

He said GGML had taken the lead in improving the show by investing Sh800 million in the construction of

the EPZA administrative building.

"Our support goes beyond the financial support that we have continued to provide every year as we have provided support for the preparation of the exhibition such as tents, an emergency generator and fuel that is used for the entire duration of the exhibition," said Mworira.

GGML supports the government's Vision 2025 to achieve the long-term goals of sustainable economic growth, which aims to enable the mining sector to grow and reach a level of 10 percent of Tanzania's GDP.

Geita Regional Commissioner, Martin Shigela (left) speaking with GGML's Senior Manager for Sustainability, Gilbert Mworira, (centre) at the Bombambili Geita grounds where the Geita mining technology exhibition is held. On the right is the Director of Geita Town Council, Zahara Michuzi.



Members of the militia in Sengerema joins hands with other local residents yesterday in clearing garbage around residences and business premises, with tractors meant for the purpose nowhere to be seen. Photo: Correspondent Elizabeth Selemani

system just a few days before the port was handed over to the French firm.

He alleged that the hiring by AGL of Malindi Port operations was not done in good intention, but was an act of corruption by a few who aimed to amass wealth on the backs of poor Zanzibaris.

However, responding to the new levies, ZPC Public Relations Officer Hassan Amour said the rates were not new but were not in use in order to relieve traders and the people in general.

convene a meeting of all transport and goods clearance stakeholders, traders and AGL itself to look for a solution on the challenges that have emerged after the new rates of levies came into effect.

Bimani explained that people of Zanzibar, traders specifically depend on Malindi Port for loading and unloading of their cargo hence they will not like seeing the Zanzibar economy plummet for the benefit of a

few. He added that what saddens is that the entire AGL deal was not done in transparency and the tender thereof was not advertised, which, he said, was against the Competitive Tender Laws passed by the Zanzibar House of Representatives.

He asked: "When was the tender advertised and which other firms applied and which procedures were

used in picking AGL?"

He said if the aim was to increase performance at the port and reduce bureaucracy expenses, why soon after was handed over the port should hike handling and clearing charges.

He also queried that if the aim was to privatize the port, why did the government spend 16.5bn/- to buy modern handling equipment for the port and USD 6 million in its electronic





Temeke district commissioner Mobhare Matinyi (3rd-L) presents a consignment of diapers to Dr Joseph Kimaro, Chief Medical Officer of Dar es Salaam's Temeke Referral Regional Hospital, at the facility's maternity ward yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Simiyu residents advised to seek assistance from Mama Samia Legal Aid Campaign

By Guardian Correspondent, Simiyu

RESIDENTS of Simiyu Region and neighbouring regions have been called to take their complaints to the Mama Samia Legal Aid Team now visiting the region.

The Constitutional and Legal Affairs ministry Permanent Secretary, Mary Makondo, issued the call during her visit yesterday to pavilions offering Mama Samia legal aid services in Bariadi.

Makondo called on members of the public to grab the opportunity and take their complaints to the legal aid providers to be addressed.

"I have spoken to some people who came up here for legal aid, there are some who hail from outside this region, hence I call upon to others with legal complaints to come as the service provided is for free," she said.

She added that the campaign aims to reach all the people with various complaints requiring legal assistance and they will get the service for free as the cost will be met by the government.

She explained that in the campaign team is collaborating with other ministries in solving the problems and in a case a person needs to go to court, the campaign team will assist him/her.

She said the campaign also involves the Lands Department, the Police, State Attorneys, Judiciary, legal aid institutions and Tanganyika Law Society (TLS).

According to the PS the campaign also involves other development partners, including financial institutions in order to make sure it achieved its goals to serve the people.

She added that the campaign will

held in Simiyu Region for ten days and has scattered its personnel in every district as well as in some villages.

However, she said they plan for the campaign to become sustainable after the end of the ten days as the responsibilities will be left to government officials to listen to people's complaints on daily basis.

Lupuzu Maige, resident of Sima-Bariadi area said he said he had been conned of his land plot, but after he sought the team's services, he now has great hopes to be accorded with justice.

He said his land plot was taken up by the government to pave way for the construction of Simiyu Secondary School but was neither compensated or given an alternative land plot.

For his part, Atupokile Mwandumya, Bariadi District Council Land Officer said the issue of people's complaints regarding expropriation of their land to build the secondary school has already been addressed and compensation will be paid to claimants.

He added that every claimant knows the amount of compensation to be paid as they were all involved in the entire exercise.

**...the campaign also involves the Lands Department, the Police, State Attorneys, Judiciary, legal aid institutions and Tanganyika Law Society**

## Airpay Tanzania opens office in Zanzibar

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

IN boosting digital payment services in the country, Airpay Tanzania has officially opened its offices in Zanzibar.

Speaking at the event to inaugurate the office at Mlandege, Unguja on Wednesday, Zanzibar Minister of State in the President's Office (Economy and Investments) Mudrick Ramadhani Soraga said the firm will help small traders to access to loans to develop their businesses.

Soraga said the milestone will open the Isles and become an investment hub in the Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and that it woos other global ICT

firms. "Airpay has opened the door for us and it is my hope that after seeing this many other firms will come as well," Soraga said.

The Minister said as for now there are three ICT firms including Airpay, but there are 50 ICT firms on the way and are finalizing registration procedures to establish their head offices in Zanzibar.

He explained that the government will continue providing collaboration to Airpay whose technology will bring great revolution to ICT, "not only to small and middle entrepreneurs but also to financial institutions who stand to be big beneficiary from its services.

He added that entrepreneurs face a big challenge for lack of recognition in the formal systems and more than 70 per cent of those in Zanzibar have not been recognized in the systems.

"If your recognized you get many benefits including access to loans and training as well as contribute in tax payment, now we want even those selling coconut water (madafu) to be officially recognized," he said.

According to him, Airpay is the first digital payment firm to establish its head offices in Zanzibar and has 12 years of experience and has a panel of many experts from India who will be in Zanzibar to conduct their activities.

For his part, Airpay's founder, Kunal

Jhunjhunwala said Zanzibar is the right stakeholder in formalizing digital systems and commended the Zanzibar government for its quick decision to allow the firm to operate in the Isles.

He added that they have been very much attracted by their concept in making Zanzibar the firm's headquarters for Africa for building a cashless economy.

Economy Manager of Bank of Tanzania (BoT) Zanzibar Office, Moto Ng'wingande said the Central bank has endorsed the firm to provide its services and that is why it has accorded it a licence, as it is capable and has good equipment for digital technology operations.

## Elephants on the march across African borders as heat stress leads to fatalities

By Nyasha Chingono, Harare

THE climate crisis is pushing elephants on a forced migration across borders in southern Africa in search of water, creating problems for national parks and conservation efforts.

In recent weeks, Zimbabwe's elephants have been crossing the country's borders into Botswana, officials said on Tuesday. Exactly how many elephants are affected is not yet known. The development comes as a survey this month revealed that elephants are dying of heat stress.

Angola, Botswana, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe together hold half of the world's savanna (African bush) elephants. Of those 228,000 elephants, the survey reported a "carcass (mortality) ratio" of 10.5%.

The survey covers the Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier conservation area, one of the world's largest wildlife conservation areas, comprising 520,000 sq kms (210,000 sq miles) within the borders of the five states. "The carcass ratio suggests a high level of mortality which warrants further investigation as a potential warning sign for the health and stability of the elephant population," the report stated.

In Zimbabwe, however, the elephant population has until recently been growing. This has been putting pressure on biodiversity and leading to clashes with local people as the animals breach human habitats in search of water. According to government spokesman Nick Mangwana, 60 Zimbabweans have been killed by elephants so far this year.

"Elephants know no boundaries - they are moving in search of water and food," said Tinash Farawo, spokesman for the Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Management Authority (Zimparks). "We already have mitigation measures in place, but there are some things which are beyond us, like no rainfall. We are now relying more on artificial water from boreholes. It is an expensive process."

Farawo added that buffaloes and "all types of animals present in the Hwange national park" were also leaving in large numbers.

According to Zimparks, Zimbabwe has an estimated 100,000 elephants, and authorities had reported overpopulation in regions such as Hwange, an area of more than 14,600 sq kms (5,600 sq miles) and home to about 50,000 elephants.

"I cannot quantify how many elephants have moved - whether it's hundreds or thousands - but it has been a lot," said Farawo of the migration, which began in August.

In a bid to ease overpopulation in Hwange, authorities last year planned the transportation of elephants to other areas, such as Gonarezhou in south-east Zimbabwe, near the border with Mozambique. But Farawo said a lack of

resources had halted the plan. "There is no translocation of animals. We would have loved to decongest, but there is nothing like that at the moment," he said.

Stand with me to #BanTrophyHunting now. from Ricky Gervais @rickygervais

'It's neocolonialism': campaign to ban UK

imports of hunting trophies condemned

Meanwhile, Zimbabwe has been lobbying the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species to temporarily lift its ban on elephant ivory sales (£480m), which it says keeps growing, and it argues that the proceeds of a one-off sale could be used to boost its conservation efforts.

**JAMHURI YA MUUNGANO WA TANZANIA**  
**MAHAKAMA KUU YA TANZANIA**  
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Kwa kuwa Mdai aliyetajwa hapo juu, amefungua maombi ya gharama za shauri la madai Na. 73/2023 dhidi yenu, shauri ambalo maelezo yake yameelezwa katika nakala za hati za Madai zinazopakikana katika Mahakama hii, kwa hiyo unatakiwa kuhudhuria katika mahakama hii wewe mwenyewe au wakili au mwakilishi wako anayeruhusiwa kisheria, siku ya tarehe **25/9/2023** saa nne (4.00) kamili asubuhi mbele ya **S.B. FIMBO NAIBU MSAJILI** kujibu madai dhidi yako. Unaagizwa kuleta vielelezo vyote ambavyo unatarajia kuvitumia katika utetezi wako siku hiyo.

**ANGALTA:**  
Kama usipohudhuria siku iliyotajwa hapo juu na mahakama ikithibitisha kuwa umepokea taarifa hii ya kuitwa shaurini, basi shauri linaweza kusikilizwa na kuamuliwa bila uwepo wako.

**HATI** hii imetolewa kwa AMRI yangu na **CHAPA** ya Mahakama leo hii tarehe .....**Mwezi** .....**2023**

**S. B. FIMBO**  
**NAIBU MSAJILI**

 **UNHCR**  
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees  
Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL: No. RFP/2023/SUP/020**  
**FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CONTRACT FOR THE PROVISION OF THE DESIGN, SUPPLY, INSTALLATION AND OPERATION & MAINTENANCE OF AN OFF-GRID SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC POWER PROJECT AT NYARUGUSU AND NDUTA CAMP AND THE HOSTING COMMUNITIES OF KASULU AND KIBONDO**

**1. Background:**  
The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Representation Office in Dar es Salaam invites reputable and qualified service providers to submit firm offers for the establishment of a Contract for the Provision of the Design, Supply, Installation and Operation & maintenance of an Off-Grid Solar Photovoltaic Power Project at Nyarugusu and Nduta Camp and the hosting communities of Kasulu and Kibondo

**2. Eligibility:**  
Suppliers duly registered with relevant government authorities, with sound financial basis, relevant experience, reputed clientele, and with knowledge of how to meet UNHCR's requirements are invited to participate in the bidding process.

Kindly download the tender documents in the below link:  
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1dYMygeE8-eePwv87qmb7FYoYSHru-oM?usp=sharing>

If you fail to access the link, please write to [ndassa@unhcr.org](mailto:ndassa@unhcr.org) and copy [ishobeza@unhcr.org](mailto:ishobeza@unhcr.org)

**CRUCIAL DATES FOR THIS INVITATION TO BID**

<b>Deadline for receiving requests for clarification</b>	<b>16<sup>th</sup> October 2023 at 2359 hours EAT</b>
<b>Deadline for submission of offers</b>	<b>23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 at 1600 hours EAT</b>

**UNHCR tenders are free of charge, no fees are charged to collect the tenders.**



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## Strategies, plans are welcome only if feasible, implemented

ONE might argue that it is not an exception, but the fact is that Tanzania has an abundance of policies, laws, rules and regulations.

The government, in particular, has understandably established for itself national and lower level policies on all manner of issues, sectors, activities, population segments, and what not.

Sometimes it appears to matter little whether some of those policies are really well thought out and therefore work while others may be flamboyantly clothed but are too unrealistic or irrelevant or both for effective implementation.

Existing national policies that come quickly to mind, some revised and fine-tuned time and again, include those relating to the environment, agriculture, education, the youth, information, land, wildlife, ageing, science and technology, HIV & AIDS, official language, culture, and sexual & reproductive health.

The Economic and Social Research Foundation once did come up with what many saw as one of the most elaborate classifications of the national policies the country has ever drawn up.

These fell under four major categories: cross-cutting sector policies, economic sector policies, key development policies or strategies, and social sector policies.

The first category comprised policies on culture, employment, livestock, cooperatives, science and technology, HIV & AIDS, water sector development, trade, information & communications technology (ICT), land, rural development and agriculture.

Under the second category fell energy, beekeeping, forestry, mining, tourism, sustainable industrial development, investment promotion, micro-financing, wildlife, transport and telecommunication.

Policies under the third category, apparently the least bloated, had Tanzania Development Vision 2025 and the National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty.

## Tragedy-time grief understandable, but serious thought ought to follow

PEOPLE often react in characteristically similar style when tragedy strikes: they express profound sorrow, shock, anger, frustration, disbelief, etc.

As repeatedly noted previously, common practice includes making impassioned appeals that measures be taken to guard against recurrences of similar incidents, or at least to ensure a mitigation of the consequences should the worst come to the worst.

Too bad, usually no sooner has the dust of death and suffering settled than it is business as usual again.

For instance, there is the case of the fire that once gutted a dormitory at a secondary school in southern Tanzania, killing 22 girl students and leaving scores injured. Apparently, the fire was caused by a candle left burning after the student who lit it fell asleep while flipping through some literature.

As expected, there was a nationwide outcry, with people proffering a raft of ideas on how to reduce the incidence of fire outbreaks in schools or mitigate damage.

One recommendation was the use of solar-powered lamps, particularly in schools located in rural areas, which were less likely to cause fires and would cut costs in that they commonly last longer than most common lamps or lanterns.

There was also the proposal relating to having fire extinguishers installed - ready for deployment - in all school buildings, particularly dormitories. And several others...

While it was not very clear whether the relevant authorities had worked on any of these suggestions sufficiently, we have since seen no end to similar disasters.

History helps in the setting of precedents, which is why the subsequent case of 100-plus girl students at a secondary school in Dar es Salaam miraculously cheated death after fire razed their dormitory.

The fourth and last category meanwhile covered education and training, child and youth development, community development, food and nutrition, human settlements, women and gender issues, sports and population.

To some it might have been big news hearing that Tanzania had in place a national policy on ageing since as long ago as September 2003, drawn up by what used to be known as the Labour, Youth Development and Sports ministry.

The policy document showed that the government had seen the need for the country to have a national policy to guide service provision to the elderly.

It said strategies were needed to guarantee effective delivery of those services to the targeted group in line with the International Plan of Action as adopted by the United Nations in 1982 and reviewed in 2002 to accommodate and reflect the needs of the elderly. It was during celebrations to mark International Year of Older People in 1999 that the government committed itself to putting into place the National Ageing Policy.

The commitment was "a clear demonstration of the government's resolve to put ageing issues into the development agenda of the nation" that took note of the fact that senior citizens in Tanzania faced a number of problems.

These included poverty, inadequate health services and pension and lack of participation in important decisions affecting national development.

The elderly members of society were appropriately referred to as "a new power for national development", with the government promising to do the most it could to ensure that they were recognised and provided with equal opportunities to participate in development activities.

We ought to have this background information in mind as we assess the plight of elderly persons in our midst.

Whatever we have for plans or strategies for truly honouring these great Tanzanians must be workable - and must work as planned.

As happened, among the students were those sitting for their final National Form Six Examinations, and anyone can imagine the direct bearing the resultant trauma will have had on their performance in the exams.

It was confirmed that the dormitory in question had a single door with grilled windows, a clear danger in the event of an emergency.

The lessons the cases cited have call for little elaboration, and we surely need to ensure that fool-proof safety standards are not only put in place but are also routinely monitored and reviewed?

The health sector has long shown the way in that permission to build a hospital, dispensary or health centre will be given only if one strictly observes set standards meant to make the facilities people-friendly even if there is no looming danger.

This relates to ventilation, movement of doctors, nurses, patients and visitors, and the possibility of swift evacuation of the sick, etc., whenever necessary.

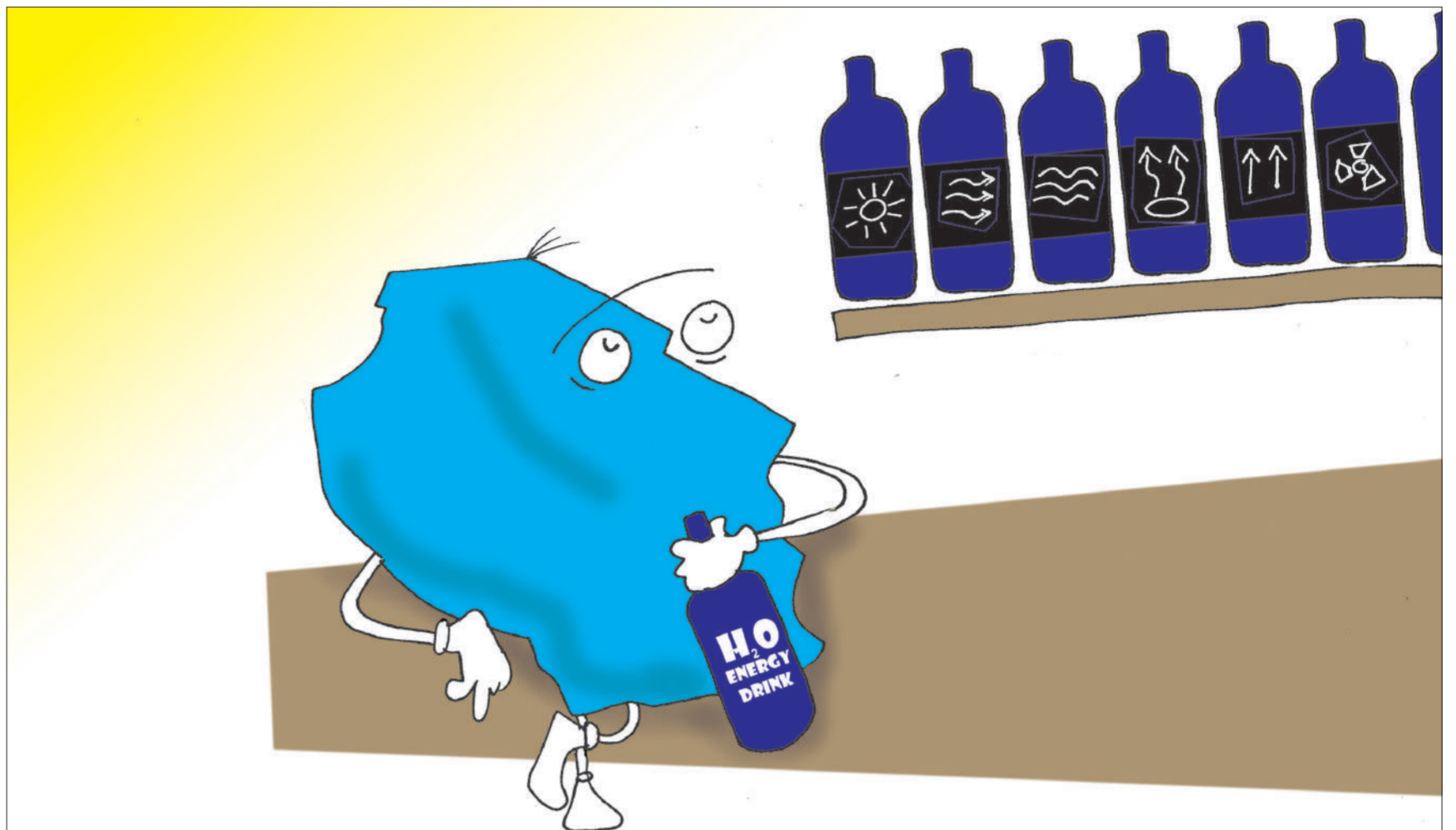
We strongly recommend that this similarly applies to all other sectors and institutions - even normal residences!

It is unfortunate that many buildings are conspicuously standing as such impenetrable 'fortresses' that only miracles have been ensuring that disasters do not degenerate into catastrophes.

Despite endless warnings of sanctions, we still nonchalantly treat human lives as a cheap commodity by allowing filling stations to mushroom in residential areas, posing a danger to people and their property.

We must gun for permanent solutions within our reach rather than keep deceiving ourselves with cosmetic moves leading nowhere.

Without standards, we will be perpetual victims of disasters - some totally unnecessary. The sooner we decide to act in earnest, the better.



By Andrew Heslop

SEPTEMBER 28 marks the UN-designated International Day for Universal Access to Information (ATI), with focus this year given to the importance of the online space.

This is an occasion to advocate greater protections for, and stronger implementation of, a right that is the lifeblood of quality journalism and an indicator of the health of democratic society. But on whose shoulders do such responsibilities fall?

With the unveiling of Google Search 25 years ago, access to information fundamentally changed for everyone with an internet connection.

While it wasn't the first attempt to organise the World Wide Web's chaotic beginnings, the search engine's arrival nonetheless provided the Internet Age with one of its early place markers: a 'before' and 'after' moment.

Organising the world's information and making it universally accessible and useful has kept Google busy ever since. Over 60 per cent of the world's population - more than 5 billion people - now use the Internet daily.

And while certainly not the only company out there trying to do so, despite what the US Government alleges, Google alone processes over 8.5 billion search results a day.

It is an unprecedented development in such a short timescale. Pre-Search humanity may have been far from living in the Dark Ages, but the last quarter-century has seen a digitally enlightened era transform global society.

Homo Interneticus now has the entirety of the world's knowledge at its fingertips yet is free to spend much of its time insulting and enraging one another, photographing meals, and sharing funny cat videos.

The Internet Age, in all its guises, is squarely where we find ourselves. And while the immediacy and ease of available information is beyond any previous generation's wildest imaginings, access to it is a long way from universal.

Figures for this year released by the World Data Lab under its Internet Poverty Index found that 15 per cent of the global population - over a billion people - cannot afford a minimum mobile Internet package.

Even in countries with relatively high levels of internet penetration, the quality and speed of connectivity contributes to a digital divide that in many ways mirrors socioeconomic disparities existent in the physical world for generations.

The divide affects, for example, how children learn in an increasingly online education environment: a factor that can determine future academic success and career-earning potential.

While there is clearly a huge amount of work still to be done on a very

## Access to information must remain a fundamental right

basic level to improve equity of digital access, simply 'getting online' can no longer be the sole end goal.

By recreating inherent biases, offline prejudices and power imbalances, the online space - despite its infancy - has missed the opportunity to take on a significantly different form and tone than the physical world. Namely, a more equal one.

A universal ATI framework that respects diversity and inclusion would have been the ideal starting point. Instead, a hardwired algorithm-led approach - deeply problematic, we now know - took root from the Internet's early beginnings. Across search engines, newsfeeds, social media threads and into AI, this is the challenge we now desperately need to address.

It means that carefully developed universal principles aimed at defining political and human rights for all (the values underpinning democratic world order), have been largely abandoned faced with the reality of online conduct and behaviour. It poses significant questions about just what kind of digital world we are creating, and for whom.

Like a 19th century land grab, the race for proprietary ownership in the online space has arguably led to the same mistakes that catalysed inequality and injustice in the building of the modern offline world.

Instead of doing better, going beyond our terrestrial achievements, much of the digital world mirrors the worst elements we should have been trying our hardest to escape from.

And while much of it may spawn from good intentions to "do no evil", the facts speak for themselves: the internet is not a nice place to be if you happen to go up against the dominant racial/religious/political/cultural zeitgeist (that is, the defining spirit or mood of a particular period of history as shown by the ideas and beliefs of the time), be a woman, a child, or identify as part of a minority group, etc., etc., etc.

With responsibility to set standards and ensure the proper functioning of the internet, both enablers and gatekeepers of the right to information - and incidentally all other human rights, translated to the online context - have, certainly on behalf of these people, failed miserably.

While such duties were predominantly ceded to the algorithm-enthused corporate interest a long time ago, playing catch-up and agreeing a way to do better has become the urgent challenge at the intersect of government, technology and civil

society. Navigating this requires a level of diplomacy for the digital age that is currently beyond the capacity of most.

For example, without a joined-up approach, efforts to regulate become problematic across many jurisdictions, particularly in those whose track records in the offline world do not suggest a light touch.

The temptation to restrict and control digital space, rather than permit a framework that enables, echoes familiar struggles for freedom of expression as well as access to information and press freedom.

And given the harm done up to this point to those at greatest risk of discrimination, it is difficult to see how retroactively applying a rights-based approach amounts to anything more than closing the stable door long after the horse has bolted.

Is it any wonder? With a dearth of knowledge at the highest political levels as to how the online world even works, never mind what basic rules it should follow and how these should be enforced, educating our policymakers becomes essential.

Even where they have attempted to blaze a trail into the great online unknown, many supposed 'rights pioneers' have been found unreliable and severely wanting in their commitments to responsibly governing access to knowledge and information online.

Recent investigations into the UK government's alleged systematic suppression of free speech online and exposure of its behaviour in tracking journalists who make freedom of information requests point to the politicisation of the online space and the weaponisation of access to information.

It's much similarly so with the French President Macron's recent call to block social media during civic unrest and the Indian court's decision in favour of unchecked state power in suspending opposition social media accounts.

Working in good faith to strengthen ATI rights when there is duplicity or simply a lack of political will to take the matter seriously requires convictions that are beyond solid.

Zambians have been waiting 20+ years for the enactment of an Access to Information bill proposed in 2001. Implementing and financing such laws, when they finally do make it into statute, can be a minefield.

Just review Zimbabwe's efforts. Ask any newsroom, anywhere in the world, how often their requests for information go unanswered.

Quasi-universal reliance on the internet also means that the ability

to control, limit or rescind access to information - a basic human right - is concentrated in the hands of a very small few: those who own the switch, and those with the power to have the switch flicked.

The ability to shut down or censor the internet, enact sophisticated surveillance and spy on users has over recent decades been added to the ever-expanding authoritarian toolbox, often with the complicity, if not the compliance of the very companies determined to keep information flowing and conversations growing.

It has led to a deep undermining of trust which, ironically, has fed the corporate and political machines in its own self-perpetuating way: fear and hate having been found to increase engagement.

Disproportionally targeting journalists and human rights defenders, women and those who identify as belonging to groups at risk of discrimination, these digital predators have the goal of blocking access to information at all costs.

They often produce deadly real-world repercussions. Tragically, this is the consequence of getting ATI wrong - and ceding its governance to belief in a business model and the benign nature of political actors.

Chronic underfunding, a lack of political will, and a groundswell of anti-intellectualism - not to mention a somewhat catastrophic fire - all befell the earliest attempt to archive human knowledge.

The decline and fall (and burning!) of the Great Library of Alexandria is said to have immeasurably set back advancements in the arts, culture, science and technology, but we are seeing the speed of progress in today's Internet Age more than making up for what was lost.

We hope today's data custodians have invested in more robust fire protection, but Classical antiquity's mismanagement of human knowledge warns us that we cannot rely on the whims of power to guarantee access to knowledge and information that is in the public interest.

It also teaches us that information determining how we lead our lives is our fundamental right; access to it is not to be bartered, sold or kept under lock and key, and that it is in all our interests to keep it this way.

\* A dispatch by the World Association of News Publishers (WAN-IFRA). The views expressed in this opinion piece are the author's and do not necessarily reflect those of WAN-IFRA.



# Basic procedures of dealing with civil cases in court (3)

## Discovery stage

**T**ODAY, let's take a look at the third stage of discovery as a continuation from where we ended in the previous article. We went through pleadings as one of the very important issues which need to be carefully done for the case to be successful.

This is among very important stages in dealing with civil case in which both parties in the case should have clear understanding of facts of the case so that nature and type of evidence required can be prepared before resorting to the hearing stage.

Our judicial system is premised on common law jurisdiction in which one of the paramount conditions of such system is that a party to a case should not be taken by surprise. Rather, facts of the case must be known well to each party.

Therefore, availability of discovery do pave way for litigants to conduct their dispute in fairness, transparency and efficiency by ensuring informed decision is delivered by the court after all the parties become well aware of their case presented in the court of law.

Order XI of Civil Procedure Code provides for applicability of the discovery and inspection. Such application can be filed by either parties to the case and after filing of the written statement of defence is where the application for discovery and inspection can be filed by either party to the case.

One thing to understand is that application for dis-



covery and inspection is not admission process of the exhibits in court of law. Rather, it is examination of the documents requested which probably might be used in court of law as evidence in case admitted during the hearing as exhibits. It's a trite law that decision of the court should be made based on the evidence tendered along with the admitted exhibits.

Pre-trial stage  
This is covered under Order

VIII of the Civil Procedure Code particularly in part B, C and D. This stage covers three things: pre-trial conference, mediation and final pre-trial conference.

In the first pre-trial conference, the roadmap for determination of the case in merit is set up in which the number of witnesses to testify by each party is stated and many things. As for the mediation, nowadays the law makes it mandatory for the civil case to undergo mediation

stage and the judiciary has done so much to improve this category and provided some harsh measures to ensure parties become more serious of this stage.

If mediation is used properly, most of the cases can be fully determined in this stage particularly where the presiding mediator is good at mediation.

Through amendment of the law done in 2019, attendance to mediation stage with the right person to make decision is mandatory and in case both parties are not present or one of them is not present, then the mediator has the mandate to issue adverse order against the person who did not attend including either return the file to the presiding judge or magistrate for issuance of orders of strike out the defence if the defendant did not appear or dismiss the case in case the plaintiff did not attend the mediation.

In the High Court of Tanzania at Dar es Salaam, there is a mediation division in which specialized mediators handle mediation processes and in most cases, many cases are successfully resolved at mediation stage.

Once parties fail to mediate either partly or the entire case, then the case is remitted back to the trial judge or magistrate for further action. One should take note that parties are normally very flexible at mediation stage because ordinary rules of cases are not applicable.

Rather, parties are free to say whatever they want which is relevant to ensure mediation is successful. Further, the records at mediation stage are not admissible or will not be used in hearing of the matter if mediation is marked as failed.

Once the mediation is successful, then the settlement terms and conditions are documented and signed by the parties. Thereafter, settlement decree is issued by the court and the same has full force just like a decree issued by ordinary court after hearing both parties to the case.

In case of breach or noncompliance with decree, then either of the parties can institute execution proceedings for enforcement just like in the case of other decrees of the court. Therefore, parties should be very careful when entering consent or agreements or because later on the same is enforced in case of breach.

It is very important to take mediation seriously because various issues may arise therein which can assist the litigants during the hearing because parties are free to discuss their case with the mediator hence facts became very clear.

Final pre-trial stage follows when mediation is unsuccessful and the mediator remits the file to either trial magistrate or judge. The main business conducted at this stage is to draft issues for determination of the case in dispute between the parties.

It is the duty of the court to draft issues but practically, parties may propose issues and in case the court agrees with the same, then the same can be adopted by the court or the trial court

may opt to re-draft the same.

Issues are obtained from the pleadings filed by the parties in which point(s) of contention are framed for determination by the court after receiving evidence from both parties. Sometimes issue of law can also be framed if it attracts evidence such as determination of when exactly the cause of action arose.

At this stage, the court may record issues which are not in dispute for proper determination of the dispute. This is always done after proper evaluation of the facts pleaded by the parties. It also assists the parties to the case during hearing of the case to concentrate on the only issues in dispute.

This stage is not practically used by many litigants but the law permits this to be done before commencement of the hearing and practically, it also makes parties to the case focus on issues in dispute only. Once this stage is done, then, the case is ready for commencement of hearing.

Trail stage

At this stage is where the plaintiff pursues the trail court by production of evidence along with exhibits, if any, that the defendant violated terms of contract or the law and is entitled to certain reliefs.

On the other hand, the defendant is required to concentrate on disapproving the case by adducing evidence and tendering exhibits that nothing wrong was committed by him or her hence asks that the case be dismissed. Since this area is very important, we shall deal with in the next article.

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

You can send questions or comments to our email info@legisattorneys.co.tz or postal address Managing Partner, Legis Attorneys, P. O. Box 3750, DSM. You can visit our website www.legisattorneys.co.tz

By Jomo Kwame Sundaram

**T**HE growing and changing material requirements for new technologies have triggered natural resource scrambles for strategic minerals, generating dangerous rivalries fought out in the global South.

## Scrambles for resources

Jayati Ghosh, Shouvik Chakraborty and Debamanyu Das have analyzed these new scrambles for mineral resources in developing countries triggered by major new innovations since the electronics boom.

Natural resources here refer to naturally occurring solid, liquid or gaseous materials in or on the Earth's crust. When extracted and exported commercially, they are considered primary commodities.

All technologies - both peaceful and military - have specific material requirements. For example, energy transitions need particular minerals for renewable energy generation, transmission and storage.

New technologies, with specific material requirements, are changing the nature of rivalries - among states, corporations and individuals - seeking to control these mineral resources.

Feasible mass use of renewable energy requires extracting needed natural resources, which incurs costs and has adverse consequences. Commercial feasibility implies profitable extraction of desired minerals.

Thus, addressing global warming by generating more energy from renewable sources - while desirable and necessary - in turn generates new problems and challenges which need to be addressed.

## Rare earths

Despite their name, rare earth elements (REE) may not actually be scarce. But most REE are difficult and costly to extract as they are usually found together with other minerals. Unsurprisingly, REE demand and supplies have changed greatly in recent years.

For the time being, demand for at least 17 'rare earth' minerals is expected to grow. The inter-governmental International Energy Agency (IEA) projects supplies of some critical minerals will increase at least 30-fold over the next two decades.

# Dangerous scramble for renewable energy resources



**For the time being, demand for at least 17 'rare earth' minerals is expected to grow. The inter-governmental International Energy Agency (IEA) projects supplies of some critical minerals will increase at least 30-fold over the next two decades.**

increase at least 30-fold over the next two decades.

Extracting lithium and other such minerals also has very problematic environmental implications. Mined all over the world, REE are usually processed and separated by several stages of often complex and costly extraction and chemical processing, with many harmful to the environment.

China currently leads the world in rare earth production, with over a third of the world's known REE reserves. While Chinese companies dominate some supplies, China's rare earth imports currently exceed its exports.

Nevertheless, China dominates 'downstream' processing of REEs. Chinese companies control over 85 per cent of the costly

REE processing processes. Unsurprisingly, China also accounts for over 70% of the world's photovoltaic solar panel production and over 90% of its silicon wafer manufacturing.

## Lithium

Lithium is one of the minerals over which control has been hotly contested. Lithium is particularly needed for processes to replace mechanical energy generation using fossil fuels. It is also needed for many industrial, office and household appliances, including rechargeable batteries, electric vehicles and electronic goods.

Batteries - including rechargeable lithium-ion electrical grid storage devices - account for three-quarters of current supply. The IEA's Sustainable Develop-

ment Scenario expects demand to rise 42-fold in less than two decades!

In 2021, there were almost 89 million tons of known lithium resources, mainly in developing countries. For decades, lithium mining has been very controversial, largely due to increasingly better known adverse environmental impacts.

As pure lithium is very chemically reactive, it is often mined as ore, as in West Australia. It is also obtained from salt flats and brine pools in the southern cone of South America, particularly in Bolivia, Chile and Argentina.

For decades, China has led the world in lithium mining. Australia and the US were second and third by the start of the pandemic, with 12% and 9% respectively. While Australia is the

world's largest exporter, lithium is mainly and increasingly mined in developing countries by a relatively few companies.

## Undermining communities

REE mining has adversely impacted various ecosystems and communities. Mineral deposits may have to be raised from subterranean sources, or 'concentrated' by evaporation.

Such techniques typically deplete, contaminate and otherwise reduce access to fresh water. Local water systems - used by people, animals, including livestock, and plants, including crops - are often badly compromised as a consequence.

Extractive mining and related operations have worsened such environments. But mining companies can often get their way

with impunity, often intimidating communities with the help of local politicians, government officials and police.

Such ecological damage has devastated forest and vegetation cover, caused biodiversity loss, and compromised hydrological systems. Thus, extractive operations often involve abuses, with adverse effects for local communities.

Economic gains to local communities are typically modest compared to mining's adverse consequences. Benefits largely accrue to local 'enablers' while costs vary within communities with circumstances.

The authors also urge majority government ownership of mineral extracting and processing companies. This will reduce foreign reliance and meddling, including by big powers such as the United States and China.

Government transparency and accountability, including independent audits, can help ensure less adverse consequences and fairer compensation for all involved.

This also prevents elite capture, abuse and deployment of mineral rents in their own interest. Avoiding such abuses is necessary to ensure resource rents actually advance sustainable development, as Bolivia is striving to do.

## Sustainability undermined?

New frontiers for mineral extraction are emerging, especially as innovation creates new extraction and processing possibilities. This implies a vicious circle as global warming becomes both cause and effect of such mineral extraction.

Mining practices threaten ecological fragility and vulnerability. Similarly, polar and seabed exploration and mining may well trigger disastrous environmental consequences, including mass extinctions of vulnerable polar and marine life.

IPS UN Bureau



# Barriers to movement the never-ending normal for Palestinians

By Abigail Van Neely

**S**UNDUS Azza scans the news before she heads home, checking for signs that her 30-minute commute could turn into a four-hour-long slog. Any incident could make travel difficult.

Sometimes Azza waits for her father to call and tell her if the checkpoints around their home are open. After living in Hebron, a city in the West Bank, for the last 20 years, she is used to planning her day around unpredictability.

Obstacles to movement in the West Bank have increased in the last two years, preventing Palestinians from accessing hospitals, urban centers, and agricultural areas. Restrictions and delays are the new normal.

In a recent review, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reports an 8 percent increase in the overall recorded number of physical barriers, from 593 in 2020 to 645 in 2023. They range in scale from elaborate checkpoints guarded by military towers to a pile of rocks in the middle of the road.

The number of barriers has fluctuated over the past years. However, OCHA finds a notable 35 percent increase, especially in the number of constantly staffed checkpoints in strategic areas. Zone C, the area still under Israeli administrative and police control, is home to most roads and most obstacles to movement. It covers 60% of the West Bank.

Under international law, Israel must facilitate the free movement of Palestinians in the occupied territories. Cities' entry points and main roads are often shut down without warning for arbitrary "security reasons."

"The objective of the occupying forces is to make sure that they can isolate entire areas if security requires to do so," Andrea De Domenico, the deputy head of OCHA's office for the Occupied Palestinian Territory in Jerusalem, explains. "It's always a little bit of an unknown when you get out, you don't know when you will be able to come back."

As a result, most activities require extensive coordination - whether it's getting a firetruck past checkpoints in time, filtering passengers off and on a bus during an ID check or planning a trip to visit relatives.

## Guarded life in Hebron

The H2 area of Hebron is one of the most restricted in the West Bank. Facial recognition cameras, metal detectors, and detention and interrogation facilities fortify 77 checkpoints that separate the Israeli-controlled parts of the city.

To get to her house in the H2, Azza knows she must pass through at least two checkpoints. But planning is difficult. There aren't specific times when the checkpoints will be open. If they are closed, there aren't waiting areas. Azza says when that happens, she hopes there's a nice guard - and that he speaks Arabic or English - and explains that she's just trying to get home.

The checkpoint near Azza's university was closed for three months following a stabbing incident in 2016. She remembers the streets being crowded with



The 72-year-old Kawthar Ajlouni stands alone in her yard in H2, Hebron, the occupied Palestinian territory. The backdrop reveals a fortified Israeli checkpoint. Amid 645 documented movement obstacles in the West Bank, 80 are here in H2 as of 2023. Isolated due to strict Israeli policies, she is one of 7,000 Palestinians enduring heavy restrictions, while many others have left. Credit: OCHA/2023

soldiers as she was walking one chilly winter. Azza put her hands in her jacket pockets to warm them, 100 meters away, a guard she recognized yelled at her to remove her hands. Now, Azza says she is cautious about even buying a kitchen knife she may get in trouble for carrying home.

There are other challenges to navigating the historic Palestinian city littered with checkpoints. De Domenico tells stories of an elderly woman who stopped going out to avoid being harassed by soldiers. "If [Israeli] settlers are in the streets, they can attack me anytime they want," Azza says.

De Domenico says Palestinians often don't report incidents to the Israeli police for fear of having their permits taken away in retaliation. Besides, just getting to a police station in an Israeli settlement is a challenge. Because their cars are not permitted to drive through, Palestinians must walk behind Israeli cars sent to escort them.

When soldiers ask for her ID, Azza says they want her ID number, not her name: "They consider us as a number."

## Permits as power

Permits control life across the occupied Palestinian territories.

Musaab, a university student in Nablus, submitted six permit applications for travel to receive cancer treatment. All were denied. He was finally forced

to travel to Jordan twice, without his father, for care.

"This is so inhumane. How can this happen in any place in the world? Why are they blocking me from accompanying my son? I just want to hold his hand when he goes for surgery," Musaab's father told WHO.

Stories like Musaab's are common as patients across the West Bank and Gaza are kept from seeking healthcare by permit restrictions. According to OCHA, in 2022, 15 percent of patients' applications to visit Israeli health facilities in East Jerusalem were not approved in time for their appointments. 93 percent of ambulances were delayed because patients were required to transfer to Israeli-licensed vehicles.

The World Health Organization (WHO) reports that 160,000 physical restrictions in Zone C have led many communities to depend on mobile clinics funded by humanitarian aid. This year, OCHA's humanitarian response plan was only 33% funded.

"[OCHA] warns that humanitarian needs are deepening because of restrictions of movements of Palestinians inside the West Bank. This undermines their access to livelihoods and essential services such as healthcare and education," Florencia Soto Nino, associate spokesperson of the Secretary-General, told reporters.

## Putting up walls

Walls aggravate these humanitarian

issues.

A now 65 percent constructed barrier runs along the border of the West Bank and inside the territory, often carving out Israeli settlements, dividing communities, and sometimes even literally running through houses.

To enter East Jerusalem, women under 50 and men under 55 with West Bank IDs are required to show permits from Israeli authorities. Even then, they can only use three of the 13 checkpoints.

Palestinian farmers have also been separated from their land- and livelihoods.

According to OCHA, many private farms have been trapped inside areas Israeli military forces established as "firing zones." As a result, they are sometimes only accessible twice a year. The UN Food and Agricultural Organization reports that the region's agricultural yield has been reduced by almost 70% because Palestinians have had to abandon their land.

The size of a farmer's plot determines when and for how long it can be tended. Farmers must coordinate times when soldiers will open the gates that allow them onto their land. Harvest days are especially tricky. In some cases, De Domenico says, an agricultural permit is only given to the owner of the land and none of their laborers.

Meanwhile, De Domenico describes Gaza, a territory separated from Israel by a 12-meter-high wall, as a "gigantic

prison" for 2.3 million Palestinians. Here, less physical obstacles are required to limit movement.

"It is the only place on the planet where, when a war starts... people cannot flee," De Domenico said.

## Living with Tension

Riyad Mansour, permanent observer of Palestine to the United Nations, expressed disappointment at the "paralysis of the international community" when it came to protecting Palestinian people from discrimination during a meeting of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of Palestinian People at the end of August.

At the same time, OCHA is working to facilitate "humanitarian corridors to ensure that basic services are delivered," De Domenico says. For instance, the office has helped teachers reach communities where students would have had to walk for miles.

De Domenico adds that reports can facilitate important discussions. Israeli authorities, who have contested materials OCHA produced in the past, have been invited to ride along while UN agents map new barriers.

Still, "there is always the potential of tension flying in the air," even for UN agents, De Domenico says. "You constantly live with this tension."

## IPS UN Bureau Report

# CAPITAL RADIO

# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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



Radio One



# Biteko to grace 6th Geita mining and technology expo

By Guardian Correspondent, Geita

DEPUTY Prime Minister and who doubles as Energy minister, Dr Doto Biteko is this weekend expected to open this year's 6th Geita mining and technology exhibition that has been made possible by different stakeholders. Among the key stakeholders include Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML), which has pumped in 150m/- to sponsor the annual event. Other stakeholders include Geita Regional Commissioner's office and Tanzania Trade Development Authority (TANTRADE), as well as the External Processing Zones Authority (EPZA) in Geita. Gilbert Mworira, GGML's senior manager (Sustainability), shared insights into their involvement in the expo scheduled from 20th to 30th September 2023. He expressed the mine's commitment to innovation and community advancement by sponsoring the esteemed 6th Mining Technology Exhibition. Beyond spotlighting the latest technological marvels in mining, the event is a hub for Tanzanian businesses across



GGML managing director Terry Strong (R) is briefed by a member of the GGML emergence response team at the GGML stand during last year's exhibition. On the left is AngloGold Ashanti's vice president for Sustainability in Tanzania and Ghana, Simon Shayo.

sectors. Notably, this facility was brought to life through GGML's

comprehensive Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives. "Our support transcends mon-

etary assistance, extending to on-ground preparations like tents, an emergency generator,

and fuel provisions throughout the event," remarked Mworira. "Six years into this collaboration,

GGML remains enthused to share mining equipment expertise, fostering stronger connections with local enterprises and miners."

Mworira also highlighted GGML's unwavering commitment to the Geita community. "Beyond the exhibition, we've invested 800m/- in constructing the EPZA administration building. We're gratified to see our EPZA initiative in Geita flourish and optimally serve its purpose," he stated. In accordance with its long-standing objective of sustainable growth, GGML ardently backs the government's Vision 2025. This blueprint aspires for mining to make up a minimum of 10 percent of Tanzania's GDP. On September 30, this year, President Samia Suluhu Hassan is also expected to wrap up the annual expo. Since its inception in 2000, GGML has unwaveringly championed the well-being and development of its host community. From health and education to infrastructure and entrepreneurial projects, the company's enduring endeavours continue to enrich the Geita community.

## Kenya-China agricultural cooperation aiding hunger war and rural transformation

NAIROBI

WITH a beaming face, Hannah Wanjiku chaperoned visitors inside her farm, located on the edge of a forested hillside in Kenya's Rift Valley County of Nakuru, to take a look at the blooming food crops, including maize, legumes and vegetables.

Next to Wanjiku's family home, a greenhouse converted into a makeshift demonstration farm has drawn the curiosity of local smallholder farmers keen to learn about the cultivation of high-yielding tomato varieties.

The retired teacher is a beneficiary of a research partnership between Kenya's Egerton University and China's Nanjing Agricultural University that has fostered the development of pest-, drought-, and disease-tolerant crops to combat hunger, malnutrition, and rural poverty.

"We look forward to accessing new farming technologies from China to help boost crop yield and address challenges facing local farmers like erratic rains, high cost of manure and seeds," Wanjiku said at her farm. Forged in the 1990s, the



GGML managing director Terry Strong (R) is briefed by a member of the GGML emergence response team at the GGML stand during last year's exhibition. On the left is AngloGold Ashanti's vice president for Sustainability in Tanzania and Ghana, Simon Shayo.

cooperation between the two universities has revolved around research on hybrid crops as well as training of farmers and extension workers on improved agronomic practices, said Richard Mulwa, deputy vice-chancellor of Egerton University.

Mulwa singled out the China-Kenya Belt and Road Joint

Laboratory on Crop Molecular Biology, domiciled at Egerton University, for acting as a hub for the research and development of high-yielding crops through leveraging Chinese technologies and expertise.

Mulwa said the modern laboratory, whose plaque was unveiled Monday, is expected to facilitate groundbreaking re-

search, breeding, and release of crops that can withstand climatic stresses.

According to Mulwa, the laboratory will also serve as a "nerve center" for knowledge and technology transfer, besides training experts from the eastern African region on breeding climate-resilient food crops.

"The state-of-the-art molecular laboratory will be utilized to change the lives of our farmers," Mulwa said, adding that the laboratory will help local scientists select and breed crop varieties that can withstand hostile weather, pests, and diseases.

Kenya-China agricultural cooperation, according to

Mulwa, has ensured that subsistence farmers have access to technology and improved seeds in a bid to boost household food security and incomes.

He added that courtesy of a decades-old partnership with Nanjing Agricultural University, scientists at Egerton University have managed to develop and release high-yielding beans, groundnuts, cassava, and bacterial wilt-resistant tomatoes.

A delegation from Nanjing Agricultural University witnessed the plaque unveiling at the China-Kenya Belt and Road Joint Laboratory on Crop Molecular Biology.

To foster agricultural research and innovation in Kenya and neighboring countries, the laboratory's state-of-the-art equipment was installed through a grant from the Chinese government.

Daisy Osoro, a post-graduate student majoring in dryland farming, projected a confident image as she placed some plant tissues inside glass vases on the laboratory's wooden shelves.

While crediting her Chinese supervisor for aiding her research on drought-resistant cassava, Osoro reaffirmed her commitment to revolutionizing dryland agriculture in the country.

Osoro said the molecular laboratory has motivated her to venture deeper into cassava research and offer training to farmers in semi-arid regions in order to facilitate its introduction as an alternative crop that guarantees food security.

Charles Kariuki Githiri, an agricultural extension officer in Nakuru County, said extension officers are leveraging China-funded research and training to transform smallholder farming in Kenya amid low productivity linked to loss of soil fertility, climatic shocks, costly inputs, pests, diseases, and market volatility.

"I would say that partnering with the Chinese government is the right way to go to help tackle challenges facing our farmers," Githiri said. "If we embrace the technology that is being brought on board, it will ensure that farmers are able to produce sustainably, while climate change issues will also be addressed."

## PM wants PURA to expedite the licensing round process



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa issues instructions as he visited the PURA pavilion at the Tanzania Energy Congress in Dar es Salaam, accompanied by Deputy PM and Energy minister Dr Doto Biteko (to his right).

By Getrude Mbago

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has urged the Petroleum Upstream Regulatory Authority (PURA) to accelerate processes to commence the 5th licensing round for auctioning petroleum exploration blocks in the country.

Majaliwa made the remarks in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday when he visited PURA's booth at the two-day Tanzania Energy Congress held at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre.

"I urge you to speed up the process of auctioning our blocks so that we can attract investors in the exploration and

production of oil and gas in the country for the benefit of our nation," he added.

The Premier said that the licensing round will attract new investments in petroleum upstream operations in the country thus enhancing chances for more petroleum discoveries to boost oil and gas extraction.

Giving a brief report to the Prime Minister, PURA's Director General, Eng. Charles Sangweni, said that the authority is continuing with the initial preparations for the fifth licensing round of auctioning both onshore and offshore exploration blocks in order to attract more investors.

He further stated that, along

with these preparations, PURA is currently demarcating the blocks to be auctioned and preparing data packages for each block.

"So far 26 blocks have been earmarked to feature in the proposal for the licensing round, 15 of which are onshore and 11 offshore," Eng. Sangweni elaborated.

The regulator added that the auctioning of some open blocks for exploration of hydrocarbons will be conducted at the end of this year or March 2024.

It is reported that the process of auctioning the blocks is estimated to cost a total of 3.5bn/-. Additionally, for the fiscal year 2023/24, the government,

through PURA, has allocated 500m/- for the initial preparatory work for the auction.

Furthermore, the director said that the proposed number (26) might change after the geological assessment of the proposed exploration blocks completed which is still ongoing.

The country was also reviewing the 2013 Model Production Sharing Agreement to make the commercial and fiscal terms to be competitive while ensuring the country gets its fare share.

In terms of discovery, a total of 57.54 Trillion Cubic Feet (TCF) of gas had been discovered both onshore and offshore in the country.



# Root crops are now the future of food security in Africa

By Hugo Campos

**D**ESPITE the dominance of the “Big Three” cereal crops and a steady rise in meat consumption, an overlooked food sector is projected to become ever more central to Africa’s food security and rural economic growth between now and 2050.

Over the next three decades, the remarkable yet humble yam, sweetpotato, cassava and other roots are forecast to create \$140 billion in additional market value. This compares to \$41 billion for rice, millet and maize, and \$70 billion for meat. Meanwhile, banana and plantain are set to add another \$50 billion to this balance sheet.

These hardy, locally suited and cost-effective crops are already staple ingredients across the entire continent, accounting for more than 40 per cent of total food production. Their importance is only growing as farmers, particularly female ones, face more challenging growing conditions and weather extremes.

Yet, despite their affordability and resilience, the starring role of roots, tubers and bananas in Africa’s climate-smart food systems of the future is not guaranteed and relies on the kind of united but agile approach on display at the first Africa Climate Summit recently held in Nairobi, Kenya.

When it comes to adapting to the already inevitable impacts of climate change, root crops can naturally withstand heat and drought better than cereals, legumes and vegetables. Cassava, in particular, is an unusual example of a food crop that may even benefit from rising temperatures, with research suggesting increases in climate suitability of up to 17.5 per cent.

However, for Africa to get the full benefit of these environmental superfoods, the continent needs coordinated efforts to optimise, scale up and mainstream these robust and valuable crops.

More and novel, de-risking investment models into genetic improvement research programmes and inclusive governance systems would be one place to start. Although root crops are traditionally difficult to breed, recent scientific breakthroughs have made it possible to produce varieties that are even more drought tolerant, heat resistant and tolerant of increased salinity.

Genomics-assisted breeding has further accelerated this progress, which is fundamen-



Over the next three decades, the remarkable yet humble yam, sweetpotato, cassava and other roots are forecast to create \$140 billion in additional market value. This compares to \$41 billion for rice, millet and maize, and \$70 billion for meat. Credit: CIP 2023

tal for delivering next generation varieties that are both climate-smart and more nutritious. Hardier and more nutritional root crops would benefit populations in both rural areas where they are grown, and urban areas, where it can be more challenging to supply fresh, healthy and perishable produce.

Developing Africa’s capacity to use agricultural science and research to improve the qualities of root crops according to re-

gional and local differences also requires greater scientific cooperation. A regional roots, tubers and bananas partnership is leading the way, encompassing national research programs, CGIAR crop research centers and international science partners.

Climate variability across Africa means the impact on roots and related crops will differ country by country. For instance, some evidence suggests future climates may impact potato production in Malawi,

Tanzania, and Uganda, but would favour potato systems in Burundi and Rwanda.

The continent would therefore benefit from more integrated and cross-border breeding programmes that pool resources and brain power for efficiency, while simultaneously creating the capacity needed to respond to the specific needs of different contexts.

Finally, and equally relevant, the latest and most suitable varieties must get to the

farmers who need them through efficient and accessible seed delivery systems.

In Africa, improved varieties of most crops have an adoption ceiling of about 40 per cent, which means the majority of farmers are using seeds and planting material that have not been optimised for today’s conditions. The average age of a variety in farmers’ fields is often 10 years or more, leaving farmers and food supply chains missing out on a decade of ever-increasing agricultural advancements.

Finding and developing the most effective ways to reach farmers, whether through informal channels, cooperatives, government initiatives or non-profits, is vital to accelerate the adoption of new, climate-smart varieties.

The recent Africa Climate Summit demonstrated the power of a unified voice to address the common challenges facing the entire continent. Yet it also recognised the country-level nuances inherent in dealing with an emergency like the climate crisis.

When it comes to climate-proofing food security, local staple crops such as roots and tubers offer the greatest potential, and with more investment and collaboration, they can become multi-purpose solutions that meet Africa’s needs. The Green Revolution that transformed global cereal production is yet to happen for roots, tubers, and bananas. Harnessing advancements in science, environmental lessons, and regional political leadership, the moment is at hand for these crops to put Africa on a track for a food-secure future.

Hugo Campos, roots, tubers and bananas breeding lead at CGIAR, the world’s largest publicly funded agriculture research organization

IPS UN Bureau



These locally suited and cost-effective crops are already staple ingredients across the entire continent, accounting for more than 40 per cent of total food production. Credit IPS

# RADIO One

# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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Radio One



## ZANZIBAR'S WIND FARM POWER PROJECT TO START IN 18 MONTHS

By Guardian Correspondent, Zanzibar

**P**OWER production from the wind farm project in Zanzibar is expected to kick-off in the next 18 months and significantly contribute to meeting the increasing demand for electricity in the Indian Ocean Archipelago.

This follows the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Aseel Oilfield Services Limited, Sany Renewable Energy and the Zanzibar government in July 2023.

Upon completion the project will have the capacity to produce between 20MW and 200MW.

The two companies conducted a site visit to potential locations for a revolutionary wind farm in Zanzibar.

During the site visit, the team from Aseel Oilfield Services Limited and Sany Renewable Energy carefully assessed potential locations for the wind farm in the Bambi and Malindi areas.

The primary objective was to identify sites with maximum wind power generation potential, ensuring the success and efficiency of the future wind farm.

Hebren James, Country Manager for Sany Renewable Energy, highlighted that the partnership is a pivotal step towards supporting and enhancing Tanzania's economic growth.

As one of the leading wind turbine manufacturers globally, Sany Renewable Energy boasts an annual capacity



The Principal Secretary in Zanzibar's Ministry of Water, Energy, and Minerals, Joseph Kilangi (6th R) receives a wind turbine replica from Hebren James (5th-L), Country Manager of Sany Renewable Energy after visiting potential areas for wind energy project. Looking on are members of the management of Aseel Oilfield Services and a senior representatives of the ministry. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

in excess of 4 GW.

"With the conclusion of the project site, the companies anticipate com-

mencing construction on the selected site. It is expected that the project will be completed within 18 months and

significantly contribute to meeting the majority of Zanzibar's power needs," said James.

"These deliberations focused on exploring innovative solutions and strategies to facilitate the seamless implementation of the wind farm project," James said.

Shaib Hassan Kaduara, Zanzibar's Minister for Water, Energy, and Minerals expressed appreciation for the unwavering commitment demonstrated by the two companies in their pursuit of renewable energy ventures in Zanzibar.

Kaduara emphasized the significance of diversifying the energy mix and reducing reliance on fossil fuels, particularly in a region blessed with abundant wind resources.

Shaaban Ali Othman, the Deputy Minister for Water, Energy, and Minerals extended gratitude for the collaborative efforts put forth by both the private sector and government entities in driving sustainable development and fast-tracking the transformation of Zanzibar's energy landscape.

Ministry's Permanent Secretary, Joseph Kilangi said the partnership between the two companies and Zanzibar government holds immense promise for fostering sustainable energy growth on the island.

"Through their combined expertise and resources, this collaboration aims to establish a wind farm that not only meets the energy demands of the local population but also contributes to a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable future," he said.

The partnership with the two energy firms signifies a significant leap forward in the goal of diversifying the energy mix and achieving a greener future.

The project is expected to commence upon the signing of a Power Purchase Agreement (PPA) between Aseel Oilfield Services and the Ministry of Water, Energy, and Minerals.

For over a decade, Sany Renewable Energy has been steadfast in its commitment to support Tanzania's energy growth and transition towards green energy.

As Aseel Group of Companies, under the leadership of Iman Al-Jabry, Group Chairman, and Saeed Al-Jabry, Group Managing Director, continue to work closely with key stakeholders, the journey towards an environmentally conscious Zanzibar gains momentum.

Their unwavering dedication to driving progress in the renewable energy sector, exemplified through Aseel Oilfield Services Limited, sets an inspiring example and encourages other businesses and organizations to embark on similar ventures for the betterment of society.

## DART to float tender for Mbagala route operator

By Correspondent James Kandoya

DAR ES SALAAM Rapid Transport (DART) is set to float an international tender seeking a services provider for the Phase II project from Kariakoo suburb in the city, to Mbagala in the south east of the city.

The (20.3 km) phase II with Kilwa road as its main artery, is under Chinese Construction Company - Sino hydro Corporation Limited.

The decision to float a tender comes after the contractor Sino hydro Corporation Limited declared that the handing over of the project will be done next month.

Impeccable source confirmed to the Guardian Newspaper that the tender will be announced anytime from now to get the provider who will be capable of operating the project.

"We have not yet floated a tender to get the services provider for the phase II of the project but it is our hope anytime from now the inter-

national tender will be floated," the official confirmed.

According to him, phase II of the project needs many buses and therefore, the provider must be capable of financial resources.

Recently, the Project Manager, Sino hydro Corporation Limited Yuan Rui said that the project was implemented with an objective of providing transport facilities that are reliable and cost effective with the view to improve urban mobility, connectivity and accessibility to commuter and business and thereby supporting economic and social development of the city and country as whole.

He said once the operation starts, an estimated 1.2 million representing about 25 percent of the Dar es Salaam city's population as it would bring positive impacts to the public and surrounding community.

Furthermore, the project will economically boost both formal and informal sectors as it will pro-



vide much more accessibility to free movement of goods from one point to another.

The disadvantaged group such as women, school children, the handicapped and the ordinary are poised to benefit from the newly construct-

ed BRT system as at the moment, they cannot manage comfortably using the existing public transport especially during the peak hours.

Other benefits are improvement in the business environment for traders arising due to increased ac-

cessibility as it will promote new market facilities and improved sanitation and enhance the traffic circulation and eliminate bottlenecks to traffic flows to various economic activity centres such as industrial zones.

## ADB warns real estate crisis could slow down China's economy in '24

MANILA

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) on Wednesday warned that the ongoing property crisis in China could weigh down its economic growth in 2024, although the impact could be mitigated through the implementation of appropriate policies.

"The analysis shows that further property market weakness may slow the domestic economy, but policy action could soften or even erase the impact on growth," ADB said in a report.

The Manila-based lender also clarified that in case China's property crisis continues, its effect on other developing Asian economies and other parts of the world would

be "limited," except for a few China's closest trading partners, such as Mongolia.

ADB explained that the property crisis would not affect China's projected Gross Domestic Product (GDP) rate of 4.9 percent for this year, but could have an impact in the following year when the GDP is anticipated to grow by 4.5 percent.

ADB attributed the crisis in China to policies initiated in 2020 aimed at reducing the sector's significance in the economy and subdued demand caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"The property market in China is undergoing an adjustment as investment, sales, and prices are contracting," it said.

To address the real estate crisis, the ADB has proposed a range of measures, including reducing loan interest rates, implementing regulations to enhance mortgage availability, and introducing fiscal stimulus to bolster domestic demand and the property sector.

"Policymakers should aim to engineer a soft landing, providing a floor to the market adjustment to avoid a more significant contraction in the short term, while continuing to pursue the longer term goal of a more structurally balanced property sector," it underlined.

The report highlighted that the real estate industry accounts for approximately 21-24 percent of China's GDP.



Water deputy minister, Maryprisca Mahundi (R) presents a certificate to the Head of Retail Banking at KCB Bank, Abdul Juma, during the 12th Mara Day which brought together various stakeholders to showcase activities targeted to conserve environment. Second right is the Mara regional commissioner Said Mtanda and left is Lake Victoria Basin executive secretary Dr. Masinde Bwire. Together, 6,000 trees were planted to conserve river Mara. Photo by Guardian Correspondent

## Rural-urban migration spurs Nigeria's housing market

LAGOS

Rural-urban migration is a ceaseless phenomenon in Nigeria, as well as in other neighbouring countries. It is the act in which people migrate/relocate from underdeveloped areas, villages, towns, and the countryside, to the city, on the lookout for greener pastures.

In recent years, urban life has been a cynosure for rural dwellers due to the availability of white-collar jobs, quality of living, education, job opportunities, as well as the fast-paced, modern way of life that is distinctively unique from the reality of people living in rural areas. The factors influencing rural-urban migration can be classified into social factors, (traditional constraints), physical factors, (climate, floods, and droughts), demographic factors, cultural factors, communication factors, urban orientation, and modernization.

The growing population in urban areas is advantageous in boosting economic growth, as well as providing an inexhaustible target market for industries and brands to flourish in their respective businesses.

On the flip side, over-population is a menace that presents dominant issues like high levels of unemployment, lack of infrastructure leading to poor living, increase in crime rate, increase in pollution and waste, and the most notorious of them all is the inextricable housing deficit that major cities in Nigeria experience, e.g. Lagos.

The housing deficit in Nigeria has been a norm since the 1970s, due to the unending stream of human traffic that troops into urban areas annually. What the combination of a growing population and urbanization means for the real estate sector is an increased demand for housing especially in mega-cities in Nigeria.



## OPINION

# BRICS + 6 THE ALTERNATE POWERHOUSE?

By Zainul Chandoo

From the moment Jim O'Neill, an economist at Goldman Sachs, published a paper entitled "Building Better Global Economic BRICS" in 2001 – The advent of BRICS acronym was born standing for Brazil, Russia, India, China with South Africa joining in 2010. O'Neill argued that Brazil, Russia, India, and China were the four major emerging economies that were poised to become major players in the global economy.

The 22-year history has built an important base to what the future holds for the bloc – an alternate to G7 dominated financial and trading arrangement. The new additions of 6 members in August 2023 under host South Africa signifies the number 6 on the heading. The new additions from 2024 are Saudi Arabia, Iran, UAE, Argentina, Egypt and Ethiopia. In an era of ongoing seismic shifts in Geopolitical arena, safeguarding the current and future economic, security and national interest have never been critical for most of the developing and emerging nations especially those in the Global South.

For some big BRICS + 6 powerhouses their reach ancient culture defines who they are – from the ancient culture of dragons, the Persia who

shoved off many empires and colonialist, the land of Pharaohs, the Mughals and so on – it's about sovereignty and independence and whereas for few it includes standing in the cusp of existential threat.

The importance of economic diversification and self-reliance post deglobalization efforts mid last decade, C-19 and the ongoing Russian/ Ukraine conflict in the west has only served to usher the multi polar world from the three decades of unilateral power domination.

BRICS nation's economic performance has been noticeable so too their share of overall global GDP.

### A recognizable force

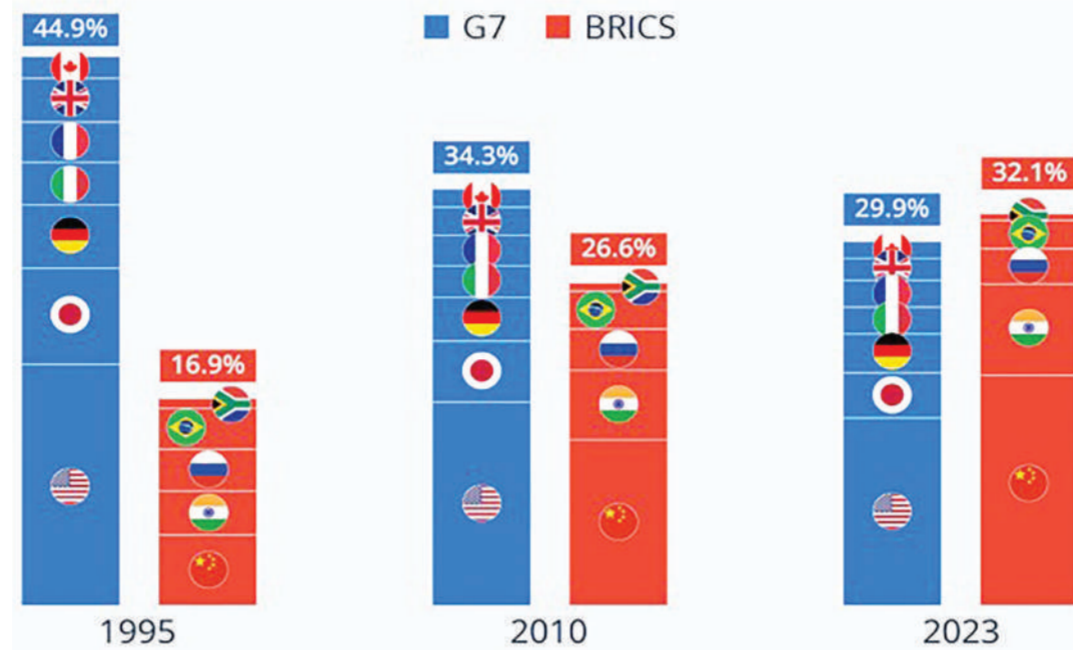
The BRICS + 6 is well supported by its population and resource base. In a natural resource hunger world, a block of 11 countries occupying north of 1/3 of critical natural global resource is indeed a power to reckon with. One can only imagine the opportunities to trade within each other.

Admittedly there are idiosyncrasies impacting each member and its growth trajectory thus far. Arguably some countries should have done better in the past, whilst the regional tensions and sanctions (over 3 decades in middle east) and sanctions on Russia since 2022 have not helped either.

The defining moment in the past 10 years exacerbated the road to alternate and the speed at which multipolar world will advance it's cause and ideology. Not only pan-

are soul searching and leaving many nations asking - who is next? What if me? What's the alternate?

### Achievements



Share of GDP for BRICS and G7

demic, but USD weaponization (unilateral sanctions, limiting trade, financial participation and inclusion), the Trumpian policies (advent nationalistic and disregard of decades old world trade order), going against NATO expansion commitment signed in 2014, archaic polices under which multi-lateral institutions are run etc

A relatively new group has quickly become a major force in the global arena. The countries are committed to working together to promote peace, security, and development and perhaps more importantly an increasingly important role in shaping the global agenda.

The BRICS + 6 group is facing several challenges, however

with that, comes opportunities based on sheer collective strength. They flaunt with large population and a growing middle class, investments in infrastructure and tech-

nology, building an alternate global bank, exploring payment system and new reserve currency. The broader issue that the BRICS as an organisation will have to address is the lack of deeper institutionalisation.

### What's in it for Africa?

The BRICS-Africa relation-

ship is seen as a win-win partnership in a sense that Africa offers natural resources, growing markets, potential access to African continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) trade bloc whilst it benefits from financial resources, technology, expertise and energy supplies from BRICS.

From geopolitical perspective it will mean more autonomy for African countries in their foreign policy decisions and potential of diversifying partnerships and alliances for more economic, political and security accords reducing reliance on any single nation.

There has been increasing engagements by BRICS with Africa in recent years in various forms such as -

- Trade: BRICS are now Africa's largest trading partners - trade reached >\$500 billion in 2023. China is the largest trading partner for most African countries.
- Investment: BRICS are becoming significant investors in Africa - cumulative FDI reaching >\$100 billion in 2023. China is leading investor followed by India and Russia.
- Infrastructure: investments in African infrastructure projects such as the construction of roads, railways, and power plants.
- Development assistance: including financial aid,

technical assistance, and training.

However, challenges are abound in this nascent but growing relationship including - uneven distribution of benefits: relationship has not been evenly distributed as some countries benefiting more than others, the debt trap: some African countries have become indebted to the BRICS countries, raising concerns about debt trap, the environmental impact: concerns on negative environmental impact on infrastructure projects.

Despite these challenges, the BRICS-Africa relationship is likely to continue to grow in the years to come. The BRICS countries are committed to their engagement with Africa, and Africa is seen as a key market for their exports and investments. Beside, Africa is navigating through same challenges and opportunities as most of the BRICS + 6 have gone through - ideal partnership to leverage learnings. One thing is certain, however, a new acronym for the group will be needed very soon should my creation of BRICS + 6 not suffice.

*The author is a seasoned banker based in Tanzania. The views expressed in the article are those of the author and not the author's employer. zmchando@gmail.com*



A new secondary school at Msomera. Photo by Guardian Correspondent

## Shinyanga resident wins 50m/- Airtel's raffle draw

By Guardian Correspondent

Renatus Mashaka, a 28 years old Shinyanga resident, has been announced as the lucky winner of 50mn/- the grand draw of Airtel promotion.

The three months promotion, which ended on Wednesday, was a customer drive that rewarded Airtel customers with Airtime bonuses, Motorcycles, TV, Fridge, and Cash prizes ranging from 1mn/- everyday culminating to a final draw with a Mega prize of 50mn/-.

Airtel customers across the country had a chance of winning prizes daily by buying Airtel Bundles or performing Airtel Money transactions (Send Money, Cash Out, Bill Pay, or Lipa).

Speaking during the UPIGE MWINGI grand draw, Airtel Money Director Andrew Rugamba said, 'Airtel cares for its customers and are committed to serving and rewarding all our loyal customers. The UPIGE MWINGI promotion was one way to thank our customers for their loyalty in using Airtel services and Airtel Money transactions. We will keep on launching innovative products and services that meet the daily digital lifestyles of our customers'.

He added, 'During the promotion, over Tshs 250 million has been won and today we are announcing a lucky winner of our grand prize of Tshs 50 million. This was a game of chance and therefore lucky customers were awarded depending on probability on customers to be picked based on how many times they use the Airtel service. We had over 400 lucky winners from all walks of lives residing in different parts of Tanzania. To our Airtel customers who have not been able to win anything just be assured that you are all winners as you will continue enjoying our value for money services that are Instant, Secure, and borderless.

On her part, Airtel Corporate Communications Director Beatrice Singano said, 'At Airtel Money, we are committed to serving and rewarding our loyal customers. The prize draw is one example of how we add value to our customers' good luck to all customers'.

"Over the long term, we have been expanding our network through the rollout of more Airtel Money branches and agents, while introducing easy to use applications in addition to investing in 5G expansion to reach even more areas of Tanzania. With network expansion and innovation in products and services, our customers continue to enjoy our services across the country," she further said.

## Maasai testify on new life after a year in Tanga

By Guardian Correspondent,

Handeni

One year has passed since maasai lady Victoria Hugo, voluntarily moved to Msomera in Handeni District, Tanga Region. Hugo explains that life is different from where she used to be.

"The truth is that, people who moved to Msomera have gained, in terms of access to social services, including health facilities, water electricity, infrastructure, communication and education," she said.

She said the decision to move to Msomera has given the Maasai people plenty social and economic opportunities, while living freely with no fear of wild animals. Hugo said apart from

cultivating vegetables from her farm, which she sells daily to her customers, she also harvested 60 bags of maize, in the past farming season, which is sufficient to ensure income and food security.

"Since we moved here, we started planting vegetables, fruits such as pawpaw of which ensure us supplementary incomes, compared to previously, when we only depending on livestock keeping as main source of livelihood," she said.

Furthermore, she said the government has given them enough land for farming and for feeding their livestock.

She hailed the government decision which has improved their social and economic status, because in Msomera they can decide to do anything be-

cause of available land.

She continued; "Here as you can see, people came to my farm to buy vegetables and there is no need to go to the market or to find customers. We have achieved that goal, because the government given five acres of land for everyone."

Isaya Laitaika, another resident who moved to Msomera from Ngorongoro said he has come voluntarily to find land and safety.

"I have seven acres d for farming and livestock keeping," he said.

Laitaika refuted allegations by some people that they were forced to come to Ngorongoro, by saying, social and economic opportunities they enjoy at Msomera are different from where they were living before.

Other Msomera residents who were interviewed said in one year period, they have made great achievement economically.

They praise the government for building schools, roads, communication network and bridges which made the area accessible from each direction, which have automatically upgraded their living standards.

Kaika Saming'o Telele said while in Ngorongoro he had to travel 300kilometers to reach district headquarters, but at Msomera it is just 34 Kilometers away.

Telele, once served as the Member of Parliament, Ngorongoro Constituency, said he has got enough land for farming and livestock keeping.

He said at Ngorongoro

schools were very far from people's homes, which hindered hundreds of maasai children to access education, but in Msomera, schools are near, which motivates parents to send enroll their children.

Mathayo Saruni, a pupil who moved to Msomera from Ngorongoro, said he used to travel 5 kilometers to reach to school, but at Msomera the school is very near.

The head teacher of Samia Suluhu Hassan Primary School based in Msomera Charles Augustino Andreas said that 694 pupils who migrated from Ngorongoro have enrolled at the school.

The Handeni District Commissioner Albert Msando said the government shall ensure improved social and eco-



## CONSTRUCTION

# WOMEN ENGINEERS BREAK BARRIERS AMID SOMALIA CONSTRUCTION BOOM

## MOGADISHU

In Somalia's booming capital, construction engineer Faduma Mohamed Ali has her work cut out for her, supervising male workers twice her age, while defying stereotypes in this conservative Muslim country in the Horn of Africa.

She has had to face social stigmatisation, opposition from her family and harassment at work, but insists she has never doubted her choice of career.

"I've always liked buildings and observing structures like mosques," the 22-year-old tells AFP.

When she signed up to study civil engineering - where she was the only girl in her class - her friends and family didn't understand.

"They said: 'How can a girl waste time studying civil engineering? It's a man's job'", says Faduma Mohamed Ali.

Even when she graduated and found a job in Mogadishu, the criticism continued: "They asked me: 'Are you crazy?'"

Opportunities



In Somalia, where women make up less than a third of the working population, according to the World Bank, many parents disapprove of their daughters working with men.

But attitudes are changing. Fathi Mohamed Abdi, 23, who has been an engineer in Mogadishu for three years,

says she has been supported by her parents, who are "very happy" that she has become the first woman in her family to do this job: "No one had ever tried it".

"They started encouraging me during my studies and they continue to do so now that I'm working", she recounts.

At university, she was one of only two women studying civil engineering. Her choice paid off.

The construction sector is booming in the Somali capital, where the security situation has improved somewhat thanks to a military offensive launched a year ago by the government against the radi-

cal Shebab Islamists in the centre of the country.

"Thanks to the growing investment in the construction sector, there are many (job) opportunities," stresses Fathi Mohamed Abdi.

Hassan Mohamed Jimale, deputy mayor in charge of public affairs in Mogadishu, assures us that the authorities want to see more women on the job market: "As a regional administration, we encourage women engineers. The town planning department (employs) women engineers and we have a deputy director".

Unequal pay  
 But the women engineers interviewed by AFP say that they are regularly confronted with sexism at work.

"The rhetoric and the bad opinions that people have of us as women engineers is what disappoints me the most. Men keep telling us that this job is not for women", says one of them, Iftin Mohamed, 26.

"Workers are insubordinate when they are supervised by women engineers, they think

we are weak compared to men", she adds.

She also points out that salaries are not equal: "Women are paid less than men in most cases, especially in private companies".

Abukar Hussein Ibrahim, a bricklayer working under Fathi Mohamed Abdi and other female engineers, says he appreciates working with women, but feels that this is not the case for many of his colleagues.

"The construction workers find it incredible to have a woman engineer supervising their work. They spend a lot of time talking about it (...) They keep asking themselves why a woman was chosen and not a man," explains the 42-year-old.

But they will have to get used to seeing women doing their job, warns Faduma Mohamed Ali.

"I recently took part in a training course and, to my great surprise, there were more than 100 girls", she says: "It used to be rare. Now things are changing."

## China firm to deliver Abuja light rail project in 8 months

## ABUJA

In line with the determination of President Tinubu's administration to enhance infrastructure development across the country, Chinese construction giant, China Civil Engineering Construction Corporation Ltd (CCECC) has committed to the completion of the Abuja light rail project in 8 months.

The Vice President, Sen. Kashim Shettima, extracted this commitment from the management of CCECC when its Chairman, Jason Zhang, led some members of his management team on a courtesy call at the Presidential Villa today.

Vice President Shettima described CCECC as part of Nigeria's history, saying the Chinese construction giant has played a pivotal role in developing Nigeria's landmark projects, adding that their commitment to the development of Nigeria and Africa is commendable.

"You have been in this country for 42 years. We have to commend you for all the beautiful initiatives and support over the years. We share a lot in common with the people of China, just as you have been with us through thick and thin. You have the financial fire power and the willingness to support Nigeria and other African countries without interfering in our local politics. This we appreciate a lot," said the Vice President.

Vice President Shettima assured CCECC that the present administration will sustain the existing relationship with the company and the people of China, saying the Abuja rail project, like others, remains dear to President Bola Tinubu and the Nigerian people.

Speaking earlier, the Managing Director of CCECC, David Waig, reiterated the company's commitment towards delivering the project within the stipulated period, saying CCECC will go above board and leave no stone unturned in ensuring the delivery of the Abuja light rail line come May, 2024.

He called on the Federal Capital Territory Administration (FCTA) to engage an operational company that will quickly see to smooth take off of the rail project.

Present at the meeting were the Deputy Managing Directors of the company, Mr Jaques Liao and Mr Inain Guo. Mr Eric Yu, the General Manager (Business) of the company was also in attendance.

# Homeowners in the UK hope Bank of England will refrain from interest rate hike

## LONDON

Homeowners across the UK are hoping that the Bank of England will decide to avoid raising interest rates Thursday for the first time in nearly two years, a decision that would come on the heels of similar action by the US Federal Reserve.

Following Wednesday's news that UK inflation fell unexpectedly in August to 6.7 percent, its lowest level since Russia invaded Ukraine, expectations have grown that the Bank of England will opt to keep its main interest rate unchanged at a 15-year high of 5.25 percent.

Before the inflation figures were released, most economists thought the central bank would raise its key borrowing rate once again by a quarter of a percentage point to 5.5 percent. That's because inflation is still way above the bank's target rate of 2 percent and higher than in any other Group of Seven major economy.

Now, financial markets foresee the decision going either way.

Even if there is a rate hike, economists expect the bank to indicate that borrowing rates have peaked - to the relief of millions of homeowners who are facing higher

mortgage rates.

Central banks worldwide appear to be near the end of an aggressive rate-hiking cycle meant to curb an outburst of inflation triggered by the bounce-back from the COVID-19 pandemic and Russia's war in Ukraine. The US Federal Reserve left rates unchanged Wednesday.

Suren Thiru, economics director for chartered accountant group ICAEW, said raising interest rates in the UK would be a "mis-step" following the surprise fall in inflation.

"Although interest rates will probably rise on Thursday, additional tightening unnecessarily risks



aggravating the financial struggles facing households and businesses, given the longtime lag between rate hikes and their impact on the real economy," he said.

For many homeowners, the pain has yet to hit. Unlike in the US, for example, most homeowners in Britain lock in mortgage rates for only a few years, so those whose deals expire soon know that they face much higher borrowing costs in light of the sharp rise in interest rates over the past

couple of years.

Like other central banks around the world, the Bank of England has raised interest rates aggressively from near zero as it sought to counter price rises first stoked by supply chain issues during the coronavirus pandemic and then Russia's invasion of Ukraine, which pushed up food and energy costs. UK inflation hit a peak of 11.1 percent in October 2022.

As inflation has eased, the hiking cycle looks to be nearing an

end.

The Swiss National Bank joined the Fed in holding rates steady on Thursday, but in a busy day for central bank action in Europe, Sweden's and Norway's central banks pushed ahead with quarter-point hikes.

The European Central Bank, which sets interest rates for the 20 European Union countries that use the euro currency, last week hinted that its 10th straight hike could be its last.

# Off-plan sales in Dubai rise by \$8.17bln from 2020 to 2023

## DUBAI

Off-plan sales transactions in Dubai rose by AED30 billion (\$8.17 billion) in the second quarter (Q2) of 2023 compared to Q2 2020, as the existing total residential supply in the emirate is about 517,849 units at the end of H1 2023.

An additional 142,644 units are reportedly under construction, said Z ZEN Properties, a Dubai-based and leading sustainable property developer in the UAE.

With Dubai's population on pace to triple by 2025 from the 1.3 million in 2005, residential supply has ballooned, especially in recent years. Industry analysis indicates that a total of 60,000 units are meant to be delivered in 2023, with

about 20,000 of these already completed. Furthermore, close to 80,000 units will be introduced to the market in 2024 and 2025.

Green mandates  
 The UAE government has elevated its profile by working diligently to bolster the appeal of its Golden Visa programme, accelerate the realisation of green mandates like the Dubai 2040 Urban Masterplan and UAE Net Zero 2050, and introduce new initiatives such as the Dubai Economic Agenda (D33) to propel the economy.

These efforts are not going unnoticed, as overseas investors from Europe, and more recently China, are migrating to the UAE in increasing numbers and investing in the country to safeguard their assets.

The off-plan sector has been a key beneficiary due to its affordable barrier to entry and because newer developments are increasingly aligning with the UAE's sustainable agenda; boosting potential return on investment (ROI).

An example of this includes the first LEED Gold-certified project that will be delivered in the first half of 2024, reinforcing the notion that such innovation is contributing to eye-popping sales in the off-plan segment.

More affordable  
 Madhav Dhar, Z ZEN Properties' COO and founding member, commented: "Off-plan real estate, especially when under construction, is significantly more affordable when compared to ready properties -

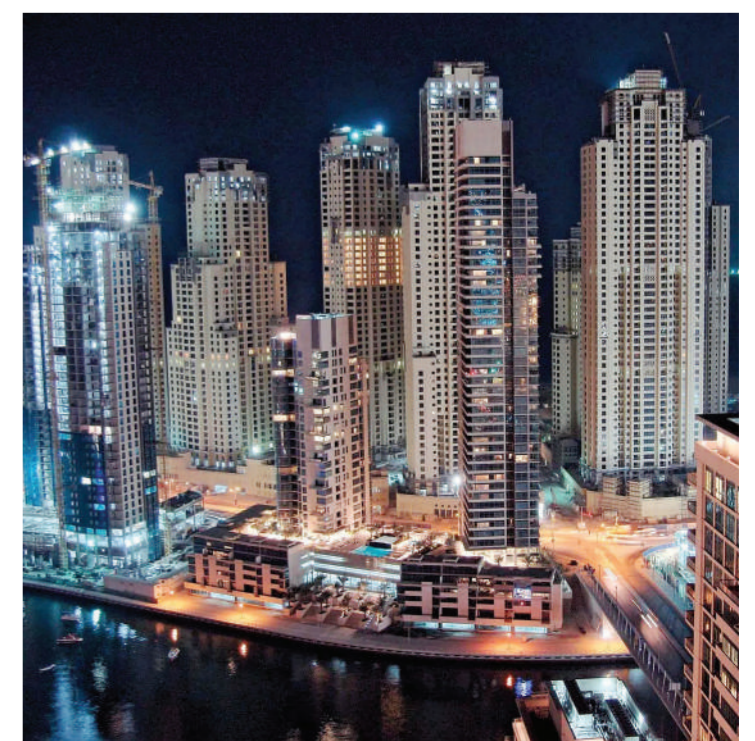
this is proven through history as there is a high probability of capital appreciation near completion. With our sold-out Z ZEN Gardens project in Furjan, we have already seen investors resell their units for a 20-25 percent premium within four months of purchase.

"With the UAE hosting COP 28 later this year, leading a sustainable revolution within the region, and the economic growth plans for the country going forward, off-plan projects will only increase in value. Developers must continue prioritising sustainability in new developments as it will be profitable for them, economical for end-users, and beneficial to the government's vision for the environment; it's a win for all parties involved, includ-

ing the environment."

Real estate innovation  
 With Dubai relying on real estate innovation to usher in a new era of sustainability, Z ZEN Properties is doing its part to future-proof the economy. The homegrown brand's latest development, Z ZEN Gardens in Al Furjan, will become the first LEED Gold-certified and Well-Being integrated residential development in April 2024.

Annually, it will reduce 469 metric tonnes of carbon emissions and generate close to 390,000 kWh of onsite solar electricity, which is about 30% of the common area requirement yearly. Z ZEN Properties is committed to continuing to add to the sustainable landscape of Dubai, providing a better future for the UAE.





## WORLD

## Three sites declared UNESCO World Heritage

PARIS

WORLD War One cemeteries in Belgium and France, the hills of Rwanda's 1994 genocide and a former torture center in Argentina have been declared UNESCO World Heritage sites as the UN agency ends a moratorium on memorial sites for human suffering.

So far, the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp in Poland and the Hiroshima Peace Memorial in Japan have been the only memorial sites inscribed on the United Nations' cultural agency's closely watched World Heritage list.

At a meeting of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, on Wednesday, UNESCO member states agreed to add the World War One and Rwanda sites to the list, after adding the Ar-

gentina torture memorial on Tuesday.

"The examination of these three dossiers marks a new stage in the role of World Heritage on a global scale," a UNESCO briefing note said ahead of the decision.

A UNESCO meeting in 2018 had held off on adding memorial sites to the list as the agency debated whether the heritage list is a relevant tool for sites of memory associated with atrocities and conflicts.

The agency said member states agreed in early 2023 that these sites can play a key role in peace-building, which is UNESCO's primary purpose, and that the committee would consider the nominations of the three sites.

The World War One sites encompass a series of military cemeteries, battlefield burial grounds and memorials between the north of Belgium and the east of France.



The facade of the former Navy Mechanics School and detention center known as ESMA, which was used as an illegal detention and torture center during Argentina's last dictatorship (1976-1983), is pictured on the day it's Museum and Site of Memory was declared an UNESCO World Heritage, in Buenos Aires, Argentina on Monday. REUTERS

The 139 sites trace the outline of World War One's Western Front and hold the remains of tens of thousands of soldiers of several nationalities.

"At a time when war has come back to the gates of Europe...these sites more than ever incarnate a plea for peace," French Culture Minister Rima Abdul-Malak said in a statement.

The Rwanda genocide sites comprise a series of hills where in 1994 an estimated

1 million people - Tutsi, but also moderate Hutu and Twa people - were killed by armed militias. Argentina's ESMA Museum, the site of the former Navy School of Mechanics in Buenos Aires, was a secret detention centre during the 1976-1983 dictatorship, which was used for torturing and killing opponents to the military regime, UNESCO said.

The World Heritage Committee's annual meeting ends on Monday. **Agencies**

## Morocco to spend \$11.7b for five-year post-quake recovery

RABAT

MOROCCO plans to spend at least 120 billion dirhams (\$11.7 billion) in a post-earthquake reconstruction plan over the next five years, the royal palace said on Wednesday.

A 6.8 magnitude earthquake struck on Sept 8, killing more than 2,900 people, mostly in the hard-to-reach villages of the High Atlas mountains.

The plan would target 4.2 million people in the worst-hit provinces of Al Haouz, Chichaoua, Taroudant, Marrakech, Ouarzazate and Azizal, the royal palace said, following a meeting of King Mohammed VI with government and army officials.

The plan covers rehousing

and the upgrade of infrastructure in a way that is conducive to social and economic development in the quake-hit areas, it said in the statement.

The quake-stricken areas are among Morocco's poorest, with many remote villages lacking proper roads and public services.

The royal palace said the plan would be funded by the government's budget, international aid and by a fund set up in response to the quake.

The fund has so far received some \$700 million in donations.

Last week, the palace said that 50,000 houses were known to have been damaged and that authorities would provide shelter



A man who lost his wife and daughter in the earthquake, sits in what used to be his home, in the town of Amizmiz, outside Marrakech, Morocco, Thursday, Sept 14, 2023. AP

and 30,000 dirhams (\$3,000) pledged to offer reconstruction aid of 140,000 dirhams for collapsed homes and 80,000 for damaged ones. **Agencies**

## Girls in Afghanistan still face unfair bans on education after two years - UN

KABUL

THE Secretary-General of the United Nations, António Guterres, has stated that two years have passed since the ban on girls' education in Afghanistan, and this unjust violation of human rights continues, The Khaama Press reported on Monday.

Guterres said on his social media platform X, "Two years have passed since the ban on girls' attendance in schools in Afghanistan. This is an unjustifiable violation of human rights that inflicts long-term damage on the entire country."

The Khaama Press reported that the girls in Afghanistan are the primary victims of Taliban policies.

Earlier, The UN special rapporteur for Afghanistan, Richard Bennet, called on the Taliban to reverse the "draconian, misogynist policies" against women and allow them to work and run businesses, Tolo News reported.

Speaking to the 54th Regular Session of the Human Rights Council, Bennett said 60,000 women have lost their jobs due to recent restrictions of the interim Afghan government.



The education and work of girls and women are the two main issues that sparked reactions at an international level.

Meanwhile, the representatives of some countries who attended the meeting also voiced concerns over the restrictions on Afghan girls and women in access to education and work.

Lubna Qassim, UAE Deputy Representative to the UN Human Rights Council, said the "significant humanitarian challenges facing Afghanistan will have a significant negative impact on the Afghani society and its future."

Lubna Qassim, added that there is no positive progress on the "ban imposed by the Taliban government on universities, education for girls, and their exclusion from working and civil society organizations national and international humanitarian organizations," Tolo News reported.

Notably, with the resurgence of the Taliban in August 2021 in Afghanistan, the country's educational system has suffered a significant setback. As a result, girls have been deprived of access to education, and seminaries or religious schools have gradually filled the void left by schools and

universities.

Afghanistan's women have faced numerous challenges since the Taliban returned to power in 2021. Girls and women in the war-torn country have no access to education, employment and public spaces.

It has imposed draconian restrictions on the rights to freedom of expression, association, assembly, and movement for women and girls.

Taliban leaders have also disregarded international calls for women and girls to be given access to education and employment. Apparently, they have also issued warnings to other nations not to meddle in Afghanistan's domestic affairs.

Taliban have also barred girls from attending secondary school, restricted women and girls' freedom of movement, excluded women from most areas of the workforce and banned women from using parks, gyms and public bath houses.

ANI

## Chinese VP calls on China, US to properly manage differences

UNITED NATIONS



CHINA and the United States should strengthen communication and properly manage differences in line with the three principles of mutual respect, peaceful coexistence and win-win cooperation put forward by Chinese President Xi Jinping, Chinese Vice-President Han Zheng said yesterday.

Han made the remarks when meeting with heads of US friendly groups and think tanks as well as people from all walks of life on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly in New York.

China and the United States should implement the important consensus reached by the two heads of state in Bali, Indonesia, said Han, who also called on US participants of the meeting to play an active role in promoting China-US cooperation in such fields as economy, trade, and people-to-people exchanges, so as to boost the healthy and stable development of China-US relations.

At present, the Chinese economy is recovering and transitioning from high-speed growth to high-quality development. China pays great attention to the growth of economic volume and even greater attention to boosting the quality and efficiency of its economic growth, said Han.

China will unswervingly pursue opening up at a high level, seek win-win cooperation with other countries, and provide a constant driving force for world economic recovery and growth while offering mutually beneficial cooperation opportunities for investors worldwide, said Han. **Xinhua**

## US President praises King Mohammed VI for the swift, efficient management of earthquake

RABAT



KING Mohammed VI has received a phone call from the President of the United States of America, Joseph Biden praising him on the swift, efficient management of an earthquake that killed 2,900 people.

During the call, the US president expressed his personal condolences, as well as those of the American people and government, to the Sovereign and to the Moroccan people, following the painful earthquake that struck several provinces of the Kingdom.

President Biden took this opportunity to praise the swift and efficient management, in accordance with the royal directives, of the consequences of this natural disaster of such a magnitude.

President Biden also expressed the readiness of the United States of America to provide the necessary assistance and support to the Kingdom based on the needs identified by Moroccan authorities and as part of the comprehensive action plan deployed by the Kingdom to address this tragedy.

The quake struck Morocco's High Atlas Mountain range near Marrakech. The death toll has continued to climb in the wake of the rare and powerful 6.8-magnitude earthquake that struck Morocco on Friday night. More than 2,900 people are confirmed dead. **Agencies**

## 90 S. African students hospitalised after eating cookies

JOHANNESBURG

NINETY students from Pulamadibogo Primary School in Soshanguve, Gauteng Province, South Africa, were rushed to local medical facilities on Wednesday after experiencing nausea, stomach cramps and vomiting from eating cookies, according to the Gauteng Provincial Department of Education.

"According to information at our disposal, approximately 90 students from Grade R7 consumed what looked like muffins, which they bought from a street vendor on their way to school. Educators witnessed strange behavior from the students in class and immediately called emergency services for necessary support," the department said in a statement. The department said the students were attended by the emergency services at the school premises and then taken to different medical facilities to be assessed. "We call for patience from parents while investigations are underway and students are recovering. We wish all affected students a speedy recovery," said Matome Chiloane, a member of the Executive Council for Education in Gauteng Province. **Xinhua**

## Kenya-China agricultural cooperation aiding hunger fight, rural transformation

NAIROBI

WITH a beaming face, Hannah Wanjiku chaperoned visitors inside her farm, located on the edge of a forested hillside in Kenya's Rift Valley county of Nakuru, to take a look at the blooming food crops, including maize, legumes and vegetables.

Next to Wanjiku's family home, a greenhouse converted into a makeshift demonstration farm has drawn the curiosity of local smallholder farmers keen to learn about the cultivation of high-yielding tomato varieties.

The retired teacher is a beneficiary of a research partnership between Kenya's Egerton University and China's Nanjing Agricultural University that has fostered the development of pest-, drought-, and

disease-tolerant crops to combat hunger, malnutrition, and rural poverty.

"We look forward to accessing new farming technologies from China to help boost crop yield and address challenges facing local farmers like erratic rains, high cost of manure and seeds," Wanjiku told Xinhua on Monday at her farm.

Forged in the 1990s, the cooperation between the two universities has revolved around research on hybrid crops as well as training of farmers and extension workers on improved agronomic practices, said Richard Mulwa, deputy vice-chancellor of Egerton University.

Mulwa singled out the China-Kenya Belt and Road Joint Laboratory on Crop Molecular Biology, domiciled at Egerton University, for acting as a hub for the re-

search and development of high-yielding crops through leveraging Chinese technologies and expertise.

Mulwa said the modern laboratory, whose plaque was unveiled Monday, is expected to facilitate groundbreaking research, breeding, and release of crops that can withstand climatic stresses. According to Mulwa, the laboratory will also serve as a "nerve center" for knowledge and technology transfer, besides training experts from the eastern African region on breeding climate-resilient food crops.

"The state-of-the-art molecular laboratory will be utilized to change the lives of our farmers," Mulwa said, adding that the laboratory will help local scientists select and breed crop varieties that can

withstand hostile weather, pests, and diseases.

Kenya-China agricultural cooperation, according to Mulwa, has ensured that subsistence farmers have access to technology and improved seeds in a bid to boost household food security and incomes.

He added that courtesy of a decades-old partnership with Nanjing Agricultural University, scientists at Egerton University have managed to develop and release high-yielding beans, groundnuts, cassava, and bacterial wilt-resistant tomatoes.

A delegation from Nanjing Agricultural University witnessed the plaque unveiling at the China-Kenya Belt and Road Joint Laboratory on Crop Molecu-

lar Biology.

To foster agricultural research and innovation in Kenya and neighboring countries, the laboratory's state-of-the-art equipment was installed through a grant from the Chinese government. Daisy Osoro, a post-graduate student majoring in dryland farming, projected a confident image as she placed some plant tissues inside glass vases on the laboratory's wooden shelves.

While crediting her Chinese supervisor for aiding her research on drought-resistant cassava, Osoro reaffirmed her commitment to revolutionizing dryland agriculture in the country.

Osoro said the molecular laboratory has motivated her to venture deeper into cassava research and offer training to farmers in semi-arid regions in order to facilitate

its introduction as an alternative crop that guarantees food security.

Charles Kariuki Githiri, an agricultural extension officer in Nakuru County, said extension officers are leveraging China-funded research and training to transform smallholder farming in Kenya amid low productivity linked to loss of soil fertility, climatic shocks, costly inputs, pests, diseases, and market volatility. "I would say that partnering with the Chinese government is the right way to go to help tackle challenges facing our farmers," Githiri said.

"If we embrace the technology that is being brought on board, it will ensure that farmers are able to produce sustainably, while climate change issues will also be addressed."

Xinhua



## Tshisekedi asks UN peacekeepers to start packing up, 2023

KINSHASA

Democratic Republic of Congo President Felix Tshisekedi has asked his government to fast track the withdrawal of a United Nations peacekeeping mission to ensure it begins at the end of the year, he said at the UN General Assembly on Wednesday.

The mission, called MONUSCO, took over from an earlier UN operation in 2010 to help quell insecurity in the eastern part of the Central African country, where armed groups fight over territory and resources.

But its presence has become increasingly unpopular in recent years for what critics say is a failure to protect civilians against militia groups, sparking deadly protests.

"It is to be deplored that peacekeeping missions deployed for 25 years... have failed to cope with the rebellions and armed conflicts," Tshisekedi told the assembly in a speech.

"This is why... I instructed the Government of the Republic to begin discussions with the UN authorities for an accelerated withdrawal of MONUSCO... by bringing forward the start of this progressive withdrawal from December 2024 to December 2023," he said.

More than 40 people were killed and dozens wounded in an army crackdown on violent anti-UN demonstrations in the eastern city of Goma last month. Another protest in July 2022 resulted in more than 15 deaths, including three peacekeepers in Goma and the city of Butembo.



## UN relief chief warns Sudan conflict could engulf region

UNITED NATIONS

THE UN relief chief warned on Wednesday that allowing the conflict in Sudan to descend into a full-blown civil war could be a human tragedy.

"If urgent international action is not taken, the crisis threatens to deteriorate into a catastrophe that could engulf, will engulf, the entire country and then the region," said UN undersecretary-general for humanitarian affairs Martin Griffiths, the world body's emergency relief coordinator.

He said a concerted international effort is required to get life-saving assistance. "It is needed now, it was needed yesterday, and it will be needed tomorrow," Griffiths spoke at a high-level meeting on Sudan on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly's annual general debate.

The session was hosted by Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, the African Union, the European Union, the UN Refugee Agency and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).



UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres

One of the biggest challenges during the fighting between two military factions in Sudan is gaining access to those in need.

"Our ability to operate is hampered by the highly dangerous and complex operating environment -- perhaps the most so in the world today -- as well as access restrictions and bureaucratic impediments," he said.

Griffiths said the conflict has claimed the lives of more than 5,000 people, injured 12,000 more, displaced more than 5 million people, including more than 1 million of them forced into neighboring countries.

He also said there was a complete breakdown of the health system in Sudan, with almost 80 percent of health services not functioning and more than 6 million people facing emergency levels of acute food insecurity.

## China and Morocco: Good friends stand together in times of adversity

A 6.8 magnitude quake struck southern parts of Morocco at midnight local time on Sept. 8, causing heavy casualties and property losses.

On Sept. 9, Chinese President Xi Jinping extended condolences to Moroccan King Mohammed VI over the devastating earthquake. On behalf of the Chinese government and people, the Chinese president mourned deeply for the victims and expressed sincere sympathies to the bereaved families and the injured.

Xi also expressed his belief that under the leadership of His Majesty the king, the Moroccan government and people will be able to overcome the impact of the disaster and rebuild their homeland at an early date.

"When Morocco was hit by the disaster, Xi's concern and condolences made us feel the warm support that the Chinese people offer to the Moroccan people. It shows the friendship and mutual assistance between the two peoples and their support in the face of disasters," said Nasser Bouchiba, president of the Africa-China Cooperation Association for Development in Morocco.

"The concern of our Chinese friends will inspire us, giving us the confidence and strength to carry out rescue efforts and rebuild our homes," Bouchiba added.

Bouchiba told People's Daily that shortly after the earthquake occurred, King Mohammed VI ordered the Moroccan military to join the relief efforts and set up field hospitals, and he convened an emergency rescue meeting. Currently, rescue operations are being carried out in an orderly manner, Bouchiba said.

Mohamed Khalil, President of the Morocco-China Friendship and Exchange Association, noted that Xi was one of the first foreign heads of state to extend condolences to King Mohammed VI, which mirrored the profound friendship between Morocco and China.

"During times of adversity, Chinese friends would always offer a helping hand, promptly coming to the aid of other nations and helping them navigate through challenging situations. Countless examples of such generosity can be found," said Khalil.

In a hospital in Ben Guerir, a town in central Morocco, doctors of a Chinese medical team in Morocco have successfully delivered many babies after the quake. The hospital is the closest medical facility to the epicenter where a Chinese medical team is stationed.

Chinese doctor Ma Nan said that due to the limited local medical resources, the medical team is facing a heavier workload than before.

"Risking the danger of potential aftershocks, we have performed multiple surgeries here," Ma added.

"We have felt the warm support from our Chinese friends," said Khalil, expressing his gratitude.

In addition to the Chinese medical team's efforts, the



Photo shows members of the medical team sent by the Eighth People's Hospital of Shanghai to Morocco. (Photo courtesy of Xinmin Evening News)

Red Cross Society of China provided emergency humanitarian assistance to the Moroccan Red Crescent shortly after the earthquake. The China International Development Cooperation Agency expressed its willingness to provide emergency humanitarian aid based on the needs of the affected people.

Besides, some Chinese-funded enterprises and overseas Chinese in Morocco have also taken action, spontaneously donating money and providing necessary assistance to the affected areas.

"All of these demonstrate that Morocco and China are good friends who stand together in times of adversity and are good partners in common development," Khalil said.

Hanane Thamik from Morocco, a PhD student at Wuhan University, told People's Daily that many of her teachers, schoolmates and friends in China extended condolences to her after the earthquake took place and asked her if she need-

"And 1,000 -- perhaps this is the worst of all these chilling statistics -- 1,200 children dying from malnutrition and preventable diseases, such as measles," the relief chief said.

"And we heard in the Security Council last week, horrific and pervasive levels of sexual violence against women and girls." Speaking of the conflict between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces, UN undersecretary-general for political affairs Rosemary DiCarlo said that neither warring party is close to victory, yet they continue their brutal fight, and civilians have paid a heavy price for "this senseless violence."

She said they continue to violate international humanitarian and human rights law. Civilians and civilian infrastructure, including health facilities, places of worship, water and electricity installations, were targeted, damaged and destroyed. "There have been shocking accounts of widespread rape and sexual violence," DiCarlo said.

"There must be accountability for these crimes, as well as medical and psychosocial support for survivors." OCHA, which Griffiths heads, said that since the conflict began in Sudan, the United Nations and partners reached 3.5 million people, representing only 19 percent of the 18 million people targeted for humanitarian assistance and protection.

The Humanitarian Response Plan for Sudan seeks 2.6 billion U.S. dollars but is only 31 percent funded. BlueTriton Brands said it would sue to block the order.

Xinhua

## World leaders 'deeply concerned' over Canada's allegations of India link in death of Khalistani activist

NEW DELHI

WORLD leaders have expressed 'deep concerns' after Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau made allegations regarding the Indian government's involvement in the fatal shooting of Khalistani Tiger Force chief Hardeep Singh Nijjar in Canada.

The White House is "deeply concerned" about the accusations, said a spokesman for the National Security Council, Adrienne Watson, according to CNN.

"We remain in regular contact with our Canadian partners. It is critical that Canada's investigation proceed and the perpetrators be brought to justice," Watson said.

No one has been arrested by Canadian authorities in relation to Nijjar's killing. However, in an update in August, police said they were looking into three individuals and provided a description of a potential getaway car while pleading with the public for assistance, CNN reported.

The claims have "deeply concerned" Australia as well, according to a spokesperson for Penny Wong, the foreign minister of Australia.

"We are closely engaged with partners on developments. We have conveyed our concerns at senior levels to India," a statement shared with CNN said.

"We understand these reports will be particularly concerning to some Australian communities. The Indian diaspora is a valued and important contributor to our vibrant and resilient multicultural society, where all Australians can peacefully and safely express their views."

On the other hand, Canada signalled a further souring of bilateral ties with India after Canadian Foreign Minister Melanie Joly on Monday said an Indian diplomat in the country had been expelled.

The expulsion came in light of PM Justin Trudeau's statement alleging an Indian hand in the killing of wanted Khalistani leader Hardeep Singh Nijjar. Joly said the Canadian government had expelled an Indian diplomat over allegations of the country's involvement in the killing of the Khalistani leader, according to Al Jazeera.

In a tit-for-tat move to Canada expelling a senior Indian diplomat, India expelled a senior Canadian diplomat to India.

Canadian High Commissioner to India, Cameron MacKay was summoned today to the South Block, the headquarters of the Ministry of External Affairs.

"The High Commissioner of Canada to India was summoned today and in-

formed about the decision of the Government of India to expel a senior Canadian diplomat based in India," a statement from the Ministry of External Affairs said today.

It added, "The concerned diplomat has been asked to leave India within the next five days. The decision reflects the Government of India's growing concern at the interference of Canadian diplomats in our internal matters and their involvement in anti-India activities."

Amid the tensions between India and Canada, the security of the Canada High Commission here was also beefed up today. Several personnel of the Central Reserve Police and Delhi Police were deployed outside the Canadian High Commission.

Notably, India rejected the allegations by Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau earlier today, regarding the Indian government's involvement in the fatal shooting of Khalistani Tiger Force chief Hardeep Singh Nijjar in Canada. In a statement, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) termed the allegations 'absurd' and 'motivated'.

"We have seen and reject the statement of the Canadian Prime Minister in their Parliament, as also the statement by their Foreign Minister" said the MEA in an official statement.

"Allegations of the Indian government's 'involvement in any act of violence in Canada are absurd and motivated' the release added.

The Indian response came a day after Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau accused the Indian government on Monday (September 18) of being behind the fatal shooting of Khalistani Tiger Force chief Hardeep Singh Nijjar in Canada.

Najjar, who was wanted in India, was gunned down outside a Gurdwara, in a parking area in Canada's Surrey, British Columbia on June 18.

Speaking in a debate in the Canadian Parliament earlier, Canadian PM Trudeau had also claimed his country's national security officials had reasons to believe that "agents of the Indian government" carried out the killing of the Canadian citizen, who also served as the president of Surrey's Guru Nanak Sikh Gurdwara.

"Canadian security agencies have been actively pursuing credible allegations of a potential link between agents of the Government of India and the killing of a Canadian citizen, Hardeep Singh Nijjar," Trudeau said.

ANI



**We understand these reports will be particularly concerning to some Australian communities. The Indian diaspora is a valued and important contributor to our vibrant and resilient multicultural society, where all Australians can peacefully and safely express their view**

## China's economy builds recovery momentum with strong policy stimulus

BEIJING

CHINA'S economic indicators were stronger than expected in August, indicating that the country's pro-growth policies are effective and solidifying its hopes of accomplishing its full-year economic growth target, according to analysts and officials.

Positive factors in China's economy are accumulating, and naysayers will be disappointed yet again, Cong Liang, deputy head of the National Development and Reform Commission, told a press conference on Wednesday.

SUPPORT ON ALL FRONTS

With major economic indicators showing signs of perking up, China has ridden the positive momentum and introduced a string of macro policies across the board.

On the fiscal front, China has revved up its issuance and use of special-purpose local government bonds. And on the monetary front, the country's central bank has made policy rate adjust-

ments and cut the financial-institution reserve requirement ratio twice this year.

"At a defining moment for the Chinese economy, the central bank made its moves at just the right time," said Dong Ximiao, chief researcher at Merchants Union Consumer Finance Company Limited.

The effects of the comprehensive policy package have been reflected in the August data. In August, China's value-added industrial output increased 4.5 percent year on year, higher than the 3.7 percent uptick recorded in July, and retail sales of consumer goods saw an accelerated 4.6 percent increase after a slowdown that lasted three consecutive months, data from the National Bureau of Statistics shows.

The People's Bank of China (PBOC) will continue to utilize a combination of policy tools to keep liquidity at a reasonable and sufficient level, and guide the financing costs of the real economy downward, PBOC official

Zou Lan said on Wednesday.

TARGETED PROPERTY STIMULUS

The property sector, though still weighing on the Chinese economy, reported encouraging signs in multiple regional markets in August, according to Cong.

Recently, China relaxed the criteria identifying first-home buyers to allow more people to benefit from preferential policies, and lowered the interest rates of existing first-home mortgages.

Zhong Zhengsheng, chief economist at Pingan Securities, said the slew of measures has apparently prompted a rebound in sales of second-hand homes, although the response in the new-home market is delayed.

Wang Qing, an analyst at Golden Credit Rating, said local governments are expected to double down on efforts to stimulate their housing markets, including efforts to relax home purchase restrictions and provide home purchase subsidies.

"These moves will effectively increase the synergy of macro policies and buoy market confidence in the process of countercyclical regulation," Wang said.

As existing and incremental policies have a synergistic effect, China's economy will rebound and sustain long-term upward momentum, Cong said at the press conference. Xinhua

**The property sector, though still weighing on the Chinese economy, reported encouraging signs in multiple regional markets in August, according to Cong**







South African coach, Thabo Senong.

## What is next for Middendorp's assistant at Singida Fountain Gate FC?

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SOUTH African tactician, Thabo Senong, joined his German counterpart Ernst Middendorp earlier this month when the former signed for Mainland Tanzania Premier League side Singida Fountain Gate FC.

Senong was not the only South African who followed Middendorp to Singida Fountain Gate FC, given goalkeeping coach Thembaletu Moses and biokineticist Kelvin Ndloomo also linked up with the German.

On Monday, just a day after Singida Fountain Gate FC's 1-0 win over Egypt's Future FC, Middendorp-the former Kaizer Chiefs and Moroka Swallows coach-dumped the Tanzanian club.

Singida Fountain Gate FC hosted Future FC in the 2023/24 CAF Confederation Cup Second Preliminary Round first leg at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

In his statement, the 64-year-old mentor accused Singida Fountain Gate FC's management of interference.

The tactician noted: "The authorities of Singida Fountain Gate FC scheduled an urgent meeting for the next day with the entire technical team without explaining the purpose of the meeting. We expected that there would be words of praise.

He disclosed: "However, that was in no way the case. The intention of the meeting became clear. It was all about expressing dissatisfaction. My point of view was not requested. A discussion was not desired..."

He also suggested that the former assistant, a Ugandan national Mathias Lule, who would be added to the technical team immediately, was an issue.

Middendorp says he had a meeting with the three gentlemen he invited to join him in Tanzania. His message

to them was that they could continue and honour their contracts with the club.

"They have contracts with the team; they have to decide themselves to stay or continue. I think they can stay," Middendorp revealed.

The Guardian understands Senong, Moses, and Ndloomo remained in Dar es Salaam with the team.

The club's officials are mulling appointing either Senong or Lule to temporarily take charge of the team.

Senong has previously coached the Lesotho national team and youth national teams in South Africa. He also worked in the Orlando Pirates youth set-up.

His most recent job was with Sekhukhune United, where he served as an assistant coach. He was then moved to the position of head of development.

Lule has handled several clubs in the Uganda Premier League and the U-20 national team, as well as an assistant to Sébastien Desabre in Uganda Cranes.

He arrived in Tanzania in 2020 to coach Mbeya City FC before switching to Singida Fountain Gate FC last season to take up the assistant coach role.

After the departure of Hans van Pluijm- the tactician replaced by Middendorp-, Lule was the man who held fort on an interim basis.

The club is expected to announce its move. It was yesterday slated to confront Azam FC in a top-flight match.

The return leg against Future FC of Egypt is set for next week in Cairo. Singida Fountain Gate FC finished fourth in the Premier League last season and qualified for the CAF inter-club competition.

The outfit will look to improve on that this season while seeking success in the CAF Confederation Cup.

# Elite golfers gear up for 2023 NCBA Golf Series grand finale

By Guardian Correspondent

THE golfing community in Tanzania is abuzz with excitement as the 2023 NCBA Golf Series gears up for a captivating showdown.

The prestigious Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC) golf course will, on September 30, be the battleground where top golfers from across Tanzania will vie for the honour to represent the country in the showdown's grand finale to be played in Nairobi, Kenya.

According to the showdown's organizers, this event promises an electrifying display of golfing talent, drawing enthusiasts, and fans from across the region.

The tournament, they stated, not only showcases the prowess of the golfing stars but also represents an opportunity to etch their names in the annals of golf history.

The competition will be fierce, as golfers compete in three categories, the overall winner, men's overall winner, and women's overall winner.

The winners, according to organizers, will not only revel in their victory at the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club but also embark on a remarkable journey to Kenya for the ultimate showdown in the NCBA Golf Series finale.

In Kenya, these triumphant golfers will face off against champions from other East African countries, battling it out to determine the ultimate victors of the entire tournament.

Three exceptional players, one from each category, will



A Dar es Salaam golfer tees off in a recent NCBA Golf Series that took place at the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC) course. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

claim the coveted title and a cash prize of 100,000 Kenyan shillings.

Adding to the excitement, the organizers revealed, that this journey is more than just a competition, as it is a fully-paid adventure.

Champions will have the privilege to showcase their golfing prowess on the stunning Kenyan courses while creating unforgettable memories.

Beyond competition, the organizers noted, the NCBA Golf Series fosters camaraderie and a deep appreciation for the sport among golfing enthusiasts throughout East Africa.

It is an event that not only brings

golfers and fans together but also strengthens the bond between NCBA Bank and its cherished customers.

Claver Serumaga, the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of NCBA Bank Tanzania, shared his thoughts on the tournament, saying: "We are thrilled to witness the exceptional talent and passion among golfers in Tanzania."

The NCBA Bank Tanzania boss pointed out: "This event not only showcases their skills but also provides a platform for them to represent our nation on an international stage."

"We look forward to an exciting competition and wish all the participants the best of luck," the MD stated.

Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club will, on September 30, witness the extraordinary golfing talent on display.

According to the organizers, it would not merely be a tournament, it is an adventure, and the journey to Kenya for the grand finale eagerly awaits the champions.

Golf aficionados in Tanzania have been urged to brace themselves for a breathtaking experience.

## Tanga United, Deep Sea inch closer to progression to Mkonge City Basketball League final

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

THE battle for the top honour in this year's Mkonge City Basketball League has gathered pace, given Tanga United and Deep Sea basketball teams have closed in on securing a place in the final.

The two clubs have taken the top two places in the showdown, with the final slated to be played at Mkwakwani Stadium basketball court soon.

According to the Tanga Regional Basketball Association, the league standing shows that Tanga United is leading the rest of the participating outfits after collecting 11 points.

Deep Sea is hot on the showdown's table-topper heels, sitting second af-

ter notching nine points.

Bandari outfit is sitting third with eight points, followed by fourth-placed Ngamiani Kings which has amassed six points, and fifth-placed Korogwe Heats which has secured collected five points.

Tanga Regional Basketball Association assistant secretary, Riziki Mgude, affirmed that the top and second-placed teams are in a better position to secure progression to the final.

Recently, Deep Sea secured second position after beating Ngamiani Kings 48-43 in the first match of the second round of the league, which took place at Mkwakwani Stadium basketball court.



Deputy Minister for Culture, Arts, and Sports Hamisi Mwinjuma, alias 'Mwana FA' (C), who also doubles as Muheza constituency's Member of Parliament, joins Tanga's other parliamentarians to dance in a function for bidding farewell to the retired Tanga's CCM regional secretary-general, Selemani Charas (in a suit), in the region recently. Charas was presented with 5m/- by the parliamentarians in the event. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT CHEJI BAKARI

## Ihefu SC gears up for Premier League match against Yanga

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

IHEFU SC head coach Zubeir Katwila says he is working on his players' weaknesses before facing Yanga in a 2023/24 NBC Premier League duel scheduled for October 4 at Highland Estate Stadium in Mbarali, Mbeya.

The Mbeya-based squad succumbed to a 2-0 defeat to Kigoma's Mashujaa FC in the previous league tie which

took place in Kigoma on September 16.

The gaffer revealed that he is now seeking to address the mistakes observed during his club's previous match against Mashujaa FC, as the latter made the most of home-ground advantage to come out victorious.

The maximum points have helped Mashujaa FC register seven points after three matches and the team had before Wednesday's fixture pitting

Yanga against Namungo FC, temporarily led the NBC Premier League log.

The Kigoma club was followed by prominent clubs- Simba SC, Azam FC, and Yanga- that had six points each after two rounds of encounters.

Ihefu SC remained with three points after losing two games in a row and was temporarily sitting ninth having tied with JKT Tanzania,

which also lost two games against Yanga (5-0) and Kinondoni Municipal Council FC (2-1).

"Despite my team fighting hard to win the game, luck wasn't on our side and that was caused by weakness showed by our defenders - which was a golden opportunity for the opponents that effectively utilized it to get victory," Katwila stated.

Katwila pointed out:

"I now am responsible for working on those mistakes because we are facing a tough duel against Yanga, much as we will be playing at our home stadium."

In the 2022/23 season's clash between Ihefu SC and Yanga, which took place at Highland Estate Stadium, the Mbeya side cruised to a 2-1 victory.

This season, Yanga is set to face Ihefu SC in the fourth round match, according to

the league fixture, in what will be the first away match for the former since the 2023/24 NBC Premier League season's curtain was raised.

Yanga has taken part in three home games, all of which were held at Azam Complex Stadium at Chamazi in Dar es Salaam- grabbing wins over Kinondoni Municipal Council FC, JKT Tanzania, and Namungo FC.



## Arsenal are back in the Champions League – and they look like contenders too

By Jamie Braidwood

ARSENAL had waited six years for the Champions League to return to the Emirates – and there will be many more nights here this season should they continue to play like this. A triumphant return to European football's top table was made possible by a blistering attacking display that blew PSV apart; the Dutch visitors offered little opposition, but Arsenal's front three were too good: all of Bukayo Saka, Leandro Trossard and Gabriel Jesus scoring in the first half to set the Gunners towards a comfortable opening victory in Group B.

Jesus led from the front on his first start of the season; the player in the Arsenal squad with the most experience in this competition showing how it was done as he tied together an attacking line-up named by Mikel Arteta. Around him, Arsenal purred. Saka and Trossard superb on the flanks, Kai Havertz looking a little less lost in midfield, even as the outstanding Martin Odegaard continued to show the levels there are still to reach. The Norwegian would add Arsenal's fourth in the second half with a fizzing low strike from the edge of the box.

But Arteta's selection created a front five which clicked playing together for the first time this season, producing by far Arsenal's most complete and dominant performance of the campaign so far. That it came in the Champions League was fitting; in their first match in the competition since 2017, this was a night to perform. Around the Emirates, there was a tingle of excitement when the anthem they had waited so long to hear began. It was followed by a silence as they soaked it in, and a roar afterwards. Odegaard simply nodded, as if to say that Arsenal were ready for this moment.

Arteta had said so too and, after being forced to wait an extra year when their return was delayed by falling short in 2022, pushing Manchester City in the Premier League last season had sharpened Arsenal to take to this competition in this manner. After taking that extra step in their development, they appeared ready now in a way they may not have done a year ago. This was a performance to suggest that, even after being out of the Champions League for so long, Arsenal return now as one of the few clubs who could challenge holders City for their title.

Saka made his Champions League debut and produced a display that showed he is now poised to become one of the stars of the whole competition. The 22-year-old is a player whose step up to this level may have occurred anyway, but his development over the course of last season ensured there has been a natural progression to the flowering of his talents. Saka's 181st appearance for Arsenal was his first in the Champions League and he was sublime; his first 20 minutes bringing a goal and an assist.

After he was beaten on the outside earlier on, the PSV left-back Sergino Dest stood off Saka and allowed the England international to tease his way into the box. Saka set up Odegaard, whose shot towards the near post was parried straight out by the goalkeeper Walter Benitez, with Saka on hand to drill the finish across goal from the angle. Within 20 minutes it was 2-0, Jesus leading a rapid break to play wide to Saka, who waited and picked out Trossard in space on the edge of the box. Trossard's first-time finish into the bottom corner was crisp and Arsenal were already flying.

They could have been out of sight by the half-hour mark, Arteta's attacking line-up flowing forward brilliantly, with Jesus and Odegaard operating superbly in central positions. Jesus teed up Havertz, who was leaning back and shot over. Jesus then cut inside onto his left but fired straight at Benitez from the angle. The Brazilian then created space with a clever stepover, but Benitez was again equal to the curling shot as Jesus looked for the far corner. The PSV goalkeeper was desperately attempting to atone for his earlier mistake, but there was nothing he could do as Jesus eventually made it three, lashing in a wonderful strike after Trossard's precise clip to the back post.

It wasn't even half-time and the three points had been secured. Arsenal have landed in a kind group on their return – with Sevilla and Lens for company there have been jokes that it looks more Europa League than Champions League, and on this early evidence the Gunners should cruise through. PSV offered nothing after a couple of early shots, which were both saved by David Raya, who again started ahead of Aaron Ramsdale. Arteta could have quite easily changed his goalkeeper here, but there would have been no point. Arsenal's job was already done.

THE INDEPENDENT

## Bayern beat Man Utd as Real Madrid, Arsenal win in Champions League

LONDON

HARRY Kane was among the scorers as Bayern Munich beat Manchester United 4-3 in their heavyweight Champions League clash on Wednesday, while Jude Bellingham snatched a dramatic late winner for Real Madrid and Arsenal began their campaign with a big victory.

The meeting between German champions Bayern and a struggling United side, a repeat of the 1999 final, was the biggest game of the opening round of matches in this season's competition and it did not disappoint.

Leroy Sane gave Bayern the lead at the Allianz Arena with a shot that squirmed through the grasp of United goalkeeper Andre Onana, and Jamal Musiala set up Serge Gnabry to make it 2-0 just after the half-hour mark.

Rasmus Hojlund pulled one back early in the second half with his first United goal, but shortly after Christian Eriksen was penalised for a handball in the box and Kane blasted in the resulting penalty.

Sane hit the post for the hosts before a crazy finish saw Casemiro reduce



Galatasaray players celebrate with Galatasaray's Tete, right, who scored his side's second goal during their Champions League Group A soccer match between Galatasaray and FC Copenhagen in Istanbul, Turkey, Wednesday, Sept. 20, 2023. (AP Photo)

the deficit again, substitute Mathys Tel score Bayern's fourth, and Casemiro nod in another at the death to make it 4-3.

"A crazy finish," Kane told British broadcaster TNT Sports after netting his fifth goal in six games for his new club.

"We lost a bit of concentration there in the last five minutes. Thankfully we were able to hold onto the lead.

"Overall it's a really good start to the campaign against a tough side."

Erik ten Hag's United team have now suffered three consecutive defeats in all competitions and lost four of their last five matches.

"After my mistake we lost control of the game. It's a difficult situation for us, for me," said Onana in reference to Bayern's first goal.

Thomas Tuchel's side are already in control of Group A, in which the other game saw Galatasaray come from two goals down to draw 2-2 with FC Copen-

hagen.

Goals from Mohamed Elyounoussi and Diogo Goncalves had the visitors in control in Istanbul but they then had Elias Jelert sent off and Galatasaray struck twice in the last four minutes of regulation time through Sacha Boey and Tete to earn a point.

- **Bellingham strikes again** -

In Madrid, Bellingham popped up from close range to score a 94th-minute winner as record 14-time European champions

Real beat tournament debutants Union Berlin 1-0 in Group C. The England international has started his Madrid career in stunning goalscoring form with six goals in six games for the club across all competitions.

"He has great qualities, it seems he's got luck too, because the goal is a rebound, but he was there, he arrives from deep, and he's more switched on than others, he's got that quality and he's taking advantage of it," said Real coach Carlo Ancelotti.

Madrid's next game is away to Napoli, who won 2-1 against Braga in Portugal with Sikou Niakate's late own goal giving the Italian team victory.

Giovanni Di Lorenzo had put Napoli ahead but Bruma looked to have earned Braga a draw when he struck with six minutes left.

- **Arsenal cruise** -

Arsenal cruised to a 4-0 win over PSV Eindhoven in their first Champions League game since the 2016/17 season.

Bukayo Saka, Leandro Trossard and Gabriel Jesus all scored first-half goals in the rain in London and Martin Odegaard wrapped up the win after the break.

"It was a beautiful night after such a long time. It was great to see the atmosphere, the Champions League music. It was emotional before the game," Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta said.

Their Group B rivals Sevilla and Lens drew 1-1 in Spain, with Angelo Fulgini's free-kick earning the French side a draw after Lucas Ocampos headed the hosts in front.

Last season's beaten finalists Inter Milan needed an 87th-minute Lautaro Martinez equaliser as they came from behind to draw 1-1 at Real Sociedad in Group D.

Brais Mendez had given the home team an early lead in San Sebastian.

In the same group Red Bull Salzburg missed one penalty but scored another in a 2-0 win away to Benfica in Lisbon.

Karim Konate blazed the Austrian team's first spot-kick over the bar in the third minute but home defender Antonio Silva was sent off on 13 minutes for a handball on the line and Salzburg's second penalty was converted by Roko Simic.

Oscar Gloukh scored their second goal just after the break.

AFP

## Andre Onana's wretched start at Man United just got worse - has anyone seen David de Gea?

By Richard Jolly

PERHAPS it was a piece of calamitous goalkeeping in an away defeat in Europe that made Erik ten Hag's mind up. David de Gea came out of his box, failed to control the ball and Youssef En-Nesyri was able to place the ball into the empty net from long range.

Manchester United required a new goalkeeper. Three months after Sevilla ejected them from the Europa League, on their return to continental competition, United lost again due to a goalkeeping error. Different goalkeeper, different type of mistake, admittedly. But if Ten Hag's diagnosis was that United needed a footballing goalkeeper, given De Gea's struggles with the ball at his feet, the issue this season is that they have not had a goalkeeping goalkeeper: not anyway, yet.

But, as errors from United's supposed shot-stoppers go, this was more Massimo Taibi against Southampton than De Gea versus Sevilla. As Leroy Sane's feeble shot slipped under Andre Onana, the first of seven goals in the Allianz Arena felt the most important. The Cameroonian accepted as much. "It's my responsibility; because of me, we didn't win," he said. "I have to recognise that we didn't win because of me. After my mistake we lost control of the game. It's a difficult situation for me, I let the team down." If the last line of the defence has offered no defence for himself, his honesty is at least admirable. "That is good," said Ten Hag.

Yet United had hoped the manager could com-



Andre Onana gifted Bayern Munich the opener. Agencies

pliment an old ally for his performances on the pitch, not in the post-match interviews. Instead, the scoreline – Bayern Munich 4-3 Manchester United – appeared deceptive, flattering to Ten Hag's team, indicative of bad goalkeeping. But Bayern knew they had a problem with Manuel Neuer injured: they spent the summer on a futile search for an upgrade to Sven Ulreich.

But United thought they had a solution: an expensive one, too, given that Onana was available on a free transfer a year earlier. They paid an initial £43m for perhaps the best goalkeeper in last season's Champions League; though very much not, if expected goals are the measure, in Serie A for Inter. Thus far, his save percentage in the Premier League is a lowly 65.5. He had conceded three goals in the Champions League before making a save. "In the second half, he made great saves so he shows

his capabilities," said Ten Hag. Those second-half stops, however, are not why Onana's night will be remembered.

And thus far, the defining moments of his United career are not saves, either. Since publicly blaming Harry Maguire for a goal in a pre-season friendly against Borussia Dortmund, Onana has been rather more culpable himself. He was lobbed from

50 yards against Lens. He should have conceded a penalty against Wolves for flying into Sasa Kalajdzic. Perhaps he could have done better for Lisandro Martinez's own goal against Tottenham. Peter Schmeichel, United's greatest goalkeeper, blamed Onana for Declan Rice's decisive goal for Arsenal. Certainly Joao Pedro's strike for Brighton looked saveable. If they weren't

hideous blunders, there is the suspicion another goalkeeper would have saved some of them; perhaps, some might say, an in-form De Gea.

Ten Hag sought to downplay what he saw as an aberration at the Allianz Arena; as well he might, given that Onana's struggles reflect on him in a way De Gea's certainly did not. The sense was that Ten Hag was lumbered with the Spaniard, but he chose his successor. "Of course, he knows he has to stop that ball but the way Sane came through cannot be," the manager argued. "If there is one mistake, don't make it bigger than it is."

Yet it was wretched, it was against Bayern, a European superpower in the Champions League, and it was when an otherwise out-of-form United side had started well. Onana's mea culpa was a reflection of that. "I think he shows he takes the responsibility and that shows personality," Ten Hag said. That personality could equip Onana to play for United; then again, Fabien Barthez scarcely lacked personal-

ity and his Old Trafford career was curtailed by the man who bought him.

Now there is a sense in which a United manager has never had more options. A shortage of fit outfield players was the primary reason why United had three goalkeepers on the bench against Bayern. With four goalkeepers in the squad, they conceded four times in a Champions League game for the first time since 1994. Perhaps it was a case of quantity not quality though the other three were blameless for their supposed superior's failings. That Ten Hag bought another goalkeeper, Altay Bayindir, on deadline day could offer an alternative. Yet his pursuit of, and reunion with, Onana indicates his former Ajax charge will be afforded the chances to recover from his dreadful start.

But there may have been a goalkeeper watching on and wondering what might have been. And if United do change their minds, De Gea is still available on a free transfer...

THE INDEPENDENT

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

Bayern beat Man Utd as Real Madrid, Arsenal win in Champions League

PAGE 19

**5** **EATV FRIDAY**

**FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE**

**TONIGHT @ 9:00**

**FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE**

11:00 DADAZ  
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA  
13:00 Movie  
13:55 Dondoo Za Michezo  
14:00 Movie  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 Mpera Mpera  
16:00 Zote Kuntu  
16:55 Dondoo Za Michezo  
17:00 SSELEKT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 Kali Za Wana  
18:30 Skonga  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
20:00 DADAZ (r)  
21:00 Friday Night Live  
23:00 Kurasa (r)  
23:05 EATV SAA 1 (r)

**Friday Night Live** The Weekend begins here! Listen to upbeat mixed music by the hottest DJs, Gossip, showbiz updates and exclusive interviews with celebrities from home and abroad. Don't you dare miss this.

**eastafrica RADIO**

05:00 Supa Breakfast  
09:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
19:00 Kipenga  
21:00 Friday Night Live

**88.1FM**  
DAR ES SALAAM

## Tanzania climbs up two places in FIFA Rankings

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA's senior national men's football team, Taifa Stars, has climbed up two positions from 124 to 122 in the latest rankings released by the world football's governing body, FIFA.

Taifa Stars improved by seven points from their previous ranking, and they now have a total of 1146 points on the table after they managed to hold fourth-placed Algeria to a crucial goalless draw on the road.

The draw secured Taifa Stars' return to the Africa Cup of Nations for the first time since 2019.

Needing just a point to finish second in Group F, Taifa Stars frustrated the dominant hosts to book their spot and deny Uganda who won 2-0 against Niger in the group tie.

This was the only game the side played since the last rankings were released on July 20.

At the continental stage, Morocco has moved two places up to position 13, remaining the leading African nation in the rankings while reigning African champions Senegal dropped two places from position 18 but remain amongst the top 20 in the world as they occupy position 20.

Tunisia is now amongst the top 30 in the world after moving up to position 29, while

Mali and Cote d'Ivoire both moved two places up to 49 and 50 to break into the top 50 ranked sides, replacing Greece and Paraguay respectively.

As a result, CAF now has 9 teams in the top 50, which is two more compared to the previous rankings.

Meanwhile, Guinea-Bissau made the biggest improvement in the rankings, moving up six places to position 106.

Globally, Argentina tightened their grip at the top spot after their 1-0 triumph over Ecuador and a 3-0 success against Bolivia in the opening CONMEBOL FIFA World Cup 2026 qualifiers.

Second place France lost some ground on the Albiceleste after suffering a 2-1 friendly defeat against Germany.

Brazil (3), England (4) and Belgium (5) retain their places in the top five that remain unchanged from the July 2023 edition of the global ranking.

The leading pack is followed by Croatia (6), Netherlands (7), and Portugal (8), who are the only team amongst the top 10 to climb a position.

Italy (9) slipped down a spot after being held to a 1-1 draw away to North Macedonia in the sides' UEFA EURO 2024 qualifier. The top 10 line-up is completed by Spain.

## Miguel Gamondi questions counter-attacking Namungo FC tactics



Yanga's striker, Clement Mzize (R), seeks to outfox Namungo FC's defender Derrick Mukombozi when the clubs faced each other in a 2023/24 NBC Premier League tie at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam on September 20. Yanga defeated Namungo FC 1-0. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YOUNG Africans SC head coach Miguel Gamondi has revealed his frustration at Namungo FC's unwillingness to attack in Wednesday's 1-0 hard-fought victory for the hosts in a 2023/24 NBC Premier League duel at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

The top flight's defending champions, popularly known as Yanga, dominated but struggled to provide a genuine threat to Cedric Kaze-coached Namungo FC before mustering a desperate late push.

Second-half substitute Mudathir Yahya found a way through for Yanga in the 89th minute to earn them three points as they climbed back to the top of the 2023/24 NBC Premier League table with nine points from their opening three games.

Reflecting on a much-

needed victory for his side, Gamondi was relieved to have taken maximum points from a tough game.

He blamed Namungo FC for employing time-wast-

ing, counter-attacking tactics and killing the rhythm of the game.

The Argentine noted: "Did you watch the game? One team tried waiting and

wasting time and was allowed by the referees."

The tactician said: "The referees allowed them to waste time and cut the rhythm. They were allowed

to play like this, it is okay. We did not play well but we scored one goal and won."

Gamondi stated: "When you play against a team that does not want to play it is always difficult. You have to score in the first half."

He noted: "If we had scored, for example, Maxi's chances, for sure it could have been a different game."

"I am sorry to say if this team attacked us they could have created opportunities. If they dared to attack maybe they could have beaten us."

"But they didn't have the courage, they were waiting for us, maybe because in the last two games we scored five goals."

"It was tough, maybe the player felt a little bit tired after the trip and the game in Rwanda. We were not too good with the passes."

"We lost easy chances, passes, we weren't clinical but this is football at the end of the day a game like that is all about three points."

The gaffer noted: "It is not easy when you play with ten players behind it is difficult. We did not score in the first half, the other team got more confident, more courage to run and it became more difficult for us. Sometimes you need to be very calm, not hurry to create good chances."

Yanga will return to action next week when they host Sudan's Al Merrikh in the 2023/24 CAF Champions League second preliminary round's second leg game at Azam Complex Stadium.

A goal at the hour mark by Zambian striker, Kennedy Musonda, plus a sublime finish by 19-year-old Clement Mzize, when the two clubs locked horns in the previous tie, ensured the Tanzanian representatives head into the second leg with a comfortable two-goal cushion lead.

## Twiga Stars brace for epic WAFCON Qualifiers showdown with Ivory Coast

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA's senior national women's football team, Twiga Stars, will be seeking a positive outing as they take on their Ivorian counterparts in the first leg of the first round of the 2024 TotalEnergies Women's Africa Cup of Nations Qualifiers (WAFCON).

The game will be played at Stade de Yamoussoukro, Yamoussoukro, kick off has been slated for 7:30 pm this evening.

Twiga Stars departed Dar es Salaam on Monday afternoon and reached the Ivorian capital on the same day.

The squad's head coach Bakari Shime and his charges had a positive start to putting the team in shape.

Shime said: "We have had our training sessions and the players have enjoyed it because the pitch suits our style of play."

"The sessions were important because we were missing some players during our residential training in Dar es Salaam."

Shime noted: "Opah Clement joined us a day before we left Dar. Aisha Masaka also joined us here. Except Julieth Singano, we have a full house."



Footballers making Tanzania's senior national women's squad, Twiga Stars, engage in training at Scientific High School's ground in Yamoussoukro, Ivory Coast recently to shape up for 2024 Women's Africa Cup of Nations (WAFCON) Qualifiers against Ivory Coast. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA FOOTBALL FEDERATION

The tactician insisted: "We are ready for the game, unfortunately, we don't know anything about our opponents. We are working on various strategies based on the different approaches that Ivory Coast might take."

Ivory Coast is currently ranked 64th in the FIFA Women's World Rankings and is the sixth-best team in CAF, on the other side, Twiga Stars are ranked 151 globally and 30th on the continent.

The two teams will face off

in the return leg on September 27 in Dar es Salaam, with the winner on aggregate advancing to the second and final qualification round.

In the second round, the winner will face off with either Djibouti or Togo, with the

aggregate winner of Tanzania and Ivory Coast's duel hosting the first-leg fixture.

Twiga Stars made their first and last appearance in the Women's Africa Cup of Nations finals in 2011 but failed to go past the group stage in the tournament held in South Africa.

The 27 players representing Tanzania in Abidjan are Goalkeepers: Najath Abbas (JKT Queens), Zulfa Makau (JKT Queens), and Husna Mtunda (Yanga Princess).

Defenders: Julieth Singano (FC Juárez Femenil, Mexico), Anastazia Katunzi (JKT Queens), Happy Hezron (JKT Queens), Christer Bahera (JKT Queens), Vaileth Nicholas (JKT Queens), Fatuma Issa (Simba Queens), Joyce Lema (JKT Queens), and Diana Lucas (Amed S.F.K, Turkey)

Midfielders: Noela Luhala (Yanga Princess), Aisha Juma (Simba Queens), Zainabu Mohamed (JKT Queens), Janeth Pangamwene (JKT Queens), Koku Kipanga (Simba Queens), Amina Ally (JKT Queens), Donisia Minja (JKT Queens), and Eneka Kasonga (FC Kryvbas, Ukraine)

Forwards: Stumai Abdallah (JKT Queens), Diana Mnali (JKT Queens), Sarah Joel (Fountain Gate Princess), Esther Mabanza (JKT Queens), Aisha Masaka (BK Hacken, Sweden), Oppa Clement (Be ikta Women's FC, Turkey), Jamila Rajabu (JKT Queens), and Winfrida Gerald (JKT Queens)

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

