



National Pg 3
Strength of US - Tanzania partnership

National Pg 4
Vodacom MD tours IPP media

National Pg 6
Team to probe cause of inferno

THE Banker
YOUR FINANCIAL GUIDE

Small, microfinance banks improve their earnings amid covid-19 crisis

All set for women in business awards

Hope as BOT starts to work on lending rates

Vodacom boss says users lose data unknowingly

Page 13



Z'bar Treasury alarmed by gross frauds in purchasing

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

AUTHORITIES in the Zanzibar and Union governments will be working closely with the private sector in the fight against bribery and embezzlement of public funds, a top civil servant has declared.

Dr Juma Malik Akili (pictured), the permanent secretary in the President's Office (Finance and Planning), aired this sentiment when opening a five-day training workshop on how to control bribery and embezzlement of public funds, organized by Perterms Consultancy, an audit firm based in Dar es Salaam.

Despite various measures taken to combat bribery in the public service, the government is seeking collaboration with stakeholders such as Perterms Consultancy, which specializes in investigating corporate frauds, in controlling the misuse of funds.



Fraud can be carried out by any person regardless of their rank in an organisation, thus the primacy of civil servants and private sector operators to adhere to work ethics

"We need to ensure close monitoring of public funds at all stages from collections to expenditures," he asserted.

There has been poor supervision of public funds especially as regards expenditures, he stated, pointing out that reports by the Controller and Auditor General (CAG) consistently show serious frauds being perpetrated in the government.

"It is my hope that the skills you have acquired will help in curbing corruption and misconduct in expenditure of public funds. We anticipate positive changes in your working areas," he told the participants, drawn from ministerial departments and a range of public agencies.

Shahibu Nsekela, a certified fraud examiner, said the training aims at boosting the government's efforts in combating corruption, urging participants to use additional acquired knowledge to enhance the supervision of public resources.

Each government agency or public institution must ensure professionalism especially in recruiting staff members, while also providing them with regular training.

Dr Rose Ntundu of the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF), for the participants, said such training is important to civil servants as it enables sharing knowledge

TURN TO PAGE 2

Ports ICT system not efficient enough - MPs

SAMIA MEETS LISSU

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan holds talks with exiled Chadema national vice chairman Tundu Antipas Lissu in the Belgian capital, Brussels, yesterday. A statement issued by the Directorate of Presidential Communications said that the talks were on matters of interest and benefit to Tanzania and were held at the request of the opposition party's leader. No details were immediately available but Samia, then Vice President, visited Lissu at his hospital bed in Nairobi in September 2017 after he sustained gunshot wounds in Dodoma. He was thereafter flown to Belgium for further treatment.

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

THE government needs to fast-track improvement of information and communication technology (ICT) systems used by the Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) to improve efficiency in port services, the National Assembly has declared.

Selemani Kakoso, chairman of the parliamentary standing committee on Infrastructure Development, made this affirmation when tabling an operations report for the committee yesterday, noting that TPA was facing challenges of inadequate ICT systems.

This affects the security of cargo and port efficiency in general, impeding cargo offloading and delivery frameworks due to occasional disturbances in ICT operations, he said, underlining the need to strengthen the ICT system TPA uses to instill trust among users of the port of Dar es Salaam.

"We visited TPA and we observed that it faces challenges in its ICT systems, as they need improvements for port efficiency," he said, elaborating that the committee similarly observed that works sector colleges face challenges like poor infrastructures, lack of teaching facilities and paltry funds to cover running costs.

Challenges affecting learning efficiency in the colleges would impact the sector's



My committee found that operations of the project were suffering from losses arising from starting the project without a proper feasibility study

development and the country's economy, the report cautioned, advising the government to financially empower public colleges to bring efficiency and curb sloppy learners to whom the works sector will later be entrusted.

The government should ensure that teaching equipment is available for the higher learning institutions, which needs a master plan for developing the colleges, ensuring sustainable capacity for responding to challenges of poor infrastructures and shortage of teaching equipment.

"The committee also saw that there is an increase of cybercrime challenges despite efforts conducted by the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) to fight the vice," asserting that it is a huge threat to the country's economy when deposits, transactions or communications can be interfered from outside.

The committee recommended that TCRA and the police force, which has a cybercrime department, work to find means of ending such disturbances once and for all. The committee asked the government to support the Tanzania Telecommunication Co. Ltd (TTCL) with working capital so as to improve its efficiency.

TTCL was facing challenges in operating the national ICT broadband backbone (NICTBB), a situation that merits immediate efforts to improve telecommunication

TURN TO PAGE 2

'Send top students for atomic energy studies'

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THERE is need for the government to allocate funds for sending bright science students to excellent institutions abroad to receive specialized training in atomic energy, a cabinet minister has declared.

Prof Adolf Mkenda, the Minister for Education, Science and Technology, made the remark on Tuesday at an event to lay the foundation stone for laboratories and offices for the Tanzania Atomic Energy Commission



We can then send our youth to be educated in those universities

(TAEC) in the central zone at Kikombo area in the capital.

"If we want to succeed, we must invest in education. People may see the need for investing in a building because it is visible, but it is less so for investing in the atomic energy profession, he said, insisting that the country must now begin to allocate funds for sending our youth for such studies.

It is those who have performed well in

TURN TO PAGE 2

Govt planning rain water harvests to curb shortage

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

THE government is working on strategies to strengthen the harvesting of rainwater so as to curb shortages of the precious liquid in various parts of the country, the National Assembly heard yesterday.

Water deputy minister Maryprisca Mahundi



(pictured) made this affirmation yesterday when responding to a question by Mohamed Maulid Ali (Kiembe Samaki), who demanded the government to come up with a strategy to construct dams across the country for rain water harvesting and pumping water from Lales.

Instead of spending a lot of funds digging big wells which at the end of the day dry up, it is better for the government to put more emphasis on harvesting rain water, the MP had stated, to which the deputy minister reaffirmed.

He said the government was implementing

TURN TO PAGE 2



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Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi holds talks at Zanzibar State House yesterday with a visiting delegation of the Cairo-based African Export-Import Bank, also referred to as Afreximbank. The team was led by the bank's Vice Executive President, Amr Kamel (3rd-L). Photo: Zanzibar State House

Govt planning rain water harvests to curb shortage

FROM PAGE 1

projects to rehabilitate dams in various districts to support the harvesting of rainwater, as it is well prepared to improve access to water countrywide. It will continue taking durable measures to improve water supply, which includes facilitating rainwater harvest, she emphasized.

Construction and rehabilitation

of dams is going on in 20 districts countrywide, she said, noting that 58 suitable sites were identified to build small dams, whose construction is billed for next financial year.

The ministry seeks to ensure that water projects are built to take water from reliable sources especially major lakes and rivers, she affirmed, with water projects in the Lake Zone basin focused on Lake Victoria.

These are Shinyanga, Kahama, Tabora, Igunga and Nzega as well as Bukoba, Musoma, Lamadi, Misungwi and Magu, as well as those for Mugango-Kiabakari - Butiama, Tinde - Shelui. Yet other will supply water to Busega, Bariadi, Lagangabilili and Mwanhuzi.

Water from Lake Tanganyika is expected to be used for water supply projects for Kigoma Urban, Kirando and Kabwe, she stated, noting further

that river projects include the Kyaka-Bunazi water project taking water from the Kagera River.

Supplying water to dry areas will on the contrary focus on reliable sources of groundwater, where envisaged areas include Dodoma, Singida, Lindi, Manyara, Simiyu and Kigoma regions, the latter covering (Buhigwe, Kakonko), along with Katavi Region (Mlele, Nsimbo) projects, she added.

Z'bar Treasury alarmed by gross frauds in purchasing

FROM PAGE 1

and learn new techniques.

Charles Masolwa, executive director of the consulting firm, said it is geared to support government efforts in the fight against corruption, noting that training sessions of this sort are regularly conducted.

The consultancy conducts fraud

examinations on various companies to provide professional advice on the likelihood of fraud and how it may have occurred.

Fraud can be carried out by any person regardless of their rank in an organisation, thus the primacy of civil servants and private sector operators to adhere to work ethics, he added.

TPA and TRC urged to utilise Isaka dry port to boost trade

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

THE government through the Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) and the Railway Corporation (TRC) is making efforts to encourage customers and transporters to use Isaka dry port to boost trade.

The Isaka dry dock in Kahama, Shinyanga is a sub-port of Dar es Salaam serving the land-locked countries of Rwanda, Burundi, Uganda, and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Previously an inland container terminal (ICT), it acquired dry port status in 1999.

Deputy Minister for Works and Transport, Atupele Mwakibete said in the National Assembly when responding to a question by Santiel Kirumba, who wanted to know when the government would improve the Isaka dry port so as to stimulate trade and economic development.

He said the government has

procured and deployed one forklift and one reach-taker which are used by TRC to operate the Isaka dry port.

"The purpose of purchasing and deploying the equipment at the port was aimed to increase the efficiency of freight forwarding services between Dar es Salaam, neighboring regions of Shinyanga and neighboring Rwanda, Congo and Burundi," he said.

The deputy minister acknowledged that the utilization of the Isaka dry port was still very low and this is contributed by lack of freight wagons and engines facing the TRC.

However, he said in December 2021, TRC received 44 freight wagons and three engines as part of a project to upgrade the country's central line to improve cargo transportation.

He added that by improving the Isaka dry port, it will reduce handling costs by traders and thus stimulate economic growth.

'Send top students for atomic energy studies'

FROM PAGE 1

subjects associated with atomic energy, to attend good foreign universities to help us when they come back, he stated, noting that people in a country like Singapore which was on par with Tanzania in the early 1960s is now part of the most developed economies in the world.

"That comes from investing in education," he maintained, hinting on plans to convene a major consultative meeting with keynote speakers from various universities around the world to see how we can access opportunity in universities teaching atomic energy subjects. We can then send our youth to be educated in those universities," he stated.

TAEC director general Prof Lazaro

Busagala said the central zone complex will house laboratories and other offices, altogether costing 3.8bn/-. The government provides 90 per cent of the agency's operational funds, he said, elaborating that construction work will take one year.

The contract agreement with the contractor was signed in May last year and so far we are concentrating on the work," he said, itemizing TAEC's responsibilities as basically to control the importation of radioactive items by various agencies or institutions.

Abdallah Chikota (Nanyamba), the vice chairman for the standing committee for Community Development, said MPs will continue to work with the commission to enable it carry out its duties.



National Assembly Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson (L) has an audience in Dodoma city yesterday with Canada's High Commissioner to Tanzania, Pamela O'Donnell (2nd-L), and her delegation. Photo courtesy of National Assembly

Fear grips Mtwara as three bodaboda riders found dead in a week

By Correspondent Abdallah Bakari, Mtwara

FEAR has gripped Mtwara-Mikindani Municipality, especially among bodaboda riders, following brutal killings of three of their colleagues in one week.

The trio was first robbed of their motorcycles by unknown people before they were killed in separate incidents and their bodies dumped at different places in Mtwara Region.

According to information made available to this paper, the two dead bodies were found at Hiari forest while the other was found at Majengo area in Mtwara town.

Briefing reporters here yesterday, Acting Mtwara Regional Police Commander ACP, Nicodemus Katembo said that all three were bodaboda riders operating at various stations within Mtwara town.

He said that in the first event in February 6th, 2022 at 13:00 at Hiari village, Mtwara District, in Mtwara Region, a skeleton of man was found

and later identified as of Kelvin Mbale, a bodaboda rider who went missing in January 2nd, 2022.

"After DNA test with his father George Mbale, we confirmed that the found skeleton belongs to Kelvin Mbale," he said.

"In the second incident, at Majengo forest in Mtwara town, the body of Mohamed Juma (35) a bodaboda rider, was found on February 12, 2022 after being reported missing on February 10th this year and the last one was reported on February 15th 2022 in which Mohamed Mohamed (22) was found dead at Hiari forest after going missing for five days."

The RPC said that in all incidents, the killers took their victims' motorcycles, adding that law enforcers have launched investigation in a bid to nab the criminals involved in robbery-murder crimes.

He made a call to bodaboda riders in the municipality to stop carrying unfamiliar or two passengers at once and adhere to safety and security procedures all the time.

Ports ICT system not efficient enough - MPs

FROM PAGE 1

services around the country, he said.

The committee similarly urged the government to come up with a strategy that will make the DART project profitable, noting that the bus system may not have been put to a proper feasibility study before it was implemented.

Such study would be conducted on the basis of the real environment and its potential benefits, "but this is not the case with the project," he declared.

"My committee found that operations of the project were suffering from losses arising from starting the project without a proper feasibility study," he said. The losses outdo the intended productivity as well as undermining the potential benefits in services expected by the general public, he added.



We visited TPA and we observed that it faces challenges in its ICT systems, as they need improvements for port efficiency

Govt allocates 1.4bn/- to rebuild collapsed Tembelele river bridge

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THE government has allocated 1.4bn/- for the construction of Tembela river bridge that had collapsed in 2019 killing five people and cut road communication of three wards of the City of Mbeya for more than two years.

The bridge that connects Mwakibete, Tembela and Mwasanga wards in the City of Mbeya with other wards of Mbeya District whose residents have been missing important services during the period.

Innocent Bashungwa, minister of state in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Government -RALG) toured the area on Tuesday and assured the residents that the government has already set aside the funds for restoring road communication in their area.

He said the money has already been paid to TARURA account Mbeya Region to enable construction work to start.

Bashungwa said the government allocated then funds after the House speaker, who is Mbeya Urban Member of Parliament, Dr Tulia Ackson

pleaded with President samia Suluhu Hassan.

He instructed Mbeya Region TARURA manager to make sure work on the bridge starts before March 1 this year to restore road communication to enable residents engage in their economic activities they had suspended.

He said due to the importance of the road for the two local councils, the government will see how to incorporate it in its plans so that it becomes all weather roads.

Speaking on behalf of fellow residents of Tembela Ward, the ward Councillor Frank Mwasoyoke thanked the government for building the broken bridge saying economic activities in the area had started to stagnate.

He said to ensure the road is passable the residents of the three wards decided to construct a temporary bridge and widen the road using hand hoes and spades.

For his part, Mbeya City Deputy Mayor Agnes Mangasila called on residents served by the road to work together with the government during the bridge's construction to enable it to be completed on time.



United States ambassador to Tanzania Donald Wright exchanges views with course participants in one of the security and strategic studies at the National Defence College (NDC) in Dar es Salaam yesterday moments after he had delivered a keynote lecture. He explained the pillars of US foreign policy in Tanzania to students from 43 countries and highlighted the enduring strength of the US -Tanzania partnership. Photo: US embassy

Envoy highlights strength of US - Tanzania partnership

By Guardian Reporter

US ambassador to Tanzania Dr Donald Wright delivered a keynote lecture on US foreign policy and the US -Tanzania partnership to students at the National Defence College held in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

Ambassador Wright was invited to deliver the lecture by the Commandant of the College, Major General Ibrahim Mhona.

In his presentation ambassador Wright highlighted the strength of the 60-year partnership between the US and Tanzania, which has brought numerous benefits for both countries. He summarised the pillars of the US -Tanzania relationship as shared commitments to improving health and education; boosting economic growth and trade; strengthening democracy; and advancing greater peace and security.

"In each of these areas, our partnership is having a positive impact on the lives of ordinary Tanzanians while strengthening and reinforcing the bond between our countries," he

said.

Addressing the key issue of security cooperation, Ambassador Wright stressed the vital role Tanzania plays in helping to ensure peace and security in the region.

"Tanzania is a key U.S. partner for promoting peace and regional stability in East Africa," he said.

The National Defence College routinely invites diplomats to deliver guest lectures to students in its Security and Strategic Studies Course, as part of its mission to equip defence and government policy makers with national security and international relations knowledge.



Tanzania is a key U.S. partner for promoting peace and regional stability in East Africa

UNFPA donates ten motorbikes to police force for GBV response

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE Police Force has received 10 motorcycles worth 51.3m/- from the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to provide quality and timely support to survivors of Gender-Based Violence.

Speaking at the handing over held in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Inspector General of Police Simon Sirro said the donation will enhance the capacity of police gender & children desks to reach out to the victims of gender-based violence.

Commissioner Sirro said the effort made by the UNFPA has contributed a lot in ending women and children

violence noting that they have decreased.

"Let us stop practicing outdated customs and norms. We need collective efforts to end gender based violence. The donation will further help our officers in charge of desks to reach the community for awareness," he said.

Commissioner Sirro called on UNFPA to think of supporting the police ward leaders in ending the reported violence normally at ward level.

UNFPA Officer In charge Georgette Kyomba reminded that acts of gender-based violence and harmful practices against women, girls, children and older persons were rampant in society on daily

basis.

She said in Tanzania as in many countries around the world too many women and girls live in fear of violence and abuse.

Kyomba said four in ten women and girls aged 15 to 49 will experience gender based violence in their lifetime adding that three in every ten girls will marry before their 18th birthday.

The officer in charge said although the national average for Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) has decreased to 10 percent, gains across regions have been unequal and it remains as high as 58 percent in Manyara region.

Behind these numbers were broken bones, broken souls and broken

individuals, with families, communities and the nation continuing to incur huge social and economic costs.

She said gender based balance has serious consequences in their lives including disability, deaths and psychological consequences. Overall, it has an impact on the opportunity of every individual to reach his or her full development and potential.

"UNFPA is fully committed to protecting every woman and every girl from harm and abuse, sexual and gender-based violence, and harmful practices such as child marriage and FGM," she highlighted.

Kyomba added that in Tanzania, UNFPA support the government to

implement the targets set by the National Plans OF Action to end Violence against Women and children.

Through partnership, they have supported the police at the national, regional and local levels to improve its capacity to reach out to the survivors of gender-based violence and harmful practices.

Police Community Engagement Officer Dr Musa Ally Musa said that the donation was the open evidence showing how police gender desks play their roles to solve the problems.

"We must practice community engagement, organisation transformation and solve challenges," he said.

KATIKA MAHAKAMA KUU YA TANZANIA
HASJALA NDOGO YA TEMEKE
(TEMEKE KITUO JUMUSHI HUJUMA ZA MAHAKAMA
MIRATHI NA NDOA)
UTHIBITISHO WA USIMAMIZI WA MIRATHI
MIRATHI NA 7 YA MWAKA 2022
MAOMBI Y ABARUA ZA USIMAMIZI WA MIRATHI YA
MAREHEMU JEREMIAS MUSABILA BULEMELA
PATRICIA JEREMIAS BULEMELA.....MWOMBALI
TAARIFA YA KAWAIDA
(kanuni ya 75)
Watu wote wanadai kuwa na haki kwa marehemu
aliyetajwa hapo juu wanafahamishwa kufika na kuangalia
mashauri hayo kufika jikada kama wanapaswa kuifika kabla
ya kutiwa kwa uthibitisho wa barua za usimamizi wa
mirathi kwa mwombaji hapo juu malinganizi yoyote
kukhusu maombi haya yawe yameandikishwa mnamo su
kabla ya tarehe 07 mwezi machi, 2022.
Imewasilishwa dar es salaam leo tarehe 21 mwezi wa
januari, 2022



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INVITATION TO TENDER FOR APPOINTMENT TO FRAMEWORK AGREEMENTS

TITLE: CONSULTANCY SERVICES TO CONDUCT DUE DILIGENCE ON SHORTLISTED FIRMS & DELIVERY CAPABILITY ASSESSMENT (DCA) ON IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

NUMBER: TMEA/FWA/R&C/2022/01

TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) is a multi-donor funded, not-for-profit organisation, established in 2010 to promote regional trade and prosperity in East Africa. TMEA wishes to engage reputable consultancy firms, consortiums, and joint ventures for appointment to a framework agreement, whose expertise shall be called upon via competition and contracts awarded during the life of the framework amongst the service providers on the framework agreement, in response to specific defined pieces of work that will be required.

The framework agreement shall cover the following broad areas of work:

- i. **Lot 1:** Infrastructure/Civil Works;
- ii. **Lot 2:** Services (Professional and Consultancy Services);
- iii. **Lot 3:** IT Systems/Equipment and ;
- iv. **Lot 4:** Delivery Capability Assessment (DCA) on Implementing Partners.

The successful bidders shall be appointed to a framework agreement for a period up to 3 years. The bid document containing further information about the scope of the framework agreement and the procurement process can be obtained at <https://www.trademarkea.com/get-involved/procurement/>. All queries quoting the above Framework Title and Number, should be emailed to frameworks@trademarkea.com.

The closing date for submissions is **22 March 2022** (10:00 am Kenya time). This framework agreement is open ONLY to consultancy firms/consortiums and joint ventures. Interested and qualified consultancy firms/consortiums and joint ventures MUST submit their bids via frameworks@trademarkea.com and all attachments must be **10 MB** or less.

TMEA cannot answer any query relating to this tender 7 days or less prior to the submission deadline.

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Vodacom (T) Managing Director Sitholizwe Mdlalose visits IPP Media premises



The Guardian newspaper managing editor Wallace Mauggo (R) explains newsroom operations to Vodacom Tanzania Plc managing director Sitholizwe Mdlalose (5th-L), who visited IPP media outlets in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Looking on (from-L): Vodacom Tanzania corporate affairs director Rosalyn Mworira, Tanzania Guardian Ltd director Joyce Luhanga, print manager Balasubramaniyan Venkadachalam, commercial director Ajay Goyal and finance manager Samuel Orghness. Photos: Correspondent Miraji Msala



The Guardian Ltd printing manager Balasubramaniyan Venkadachalam (R) shows Vodacom managing director Sitholizwe Mdlalose plates used to print newspapers.



Vodacom (T) managing director Sitholizwe Mdlalose exchanges greetings with EATV workers as EastAfrica Radio manager Lydia Igarabuza gives a briefing on how the channel airs its programmes



EastAfrica Radio manager Lydia Igarabuza briefs Vodacom (T) director Sitholizwe Mdlalose on how the channel programmes are aired



Vodacom (T) managing director Sitholizwe Mdlalose (C) dances with East Africa radio presenters. Left is Vodacom corporate affairs director Rosalyn Mworira.



ITV/Radio One managing director Joyce Mhavile briefs Vodacom (T) managing director Sitholizwe Mdlalose on how the channel airs its programmes



Radio One sports editor Amri Masare (C) explains how Capital Radio airs the news, to Vodacom (T) managing director Sitholizwe Mdlalose



ITV Channel director Pius Paul elaborates to Vodacom (T) managing director Sitholizwe Mdlalose how its programmes are aired.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa (R) have a word with Minister of State in the President's Office (Without Portfolio) George Mkuchika in the National Assembly Dodoma on Tuesday. Photo: PMO

Engage employees in finding solutions to conflicts at work places, employers urged

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government has called on employers to frequently hold consultations with employees in effort to end conflicts at work places, saying both parties need each other.

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of State, Prime Minister's Office, Youth, Employment and the Disabled, Prof Jamal Katundu made the call here yesterday, noting that mutual agreement at work is important in national development.

He said the government is committed to end conflicts at work places through friendly dialogue for the prosperity of both parties and the entire nation.

Speaking while officiating at the opening of a consultative dialogue between media owners and the government, he said media owners should lead by example and ensure their workers get their rights.

Prof Katundu explained that media sector plays a crucial role in national economic development and the government has the obligation to create an enabling environment for more investments in the sector and

protect employees.

"The government has seen it wise to end conflicts between workers and employers through mutual discussion for the betterment of both parties and national development," he said.

According to the PS better relation at work places mean a lot to the government for it is through workers and employers that the government gets part of its revenues, thus the need for intervention.

Rodney Thadeus who represented the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Information, Communication and Information Technology, Dr Jim Yonazi, challenged media stakeholders to rightfully use technology for development of the sector.

"Media is soft power and has strong contributions to the development of any nation," he said, calling on media owners to ensure workers get their rights including job contracts.

The Researchers, Academicians and Allied Workers Union (RAAWU) chairperson, Jane Mihanji on her part decried what she termed as deplorable working environment for

media professionals in the country, specifically stating that most journalists do not have formal work contracts.

"Most media owners in the country use the term correspondent and freelancer to infringe journalists of their rightful benefits," she said, adding that there is need for journalists to be reminded of their rights at work.

She also suggested that media employers allow their workers to join trade unions as the best way to help them solve conflicts at work and grievances.

Journalists Workers Union of Tanzania (JUWUTA) Secretary General, Suleiman Msuya noted that the main challenge facing journalists in Tanzania is lack of formal employment.

For her part, Labour Commissioner, Suzana Mkangwa observed that there are still challenges despite efforts by the government to ensure labour laws in the country are observed by employers.

She argued that some of the employers deliberately ignore the laws, adding that the action is contrary to human rights and good governance practices.

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

THE Parliament has urged the government to put in place strong strategies which include improving the oil supply and storage infrastructures at the Dar es Salaam Port, so as to meet demand and reduce the increasing fuel prices in the country.

Presenting a report in the House yesterday, Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy and Minerals, Dastan Kitandula, said the committee had visited oil depots and found a number of issues that need commitment from the government to help address the challenge.

He said it was important to construct large storage tanks that will be able to store more than 1.25 million cubic meters of fuel, a step that would help the country to have big reserves of fuel to also serve neighbouring countries.

"It was important for the country to import the commodity in bulk especially when prices in the global

Devise strategies to improve oil supply, storage infrastructures at Dar Port, parliament advises govt

market fall, this will help the country to have enough stock," he added.

He added: "Currently when the government is planning to build a single big oil depot, the Tanzania International Petroleum Reserves Limited (TIPER) fuel depot should be used so as to eliminate the problem of ships waiting for a long time to enter the Dar es Salaam port."

The committee advised the government to fast-track changes of the fuel bulk procurement system so as to facilitate larger shipments of fuel and thus provide relief of fuel importation costs.

In addition, the committee advised the government to review laws and bring in the House amendment bill so as to ensure that local companies importing fuel get relief

that will enable them to compete with companies that are registered outside the country.

"The Energy and Water Regulatory Authority (EWURA) should accomplish the process of drafting regulations that will enable the establishment of petrol stations in rural areas at a relatively affordable cost compared to urban centres, this exercise should be completed before May, 2022," he added.

Kitandula said the committee found that fuel prices in the country have been rising steadily, something which is being caused by several reasons including rise of price in the global market, low capacity of infrastructures at the Dar es Salaam port as well as limited capacity of fuel storage facilities in the country.



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS – EAYIP TANZANIA FINAL EVALUATION

1. Introduction

Heifer Project International ("Heifer") is a leading international development organization working to end hunger and poverty while caring for the earth. For 75 years, we have provided livestock and sustainable agricultural training to struggling communities around the world. We currently work in 21 countries, including the United States, supporting local food producers to expand their businesses and earn a living income.

Among other projects, Heifer is currently implementing the East Africa Youth Inclusion Program (EAYIP) in Uganda and Tanzania in partnership with Mastercard Foundation.

2. Project Background

EAYIP is a five-year program with the overarching goal of improving the livelihoods of 25,000 economically disadvantaged young people between the ages of 15-24 in Tanzania and Uganda. EAYIP seeks to create employment and enterprise development opportunities in the dairy sector and other agricultural value chains. Since 2016, EAYIP has been equipping and empowering youth to improve their livelihoods through skills development, access to finance, enhancing an enabling environment and hub replication.

The project is being implemented through a consortium of organizations including local, Youth focused NGOs, and CBOs with Heifer as the lead implementer. The consortium members include the following implementing partners: Youth Alive (Uganda), MIICO and Restless Development (Tanzania), as well as the following service providers: Economic and Social Research Foundation (Tanzania), Kilimo Trust (Uganda), and Making Cents International (USA). In Tanzania the project is being implemented in Mbeya, Iringa, Songwe and Njombe regions in the Southern Highlands.

3. Required Expertise

EAYIP will end on 31 March 2022, Heifer International therefore invites technical and financial proposals from competent and qualified consultants with substantial experience in conducting credible research in Tanzania to undertake the Final Evaluation for the EAYIP. More specifically, the lead Contractor should have proven track record in conducting impact research studies on livelihood projects/programs, with knowledge and experience in agri-value chain development and enterprise development. The Contractor should also have at least 15 years work experience in conducting sound and credible impact research studies for similar organizations with expertise in agribusiness, gender analysis and with excellent analytical and report writing skills.

4. Application Process

Interested parties are requested to send full proposals by February 23rd February 2022 at 5 p.m. (East African time) to this email address procurement-tz@heifer.org copying Betty.Mbelwa@heifer.org and Godwin.Elisa@heifer.org with subject line "Consultant- EAYIP Evaluation".

For the detailed Terms of Reference and other requirements of the assignment please request through the above emails.

Government sets aside 2bn/- for procurement of modern vehicles for Fire and Rescue Force

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

THE government has set aside 2bn/- in this fiscal year for the procurement of modern vehicles to strengthen operations of the Fire and Rescue Force.

Home Affairs deputy minister, Jumanne Sagini made the statement in the House yesterday when responding to a question posed by Esther Matiko (Special Seats) who sought for the government's explanations on when it will procure modern fire fighting vehicles so as to help rescue people's lives and properties.

He said that the country was facing a shortage of fire and rescue vehicles and equipment and the government was working tirelessly to ensure that the department was well equipped.


He said the government has prepared a strategic plan which is aimed to strengthen fire and rescue services in the country by firming up and adding modern operational equipment in the fire and rescue force.

"These modern vehicles and equipment will go hand in hand with the deployment of fire and rescue services in all districts that do not have such services," he said. The deputy minister

said the main purpose of purchasing the vehicles is to increase efficiency in the life-saving activities as well as people's properties conducted by the fire and rescue force during accidents.

"The government will continue to allocate funds each year to ensure that more modern equipment and vehicles are procured and disbursed countrywide so as to enable the force to implement its operations smoothly," he added. He further said the fire and rescue force has continued to provide awareness to the general public on how to prevent and overcome fire incidents in efforts to reduce the number of fire accidents.

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA



**IN THE FAIR COMPETITION TRIBUNAL OF TANZANIA
AT DAR ES SALAAM**

CROSS APPEAL IN APPEAL NO. 3 OF 2022

BETWEEN

TANZANIA ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED APPELLANT

AND

BHARYA ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION CO. LTD 1ST RESPONDENT

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES REGULATORY AUTHORITY 2ND RESPONDENT

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

TAKE NOTICE THAT a cross appeal has been lodged in the Tribunal against part of the decision of the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) given on 28th October, 2021 in which EWURA partly allowed the 1st Respondent's complaint against the Appellant herein contesting a debt amounting to TZS 87,931,146.95 alleged to have emanated from electrical energy consumed by the 1st Respondent's tenant. EWURA held that the 1st Respondent is liable to pay TZS 37,426,864.55 only and ordered each party to bear its own costs.

The cross appeal is based on the grounds that, among others, EWURA erred in law and fact by not considering the evidence and facts tendered and by failing to give a well reasoned award. Thus, the Appellant prays that the Tribunal appraise part of the decision of EWURA and order the 1st Respondent to pay Tzs. 51,251,43.36 being interest of the debt.

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

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL of the Tribunal this 17th February, 2022.

REGISTRAR

216709301

Councillors decry shortage of pit latrines at schools

By Guardian Correspondent, Shinyanga

SHINYANGA Municipal Councillors have complained over the shortage of pit latrines in schools, saying the problem was becoming hardcore thereby endangering students' health.

They aired these complaints here early this week at the council meeting that received reports on wards activities.

They said in addition to the government solving many challenges in the education sector, especially in regard to the construction of classrooms, the biggest remaining

challenge is the shortage of pit latrines in schools compared to the number of students.

Kambarage ward councillor, Hassan Mwendapole said at Kamarage Primary School, due to the shortage of pit latrines, students have been queueing at the few available pit latrines during period breaks sometimes for more than one hour before they resume class. In fact, every councillor who spoke mentioned the pit latrines challenge at schools.

For his part, Shinyanga Municipal Mayor, Elias Masumbuko said in the papers he had gone through in regard

to the municipal's activities, the pit latrines shortage emerged prominent and appeared to be a long time issue.

He called on the municipal's director, Jomary Satara to start providing funds for pit latrines construction, for few schools at a time rather than providing insufficient funds for every school.

For his part, the municipal director said he will work on all recommendations of the councillors, and added that the entire work will require over 500m/-.

Shinyanga District Commissioner, Jacinta Mboneko called on the councillors to work together with the council's experts by increasing the pace of revenue collection, in order to get funds for implementing various development projects, including pit latrines construction at schools.

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

Adopt improved soil management practices, Moro farmers implored

A STUDY conducted by Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI)-Uyole centre on smallholder farmers in 100 villages in Morogoro region on soil fertility has revealed that there is declining soil and crop productivity in the region.

The study concluded that there is a need to adopt improved soil management practices that include application of fertilizers.

Revealing the findings at a press conference in Morogoro recently, soil scientist from TARI Uyole Fredrick Mlowe said generally, the farmers in Tanzania have become increasingly aware of the declining soil and crop productivity and hence realise the need for soil productivity enhancing technologies.

It was also revealed that precise agricultural practices, accurate assessment of nutrient deficiencies, soil health and fertility are prerequisites toward tackling soil and crop productivity problems.

"We collaborated with the government of Tanzania and OCP-Tanzania. The assessment scope targeted 3,500 direct beneficiaries of soil testing and 10,000 smallholder farmers from 100 villages. TARI-Uyole was commissioned to implement the OCP School Laboratory project in Morogoro region in collaboration

with the regional secretariats and local government authorities, he said.

The overall purpose of the project was to enhance productivity of four crops - maize, paddy, and sunflower through judicious use of fertilizers based on soil test results and good agricultural practices.

The findings reveal that most of the soil chemical properties examined showed a decline in the macro nutrients N, P, S and B and Zn in case of micronutrients.

Recommending the amount of fertilizers, TARI Uyole centre director D. Tulole Bucheyeki said the farmers should apply amount of fertilizers blended with micro nutrient Zn and B to arrive at good yields in each crop as described in table below.

Smallholder farmers can apply the manure at the rate of 15.5- 17.5 t/ha to enhance soil structure and nutrients supply, he said. Based on the findings of the soil assessment results, it is recommended that the fertiliser manufacturing companies should promote formulations rich in N, P, S, Zn and B to addressing the limiting nutrients observed in the project areas of Tanzania, he added.

OCP Tanzania country Manager Dr Msolla Mshindo explained that

for many years farmers have been struggling with crop production on a land that has not sufficient nutrients. This is a big challenge that goes beyond extension advisory services.

He said to address the problem the government through the Ministry of Agriculture in collaboration with Morocco based company OCP, started soil testing in 2019 where in every region soil testing was carried out in a total of 100 villages in the Southern highlands regions such as Songwe, Mbeya, Njombe, Rukwa, Iringa and Morogoro. The results were taken back to the farmers so that they can understand what kind of nutrients they need at a particular area and crop.

He advised the farmers to follow the advice given in the study findings so as to increase production and productivity.

Eng Juma Mdeke from the Ministry of Agriculture said in order for the farmers to increase productivity, they must understand their soil health.

Eng Mdeke who is also the director of land use planning and management in the ministry said during the exercise more than 35,000 small holder farmers benefited from soil testing. They also benefited from good agricultural practices.



Muheza district council planning officer in Tanga region Paskal Temba delivers a statement at a meeting chaired by Muheza DC Halima Bulembo on Tuesday. Photo: Correspondent Steven William

By Guardian Correspondent, Moshi

Owners of burnt stalls urge govt to form team to probe cause of fire

TRADERS at Mbuyuni Market in Moshi Municipality, Kilimanjaro Region have appealed to the government to form a committee to identify the cause of fire that destroyed three shops at the Moya Bus Stand, claiming that the incident was a plan to remove them from the area to invite an investor.

Some of the traders called on the Kilimanjaro Regional Commissioner, Stephen Kagaigai to form the committee that will come up with true answers regarding the fire incident.

"Here we see a fuel station investor, we do not know what is actually going on but there are things that give us suspicion. These traders who lost their property have loans, they also have families, they could not rescue

anything," said Faustine Mallya, one of the traders.

Kilimanjaro Regional Police Commander, Simon Maigwa confirmed the fire disaster on February 15 this year in the evening.

"We are also appealing to President Samia Suluhu Hassan to see how she can assist us to get a fire tender for the region as this is still a challenge," said another trader, Suleiman Ally.

"We thank God that there was no wind so the fire did not spread, but it has gutted down three stalls whose owners were not inside them, we cooperated with other people to extinguish the fire," said the Acting Fire Brigade

and Rescue Services Commander, Inspector Ibrahim Ntezijo.

Speaking on the incident, Kilimanjaro Regional Commissioner said the number of stalls that were gutted down by fire were three, one was under refurbishment, the other one had tiles while the last one had bicycle spares.

"However, apart from the stalls' destruction there were no human lives lost or any injuries and the cause of the fire is still unknown, I have directed the RPC to make a follow up to find out the value of the goods destroyed by fire, but initial reports say the cause is an electrical fault," said RC Kagaigai.

rikolto



BID INVITATION

PROPOSED CONSTRUCTION OF HEADWORK FOR ULOWA IRRIGATION SCHEME IN MBEYA CITY

Rikolto, in close collaboration with the Mbeya City Council, wants to improve the headwork/intake of Ulowa irrigation scheme for farmers to access water for horticulture production. This project is funded by the European Union under the AGRI-CONNECT flagship programme. Rikolto now invites eligible building contractors to submit their quotation for the proposed water headwork improvement at Ulowa irrigation scheme.

For more information about the bid invitation and bid documents, visit our website via <https://eastafrica.rikolto.org/en/tender-construction-headwork-irrigation-mbeya>.

Bids must be physically delivered to the following address: Rikolto, Mbeya office, NBC building, third floor, Karume road, P.O. Box 1235 Mbeya, Tanzania, Telephone: +255 755233639, before or on Friday 11th March 2022 at 17:00pm.

216710201

rikolto



CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Development African Bird Eye Chili Value Chain for Smallholder Farmers in Tanzania's Southern Highlands

Rikolto wants to improve and increase efficiency and availability of different business development services to smallholder chili farmers to ensure chili production becomes a household income generating activity as well an employment opportunity for youth and women in Tanzania's Southern Highlands. We are especially targeting business development services to facilitate linkages in terms of production, access to market, and financing. This project is funded by the European Union under the AGRI-CONNECT flagship programme. With this call for proposals, Rikolto aims to build private sector engagement in the African Bird Eye Chili value chain in Iringa, Njombe, Mbeya, Songwe and Katavi by forging a matching cooperation between interested business development service providers and Rikolto to work together to develop this sub-sector.

For more information about the call for proposals, visit our website via <https://eastafrica.rikolto.org/en/chili-value-chain-tanzania>.

Proposals can be sent to eastafrica@rikolto.org until 10 March 2022.

216710101

Create public awareness on right to life, CSOs and media stakeholders have advised

By Correspondent Rose Mwalongo

THE Commissioner for Human Rights and Good Governance (CHRAGG) has called upon CSOs and media stakeholders to come up with joint efforts to create public awareness to protect the right to life.

Dr Fatma Khalifan, Commissioner within CHRAGG made the call in Dar es Salaam recently during her presentation at a virtual dialogue to discuss brutal killings and gender based violence in Tanzania.

She called upon the police force to take stern measures to improve security and ensure those involved are taken to court.

For her part, Dr Helen Kijo Bissimba attributed some of the brutal killings we see to the yes culture where parents cannot say no to children whenever they demand for things in life.

"We need to invest in children upbringing as failure to say no to children is what makes some of the children believe that they can have anything they want and as a result some kill parents when they cannot get what they want," warned Dr Bissimba.

Organised by the Coalition of Women's Human Rights Defenders, the dialogue was meant among other things to find out possible causes that trigger brutal killings in the community, assess the status of ongoing interventions to prevent it as well as recommend rigorous measures to be taken to curb the vice.

Among possible causes of brutal killings identified by stakeholders are moral decay, stress and confusion resulting in poor mental health, witchcraft beliefs as well as vengeance.

Other reasons are conflicts due to land issues, love and delay of dispensation of justice in inheritance, or marital issues leading some to resort into desperate measures due to poverty.

Stakeholders came with several recommendations, one being for law enforcing agents to investigate the conduct of traditional doctors as some promise people things in exchange for a human life and as such escalate killings in the society.

They further called upon the need to invest more resources in terms of funding for the anti GBV campaigns by making it a national agenda.

The dialogue brought together coalition members, human rights defenders in the United Republic of Tanzania, data driven working members, health experts, media, Muslim and Christian clerics, UN, USAID as well as re-known human rights activists in the country.

The session was supported by the Freedom House.

"We need to invest in children upbringing as failure to say no to children is what makes some of the children believe that they can have anything they want and as a result some kill parents when they cannot get what they want"

TCRA calls on radio stations owners to work together

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

TANZANIA Communications Regulatory Authority has called on radio broadcasting service owners in the country to work together for the development of the important sector.

The call was made here by the TCRA manager for the Lake Zone, Francis Mihayo on Tuesday at a meeting organized by the Universal Communications Service Access Fund (UCSAF) that brought together all stakeholders in the radio broadcasting sector.

Mihayo called upon the stakeholders to cooperate and stop hatred, selfishness and backbiting in order to develop the sector.

He said: "People need communication services via radio, but you find a person owning a communication tower and whenever a fellow radio station owner asks to install for his radio station, he quotes exorbitant charges to make sure he abandons his pursuits to provide radio broadcasting services."

UCSAF Senior Attorney, Frady Kandonga said the current UCSAF project is to construct 159 towers for radio broadcasting in various areas in the country to improve the service.

"The towers are expected to be built and completed in nine months this year and are now in procurement stage, as each tower will cost more than 149m/-, and the entire project will

involve 450 communications towers sponsored by the World Bank for three years," he said. Kandonga added that there will be operation cost for the towers, especially on the issues of their security and electricity.

He said the aim of the fund is to ensure for the availability of communications services in rural and urban areas and the mobilisation for the involvement of the private and public sectors.

He said in regard to mobile phone communication, the areas that had weak reception or transmission UCSAF has already, since September 2021 implemented the services in 776 wards of 2,717 villages out of the 1,068 wards of 3,297 villages that were identified by the fund.



Hai district commissioner in Kilimanjaro region Juma Irando (with jacket) listens to Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency manager Emanuel Mwampashi (R) on Kikavusoka water source project which will benefit 58,000 residents of Bomang'ombe. Photo: Correspondent Godfrey Mushi

CiC in new programme to drive early childhood development

By Correspondent Mutayoba Arbogast, Bukoba

CHILDREN in Crossfire have announced a ground-breaking new programme which will see them play an instrumental role growing early childhood development across all of Tanzania over the next three years.

After many years of grassroots capacity-building and advocacy by Children in Crossfire, the Tanzanian government launched a new programme in December that aims to see every child in the country benefit from early years' education.

Funded by a grant of almost £2.5 million from the Conrad N Hilton Foundation, Children in Crossfire will now lead a partnership with the Tanzanian Early Childhood Development Network (TECDEN) and the Union of Tanzanian Press Clubs (UTPC) to help achieve the government's goals. Named Mtoto Kwanza! (Swahili for A Child First!), this programme will build civic society's capacity to ensure that every child in the country can develop their full potential.

Announcing the new programme, Children in Crossfire's Executive Director, Richard Moore said: "We are thrilled to have secured this major grant from the Conrad N Hilton Foundation, which is a global leader

in Early Childhood Development, and I thank them deeply for placing their trust in us. Their support for Children in Crossfire is a powerful vindication of all our hard work in Tanzania.

"For nearly fifteen years now, Children in Crossfire have been working in key target areas in Tanzania, making high quality preschool education a living reality for hundreds of thousands of children. We have also been campaigning to see our model developed in every school in the country. Over the next three years, we will co-ordinate efforts to support the growth of Early Childhood Development all throughout Tanzania. Our experience and expertise will be crucial as we work with our partners to give every Tanzanian child the best possible start in life, including through education.

"I pay tribute to our staff and partners whose tireless efforts have brought us to this landmark point. We are deeply excited for the next chapter in our story and ready for all the challenges ahead."

Peter Laugharn, President and CEO of the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation said: "Children in Crossfire's vision of a compassionate world where every child can realize their full potential is one that resonates so deeply with our values and vision as a foundation.

"One of the primary objectives

for our Global Early Childhood Development initiative is to ensure that young children are developmentally on track. CiC has been active in this space in Tanzania for many years and is a well-respected partner of the local government. We hope that this grant will lead to an increase in both focus and resources for young children and lead toward the delivery of sustainable systems that support optimal child development."

A statement read out at last month's National Multisectoral Early Childhood Development Programme launch in Dodoma on behalf of President Samia Suluhu Hassan said: "Should this National Multisectoral ECD Programme be implemented as set out it will have a positive impact on the early childhood growth and development of our children and deliver on the aspired vision that 'All children in Tanzania are developmentally on track to develop to their full potential.'"

"Indeed, children who benefit from quality early childhood development will develop into competent, knowledgeable, innovative and productive citizens that contribute to the economic development of their families and the Nation at large thereby further consolidating Tanzania's status as a middle-income country."

D'Salaam to host business women awards next month

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

DAR ES SALAAM is next month expected to host this year's edition of business women awards, organisers have said.

Tanzania Women Chamber of Commerce (TWCC) chairperson Mercy Sila unveiled this yesterday in Dar es Salaam speaking of the awards which will be held at Mlimani City.

According to her, prior to the main awards from March 3-8, this year members of TWCC would display different products and services made by women.

She said the awards are aimed at

honoring women who have done well in business and upcoming business women, inspire and motivate more women to venture into business.

Sila said the awards are pre-eminent recognition platform for women who have become a force to be reckoned with in business.

The TWCC chairperson further said through the awards and displays they are hopeful that it will help women to have many business networks and connections.

She said that the actual awards will have a number of activities which will involve displays of products and services all done by

women.

"Our aim is to create women enterprises which are competitive locally, regionally and internationally through advocating and tapping into opportunities available," she said.

The chairperson also thanked the government for setting a conducive business environment which she said is favouring women.

She also lauded the Trade Mark East Africa—who are the main sponsors of the awards, noting TMEA has been supporting them in various projects since 2012.

This is the second year that business women awards are being held.



TANZANIA REVENUE AUTHORITY

ISO 9001: 2015 CERTIFIED

TENDER NO. AE/023/2021-22/HQ/G/45 FOR THE SUPPLY, INSTALLATION AND OPERATION OF SYSTEM FOR ELECTRONIC TAX STAMPS UNDER SELF FINANCING SCHEME INVITATION FOR TENDERS

1. This Invitation for Tenders follows the revised General Procurement Notice for this tender which appeared in TANePS with effect from 8th January, 2022.
2. Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) intends to enter into contract for Supply, Installation, Configuration, Commissioning and Operation of System for Electronic Tax Stamps (ETS) under Self Financing Scheme. The main objective and purpose of this contract is to ensure that the Procuring Entity (i.e TRA) has an effective mechanism to control and monitor revenue collection on the excisable goods through the use of electronic tax stamps system. In view of that, the Successful Tenderer/firm will bear the all costs related to supply, installation and operation of the system and sell stamps to users at agreed prices. TRA will be able to enhance tax compliance, combat illicit trade and thus minimize the risk of Government revenue loss through the use of electronic tax stamps.
3. TRA now invites the sealed tenders from eligible Tenderers for Supply, Installation, Configuration, Commissioning and Operation of System for Electronic Tax Stamps (ETS) under Self Financing Scheme. This tender will cover the scope of products indicated in the Table below with estimated volume (i.e Number of Units to be Marked/Stamped) per annum

S/N	Product Category	Estimated Units Per Annum
1	Beers	1,225,706,666.67
2	Wines & Spirits	261,736,000.00
3	Tobacco	337,197,333.33
4	Fruit Wines (e.g. Banana, Rosella etc.)	104,213,333.33
5	Soft Drinks	3,456,286,666.67
6	Bottled Water	897,446,666.67
7	Juices	380,513,333.33
8	Cement	142,312,084.00
9	Sugar	163,462,950.00
10	Cooking Oil	21,356,908.00
Total		6,990,231,942.00

Note: More details are provided in the tendering documents which is available in Tanzania National e-Procurement System (TANePS) and there shall be a Pre-Tender Meeting on 8th March, 2022 at TRA Headquarters, Board Room, 3rd Floor, Sokoine Drive, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania at 1000hours.

4. Tendering will be conducted through International Competitive Tendering (ICT) as specified in the Public Procurement Regulations, 2013 – Government Notice No. 446 as amended in 2016 and is open to all Tenderers.
5. Interested eligible Tenderers may obtain further information from the office of the Secretary-TRA Tender Board on line using TANePS (use request for clarification window) or in case of any system limitation to access use email address: secretary.tender@tra.go.tz on Mondays to Fridays inclusive except on public holidays.
6. A complete set of Tendering Document(s) in English is available in TANePS. Potential Tenderers may register through www.ppra.go.tz or contact PPRa help desk support@ppra.go.tz
7. All tenders must be accompanied by a Tender Security of either currency and value indicated in the table below. The Tender security should be in form of Bank Guarantee issued/confirmed by a reputable local bank and registered in Tanzania with validity period of at least 148 Days from the date of tender opening.

Currency	USD\$ Tanzania Shilling
Value 215,000.00	495,000,000.00

Note: scanned copy of the Tender security shall be submitted through TANePS and original security document MUST be submitted at the office of Secretary to TRA Tender Board, TRA HQ, Room G. 15, Sokoine Drive, Ilala in Dar es Salaam at or before tender submission deadline provided in the tendering document.

8. All tenders must be submitted online using TANePS at or before 1400 hours' local time, Wednesday 30th March, 2022. Tenders will be opened promptly thereafter at 1400 hours on the same date of submission.
9. Late Tenders, Portion of Tenders, Tenders not received, Tenders not opened at tender opening Ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

Commissioner General
Tanzania Revenue Authority

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Why meandering Amboni caves remain scenic tourist hotspot

THE Amboni Caves are the most extensive limestone caves in East Africa. They are located 8 km north of Tanga City in Tanzania off the Tanga-Mombasa road. The caves were formed about 150 million years ago during the Jurassic age. It covers an area of 234 km². According to researchers the area was under water some 20 million years ago. There are altogether ten caves but only one is used for guided tours.

Amboni Limited, a company which was then operating sisal plantations in Tanga Region acquired the area in 1892. The company notified the British colonial government about the caves who in turn declared the caves a conservation area in 1922.

It is not known when the caves were exactly discovered but reports indicate that ethnic groups such as Wasegeju, Wasambaa, Wabondei and Wadigo who lived near the caves used it for prayers.

In 1963, the then government of Tanganyika handed over the caves to the Department of Antiquities.

The cave attracts tourist as well as students for their geography lessons. The attractions include:

Popo flight - (Popo means bat in Swahili). Many of them live in the caves. Every evening at sunset they fly out of the cave entrance. Rocks in the shape of: a sofa, a ship, a crocodile, an elephant, map of Africa, Statue of Liberty and a head of a male lion.

The Amboni Caves are the most extensive limestone caves in East Africa. They are located 8 km north of Tanga City in Tanzania off the Tanga-Mombasa road. The caves were formed about 150 million years ago during the Jurassic age. It covers an area of 234 km². According to researchers the area was under water some 20 million years ago. There are altogether ten caves but only one is used for guided tours.

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A new geological survey was expected at the Amboni Caves to gather more information on the formation, morphology and legends surrounding the scenic tourist attraction, with intent to making the vicinity a new tourist hotspot.

The Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA) which manages the caves will conduct the study which also seeks to find out the precise dating of formation of the meandering caves. NCAA geologists will soon embark on the work, to undo or confirm what has been said about the site for decades. There are seven caves in the area but only two, namely number three and four are in use. The study will advise if other channels are safe for guided tour activities.

NCAA took over the caves and it has managed to make some improvements in the cave infrastructure to increase attraction, notably on safety of visitors. This was done by installing special lights and drifts to enable visitors to enter the caves without environmental fears, even when the caves are water-logged, the conservator noted.

NCAA has stopped explosions from limestone quarrying activities, therefore, increasing the security of visitors entering the caves.

The number of visitors has increased and we now have between 800 and 1,000 visitors on a daily basis, mostly school children.

Tanzanians ought to protect mangrove ecosystems

THE mangrove is a marine marsh ecosystem including a group of specific plants mainly woody. They develop in some lowland areas of the tropics or at the mouth of some rivers. According to the WWF, they are ecologically remarkable areas because of their wealth and their ability to absorb carbon. It is this last characteristic that is pushing the international community to mobilise for the conservation of these essential zones in many regions.

Coastal mangroves are among the most threatened ecosystems on earth. Current estimates indicate that up to 67 per cent of mangroves have been lost to date, and nearly all unprotected mangroves could perish over the next 100 years.

Mangroves are rare, spectacular and prolific ecosystems on the boundary between land and sea. They ensure food security for local communities. They provide biomass, forest products and sustain fisheries. They contribute to the protection of coastlines. They help mitigate the effects of climate change and extreme weather events.

This is why the protection of mangrove ecosystems is essential today. Their survival faces serious challenges from the alarming rise of the sea level and biodiversity that is increasingly endangered. The earth and humanity simply cannot afford to lose these vital ecosystems.

UNESCO has always been on the frontline of promoting new and harmonious relations between humanity and nature, where the preservation of mangrove ecosystems carries special importance.

To this end, UNESCO is working across the board and with all partners on an open initiative on mangroves and sustainable development. UNESCO's World Network of Biosphere Reserves

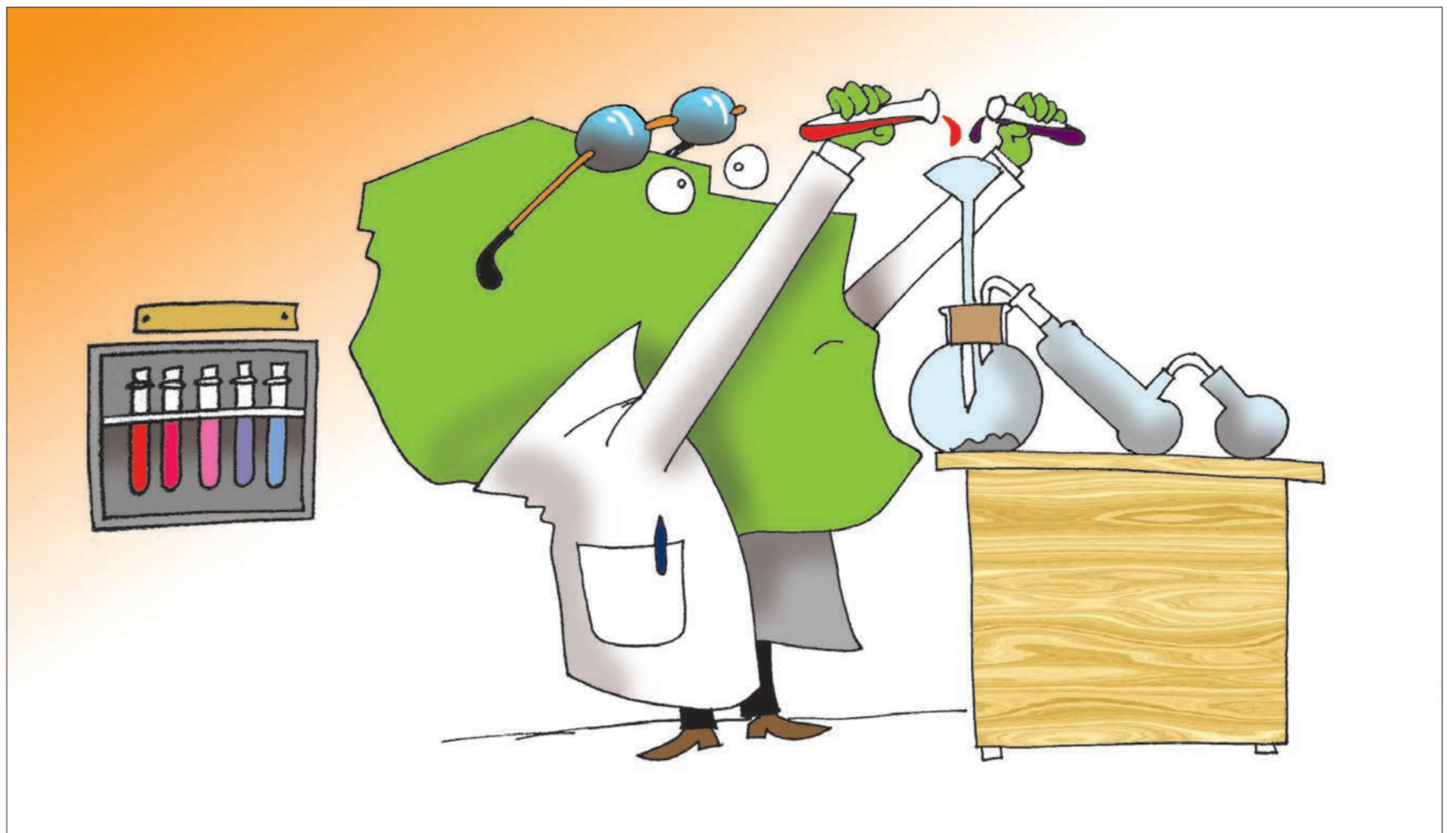
has 86 sites out of 669 that include areas of mangroves.

Many are in developing countries and small island developing states.

The International Day for the Conservation of the mangrove ecosystems, UNESCO's message is clear. Taking forward the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development means forging new sustainable pathways to development in harmony with the earth. This means preserving all mangrove ecosystems.

UNESCO's first celebration of the International Day for the Conservation of the Mangrove Ecosystem was in 2016. The proclamation of the international day, which was adopted on 6 November 2015 by the General Conference of UNESCO, underlined the importance of mangrove ecosystems as a unique, special and vulnerable ecosystem, providing by virtue of their existence, biomass and productivity substantial benefits to human beings, providing forestry, fishery goods and services as well as contributing to the protection of the coastline and being particularly relevant in terms of mitigation of the effects of climate change and food security for local communities.

The stakes are high, because mangrove ecosystems provide benefits and services that are essential for life. From advancing food security, sustaining fisheries and forest products and offering protection from storms, tsunamis and sea level rise to preventing shoreline erosion, regulating coastal water quality and providing habitats for endangered marine species the list is long on the importance of mangrove ecosystems. This includes the unique role that they play in sequestering and storing significant amounts of coastal blue carbon from the atmosphere and ocean, crucial for mitigating climate change.



Russians are coming to Zanzibar to holiday and staying to invest

By Correspondent Ingrid Kim

IN August 2020, after months of lockdown mainly induced by the Covid-19 epidemic, Russia opened its borders to just two countries: Tanzania and Turkey.

I opted for a beach break in Zanzibar and loved it so much that she has returned for a year-long stay during which she hopes to encourage more of her compatriots to further exploit the leisure and investment potential here.

I remember a Russian diplomat telling me about the wonders of Zanzibar, but I had never thought that I would ever get to Africa. But when the Russian government opened the borders to the two countries that August 2020 after months of lockdown, I knew what to choose.

Having visited Turkey many times, I decided to venture into Africa for the first time. I flew by Ethiopian Airlines via Addis Ababa.

The ten-day trip was well organised by our agency Africa Escapes and I stayed at Kendwa Sunset Beach Bungalows, enjoying all the attractions

of one of best beaches on the main island - Unguja.

I fell in love with the place and did what many of my fellow Russian holidaymakers have come to do - I decided to return and stay a full year. I am very much enjoying my time here, although it has not been without its obstacles.

Finding a place to rent is not easy. The rental prices for private houses are very expensive especially if, like me, you set your heart on one of the historical buildings in Stone Town.

Having had to put up with a lot of cold weather in Russia, a lot of my compatriots stay by the beach and make the most of the hot weather here.

It seems that I am alone in wanting to stay in Stone Town, where I can conduct all my business meetings and have the travel options of the port and airport nearby.

I like the fact that you can easily set up your own company even you are not resident - as well as buy land and start a business. As a result, Zanzibar is attracting plenty of business projects from foreign investors.

I like the stable political situation

here in Tanzania and have been really impressed with how the youth of the country are so active. I have seen many examples of them developing progressive projects in art, climate change or environmental pollution and business growth.

I have not found Zanzibar a sleepy island alternative to the more business-minded mainland. There is a lot going on here with different ideas and projects. All that is required is support from potential investors.

The government is providing good conditions for investors and partners, especially for the development conception of green and blue economy projects.

The economy of Zanzibar is flourishing, except that a lack of appropriate information on investment conditions and rules is causing some potential foreign investors delays or problems in realising it.

That is why I decided to open my consultancy company here to assist Russians or Ukrainians or other clients from all over the world to launch their businesses and promote their projects.

However, there is a challenge for

Eastern investors in that few of them speak English - so I am helping to translate from both sides.

I hope that in the future Zanzibar will organise more events for business networking on a level of the fashion and music festivals that are already so well supported here.

I also look forward to seeing the Zanzibar Investment Promotion Authority, which is at the forefront of the investment drive in the archipelago, connect with consultants such as myself so that I can obtain fresh information about business conditions for my clients.

The global tourism industry has surely taken a significant hit because of Covid-19. However, during the pandemic, Zanzibar has been working non-stop to create a tourism experience here like nowhere in the world. Let's get the world further involved.

• *To find out more about roving journalist Ingrid's investment consultancy services in Zanzibar, visit dhow-consulting.com or @ingridaworld on Instagram.*

Aids Healthcare Foundation (Los Angeles) open letter to Feb 17 to 18 EU-AU summit

An AHF dispatch

AT their February 17 - 18 European Union-African Union Summit (EU-AU Summit) in Brussels, nations must commit to real action and genuine partnership on addressing Covid-19 vaccine inequalities.

As the summit begins, it is critical for delegates to prioritise actions aimed at righting the inequities that have plagued the Covid-19 response by rapidly increasing the sharing of vaccines, diagnostics, therapeutics and related technologies.

Outstandingly, the pandemic has made it abundantly clear that a global public health crisis cannot be solved piecemeal - that it requires genuine partnership and cooperation.

Therefore, the idea that to date the relationship between the EU and the AU in responding to Covid-19 can only be described as perfunctory charity, should **not stand on the way** of real cooperation.

Africa and the world stand a better chance finding a way out of the pandemic if both the EU and the AU work together as equals - which makes it critical to instill this principle as the motto of the summit.

There is no viable alternative to this approach, especially at this time when developing countries have been victimised by decisions by wealthy countries to hoard vaccines or send nearly expired doses to Africa, paving the way for the cycle of deadly waves and variants to continue for a long time.

The Vaccinate Our World campaign (VOW), initiated by the AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF), has for some time now since the beginning of the pandemic committed to addressing the immoral disparity in Covid-19 vaccine access between wealthy nations and those of lower economic status.

To date, ten billion Covid-19 vaccine doses have been administered globally, with 80 per cent of those going to people in high- and upper-middle-

income countries. Less than 16 per cent of the 1.3 billion people on the African continent have received at least one dose.

Specifically, to address the glaring disparity in vaccine availability between Africa and Europe, the leaders of both regions (AU and EU) must commit to at least seven actions.

These are: support the TRIPS waiver on vaccine patents and technologies at the World Trade Organisation; make vaccines readily available to everyone who needs them; ensure that the vaccines have a sufficiently long shelf life to avoid unnecessary wastage; expand local generic vaccine manufacturing, technological capacity, and scientific know-how; end pandemic profiteering by pharmaceutical companies; fund the vaccine distribution infrastructure and human resources; and maintain a transparent dialogue between EU and AU leaders and engage civil society in the cooperation process.

These actions are urgent and necessary. The world's inability to

respond collectively to the Covid-19 pandemic is a stark indication that we need to urgently reform and strengthen the international framework of public health governance.

To this end, we urge the leaders of the EU and AU to support the adoption of a new Global Public Health Convention or treaty.

Until the principles of equity, cooperation, transparency and accountability are enshrined in an international accord, the risk of another, perhaps deadlier, pandemic looms over all of us.

Esteemed EU and AU leaders, the eyes of the world are upon you - now you must act!

• *This February 16, 2022 letter has been routed through AHF President Michael Weinstein, Africa Bureau Chief Dr Penninah Iutung and Europe Bureau Chief Zoya Shabarova. Globally, AHF works in 45 countries and provides care and services to over 1.6 million patients around the world.*



RE-ADVERTISEMENT

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR THE SUPPLY, INSTALL AND COMMISSIONING OF THUNDERBOLT MAGNUM 2000 HAMMER, POWER PACK AND MOBILE HYDRAULIC LIFT JIB FOR SEMI-AUTOGENOUS GRINDING (SAG) MILL RE-LINING TO GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA

I. INTRODUCTION

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") an AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") asset is located in north-western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of procuring thunderbolt magnum 2000 hammer, power pack and mobile hydraulic lift jib for semi-autogenous grinding (sag) mill relining and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible suppliers to submit Expression of Interest for the supply of this equipment as detailed below.

NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST ON THIS SERVICE/WORK. QUALIFIED CANDIDATES WILL BE SUBJECTED TO ANGLO GOLD ASHANTI VETTING PROCESS.

Scope of work:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01313	SUPPLY, INSTALL AND COMMISSIONING OF THUNDERBOLT MAGNUM 2000 HAMMER, POWER PACK AND MOBILE HYDRAULIC LIFT JIB FOR SEMI-AUTOGENOUS GRINDING (SAG) MILL RELINING TO GGML

I.I INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	20%
COMMERCIAL	
Company Profile	1.54%
Company Code of Conduct	1.54%
Company Code of Ethics	1.54%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.54%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.54%
Copy of 2021 BRELA search Registration Documents	1.54%
Copy of Company Memorandum and Article of Association	1.54%
Copy of Latest BRELA Application of Annual Returns	1.54%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.54%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.54%
Company Shareholding Structure (ownership of shares in percentage (%), Share certificates and Passport/Voter or National ID card for Management & Shareholders	1.54%
List of Directors	1.54%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission	1.54%
FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE	5%
Audited & certified financial statements (2019-2020)	2.5%
At least 1 reference from the applicant's banker regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	5%
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	1.25%
Environmental Management Plan / Programme / Policy	1.25%
Health and Safety Programme	1.25%
OTHER POLICIES	5%
Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labour	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment	1%
Grievance Procedure	1%
Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Programme	1%
PAST EXPERIENCE	5%
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.7%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.7%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.7%
PAST EXPERIENCE	5%
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.7%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.7%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.7%
TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01313)	60%
Warranty terms/after sales support including OEM maintenance support if required	15%
Proof of availability of SAG (Semi-Autogenous Grinding) Mill relining thunderbolt Magnum Catalogue including spare list, Maintenance and Operation Manuals	10%
Proof Dealership with SAG (Semi-Autogenous Grinding) Mill relining equipment including Thunderbolt Magnum Manufacturers	10%
Proof of supplying similar SAG (Semi-Autogenous Grinding) Mill Thunderbolt components and its accessories to other Gold Mine industries	10%
Proof of technical capabilities/ competence to install, commissioning and providing technical training to GGML technical team on the new thunderbolt equipment's	15%
Total	100%

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the SERVICE DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01313) of the service they intend to express interest on THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com not later than 8.30AM 04TH March 2022 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=



INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR THE MANUFACTURING, SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF HIGH VOLTAGE (HV) ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT'S FOR UNDERGROUND MINE OPERATIONS TO GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA

I. INTRODUCTION

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") an AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") asset is located in north-western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of procuring high voltage (HV) Electrical equipment's for Underground Mine operations and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible suppliers to submit Expression of Interest for the supply of this equipment as detailed below.

NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST ON THIS SERVICE/WORK. QUALIFIED CANDIDATES WILL BE SUBJECTED TO ANGLO GOLD ASHANTI VETTING PROCESS.

Scope of work:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01403	Manufacture, Supply and Delivery, of ABB Switchgear including High voltage 2MVA ABB Substation 11KV to 1000Volts, 1kV 6way Distribution boards (DB's), 1kV Starters and 1000v/240v lighting panels for underground power supply for lower mining levels

I. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	20%
COMMERCIAL	
Company Profile	1.54%
Company Code of Conduct	1.54%
Company Code of Ethics	1.54%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.54%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.54%
Copy of 2021 BRELA search Registration Documents	1.54%
Copy of Company Memorandum and Article of Association	1.54%
Copy of Latest BRELA Application of Annual Returns	1.54%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.54%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.54%
Company Shareholding Structure (ownership of shares in percentage (%), Share certificates and Passport/Voter or National ID card for Management & Shareholders	1.54%
List of Directors	1.54%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission	1.54%
FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE	5%
Audited & certified financial statements (2019-2020)	2.5%
At least 1 reference from the applicant's banker regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	5%
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	1.25%
Environmental Management Plan / Programme / Policy	1.25%
Health and Safety Programme	1.25%
OTHER POLICIES	5%
Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labour	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment	1%
Grievance Procedure	1%
Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Programme	1%
PAST EXPERIENCE	5%
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.7%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.7%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.7%
TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01403)	60%
Availability of warranty terms for the supplied High voltage 2MVA ABB Substation 11KV to 1000Volts and its accessories including 6way Distribution boards (DB's), Starters and 1000v/240v lighting panels	15%
Proof of supplying similar High voltage 2MVA ABB Substations 11KV to 1000Volts and its accessories including 6way Distribution boards (DB's), Starters and 1000v/240v lighting panels	15%
Proof of approved dealership with ABB Electrical equipment's and its accessories	15%
Proof of availability upon delivery of High voltage 2MVA ABB Substation 11KV to 1000Volts and its accessories including 6way Distribution boards (DB's), Starters and 1000v/240v lighting panels Catalogues/ Maintenance Manuals	10%
Proof of technical capability to provide after sales support/consultation (OEM Maintenance Support) in case of any malfunctioning on the new purchased High voltage 2MVA ABB Substation 11KV to 1000Volts and its accessories including 6way Distribution boards (DB's), Starters and 1000v/240v lighting panels	10%
Total	100%

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the SERVICE DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01403) of the service they intend to express interest on THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com not later than 8.30AM 04TH March 2022 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=

Responding to new threats to poverty eradication in Asia

DHAKA, Bangladesh

With consistent, robust economic growth, countries across Asia have made monumental strides in eradicating extreme poverty over the past 30 years. In Bangladesh, for example, the population living in extreme poverty dropped from 43% in 1991 to 10.5% in 2019. Similarly in Cambodia, poverty incidence fell from 53% in 2004 to below 10% by 2016.

In these countries, economic growth has enabled governments to develop new social protection programs, expand existing ones, and make substantial investments in human capital, leading to a more equitable distribution of wealth and enabling inclusive economic growth.

However, extreme poverty persists, and progress on poverty eradication has been fragile. Many people

remain highly vulnerable to income shocks and threats to their livelihood, facing the risk of falling back into poverty. Social protection systems might not efficiently address the needs of the people who are poorest because of policy designs that lead to insufficient provision of safety nets, or because they fail to identify or reach the populations they aim to serve.

New threats to livelihoods from climate change and global pandemics are adding to these policy challenges. Asian policymakers must actively address the need for effective social safety nets not only to protect their economically vulnerable populations, but also to safeguard their countries' future economic prospects and growth.

To achieve durable gains in poverty eradication, policies need to be ambitious and creative, and efforts need to be sustained, supported by strong

A household participating in BRAC's Graduation approach in Rangpur, Bangladesh. Credit: BRAC (2021)

political will. Policymakers must adopt a long-term perspective to resilience building, and embed flexibility to respond to emergencies and new threats to livelihoods. And policies must be informed by empirical evidence on what works in the local context.

We need an in-depth understanding of what works for sustained eradication of extreme poverty in Asia, focusing on interventions that governments can implement at scale. We can gain useful insights on such interventions by bringing



two streams of knowledge together: evidence from formal research and lessons from practical experiences. Social and economic inclusion interventions like BRAC's Graduation approach, founded 20 years ago, have developed and evolved by bringing together both forms of knowledge on extreme poverty alleviation, reaching more than 2.1 million households in Bangladesh alone. This approach

has combined findings from academic research with reasoned intuition and practice-based knowledge to evolve, adapt, and deliver sustained impact.

Adapted to the local context, Graduation is a multifaceted set of interventions designed to address the complex nature of extreme poverty. The approach generally includes meeting participants' basic needs, providing training and as-

sets for income generation, financial literacy training and savings support, and social empowerment through community engagement and life skills training—all facilitated through in-person coaching.

Over the past two decades, researchers have gained four key insights from this approach's success, which policymakers can apply to strengthen efforts to alleviate extreme poverty:

First, some people in extreme poverty need a "big push" to break out of the poverty trap and stay out of this trap long after the program stops. Often, a combination of factors and constraints prevents people from escaping extreme poverty and durably improving their livelihood, a growing body of research suggests. A "big push", or transfer of both assets and skills large enough for people to cross such thresholds, is needed to unlock the trap and stay out of poverty, finds a 2020

LSE-BIGD study. The Graduation approach provides such a push. And 93% of program participants in Bangladesh see a continued increase in income, savings, and consumption and an improvement in self-esteem five years after completing the program. A 10-year study of Bandhan's Graduation program participants in West Bengal also found sustained improvements in consumption, food security, income, and health outcomes.

Asian countries seeking durable program impact on extreme poverty should integrate these findings into their social protection strategies, ensuring that asset transfers are large enough and complemented with enough additional training and services to break the poverty trap and enable people to stay out of it for the long term.

Second, "multifaceted" interventions like the Graduation approach can address the multidimensional nature of extreme poverty. Extreme poverty is not only characterized by a lack of income but also often associated with poor health, social isolation and exclusion, a lack of education and professional skills, and low subjective wellbeing. Using learnings from the Graduation approach, governments and their partners can simultaneously tackle these other dimensions of poverty and lead to behavioral changes such as improved health, sanitation, and nutritional habits. Doing so will generate synergy across different program components and amplify their impacts on livelihood.

While cash transfers can play a crucial role in meeting basic needs, as we have seen during COVID-19, evidence suggests that a more holistic approach—combining cash and other services, as the Graduation approach does—can also produce longer-lasting impacts on economic and social inclusion. A meta-analysis by CGAP and IPA, comparing 48 cash, livelihoods, and Graduation programs, found that programs that provided only cash or only livelihoods training combined with assets showed declining effects two years after the intervention. Meanwhile, Graduation interventions which combined coaching, financial and skills training, productive assets, and support for basic needs showed continued improvements in productivity and assets two years after completion.

Third, anti-poverty programs and policies need adaptive resilience-building components based on practical knowledge to prevent people from falling back into poverty. By incorporating a resilience component into programs aimed at reducing extreme poverty, Asian countries can prevent possible undoing of progress that can result from sudden economic, climate, or health shocks.

At the outbreak of the pandemic, BRAC rapidly adapted the Ultra-Poor Graduation (UPG) program, connecting program participants to emergency cash transfers, health information, and government services while adjusting to social distancing and health procedures, ultimately enabling 98% of them to avoid falling back into poverty. Insights from local staff on the livelihood, nutrition, and health challenges participants faced due to the pan-

demic enabled the program to respond appropriately to their constantly changing circumstances.

The Graduation approach also builds resilience by enabling people to move away from casual labor to diversified sources of income, in many cases from self-employment or salaried work. As a result, even after 13 years, participants who escaped the poverty trap through Graduation had more productive jobs and were less likely to lose them during the pandemic, according to a 2021 study by BIGD and LSE.

Fourth, Graduation interventions have the potential to stimulate the participant's local economy, and if, scaled up, result in wider economic growth impacts. In Cambodia, LSE and UNDP conducted two studies on the potential impacts of the Graduation approach when integrated into the National Social Protection Strategy. A general equilibrium approach was developed to identify and trace the direct and indirect impacts on the local economy, on non-participants, and on wider economic growth. The study indicates that, through their effects on productivity, markets, and trade, Graduation interventions can simultaneously stimulate supply and demand, creating local synergies and multiplier effects that foster inclusive growth processes.

At the same level of public spending, the LSE-UNDP studies identify multiple benefits of Graduation packages relative to conventional safety net programs. Through human and physical capital accumulation, they allow participants to cover their basic needs and simultaneously engage in productive activities, generate income from self-employment, and participate in their local economy. Findings also show that both poverty and economic growth impacts are likely to last beyond the program implementation period, as the catalytic effects of productive assets and professional skills persist after programs have ended; these effects are over and above the impact of a cash-only transfer.

When developing poverty eradication interventions, governments in Asia can achieve greater long-term program impacts if they build on lessons learned from intensive practice and rigorous research. As Asian countries seek to recover from COVID-19 and build long-term resilience to future shocks, they should consider holistic interventions like the Graduation approach as investments with significant and durable returns for people who are economically vulnerable, enabling them to engage in productive activities.

Conventional safety nets will be always necessary. But, simultaneously, approaches like Graduation should be considered valuable tools to complement them and deliver sustainable impact at scale for people in extreme poverty.

Dr. Imran Matin is the Executive Director of BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD), a research and post graduate education institute at BRAC University focusing on generating high quality evidence and insights based on field research on governance and development challenges and interventions.



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**INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST –
PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR THE SUPPLY AND
DELIVERY OF AME SUPER LIFT JACK 200TON TO GEITA GOLD
MINING LIMITED (GGML) TANZANIA**

I. INTRODUCTION

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") an AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") asset is located in north-western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of procuring a Super Lift Jack 200Ton and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible suppliers to submit Expression of Interest for the provision of service as detailed below.

NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST ON THIS SERVICE/WORK. QUALIFIED CANDIDATES WILL BE SUBJECT TO ANGLO GOLD ASHANTI VETTING PROCESS.

Scope of work:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01402	SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF AME SUPER LIFT JACK 200TON 27" MIN. HEIGHT, MAX 43" HEIGHT MODEL NUMBER SLJ20027

I.I INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	20%
COMMERCIAL	
Company Profile	1.54%
Company Code of Conduct	1.54%
Company Code of Ethics	1.54%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.54%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.54%
Copy of 2021 BRELA search Registration Documents	1.54%
Copy of Company Memorandum and Article of Association	1.54%
Copy of Latest BRELA Application of Annual Returns	1.54%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.54%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.54%
Company Shareholding Structure (ownership of shares in percentage (%), Share certificates and Passport/Voter or National ID card for Management & Shareholders	1.54%
List of Directors	1.54%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission	1.54%
FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE	5%
Audited & certified financial statements (2019-2020)	2.5%
At least 1 reference from the applicant's banker regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	5%
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	1.25%
Environmental Management Plan / Programme / Policy	1.25%
Health and Safety Programme	1.25%
OTHER POLICIES	5%
Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labor	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment	1%
Grievance Procedure	1%
Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Programme	1%
PAST EXPERIENCE	5%
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.7%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.7%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.7%
TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01402)	60%
Availability of Warranty terms on the supplied Super Lift Jack 200ton	20%
Proof of dealership with heavy duty Super lift Jacks manufactures	15%
Proof of dealing and supplying similar Super lift Jacks to other industries	10%
Proof of availability upon delivery of Maintenance and Operation Manual for Super Lift Jack 200ton	15%
Total	100%

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the **SERVICE DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01402)** of the service they intend to express interest on **THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL** together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com not later than 8.30AM 04TH March 2022 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=

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**INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST –
PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR THE SUPPLY AND
DELIVERY TRAILER BOOM LIFT MODEL ATB0.2-18
TO GEITA GOLD MINE LIMITED (GGML) TANZANIA**

I. INTRODUCTION

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") an AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") asset is located in north-western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of procuring a trailer boom lift and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible suppliers to submit Expression of Interest for the provision of the equipment as detailed below.

NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST ON THIS SERVICE/WORK. QUALIFIED CANDIDATES WILL BE SUBJECT TO ANGLO GOLD ASHANTI VETTING PROCESS.

Scope of work:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01392	SUPPLY AND DELIVERY TRAILER BOOM LIFT MODEL ATB0.2-18 TO GGML

I.I INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	20%
COMMERCIAL	
Company Profile	1.54%
Company Code of Conduct	1.54%
Company Code of Ethics	1.54%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.54%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.54%
Copy of 2021 BRELA search Registration Documents	1.54%
Copy of Company Memorandum and Article of Association	1.54%
Copy of Latest BRELA Application of Annual Returns	1.54%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.54%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.54%
Company Shareholding Structure (ownership of shares in percentage (%), Share certificates and Passport/Voter or National ID card for Management & Shareholders	1.54%
List of Directors	1.54%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission	1.54%
FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE	5%
Audited & certified financial statements (2019-2020)	2.5%
At least 1 reference from the applicant's banker regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	5%
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	1.25%
Environmental Management Plan / Programme / Policy	1.25%
Health and Safety Programme	1.25%
OTHER POLICIES	5%
Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labour	1%
Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment	1%
Grievance Procedure	1%
Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Programme	1%
PAST EXPERIENCE	5%
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.7%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.7%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.7%
TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01392)	60%
Proof of Experience in rigging and lifting equipment	30%
The supplier should have Knowledge and skills in hydraulic systems	20%
The supplier should submit evidence of Supplying in large industries e.g., mining / construction	10%
Total	100%

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the **SERVICE DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01392)** of the service they intend to express interest on **THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL** together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com not later than 8.30AM 04TH March 2022 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=

216709501

Call for increased global efforts to ease Africa's climate-induced water crisis

Bulawayo, ZIMBABWE

WHEN years ago warnings were sounded that future wars would be fought not over oil but water, the predictions were dismissed as alarmist.

Yet, as climate uncertainty upends water availability in Africa, researchers say conflicts arise among local communities and across borders over access to scarce water resources.

In a commentary released in January last month, the Global Water Partnership (GWP) called for immediate action from world leaders to provide resources and funds to tackle what the researchers say is the "worst drought in a generation in East Africa."

The climate crisis has led to

widespread lack of pastures, decimating livestock, and creating a humanitarian crisis.

East Africa has seen a cyclical climate crisis where a mix of floods and droughts has resulted in increasing calls for action from more affluent countries.

"In 2011, the last severe drought to affect this region killed hundreds of thousands, but since then and despite promises by the international community, little has changed," GWP says.

"There is a need to narrow the investment gap among rich countries, advocacy among African countries, and civic groups. African countries are already providing more funding to their water sectors than donor countries," Alex Simalabwi, Global Water Partnership's Africa Coordinator,

told IPS.

And the statistics are pretty grim: one in every three people across Africa face water scarcity daily, and nearly 400 million people in sub-Saharan Africa struggle to find access to drinking water, according to the African Development Bank (AfDB).

As UN Water starkly put it, "on a global scale, half of the people who drink water from unsafe sources live in Africa."

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) estimates that US\$100 billion needs to be invested annually towards climate adaptation in Africa by 2050, but that figure is far from being reached.

In a February 2 media brief, UNICEF said in Ethiopia alone, 6.8 million people would need urgent by mid-March, while another 4.4 million face acute

Climate uncertainty could mean an increase in conflicts as tensions arise over scarce resources, like water. Credit: Ignatius Banda/IPS



THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 226 00--

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

3 Letters: OWL, HAY, TAN, ARK,
 4 Letters: REST, SAME, RAKE, AYAH, IRAQ, EAST, Q-TIP, SAGA, TIME, AFRO,
 5 Letters: READY, SCOPE, SNAKE, FROST,
 6 Letters: ATHENS, LAYER, PAMPAS, SAHARA, RAKISH, ATTACH, TANAPA, MASHER, MASTER
 7 Letters: CASHIER,

WORD-FIT

CROSSWORD

CLUES: Across
 1. a person who cultivates a land
 5. hire a land
 6. a piece of land surrounded by water
 9. an oil tanker
 10. any person
 13. Interfere
 15. a group with a strong common interest
 17. Estates on which crops are grown
 19. literary form of over
 20. fall behind
 21. indicates that a voice is silent
 22. single
 23. institute a legal proceedings for redress

Down:
 1. the sixth day of the week
 2. a mass meeting
 3. reveal something
 4. to inquire
 7. an unimportant person
 8. passed away
 11. Muscat is the Capital city
 12. the rubbing and kneading of muscles and joints
 14. identify the existence of
 15. free from dirt
 16. great size
 17. a game of Eastern origin
 18. cereal plants

water shortages, citing three consecutive droughts.

"The impact of the drought is devastating," said Gianfranco Rotigliano, UNICEF Ethiopia Representative, adding that this has led to "major displacement out of affected areas."

Researchers say these displacements have led to conflicts among communities over water.

"The lack of clean water is further exacerbating the situation for children and women. If children are forced to drink contaminated water, it puts them at risk to various diseases, including diarrhoea which is a major cause of deaths among children under five," Rotigliano said.

Experts say increased collective action by African countries is required if richer countries act with the urgency demanded by the continent's climate crisis.

"Africa countries should organise themselves to speak in one voice as a block. For Eastern Africa, a good example is the Intergovernmental Authority for Development (IGAD) which has set up a common approach to addressing issues especially related to climate

change," said Levis Kavagi, the United Nations Environment Programme's (UNEP) Africa Regional Coordinator for Ecosystems and Biodiversity.

"Issues presented together as a group attract greater traction," Kavagi told IPS by email.

Last year, research commissioned by the humanitarian agency CARE International exposed the broken promises of what it said was a "decade-old pledge" of climate financing for developing countries.

"Water is often seen from the end-user point of view and its challenges, but the issues related to where the water comes from are often not given the limelight," Kavagi said.

Amid those concerns, lobbyists are pushing for more action.

"There is no framework to hold rich countries accountable," Simalabwi told IPS.

Former British Prime Minister Tony Blair wrote in February 2020, "between now and 2050, Africa's population is set to double. This alone brings with it great opportunities but also new realities. If we are not able to find ways to support these countries to grow sus-

tainably, all of our work for decades in the UK and globally will be in vain."

Other experts, however, note that the delays by rich countries to act, go deeper.

"Rich countries may be reluctant to recognise, in financial terms, that Africa is disproportionately affected by anthropogenic climate change, including through water-related impacts because they could expose themselves to liabilities for billions of dollars in loss and damage payments," said Nathan Mason, a research associate at the UK's Overseas Development Institute.

"International NGOs, research and advocacy groups, and enlightened donors need to listen carefully to African counterparts, support their efforts and put them in the driving seat of funded programmes," Mason told IPS by email.

For now, researchers remain concerned that not just East Africa but countries across the continent facing hunger and drought will have to wait a little bit longer for largess from rich countries as the climate-induced humanitarian crisis continues unchecked.



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: PROVISION OF MOVING SERVICES FOR EACOP REFERENCE NO. 10007512

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

As part of setting up its offices and presence in Dar Es Salaam, EACOP is seeking the services to support office moves. EACOP invites experienced and reputable organizations to express their interest in providing these moving services in Dar Es Salaam.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES:

- Support for planning and scheduling office moves.
- On-call support for adhoc in-building moves (i.e. one floor to another).
- Provision of moving supplies (i.e. wrapping materials, boxes, tape...).
- Wrapping, boxing and preparation support.
- Movement from building to building or in-office.
- Insurance covering damages caused during moves to items or premises.
- Inventory and tracking of items moved.

SAFETY STANDARDS AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

- The service provider agrees and warrants that its workforce shall comply with applicable OSHA regulations.
- The service provider (workforce will be identifiable either by uniform, name tags, badges or other safeguards for security purposes required to access the premises (both at the picking location and new location) and will adhere to in building safety requirements.
- EACOP reserves the right to deny access to any personnel not meeting these expectations.
- The service provider provides required Personal Protective Equipment (safety boots, gloves and helmets and safety glass) to its workforce.
- The service provider supplies its own trucks, trolleys, carts or other devices necessary to safely move heavy items.
- The service provider takes precaution to protect items in transit from exposure to weather (sun, rain...).

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

- Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:
 - Proof of registration including Business License and with the Tanzania Revenue Authority and Tax (TRA) Clearance Certificate for the latest year available.
 - Application for registration with the EWURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.
 - Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition.
 - Previous experience doing similar works for moving office items/equipment.
 - Provide financial statement for the previous financial year.

Companies which have the ability, capacity and resources to implement the activities listed above should express their interest by sending together with the documents stated in the above section through an email to eacop-tz.eoi.1000001@totalenergies.com (max. email size 20Mb) on or before **17:00** hours East African Time (EAT), on **28th February, 2022**. Email subject should include the reference **0010007512**

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

216709901

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA TANZANIA ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED



TENDER NO.: PA/001/2021-22/HQ/W/022 FOR

PREQUALIFICATION OF EPC CONTRACTORS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF 50MWp SOLAR PV PROJECT IN SHINYANGA REGION

Addendum No. 2 to Prequalification Document

Date: 17th February, 2022

Addendum No. 2 to the Original Prequalification Document published by TANESCO is issued in accordance with Section II - Initial Selection Data Sheet (ISDS) - ITA 17.1, ITA 19.1 and ITA 7.1 of the Original Prequalification Document read together relevant items to effect changes to the Original Prequalification Document for the Tender No. PA/001/2021-22/HQ/W/022 shall become bidding document, overriding the original provisions to the applicable extent indicated.

All other terms and conditions of the Original Prequalification Document remain unchanged. The Provision for section II: Initial Selection Data Sheet (ISDS) - ITA 17.1 and ITA 19.1 of the Original Prequalification Document are amended as follows; -

- The opening of the applications has been extended for 14 days. The opening shall be on Tuesday, 8th March, 2022 Time: 10:30hrs East African Time;
- Applicants should note that replies to clarifications requested by Applicants WILL be emailed directly to prospective Applicant(s). However, all responses to clarifications will be posted in the TANESCO website and applicants are solely responsible for monitoring the website during the application processing for all Clarifications and Amendments with respect to this particular Invitation for Application.

MANAGING DIRECTOR

TANZANIA ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITED (TANESCO)

24242000



Thursday 17 February 2022

Small, microfinance banks improve their earnings amid covid-19 crisis

By Francis Kajubi

MID-sized and Small-scale banks are generally recovering from the Covid-19 impact as unaudited financial reports show positive trends at the end of the fourth quarter 2021.

The banks have seen both their net income after tax and shareholder basic earnings per share slowly improving during the fourth quarter that ended in December 2021 compared to the corresponding period in 2020.

Small and mid-sized commercial banks especially those listed at the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) are the main cash providers to farmers, livestock keepers and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in Tanzania.

Altemius Millinga (pictured) Yetu Microfinance Bank Plc, Managing Director, told The Banker that the global pandemic has hit the small and medium sized commercial banks because their key customers who are SMEs were severely affected by the pandemic.

"There are several factors that have contributed to small and mid-sized banks registering low basic earnings per share, one being decrease in deposits because our key customers are SMEs who were affected by Covid-19," said Millinga.

According to him, the global pandemic affected customers' loan repayment ability.

He pointed out closure of some schools, offices, hotels and other institutions where their customers supply services such as food, vegetables, fruits and poultry products.

"The Kenya-Tanzania cross border conflict has also affected the businesses of our customers especially those who export maize. We have a good number of customers in the Rukwa and Ruvuma regions whose maize were banned from entering the neighboring country," said Millinga.

He clarified that the side effect of such border restriction which has already been resolved caused



depreciation in maize selling price hence affected loan repayments by their customers. He further noted that small and medium-sized banks have not posted profits as large commercial banks.

"Large banks have continued posting profits because a big portion of the government's money passes through their channels. That's why they are even the only ones who go for the central bank's Treasury Bills

and Bonds," he clarified.

Yetu Microfinance Bank Plc unaudited financial statement shows that its basic earnings per share dropped to 13/- at December 2021 from 32/- at December 2020. Net income after income tax was 207.65million/- at December 2021 from 272.18million/- of the corresponding period in 2020.

Yetu total assets dropped to 1797bn/- at December 2021 from 19.80bn/- registered at the same period of 2020. Its total liability in 2021 was 9.62bn/- depreciating from 11.07bn/- in 2020.

Unaudited financial statements for the fourth quarter shows that MUCOBA Bank Plc net income (loss) after income tax increased to 843mn/- at the end of December 2021 from 716mn/- at the end of December 2020.

The community bank's diluted earnings per share grew to 25.81/- from 21.95/-

of the corresponding periods. Its total assets grew to 24.43bn/- for the quarter ending December 2021 from 22.99bn/- of September 2021. Total liabilities topped 19.89bn/- up from 18.71bn/- of September 2021.

Mkombozi Commercial Bank Plc net income after income tax decreased sharply to 1.15bn/- at the end of December 2021 from 3.85bn/- it registered during the corresponding period of 2020. Its basic earnings per share dropped to 50/- from 187/- of the two periods under review.

However, its total assets fell to 216.19bn/- at the end of December 2021 from 219.49bn/- of the preceding year. Total liability was 192.26bn/- in 2021 from 195.88bn/- in 2020.

The financial reports of other microfinance and community banks, FINCA Microfinance Bank unaudited statement shows that it registered a decline of loss in earnings per share of 100/- at December 2021 compared to a loss of 269/- registered at December 2020.

The bank recorded a loss after income tax amounting 3.73billion/- at December 2021 compared to a loss after income tax worth 9.06billion/- registered at December 2020.

Maendeleo Bank Plc basic earnings per share dropped to 20/- at December 2021 compared to 32/- at December 2020. Its net income after tax stood at 498million/- at December 2021 down from 718million/- at December 2020.

From its unaudited statement, Access Microfinance Bank Tanzania recorded a loss in basic earnings per share of 14/- at December 2021 compared to a loss of 260/- at December 2020. It registered a loss after income tax worth 542million/- down from 7.80billion/- recorded in December 2020.

All set for women in business awards

By Joseph Mchekadona

This year's edition of business women awards will be held next month in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania Women Chamber of Commerce (TWCC) has announced.

TWCC chairperson Mercy Sila said the awards will be held on 9 at Mlimani City.

she said prior to the main awards from March 3-8, they will be an exhibition to display products and services produced by women.

The awards are aimed at honoring women who have done well in business and upcoming business women, inspiring and motivating business women.

Sila said the awards are pre-eminent recognition platform for women who have become a force to be reckoned with in business.

The TWCC chairperson further said through the awards and displays, they are hopeful that it will help women to have many business networks and connections.

"This year business women awards will be held on March 9 at Mlimani city, but before the actual awards, we will have a number of activities which will involve displays of products and services done by women," she said.

"Our aim is to create women enterprises which are competitive locally, regionally and internationally through advocating and tapping into opportunities available," she said.

She also thanked the government for creating conducive business environment, especially those which are favouring women enterprises.

Sila thanked Trade Mark East Africa (TMEA) who are main sponsors of the awards, saying has been supporting them in various projects since 2012.

By Guardian Reporter

Hope as BOT starts to work on lending rates

HOPE is been raised among borrowers who are complaining about high banks lending rates, after the Bank of Tanzania (BOT) said will start working on the issue.

The Monetary Policy Statement for February published over last weekend say BOT will continue to use its instruments that will lead to reduced banks' lending rates.

This comes after a long outcry by borrowers who are complaining on exorbitant borrowing rates, with President Samia Suluhu Hassan also joined the wagon.

President Samia was quoted as recommending the lending rates to go as low as 10%, compared with current maximum rate of 16% by banks and up to 25% by other financial institutions.

In support of the policy stance, the Bank of Tanzania said will continue



to employ a mix of monetary policy instruments and implement measures to lower lending rates.

Furthermore, there will be frequent engagements with stakeholders to improve the financial sector and lower cost of

credit, while closely monitoring risks to inflation and execute appropriate policy actions.

During the second half of last year, BOT reported that private sector credit growth progressively improved to an average of 5.9 percent compared with the target of 10.6 percent by end June 2022.

"Interest rates charged on loans responded to accommodative monetary policy in a subdued manner," said the statement.

"The weak transmission is associated with lagged effect of the impact of the measures adopted, existence of high-risk premium attributable to the adverse impact of the pandemic on businesses and investment,

and prevailing structural hindrances."

According to policy statement, average lending interest rates marginally declined to 16.55 percent during July to December 2021 from 17 percent in the corresponding period of 2020.

Meanwhile, negotiated lending rates (lending rates to prime customers) averaged 14 percent.

However, BOT maintains that implementation of accommodative monetary policy succeeded in keeping adequate liquidity to support lending to various sectors of 7 the economy by banks and facilitating transactions.

This was reflected in the gen-

eral stability of money market interest rates, high clearing balances of banks (free reserves) and increase in money supply.

In the inter-bank market, the overnight interest rate averaged 3.85 percent during July to December 2021, same as in the corresponding period in 2020 (Chart 2.1).

In the year ending December 2021, credit growth improved remarkably to 10 percent, consistent with policy measures and the ongoing recovery of economic activities.

Most of the credit extended was for micro, small and medium undertakings (categorized as personal loans), trade and manufacturing.

Credit growth is expected to

continue improving in the second half of the year, supported by various policy measures under implementation, improving business environment and on-going recovery of the global economy, says BOT.

BOT says the monetary stance for Second half of 2021/22 ending in June will remain accommodative in order to continue providing impetus to growth of the economy through bank lending to the private sector.

In addition, BOT say will ensure stability of the financial sector by providing supportive infrastructure, appropriate safeguard measures and conducive legal and regulatory environment.

Vodacom boss says users lose data unknowingly

By Mary Kadoke

AS customers' queries on costs of data bundles continues, the change of technology and unawareness on the data setting control on mobile phones have remained major challenges among consumers, Vodacom Tanzania managing director Sitholizwe Mdlalose has said.

Mdlalose raised this concern yesterday during an official visit at IPP media offices in Mikocheni Dar es Salaam.

He said the understanding when people change different mobile devices differ, as some do not put their setting correctly during usage.

"As technology moves towards 3G and 4G there are elements of faster processing capabilities, so that people move to smart phones, therefore as the management, we need to help customers to understand these changes," he said.

"For example, updating apps on the background it could be doing that on the background and sometimes users are not

aware that it is consuming data, but it's actually doing that, he noted"

He further noted there are elements where customers put their devices to share data almost hotspot from it something most don't remember, "So they remember what they have done but don't remember wherever is done."

He however appreciated the government move on the support of the businesses and declares full support through strengthening Vodacom services to customers.

"So, I think the honorable Minister Nape yesterday brought out some important point in the parliament and his vision for the sector is incredible. We are fully behind him in terms of what he wants to continue driving and penetrate in Tanzania."

Minister of Information, Communication and Information technology Nape Nauye yesterday in the parliament asked those with no clue on their phones data usage to file their complaints with evidence as the matter will be diagnosed and findings will be openly disclosed.



Why Co-operatives end up with disclaimer audit opinions

By Francis Kajubi

A majority of the Co-operative unions get disclaimer audit opinions due to unprofessional financial reporting rather than funds embezzlement related issues, it has been revealed.

Over 50 percent of Co-operative unions in the country have been hiring temporary internal auditors who lack professional skills in drafting financial statements thus leading them into qualified, adverse and disclaimer audit opinions by the apex state owned auditing firm.

The Overall Co-operatives Audit Report for 2020/21 by the Co-operative Audit and Supervision Corporation (COASCO) points out unprofessional financial statement drafting as a key obstacle for co-operatives to determine their cash flow hence threatening their operations and existence.

"It has been learnt that the majority of the Co-operatives hire unprofessional auditors for drafting their financial statements. Most of these bogus auditors are hired during harvest season and are most likely to change in the next season," reads part of the COASCO report released October 2021.

According to the report which covers the period between July 2020 and June 2021, a total of 6,013 primary and secondary co-operatives, Savings and Credit Cooperatives (SACCOS) and other co-operatives were audited.

Of the 6,013 audited co-operatives, 1,117 (30.09 percent) are primary co-operatives which are basically the Agricultural Marketing Co-operative Society (AMCOS) got disclaimer audit opinion, 1,532 (41.07 percent) co-operatives got qualified opinion, and 997 (26.86 percent) got adverse opinion. Only 66 (1.78 percent) were awarded with unmodified opinion audits.

The COASCO report further states that of the 6,013 Co-operatives, 45 are secondary Co-operatives of which 9 (20 percent) Co-operatives got disclaimer opinion, 7 (15.56 percent) got adverse, 25 (55.56 percent) qualified and only 4 (8.89 percent) got unmodified audit opinion.

However, of the 6,013, there were 1,894 SACCOS of which 485 (25.61 percent) got disclaimer opinion, 228 (12.07 percent) adverse opinion, 928 (49



Florian Haule, TFC Executive Secretary.

percent) unmodified opinion.

On the category of other co-operatives which are transportation unions, fisheries, livestock, mining, and contraction unions to mention a few, 361 were audited. Of these, 118 (32.69 percent) got disclaimer, 21 (5.82 percent) got adverse, 188 (52.08 percent) got qualified and 34 (9.42 percent) got an unmodified opinion.

"Looking at the general full picture, of the 6,013 audited Co-operatives, 1,729 (28.75 percent) got disclaimer opinion, 1,253 (20.84 percent) got adverse opinion, 2,674 (44.47 percent) got qualified opinion and the rest 357 (5.94 percent) got unmodified audit opinion" the report clarifies.

The report recommends that a way forward should be stakeholders within the Co-operative spheres to take urgent initiatives by initiating programs that equip Co-operative auditors and managers with required professional skills of drafting financial statements.

Zavery Mkingule, COASCO Director General told The Banker that another challenge facing Cooperatives is poor management of economic resources and poor record keeping.

"Co-operatives must hire professional record keepers who can record exact quantities and types of harvested crops delivered at the Co-operative unions by farmers," he said.

In a follow-up to know what are Co-operatives stakeholders doing to address the challenge, The Banker has spoken with the Tanzania Federation of Co-operatives (TFC) chief who shared insights on the initiatives that the apex body is working on.

Florian Haule, TFC Executive Secretary said the federation had since mid-January this year started organizing sensitization and capacity building workshops to Co-operative auditors and managers through

its new programme dubbed 'Co-operatives Financial Management Transformation-CFMT-P' which is being implemented in phases.

"Phase one of the programme goes through November covering not less than six regions. We have started with the Morogoro region where a big number of Co-operatives got disclaimer audit opinions. We are training Co-operative auditors and managers on how to draft professional financial statements. Tabora is the second region where the programme is ongoing," said Haule.

According to him, other regions to be covered in the first phase are Shinyanga, Simiyu, Geita, Kilimanjaro, Singida, Mbeya, Pwani and Mara. He said the reason for making these regions a first priority aligned with their poor performance as indicated in the COASCO report.

The COASCO report shows that in Morogoro region, of the 231 audited Co-operatives in 2020/21, 112 got disclaimer audit opinions. In Tabora of 394 Co-operatives 118 got disclaimer opinion, Shinyanga 170 disclaimer of 233 audits, Simiyu 166 disclaimer of 376 audits and Geita 107 disclaimer of 221 audits.

In Kilimanjaro 122 disclaimer of 323 audits, Singida 114 disclaimer of 137 audits, Mbeya 66 disclaimer of 381 audits, Pwani 85 disclaimer of 164 audits and Mara 85 disclaimer of 247 audits.

Tanzania Cooperative Development Commission (TCDC), Cooperative Societies Registrar Dr Benson Ndiege, said in addressing the problems of financial statement drafting, the commission has embarked on relevant facilitative measures.

He said TCDC in conjunction with the Moshi Co-operative University had since May last year started organizing capacity building workshops to Primary Co-operative Officers. As of early this month, the workshops have been organized in 14 regions of the country.

"We had first drafted a Co-operatives Audit Officers' Guidebook which is purposely for training. In the same vein, we have drafted the Co-operative Employment Manual which comes into effect in March. Among other directives, the manual obligates Co-operatives to hire permanent professional auditors," said Dr Ndiege.

According to him, as of June 2021 TCDC has registered 9,185 Co-operatives of which 3,000 are dormant without any active economic activities.

"Most of these dormant co-operatives are

within the Tobacco value chain because regulations require that farmers must first find buyers of their produce by identifying estimations of their harvests before cultivation," asserted Dr Ndiege.

He clarified that Co-operatives such as SACCOS also went dormant if institutions whose employees formed such SACCOS are closed for different reasons. Dormant Co-operatives are supposed not to skip a single annual general meeting (AGM) for them to retain their registration.

On another initiative, Dr Ndiege said that TCDC has started giving out cars to Co-operative Assistant Registrars at a regional level and motor vehicles to Co-operative officers at the district level to ease their operations. So far 137 motor vehicles and 16 cars have been issued.

John Bosco, Kweema AMCOS Limited Manager said that members from the society which is based in Tuliiani Morogoro region have benefited from the TFC programme that exposed them to the importance of hiring permanent professional auditors.

"To be honest we have been hiring unprofessional auditors for all this while. With this programme we have come to learn that there are many benefits in hiring professional auditors but the main one is getting the cash flow right," said Bosco.

He admitted that many Co-operatives auditors are naive in keeping record regarding their members but since its Co-operative focus on Cocoa production, everything works out smoothly as they auction their produce at the Tanzania Mercantile Exchange (TMX) Limited.

Bosco asserted that the AMCOS was registered in 2019 with 240 members who as of mid this month has remained with 147 active members.

Salima Msindi, a small-scale sugarcane farmer under the Miwa AMCOS Limited in Kilombero district of Morogoro region, said that one of the major benefits she has experienced by being in the co-operative union is having her produce sold at profitable prices.

"It's worth being a farmer who cultivates within a co-operative union model rather than going solo. The other benefits are easier access to funds from lenders, easy access to farm inputs and guaranteed market for my produce no matter what quantity I harvest," said Salima.

Salima said she had gone solo in sugarcane cultivation until 2018 when she opted to join the Co-operative union.

Kenya's imports from Tanzania double Sh 50.1 billion

NAIROBI

KENYA'S imports from Tanzania doubled in 11 months to November last year as trade between the two countries continues to normalise after years of dispute.

The latest data from the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) shows that imports from Tanzania grew to Sh50.1 billion from Sh24 billion a year earlier.

The growth pushed the country to a record Sh9.77 billion deficit as exports grew at a slower pace (44 percent) to Sh40.39 billion.

Kenya enjoyed a Sh3.9 billion trade surplus against Tanzania in 2020 when exports stood at Sh28 billion and the import bill was recorded at Sh24.198, according to CBK data.

Kenya mainly imports cereals, wood, and edible vegetables from Tanzania and it exports pharmaceutical products, plastics, iron, and steel to the neighbouring state.

President Uhuru Kenyatta and his Tanzanian counterpart, Samia Suluhu ended persistent strained trade relations between the two largest economies in the six-nation East African Community (EAC) bloc which have, for years, hindered smooth flow of goods and services.

The Tanzanian president's visit to Nairobi - which, among others, saw the two countries sign a deal to build a gas pipeline from Dar es Salaam to Mombasa - touched off a series of joint trade meetings to flatten barriers to the flow of goods.

Before Suluhu's visit, Kenya had imposed a ban on imports of maize from Tanzania citing high levels of aflatoxin.

However, the trade impasse on maize imports from Tanzania was resolved after Ms Suluhu came to Nairobi, a move that saw imports jump more than sixfold to 118,329 bags in May after a deal to lift a ban that had been put in place was reached.

Kenyan manufacturers had in recent years protested "discriminative" duties and non-tariff barriers such as double inspection of goods for standards by Tanzania which had made supplies such as meat, milk, and related products to the neighbouring country uncompetitive.

The protectionist fees, Kenyan manufacturers argued, was against the EAC Common Market Protocol, which requires member states to open up borders to facilitate free movement of goods, labour, services as well as capital.

BANKING & FINANCE

By Adela Madyane, Kigoma

FISHERMEN incomes along Lake Tanganyika are expected to boost their income, following the implementation of new project aimed at reducing post-harvest losses.

Post-harvest losses in fishing in Lake Tanganyika raging between 35% to 50%, which has denied incomes among fishermen, as nearly half of their harvests turn waste.

To make it workable, Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) has organized value chain addition taskforce team under FISH4ACP project to be implemented from 2022 to 2024.

Sustainable production of perch, sardine and sprat in Lake Tanganyika is potential for not only increasing people's income but also protect the lake from destruction of its resources.

Speaking during the launch of national value chain taskforce FISH4ACP project Coordinator at FAO Hashim Muumi said this project will assist in strengthening value chain addition, based upon sustainable management of fisheries resources.

"We want to reduce post-harvest losses by acquiring improved fish handling and processing technologies in every stage of fish production we incur losses," said Muumi.

Muumi noted, the project will involve

New project to reduce fish post-harvest losses in Lake Tanganyika

the use of ice cubes to store fish from the Lake to landing site to avoid destruction and further losses.

"We implement this project in a participatory manner where community along the shores of Lake Tanganyika are included in protecting Lake Resources and enhance sustainable fishing for positive for results" emphasized Muumi.

The Tanzania Fisheries Research Institute (TAFIRI) director general Dr Ismael Kimirei said, they will introduce new technology in processing fishes for drying using smoke.

"Fishermen and food processors should adopt and add value to their fish drying method as currently fish last for 7 days without rotting, which is not suitable for international markets" Said Kimirei

He said over the 30 years in 1990', Lake Tanganyika is undergoing the fish stock census and this year an



approximately 200 million budgeted for the purpose.

The aim is to know fish stock in lake for proper planning and decision making on sustainable and management of resources.

The National Environment Management Council (NEMC) Western zonal anager, Benjamin Doto said,

sensitization programmes are ongoing on marine transporters to practice solid waste management to protect marine environment.

The Chairperson of Fisheries Union in Kigoma Francis John said the most challenging issues in value addition is lack of modern processing areas in most of fish markets.

Lake Tanganyika is the second most important lake for fishing activities in Tanzania, after Lake Victoria which has 27,000 fishermen and 12,000 boats.

According to the 2019 fish catch statistics, Lake Tanganyika produces about 31,000 tonnes of sprat, 6,000 tonnes of sardines and

22,000 tonnes of perch annually.

Researches highlighted last year that livelihoods of fishing communities around Lake Tanganyika are under threat and - hence - no longer secure due to a decline in fish catches, especially in the northern part of the lake.

A senior lecturer of the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM), School of Aquatic Sciences and Fisheries Technology, Mr Paul Onyango, was quoted in November last year saying fish catches have declined by almost a half over the last three decades as a result of overexploitation and climate change.

Africa's deepest lake is famous for Lates stappersii ("Migebuka") and Stolothrissa tanganyicae ("Dagaa"), and the researcher says there is strong evidence that climate change - which causes reductions in regional winds and warming of the lake surface waters - have significantly reduced the lake's productivity and fish growth.

The experts said the fishery has a 35 percent post-harvest loss, meaning that 35 percent of all catches landed get spoiled before consumption.

This is a result of some fishing methods as well as poor handling immediately after capture on the lake and landing at the beach. Presently, fishers use wooden boxes that are not properly customised for long-term storage.

Banking sector has sufficient levels of liquidity, says BOT

By Correspondent Geoffrey Nangai

TANZANIA'S banking sector as a whole managed to weather the storm, suggesting an overall satisfactory resilience with adequate capital and sufficient level of liquidity last year according to the latest Monetary Policy released by the Bank of Tanzania recently.

According to the report, the implementation of monetary policy-maintained liquidity at the required levels, and money market interest rates remained low and stable.

"Money supply and reserve money growth rates increased consistent with the targets, and private sector credit improved. Lending rates declined, albeit marginally," the report said

The report noted that the quality of assets improved, as evidenced by the decline in non-performing loans to 8.2 in December 2021 from 9.3 per cent in June 2021.

Measures continued to be implemented to strengthen risk management practices to ensure the stability of the sector. The measures included directing banks to implement capital restoration plans, adhering to regulatory requirements, improving financial services delivery and reducing non-performing loans.

Payment, clearing and settlement systems continued to improve, bolstered by technological revolution.

"Significant progress was made in the access and usage of financial services through digital platforms. This

has contributed to the inclusion of the unbanked segments of the population," the report said.

According to BoT, the economy continued to recover from the impact of COVID-19 pandemic, owing to re-opening of the global economy and the implementation of economic recovery measures.

Money supply growth was strong in the first half of 2021/22, due to sustained accommodative monetary policy implemented to support the recovery of the economy and supportive fiscal outlays.

Extended broad money supply grew by 12.9 per cent, while reserve money growth was 10.1 per cent.

"The growth rates were consistent with the targets of 10 per cent and 9.9

per cent for 2021/22," the report said.

Private sector credit growth gradually improved, resulting from the re-opening of the global economy and the implementation of various policy measures adopted during the period.

Credit growth averaged 5.9 per cent in the first half of 2021/22, with a remarkable high growth of 10 per cent recorded in December 2021, attributable to the recovery of business and investment.

The growth pattern was in conformity with the target of 10.6 percent for 2021/22. Much of the credit was in the form of personal loans (micro, small and medium-size undertakings), trade and manufacturing.

"Credit growth is expected to continue improving in the second half of the year,

supported by various policy measures under implementation, improving the business environment and the on-going recovery of the global economy," the report said.

The exchange rate was stable throughout the first half of 2021/22, appreciating marginally by less than 1.0 per cent.

The stability of the shilling was reinforced by low inflation, adequate foreign exchange reserves and prudent monetary and fiscal policies.

"This phenomenon is projected to persist in the second half of the year," according to the report.

At the backdrop of the projected low inflation, monetary policy stance will remain accommodative in order to con-

tinue providing impetus to growth of the economy through bank lending to the private sector.

"In support of the policy stance, the BoT will continue to employ a mix of monetary policy instruments and implement measures to lower lending rates.

The Bank will ensure stability of the financial sector by providing supportive infrastructure, appropriate safeguard measures and conducive legal and regulatory environment.

"There will be frequent engagements with stakeholders to improve the financial sector and lower cost of credit. The Bank of Tanzania will closely monitor risks to inflation and execute appropriate policy actions," the report added.

Cargo trucks clearance grow by 73pc at Holili border

By Beatrice Philemon

ONE Stop Border Post (OSBP) at Holili and Taveta border between Tanzania and Kenya has cleared a total of 33,000 cargo trucks in 2021 that is equal to 73 percent increase from 19,000 in 2020 after eliminating Non-Tariff Barriers in business.

A report from the East African Business Council (EABC) that was made available to The Guardian yesterday indicates the increase in the volume of trade underscores the importance of eliminating Non-Tariff Barriers for the quick recovery and resilience of the EAC economies amid COVID-19.

A report was issued recently by the EABC Chief Executive Officer John Bosco Kalisa at the just ended Trade Facilitation Forum that took place at Namanga One-Stop Border Post.

He called for a green channel for East African products at the border to boost intra trade and competitiveness of the region because One Stop Border Post (OSBP) links the northern and central corridor and has high potential to transform into a leading trade hub in the continent.

Also, levies on transit and EAC originating goods (East African products) by the counties in Kenyan and re-testing of products by Bureaus

of Standards are among other hurdles raised by the business leaders during the forum.

The Principal Secretary in the State Department of East Africa Community, Ministry of East African Community and Regional Development of Kenya, Dr. Kevit Desai was quoted saying the EAC Partner States will soon adopt the EAC Pass to ease the movement of East Africans amid the pandemic during the EABC Trade Facilitation Forum held at Taveta/Holili One-Stop Border Post.

He lauded the strong leadership of President of Uhuru Kenyatta and Chair of EAC Heads of State Summit for bolstering the EAC regional integration agenda for businesses and East Africans to actualize prosperity.

He called for collective efforts towards trade facilitation and value addition to boost manufacturing and urged East African businesses people to boldly tap into the markets of the Democratic Republic of Congo and the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

On their part, the chairpersons of women cross-border traders stated un-harmonized measures on COVID-19 increase the cost of business operations citing the USD:10 antigen test on the Tanzania side while on the Kenya



side is free of charge. Women cross-border traders also elaborated that EAC Simplified Trade Regime is not implemented as envisioned.

The women cross-border traders recommended for more sensitization campaigns on the EAC Simplified Trade Regime, customs procedures and formation of

clusters & consolidation of products to be deployed in order to ease trade.

The Eastern Africa Grain Council and Taha Fresh called upon the customs agencies to offer priority clearance to perishable and all agricultural goods, especially during Information Technology System breakdowns to avoid delays.

Dr. Desai urged for regular holding of the joint border management committees, strengthening partnerships to set up the Jumuiya Market at Taita/Taveta and explained that the Ministry's Business Reforms Unit will work closely with the EABC and Chambers of Commerce to analyze counties' regulatory compliance.

On his part, Mr. Kalisa said that Holili/Taveta OSBP links the northern and central corridor and has high potential to transform into a leading trade hub in the continent.

The forum also recommended cross-border traders be permitted to cross and do business up to 10 km on both sides of the border, quick rollout of the EAC COVID-19 pass and improved infrastructure such as cargo scanners.

The EABC Trade Facilitation Forum was attended by over 60 delegates composed of Officials from the Ministry of EAC, trade facilitation agencies, importers, exporters, transporters and freight forwarders, Eastern African Sub-Regional Support Initiative for the Advancement of Women (EASSI) and women cross-border traders.

The forum was supported by GIZ "Support to East African Market-Driven and People-Centred Integration" programme (SEAMPEC).

US banking see business lending driving 2022 growth

NEW YORK

DEMAND for business loans is picking up in the United States as an economic recovery drives consumer spending and encourages companies to bulk up inventories, fueling optimism it will boost banks' 2022 growth.

However, the outlook for consumer spending is more mixed with demand for home loans, mortgage refinancing and auto loans declining while credit card spending rises.

As investment banking and trading bonanzas fizzle out, banks are relying on a revival of moribund loan demand to drive profits during 2022.

An increase in commercial and industrial (C&I) loans through the back end of 2021 and start of 2022 has generated optimism.

"People are rebuilding their inventories," Terrance Dolan, chief financial officer for U.S. Bancorp, said last month. "They're starting to make business investment ahead of the consumer spend and the economic growth that they see in 2022."

That growth could come in fits and starts this year, analysts and bank executives have said.

The Federal Reserve's weekly loan reports have shown that so far in January total loans were down about 0.8% from the same period early in the fourth quarter. There were modest declines across all types of loans except commercial real estate and auto, which are expected to be short-lived. Compared to a year ago, total loans so far this year were up 3.8%.

"We continue to believe there is meaningful upside to the C&I growth story as the economy continues to improve," JPMorgan's Chief Financial Officer Jeremy Barnum told analysts following the bank's fourth quarter earnings last month.

Banks will also benefit if the Fed comes through with the four rate hikes expected this year. That will boost their net interest income, the difference between interest earned on loans and paid out on deposits. read more

In the final quarter of 2021, US banks saw a substantial increase in demand for business loans, according to the Fed's quarterly Senior Loan Officer Opinion Survey, released on Monday.

BANKING&FINANCE

By Sabato Kasika

LIWALE district is targeting to become the largest sunflower producer, to supplement the earnings of farmers, who are mostly depending on cashewnut as the main source of income.

Sensitization initiative for sunflower farming is ongoing within the district, which include supplying improved seeds to more than 300 farmers in 20 wards.

The initiative led by Liwale Socio Economic Development Organisation (LSEDO) is targeting to improve the economy of the district, currently among the largest producer of cashew, sesame and pears.

Speaking during distribution of free 1.2 tonne of improved seeds to 316 farmers valued 4m/-, the Liwale district commissioner Judith Nguli said the acceptance rate is high among farmers.

"The introduction of the crop (sunflower) does not imply the abandoning other cash crops, but is a value addition to the incomes of farmers," she said.

Sunflower is a drought-resistant crop that can be grown in coastal areas and up to 2,600 metres above sea level, of which Liwale has.

Currently, she said many farmers are depending on cashew nuts, pears and sesame as sources of livelihood, but sunflower is short term and can be harvested three times a year.

She said the introduction of sunflower is expected to increase money circulation in the district, boosting government revenue from sale of the crop, as well as attracting investors in sunflower processing facilities, which all will increase employment opportunities.

LSEDO officer Hassan Mpako

Liwale gunning to become largest sunflower producer



said each farmer were provided with two kilogramme of improved seeds, of which will be used as pilot study for sunflower farming in Liwale.

He said southern region of Tanzania has potential for sunflower cultivation and Liwale is considered as an entry point, before being expanded to other regions.

Sunflowers are grown all over the country, mostly by small-scale farmers.

The Dodoma region in the country's central zone is a major producer, accounting for over 20 per cent of national production.

About half of Dodoma farmers are engaged in sunflower oil production, but few small-

scale producers have realized the full potential of this sector, either in terms of improved quality or higher volumes.

Among the factors contributing to low productivity and quality are inadequate machinery and limited or no access to value-added services and markets.

There are currently 1 million smallholder farmers growing sunflowers whose livelihoods stand to improve with the sector's growth.

Tanzania is currently producing at least one million tonnes of sunflower, up from 649,437 tonnes in 2019/20, and 561,297 tonnes in 2018/19, which is enough to produce 300,000 tonnes of cooking oil

by 2025.

According to FAO, the average yield of sunflower is 979 kilogram per hectare.

The two thousand small and medium enterprises - are largely processors of crude sunflower oil in Tanzania, according to data available.

Tanzania has 773 cooking oil factories requiring 1.7 million tonnes of sunflower seeds a year, worth 1,145,000/- in total, at Sh850 per kilogramme.

But, as only 352,908 tonnes worth 299bn/- are produced locally, farmers lose 1,363trn/- in benefits from supplying to small, middle and large-scale processing firms.

Therefore, Tanzania's sunflower sector is poised to be a

model for other value chains in Tanzania and inspire other countries to pursue industrialization by replicating its success in other value chains.

According to ended 2016-2020 sunflower sector development strategy by the ministry of trade and industry, Tanzania now ranks one of the ten largest sunflower producing countries in the world with a production share of 2.4%.

The importance of the sunflower sector is vital for the development of the Tanzanian people since it is potentially capable of providing a significant share of the edible oil in the country.

Currently, Tanzania spends more than 500bn/- to import edible oil.

Raw sunflower seed production is currently at 3 million tons per annum, but the country has the potential to increase production to 10 million tonnes per annum, according to the ministry of agriculture.

The government has also taken measures to improve sunflower production through an increased budget allocation for the Agricultural Seed Authority, up from 5.42bn/- (US\$2.3 million) in 2020-2021 to 10.8bn/- (US\$4.7 million) in 2021-2022.

Tanzania is the largest producer of sunflower seeds in the East African region, taking about 78 per cent of the market share in the region.

Deloitte Outlook 2022: Banks are at a make-or-break moment

LONDON

THE pandemic over the last couple of years has caused continuous disruption to society, and it has been relentlessly testing the resilience of banks in ways previously unforeseen.

Banks today have a new-found confidence of the way they have addressed pandemic-related challenges, according to Deloitte's 2022 banking and capital markets outlook.

According to the report analysis, recovery in the global banking industry is expected to be uneven across regions.

In H1 2021, banks in Asia Pacific and Europe continued to add to their loan loss reserves. The top 100 Asian banks increased provisions by US\$125 billion while provisions for the top 100 European banks increased by US\$25 billion.

In contrast, the top 100 US banks in the same period have released US\$24 billion in loan loss reserves and their counterparts in Canada were doing the same.

"The brighter outlook for loan loss provisions is helping drive profitability for US and Canadian banks, but sluggish loan growth and modest interest income are likely to dampen

growth in both countries," says Val Srinivas, banking and capital markets research leader at the Deloitte Center for Financial Services.

"Because of overexposure to the sectors hardest hit by the pandemic, most European banks have yet to recover to pre-pandemic profitability levels. In Asia Pacific, continued strengthening of Chinese banks are a bright spot in Asia, and banks in Singapore and Australia also remain relatively sound. Otherwise, the region is beset with a k-shaped recovery since many Southeast Asian banks are dealing with asset quality concerns."

While uncertainty about the pandemic continues, overall financial prospects are generally positive for the global banking industry in 2022.

"Despite a possible uptick in interest rates in 2022, low rates in the short term should keep interest income/net interest margins suppressed. However, the rebound in non-interest income from higher trading revenues and growth in fee-based business could be more pronounced and lead to overall top-line growth. Now, more than ever, banks should be bold and aggressive in orchestrating change at the pace and scale that will drive results," Val

adds.

Jason Guo, Deloitte China banking and capital markets sector leader (Chinese Mainland) also emphasizes, "At this make-or-break moment, it is critical for banks, big and small, to take account of the tectonic shifts reconfiguring the global financial systems. For instance, the pandemic-related challenges have added pressure on the industry to develop and embrace a more modernized workforce. The bank of the future will require new skill sets for higher-order work, ranging from purely technical to essential human skills, such as empathy, judgment and creativity."

Deloitte's report pointed out that, bank executives today are under extensive pressure to develop an agile and modern workforce. Employee experience and augmenting digital skills should become priorities.

Many banks are using alternative talent models to augment their workforce and they are expecting to hire more gig-based employees and contractors to provide specialized capabilities in areas such as cybersecurity, cloud, climate science and risk modelling.

At the same time, banking executives should embrace a unique blend of leadership traits. Not

only do they need to be more adaptable than ever, but they should also be unapologetically bold while making empathy the foundation of their reinvigorated culture.

"Digitization is rapidly changing customer expectations and behaviour. Marketing financial services today goes beyond just understanding and meeting the needs of a customer, customers today also expect institutions to give them access and control of their own data," says James Polson, Deloitte China banking and capital markets sector leader (Hong Kong).

"While there is room for improvement for banks before customers feel in control of their data, open banking projects around the world will be the catalyst to push banks to give customers control over who can access their data in exchange for something of value in return, such as better pricing, higher rates or greater rewards."

The rise of digitization also leads to enormous pressure on banks to contend with the expansion in volume, velocity and variability of cyber threats, and respond to new demands from within the business as well as heightened regulatory expectations.

Cyber incidents, fraud and money laundering are increasingly becoming intertwined as sophisticated criminals exploit vulnerabilities in technology.

For example, criminals like identity thieves are often part of sophisticated global crime syndicates using advanced technologies such as AI for spoofing.

The increasing intersection between cyber risk and financial crime has prompted banks to adopt a collaborative approach and take steps to improve their processes for overseeing cyber and financial crime internally.

2022 is a critical year for large banks to establish tangible criteria to achieve their emission-reduction goals.

They are also expected to solidify their stress testing and credit risk modelling procedures; amplify efforts to help clients manage physical and transition risks; and enhance their disclosures on climate-related risks and opportunities.

The explosive demand for green products and investments globally across all sectors of the economy creates ample opportunities for banks, from lending to carbon trading.

WORLD

Russia does not want any war, believes in Minsk Accords – Putin-Scholz meeting

MOSCOW

RUSSIA does not want any war and this is why it submitted its proposals on security guarantees in Europe and hopes that their key points will be taken into account during negotiations, Russian President Vladimir Putin said at a press conference following his talks with German Chancellor Olaf Scholz on Tuesday.

The first face-to-face meeting of the two leaders since Scholz took office lasted slightly over three hours and received high marks from both of them: the Russian president noted its business-like atmosphere, while the German chancellor – that not a single subject was omitted. TASS gathered key statements following the talks.

On whether Russia wants any war

Putin emphasized that Russia does not want any war. “This is precisely why we put forward the proposals on the negotiating process that must result in an agreement on ensuring equal security for all states, including our country.”

That said, he reiterated that at the time, NATO unleashed a war against Yugoslavia. “It is a very sad example, but it is a hard fact.” Following Scholz’s remarks that then the alliance wanted to prevent genocide, the Russian president noted that what is going on in Donbass nowadays “is indeed genocide.”

In response to a question about Moscow’s further steps in the situation around Ukraine, the president said they will “follow a plan.” He explained that the plan will be shaped based on “the actual situation on the ground” that will depend not only on Russia.

The German chancellor reiterated that the West was very concerned over the accumulation of Russian troops near Ukrainian borders yet does not think that diplomatic capabilities

have been exhausted. “Now this should be about working decisively and courageously over the peaceful resolution of this crisis.”

Scholz also said that the return of some Russian troops to their permanent stations that was announced by the Defense Ministry this morning was “a good sign.” “We hope that this trend continues.”

Negotiations to continue

Putin assured that Moscow would aspire to resolve the security issues by diplomatic means and is ready to discuss the initiatives contained in the US and NATO responses yet only together with those points that are of “primary value and of primary importance” to Russia.

The president noted that Russia has concerns that the West may groundlessly delay the negotiations and it intends to prevent this from happening – the issue of guarantees that Ukraine won’t join NATO should be decided “now, right now.”

That said, according to Putin, Russia won’t be satisfied with the assurances that Kiev won’t join the alliance in the near future. “They say, it won’t happen tomorrow. When then? The day after tomorrow? And what does it change for us in the historical perspective? Absolutely nothing.”

The German chancellor reiterated that NATO’s eastward expansion is not on the agenda and “everyone knows this for sure.” He admitted that the sides have divergent stances on the security guarantees but said it was already good that the West responded to Russia’s proposals while Russia found “some positive points” in them.

The Minsk Accords

Commenting on the State Duma address on recognizing the independence of the Donetsk and Lugansk People’s Republics, Putin noted that



Russian President Vladimir Putin (right) and German Chancellor Olaf Scholz attend a joint news conference following their talks in the Kremlin in Moscow, Russia on Tuesday. AP

lawmakers are “guided by the public opinion, keenly sense it,” while the vast majority of Russians “feel for Donbass residents.”

However, he added, the capabilities of the Minsk Accords have not been exhausted despite Ukraine’s refusal to observe them. “We are really hoping that both our partners overseas and in Europe, above all, Germany and France, will exert appropriate influence over the current Kiev authorities.”

According to Scholz, everybody should adhere to the Minsk Accords, including Ukraine and Russia, while the recognition of Donetsk’s and Lugansk’s independence “would be a political catastrophe.” On Monday, following a meeting with Ukrainian President Vladimir Zelensky, the chancellor noted that Kiev was planning to bring up for discussion bills on Donbass’ special status and local elections provided for in the Minsk Accords.

Nord Stream 2

Putin reiterated that Nord Stream 2 is a “purely commercial project, there are no political overtones here.” The gas pipeline has been ready for use since December 2021 and its launch depends only on the German regulator that conducts certification procedures.

The president also reiterated that the Germans should thank Germany’s former chancellor Gerhard Schroed-

er who supported the construction of Nord Stream 1 for low prices for gas the republic receives from Russia on long-term contracts. “Let German citizens open their wallets, look and answer the question: Are they ready to pay 3-5 times more for electricity, gas and heat. And if they do not want to do this, let them say ‘thank you’ to Mr. Schroeder, because this is the result of his work.”

That said, Scholz dodged the question on whether Nord Stream 2 would be affected by the sanctions that the West vowed to introduce in case of Russia’s “invasion” of Ukraine.

RT and Deutsche Welle

According to the Russian leader, they discussed the issues of RT’s operation in Germany and Deutsche Welle’s work in Russia. “I wouldn’t want to go into details now in order not to complicate the situation but we agreed that we will think of how it is possible to resolve these issues.” The German chancellor, in response to the same question, reiterated that RT needed to obtain a license to broadcast in Germany which, in the opinion of the national regulator, it had not done.

That said, the representatives of both media outlets had the opportunity to ask a question to Russian and German leaders: the first question was asked by a Deutsche Welle correspondent, while the last question was from a RT reporter. **Agencies**

Pacquiao: Fight drug ‘the right way’ if elected president

MANILA

PHILIPPINES boxing icon and presidential candidate Manny Pacquiao said he will welcome an international probe into President Rodrigo Duterte’s bloody war on drugs if elected, and promised to fight narcotics “the right way”, with due process, not street shootings.

In remarks this week to foreign journalists, Pacquiao, a former multi-division world boxing champion and once a staunch ally of the president, said he would be open to rejoining the International Criminal Court (ICC), which Duterte unilaterally

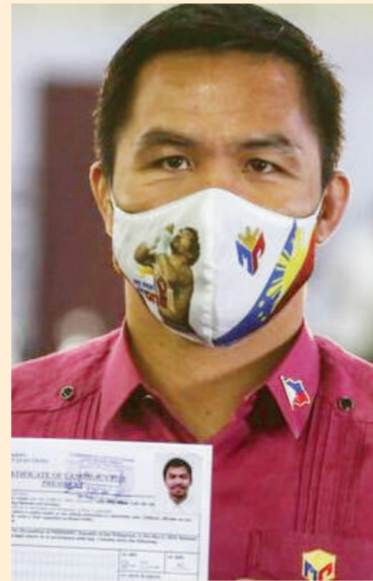
withdrew the Philippines from in 2018.

Pacquiao, as he is known in the Philippines, is however trailing in opinion polls ahead of the May election, more than 50 points adrift of frontrunner Ferdinand Marcos Jr.

Duterte’s presidency has been defined by his war on drugs, during which thousands of alleged dealers have been killed.

Rights groups and critics say law enforcers have summarily executed drug suspects, but police say those killed were armed and had violently resisted arrest.

Pacquiao, 43, has sought to set himself apart from Duterte, say-



ing he will “continue the war on illegal drugs in the right way”, with suspects given a fair trial and rehabilitated.

“When I said the right way, we will not kill them in the streets,” he said on Monday.

“They will be given the right to defend themselves in court.”

Duterte caused international outrage with his war on drugs and has dared the ICC to investigate him for crimes against humanity.

He has maintained those killed were all dealers who had violently resisted arrest and has publicly encouraged police to shoot suspects in self-defense, and said

he would pardon those jailed for the killings.

The president’s office did not respond to requests for comment on Pacquiao’s remarks.

Analysts say an ally getting elected president this year could protect Duterte from any legal action over his anti-narcotics program. “I believe there (have been) extrajudicial killings,” Pacquiao said of the crackdown. “We should give justice to those abused.”

A former ship stowaway who learned to box in a Manila slum, Pacquiao also said he is certain lower-income voters will turn out in force to elect him.

Agencies

UNICEF appeals for 7m USD to tackle acute malnutrition in Somalia

MOGADISHU

THE United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) on Tuesday appealed for 7 million U.S. dollars before the end of March to urgently support 1.4 million children likely to suffer from acute malnutrition in Somalia.

The UNICEF said the money will be used to procure 104,000 cartons of Ready-to-Use Therapeutic Foods (RUTF) for the treatment of children with severe acute malnutrition and

avert deaths.

“The numbers we are seeing this year are quite high and unless urgent measures are taken, thousands of children are at risk of dying,” the UNICEF Representative Angela Kearney said in a statement issued in the Somali capital, Mogadishu.

Kearney said a potential break in the supplies pipeline could result in a serious shortage of RUTF from June onwards and imperil the lives of more than 100,000 children.

UNICEF said more than 1.4 million children in Somalia, nearly half of the country’s under-five population, are likely to suffer from acute malnutrition due to the ongoing drought that has left 4.1 million people on the brink.

According to the latest Somalia Food Security and Nutrition Assessment released last week, about a quarter of the 1.4 million children, equivalent to 329,500 children, will suffer from severe malnutrition this year.

“We know that humanitarian emergencies of this magnitude disproportionately affect children,” said Kearney.

According to the UN, three consecutive seasons of failed rains combined with ongoing conflicts in many parts of Somalia have left a quarter of the population needing immediate food assistance.

“Without urgent scaling up of assistance, the humanitarian situation among the urban and rural poor and displaced

populations is expected to deteriorate further between now and June 2022,” the UNICEF warned.

It said the impact on pastoralist communities is especially dire, noting that a critical shortage of water has forced families to migrate to urban and peri-urban centers in search of water for both human and livestock consumption, adding to the 2.9 million people who were already displaced by conflict and climate change. **Xinhua**

Make pandemic control top priority, Xi tells Hong Kong government

LONDON

PRESIDENT Xi Jinping has expressed great concern about pandemic situation in Hong Kong and instructed the special administrative region’s government to make it top priority to control it.

According to media reports by Hong Kong’s Ta Kung Wen Wei Media Group, the Chinese leader asked Vice-Premier Han Zheng to convey his concern to HKSAR Chief Executive Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor, and his care to Hong Kong people.

Xi was quoted as saying that the Hong Kong government must take the main responsibility of the anti-pandemic work. It should also mobilize all available forces and resources and take all necessary measures to ensure safety of the residents and stability of the society.

He also asked the related departments of the central government and local governments to fully support Hong Kong’s anti-pandemic efforts.

Han said the central government departments and the Guangdong province must promptly address the SAR government’s requests in reining in the surging fifth wave.

The tasks include improving Hong Kong’s testing capacity, supporting medical supplies such as the rapid antigen test kits, building community isolation and treatment facilities, ensuring the supply of daily necessities, and dispatching medical experts to Hong Kong.

According to the reports, the central government decided to establish a pandemic work coordination mechanism, which will be led by the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of the State Council and the National Health Commission involving central government departments, Guangdong provincial government and the HKSAR government.

The papers also quoted sources saying that Guangdong authorities recently held meetings to discuss how to support Hong Kong’s pandemic work and ensure sufficient supplies to it. **Agencies**

Senior schools reopen in India’s Karnataka amid hijab row

UDUPI

SENIOR schools reopened in the Indian state of Karnataka yesterday a week after authorities closed them in the face of protests against a ban on female students wearing the hijab Muslim head covering.

A court is deliberating the recent ban on school girls wearing the hijab imposed by Karnataka authorities, the latest issue of contention involving India’s Muslim minority, who make up about 13 percent of the Hindu-majority country’s 1.35 billion people.

Students wearing olive-green uniforms, some in the hijab, walked hand-in-hand on Wednesday into the Government Girls Senior School P.U. in Udupi district, where the protests started this month. Male and female police stood guard.

All of the students were allowed, including the girls in hijabs, despite a ruling from the state’s High Court last week that schools should bar any religious clothing in classrooms until further instructions. The court will hear further arguments yesterday.

Senior district official Kurma Rao M said talks were underway in the community on the court ruling.

“We have held a meeting with all religious leaders, various stakeholders on the implementation of the court’s interim order,” he was quoted as saying by Reuters partner ANI.

The southern state of Karnataka is governed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party and the uproar comes as it campaigns for several important state assembly elections this year.

Karnataka’s state election will be held next year while India is due to hold its next general election by May 2024.

Muslim families in Karnataka say the ban on the hijab marginalizes them and led to some schools refusing entry to girls and women wearing it.

Some Muslim students and parents protested against the ban drawing counter protests from Hindu students who hung saffron-coloured shawls around their necks. The color is generally worn by Hindus.

“This is so unfair,” student Afra Ajmal Asabi told reporters, referring to the ban. “We’ve always been attending classes wearing the hijab.”

Junior and middle schools reopened on Monday after authorities closed them too last week because of the protests. **Agencies**

We have held a meeting with all religious leaders, various stakeholders on the implementation of the court’s interim order

Foreign sliding sports expert: Beijing 2022 brings more confidence, courage, warmth to world

THE splendid, exciting, and grand Beijing 2022 will bring more confidence, courage, and warmth to people around the world, said Normunds Kotans, Latvian sliding sports expert with the Beijing Organising Committee for the 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games (BOCOG), in a recent interview with People’s Daily.

China has built a stage on which winter sports athletes from around the world can pursue their dreams, Kotans said, who believes every Winter Olympic athlete participating in the event will have an unforgettable experience.

Dubbed “Flying Snow Dragon”, the National Sliding Center located at the foot of Xiaohaituo Mountain in the Yanqing

competition zone of the Games, a venue for bobsled, skeleton, and luge competitions of Beijing 2022, has won high praise from the foreign expert, who was also a bobsledder.

“This is the best venue I’ve visited and served. The facilities and operational functions of the sliding track will enable every participating athlete to enjoy competitions,” Kotans said, referring to the National Sliding Center.

Kotans used to be a member of Latvia’s national bobsled team. After retiring from the national team, he served in 7 sliding sports competitions at the Sochi 2014 Games and the PyeongChang 2018 Games, and worked for the International Bobsleigh and Skeleton Federation

(IBSF) as sports and events director.

Kotans was invited to China to provide advice on the siting of the National Sliding Center before the construction of the venue kicked off, according to the expert.

In September 2018, he officially joined the BOCOG as a foreign expert, and has since then taken part in the construction of China’s first sliding track for bobsled, skeleton and luge competitions, ensured liaison between the BOCOG and the IBSF and the International Luge Federation (FIL), and helped make arrangements for facilities, prepare equipment, and train technical personnel.

With a total length of 1,975 meters and a vertical drop of 121 meters, the sliding

track of the National Sliding Center consists of 16 curves that vary in angle and inclination, including the world’s only 360-degree curve. It has been extremely difficult to complete the design and construction tasks of the venue, which also had very high technical requirements.

“Over the past more than three years, I’ve seen how my colleagues overcame one technical difficulty after another. They have put enormous efforts in the construction of the venue,” Kotans told People’s Daily.

Last year, athletes participating in the test events held at the venue for Beijing 2022 said the sliding track was fun and exceptionally challenging, which made Kotans and his colleagues feel very grati-

fied, according to him.

To reduce energy loss at the sliding track to the greatest possible extent, China developed the world’s first terrain-based system with hybrid steel-wood structure to protect the track from the sun and created the world’s first sliding track fully covered by sunshade.

The sunshade can effectively reduce the influence of various climate factors on the ice surface of the sliding track, and save energy by insulating the track against the heat.

Fully leveraging scientific and technological achievements in promoting energy-efficient buildings, the design of the sliding track, which is worth learning

from by various countries and regions, demonstrates China’s determination to host a green Winter Olympics and emphasis on sustainable development, Kotans noted.

“The architectural style of the ‘Flying Snow Dragon’ shows the characteristics of Chinese culture and blends well with the surrounding natural landscape. The venue and the mountain scenery add radiance and beauty to each other and together form an extraordinarily beautiful picture,” said Kotans, adding that for a world-class track, both the facility itself and the scenery along it can help athletes deliver their best performance.

People’s Daily

Russia to do everything it can to avoid war with Ukraine – parliament speaker

MOSCOW

RUSSIA will do everything within its power to prevent a war with Ukraine, Federation Council speaker Valentina Matviyenko said yesterday.

"Our stance has been clearly defined by the Russian leader: we, on our part, will do everything to prevent a war with Ukraine, to make sure that it never starts - not today, not tomorrow, not the day after tomorrow," the speaker of the Russian parliament's upper house said in an interview with Russia's Parliamentskaya Gazeta.

"The very thought of a war is total absurdity for us," she said, adding that Russia and Ukraine share centuries of common history. "Of course, our nations are not living through the best of times in relations, to put it mildly. Nevertheless, I believe that any problem can be solved peacefully, through diplomatic means and political ways."

Matviyenko is convinced that there have been no objective reasons to accuse Russia of aggressive plans.

"No wonder that the topic of attack on Ukraine, which is being fanned by the West in past weeks, has no evidence to back it, there is nothing but theories," she went on.

According to the senator, certain powers in the United States and the West in general push Ukraine to a war with Russia.

"Simultaneously, NATO has already started military development of the Ukrainian territory. Its armed forces are being pumped up with military equipment, ammunition, weaponry - includ-



ing offensive ones.

The above-mentioned forces hope to create hotbeds of instability near Russia's borders. This strategy is nothing new to us," Matviyenko continued.

In this situation, it would be logical for Russia to "take measures aimed at boosting the security of its territory and citizens" and to "bring into play the entire scope of possible measures: political, diplomatic, military and informational," the speaker said. "And this is exactly what is being done now," she added.

Concerns over Moscow's alleged preparations for an invasion into Ukraine have been increasingly voiced in the West and in Kiev recently. Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov castigated these statements as an empty and groundless escalation of tension, emphasizing that Russia posed no threat to anyone.

At the same time, the Kremlin press secretary did not rule out possible provocations to justify such claims and warned that the attempts to resolve the Ukrainian conflict by force would carry extremely serious consequences.

Agencies

Thousands of Afghans come to street, call on US to return Afghanistan's assets

KABUL

THOUSANDS of Afghans came to the street in the capital Kabul on Tuesday, condemning the recent U.S. decision regarding the frozen Afghan assets as unjust and open stealing, and calling on Washington to return the assets of more than 9 billion U.S. dollars to the war-torn country.

With people carrying banners and placards with slogans reading "Biden the World Thief of 2022", "U.S. destroyed Afghanistan" and "America should return Afghanistan's assets", the demonstration march started from the main money exchange market Sarai Shahzada and ended peacefully in front of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) office.

The demonstrators demanded the return without any condition of all the assets of the Afghan central bank that have been frozen by the United States following the Taliban's takeover of the Central Asian country in mid-August 2021.

The protest came in response to an executive order signed recently by U.S. President Joe Biden for diverting 3.5 billion U.S. dollars from the frozen Afghan

assets to compensating the families of 9/11 terror attacks' victims. At the end of the demonstration, the protestors issued a declaration terming the U.S. decision as a breach of international law and vowed to continue the protest until its revocation.

Haji Mir Afghan Safi, head of Sarai Shahzada money changers union, said that Afghan people demonstrated in almost all big cities on Tuesday demanding the return of Afghanistan's assets. Nasir Ahmad, a money changer said, "The money belongs to the hungry people of Afghanistan and should be returned to Afghans. And President Biden's decree with regard to the assets is unjust."

The U.S. freezing of the Afghan central bank's assets is widely seen as the primary factor leading to the current economic crisis and humanitarian disaster in the war-torn country of some 39 million people. Deputy spokesman of the Taliban-led administration Inammullah Samangani and former Afghan president Hamid Karzai have both recently denounced Biden's decision as unjust and demanded the return of the frozen assets to Afghanistan.

Xinhua

Humanitarian situation in Somalia remains extremely dire - UN envoy

UNITED NATIONS

THE humanitarian situation in Somalia remains extremely dire, with almost half of the population requiring assistance in 2022, said James Swan, the top UN envoy for Somalia, on Tuesday.

Somalia is the most severely drought-affected country in the Horn of Africa, with 4.3 million people impacted and more than 270,000 people newly displaced due to drought.

With the next rains in April likely to be the fourth below-average cycle, Somalia is facing a potential humanitarian catastrophe, he told the Security Council in a briefing.

While the Somalia humanitarian operation has the know-how to deliver life-saving aid to people in need, it requires adequate resources. Unfortunately, the humanitarian response plan for 2022 is currently only 2 percent funded, he said.

"While I wish to express profound appreciation to the donor community for its continued commitment to Somalia, I once more call on donors to increase their support for urgent assistance to the most vulnerable Somali people," he said.

While critical, any humanitarian response is not a long-term solution. The UN family is therefore taking action to strengthen the humanitarian, development, and peacebuilding nexus.

To this end, Somali-based UN agencies, funds and programs continue to pursue a joint approach to address challenges such as water management, durable solutions, fraud and corruption, said Swan, the UN secretary-general's special representative and head of the UN Assistance Mission in Somalia.

The implementation of the women, peace and security agenda, as well as inclusion of youth remains central to UN work in Somalia, he said.

The United Nations and the government of Somalia jointly launched a new Women, Peace and Protection program in November 2021. This project aims to promote women's meaningful participation in peacebuilding processes, particularly within decision-making and leadership roles, he said.

"This is an investment enabling us to implement the women, peace and security agenda at the federal and sub-national levels as well as to improve critical areas such as protection of women and girls from sexual violence in conflict."

On the youth front, the United Nations continues to support the Somali government to integrate youth dimensions to different areas, from electoral participation to local reconciliation and more, he said. Al-Shabaab continues to pose the major security threat in Somalia, said Swan. Political divisions and prolonged delays in the elections have allowed insurgent forces to make some recent gains.

Ottawa police chief resigns as Canadian border protesters retreat

OTTAWA/CALGARY

OTTAWA'S police chief resigned on Tuesday after criticism that he did not do enough to stop COVID-19 protests that have paralyzed Canada's capital city and forced Prime Minister Justin Trudeau to invoke emergency powers.

A trucker-led movement calling on the government to lift vaccine mandates has occupied parts of downtown Ottawa since late January and blocked US border crossings, inspiring similar protests around the world even as Canada moves to lift some health restrictions.

Protesters retreated from the Ambassador Bridge to Detroit and two other crossings after threats of fines and jail time. But hundreds of trucks are still blocking downtown areas, raising questions over Ottawa Police Chief Peter Sloly's handling of the crisis.

Diane Deans, chair of the Ottawa police board, said the city had reached "mutually agreeable separation" with Sloly, without saying why he had stepped down.

Critics alleged he was too permissive toward protesters who at the peak of their movement had parked 4,000 trucks and vehicles near Canada's parliament, prime minister's office and other government buildings.

In a statement announcing his resignation, Sloly said he had done "everything possible to keep this city safe and put an end to this unprecedented and unforeseeable crisis." His defenders had voiced fears the use of force by police could stoke violence.

Trudeau sought on Monday to beef up policing by invoking the Emergencies Act, which empowers his government to cut off protesters' funding and reinforce provincial and local law enforcement with federal officers.

'Our right to protest'

Protesters blocked the Ambassador Bridge, a vital trade corridor between Windsor, Ontario, and Detroit and a choke point for the region's automakers, for six days before police on Sunday cleared those who ignored orders to retreat.

In downtown Ottawa, protesters c 20 other US crossings reopened Tuesday after police cleared protesters from one and demonstrators voluntarily left the other, officials said. People blocking a fourth crossing in



Anti-COVID-19 vaccine mandate demonstrators leave in a truck convoy after blocking the highway at the busy U.S. border crossing in Coutts, Alta. on Tuesday. AP

Manitoba province were expected to leave by Wednesday, police said.

Protesters decided to leave the crossing in Coutts, Alberta, after the Royal Mounted Canadian Police seized weapons from a group that had aimed to cause harm if officers started clearing people, the town's mayor, Jim Willett, said.

"The federal government will have to look at protecting borders very differently than they have in the past to stop this from happening again," Willett said.

With new COVID-19 cases falling, Canada's health ministry said on Tuesday it would ease entry for fully vaccinated international travelers. But officials deny they are loosening curbs to appease protesters, saying instead that the limits are no longer needed to contain infection.

amping out in frigid temperatures vowed to defy Trudeau's emergency orders until their demands for a lifting of all pandemic-era mandates are met.

"It's our right to protest. We're not doing anything wrong," said Gord, a trucker from Manitoba who is parked in front of parliament. He declined to give his last name. "We're not leaving. We've dug in this long."

Emergency measures, financing

Trudeau activated the Emergencies Act after concluding that law enforcement could not cope with the protesters, especially in Ottawa. He says the measures, which require parliamentary approval, will be limited and targeted.

"This illegal occupation needs to end ... the measure of success will be, can we get our supply chains back? Can we end the disruption to livelihoods of people who rely on trade to the United States?" Trudeau told

reporters.

The emergency measures bring crowdfunding platforms under terror-finance oversight and authorize Canadian banks to freeze accounts suspected of financing the protesters, who officials say have received about half their funds from US supporters.

A US-based website, GiveSendGo, became a prime conduit for money to the protesters after mainstream crowdfunding platform GoFundMe blocked donations to the group.

An Ontario court last week ordered GiveSendGo to freeze all funds supporting the blockade, but it said it would not comply.

The leak website Distributed Denial of Secrets (DDoS) has leaked GiveSendGo donor files relating to the Canadian protests, known as the "Freedom Convoy" campaign. DDoS said on Sunday the campaign had raised more than \$2 million in donations.

DDoS leaked donor information related to a similar campaign on Tuesday.

Smart retailing prospers in China

CHINA'S retailing industry is becoming more and more digital and intelligent thanks to the rapid development of big data, artificial intelligence, cloud computing and other frontier technologies.

It is interacting with consumers in more diverse ways, such as 24/7 online services, unmanned delivery and smart lockers.

A man surnamed Wang from Pingshan district, Shenzhen, south China's Guangdong province recently placed an order on an online grocery platform after an unmanned delivery vehicle of the platform he ran into the other day aroused his interest.

On a mini program of the platform, the man bought fruits, fish, vegetables and edible oil, and these commodities were delivered to him by an unmanned vehicle soon the order was confirmed.

The vehicle is special in many aspects. Having a capacity of 500 kilograms and a range of 120 kilometers, it can deliver tonnes of products on a daily basis. The smart vehicle can also recognize traffic light and steer clear of obstacles on its way. Besides, it is also heat-insulated, which ensures that hot and frozen commodities are delivered to consumers in appropriate temperatures.

Gao Shulin, chairman of board of the company that owns the grocery platform, said that the company launched such vehicles to build a smart community delivery network.

The company's attempt is a miniaturization of Chinese retailers' efforts to make their businesses smart in recent years.

Smart retailing is a service that can sense consumer habits, predict consumption trends, and guide production with the help of internet, internet of things and other frontier technologies. It provides diverse and individualized products and services for consumers.

Unattended convenient stores,



Couriers put food into a smart locker at the gate of a hospital in Jinhua, east China's Zhejiang province.

stores on mini programs, virtual reality-powered fitting rooms, autopilot delivery vehicles and smart delivery are all within the scope of smart retailing.

"By using big data, smart retailing offers individualized services for consumers and gives data feedback to the purchasing and delivery sectors to make production and supply more efficient," said Peng Jianzhen, secretary general of the China Chain Store and Franchise Association.

Apart from unmanned delivery vehicles, smart lockers are also frequently used today.

A woman surnamed

Chen from Changzhou, east China's Jiangsu province recently found a new function of the smart lockers in her residential complex. Besides storing express delivery parcels and food delivered by couriers, these lockers can also be used as a temporary storage for chilled products.

Emerging as a new form of contactless delivery service amid the pandemic, these lockers are able to recognize, store, monitor and manage the stuffs inside them based on cloud computing and internet of things technologies.

Cloud Box, the company that runs the lockers, has

also launched e-commerce services to better satisfy the rising consumption demands for "stay-at-home economy." Residents can buy vegetables, fruits, seafood and ready-to-cook food on the company's e-commerce mini program, and fetch their orders from the lockers on the next day, or have the products delivered to their doorsteps by property management staffs.

In recent years, consumers have been enjoying increasingly more scenarios of contactless delivery thanks to the development in computer vision, big data, robotics, and voice recognition technologies.

Experts believe that the implementation of smart retailing is a test for the capability of internet infrastructure construction, such as popularization of 5G and large-scale connection of internet of things.

Big data processing, Hash rate and algorithms need to be constantly enhanced to better match consumers and commodities. Besides, both hardware and software must be popularized.

As the factors of consumers, commodities and warehouses become more connected and integrated, smart retailing will only release more energy.

People's Daily

The Guardian

SPORT



The late Ally Mtoni

Football fraternity now should learn from demise of defender

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

RUVU Shooting's defender Ally Mtoni 'Sonso' passed away in Dar es Salaam last week and was buried on Saturday.

During his lifetime he also played for Lipuli FC, Yanga and Kagera Sugar. He was a member of the national men's soccer team.

It is rare for the country to experience the death of a Premier League player who continues to play football.

Soccer followers have witnessed many former players who retire from football pass away but such experience had yet to be felt on players who continue to play.

Mtoni's name is on the Tanzania Football Federation's offices as a Premier League player and it was only in November last year that the defender had played his last Premier League match.

It was only in November last year that soccer followers were told that Mtoni had been placed in Ruvu Shooting's squad that would lock horns with Simba SC but he experienced pain in his left leg and he was left out.

This was the beginning of his last journey. It is alleged that he was later taken to Muhimbili Hospital but his family released him from the hospital and decided to take him to an unknown location for further treatment.

This is a mystery. Where is the unknown place? We cannot hide about treatment. Was it traditional treatment?

It is alleged that there was a feeling that he may have been subjected to superstitious practices. This is not good.

There has been a wave of players who decide to follow this path. We do not understand why, but more importantly education is needed among local players.

Domestic footballers should be taught to believe in the real and technically viable treatment that exists.

One of Yanga players once experienced these feelings. He refused medical treatment. He went to an unknown destination for treatment, but the situation continued to worsen.

Yanga later took the footballer to South Africa for further treatment. He came back strong and his football career continues.

He was treated more professionally according to his illness and the condition improved.

It has also happened in the past for a former Simba SC player that had featured for the national team.

He had suffered some minor injuries, but he refused to be treated via modern approach.

Unfortunately he was heading towards the last days of his football career. I do not know if he went to the hospital or otherwise. He is seen playing street games.

This is a lesson for football and we need to reflect on it. Local footballers must get psychology education and other aspects of education.

It will help players know that a human being, especially an athlete can be injured.

An individual is baffled why was it thought so? What kind of management commits itself to a prime directive that it cannot even explain?

If that was not the case with Yanga

what would happen to Ruvu Shooting?

Health insurance is another issue that can worry local players. Do local footballers have health insurance?

Had Mtoni decided to stay in the hospital and his treatment took longer, did he really have health insurance?

Most Premier League players do not have health insurance. Not only for them, but also for their families.

The game of soccer is seen as part of the blockchain and is not a complete job. It is a mistake for an athlete to lack health insurance given their work puts them at greater risk of sustaining injuries.

Some may not be injured at work, but there is for instance footballer Gerald Mdamu of Polisi Tanzania who was injured in a car accident with the team.

It was later discovered that Mdamu had no health insurance. Even if he got injured on the pitch he would still have difficult time.

Yanga, Simba SC and Azam FC players are lucky enough to go abroad for treatment. There are those who go mostly to South Africa but Yanga have also started the process by sending their players to Tunisia.

Not every local team can do this. Soccer stakeholders ought to force local players to have insurance.

A player who reaches the status of playing First League, Championship and Premier League must have insurance.

Going back to Mtoni, there are two issues, first of all, the country has lost a player who had good height.

Once former defender Bakari Malima hung up his boots, we are now left with a few tall players especially in defense. Mtoni was one of them.

But we also lost a player who was able to play variety of positions on the pitch. He could play as a left-back, a central defender.

He managed to operate as a defensive midfielder. This was probably due to the proper use of his left foot.

There are not so many players who can do this in modern times. Many can play a single role on the pitch.

What either Dickson Job or Kibwana Shomari has been doing for Yanga at the moment is a rare thing for local football.

In the past there had been a lot of players who could play in different positions due to the lack of some players on the pitch.

The late Said Mwamba 'Kizota' was one of them. He could play three positions on the pitch. He could play as a central defender, midfielder and also a striker. God have mercy on him.

Despite all this, Mtoni's death has reminded soccer fraternity of unity in football.

It is possible that Mtoni was not as popular as Mbwana Samatta, but the football community has reminded other sports disciplines' stakeholders how powerful the game of football is.

The tragedy of Mtoni brought the soccer fraternity together and united in its grief.

Those who are in other sports disciplines and did not know the late Mtoni found themselves getting to know him and wanting to know more about him. It is also an honour for his family.

Tigo Kili Half Marathon eager to unearth athletics champions

By Guardian Correspondent

ONCE again, the famed Tigo Kili Half Marathon is here with us, with just a couple of weeks to go before the grand athletics bonanza starts in the idyllic city of Moshi in northern Tanzania.

Tigo Tanzania, the country's 'digital lifestyle' telecoms firm, the sponsor of the Tigo Kili Half Marathon, is flexing its muscles to once again prop up the race which is slated for February 27, 2022.

The Tigo Kili Half Marathon is the most popular stretch among the three races, 42.2km, 21.1km, and the 5km run that make the great Kilimanjaro Marathon.

It is a prestigious athletics showbiz that is held annually within Tanzania's northern circuit under the watchful glare of Mt. Kilimanjaro, Africa's tallest mountain and the world's tallest stand-alone summit.

The event gathers scores of participants, with budding athletics aspiring to showcase their raw talents while the veterans seek to maintain their winning ways in a grueling and energy-sapping run that is meant to test their athletics resilience.

This year marks the 20th edition of the Kilimanjaro Marathon since it was mooted, with Tigo sponsoring the Tigo Kili Half Marathon for the last seven years.

The company's sponsorship productively unearthed some of the best athletics talents in the country.

According to Tigo Corporate Communications Manager, Woinde Shisael, the Tigo Kili Half Marathon aims to, among others, support the government through the relevant ministry and stakeholders in promoting the development of sports, especially athletics, in the country, attract tourism which is a major foreign exchange earner in the country, attract local and foreign runners to Tanzania and most importantly, unearth local talents with a view to providing them with a platform to demonstrate their skills in athletics.



Runners compete in a Tigo Kili Half Marathon in Moshi.

"Tigo has always been at the forefront in sponsoring the Tigo Kili Half Marathon for over seven years now and our continued presence in championing the half-marathon category further cements our commitment to nurture local talents and support sporting activities in Tanzania", Woinde stated.

Woinde disclosed Tigo is proud to be associated with the Tigo Kili Half Marathon and looks forward to an exciting 2022 race which is expected to bring together over 5,000 runners including elite athletes from across the African continent.

She noted that in the 20th edition of Kilimanjaro Marathon and the seventh year of Tigo Kili Half Marathon, Tigo is determined and committed to help discover new athletics champions in the country as it continues to offer all the participants in the marathon the best digital payment solutions through its 'Lipa kwa Simu' digital payment platform.

According to her, 'Lipa kwa Simu' is a convenient and secure financial and digital service that enables businesses and customers to receive payments using their mobile wallets from all Mobile Network Operators.

Granted, the opportunity provided by the Tigo Kili Half Marathon to young and budding Tanzanian athletics offers and has been offering a rare opportunity to the otherwise less known but poten-

tial up-and-coming athletes who are unveiled through the marathon, enabling them to develop into world conquerors in the athletics field.

Already, enthusiastic Tanzanian athletes are gathered for a high altitude training ground at Karatu in Arusha in northern Tanzania, an atmosphere that provides a most ideal platform to help them hone their athletics skills as they gear up for the rigorous Tigo Kili Half Marathon.

In an interview, some of the athletes have expressed their confidence that the marathon will be a precursor to their future entry into the elite continental and global athletics championships that could open doors to their future athletics glory.

Anitha Mollel, a promising 23-year-old runner, stated of the Tigo Kili Half Marathon: "I am really excited to have an opportunity to participate in this year's Tigo Kili Half Marathon. I am confident that the race will be an eye-opener for me and will give me a chance to compete with more experienced runners as this is my first time to enter the marathon".

Another athlete, Magnus Maganga, a veteran of the Tigo Kili Half Marathon who is competing in the race for the second time is equally excited, exuding confidence that this time round, he could be among the top finalists.

"I thank Tigo for once again

sponsoring the Tigo Kili Half Marathon. I am determined to make the set time for the winners so that I can qualify for the regional, continental and global athletics events", Maganga noted.

Hopefully, the stars in the sky will be aligned towards Tanzania's star-studded teams participating in the great Kilimanjaro Marathon and some of them might qualify for the coming major international athletics meets lined for the year 2022, notably, the African Athletics Championships that's proposed to be held in June 2022 in Cameroon, and the 2022 World Athletics Championships whose 18th edition is scheduled to be held in Eugene, Oregon, United States in July this year-among other events.

Needless to say, Tanzania is not bereft of world-beating athletic champions. History is replete with examples of hitherto nondescript athletics such as the famous Alphonse Simbu, Emmanuel Giniiki and many others who rose from the ashes and were 'uncovered' by Tigo 'Kili' half-marathon, rising to international fame and became household names because of their creditable performances locally and abroad.

Suffice it to say, athletics has a nostalgic history in Tanzania, producing some world-conquering athletes such as Filbert Bayi, Suleiman Nyambui, Juma Ikangaa, and many others in their heydays.

Lack of confidence still a setback to Tanzania's footballers, says coach

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

AZAM FC head coach, Abdihamid Moalin, has revealed that a good number of Tanzania's footballers are timid and lack confidence.

The tactician stated many of the footballers consequently fail to do well in their teams in various assignments.

Moalin added most players believe that popular domestic football outfits, Simba SC and Yanga, are so far the ones with top players.

The tactician noted the notion should also be invested in the footballers in an effort to scale great heights.

Azam FC's impressive showing, according to the trainer, is caused by his footballers' confidence, noting it has been the catalyst for success in the side.

The tactician stated: "You know many players here in Tanzania are short in confidence, they believe Simba SC and Yanga are the best sides."

"As for my players I told them they could not do well if they did not feel confident and I asked them to put themselves first, they followed the instruction and that gave them strength and confidence," he said.

Azam FC looks strong especially in the attacking department, with its Zambian attacker Rodgers Kola starting to show his edge in Premier League.

The squad has a mixture of young performers and senior footballers forming unique coordination.

Kola who earlier lacked confidence has now picked up and netted three goals in the current cam-



Azam FC players (L-R) Prince Dube, Never Tigere, and Ayub Lyanga train with teammates in Dar es Salaam ahead of this season's Premier League fixtures. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AZAM FC

paign.

The goal getter netted when Azam FC went down 2-1 to Simba SC and he drilled in the lone goal in his outfit's victory over Mbeya Kwanza FC last month.

The tactician stated

despite a series of victories and clean display of football, Azam FC has not reached the level he wants.

Moalin pointed out his side has reached between 55 per cent and 65 per cent of the quality he

wants.

"I am happy with what the players are showing, everyone is committed and following the instructions accordingly, this is a continuation of our goals for this season even though we have not

yet achieved 100 per cent of the quality I want," Moalin noted.

"I am looking forward to the next game, so I am giving the players specific techniques and exercises for the next game and, by doing so day by day, I believe the quality will continue to rise and make Azam FC a threat in the country," he added.

The team has been showing improvement from the time the outfit parted ways with Zambian George Lwandamina.

After Moalin's arrival, Azam FC has moved to the third spot on the NBC Premier League's table.

In the 2021/22 Azam Sports Federation Cup's round of 16's duel between Azam FC and Coast Region's Baga Friends FC, which took place at Azam Complex in Dar es Salaam last weekend, Azam FC clobbered its opponent 6-0 and advanced to the show-down's quarterfinals.

Azam FC that is set to confront Biashara United away on February 23, is currently placed on the league log with 24 points from 14 games.

They are four points adrift of second-placed Simba SC and a further seven away from log leader, Yanga.

Barcelona clash with Napoli headlines Europa League play-offs

LONDON

BARCELONA'S new reality will hit home on Thursday when they play in Europe's second-tier club competition for the first time in 18 years as Napoli visit the Camp Nou in the Europa League.

The Catalans crashed out of the Champions League in the group stage with just two goals scored in six matches, the arrival of Xavi Hernandez not enough to revive their fortunes in a competition they have won five times.

A meeting with a Napoli side currently fighting for the Serie A title would be worthy of the continent's elite club competition, and indeed the sides met in the last 16 of the Champions League just two years ago.

Yet Barca instead face a real challenge in this play-off tie just to make it through to the last 16 as they try to salvage some pride in Europe and go all the way to the final in Seville in May.

"It is not a favourable draw. They are one of the toughest sides we could have faced, a Champions League-level team," Xavi said when the draw was made.

The Catalans, who lie fourth in La Liga a huge 15 points behind leaders Real Madrid, had appeared in the knockout rounds of the Champions League in each of the last 17 seasons, last missing out in 2003-04 when they played in the UEFA Cup.

Barcelona were not the only high-profile name to be knocked out of the Champions League prematurely, with Borussia Dortmund also dropping down into the Europa League.

The Germans will face Scottish champions Rangers with the first leg at the Signal Iduna Park as the home side wait to see if Erling Haaland will play.

The Norwegian, scorer of 23 goals in 21 games in all competitions this season, has missed Dortmund's last two outings against Bayer Leverkusen and Union Berlin in the Bundesliga.

Sevilla also dropped out of the Champions League but that might suit a club who have won the Europa League or its predecessor, the UEFA Cup, a record six times including most recently in 2020.

- Away goals no more -

They will also be driven by the prospect of going all the way to the final in their own stadium as they entertain Dinamo Zagreb in the play-offs.

There is English Premier League representation in the play-offs of the new Europa Conference League, with Leicester City taking on Danish outfit Randers.

Celtic will play the Norwegian champions Bodo/Glimt who have not played a competitive match since wrapping up their domestic campaign two months ago.

"Bodo are similar to us when we go in to our Champions League qualifiers as they are in pre-season mode at the minute," Celtic boss Ange Postecoglou told Scottish media.

"That could potentially work both ways. We have the match sharpness, but they could have a freshness about them."

AFP

Troubled Barca face European reality check on road to recovery

BARCELONA

JOAN Laporta claimed Barcelona are "back as big players" but today will mark another checkpoint in the club's decline as they face Napoli in the knockout stage of the Europa League.

After failing to make it out of their Champions League group, Barca will play in Europe's second-tier tournament for the first time since losing to Celtic at the last-16 stage in March 2004.

Laporta was in the opening season of his first spell as president that year and while Barcelona's fortunes would soon improve exponentially as Pep Guardiola and Lionel Messi got to work, nobody can be optimistic a similar transformation is close now.

Barcelona's players were likely watching on television on Tuesday as Messi played -- and missed a penalty -- for Paris Saint-Germain against Real Madrid in Paris, the kind of heavyweight European tie to which the Catalans would be normally more accustomed.

There are some positive signs that head coach Xavi Hernandez is steering the team in the right direction, even if erratic results and performances are a reminder of the work still to be done.

Barca defeated Atletico Madrid 4-2 earlier this month in one of the most encouraging displays under Xavi, but a 2-2 draw away at city rivals Espanyol last weekend saw doubts resurface ahead of the visit of Napoli to the Camp Nou.

The youthful Barca side's attempt to rebuild their reputation in the Europa League will come under a severe examination against opponents who sit third in Serie A and have conceded only 17 goals in 25 matches.

"Napoli are a Champions League-level opponent, one of the most difficult teams we could have drawn," said Xavi.

Luciano Spalletti's side are fighting to win their third Serie A title -- after Diego Maradona left Barcelona and inspired Napoli to become champions in 1987 and 1990.

AFP

Mbappe boosts PSG, gives Madrid glimpse of future

PARIS

IF ever a goal could encapsulate the whole Paris Saint-Germain project of expensive glamour and superstar talent, it could not have been better timed or constructed than Kylian Mbappe's stoppage-time winner that sealed a potentially decisive 1-0 Champions League round-of-16 first-leg victory against Real Madrid at Parc des Princes on Tuesday night.

A back-heeled assist by Neymar, PSG's €222 million world-record signing, released Mbappe down the left flank, but the France forward still had everything to do before he could even think of scoring. But Mbappe -- who is expected to leave PSG for Madrid as a free agent this summer -- is not regarded as one of the world's greatest talents for nothing, and he showcased just why Real are so determined to take him to the Santiago Bernabeu by darting past both Lucas Vazquez and Eder Militao inside the penalty area before guiding a pinpoint right-foot shot beyond goalkeeper Thibaut Courtois and into the far corner of the net.

Courtois had earlier saved a Lionel Messi penalty by diving low to his left to keep out the former Barcelona forward's spot kick, but he was given no chance by Mbappe's precise finish. It is up for debate as to whether Mbappe or Borussia Dortmund's Erling Haaland is the most exciting young talent in the game right now -- it is a debate that might centre on the Spanish capital next season if Madrid president Florentino Perez achieves his ambition of signing both players this summer



PSG's Kylian Mbappe celebrates after scoring his side's opening goal during the Champions League, round of 16, first leg soccer match between Paris Saint Germain and Real Madrid at the Parc des Princes stadium, in Paris, France, Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2022. (AP Photo)

-- but the 23-year-old Parisian issued a reminder of his incredible ability with his goal.

In the blink of an eye, Mbappe showed all of his dazzling qualities to score. It was his positional sense, followed by his dribbling skills and a burst of electric pace that enabled him to beat Courtois with his nerveless finishing.

PSG are still attempting to persuade Mbappe to sign a new contract and, in turn, reject Real's advances, but it appears to be a forlorn hope, with the player doing nothing to hide his desire to move to LaLiga after five years in Paris following his €180m move from AS Monaco in 2017. Nobody can doubt his ongoing commit-

ment to PSG, though, and his goal might yet prove enough to send his current club into the Champions League quarterfinals at the expense of the one he is expected to be at next season.

"No, I'm always ready to play, to help my team," Mbappe said after the game when asked if he had extra motivation for this tie. "People talked about me for this game, it's normal, but I'm focused, I'm happy to be a Paris player, and I give 100% for the club."

Mbappe's winner was symbolic, given the opponents and his status as PSG's young star, but Neymar's involvement in the goal was not without significance either. The Brazil forward, a 73rd-minute substitute for Angel Di Ma-

ria, was making his first appearance since suffering an ankle injury in November, and his contribution at key moments in the biggest games has often been questioned since his arrival from Barcelona five years ago.

On this occasion, though, he combined the spectacular with the effective, and his audacious pass to Mbappe was the kind that less able players wouldn't attempt -- if they had even thought of it in the first place. It was for moments like that, and nights like this, that PSG's Qatari owners have spent so much money attempting to build a Champions League-winning team in the one of the world's most iconic cities, but the wait contin-

shortcomings in midfield.

With Mbappe, Neymar and Messi in attack, as well as an impressive defence marshalled by Marquinhos and Presnel Kimpembe, PSG are strong in key areas, but their midfield lacks drive and power. They can retain possession, and Marco Verratti is capable of hurting any opponent, but the strongest teams in the Champions League dominate games from the centre of the pitch with pace and power, and PSG would struggle over two legs against those sides.

The same applies to Madrid.

Nobody can question the quality of their midfield three of Luka Modric, Toni Kroos and Casemiro, but when the latter celebrates his 30th birthday next week, the combined age of a trio that started the 2016 Champions League final will be 98. No amount of experience will be enough to help them contain the marauding midfields of City, Liverpool and Bayern.

Where PSG can be too passive in midfield with endless sideways passes, Real lack a driving force. For both sides, they are shortcomings that will be exposed by stronger opponents.

But for PSG at least, they have Mbappe, and no team in the world would have been able to prevent his 94th-minute winner. As long as the Parisians have their hometown hero, they have a chance of beating whomever they face.

ESPN

City's record demolition of Sporting a clear message to UCL rivals

LISBON, Portugal

MANCHESTER City put on a show on the opening night of the Champions League knockout rounds, winning 5-0 and sending a reminder to the rest of Europe that they are favourites to lift the trophy in Saint Petersburg in May for a reason.

The last-16 tie with Sporting Lisbon was over after 30 minutes when Phil Foden dinked in City's third goal.

Riyad Mahrez and Bernardo Silva had already found the net and before the Serbian referee had managed to blow his half-time whistle, Silva, his every touch booed thanks to his links with Benfica, scored a fourth.

City became first team to score four goals in the first half of a Champions League tie. Game over. Job done.

When Raheem Sterling made it 5-0 with a goal which moved him into City's top-10 goalscorers of all-time, there was still more than half an hour to play. The only incentive for Sporting to turn up in Manchester in three weeks' time is to try to avoid the 12-1 aggregate defeat they suffered to Bayern Munich the last time they reached the knockout rounds in 2009. A repeat performance from City and it will be a close run thing.

"It is a fantastic team, they are the champions of Portugal but I am very pleased because we make a big step towards the next round," City boss Pep Guardiola said afterwards.

"It's just a game with a fantastic result. We have one



Manchester City players celebrate the second goal of their team during the Champions League round of 16 soccer match between Sporting CP and Manchester City at the Alvalade stadium in Lisbon, Portugal, Tuesday, Feb. 15, 2022. (AP Photo)

more game to be in the quarterfinals and this is what you want."

On their last trip to Sporting Lisbon in 2012, City lost 1-0 in the last 16 of the Europa League, but they are a different beast now.

The reigning champions of Portugal were swept aside in almost dismissive fashion. Guardiola's team were like a sprinter trying to use the heats to warm up for the main event only to accidentally break the world record.

Made to settle for silver last season, they are aiming for gold this time around, and the bookmakers, at least, believe they are likely to do it. On this evidence it is hard to argue.

There were probably more eyes on the stars of Paris Saint-Germain and Real Madrid facing off 1,000 miles north east in the French capital but the strength that Guardiola has created is in collective brilliance rather than a reliance on individual moments of genius -- although there were bits of that too with Bernardo's

volley to make it 2-0 and Sterling's exquisite 20-yard strike in the second half.

Speaking ahead of the game, Guardiola called it "harmony" and everything was in tune here.

The task now is to maintain it though six more games, and if City needed a reminder of what can happen in this competition they needed only to look at

their surroundings.

City arrived at Jose Alvalade Stadium for the pandemic-affected Champions League mini tournament in 2020 having put out Real Madrid in the last round but conspired to shoot themselves in the foot in the quarterfinals with an inexplicable 3-1 defeat to Lyon.

The Champions League

sometimes does strange things to Guardiola, like starting the final against Chelsea without a defensive midfielder.

There were no problems this time, but there is still a long way to go and better teams to come.

Guardiola will be glad of the clean sheet against Sporting after watching his team concede 10 goals in the group stages, five more their entire campaign last season.

There were one or two nervous moments on the break early in the first half that will need to be ironed out but Sporting's involvement was soon reduced to playing a demoralising game of chase. They weren't even allowed as much as a corner, let alone a shot on target. You only knew Ederson was on the pitch because it was impossible to miss his garish pink kit.

Sporting coach Ruben Amorim couldn't help but

be impressed -- "they killed us every time they came to our box" -- although Guardiola was left still wanting more.

"Some players underperformed and we lost easy balls but we were so clinical," he said. "The difference between the two teams is not 5-0 but we were so clinical. We punished them."

"There is one rule in football when you have the ball and that's not to lose it. We had some simple passes that we lost. Against the top sides in Europe we would be punished."

"The players know me and the way we work that we can do better. I'm incredibly happy, please don't misunderstand me, but we can do better."

PSG, Real Madrid and every other team with Champions League ambitions this season can consider themselves warned.

ESPN

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Mbappe boosts PSG, gives Madrid glimpse of future

PAGE 19

5 EATV THURSDAY

TONIGHT @ 9:00

SalamaNa

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 MPYA
12:30 Bongo Hits
13:00 Msosi Kitaani (r)
13:30 Kali Za Wana
14:00 Ujenzi (r)
14:30 DK10 Za Maangamizi
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Waganga Ulimbo (r)
16:00 Ubongo Kids (r)
16:30 #HSHTAG
17:00 SSELECT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soap
19:30 EATV SAA I
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 SalamaNa

Every Thursday at 9pm

'SalamaNa' is our new show in which Salama has a chat with interesting people from different spheres of influence in our society. You will be entertained, educated and amazed.

eastafrika RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM

2022's Kilimanjaro Marathon organizers announce race number collection centers



Kilimanjaro Premium Lager's Brand Manager, Irene Mutiganzi.

By Guardian Correspondent

ORGANIZERS of the 20th edition of Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon have announced the three-race number collection centers in Dar es Salaam, Arusha, and Moshi.

A statement issued in Dar es Salaam yesterday said the exercise will begin in Dar es Salaam at the Mlimani City Mall on February 19 and February 20, 2022, from 12 pm to 6 pm on both days.

"We are appealing to Dar es Salaam residents who have registered to turn out and collect their race numbers and running kit on these two days," the organizers noted.

After Dar es Salaam, the team

will move to Arusha where the numbers will be issued at the Kibo Palace Hotel on Tuesday and Wednesday from 2 pm to 7

pm on both days.

According to the statement, the team will then move to Moshi where the numbers will

be issued over three days at the Moshi Cooperative University Stadium on February 24, 2022, from 12 pm to 7 pm, on February 25, 2022, from 10 am to 8 pm and on February 26, 2022, from 9 pm to 5 pm.

"Registered participants should take note of the timings to avoid inconveniences and the race numbers will not be issued on the race day," the statement noted.

According to the organizers, entries for the Grand Malt 5km race are still on sale via Tigo Pesa by dialing *149*20# and they will also be available to runners at the race collection centers.

"We have closed registration for the 42km and 21 km races as the entries are already full but registration for the 5km Fun Run is still on," the organizers pointed out in the statement.

The Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Brand Manager, Irene Mutiganzi, called on participants to turn up in large numbers at the number collection centers to collect their numbers and running kits.

"The organizers have allocated enough time for the ex-

ercise in Dar es Salaam, Arusha, and Moshi. As the main sponsors we are appealing to participants to go to those centers early to avoid the last-minute rush," she said.

Irene pointed out Kilimanjaro Premium Lager is well prepared to host the 20th Anniversary of the Kilimanjaro Marathon next week.

Sponsors for this year's 20th Anniversary event include Kilimanjaro Premium Lager- Main sponsor, Tigo-21km, Grand Malt -5km.

Absa Tanzania, Unilever Tanzania, TPC Sugar, Simba Cement, and Kilimanjaro Water are the show-down's water table sponsors.

GardaWorld Security, Keys Hotel, Kibo Palace Hotel, Surveyed Plots Company Ltd, Tanzanian Tourism Board and CMC Automobiles are the race's official suppliers.

The Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon will be held on February 27, 2022, at the Moshi Cooperative University (MoCU) venue.

It is organized by the Kilimanjaro Company Limited and locally coordinated by Executive Solutions Limited.

Geita Gold FC attributes success to technical bench reinforcement

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THIS season's NBC Premier League debutant Geita Gold FC has attributed the team's

improved performance in the top-flight and Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) to changes that were made in the side's technical panel.

The team has qualified for the quarterfinals of ASFC for the first time and sits eighth in the Premier League log.

To reach the ASFC

quarterfinals Geita Gold FC beat Mbuni FC of Arusha, courtesy of George Mpole's goal.

Geita Gold FC information officer, Hemed

Kivuyo, yesterday said they are happy with the team's achievement.

The official disclosed: "We have just been promoted to the Premier

League, our start in the top-flight was not good, but now the team is doing well."

"For the first time we have qualified for the quarterfinals of the Federation Cups, this is attributed to the players' commitment and changes made in our technical panel which is headed by Fred Felix," he said.

He said the coming of Minziro to head the coaching panel has helped to change the team's fortunes.

"The changes that were made in the technical panel are the secret, the team can now play with a purpose and proper system. We hope we will continue improving," he said.

Geita Gold FC players had to put solid displays to bundle First League outfit, Mbuni FC, out of this season's Federation Cup given the Arusha-based army squad showcased spirited game.

Mbuni FC footballers stepped up their game once they were 1-0 down, wasting several opportunities in the second period of the match that took place at Ushirika Stadium in Moshi last week.



Yanga's players, Fiston Mayele (L) and Said Ntibazonkiza (2nd L), challenge Biashara United's players as the squads faced off in 2021/22 Azam Sports Federation Cup's round of 16's duel played at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday. Yanga beat Biashara United 2-1. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Wheelchair tennis players assemble for World Team Cup preps

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA's national wheelchair tennis team has started training ahead of the BNP Paribas World Team Cup which is slated for next month in Turkey.

Riziki Suleiman, the national side's head coach, said all six players are attending the training at Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC).

He mentioned the six players as Voster Isaya, Jumanne Nassoro, Albert Churi, Rehema Suleiman, Lucy Julius, and Pendo Zengo.

"All players are attending the training at Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC) but it is a non-residential camp, once funds are available we will go for residential camp," he stated.

"We aim to see the country performing well at the BNP Paribas World Team Cup and qualify for the world cup which will be held in Portugal," he said.

He said the team, which is made up of three male performers and as many female players, will depart for Turkey on March 9.

According to him, they will compete in the Megassaray Open from March 12-15 and, two days later, the players will compete in another event which will be used for World Cup qualification.

Riziki, who will also accompany the squad, said there will be two events in Turkey, the first one (March 12-15) will be a warm-up event while the World Cup qualifying showdown will be held from March 17-21.

The World Team Cup will be held in Portugal from May 2-8 this year.

He maintained his appeal to stakeholders to help the team financially as the International Tennis Federation (ITF) will contribute flight tickets and accommodation for two players.

The coach said the association is looking for air tickets and accommodation for the remaining five people.

Suleiman appealed to the government and well-wishers to help them get flight tickets and cater for accommodation.

The national wheelchair tennis team competed at the BNP Paribas World Team Cup which was held in 2017 in Italy.

The squad's performers have also competed at many regional events, posting good results.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

