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MONDAY 23 OCTOBER, 2023

Guardian BUSINESS AfDB approves \$2.5million grant for TZ's horticulture

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CRDB releases 1bn/- seed capital to youths, women

High commissioner 'sells' Tanzania to Indian investors

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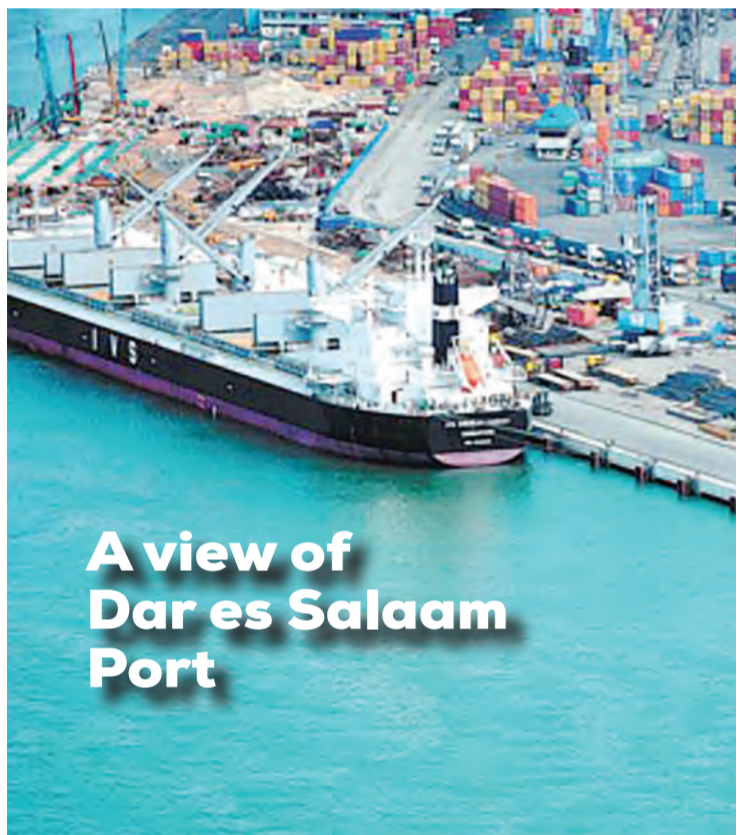
Water flow in the Great Ruaha River

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DP World pacts signed, port set to get 623bn/-

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A view of Dar es Salaam Port



LANDMARK PACTS: President Samia Suluhu Hassan looks on at Chamwino State House in Dodoma Region yesterday as Tanzania Ports Authority director general Plasduce Mbossa (L) and board chairman Ernest Mangu (seated, 2nd-L) sign agreements with Dubai's DP World Company on the lease of four piers at the Dar es Salaam Port. The Dubai firm was represented by its chairman and CEO, Sultan Ahmed bin Sulayem (2nd-R). Photo: State House

'Tanzania squaring up for sea floor minerals'

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA is strategically positioned to exploit opportunities from seabed mining activities in both territorial and international waters, the government has declared.

Dr Steven Kiruswa, the Minerals deputy minister, made this observation over the weekend in Dar es Salaam when opening the sixth session of the International Seabed Authority (ISA), an inter-governmental agency holding its annual conference for the first time in Africa, from its base in the Jamaican capital of Kingston.

He said Tanzania is endowed with various minerals, including metals and energy minerals, critical minerals such as graphite, nickel, lithium, cobalt, copper and rare earth elements.

"Most parts of the country are not yet explored in detail," he said, affirming that some baseline surveys have been done. He pointed at the Geological Survey Institute founded back in 1925 and they conducted baseline surveys in most parts of the country. "They mapped out the whole country, so we know which minerals are found in which part of the country," he said.

The country is lacking detailed exploration reports to know how much the country has in which parts of the country, he said, underlining that this gap requires marine geology push on what kinds of minerals are found under the seabed.

"So we are very excited to have you here to open our ears and

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DP World port deal terms 'alleviate hard sentiments'

By Guardian Reporter

YESTERDAY'S signing of three agreements between the Tanzanian government and Dubai's DP World to improve efficiency at the port of Dar es Salaam came with terms which stakeholders previously opposed to the deal now perceive as favourable.

In the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) entered earlier between Tanzania and Dubai and endorsed by the National Assembly, issues such as duration, concession, extent of operation by DP World along with revenue sharing were not clarified, while this lacuna was cleared yesterday.

Plasduce Mbossa, the Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) director general, said the agreement will last 30 years and not 100 years or 'forever' as speculated

One of the issues was duration but we now know that it's 30 years subject to review after every five years

by critics earlier.

The investor's performance will be appraised each five years, with the government retaining the right to part ways with the investor if it is not satisfied with performance thereof.

Furthermore, the government will obtain 60 percent of revenue generated at the concession portions of the port, he specified.

Zitto Kabwe, opposition ACT-Wazal-

endo party leader, expressed his delight seeing that all concerns that stakeholders raised had been addressed in the Host Government Agreement and in the concession terms, especially the joint venture approach.

"To us, issues of contention were duration of the contract, joint venture and if the deal was about Dar port only," he stated.

Fr Dr Charles Kitima, the Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC) secretary general, was also in attendance at the signing ceremony and chose to air personal views on what transpired.

He said the revised terms show that the government listened and worked on some concerns raised on the issue, adding that stakeholders still need to

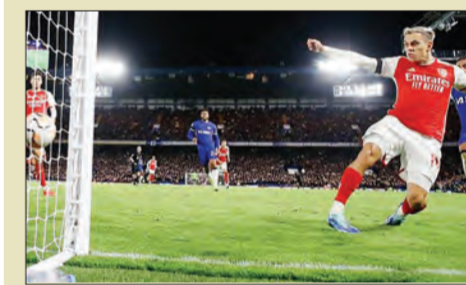
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Battle of elite ambitions beckons as Yanga hosts Azam FC



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Arsenal show their Premier League title credentials in fightback against Chelsea



Govt to team up with foundation to curb GBV

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Threat of illegal wildlife trade onlin



Ex-RC Makonda is back - as CCM publicity chief

By Guardian Reporter

THE CCM National Executive Committee yesterday installed controversial former Dar es Salaam regional commissioner Paul Makonda in the sensitive post of its ideology and publicity secretary.

He replaces Sophia Mjema, now

appointed advisor to President Samia Suluhu Hassan on women, children and special groups.

A statement signed by the party's outgoing ideology and publicity secretary said that a meeting of the powerful committee, chaired by CCM national Chairperson President Samia Suluhu Hassan, also approved the revised invest-

ment pact for improving facilities and efficiency at the port of Dar es Salaam.

The main public position Makonda (pictured) has occupied so far is Dar es Salaam RC under former president Dr John Magufuli.

Wishing to climb the ladder and ease his workload, Makonda

aspired for the Kigamboni parliamentary seat in the October 2020 General Election but stingingly lost the CCM nomination race.

In seeking the parliamentary run, he resigned as RC, with current Coast RC Abubakar Kunenge replacing him.

This left the firebrand CCM cadre to nurse his wounds from

the sidelines, along with several other heavyweights left out in various capacities.

The ex-RC gained popularity during the constitutional assembly where he was among those tasked with preparing the 'rival



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DP World pacts signed, port set to get 623bn/-

We are committed to making this port a world class facility, an even greater logistic hub for Tanzania,

By Getrude Mbagu

THE Dubai-based multinational logistics company DP World will over the next five years invest around US\$250m (623bn/-) to upgrade Dar es Salaam Port, the major focus being on revamping cargo clearing and operational efficiency.

Sultan Ahmed bin Sulayem, the DP World group chairman and CEO, made this observation before President Samia Suluhu Hassan who at the weekend witnessed the Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) sign three agreements with the Dubai firm for vast improvement of Dar es Salaam port.

The president said that the partnership will bring total transformation and efficiency in port operations and uplift the economy by rapidly increasing cargo volume and port revenues.

The agreements are part of implementation of the intergovernmental agreement (IGA) entered between Tanzania and the Emirate of Dubai, which the DP World CEO said was a significant step as the concession starts to be operationalised for the firm to operate, develop, maintain and upgrade the Dar es Salaam port.

"We are committed to making this port a world-class facility, an even greater logistic hub for Tanzania," he declared, adding that his firm would invest in excess of US\$250m over the next five years.

The funds will be used to upgrade the port with the medium focus being on improving cargo clearing to eliminate the delays that shipping companies are facing today, he noted.

He added that his firm would strengthen the port's role as a maritime gateway as well as focus on improving transport and logistical services all over Tanzania and into the hinterland, thus strengthening the African supply chain.

"Today, intra-African trade is very low, so with this partnership we will be able to stimulate trade between and among African countries while also seeing a major boost in various sectors, including agriculture, textiles, mining and manufacturing," he stated.

The agreements signed relate to the Host Governmental Agreement (HGA), the operation of berths number 4 to 7 at the Dar es Salaam port and the leasing of the four berths.

The signing was hosted by the government at the Chamwino State House in Dodoma Region yesterday, with President Samia Suluhu Hassan explaining that the country is in line to reap numerous benefits from the implementation of the agreements.

These include substantial employment opportunities, expertise and training as well as application of modern technology and equipment to make port operations fast and effective.

She said that improvements to be made with the agreements would stimulate local and cross-border trade, boosting economic activity among neighbouring countries.

"Today, we have witnessed the signing of three important agreements on the development of Dar es Salaam port between TPA under the government of Tanzania and DP World of Dubai. These contracts are a result of the major memorandum of understanding which was approved by our National Assembly (Parliament) this year," the president stated.

She explained that the government formed a committee of experts to look into the issue and advise on what to include in the contracts, taking on board contrasting views and voices raised by the public, commending the United Arab Emirates (UAE) leadership for the high level of participation in the course of the discussions.

The president said Dar es Salaam port was an important national resource calling for strategic investments to enable it to sustainably benefit the nation and its people when it is a major trade gateway.

"Our port is facing a number of challenges which need technology and investments to address," she stated, insisting that it was hard for the country to take up the challenges with its own resources.

It would take Tanzania many years to fully address those challenges and that is why the government decided to come up with the partnership to fast-track improvements and transformation of the ports, she elaborated.

Plasduce Mbossa, the TPA director general, meanwhile noted that the agreements signed provide for 30 years of engagement and not 100 years as earlier widely feared.

"We will be reviewing the performance of the agreement after every five years," he said, noting that the government retains the right to halt or suspend the application of provisions in the agreement whenever it saw that the main goals were not being reached.

The three agreements involve four gates or piers and not the whole port, he said, noting that despite improvements conducted at the Dar es Salaam port in past years, efficiency was still low, negatively affecting trade development and revenue collections.

"The implementation of these agreements will assure port workers of the security of their employment as they will benefit from various training to build their capacity," said the DG.

The initiative will also produce more new jobs as the agreement has activated works promising to yield increased employment opportunities, he noted, adding that improved efficiency at the port would reduce ship anchorage stay from five days to 24 hours alongside slashing the time for container offloading from four days to an average of two days.

The government spends a lot in expenses of ship anchorage stay, set at \$25,000 per day (58m/-), the DG said, noting that implementation of the agreements would see Tanzania also benefit from the upgrading of storage facilities to handle all types of cargo.

It will see expansion of berths to easily accommodate canoes, passenger boats and tourist ships, he elaborated, noting that the government would be getting 60 per cent of the generated revenues or profits, with all operational costs remaining with DP World.

Increase in cargo volume at Dar es Salaam port will see a rapid rise in revenue and tax collections from the current 776trn/- to upwards of 26.7trn/- in the year 2032/33 by preliminary projections, the DG declared, to applause.

Vice President Dr Philip Mpango meanwhile said that 13 million Tanzanians still live in poverty even as the country is blessed with an abundance of natural resources, noting that the poverty does not correspond with existing resources.

"So it is high time we bolstered our efforts to address this situation," he noted, commending the president for being firm on the matter "as it is going to transform the country's near-term development prospects".



Zanzibar's Kiswahili Council coordinator, Hassan Khamis Saghir (R), briefs Zanzibar's Tourism and Antiquities minister, Simai Mohammed Said (2nd-L), on literature books on display at the at a Book Exhibition in Zanzibar yesterday. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

DP World port deal terms 'alleviate hard sentiments'

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verify "what has been said here by seeing the actual documents signed," and only after seeing the same will we (TEC) be in a position to issue a formal pronouncement on the issue.

Anna Henga, executive director of the Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC), meanwhile said that key issues raised by her agency and various other organisations have been taken into account.

"One of the issues was duration but we now know that it is 30 years and subject to review after every five years. The other important issue was legal jurisdiction in case of arbitration - and it has been stated that laws of Tan-

zania will be used," she said.

"Also, Tanzania will take 60 per cent of the revenues and current TPA employees will have the option of either staying put there or moving to DP World," she elaborated.

Dr Donath Olomi, a business studies lecturer and chief executive officer of the Institute of Management and Entrepreneurship Development (IMED), said the implementation of the agreements would help maximise the benefits of Tanzania's strategic location as a gateway to six landlocked countries.

"We need the expertise, experience, discipline and partnership of firms that already have leverage on the global logistics value

chain, such as DPW, to manage our key ports and in the process contribute to strengthening our domestic technical and managerial logistics capacities," he explained.

Technology modernisation and efficiency at the port are essential in making the port attractive to domestic, regional and international clients, he said, adding that an inefficient port significantly increases the cost of industrial inputs as well as exports.

Improving the efficiency of our ports is critical for promoting industrialisation and export led growth, he stated, insisting that the country needs to make sure that the contract is structured for

a win-win situation.

It also needs to be used as a resource for building domestic technical and managerial capacity as in sectors like banking, telcoms and others, he asserted.

Dr Helen Kijo-Bisimba, immediate former LHRC executive director, said that the signing of the three agreements does not change anything in the Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA), adding that it is "the major problem".

"We expected the government to have a feel of public views by first reviewing the IGA contract between the governments of Tanzania and Dubai that contain clauses which violated Tanzania's Constitution and endangered national sovereignty and security,"

the activist noted.

She said the IGA agreement contains several "bad" clauses that will continue to weaken Tanzania's ability to change laws, annul contracts or seek competitive bids.

"We know that the IGA includes a clause that prevents withdrawal from the deal in any circumstances, even in the event of material breaches, fundamental changes in circumstances, severance of diplomatic or consular relations," she cautioned.

She was of the view that 30 years was still too long a period in case of inefficiency, advising instead that a period of ten years to evaluate performance would have been much better.



Ummy Nderiananga (L), Deputy Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliament and Coordination), receives office furniture from Tanzania Cigarette Public Limited Company's Corporate Affairs and Communications director, Patricia Mhondo. The donation was meant for an association of people with special needs. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

'Tanzania squaring up for sea floor minerals'

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eyes to know the other resources that the nation can benefit from," he said, pointing out that the government is keen on responsible mining and exploration of local marine resources, including minerals.

Seabed resources are a common heritage of mankind, he said, noting that Tanzania remain steadfast in its commitment to the principles and objectives enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea.

He said Tanzania is committed to creating the necessary balance in ongoing development of the draft regulation for seabed minerals exploration activities.

"The adoption of the agreement relating to implementation of part XI of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and subsequent regulations on the prospecting and exploration of deep seabed minerals is testament of our collective dedication to strike the right balance between resources extraction and environmental preservation," he declared

Currently, the mining sector contributes about 9.1 per cent to GDP, a fast growing sector at the rate of 10 per cent annually and accounting for 56 per cent of export values, he said.

"The mining sector is starting to be the key to the country's economy," he said, while Msafiri Mbibo, the deputy permanent secretary, said that Tanzania does not have skills and technical capacity to substantially exploit seabed mineral resources.

Terrence Ngole, assistant commissioner for mining development, said capacity

building is needed on seabed minerals, listing some potential minerals on the seabed in territorial and international waters as manganese, cobalt, nickel and copper.

John Matala, geologist at the Mining Commission, said seabed minerals are found on sediments and sea mountains, pointing at three methods used to mine such minerals as peaking, collecting and excavating.

This does not involve drilling like what is done on land base mining activities, he added.

Ex-RC Makonda is back - as CCM chief of publicity

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version" to the Warioba Commission draft, the latter taken as an oracle by opposition groups.

Makonda was soon appointed DC for Kinondoni (Dar es Salaam) before being elevated to head the pivotal city administration as RC under Dr Magufuli, where he was noticed for his bold initiatives against all manner of adversaries.

Some remember him for seeking to oppose the opposition through accusations of involvement in drug trafficking. He also gained notoriety with the diplomatic community with a drive against LGBTQ tendencies in public places and social media in the commercial capital.

During the somewhat muffled Covid-19 pandemic, the then RC joined the president's faith cure for the disease, stressing that the disease had been defeated thanks to national prayer sessions and objecting to inoculation campaigns advocated by the World Health Organisation.

Makonda was among public officials taking seemingly light vitamin-laden juice preparations, swearing that they were effective in preventing or healing a person from Covid-19 infection.

His campaign against LGBTQ tendencies, while popular with the clergy and establishment sentiments locally, earned him the rare citation as persona non grata in the United States, via a press statement issued by US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo on January 31, 2020.

He was accused of involvement in gross violations of human rights, among them the flagrant denial of the right to life and liberty as well as the security of persons.

Makonda was also "implicated in oppression of the political opposition, crackdowns on freedom of expression and association, and the targeting of marginalised individuals", the US statement had declared, attaching the same accusation to the then RC's wife.

Villagers near parks cautioned on activities in protected areas

By Felister Peter, Namtumbo

NATURAL Resources and Tourism ministry deputy permanent secretary Benedict Wakulyamba has called upon residents surrounding national parks to avoid conducting activities including agriculture within forests and protected areas.

He made the remarks over the weekend when speaking during a graduation ceremony for 114 Village Game Scouts (VGS) at the Community Based Conservation Training Centre (CBCTC)-Likuyu Sekamaganga in Namtumbo District, Ruvuma Region.

The training was sponsored by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism through the World Bank funded project—the Resilient Natural Resource Management for Tourism and Growth (REGROW) for purposes of enhancing conservation activities, control poaching and to reduce Human Wildlife Conflicts (HWC). The project covers Ruaha, Mikumi, Udzungwa and Nyerere National Park.

The Deputy PS warned that stern legal measures will be taken against anyone encroaching the forests for agricultural and livestock grazing activities. He said measures will be taken against villagers using traditional weapons to attack or kill wild animals.

“We need to protect our natural resources and the environment since we depend on one another. We survive because of the environment; the presence of animals and forests is for our own benefit,” he added, urging VGS to avoid the use of excessive force during arrests.

Wakulyamba said the government recognizes the vital role played by VGS in reducing HWC and controlling poaching, noting that their presence at national parks have proved efficiency.

He also advised them to join entrepreneurs’ groups to be able to benefit with government empowerment loans offered at district level.

“We aim to empower VGS through provision of working tools and assisting them to form groups where they

can establish income generating activities,” he remarked.

He also urged the youth to share the acquired knowledge with their fellow villagers so that they are aware of the techniques on how to scare away the fierce and destructive wild animals.

He said the government has started working on the various challenges facing the college including improvement of infrastructures. He said the college will soon be connected with electricity services through the Rural Energy Agency (REA).

Namtumbo District Commissioner, Ngolo Malenya called upon VGS to be security conscious and avoid engaging in corrupt acts when executing their duties.

Malenya said: “Namtumbo District has water sources that contributes 18 percent of water to the Julius Nyerere Hydropower Project, hence the need for trained village game scouts to enhance protection of forests and water sources.”

Tanzania National Parks (TAN-

APA), Eastern Zone Conservation Commissioner, Massana Mwishawa said so far a total of 354 VGS have been trained at the college. He said the training was conducted in three phases whereas the first batch had 120 youth, second batch 121 and the last batch 114.

Mwishawa noted that HWC is among the major challenges in the conservation sector, with the problem affecting both humans and wild-

life. He said to end the problem, the government embarked on various initiatives including implementation of the National Human Wildlife Conflicts Management Strategy-2020/2024.

“The need and importance of involving the community in conservation activities has been stated in the 1998 National Wildlife Conservation Policy,” he stressed.

Earlier, Jane Nyau, Principal at

CBCTC - Likuyu Sekamaganga said they have achieved the goal by 94 percent after conducting successful training to 354 VGS out of the set goal to train 376.

Nyau appealed to the government to fast track connecting the college with electricity services to reduce operation cost associated with the use of generator. She said the college also offers one month tailor made courses to village leaders.



Officials from Msalala District Council in Shinyanga Region and Nyang'hwale District Council in Geita Region pictured at the weekend attending training on new regulations relating to the corporate social responsibilities of mining licence holders. It was organised by Barrick Bulyanhulu in collaboration with the Tanzania Mining Commission. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Forum passes resolution against modern-day apartheid in Africa

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

A ground-breaking resolution has just been endorsed in Tanzania to protect and promote the Rights of Communities Discriminated based on work and descent.

The historic Resolution was passed by the Non-Government forum of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights during the ongoing 77th ordinary session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights taking place in Arusha.

“This is a significant step toward achieving equality and justice,” said Queen Bisseng the coordinator of the Global Forum of Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent (GFOD) from Cameroon.

“Civil societies need to recognize and advocate for the rights of GFODs in terms of access to health, education, employment, land and housing and representation in decision-making bodies,” added Ms Bisseng.

On his part, the GFOD United Nations' Advocacy Officer, Johannes Butscher who hails from Latin America said the resolution marks a significant milestone in the ongoing struggle against what he described as ‘hidden apartheid.’

“Slavery played key role in the segregation of some indigenous communities because most are the people formerly taken as slaves and managed to liberate themselves forming own societies that are being discriminated against,” said Butscher.

It now sets the ball rolling towards the protection and promotion of the rights and dignity of Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent (CDWD) across Africa.

The Global Forum of Communities Discriminated on Work and Descent (GFOD) is a global platform of communities oppressed due to casteism, traditional and modern forms of slavery.

GFOD has been intervening at the ACPHR to demand the rights of the marginalised communities of Africa and recognize them and demand full realization of their rights.

The ACHPR, comprising of representatives from various African nations, NGOs and other stakeholder groups convened in Arusha, Tanzania from 16th-18th of October 2023, to deliberate on this vital issue.

After intense discussions, the NGO forum of the Commission unanimously adopted a comprehensive resolution dedicated to combat discrimination against CDWD.

The NGO forum acknowledged that discrimination based on work and descent is widespread across the Africa and that multiple, aggravated, and intersecting forms of discrimination impact women, children and youth, persons with disabilities, and those of diverse sexual orientation and gender identity, which makes them more vulnerable to the denial of their human rights in par with others.

To address discrimination based on work and descent, the NGO Forum of the ACPHR calls upon States Parties to acknowledge the existence of discrimination based on work and descent as a distinct form of discrimination that deserves the attention of the African community and that affects peoples across Africa.

Further calls upon States Parties to take all necessary constitutional, legislative, administrative, budgetary, judicial, educational, and social measures to eliminate discrimination based on work and descent in their respective states and respect, protect, promote, implement and monitor the human rights of those facing this discrimination, including thorough, robust disaggregated data collection in line with data protection and data privacy principles.

The Resolution urges States Parties, in collaboration with the National Human Rights Institutions,

civil society organisations and human rights defenders belonging to communities discriminated on work and descent, to combat prejudicial beliefs and practices in all their forms, including notions of untouchability, pollution and caste superiority or inferiority, as well as prevent human rights violations taken on the basis of such beliefs;

Requests the Africa Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights to initiate a process to realise a continental study on the situation of communities discriminated on work and descent to be shared with the African Union organs and institutions;



REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST PROVISION OF SECURITY SERVICES REFERENCE NO.MST-TZ-20231020

Daqing Oilfield Construction Group Co., Ltd. (hereinafter as DOCG), as a CONTRACTOR for Storage Facilities and Terminal Construction of EACOP Project, invites experienced and reputable contractors that have demonstrable capability, willingness, ability and availability to perform following works to express their interest.

The EACOP Project development involves the engineering, construction, operation and maintenance of a crude oil export pipeline crossing Uganda and Tanzania and an onshore Marine Terminal in Chongoleani, near Tanga Port in Tanzania.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES:

The services include but not limited to, the following:

- Provision of 24/7 manned guarding services for project site premises (including camp, storage warehouse, construction area).
- Provision of Security Control Room Services 24/7-English Speaking.
- Provision of a dedicated Security Supervisor - English Speaking.
- Provision of weekly security information reporting services for the East African Region, especially Tanzania.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR EOI SUBMISSION:


- Provision of valid ISO18788 certification.
- Provision of valid ISO45001 certification.
- Proof of commitment to upholding the VPSHR.
- Proof that hiring practices avoid the recruitment of personnel involved in human rights violations
- Demonstrate the capacity to manage security operations, to provide training and that he implements a robust Corporate Social Responsibility policy in line with national labour regulations
- Provision of relevant experience for last 3 years.
- Provision of valid insurance certification.
- Memorandum and articles of association
- Certificate of incorporation (BRELA); TIN certificate; Valid Business license and Permits.
- Proof of Registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA).
- Tax Clearance Certificate for the latest year available.

Compliance with **Petroleum (Local Content) Regulations, 2017**, and Local Company definition for Tanzania. Proof of registration/application to **Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP)** database at the time of submission of the response to this Expression of Interest is **strongly recommended**.

Interested companies with the capacity to provide the services listed above should express their interest in **English** language by sending the above documents to pq@docgi.cn (not exceeding 20 MBs) on or before 17:00 hours East African Time (EAT), on **05/Nov/2023**. Subject of the email should be **MST-TZ- 20231020-XXX EOI – [COMPANY NAME]**.

Companies satisfactorily meeting the above minimum requirements will receive, subject to the signature of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA), a detailed pre-qualification questionnaire for further evaluation by Company. **DOCG reserves the right not to consider companies that submit an incomplete dossier.**

Note: Only pre-qualified companies will receive invitation to submit bids in furtherance of the call for tender process.

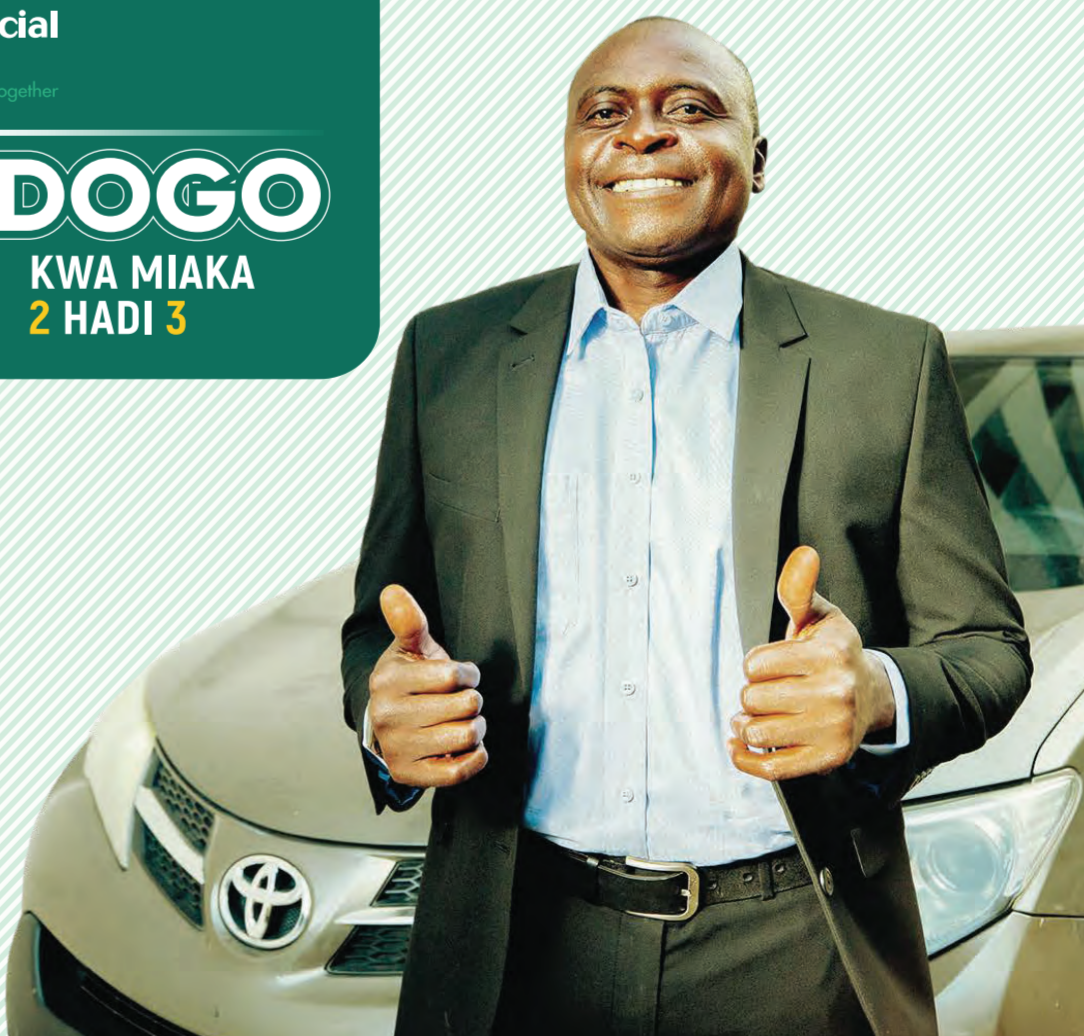


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Dr Robert Mashenene, Director of the Mwanza Campus of the College of Business Education, presents a leaving certificate to one of the outgoing Form Four students of St Mary's Mbezi Beach Secondary School at a ceremony held at the school's premises in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Photo Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

NMB offers building materials for police dispensary in Mtwara

By Guardian Correspondent, Mtwara

THE NMB bank in Mtwara Region has donated building materials worth 17m/- to the police dispensary.

These materials will be used to complete the construction of the maternity ward within the dispensary and include corrugated iron sheets, timber, nails, and roofing caps.

Faraja Ngingo, bank's southern zone manager emphasized that healthcare challenges in the country are a matter of great importance to NMB. While recognizing the substantial efforts made by the government in the healthcare sector, NMB, as stakeholders, felt responsible to support these endeavors.

"We were delighted to receive this request for assistance in the healthcare sector. Supporting our community's development is one of our commitments, and we want to ensure that the community benefits from the gains we make," stated Faraja.

She further acknowledged that the customers of NMB come from within the community, and therefore, it is cru-

cial to invest in healthcare, education, and disaster relief. For seven consecutive years, NMB has been contributing one percent of its profits to the community.

Dr. Stephen Kisaka, the chief medical officer of the police clinic and also the head of the health department in Mtwara, stated that the dispensary is one of the 18 healthcare centers serving Mtwara province and one of the 37 police dispensaries nationwide. The services offered at this clinic include outpatient care, maternity care, HIV/AIDS treatment, and it serves an average of 2,500 to 3,000 patients per month, 800 to 1,000 of whom have health insurance.

Additionally, the dispensary provides services to underprivileged patients, elderly individuals, and children below the age of five.

Superintendent Nicodemus Katembo, the Police Commander of Mtwara, explained that this dispensary, which primarily serves civilians (80 pc of patients), was initially an idea proposed by police officers themselves and later received support from various stake-

holders.

"We aspire to have a fully equipped healthcare center by the year 2025. Therefore, this contribution will facilitate our journey toward achieving that goal," said RPC Katembo.

Rachel Thobias, one of the patients who visited the clinic to receive treatment, expressed gratitude towards the police clinic for providing excellent services to expectant mothers, children, and all patients.

District Commissioner of Mtwara, Mwanahamisi Mukunda, commended the police for their proximity to the community and their commitment to delivering quality healthcare.

"If approximately 80 per cent of patients who come here are civilians, it shows that you are close to them and provide good services," mentioned the district commissioner.

In conclusion, NMB's generous donation of building materials to the police clinic in Mtwara will contribute to the completion of the maternity ward and enhance the quality of healthcare services provided to the community.

Revision of National ICT policy due for completion next month

By Getrude Mbagu

THE revision process of the National ICT Policy of 2006 is set to be completed next

month, incorporating key issues that are meant to help stimulate intensive utilization of emerging technologies.

Mohamed Hamis Abdul Per-

manent Secretary, Ministry of Information, Communication and Information Technology made the statement in Dar es Salaam over the weekend

when wrapping up the 7th Tanzania annual ICT conference 2023 (TAIC 2023), which commenced on October 16 to 20, this year.

He said the amendment also aims to create a conducive environment for spurring the digital economy.

He said the government

wants to invest efforts and create a conducive environment to promote investments in emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, internet

of things, machine running and block chain.

To further help achieve the goal, the government is expecting to establish two new ICT universities which will be constructed in Dodoma and Kigoma regions with emerging technologies being among major courses to be provided.

"We are also expected to construct two new data centres in Dodoma and Zanzibar," he said, adding that emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence and internet of things are key in digital transformation to produce more jobs and promote socio-economic development.

He added that 20 Tanzanians have also been sponsored to take courses on emerging technologies abroad.

According to him, the government has continued to implement robust efforts to create a conducive environment to bolster investment in the ICT sector.

He noted that ICT plays an important role in the transition from a resource-based economy to a skill- and technology-based economy, and to transform the country's production structure.

Tanzania's Third Five-Year Development Plan also emphasizes the importance of science and technology, innovation and digitalisation, to explore development potential through the national digital transformation, so that Tanzania people can benefit from more quality life from the development.

"The government will continue creating a conducive atmosphere that will enable investors to be innovative as the country moves towards applying technology in promoting the digital economy," he said.

The PS urged researchers and stakeholders to invest in conducting studies on the emerging technologies and how they should be utilized to bring positive changes, calling on the private sector and development partners to continue contributing to the country's strides to achieve digital economy goals.

ICT Commission director general, Dr Nkundwe Mwasaga said in five days participants have got the opportunity to discuss and share knowledge on matters related to policy, research, innovation and business aspects of the digital economy and ICT sector contribution to Tanzania's economic growth and global digital presence.

He said the commission will supervise to ensure that all the agreed issues in the conference are implemented to bring intended outcomes in the sector.

"The commission is currently investing much of our efforts to ensure that we provide all needed support to start-ups that grab the emerging technologies so as to bring transformation in various fields such as transportation, hospitality and other areas," he said.

EXCITING CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AT WATERAID TANZANIA



We are making great progress – since 1981, we have reached 25 million people with clean water and, since 2004, 24 million people with sanitation. WaterAid has operated in Tanzania since 1983 and has been engaged in the WASH sector for 40 years with a vision of everyone everywhere has access to clean water, sanitation, and hygiene. During the last 40 years, WaterAid Tanzania has grown to become a nationally recognized leader in the water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) sector, working closely with the government and partners, and is respected for innovation on best models with lasting change in the WASH sector.

WaterAid Tanzania seeks to recruit dynamic people to fill the following vacancies to play a vital role in our mission to make clean water, decent toilets and good hygiene normal for everyone, everywhere by 2030.

1. Head of Programmes
2. Logistics Assistant
3. Programme Liaison Officer
4. Administration Assistant – Front Office
5. ICT for Development Coordinator



If you are interested in these positions and have the right skills and attributes, visit **Work with us | WaterAid Tanzania** OR scan the barcode attached and download the job descriptions and application form. Send your job application form to wateraidtz@wateraid.org stating the title of the applied post in the subject line. Only candidates shortlisted for interviewing will be contacted within one week of the closing date for applications.

WaterAid reinforces a culture of zero tolerance towards any form of inappropriate behaviour, discrimination, abuse, bullying, harassment, or exploitation of any kind. The safeguarding of the communities in which we work, our staff, volunteers and anyone working on our behalf, is our top priority, and we take our responsibilities extremely seriously.

We will conduct the most appropriate pre-employment references and checks to ensure high standards are maintained. WaterAid will carry out disclosure checks for roles that involve direct contact with children and vulnerable adults. Applicants are required to provide details of convictions that, in other circumstances, would be considered spent. For more information about safeguarding at WaterAid, please visit our safeguarding webpage at: <https://www.wateraid.org/uk/safeguarding-at-wateraid>

The United Republic of Tanzania President's Office, State House



VACANCY ADVERTISEMENT

Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) is currently implementing Productive Social Safety Net Program which aims at protecting the Vulnerable Poor Households from severe consequences of poverty by implementing interventions that will lead to increased Household incomes and opportunities while increasing consumption.

The Permanent Secretary, President's Office, State House is inviting applications from suitably qualified candidates to fill the vacant post of **TASAF Executive Director**.

Job Description and required qualifications for the post is available in TASAF website:- www.tasaf.go.tz

How to apply:

- 1) a) Applications, enclosing scanned certified copies of certificates and Curriculum Vitae be sent to the following address:-

Permanent Secretary, President's Office
Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF)
Kambarage Tower Building
Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete Road
P.O. Box 2719
DODOMA.

- b) Applications (In PDF Format), enclosing scanned certified copies of certificates, birth certificate and Curriculum Vitae be sent through the following email address: hr@tasaf.go.tz

- 2) Applications made in a way other than the above will not be considered. Deadline for receiving applications is 10th November, 2023.

PERMANENT SECRETARY
PRESIDENT'S OFFICE, STATE HOUSE

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halotel PUBLIC NOTICE

Viettel Tanzania PLC (Halotel) is a telecommunication company we continue to ease communication to all our customers by offering cheaper rate for SMS, Voice and Internet services.

We would like to announce to all our customers and public on Basic Tariffs (Tariff customer pay when not registered to bundle/package) for public awareness.

LOCAL BASIC TARIFFS

| Category | Price |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| Onnet (Halotel-Halotel) | 10 Tsh/Dk |
| Offnet (All networks) | 20 Tsh/Dk |
| SMS | 5 Tsh/SMS |
| Data (MB) | 9.35 Tsh/MB |

INTERNATIONAL TARIFFS

| Call Category (Zones/Groups) | Price(Tsh/Min) |
|--|----------------|
| Zone 1: USA, UK, India, China, Canada, Australia, Japan, South Korea, Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia | 450 |
| Zone 2: REST of EUROPE, Kenya | 750 |
| Zone 3: Rwanda, South Africa, Zambia, UAE, Oman, Haiti, Peru | 840 |
| Zone 4: Cameroon, Zimbabwe, Malawi, Uganda, Congo DRC, Mozambique | 1,000 |
| Zone 5: Burundi | 1,350 |
| Zone 6: Rest of the world | 2,700 |
| Zone 7: Satellite Networks | 13,800 |

INTERNATIONAL SMS TARIFFS

| Category | Price (Tsh/SMS) |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| International SMS | 95 |

| Bundle Nature | Validity | Price (Tsh) | All Networks (Min) | Halotel-Halotel (Min) | SMS | Data (MB) |
|-------------------------|-----------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------------|--------|-----------|
| VOICE BUNDLES | | | | | | |
| Voice | Daily | 350 | 25 | | | |
| Voice | Daily | 500 | | 110 | | |
| Voice | Daily | 500 | 60 | | 60 | |
| Voice | Daily | 500 | 60 | 60 | 60 | |
| Voice | Daily | 1,000 | 180 | | 60 | |
| Voice | Daily | 1,000 | 180 | 60 | 60 | |
| Voice | Daily | 700 | 10 | Free every first 5 mins | | |
| Voice | Weekly | 1,500 | 180 | | 150 | |
| Voice | Weekly | 2,000 | 500 | | 300 | |
| Voice | Weekly | 2,500 | 350 | 50 | 150 | |
| Voice | Weekly | 3,000 | 450 | | 150 | |
| Voice | Monthly | 4,000 | 400 | 50 | 50 | |
| Voice | Monthly | 5,000 | 550 | | 100 | |
| Voice | Monthly | 5,000 | 300 | 1,200 | 100 | |
| Voice | Monthly | 10,000 | 1,600 | 1,600 | 150 | |
| Voice | Unlimited | 500 | 20 | | | |
| SMS BUNDLES | | | | | | |
| SMS | Daily | 100 | | | 200 | |
| SMS | Weekly | 500 | | | 2000 | |
| SMS | Monthly | 1,000 | | | 10,000 | |
| INTERNET BUNDLES | | | | | | |
| Internet | Daily | 350 | | | | 170 |
| Internet | Daily | 500 | | | | 245 |
| Internet | Daily | 1,000 | | | | 490 |
| Internet | Daily | 2,000 | | | | 985 |
| Internet | 10 days | 2,100 | | | | 1024 |
| Internet | Week | 1,000 | | | | 490 |
| Internet | Week | 2,000 | | | | 985 |
| Internet | Week | 3,000 | | | | 1475 |
| Internet | Week | 5,000 | | | | 2460 |
| Internet | Week | 10,000 | | | | 4925 |
| Internet | Monthly | 10,000 | | | | 4920 |
| Internet | Monthly | 20,000 | | | | 9850 |
| Internet | Monthly | 30,000 | | | | 14780 |
| Internet | Monthly | 50,000 | | | | 24600 |
| Internet | Unlimited | 500 | | | | 200 |
| COMBO BUNDLES | | | | | | |
| Unibang | Weekly | 1,500 | 5 | 25 | 5 | 700 |
| Unibang | Days 1.4 | 3,000 | 50 | 50 | 25 | 1300 |
| Unibang | Monthly | 10,000 | 50 | 250 | 50 | 4500 |
| Combo | Monthly | 10,000 | 280 | | 50 | 4000 |
| Combo | Monthly | 20,000 | 400 | | 100 | 8500 |
| Combo | Monthly | 50,000 | 600 | | 200 | 22000 |



Save the Children International's country director, Angela Kauleni (3rd-L), and NMB Bank Foundation general manager Nelson Karumuna pictured in Dar es Salaam at the weekend exchanging documents on an MoU on collaboration in investment in community wellbeing and development between the two institutions. With them are NMB Foundation senior manager Fernandes Vallerian (L) and Save the Children International's regional director for East and Southern Africa, Ian Vale. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Govt to team up with Merck Foundation in curbing GBV

By Correspondent Christina Mwakangale

THE government has pledged to continue teaming up with Merck Foundation in a social sector to eradicate gender-based violence (GBV) and raising awareness against infertility stigma.

Dr Dorothy Gwajima, Minister for Community Development, Gender, Women and Special Groups made the pledge in Mumbai, India when speaking at the just-ended the 10th Edition of Merck Foundation Africa Asia Luminary 2023, which brought on board more than 600 participants from 70 countries.

The minister thanked Merck Foundation for lifting up women economically as well as addressing infertility challenges and give them hope also medical treatment.

So far, the foundation has benefited 42 Tanzanian medical specialists through training on non communicable diseases such as diabetes, cancer and blood pressure.

Next year 14 African First Ladies are set to visit Zanzibar Island, with more than thousands of ambassadors from different countries of Merck Foundation.

The conference was graced by Prof. Frank Stangenberg-Haverkamp, Chairman of Merck Foundation Board of Trustees, and Senator, Dr. Rasha Kelej, CEO of Merck Foundation and Chairperson of Merck Foundation Africa Asia Luminary, along with African First Ladies of 11 countries including the African First Ladies of Botswana, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Central African Republic, Gambia, Ghana, Liberia, Malawi, Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe, Zimbabwe and DRC.

Prof. Dr. Frank expressed: "At Merck Foundation, our goal is improving overall health and well-being by building healthcare capacity and by providing access to quality and equitable healthcare solutions in the Africa, Asia and beyond."

Merck Foundation, the philanthropic arm of Merck KGaA Germany, conducted their annual conference, the 10th Edition of "Merck Foundation Africa Asia Luminary", in partnership with Tata Memorial Centre and Department of Atomic Energy, Ministry of External Affairs, Ministry of Health of India, State Protocol Office of Government of Maharashtra and Krishna World University, Karad, on the 18-19th of October 2023 in Mumbai, India.

Weirs being built to ensure stable flowing of water in Great Ruaha River

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Iringa

EFFORTS are in place to restore the Great Ruaha River back to its former natural flow through establishing water retaining weirs along the river's upper stream to maintain its flow throughout the year, come rain or shine.

Apparently, the river happens to be a lifeline to the Tanzania's second biggest National Park, Ruaha, which being home to more than 15,000

elephants happens to feature the largest population of jumbos in the continent

The assistant conservation commissioner and commanding officer for the Ruaha National Park Godwell Ole Meing'ataki, said other initiatives to save the Great Ruaha River, including restoring its natural flows after being diverted by some people, mostly for farming, have been undertaken.

"The construction of weirs will

help to retain rain water, from anticipated downpours, then gradually release the same into the river and ensure constant flow of water throughout the year," explained the Assistant Commissioner of Conservation.

Meing'atak revealed that a large weir is to be built at Ngirama catchment area and three smaller ones will be erected at Telekimboga, Nyamakuyu A' and Nyamakuyu B.'

The same project, according to

Godwell, includes the construction of four charcoal dams at Ngalam-bula, Igohungika, Ikowoka and Illalangulu.

That is in addition to drilling three deep boreholes at Mdonya, Mbangi and Nyamakifuna.

Discharging 140 cubic metres of water per second, during normal days, the Great Ruaha is about 475 kilometres long, with 164 kilometers of the river passing through the national park.

The Great Ruaha's tributary basin has a catchment area of 68,000 square kilometres. It is reported that the river supplies 22 percent of the total flow of the Rufiji catchment system.

Human activities upstream as well as effects of climate change have been taking a toll on the Great Ruaha, whose flow was reduced to a trickle with dire consequences for the fish, hippos and crocodiles in the river.

The river is the lifeline of Ruaha National Park with plants and wildlife species depending on its water flow.

At least 20,000 buffaloes and nearly 1700 types of vegetation depend on the soil which gets watered from the river and its tributaries.

Economically the Ruaha is the force behind electricity generation at the Mtera and Kidatu dams downstream, supplying hydro-electricity power to most parts of Tanzania.

Breaking the Silence: Empowering Girls Through Menstrual Health Awareness

In communities where whispers and giggles often accompany the mere mention of menstruation, a remarkable initiative is changing the narrative. The Keeping Adolescent Girls in School (KAGIS) project funded by Global Affairs Canada and implemented by Plan International in partnership with local organizations Rafiki Sdo and Women Promotion Center (WPC), is making a profound impact in the Geita and Kigoma regions of Tanzania. At its heart, this initiative addresses the critical issue of menstrual health and hygiene (MHH) among adolescent girls in schools and out of schools.

A Sobering Baseline:

According to a Baseline survey conducted by the KAGIS project in 2021 in Kigoma and Geita regions, the stark reality emerged—only 40.4% of respondents had access to correct information about menstrual health. Even more shockingly, the majority of respondents did not feel comfortable discussing menstruation issues openly. Additionally, a mere 39.3% had access to menstrual supplies, highlighting the limited accessibility to essential resources. This baseline data revealed an urgent need for comprehensive menstrual health and hygiene interventions among adolescent girls aged 9–15.

Theresia, a 15-year-old student from one of the project sites, shared her experience, saying, "I was afraid to discuss my periods with other people. I was aware that every girl of my age would undergo this situation, but I thought it was something to be discussed in secret".

Theresia's story is not uncommon. Many girls like her suffer in silence, unaware that menstruation is a natural process, and that knowledge and open dialogue can bring freedom from fear and stigma.

The Menstrual Health Hygiene (MHH) Lab:

At the core of the KAGIS project is the Mobile Menstrual Health Hygiene (MHH) Lab, a beacon of knowledge and empowerment. These labs provide a safe and supportive space for both adolescent boys and girls to openly learn and discuss menstruation and related topics. Apart from learning, they have a unique opportunity to see and make handmade re-usable hygiene products such as sanitary pads using locally available materials. By using bids available at the labs, girls can also make their menstrual cycle counting tool to help them anticipate their menstruation. Moreover, the lab provide



Theresia a Champion of Change and MHH peer educator from Kibondo District – Kigoma region

extended services to parents and general community members to learn about menstrual health and how they can support their adolescent girls. In Geita, the MHH Lab has positively impacted a substantial number of adolescents: 7,890 aged 9–15 (comprising 5,383 girls and 2,507 boys), 343 aged 16–18 (including 124 girls and 219 boys), and 129 adults (106 females and 23 males) by March 2023.

In Kigoma region, 791 adolescents aged 14–18 had benefited from the MHH Lab by March 2023. These labs have become hubs of knowledge, dispelling myths and misconceptions surrounding menstruation while fostering an environment where questions are welcomed, and discussions are encouraged.

Theresia, who underwent a profound transformation through the MHH Lab, shared her newfound perspective, "I used to fear school during my period, but now I know it's natural. I won't let it stop me, and I want every girl to feel the same way." – Theresia Shares

Empowering Girls to Take Control:

One of the remarkable achievements of the KAGIS project is its impact on girls' self-esteem and autonomy. Across 90 schools, including 73 primary and 17 secondary institutions, the project trained 2,250 adolescent girls in making reusable sanitary pads. This practical skill equips them with not only the means to manage their menstrual health but also the knowledge to help others.

Among these schools, 76 have fully implemented these changes, while 14 have partially adopted the program. The ripple effect is evident as schoolteachers have taken an active role in educating 1,770 adolescent boys, which has been important in breaking the gender stereotypes and fostering a holistic understanding of menstrual health and hygiene among both genders

This outcome was further reinforced by the training of various stakeholders, including parents, teachers, ward education officers, MHH lab facilitators, and district health



trainers.

Theresia took action by organizing educational gatherings for other girls in her school. During one memorable gathering, she shared a personal anecdote about her initial fear and embarrassment surrounding menstruation. The room was filled with the sound of girls nodding in understanding and empathy. Theresia's story had a profound impact, illustrating that they were not alone in their experiences.

Through her efforts, she reached 156 adolescent girls, imparting to them the importance of hygiene and the need to destigmatize menstruation. She recalls a particular gathering where one girl shared her own fears, inspired by Theresia's courage.

"Theresia showed us that we can talk about this openly. We don't have to hide anymore," (One of the girls who attended Theresia's session).

A Bright Future:

As the KAGIS project continues to make strides in menstrual health awareness, its vision extends far beyond the classroom. The project envisions a future where all girls can attend school confidently, regardless of their menstrual cycle, and where communities are educated and supportive.

Theresia, along with countless others, is a beacon of hope in this journey toward a brighter future. Her dream is to pursue further education in this field and continue her advocacy for menstrual health and hygiene.

The resonance of the KAGIS project's impact reverberates far and wide. A Gender Equality Assessment, conducted under the project's discerning gaze, uncovered a glaring obstacle: the dire state of Menstrual Health Hygiene, obstructing the path of adolescent girls' school attendance. At its heart, the issue stemmed from a scarcity of clean water, hygienic toilets, and a notable absence of accessible sanitary pads or discreet means of disposal.

But here's the exciting part—profound change is afoot. The project has resolved to construct purpose-built student latrines, complete with girls' changing rooms, transforming the landscape of opportunity for these girls. Additionally, the project continues its noble mission, putting sanitary pads into the hands of adolescent girls from vulnerable families. This isn't just about erasing barriers; it's about paving the way for empowerment.

The KAGIS project is forging a path toward a world where menstruation is no longer a taboo topic but a natural part of life, celebrated and embraced by all.



FOCUS ON THE THIRD BELT AND ROAD FORUM FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



Building an Open, Inclusive and Interconnected World for Common Development

Keynote Speech by H.E. Xi Jinping, President of the People's Republic of China, At the Opening Ceremony of the Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation



Chinese President Xi Jinping attends the opening ceremony of the third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation and delivers a keynote speech at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, capital of China, Oct. 18, 2023. (Photo/Xinhua)

Your Excellencies Heads of State and Government, Heads of International Organizations, Representatives of Various Countries, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends,

Today, we are meeting here for the opening ceremony of the Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation (BRF). On behalf of the Chinese government and Chinese people and in my own name, I wish to extend a very warm welcome to you all!

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) proposed. The BRI, drawing inspiration from the ancient Silk Road and focusing on enhancing connectivity, aims to enhance policy, infrastructure, trade, financial and people-to-people connectivity, inject new impetus into the global economy, create new opportunities for global development, and build a new platform for international economic cooperation.

Over these 10 years, we have stayed committed to this founding mission. Thanks to our joint efforts, Belt and Road international cooperation has gotten off the ground, grown rapidly and produced fruitful outcomes.

Belt and Road cooperation has extended from the Eurasian continent to Africa and Latin America. More than 150 countries and over 30 international organizations have signed Belt and Road cooperation documents. We have held two sessions of the BRF before, and have established over 20 specialized multilateral cooperation platforms under the BRI.

Belt and Road cooperation has progressed from "sketching the outline" to "filling in the details", and blueprints have been turned into real projects. A large number of signature projects and "small yet smart"

people-centered programs have been launched.

Belt and Road cooperation has expanded from physical connectivity to institutional connectivity. Important guiding principles for high-quality Belt and Road cooperation have been laid down, which include the principle of "planning together, building together, and benefiting together," the philosophy of open, green and clean cooperation, and the goal of pursuing high-standard, people-centered and sustainable cooperation.

Over these 10 years, we have endeavored to build a global network of connectivity consisting of economic corridors, international transportation routes and information highway as well as railways, roads, airports, ports, pipelines and power grids. Covering the land, the ocean, the sky and the Internet, this network has boosted the flow of goods, capital, technologies and human resources among countries involved and injected fresh vitality into the millennia-old Silk Road in the new era.

Trains speeding along rail tracks, automobiles running on roads, flights connecting different countries, cargo ships breaking waves, and e-commerce bringing so much convenience to people—they have all become symbols of international trade in the new era, just like camel caravans and the sailing ships were for the past age.

Hydro, wind and solar energy based power plants, oil and gas pipelines, and the increasingly smart and interconnected power transmission networks are removing the development bottleneck caused by energy shortage and fulfilling the dream of developing countries to achieve green and low-carbon development. These energy projects have become the oasis and lighthouse for sustainable development in the new era.

Brand new airports and harbors,

smooth roads, and newly built industrial parks for business cooperation have created new economic corridors and new growth drivers, and have become the trading routes and staging posts of the new era.

Rich and colorful cultural years, art festivals, expos and exhibitions, Luban Workshops, people-to-people exchange programs like the Silk Road Community Building Initiative and the Brightness Action program, and deepening exchanges between non-governmental organizations, think tanks, media organizations, and the youth—all these flourishing activities have composed a symphony of friendship in the new era.

When COVID-19 struck, the Belt and Road became a life-saving road. China provided more than 10 billion masks and 2.3 billion doses of vaccines to other countries and jointly produced vaccines with over 20 countries, making a special contribution to BRI partners' efforts in fighting COVID-19. And China also received valuable support from more than 70 countries when it was hit hard by the pandemic.

Belt and Road cooperation is based on the principle of "planning together, building together, and benefiting together." It transcends differences between civilizations, cultures, social systems, and stages of development. It has opened up a new path for exchanges among countries, and established a new framework for international cooperation. Indeed, the BRI represents humanity's joint pursuit of development for all.

Ladies and Gentlemen, Friends,

Our achievements in the past decade are truly remarkable, and there is so much we can draw from them.

We have learned that humankind is a community with a shared future. China can only do well when the world is doing well. When China does well, the world will get even better. Through Belt and Road cooperation, China is opening its door even wider to the world, with its inland regions turning from "fullbacks" into "forwards," and coastal regions scaling new heights in their opening-up. China's market has become even more closely integrated with the global market.

China has become a main trading partner of more than 140 countries and territories and a primary source of investment for more countries. Both Chinese investment overseas and foreign investment in China have boosted friendship, cooperation, confidence and hope.

We have learned that win-win cooperation is the sure way to success in launching major initiatives that benefit all. When countries embrace cooperation and act in concert, a deep chasm can be turned into a thoroughfare, land-locked countries can become land-linked, and a place of underdevelopment can be transformed into a land of prosperity. Countries taking the lead in economic development should give a hand to their partners who are yet to catch up. We should all treat each other as friends and partners, respect and support each other, and help each other succeed. As the saying goes, when you give roses to others, their fragrance lingers on your hand. In other words, helping others is also helping oneself. Viewing others' development as a threat or taking economic interdependence as a risk will not make one's own life better or

speed up one's development.

We have learned that the Silk Road spirit of peace and cooperation, openness and inclusiveness, mutual learning and mutual benefit is the most important source of strength for Belt and Road cooperation. I once said that the pioneers of the ancient silk routes won their place in history not as conquerors with warships, guns, horses or swords. Rather, they are remembered as friendly emissaries leading camel caravans and sailing ships loaded with goods. Belt and Road cooperation is based on the belief that flame runs high when everyone adds wood to the fire and that mutual support can get us far. Such cooperation seeks to deliver a good life not only to people of just one country, but to people in other countries as well. It promotes connectivity, mutual benefit, common development, cooperation and win-win outcomes. Ideological confrontation, geopolitical rivalry and bloc politics are not a choice for us. What we stand against are unilateral sanctions, economic coercion and decoupling and supply chain disruption.

What has been achieved in the past



The opening ceremony of the third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation is held at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, Oct. 18, 2023. (Photo/Xinhua)



H.E. President Samia Suluhu Hassan cuts a tape to inaugurate a state-of-art float glass factory invested by a Chinese company named Wankang Group in Mkuranga, Coast Region, Tanzania on Sept. 20, 2023. She is flanked by Chinese Ambassador to Tanzania H.E. Chen Mingjian and Minister of State in the President's Office (Planning and Investment) Prof. Kitila Mkumbo. (Photo/State House)



FOCUS ON THE THIRD BELT AND ROAD FORUM FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION



10 years demonstrates that Belt and Road cooperation is on the right side of history. It represents the advancing of our times, and it is the right path forward. We need to remain clear-eyed and undisturbed in a volatile world, and we need to be keenly aware of our responsibility for history, for the people and for the world. We should jointly address various global risks and challenges, and deliver a bright future of peace, development, cooperation and mutual benefit for future generations.

Ladies and Gentlemen,
Friends,

Changes of the world, of our times, and of historical significance are unfolding like never before. China is endeavoring to build itself into a stronger country and rejuvenate the Chinese nation on all fronts by pursuing Chinese modernization. The modernization we are pursuing is not for China alone, but for all developing countries through our joint efforts. Global modernization should be pursued to enhance peaceful development and mutually beneficial cooperation and bring prosperity to all. On our way forward, we will encounter both headwinds and tailwinds. We need to stay focused on our goal, take results-oriented actions, persevere, and keep moving forward until our goal is met. China will work with all parties involved to deepen Belt and Road partnerships of cooperation, usher this cooperation into a new stage of high-quality development, and make relentless efforts to achieve modernization for all countries.

Now, I wish to announce eight major steps China will take to support our joint pursuit of high-quality Belt and Road cooperation.

First, building a multidimensional Belt and Road connectivity network. China will speed up high-quality development of the China-Europe Railway Express, participate in the trans-Caspian international transportation corridor, host the China-Europe Railway Express Cooperation Forum, and make joint efforts to build a new logistics corridor across the Eurasian continent linked by direct railway and road transportation. We will vigorously integrate ports, shipping and trading services under the "Silk Road Maritime," and accelerate the building of the New International Land-Sea Trade Corridor and the Air Silk Road.

Second, supporting an open world economy. China will establish pilot zones for Silk Road e-commerce cooperation, enter into free trade agreements and investment protection treaties with more countries. We will remove all restrictions on foreign investment access in the manufacturing sector. In light of international high-standard economic and trade rules, we will further advance high-standard opening up in cross-border service trade and investment, expand market access for digital and other products, and deepen reform in areas including the state-owned enterprises, digital economy, intellectual property and government procurement. China will hold the Global Digital Trade Expo annually. In the next five years (2024-2028), China's total trade in goods and services is expected to exceed USD 32 trillion and USD 5 trillion respectively.

Third, carrying out practical cooperation. China will promote both signature projects and "small yet smart" livelihood programs. The China Development Bank and the Export-Import Bank of China will each set up a RMB 350 billion financing window. An additional RMB 80 billion will be injected into the Silk Road Fund. Together, they will support BRI projects on the basis of market and business operation. Cooperation agreements worth USD 97.2 billion have been concluded at the CEO Conference held during this Forum. China will carry out 1,000 small-scale livelihood assistance projects, and enhance vocational education cooperation through Luban Workshops and other initiatives. We will also step up joint efforts to ensure the safety of BRI projects and personnel.

Fourth, promoting green development. China will continue to deepen cooperation in areas such as green infrastructure, green energy and green transportation, and step up support for the BRI International Green Development Coalition. China will continue to hold the BRI Green Innovation Conference, and establish dialogue and exchange mechanisms for the solar industry and a network of experts on green and low-carbon development. China will implement the Green Investment Principles for the Belt and Road, and provide 100,000 training opportunities for partner countries by 2030.

Fifth, advancing scientific and technological innovation. China will continue to implement the Belt and Road Science, Technology and Innovation Cooperation Action Plan, hold the first Belt and Road Conference on Science and Technology Exchange, increase the number of joint laboratories built with other parties to 100 in the next five years, and support young scientists from other countries to work on short-term programs in China. At this Forum, China will put forward the Global Initiative for Artificial Intelligence (AI) Governance. We stand ready to increase exchanges and dialogue with other countries and jointly promote the sound, orderly and secure AI development in the world.

Sixth, supporting people-to-people exchanges. China will host the Liangzhu Forum to enhance dialogue on civilizations with BRI partner countries. In addition to the Silk Road International League of Theaters, the Silk Road International Arts Festival, the International Alliance of Museums of the Silk Road, the Silk Road International Alliance of Art Museums, and the Silk Road International Library Alliance that have been set up, China has also launched the International Tourism Alliance of Silk Road Cities. And we will continue with the Chinese government scholarship Silk Road Program.

Seventh, promoting integrity-based Belt and Road cooperation. Together with its cooperation partners, China will release the Achievements and Prospects of Belt and Road Integrity Building and the High-Level Principles on Belt and Road Integrity Building, and establish the Integrity and Compliance Evaluation System for Companies Involved in Belt and Road Cooperation. We will also work with international organizations to carry out research and training on promoting integrity in Belt and Road cooperation.

Eighth, strengthening institutional building for international Belt and Road cooperation. China will work with its BRI partner countries to strengthen the building of multilateral cooperation platforms covering energy, taxation, finance, green development, disaster reduction, anti-corruption, think tank, media, culture and other fields. China will continue to host the BRF and establish a secretariat for the Forum.

Ladies and Gentlemen,
Friends,

The past decade has been a journey of dedicated cooperation and fruitful outcomes. Belt and Road cooperation was proposed by China, but its benefits and opportunities are for the world to share. Let us meet the expectations of the people, assume responsibilities entrusted on us by history, closely follow the trend of the times, and press ahead with energy and enterprise. Let us deepen Belt and Road international cooperation, and bring Belt and Road cooperation to a new stage of higher-quality and higher-level development. Let us advance modernization of all countries, build an open, inclusive and interconnected world for common development, and jointly build a community with a shared future for mankind.

I wish the Third Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation a full success!

Thank you.

The Belt and Road Initiative: A Key Pillar of the Global Community of Shared Future

Over two millennia ago, inspired by a sincere wish for friendship, our ancestors travelled across grasslands and deserts to create a land Silk Road connecting Asia, Europe and Africa, leading the world into an era of extensive cultural exchanges. More than 1,000 years ago, our ancestors set sail and braved the waves to open a maritime Silk Road linking the East and the West, beginning a new phase of closer communication among peoples.

Spanning thousands of miles and years, the ancient silk routes were not only routes for trade but also roads for cultural exchanges. They made a great contribution to human progress. In the 1980s, the United Nations and some countries began to envisage the Eurasian Land Bridge, the Silk Road Initiative, and other plans, reflecting a common wish to engage in communication and cooperation.

In March 2013, President Xi Jinping proposed the vision of a global community of shared future; in September and October that year, he raised the initiatives of joining with others to build a Silk Road Economic Belt and a 21st Century Maritime Silk Road (Belt and Road Initiative, or BRI). The Belt and Road Initiative is a creative development that takes on and carries forward the spirit of the ancient silk routes – two of the great achievements in human history and civilization. It enriches the ancient spirit with the zeitgeist and culture of the new era, and provides a platform for building a global community of shared future.

Since its launch 10 years ago, thanks to the combined efforts of all parties, cooperation under the BRI framework has expanded beyond the borders of China to become an international effort. It has evolved from ideas into actions, from a vision into reality, and from a general framework into concrete projects. It has been welcomed by the international community both as a public good and a cooperation platform, and has achieved solid results.

Over the past decade, BRI cooperation has delivered real gains to participating countries. It has contributed to the sound development of economic globalization and helped to resolve global development challenges and improve the global governance system. It has also opened up a new path for all humanity to realize modernization, and ensured that the efforts of building a global community of shared future are delivering real results.

The BRI has given new life to a history of cultural exchanges that dates back more than two millennia, and has inspired more than 150 countries with the zeal to realize new dreams.

In the 10 years that have passed since its launch, cooperation under the BRI framework has brought remarkable and profound change to the world and become a major milestone in the history of humanity. The BRI is a long-term, transnational and systematic global project of the 21st century. It has succeeded in taking its first step on a long journey. Continuing from this new starting point, the BRI will demonstrate greater creativity and vitality, become more open and inclusive, and generate new opportunities for both China and the rest of the world.

In the future, the BRI will find itself confronted by new difficulties. But as long as all parties involved combine their forces, work together and persevere, we will be able to overcome these problems and raise our extensive consultation, joint contribution, and shared benefits to new heights. Cooperation will thrive, and the BRI can look forward to an even brighter future.

China stands ready to work with other countries to pursue closer and more fruitful cooperation under the BRI framework, implement the Global Development Initiative, the Global Security Initiative and the Global Civilization Initiative, and build an open, inclusive, clean and beautiful world that enjoys lasting peace, universal security and common prosperity. Our goals are to pass on the torch of peace from generation to generation, sustain development, ensure that civilizations flourish, and build a global community of shared future.

(This article is an excerpt of the white paper titled "The Belt and Road Initiative: A Key Pillar of the Global Community of Shared Future", which was released by China's State Council Information Office on October 10, 2023.)



A farewell reception is held at the Chinese Embassy in Tanzania on Aug. 17, 2023 for the 160 Tanzanian students who won the Chinese government scholarships this year. Amb. Chen Mingjian, officials from the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology of Tanzania, and students' representatives take a group photo at the reception. (Photo/Chinese Embassy)



Workers are laying tracks at Seke Ididi, Kishapu District, Shinyanga Region for Lot 5 of the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) from Isaka to Mwanza in February 2023. The project is undertaken by two Chinese construction companies, CCECC and CRCC. (Photo/CCECC)



Tanzanian farmers show soybeans produced with technology developed by the China Agricultural University in collaboration with Morogoro regional authorities in Morogoro, Tanzania, Aug. 5, 2023. (Photo/Xinhua)



Dong Lili, a member of the 32nd Chinese Medical Team in Zanzibar, poses for a photo with one of her patients at the Mnazi Mmoja Hospital in Zanzibar on February 24, 2023. Dong, who is an eye doctor, has successfully performed over 600 cataract surgeries since her arrival in Zanzibar in October 2022. (Photo/Xinhua)

MONDAY 23 OCTOBER 2023

**Taking A New Look
At The News**
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

Kariakoo fires: Sabotage or not, what real lessons?

A PANEL formed by Dar es Salaam regional commissioner Albert Chalamila on the eruption of a massive fire on the spare parts traders zone early this month has returned a verdict, or strong hypothesis, that the fire was caused by an internal act of sabotage. This finding is said to have been drawn from the record of that event over CCTV cameras, where the panel was affirmative that there was no fault with electricity and indeed no sabotage from outside. Without having taken a look at the report, or hear from experts who would have done that, it is fair to say that each of those affirmations needs verification, in particular the second conclusion.

What is at least evident is that there were intense disputes among the traders on the spot, and it is arguable if this wasn't just the lower end of a bigger dispute, as to occupation of the land. This contention explains many of the fires that engulf market places in major urban areas, with vivid memories of fires in Moshi, Arusha, Mbeya and the relatively new market concentration in Dodoma. How far changes that arise from the fires in remodeling the markets benefit come people is at issue.

For one thing, the compound or zone at issue is different from fires erupting in stall markets housing small traders as these are more settled shop frames, for the most part selling spare parts where the fire broke out. As each land area has its history, it is unclear who benefits is an entire area is to be redeveloped, and it is arguable if land developers want those converted six-room houses changing their front space

to shop frames. They can easily be the ground floor of five to ten storey buildings.

Noticeably, the RC affirmed that the committee had recommended that scrap metal dealers be provided with a different area to ply their trade as the concentrations of those goods make it perilous were a fire to break out another time. There was also a land planning issue of what space there is between one building and another, as new buildings tend to take the space occupied by older buildings and their narrow streets. As Kariakoo isn't a new zone with plots being allocated but old houses being sold to developers, carting in space recommendations won't be that easy.

An echo of the disputes that are said to have led to fire erupting in the area was another recommendation, that the Business Registration and Licensing Agency (BRELA) review actions of The Kariakoo Auction Mart Ltd to revoke its license. It was more or less a restatement of what caused the fire as it indeed erupted in their premises, and now a competent panel is telling the public just why that was the case. It is to say their critics are persisting on signing on that demand.

The report intoned that if it is verified that there is no proper land occupant for the area, then it be placed under the relevant authorities until there is an acceptable legal solution to the matter. It can be hypothesized that someone already has the right framework of should be done and this isn't a matter for guesswork, merely for observation of procedures. Little can be salvaged, if from these conclusion.

It is quite possible to protect road reserve areas without using force

A SWATHE of houses in Kasulu District, Kigoma Region has been the subject of a demolition order carried by marked Wildlife Department vehicles in an operation known to the police and condoned thereof. Other authorities including the district commissioner were said not to have picked the phone when journalists sought to hear their version of what happened, which validates claims that it was one sided, at least in relation to consultation or problem solving. Regional police authorities said the police had cleared the area as the land was improperly occurred, simply.

What is also noticeable about the case is that it never appears to have made its way to the courts or any verdicts being delivered, but being followed up with ministerial authorities. Suddenly the answer comes by an impromptu visit by police and wildlife rangers tearing down houses and setting them on fire, destroying food, clothing and other properties in so doing. Since the government has in the past year or two ceded to land occupancy demands for established villages in contested reserve areas, it is an open question how far this option was pursued - or the cabinet team saw it as a harmless matter until soldiers moved in.

What was a bit surprising was that the residents say they have been there since Operation Villages back in the early 1970s. This would have been a sufficient criterion for retaining the village in its place, and that it can be removed 50 years later would appear altogether strange, unless this narrative is not valid in the first place. As that is a bit unlikely, it followed there was rush job there, and they say the

problem started with an investment initiative back in 2006 and that definitely may explain some of the haste that was noticed, as their patience was running out.

What is somewhat ironic is that on the basis the villagers' accounts, it is as if they had become refugees in a land they thought was theirs since the early 1970s. The situation is internal displacement without prior warning or a prolonged court case, or a ministerial directive on how the matter ought to be handled, and instead it looks like a decision of the wildlife authorities and the regional police command. It is a sort of interpretation of the directive when new appointees were being sworn in a couple of months ago that they ought to take initiative, not wait for higher orders.

There are lessons that can be prefigured from this incident, that when initiative shifts from central government to regional authorities, it is public agencies who carry the day if they are in dispute with the population in one sphere or another. It follows that administrative decisions should not be totally decentralized for the sake of speed, for the simple reason that it is virtually always the case that central government is sensitive to popular demands or rightful entitlements. The regional authorities are somewhat middle of the road; local authorities are less sensitive.

The Kasulu issue appears to have involved the district authorities and law enforcers, with the region not visible in the exchanges. In this model, residents were fated to lose, as the lower one goes in the administrative ladder, the more imposing state officials become. It was just that.

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Female scientists in Africa are changing face of the continent!

By Special Correspondent

Female scientists in Africa are entrepreneurial and resourceful. They are finding innovative solutions to problems that affect their communities, and many are actively seeking to engage others in their work. But for more women on the continent to achieve in science, they need policies that help to lower the barriers to their success and that incentivize international collaborations. These are among the findings of a special series of articles in Nature, as well as a poll that received responses from 249 African researchers. The majority (217) work in African countries, and 103 identified as female.

Our series shows that women working in research in African countries are thriving -- founding businesses, launching non-profit science-education efforts, training the next generation of scientists and joining their countries' health, agricultural and space ministries.

They include Khady Sall in Senegal, who in 2020 led a project to manufacture face shields against COVID-19, and Veronica Okello in Kenya, who is researching green approaches to cleaning up heavy metals such as chromium and arsenic. We also profile Aster Tsegaye, an HIV/AIDS researcher helping to train researchers in Ethiopia, and Elizabeth Kimani-Murage, who studies malnutrition in Nairobi's urban communities.

Pontsho Maruping has switched from working in South Africa's mining sector to helping to develop the country's astronomy and space pro-

gramme. Meanwhile, Angela Tabiri in Ghana studies quantum algebra and founded a network of female mathematicians. Adidja Amani helps to run vaccination programmes at Cameroon's public-health ministry, and Nigerian microbiologist Amina Ahmed El-Imam researches the production of fuels from microorganisms.

Many also work in community empowerment, are helping to communicate science to wider audiences or are working to boost science education. And their achievements have often come after a period of study or research abroad -- a finding echoed in our poll. Of our poll's 103 female respondents, 59 had studied abroad; their reasons for doing so included gaining international experience, building professional networks and bringing back specific expertise.

It is also clear from the profiles that many of the women made huge personal sacrifices to obtain their PhDs -- those who studied overseas and are mothers, for example, often spent months at a time away from their children, leaving them in the care of others, such as fathers and grandparents.

Women in Africa experience greater barriers to developing careers in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) than do women in high-income countries, with lack of funding a particular problem. Some challenges, however, will be familiar to

women the world over. Many women need to take time out for pregnancy, maternity leave and breastfeeding, and women also tend to do a higher share of childcare and domestic duties.

Moreover, some women told Nature that they have not been promoted as quickly as their male counterparts, even though they are publishing at the same rate and bringing in as much research funding and equipment to their institutions as men. The reasons vary, but include being evaluated according to outdated criteria. Often, for example, adjustments are not made for the gaps in publication and funding records that result from women taking parental leave. Although the gender gap is closing, the World Economic Forum forecasts that, at current rates, this could take 95 years in sub-Saharan Africa.

Our series also illustrates the impacts of chronic funding shortages in Africa, and the resourcefulness needed to push many projects forwards. In countries where universities lack access to national grant programmes, some researchers and students pool funds from their salaries to buy reagents and small items of equipment. They are willing to make these and other sacrifices, knowing that research experience will both make them valuable and benefit their communities.

Africa's researchers badly need long-term, stable investment from internal and external funding

sources, including venture capital. In our poll, 56% of respondents (122 of 217) working in science in Africa cited a lack of funding as their greatest career challenge, and it was the top concern for both men and women. Work-life balance was the second-most mentioned concern for women. If only Africa's governments and the international donor community could do more to help scientists to realize their ambitions: even modest funding increases could go a long way towards accelerating nation-building.

That said, some continent-wide initiatives are helping to address systemic challenges for female scientists in Africa. Since 2011, the Consortium for Advanced Research Training in Africa (CARTA), based in Nairobi, has sponsored 228 doctoral and postdoctoral fellows, 57% of whom were women, across a number of countries. CARTA has two women at its helm: co-directors Catherine Kyobutungi and Sharon Fonn.

Similarly, the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS) is a pan-African network of centres that has trained almost 2,500 students in intensive, residential mathematics master's programmes, with more than 800 going on to get PhDs. AIMS is led by the educationalist Lydie Hakizimana, and its main goals include increasing the continent's number of maths students and the representation of women in STEM fields. One-third of its alumni are women.

Seize opportunity to end last major mercury device

By Charlie Brown

AS the Minamata Convention on Mercury's fifth Conference of the Parties (COP5) approaches, momentum builds to adopt the Africa Region's proposed amendment to phase out dental amalgam - a cavity filling material that is approximately 50 per cent mercury.

Specifically, the Africa Region has filed a proposal to amend the Minamata Convention to add a 2030 phase-out date for amalgam, bringing it in line with many other mercury products. The proposal also adds common-sense measures to facilitate this phase-out, including (1) submitting to the Secretariat a national plan for phasing out the use of dental amalgam and (2) excluding the use of dental amalgam in government insurance policies and programs.

This amendment is already getting support from governments around the world. On 9 October the World Alliance for Mercury-Free Dentistry hosted a webinar on phasing out amalgam, featuring distinguished speakers ranging from the Honorable MP Nilto Totto of Brazil to the Honorable Minister Roger Baro of Burkina Faso, from Dr. Luu Hoang Ngoc of Vietnam, the longest-serving Minamata delegate in Asia, to Joshua Sam of SPREP, architect of the Mercury-Free Pacific campaign--as well as dentists from three continents.

The momentum to end use of this primitive pollutant from the colonial era is substantial; more

than 40 nations have enacted amalgam bans or partial bans:

- Ending amalgam use in children, pregnant women, and breastfeeding women (e.g., the European Union, Vietnam)
- Setting a phase-out date for all amalgam use (e.g., Tanzania, Italy)
- Banning amalgam use by law (e.g., Philippines, Moldova, Mongolia, Bolivia, New Caledonia)
- Ending amalgam use by shareholder consensus (e.g., St. Kitts & Nevis, Zambia)
- Ending amalgam imports (e.g., Cuba, Colombia)
- Ending amalgam use in public programs (e.g., Indonesia, Poland)
- Ending amalgam use in armed forces (e.g., India, Bangladesh)

These countries are working to end amalgam because they understand the many benefits of moving away from mercury products like amalgam - and toward a mercury-free world.

First, moving away from amalgam protects the environment from amalgam's mercury. Between 226 and 322 tonnes of dental mercury is used around the world annually. Dental mercury enters the environment via many unsound pathways, polluting air via cremation, dental clinic emissions, and sludge incineration; water via dental clinic releases and human waste; and soil via landfills, burials, and fertilizer.

Studies show that after environmental costs are factored in amalgam is more expensive than mercury-free fillings, but these mercury-free alternatives eliminate the high environmental costs of amalgam.

Second, moving away from amalgam reduces human exposure to mercury. Dental amalgam releases mercury throughout its lifecycle. Higher levels of exposure to mercury (for both patients and dental workers) are associated with placement and removal of dental amalgams.

Once implanted in teeth, dental amalgam continues to release low levels of mercury vapor, with higher amounts released during mastication, gum chewing, tooth grinding, and tooth brushing. Phasing out amalgam will eliminate this source of exposure.

Third, moving away from amalgam actually improves oral health because of the advantages of mercury-free fillings. Studies show mercury-free composite fillings can last as long as - and even longer than - amalgam.

They preserve tooth structure that must be removed to place an amalgam filling, which can increase the longevity of the tooth itself. They can even help prevent future caries.

While support for the Africa Region's proposed amalgam phase-out amalgam has been steadily building, the amalgam industry has been pushing back. Led by the pro-mercury World Dental Federation, the industry has issued a controversial letter that seemingly promotes a two-tiered system of dentistry: toxic-free dentistry for wealthy countries and mercury-based dentistry for lower-income countries.

The bittersweet story of long-awaited road that now kills and maims



Residents of Kishoju Village in Kihanga Ward, Karagwe District, which this road passes through danced when it was first opened but that was cut short soon after vehicles started using it. Celebrations turned into funerals as fatal accidents occurred one after another. Photo/ Adonis Byemelwa

By Adonis Byemelwa

IT is a foregone conclusion that good road networks in rural areas lead to significant poverty reduction and hence improved livelihoods. This is because good roads cut transport costs on one hand and guarantee timely delivery of produce to the markets on the other.

For decades, residents of Kihanga Ward in Karagwe District, Kagera Region have been on the necks of their elected leaders, demanding a tarmac road to ease transport costs and improve their livelihoods.

Their voices were heard during the fifth phase government and a smooth tarmac road passed through this area, significantly cutting transport costs as expected.

The road eased transport of produce to Bukoba municipality and Kahama town as well as Chato township where farmers sell bananas, beans, millet, and Irish potatoes as well as fruits. All of a sudden, the road became busy all days of the week.

At Kishoju Village in Kihanga Ward which it passes through, the residents danced and sipped local brews in celebration. But that was cut short soon after vehicles started using it. Celebrations turned into funerals as fatal accidents occurred one after another.

The latest one occurred on October 8 this year when a speeding truck veered off the road after hitting the backside of an equally speeding motorcycle at the Kishoju sharp corners, killing five people on the spot.

Minister for Works, Innocent Bashungwa, made a tour of the area recently and said that the government would put

road signs and bumps to reduce the accidents but added that motorists need to take extra precaution at this time when some road signs are yet to be installed.

"A comprehensive approach that combines engineering solutions, education, enforcement, and community involvement is the most effective way of curbing accidents and ensuring the safety of everyone using this road," he said. I should add that installation of clear and visible warning signs indicating impending danger, the presence of a steep slope, sharp corners and trenches would help a lot.

On top of that, improving road design by installing speed bumps, rumble strips or other measures that compel drivers to slow down; installing sturdy guardrails along the steep slopes and corners to prevent vehicles from veering off the road together with covering the trenches on both sides of the road to prevent vehicles from falling in without affecting the drainage systems for rainwater can help to avert the carnage.

Speaking about the latest accident, Dr Brighton Katabaro who is resi-

dent of Karagwe and an investor in education said that a good number of motorcycle riders die on the sharp corners of the road but most of the accidents go unreported.

According to Dr Katabaro, more needs to be done to curb the carnage by engaging both the relevant authorities in collaboration with civil engineers.

"The corners on this road are so sharp that without road safety signs in place to alert drivers, we will keep mourning our loved ones," he said.

"Among the eight people who died in the 8th October accident was a 30-year-old employee at my school. I feel so sorry for his family. He was a watchman and was hit by the vehicle while riding his motorcycle with a passenger."

If engineers would be keen enough to receive a piece of advice, widening the road to provide more space for vehicles to maneuver safely around corners would be of utmost importance plus ensuring that reflective paints and markers on the road surface as well as on guardrails and signs are put into use. This helps vehicles stay on

course and enhances visibility in low-light conditions.

Also, the road can be divided into two separate lanes for traffic moving in opposite directions to improve safety and reduce possible head-on collisions which are common and normally claim lives.

Experience shows that a road with dedicated lanes for each direction allows a smooth and safer traffic flow by avoiding possible aggressive driving behaviours. It also controls dangerous overtaking on the steep slope and in sharp corners.

Installation of high-intensity lights along the road can significantly improve visibility at night and serve as a solution to incessant carnage alongside implementing traffic calming measures such as speed limits.

The government should also consider an independent department regularly monitoring and enforcing speed limits through measures like speed cameras or increased police presence that would also avert the challenges. Drivers would be always wary of the checkpoints ahead and stop their penchant for speeding.

As Tanzania is now swiftly heading towards digital transformation, installing mirrors or cameras at strategic points to help drivers see around blind corners should be the way to go.

It is time the relevant authorities conducted educational campaigns for drivers to raise awareness about road safety, including defensive driving courses for commercial drivers. This should go in tandem with ensuring that the roads are well-maintained, with regular inspections to identify and address any potential hazards. This includes involving local authorities, community leaders and residents in discussions and planning to gather input and support for safety improvements.

In a fresh bid to reduce the risk of accidents involving heavily loaded trucks during nighttime, implementing truck-specific safety measures including installation of truck escape ramps or arrester beds on steep slopes to give heavily loaded trucks a safe way to stop in case of emergencies can address the challenge.

Enforcing nighttime driving restrictions, including the hours during which heavily loaded trucks can use the road can also help. This is due to apparent hazardous conditions at night. The measure should go alongside increasing police patrols, ensuring that law enforcement agencies are visibly present at night in order to deter speeding and unsafe driving behaviour, particularly among heavily loaded trucks.

Having adequate rest areas for truck drivers to take breaks, and hence reduce fatigue-related accidents can save the lives of both drivers and passengers.

Installing electronic warning signs that can communicate real-time information about road conditions to drivers, especially those of heavily loaded trucks, can reduce the accidents. Even training drivers and ensuring compliance with regulations should be made a priority. This should include giving special certifications to truck drivers.

Nearly 14 percent of accidents in Tanzania are blamed on poor road conditions while the rest-about 75 percent-are due to human error, according to the current National Audit Report Survey carried out in nine regions across the country.

The report titled "The Performance Audit Report on the Management of Traffic Inspection and Speed revealed that 12 percent of accidents were attributed to mechanical conditions of the vehicles.

The 2023 WHO Global Accident Report says every year lives of approximately 1.3 million people are cut short as a result of a road traffic crash. Between 20 and 50 million more people suffer non-fatal injuries, with many incurring a disability as result of their injury.

The United Nations has set an ambitious target of halving the global number of deaths and injuries from road traffic crashes by 2030.



Works minister Innocent Bashungwa (2nd-L) visited accident hotspot at Kishoju Village in Karagwe District recently and urged motorists and pedestrians to use the road cautiously as the government prepares to put up road signs and bumps in the area. Photo/ Adonis Byemelwa .

Gaza humanitarian crisis worsens even as first aid convoys arrive

By Hisham Allam and Naureen Hossain

THE ongoing violence in the Gaza Strip has resulted in a humanitarian crisis described as “catastrophic” – and even as aid arrived, strikes intensified.

According to the health ministry in Gaza, Israeli attacks have killed 4,385 Palestinians and wounded 13,650 more since October 7. The victims include 3,983 children and 3,300 women. In the West Bank and East Jerusalem, another 64 Palestinians have been killed and 1,230 injured by Israeli forces in the same period, as reported by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

Palestinian rockets and other attacks have claimed the lives of 1,300 Israelis and injured 4,562 more, while nearly 200 remain captive, according to OCHA. The conflict has also forced about one million Palestinians in Gaza to flee their homes, more than half of whom are staying in UNRWA facilities across the territory.

A convoy with aid entered Gaza for the first time on October 21 since the outbreak of hostilities on October 7.

Martin Griffiths, the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, welcomed aid and said he was confident that this would be the start of a “sustainable effort to provide essential supplies – including food, water, medicine, and fuel – to the people of Gaza, in a safe, dependable, unconditional and unimpeded manner.”

“Two weeks since the start of hostilities, the humanitarian situation in Gaza – already precarious – has reached catastrophic levels. It is critical that aid reaches people in need wherever they are across Gaza and at the right scale.”

“The people of Gaza have endured decades of suffering. The international community cannot continue to fail them.”

UNRWA, the United Nations agency that helps Palestinian refugees, says that more than half a million people are staying in crowded shelters in Gaza, especially in the south. They have left their homes because of the war and have nowhere else to go.

The shelters do not have enough food, water, hygiene, and cleaning items, and they are not clean enough. The UNRWA says that this is a health problem, and it makes the people who live there feel more stressed and scared. Some of them have gone back to where they came from, even though it is still dangerous.

The water crisis in Gaza is also affecting the UNRWA shelters, as many of them do not have any water supply at all. The agency says that fuel is urgently needed to operate water pumps and desalination plants, but it is scarce and expensive due to the blockade and the war.

UNRWA Director of Communications Juliette Touma noted during a UN briefing last week that the organization was concerned about shortages of water.

“We are very concerned about the spread of water-borne diseases,” Touma said. The influx of people in

shelters and facilities such as hospitals means that the latter have been over-extended to accommodate them while resuming regular operations.

“We call for the siege to be lifted so that UNRWA and other sister and humanitarian agencies can bring in much-needed supplies,” Touma said.

On October 20, the UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres visited the gate to Gaza (Rafah Crossing) and spoke about the humanitarian crisis in the enclave. He said, “We have a situation where trucks carrying vital supplies are stuck at the border while the people in Gaza are suffering from a lack of water, electricity, food, and medicine. We need to end this deadlock urgently.”

The next day, several trucks entered Gaza with aid, following a previous agreement between the USA, Egypt, and Israel.

Guterres praised the efforts of the Egyptian Red Crescent and other Egyptian entities that are helping the people in Gaza, along with the United Nations. He said, “It’s important that we have consistent support, with a sufficient number of trucks allowed to cross every day.”

A large convoy of humanitarian aid from Egypt is waiting to enter Gaza through the Rafah crossing, according to a volunteer from the National Alliance for Civil Development Work. The convoy consists of 120 trucks carrying 1,000 tons of food and meat, 40,000 blankets, 80 tents, 46,000 pieces of clothing, and 290,000 boxes of medicines and medical supplies.

A volunteer, Ahmed Magdy, said that the convoy had been delayed for days and that only limited trucks were allowed to pass. He expressed his disappointment and frustration at the situation, especially after the bombing of Al-Ahli Hospital in Gaza and the shortage of medical resources in most of the hospitals in the Strip. He said that the Egyptian civil society organizations are eager to deliver their aid to the people of Gaza, who are suffering from Israeli aggression.

According to the Palestine Red Crescent, 20 trucks of humanitarian aid have arrived in Gaza and will be distributed according to the Emergency Committee’s lists. However, the organization warned that the supplies are not enough to meet the needs of the region and that the humanitarian crisis in Gaza continues.

While IPS was interviewing Hisham Mahna, spokesperson for the International Committee of the Red Cross in Gaza, the Jerusalem Hospital affiliated with the Palestinian Red Crescent Society received a notice of immediate evacuation from the Israeli army and a threat of shelling. More threats continued over the weekend, with Palestinians saying they had received renewed new warnings from Israel’s military to move from north Gaza to the south of the strip.

According to Hisham, the hospital houses more than 400 patients, including critically ill patients and others in the intensive care unit, in addition to 12,000 displaced civilians who have taken refuge in the hospital as a safe place, in addition to the medical staff.

“We appealed to the Israeli authorities at all levels



Trucks carrying 60 tonnes of World Food Programme emergency food were among the first humanitarian convoys to cross the Rafah border between Egypt and Gaza. Credit: WFP

to stop the repeated attacks on hospitals, to highlight the dire humanitarian situation inside the hospital for patients and displaced people, and to avoid a repeat of the Al-Ahli Hospital tragedy,” Mahna told IPS.

Ahmed El-Beriem, a Palestinian journalist and volunteer coordinator at UNRWA shelters in the Gaza Strip, tells IPS that most of the population of Gaza has been displaced to the south, which is what Israel had planned from the beginning of the war to force Gazans to leave through the Egyptian border. “The tents provided by UN agencies are no longer enough. There are more than half a million displaced people without shelter. As for schools, the classrooms are full to the brim, with most of them reaching a density of 70 people in a room that does not exceed 25 square meters.”

El-Beriem says that the cemeteries in the Gaza Strip are filled to the brim. There is no more room, which forced the municipality to dig mass graves, each of which contains between 100 and 200 dead.

“Since the beginning of the war, the people of Gaza have been living without water or electricity. The water provided by aid organizations is limited, and diseases are widespread in the refugee camps.”

He says, “You can barely breathe clean air. The displaced people are scattered in schools, in gardens, in the courtyards of mosques, and in the corridors of hospitals.

Security has become a rare commodity. People here do not have the luxury of sleeping. You never know when the shelling will come. Israel is firing shells over the heads of civilians day and night. They are shelling hospitals, mosques, churches, residential towers, crossings, and everything.”

On the other side of the border, a field coordinator with the Egyptian Red Crescent, Mohamed Jamal, said they have received hundreds of tons of aid for Gaza at El-Arish Airport in Egypt’s northern Sinai. However, he said they are still waiting for the border to open to deliver the aid. “We are still waiting for any breakthrough in the situation and the opening of the crossing,” Jamal told IPS.

He said the international aid includes medical equipment, medicines, food, blankets, and clothing from various countries and organizations. Jamal said the Egyptian Red Crescent was coordinating with other countries and the Palestinian Red Crescent to assess the needs of the people in Gaza and provide them with the necessary relief supplies.

According to UN Women, the recent outbreak of violence and destruction in Gaza has forced nearly 493,000 women and girls to flee their homes. The violence has also left many women without their male partners, as about 900 women have become widows and heads of households.

Sarah Hendriks, UN Women Deputy Executive Director, ad interim, said: “UN Women urges an immediate humanitarian ceasefire and unrestricted access to humanitarian aid, including food, water, fuel, and health supplies, which are vital for the survival of women and girls in the Gaza Strip.”

The World Food Programme (WFP) has been providing food and cash assistance to 522,000 Palestinians each day since the start of the crisis, even as stocks run dangerously low. Due to the widespread destruction and insecurity, the replenishment of supplies has proven to be difficult, nigh impossible.

The call for an end to the siege has been made more pertinent and urgent after the bombings of a UNRWA school in the Al-Maghazi refugee camp and the Al Ahli Anglican Episcopal Hospital on October 17, resulting in casualties in the hundreds. Guterres condemned the strikes in a statement issued that same day, also emphasizing that under international law, hospitals and medical clinics are protected under international law.

Since the start of the crisis, 26 healthcare facilities have been damaged by the fighting, according to the World Health Organization. Facilities such as hospitals have already been overwhelmed with the patient care they provide during such crises, as well as serving as shelters for displaced peoples.

The UN Emergency Relief Coordinator Martin Griffiths spoke at the Security Council to call for the involved parties to respect international humanitarian law. He also called for a ceasefire so that humanitarian efforts could step in. Following the hospital bombing on Tuesday, he noted that medical personnel and facilities are protected under international law.

“It’s imperative that the wounded and the sick receive the medical care they need,” he said. “It is imperative that the parties respect their obligations under international humanitarian law, and it is our collective responsibility – we are all involved in this, we are not observers, we are all involved – in using all our influence to ensure that this is the case.”

IPS UN Bureau Report



Christians faithful conduct a funeral service for victims of Israel’s bombing of the Greek Orthodox Church in Gaza. Credit: Hany

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

'Russian robots are on their way to Tanzania'

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE robotics forum for students of technical universities, high school students of colleges and schools in Tanzania is today expected to take place at the Russian House in Dar es Salaam.

Anton Shkaplerov, the Russian cosmonaut said over the weekend in Dar es Salaam that the forum will kick off from October 23rd to 25th this month.

He said the programme of the forum includes lectures, seminars and master classes, the students will be able to see the samples of educational, industrial, aerospace robots, as well as a movie "Challenge", filmed on the International Space Station, with a commentary by a Russian astronaut on the operation of the huge robotic system.

He said the three Russian universities Southwest State University, Tambov State Technical University and Belgorod State

National Research University, as well as the leading Russian organization in the field of robotics, the Central Research Institute of Robotics and Technical Cybernetics, will tell Tanzanian youth about how modern robots are created and how to study this field of knowledge in Russia.

The cosmonaut said that during the forum, presentations of Russian education will be held in schools and universities in Dar es Salaam.

Director of the Russian House in Dar es Salaam Alexey Bondaruk said that a total, 600 school children and students from Tanzania will participate in the forum.

Last year, Tanzania's state-run University of Dodoma and the Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology launched a new program introducing robotics science in the East African nation to spur technological development.



Robotics Forum Project manager Ksenia Rudaya (L) speaks at a press briefing held in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. With her is four-space-flight Russian cosmonaut Anton Shkaplerov (C) and Dar es Salaam-based Russian House director Alexey Bondaruk. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

School managements urged to invest in ICT

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

SCHOOL managements have been urged to invest in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and modern laboratories to help the nation get more professionals to work in the engineering sector.

"The world is now going digital, so we'll need a lot of ICT experts, that's why it's important to invest in the area," said Dr Robert Mashene, Director of the College of Business Education (CBE), Mwanza Campus.

Dr Mashene made the call in Dar es Salaam when speaking at the 22nd graduation of St Mary's secondary school.

"You must distinguish yourself from others by having modern laboratories that will help to find good scientists who are needed in the digital world," he said.

He also said that CBE will connect the school with the Central National Library so that it get access to various books.

He said that books are an important resource for students, so he will make an effort so that within a

short time the school is connected to the main library and begins to benefit from the books available in its libraries.

He asked all the teachers and staff of the school to work together because the success they got is the result of solidarity and working as a team.

The don asked the graduates not to think that finishing the form four is the end of studies and instead they should see that the journey has just begun and they have to continue doing well in studies.

"There are those who will go to

the A level and others to college, but the basic thing is discipline wherever you are, because discipline is a fundamental thing in life, I am very relieved to see that there are teachers who teach morals and religion," he said

Dr Mashene urged parents to encourage their children to go to houses of worship where they will be built to live a moral life, noting that parents are responsible for monitoring the behavior of children, starting from the clothes and the groups they belong to, because they can lose direction if they are

not controlled to have good behavior.

He also asked them to use phone to do basic things instead of using it for dirty and inappropriate things that have become the source of moral erosion.

He also asked them to set up a procedure to find graduates of previous years and invite them to the school's graduation as a way to motivate the students to study hard.

"There are many of your graduates working in large organizations, bring them here so that students can see that they are not

here by accident, they should do well in their studies so that they can become great people," he said.

The principal of the school, Ntipoo Reca said apart from preparing the graduates well academically, they have tried to nurture them with morals and he expects that they will be good people wherever they go.

"We received them here in 2020, we have trained them and they have been doing very well in the exams and we expect that in their final exams they will get first and second division," he said

Tamwa-Zanzibar roots for national strategy to change youth behaviour

THE Zanzibar chapter of the Tanzania Media Women's Association (TAMWA-ZNZ), has called for the devising of the national strategy to change the behaviour of young people, aiming to prevent them from engaging in acts of humiliation.

According to the Office of the Chief Government Statistician (OCGS) in Zanzibar, from July to September 2023, 24 people have been convicted by courts of laws and sent to prisons, locally known as rehabilitation centres of which 58.3 per cent are young people aged 18-29.

This data suggests that young people have become significantly involved in sexual abuse calling for behavioural change programme to shift their mindset and prevent them from participating in crime that affect their well-being, children, and the country in general.

The statistics also reveal that 48 people are still in custody, with their cases ongoing while the age group: 18 to 29-year-old, a tender age group, and of course, productive age is in the lead again by 54 per cent.

"We strongly advise the government to formulate a strategy for educating young people through various means, including playgrounds, schools and at households encouraging parents and guardians to teach male children about respecting girls, women, and children in general."

The statistics also highlight that children

are disproportionately affected by acts of humiliation, with 77 per cent of the 157 reported cases from July to September involving children. These incidents often relate to rape, defamation, insults, and sodomy.

TAMWA ZNZ urges young people to take this information seriously and plan not to engage in such actions. This includes resisting temptations, controlling their emotions, and using social networks responsibly.

It is essential for young people to understand that many of those convicted are sentenced to more than 11 years in prison, which means they waste a significant portion of their lives behind bars rather than using their energy to improve their lives.

TAMWA ZNZ also appreciates/nods the Office of the Chief Statistician of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar for providing statistics that reveal the age distribution of those who commit crimes, particularly those related to humiliation and violence.

These statistics will help identify the age groups most vulnerable to such behavior and enable the country to develop strategies for positive change.

We strongly advise the government to formulate a strategy for educating young people through



Kasapreko International Business Development executive Jeffrey Arthur (holding a bottle) pictured at the weekend introducing a product to a visitor at the firm's pavilion at this year's edition of the Food & Kitchen Africa - International Trade Exhibition in progress in Dar es Salaam. The show is said to be the largest trade event for the food, beverage and agro-based industry held annually in Tanzania. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Concern over growing threat of illegal online wildlife trade

By Correspondent Shubert Mwarabu

ADVANCES in technology and connectivity across the world combined with rising buying power and demand for illegal wildlife products have increased the ease of exchange from poacher to consumer.

As a result an unregulated online market allows criminals to sell illegally obtained wildlife products across the globe.

Criminals that poach African birds and animals, or kidnap them for pet trade, often sell their illegal products

in Facebook Groups. Some of these groups sell animal products, like elephant ivory or rhino horn, or live pets like cheetahs and apes.

The biggest markets are in East Asian countries and the Arabian Gulf where these products are prized as luxuries

The scale is huge, some groups have more than 100,000 members and some pages have tens of thousands of followers. This is theft of our planet's precious natural heritage, and the scale of it is so big, it is sending multiple endangered species into population collapse.

Recommendation tools, called algorithms, help spread this criminal activity, by helping to connect buyers and sellers around the world on an unprecedented scale.

According to the CITES, which is the Convention on international trade in endangered species of wild fauna and flora, legal trade in specimens of CITES-listed species including products is possible particularly for those listed in Appendix II and illegality of trade typically cannot be determined simply from advertised availability on the internet.

According to INTERPOL re-

port issued on December 21st 2020, traffickers advertising and selling wildlife and wildlife products on social media platforms and gain access to a vast international marketplace and following the same routes as other crimes, such as drugs and weapons smuggling and that wildlife trafficking is rising by 5 percent to 7 percent annually.

Organizations are coming together to fight the illegal wildlife markets online, among them is The Coalition to End Wildlife Trafficking Online which brings together companies from across the world in partnership with

wildlife experts at WWF, TRAFFIC the wildlife trade monitoring network and the International Fund for Animal Welfare for an industry wide approach to reduce wildlife trafficking online.

Another is the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime which combines efforts with other Civil society stakeholders.

Gretchen Peters is the Executive Director of the Alliance to Counter Crime Online, in April 27th 2021, she gave a testimony to the House Subcommittee on Waters, Oceans and Wildlife Hearing entitled "Wildlife Trafficking and the

Growing Online Marketplace" She mentioned that in a 2020 study, ACCO researchers ran manual searches using 17-word combinations in four different languages-simple search terms like "Cheetah cubs for sale" or "buy elephant ivory" and fifty seven percent of the pages found had the terms "for sale" "sell" or "buy" in their title as did about a quarter of the Facebook Groups where wildlife appeared to be illegally traded.

The Alliance to Counter Crime Online brings together academics, cyber security experts, conservation groups

and citizen investigators working collaboratively to eradicate serious organized crime from surface web with more than 40 members about half of whom focus on the illegal online wildlife trade.

It is still hard to apprehend online crime. Cyberspace creates jurisdictional headaches. Like many trafficking problems, the laws between countries often don't match.

Platforms mostly rely on users to report. When crime occurs in groups, there's no incentive to report.

Law enforcement in many countries is not equipped to track online criminals.



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Embassy of Switzerland in Tanzania
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Swiss TPH



Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute
Schweizerisches Tropen- und Public Health-Institut
Institut Tropical et de Santé Publique Suisse

Associated Institute of the University of Basel

Press Release

Swiss TPH/HPSS Project hands over state-of-the-art repair and maintenance facilities to the Government

ARUSHA, 23 October 2023: Tanzania can now boast about a fully functional state-of-the-art National Calibration and Training Centre and two additional regional Medical Equipment Maintenance Workshops, courtesy of the generous support from the Government of Switzerland, through the Health Promotion and System Strengthening Project, implemented by the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute.

The three special facilities which have been officially handed over to the government by the HPSS project, the National Calibration and Training Centre in Dodoma and two new Regional Medical Equipment Maintenance Workshops - one located in Iringa and the other one in Arusha, are expected to go a long way in addressing challenges of health management technology (HTM) that greatly affected health service delivery.

According to Ally Kebby, HPSS Project Manager, prior to 2011 when the HPSS project started implementation, Tanzania grappled with many HTM-related issues which included inefficient infrastructure for equipment management, coupled with a lack of systematic planning.

“Managerial skills were absent at various health system levels, impeding documentation, planning, and budgeting for equipment maintenance”, said Ally Kebby.

“A shortage of trained technical staff, including biomedical engi-

neers and technicians, exacerbated the situation since the responsibility of maintaining medical equipment was left to health facilities with no technical capacity, leading to sub-optimal management, inadequate repairs and a lack of a comprehensive inventory”, he said.

It is against this state of affairs that the HPSS project implemented a pilot initiative in Dodoma from 2011 to 2018 that sought to inform Tanzania’s HTM policy and regulations and strengthen the medical equipment maintenance system.

The initiative encouraged the training of technicians, the development of periodic maintenance plans, the allocation of budgets and an organized practice of routine inspection and medical equipment maintenance.

The national rollout of HTM innovations gradually gained momentum as evidenced by important milestones such as the establishment of the National Calibration Centre and Training Centre and medical equipment maintenance workshops in various regions as well as the introduction and accreditation of a training programme for biomedical technicians.

Eventually, the HPSS project initiatives led to an enhanced human resource capacity as more biomedical engineering professionals were trained and deployed in the majority of secondary and tertiary health facilities.

“The 12-year-long HPSS project serves as a testament to the value

of an integrated, systems-strengthening approach to HTM”, said Manfred Stoermer, HPSS Project Director.

“The building of technical capacity, the introduction of training programmes, the establishment of medical equipment repair workshops, and the development of corresponding IT systems have helped to save costs and led to tangible and sustainable improvements in the availability and operability of essential medical equipment”, he said.

HPSS project further supported the Government in developing an IT system which enables the responsible Government officials to easily monitor the medical equipment inventory and functional status of equipment in all public health facilities.

The initial openMEDIS system was later transitioned into the “Medical Equipment Maintenance Information System” (MEIMIS), a modern IT system for inventory management operated by the Government of Tanzania.

MEIMIS saves costs as the management of spare parts and decisions about investing in new medical equipment can now be streamlined in a more cost-effective way.

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BUSINESS

AfDB approves \$2.5million grant for TZ's horticulture

By Guardian Correspondent

The board of directors of the African Development Bank Group (AfDB) approved a \$2.5 million grant to prop some 10,000 small horticultural businesses in Tanzania.

The funds, approved during the end of last week, will come from the Global Agriculture & Food Security Program to support mainly food system service providers in rural areas.

The programme aims to increase the production and marketing of horticultural products to mitigate the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic.

It includes promoting sustainable and climate-smart agricultural and agro-ecological techniques and management strategies for biodiversity and landscapes. It will boost production, climate consultancy services and post-harvest management.

The scheme will be implemented in four regions: the rural district of Morogoro, Mvomero district in Morogoro region; Wanging'ombe district in Njombe region,



The grant targets five value chains: spices such as cloves, cinnamon, ginger, black pepper and garlic; tomatoes; peas; green beans and potatoes. Photo: File

and Kaskazini 'A' and 'B' districts in Unguja, Zanzibar.

It targets five value chains: spices such as cloves, cinnamon, ginger, black pepper and garlic; tomatoes; peas; green beans and potatoes.

Other components include building at least five climate-resilient facilities for sorting, classification, bulk packing, packaging and storage to reduce post-harvest losses.

A multi-purpose, climate-resilient processing facility for spices will be

established in the Morogoro district in the eastern side of the country to process spices for local and regional markets.

The project will allow small operators in Tanzania to improve the efficiency of their agricultural activities, substantially increasing the volume and quality of products per unit of surface area.

In the long term, these benefits should significantly impact other farmers, which should help more

agricultural communities and the country as a whole.

Tanzania's horticultural sector is growing at a faster pace and is on the path to meet the goal of Tanzania Development Vision 2025 to achieve a \$3 billion annual export, up from \$779 million in 2019.

The main horticultural crops of Tanzania include tomatoes, cabbages, onions, carrots, round potatoes, mangoes, oranges, and flower seeds, among others.

It is growing at a rate of 11 percent per annum compared to a 4 percent growth in the overall agriculture sector.

Tanzania's horticultural industry largely depends on smallholder farmers who own less than 2 hectares of land.

Tanzania Horticultural Association (TAHA), a member-based trade association established in 2004, has been working to tackle several of these challenges in the horticulture supply chain.

They are largely credited for boosting the increase in horticulture exports in the last decade. After working with TAHA, farmers have reported a reduction in food losses from 50-60 percent to 5-10 percent. The main reasons for this decrease have been the usage of low-cost techniques such as screen houses, which protects the produce from pests, and charcoal coolers, which keep the horticultural produce cool post-harvest.



Maiko Salali (L, Director and Founder of the Foundation for Disability Hope, receives a certificate from President Samia Suluhu Hassan at the launch of mining equipment for the State Mining Corporation (STAMICO) in Dodoma. Photo: Correspondent Valentine Oforo

Govt applauded for empowering people genuinely needing support

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

Communities of people living with disabilities have applauded President Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan for stepping up useful interventions to their economic empowerment.

This was said during the special event to launch more than 9bn/- worth mining equipment for the State Mining Corporation (STAMICO) in at the Jakaya Kikwete Conference Dodoma over the weekend.

Airing his brief remarks on behalf of the people living with disabilities, the Director and Founder of the Foundation for Disability Hope (FDH), Maiko Salali, expressed that President Samia has seeded a humanitarian seeds which will always remain within the hearts of majority of the Tanzanians living with numerous forms of disabilities.

Basing on the vivid example, Salali said a patriotic move by the sixth phase government to reshuffle the State Mining Corporation (STAMICO) has triggered a major boost and a sigh of hope towards the disabled, particularly the albinos.

"The majority of the people with skin impairment in the country have a deprived background of being sidelined in the economic sector, but since the inception of the sixth phase government there has been a major change," he expressed.

Following the rebirth of STAMICO, he observed that the state-owned mining entity has so far invented and embarked on the manufacturing of Rafiki Briquettes, the environmentally-friendly alternative charcoal product which



The majority of the people with skin impairment in the country have a deprived background of being sidelined in the economic sector, but since the inception of the sixth phase government there has been a major change

has provided most of the disabled in the country with a prestigious economic opportunity.

"Through introduction of charcoal, most of the disabled people have managed to employ themselves in terms of becoming agents, or directly engaging in marketing of the useful sources of power thus, escaping from the shackles of abject poverty," he told the President.

Together with that, he headed that the manufacturing of the product is playing a vital role to lessen excessive tree cuttings, which is another advantage for the disabled people, especially the albinos.

"The communities with skin impairments, albinos, are prone to effects of sunrays, the unfriendly situation which often places them in possible chances to suffer from skin cancer cases," he expressed.

He urged other institutions from the public and private sector to emulate the good example demonstrated by STAMICO to include the disabled communities in their daily implementations.

CRDB releases 1bn/- seed capital to youths, women

By Guardian Correspondent, Newala

Women and youths in Tanzania have so far pocked 1bn/- seed capital to their small and startup businesses through CRDB Bank Foundation's led iMbeju programme.

This was revealed by CRDB Bank Foundation managing director Tully Ester Mwambapashortly after receiving five motorcycles and seed capital for BUT Vicoba in Newala town at the weekend. Left is BUT Vicoba director Semeni Gama. Photo by Guardian Correspondent

Mwambapa who also provided

seed capital and motorbikes to members of the group said she was impressed by the zeal of the members of BUT Vicoba, which has representations across the country because it has brought hope for economic emancipation among women.

She said it is encouraging to see women gathering to plan for their economic development, not only for themselves but also their families, which will also improve national economy.

"Today, we are presenting a

20mn/- dummy cheque and five motorbikes valued 15mn/- to members of BUT Vicoba. This is a seed capital for those who meet criteria. The objective of establishing CRDB Bank Foundation is to serve Tanzanians, specifically groups which are under served by financial institutions. Those who are benefiting from this funding, will join others who have received 1bn/-," she said.

She said CRDB Bank Foundation was established and registered in 2022 with the purpose of

empowering women and youths, and 5bn/- has been allocated for these groups.

In order to meet more youth groups especially startups, CRDB Bank Foundation is currently collaborating with Commission for Science and Technology, ICT Commission, while on the side of women, it is collaborating with BUT Vicoba, Care International, Citizen Foundation and many more.

Since the iMbeju programme was launched in March this year, 709 youths have so far applied for funding and 196 projects qualified for funding and training on business management and operation.

"When we empower women and youths, we light up them and our focus is on registered group, which have operated for at least three years," she said.

The group chairperson Semeni Gama thanked CRDB Bank for supporting women, of which many are excluded by financial institutions because of the tough conditions for financing.

"In order to obtain a loan from financial institutions, a borrower need to have security, but as you are aware that may women do not own land due to traditions in many parts of the country. iMbeju programme has removed these barriers and will enable more women to establish businesses and earn incomes," she added.



Newala rural constituency legislator Maimuna Mtanda (2nd R on a motorcycle) exchange greetings with CRDB Bank Foundation Managing director Tully Ester Mwambapashortly after receiving five motorcycles and seed capital for BUT Vicoba in Newala town at the weekend. Left is BUT Vicoba director Semeni Gama. Photo by Guardian Correspondent

High commissioner 'sells' Tanzania to Indian investors

By Carlos Banda

India's High Commissioner Binaya Pradhan, has attracted Indian traders and investors to Tanzania, saying the country has attractive and friendly investment environment in the manufacturing sector including the production of edible oil.

He made the call on Friday during a business networking event organized by the embassy involving Indian traders and investors from various sectors who participated in the recent 3-day Indusmach Africa 2023 exhibition in Dar es Salaam.

In his keynote address, Pradhan highlighted the long existing trade ties between the two nations citing Tanzania as India's fourth biggest trade partner and a major export destination for Indian manufactured goods.

He also complimented efforts by President Samia Suluhu Hassan in strengthening the bilateral ties during her recent state visit in India.

"Tanzania is India's fourth biggest trading partner in Africa. Last year, our trade was \$6.4bn/- and our export was \$4bn/- . So it is a big export destination from India. The two sec-

tors compared here, one is engineering goods and one is oil, mainly in manufacturing. Both are prominent sectors. Last year, I think we exported about \$700mn/- of engineering goods of different variations," said the Indian High Commissioner.

He also called upon the traders to continue visiting the East African nation citing the Tanzania's edible oil sector as a potential area of investment

Tanzania requires about 570,000 tons of edible oil they produce only 180,000.

Two-third of the demand is im-

ported and now the government has the focus of increasing domestic manufacturing.

"So as far as Edible Oil manufacturing is concerned, I think the demand for that is going to grow in this country. Many Indian companies I know have invested in the last two years in edible oil particularly Sunflower. Some Indians are showing interest in Avocado oil. This is a good sector, do not stop your visit to Tanzania only with this exhibition. Keep coming. If you need any details, we would gladly help you," he said.

High Commissioner Pradhan

also highlighted the two sectors are booming areas where if cooperation is enforced India will have a bigger market presence in Tanzania citing that soon the Indian Investment partner will be coming hence providing an opportunity of investment for interested entities.

In his address, Mercy Philipo, Business Development Manager from the Tanzania Chamber of Commerce and Industries (TCCIA) stated that the private sector association is ready to help the Indian business community to harness the opportunities available

for investment in the country including ensuring investors are connected to reliable and credible partners.

"We are here to assist you if you have any queries in the form of how we can assist you to invest or do business here or to find the right partnerships. And in case you have a customer here and you are not sure of the credibility of that particular customer, we will help you as well to ensure your money is safe and your business prospers," he noted.

Tanzania investors gain from local content policy

By Guardian Correspondent, Geita

FIVE years after implementing the Law on Empowerment of Natives—Local Content, successes are starting to appear like pearls for Tanzanians as employment opportunities steadily rise. The 2018 law, amended in 2019, seeks to facilitate Tanzanian participation in the mining industry.

The Sixth Geita Mining and Technology Exhibition showcased the achievements, bringing mining stakeholders together to explore investment prospects. The event took place at the EPZA Bombambili grounds in the city of Geita.

Janeth Lukeshingo, Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML)'s local content commissioner, reports a surge in job opportunities, procurement of goods and services from Tanzanians, along with progress in technology transfer and research that has improved the comprehension of Tanzanian involvement in the mining sector.

Rewald Tenga, GGML's local business development specialist, affirms a 90 percent implementation of the law.

"We comply with all procurement and employment regulations, and we maintain a local content rate between 60 and 90 percent," affirms Tenga.

Recently, AngloGold Ashanti, the parent company of GGML, awarded a two-year oil transportation contract worth approximately 25bn/ per year to two local Tanzanian contractors. One of these was Blue Coast Investment Limited, a Geita-based firm with focus on transportation and logistics.

Managing Director of Blue Coast, Ndahilo Athanas stated that they commenced doing business with GGML in 2021 and have observed a steady improvement in the company's prospects.

He expressed thanks to the Tanzanian government for recognizing

the importance of the law and passing it, but he is even more grateful to President Samia Suluhu Hassan for overseeing its implementation.

According to Athanas, GGML has greatly contributed to their progress and played a crucial role in helping them achieve their quality standards.

"They have provided us with sufficient training on the importance of quality and methods to maintain a sustainable business," says Athanas.

The director reports that the company has hired in the region of 400 employees for formal and informal jobs, benefitting the residents of Geita and surrounding regions. This has led to a notable increase in numbers, up to 580 from 220 in 2021.

Ako Group is a company that provides a range of facilities management services, including catering. It is one of the local firms that contracted with GGML in 2010.

The owner and Chairman of the company, Silvestry Koka, stated that they initially provided food services to GGML. During that time, GGML was acquiring cooking products and other supplies from Dar es Salaam.

Koka also mentions that they worked on enhancing the livelihoods of the people in all the areas in which the mine is operating.

He states that Ako takes pride in supporting an economic chain within the mine area community, where locals are now successfully producing and selling various products such as vegetables and fruits.

"We have been purchasing a significant proportion, despite procuring some products from outside of Geita." However, their ultimate objective is to source 100 percent of their products from the areas surrounding the mine.

"We use meat, rice, fruits and vegetables. For instance, there is a group known as the Nyakabale Commercial group that supplies us with meat, fruits, and vegetables. Additionally, our supplier called Masuka has been providing rice to us for



GGML managing director Terry Strong (L) and AngloGold Ashanti-GGML vice president, responsible for sustainable projects in Ghana and Tanzania, Simon Shayo (R), receive a gift from one of the Blue Coast employees.

over eight years.

According to Prof Idris Kikula, chairman of the Mining Commission, the concept of local content was unknown when the commission was set up.

"We were insulted about local content because some people did not understand it, but we have now reached the point where it is more accepted," he said, urged beneficiaries to maintain their focus on delivering high-quality services to fully realise the benefits of local content and create sustainable advantages

for the entire nation.

Geita Urban MP, Costantine Kanyasu (CCM) commends the Government for effectively implementing the amendment of the law, leading to visible benefits.

"Since the Local Content policy came into effect, the community's resentment has dwindled, with increased participation in the sale and distribution of products from multiple mines," says Kanyasu.

Minister for Minerals, Anthony Mavunde highlights that Tanzanian involvement has grown consider-

ably in the mining sector in a short time.

"We have come to realise the urgency of implementing necessary changes as local content significantly impacts the livelihoods and of Tanzanians. As a result, we are beginning to witness positive outcomes," affirms Mavunde.

"Prof Kikula, your admirable stewardship of the Local Content Act has earned you deep respect among Tanzanians, especially the mining industry stakeholders," says Mavunde.

Fuel filling stations urged to go rural

By Correspondent Zuwena Shame

The government has challenged filling station operators and dealers to expand their network by establishing more filling stations in remote areas where a huge number of economic activities are conducted.

Statistics shows that from 2018 to December 2020 number of active petrol stations in the country counted to 1,759 and that the number increased around 10 percent from 1,596 in 2018.

This was caused by the growth in economic activities and improvement in road networks.

Deputy Minister of energy and minerals, Judith Kapinga said that expansion of fuel filling station is in a huge need especially to remote areas because fuel is mostly needed and people face challenges of getting reliable fuel.

The deputy minister said this in Dar es Salaam over the weekend during Puma Tanzania dealer's awards ceremony where by more than 60 Puma Energy Tanzania filling station operators nationwide were awarded certificates of appreciation and trophies.

She said that the government is recognizing the contribution from filling fuel station dealers in the country by putting in place conducive environments for them to operate their business effectively.

"Giving them awards is one way of motivating these dealers so that they can be innovative and making sure that they are selling fuel in high quantity and operate their businesses more with profits countrywide and hence the government benefits from its 50 percent shares through various taxes and revenues" she said said.

She said that most of fuel filling stations are in urban areas therefore dealers should take the chance to establish more in rural areas and decrease the number of people who carry fuel in canes from one place to another searching for fuels.

"Most of the fuel filling stations are in towns and yet fuel is need mostly in remote areas. Therefore I urge you to urge you to increase a number of more stations" said citing examples of Ruvuma, Iringa and Njombe rural where fuel is the challenge.

Puma Energy Tanzania, Managing director, Fatma Abdallah said that the company has put in place strategic plans to have many filling fueling retail stations and other products in the country by having 120 stations by end of this year only and the serve Tanzanians best.

"We are positioning ourselves as the leading company in this sector therefore we are aiming at having more fuel filling stations in the country but mostly in remote areas where our services are need most" said Fatma.

She said that retail dealers have a huge chance in making the company survive and reach it goals and awarding them is one way of showing appreciations and motivations towards having fruitful partnership.

"Dealers are our partners, today we are recognizing and appreciating their contributions. Together we make Puma Energy Tanzania possible, partners are our heart and our daily life. We have the same goal and we are going to reach our goals together" added Fatma.

Fatma said that Puma Energy Tanzania also recognize and appreciate contributions from the government and key stakeholder such as Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA), transports and other stakeholder.

Puma Energy Tanzania Chairman Board of Directors, Dr. Suleiman Majige said that it's their responsibility to make sure the availability of fuel all the time and offer best services in the country.

NMB Foundation, Save the Children agree to help less privileged

By Guardian Reporter

NMB Foundation and Save the Children International have joined forces to empower communities by signing a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to better the lives of children, youth and other less privileged groups in the country.

The two organisations inked the partnership deal for jointly undertaking social welfare causes over the weekend in Dar es Salaam.

Whereas NMB Foundation is the not-for-profit corporate social investment (CSI) arm of NMB Bank, Save the Children International is the leading child rights organisation in the world that also focuses on the youth and mar-

ginalised groups.

Nelson Karumuna, NMB Foundation general manager said the collaboration principally seeks to advance solidarity and investment in the prosperity and development of society. "This is a historic partnership, which is important for bringing about positive and lasting change in the lives of Tanzanians. Using our expertise, resources and innovation prowess, we can jointly empower communities with the tools and knowledge they need to better their lives," Karumuna stated.

Noting that NMB Foundation will mostly tap into the many years of Save the Children experience in the humanitarian realm, he said their partnership will focus on five major areas,

which are education, health, climate change, entrepreneurship and child protection.

The international NGO, which is the leading charity for children in the country, has been working in Tanzania since 1986 to ensure children not only survive, but also thrive.

"This partnership and the joining of forces between us, represents a significant step towards a common goal - making a positive impact on the children, youth and underprivileged communities of Tanzania," said Anjela Kauleni, Save The Children International country director.

She said NMB Foundation's willingness to work with Save the Children was a testament of its shared vision of creating a better world

for the most vulnerable in society and marginalised communities.

She added that benefits of the partnership will include the ability to scale up programmes and extend reach to enable the two entities to have a broader and more significant impact in their operations.

"The geographical coverage and business expertise that NMB brings to the table will empower us to reach even the most remote corners of Tanzania," Kauleni explained.

Save the Children's director for Eastern and Southern Africa, Ian Vale, said the partnership was an exciting opportunity to work with the private sector to deliver lasting solutions for bettering lives.

Thousands of Dodoma youths to benefit from agri- project

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE International youth empowerment project has been launched in Dodoma region, targeting to assist over 4,500 youths to venture onto diverse agribusiness endeavors.

The focus is to impart the intended youths with vital technical skills on poultry projects handling, as well as attaining additional value to numerous agricultural and livestock produce.

Christened 'Empowering Novel Agri-business -Led Employment (ENABLE)', the robust project is the component of the Technologies for African Agricultural Technologies (TAAT) program, the strategic initiative funded by the African Development Bank (AfDB) being implemented by the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA).

ENABLE project has entered into a working contract with the Dodoma-based TUSUMUKE Youth Entrepreneurship Group (TYEG) for the effective execution of the timely-project among the youths within different wards and districts within Dodoma region.

Augustine Deogratius, the Assis-



The CEO of the TUSUMUKE Youth Entrepreneurship Group (TYEG), Christopher Dioniz directs the project's beneficiary youth on proper use of eggs hatching incubator. PHOTO: Correspondent Valentine Oforo

tant ENABLE-TAAT Liaison Officer Tanzania told the Guardian that the initiative was working to practically train the youths on useful technical skills pertaining to poultry, as well as additional value to numerous agro produce.

"The project attracts both the

youth groups as well as the individuals starting from 18 and 35 years of age. However, we're sensitizing them to form special working groups so that they can stand a better chance to acquire useful capital loans from various financial institutions," he unveiled.

And according to Deogratius, the NMB Bank Plc is part and parcel in the rolling out of the project, noting that the role of the state-owned commercial bank was to impart the beneficiary youths with key financial skills and other relevant awareness.

He informed that the project was

Small miners benefit from GF Trucks, Stamico partnership

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

Small-scale miners in the country have benefited from the contract signed by the State Mining Corporation (STAMICO) and GF Trucks & Equipment's Ltd.

This was revealed recently when President Samia Suluhu Hassani was launching and handing over mining and processing equipment to small scale miners in Dodoma.

The President said the miners have been doing their work without having any Ecological information, which forced them to do their activities randomly due to the lack of information about the relevant place.

The situation has hindered majority of miners to have access to

loans from the financial institutions in solving and meeting their day to day challenges which also caused the Ministry of Minerals to come up with a strategic work plan vision 2030 that will be able to measure and evaluate a large area in the country and find out which parts have minerals and provide reliable information and data to miners.

Moreover the launching of the machines is a light way that will help the miners in fostering and achieving their goals.

Speaking to reporters one of the Bidders of suppliers of machinery and vehicles, GF Truck and Equipments Ltd, Business Director Salmani Karmal said that they as suppliers they are happy to see the government has put in place the Local Content law that pave the way for Tanzanians to

get various acquisitions (Bidding) in providing services and business in the mining sector. This is a great opportunity for Tanzanians to participate fully in business and foster social and economic development.

"In addition those cars (trucks) are the HONG YAN brand, they are made in Tanzania in our factory in Kibaha in the Coast region (GFA) and we as distributors and sellers of those cars we are proud and its our time to feel proud of our product," he said.

On her part, a member of Small Miners Association from Singida, Mariam Haidan said that following signing contract of joint venture between Stamico and GF Truck and Equipments they will get a direct benefit and they guard them to become giant in the near future.



President Samia Suluhu Hassani inspects Hong Yan vehicles and machinery during the launch of mining equipment for small scale miners and Stamico in Dodoma. The vehicles are manufactured in Tanzania at GF assembly factory in Kibaha in the Coast region. Others are Deputy Prime Minister and minister of energy Doto Biteko (3rd R) and on the right is Minister of Minerals Anthon Mavunde. Photo by Guardian Correspondent



Air conditioning use spurs China's imports of coal

BEIJING

Millions of people turning on air conditioners have prompted China to import record amounts of coal to support its electricity grid.

China has imported 348m metric tonnes of coal so far this year, which is already a record, and is on course to buy 470m metric tonnes of the dirty fuel across 2023 as a whole, according to Capital Economics.

It represents a 60pc surge compared to 2022 and 44pc more than the previous record annual import total 327m metric tonnes in 2013.

The surge has been triggered by a spike in demand for electricity. Power grid demand in China hit record levels over the summer, according to the International Energy Agency, as temperatures of up to 52C prompted more and more people to turn on air conditioning.

Derek Langston, global head of dry research at Braemar, said: "China had a drought in the south, so hydropower availability went down and there has been a lot of air conditioning use, which has pushed up coal consumption."

China has invested hundreds of billions of dollars in renewable energy in recent years. However, hydropower generation slumped 9pc in the first nine months of the year just as demand surged. Coal power generation rose by around 6pc over the same period.

Shanghai's Waigaoqiao power plant burned up to 800 tonnes of coal an hour to help the city's residents keep cool in June.

Pranay Shukla, a director at S&P Global, said Beijing's lifting of zero Covid policies last year

also brought a sudden surge in demand for electricity as the economy reopened.

Bill Weatherburn, commodities analyst at Capital Economics, said: "Energy use has gone up, so they need a lot more electricity and they have made up for the lack of hydropower by importing more coal."

Although domestic coal production has been strong, it has not been enough to fill the gap, Mr Weatherburn added.

The surge in imports is delivering a windfall for Russian President Vladimir Putin. China's imports of Russian coal have nearly tripled since the war in Ukraine began. China will import around 52m tonnes of thermal coal from Russia this year, up from 38m in 2022 and 189pc more than in 2019, Mr Shukla said. He said: "If China wasn't buying, the coal market would have collapsed."

Beijing dropped coal import tariffs in May 2022 and has lifted an unofficial ban on Australian coal imports.

Meanwhile People's Bank of China Governor Pan Gongsheng on Saturday outlined the central bank's priorities for the near future in a work report delivered to China's State Council.

They include guiding financial institutions to cut real lending rates and reduce financing costs for enterprises and individuals, resolving the default risk of bonds of big real estate enterprises, preventing risk contagion in stock, bond and foreign exchange markets, and ensuring the stable operation of financial markets, according to an account published on the official government website.

UZALO

MONDAY - WEDNESDAY FROM 10:30 PM

| SUNDAY 22 Oct | | TUESDAY 24 Oct | | THURSDAY 26 Oct | | SATURDAY 28 Oct | | MONDAY 29 Oct | | WEDNESDAY 31 Oct | |
|---------------|--------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|---------------|----------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|
| 5:30 | Uwanja wa Mazoezi | 5:30 | Soap rpt: Uzalo | 5:30 | Soap rpt: Uzalo | 5:30 | Uwanja wa Mazoezi | 5:30 | Uwanja wa Mazoezi | 5:30 | Uwanja wa Mazoezi |
| 6:00 | HABARI | 6:00 | HABARI | 6:00 | HABARI | 6:00 | HABARI | 6:00 | HABARI | 6:00 | HABARI |
| 6:40 | Kumekucha | 6:40 | Kumekucha | 6:40 | Kumekucha | 6:40 | Kumekucha | 6:40 | Kumekucha | 6:40 | Kumekucha |
| 7:00 | Habari | 7:00 | Habari | 7:00 | Habari | 7:00 | Habari | 7:00 | Habari | 7:00 | Habari |
| 8:00 | Al Jazeera | 8:00 | Kumekucha Michezo | 8:00 | Kumekucha Michezo | 8:00 | Kumekucha Michezo | 8:00 | Kumekucha Michezo | 8:00 | Kumekucha Michezo |
| 8:00 | Watoto Wetu | 8:55 | Habari za saa | 8:55 | Habari za saa | 8:55 | Habari za saa | 8:55 | Habari za saa | 8:55 | Habari za saa |
| 9:00 | Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt | 9:00 | Kumekucha Kishindo | 9:00 | Kumekucha Kishindo | 9:00 | Kumekucha Kishindo | 9:00 | Kumekucha Kishindo | 9:00 | Kumekucha Kishindo |
| 11:45 | Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt | 9:30 | Soap: In Love with Ramon | 9:30 | Soap: In Love with Ramon | 9:30 | Soap: In Love with Ramon | 9:30 | Soap: In Love with Ramon | 9:30 | Soap: In Love with Ramon |
| 12:45 | Mjye zaidi | 9:55 | Habari za saa | 9:55 | Habari za saa | 9:55 | Habari za saa | 9:55 | Habari za saa | 9:55 | Habari za saa |
| 13:30 | Kipindi maalum: SBL na Maskoto | 10:00 | Watoto wetu | 10:00 | Watoto wetu | 10:00 | Watoto wetu | 10:00 | Watoto wetu | 10:00 | Watoto wetu |
| 14:00 | Tamasha la Michezo | 10:25 | Jajina | 10:25 | Jajina | 10:25 | Jajina | 10:25 | Jajina | 10:25 | Jajina |
| 15:30 | Mwangaiza | 10:55 | Habari za saa | 10:55 | Habari za saa | 10:55 | Habari za saa | 10:55 | Habari za saa | 10:55 | Habari za saa |
| 16:30 | ITV Top 10 rpt | 11:00 | Chetu ni chetu | 11:00 | Chetu ni chetu | 11:00 | Chetu ni chetu | 11:00 | Chetu ni chetu | 11:00 | Chetu ni chetu |
| 17:20 | Kipindi cha kikiro | 11:40 | Igizo: Mzenge | 11:40 | Igizo: Mzenge | 11:40 | Igizo: Mzenge | 11:40 | Igizo: Mzenge | 11:40 | Igizo: Mzenge |
| 18:00 | Jiji Letu | 11:55 | Habari za saa | 11:55 | Habari za saa | 11:55 | Habari za saa | 11:55 | Habari za saa | 11:55 | Habari za saa |
| 18:15 | Mapishi | 12:00 | Al Jazeera | 12:00 | Al Jazeera | 12:00 | Al Jazeera | 12:00 | Al Jazeera | 12:00 | Al Jazeera |
| 18:30 | Matako ya wiki | 12:30 | Afya ya jami | 12:30 | Afya ya jami | 12:30 | Afya ya jami | 12:30 | Afya ya jami | 12:30 | Afya ya jami |
| 19:00 | Igizo: Slay Queen | 12:55 | Habari za saa | 12:55 | Habari za saa | 12:55 | Habari za saa | 12:55 | Habari za saa | 12:55 | Habari za saa |
| 20:00 | Habari | 13:00 | Ripoti maalum | 13:00 | Ripoti maalum | 13:00 | Ripoti maalum | 13:00 | Ripoti maalum | 13:00 | Ripoti maalum |
| 21:35 | Kipindi maalum: Biko | 13:40 | Shikamba | 13:40 | Shikamba | 13:40 | Shikamba | 13:40 | Shikamba | 13:40 | Shikamba |
| 21:45 | Igizo: Mzenge | 13:55 | Habari za saa | 13:55 | Habari za saa | 13:55 | Habari za saa | 13:55 | Habari za saa | 13:55 | Habari za saa |
| 21:55 | Kipindi maalum: Michezo Supa | 14:00 | Shikamba | 14:00 | Shikamba | 14:00 | Shikamba | 14:00 | Shikamba | 14:00 | Shikamba |
| 22:00 | Jackpot | 14:15 | Igizo: Slay Queen | 14:15 | Igizo: Slay Queen | 14:15 | Igizo: Slay Queen | 14:15 | Igizo: Slay Queen | 14:15 | Igizo: Slay Queen |
| 22:15 | Mjye Zaidi | 14:55 | Habari za saa | 14:55 | Habari za saa | 14:55 | Habari za saa | 14:55 | Habari za saa | 14:55 | Habari za saa |
| 22:30 | Soap: Uzalo rpt | 15:00 | Meza huru | 15:00 | Meza huru | 15:00 | Meza huru | 15:00 | Meza huru | 15:00 | Meza huru |
| 23:15 | Al Jazeera | 16:30 | Watoto wetu | 16:30 | Watoto wetu | 16:30 | Watoto wetu | 16:30 | Watoto wetu | 16:30 | Watoto wetu |
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WORLD

Russian envoy slams allegations of Moscow's election influence as 'outright speculations'

WASHINGTON

THE United States' intelligence assessment of Moscow's alleged attempts to erode public faith in the integrity of elections worldwide is nothing but "a compilation of outright speculations," Russian Ambassador to Washington Anatoly Antonov said.

"We are not familiar with such a document. However, as they say it in the West, it is 'highly likely' that this piece is a compilation of outright speculations, gossip and Russophobic outbursts," the envoy noted, commenting on related media reports.

"We are not surprised by such insinuations. They are rooted in the ad-



ministrations' insecurities about the correctness and efficiency of methods of resolving problems both at home and at the international arena.

They cannot come to terms with the fact that they are not achieving their proclaimed goals and are losing their position as a world hegemon.

And therefore, as it has already become a commonplace, they are looking for someone to put blame

on. This role has invariably been assigned to Russia in recent years," Antonov emphasized.

"By casting our country as an adversary, the White House demonstrates disinterest in pragmatic cooperation to address the common challenges facing whole humankind. Washington, with its reckless policies, has driven Russian-American relations into a dead end," the Russian envoy added.

Reuters reported earlier that the US had sent an intelligence assessment to more than 100 countries claiming that Moscow was trying "to erode public faith in the integrity of democratic elections worldwide."

Agencies

Amid war with Hamas, people from southern Israel leave homes, move to Jerusalem

TEL AVIV

AMID the ongoing war between Israel and Hamas, people from southern Israel have left their homes and moved to Jerusalem where deserted streets and the historical West Bank wall area showcase an image of fear.

Several Palestinian (Arab) nationals have been living in Jerusalem for business purposes. However, their work has been impacted due to the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas.

They have attributed their losses to the current situation. Taxi drivers and shopkeepers in the area are deeply upset by the actions of Hamas and the Israeli soldiers' retaliatory measures.

Notably, Hamas launched a surprise attack on Israel on October 7. Following this, Israel launched a counter-offensive against Hamas and vowed to destroy the terrorist group.

Shahid, an Arab taxi driver in Jerusalem, has been distressed by the situation. He revealed that the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas has created animosity between Israelis and Arabs living in the city. Many Israelis refuse to ride in Arab-owned taxis, exacerbating tensions between the people.

Speaking to ANI, he said, "People aged 45 years and above are only allowed in the Al Aqsa mosque to go for prayer." Asked about Hamas's attack on Israel, Shahid said, "We have no business due to the ongoing war. We want peace."

Another shopkeeper Nihad also shared a similar story. He said, "There is no business, nothing, everything just stopped. Because of the war, everything stopped. We are in war. Now, there is emergency situation, what is happening here."

Jerusalem is one of the oldest and most historically significant cities in the world. Located in the Middle East, it holds great religious and cultural importance for multiple faiths, including Judaism, Christianity, and Islam.

Meanwhile, Israel's Ministry of Defence and the Israel Defence Forces (IDF) on Sunday said they are planning to evacuate another 14 communities close to the Lebanese border, The Times of Israel reported.

The evacuation plan applies to 14 additional communities which are: Snir, Dan, Beit Hillel, She'ar Yashuv, Hagoshrim, Liman, Matzuva, Eylon, Goren, Gornot HaGalil, Even Menachem, Sasa, Tziv'on and Ramot Naf-tali, according to The Times of Israel report.

Taking to X, the Israeli Defence Forces stated, "The Ministry of Defence & the IDF announce the evacuation of 14 additional northern communities to state-funded guest-houses. The expansion of the evacuation program was approved by DM Yoav Gallant. The IDF notified the relevant municipalities a short while ago."

On Monday, the IDF and other agencies announced plan to evacuate 28 communities living within 2 kilometers of the Lebanese border.

The Israel Defence Forces said it killed two members of Hamas's Nukhba commando forces in an airstrike near the Gaza border fence last night, The Times of Israel reported. According to the Israeli military, other Hamas terrorists were also killed in the same incident.

The Nukhba unit led the attack on southern Israel on October 7. The Israel Defence Forces said that the fighter jets hit dozens of Hamas sites in the Strip.

ANI

US stance on Gaza conflict under fire, threatens regional stability

CAIRO

AMID the escalating Israel-Hamas conflict and growing global calls for de-escalation and increased humanitarian aid for Gaza, US President Biden's request to Congress for \$14.3 billion in military assistance to Israel has raised concerns.

Biden argued on Friday that this move would enhance Israel's security. However, analysts and critics worry that it could increase uncertainty in the Middle East, potentially harming Israeli security that Biden claimed to protect.

Washington's foreign policy on the Palestinian issue has impeded the early resolution of the conflict, according to Middle Eastern political watchers, who warned that allowing the current hostilities in Gaza to persist will only intensify the vicious cycle of hatred and confrontation between Israel and Palestine, making it more difficult to achieve peaceful coexistence in the long run.

Domestic, global backlash

More than two weeks into the deadly conflict, the United States has not only bolstered its military presence in the Middle East but has also provided extensive military aid to Israel. Additionally, it has twice used veto power at the United Nations Security Council to block resolutions concerning the situation in Palestine.

These actions have stirred criticism, leading to protests both at home and abroad, including the resignation of Josh Paul, a senior official from the US State Department, who believed the US government's actions "an impulsive reaction" based on "intellectual bankruptcy."

The resigned official told US media that many of his colleagues in the federal government and Congress shared similar sentiments and fully understood his decision to resign.

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken also acknowledged in a message last week to all State Department employees that the Israel-Hamas conflict had resulted in disagreements among US diplomats, presenting both professional and emotional challenges.

Rocket attack

On Sunday, at least two Katyusha rockets struck a military airbase housing US military experts and agencies in Iraq's western province of Anbar, an Iraqi army source said.

The attacks occurred in the early morning when the rockets landed in the Ayn al-Asad Airbase near the town of al-Baghdadi, some 190 km



People remove a victim from a building destroyed in Israeli airstrikes in the southern Gaza Strip city of Rafah, on Oct 17, 2023. XINHUA

northwest of the capital Baghdad, an officer from the Iraqi army told Xinhua on condition of anonymity.

The source said the attacks caused no casualties and only minor material damage. No group has so far claimed responsibility for the attacks.

Internationally, Russian Permanent Representative to the United Nations Vasily Nebenzya accused the United States of "hypocrisy" and "double standards" after Washington vetoed Russia's draft calling for an immediate ceasefire and Brazil's draft calling for humanitarian pauses to allow full, safe and unhindered access for United Nations agencies and their partners.

Brazilian Permanent Representative to the United Nations Sergio Danese expressed deep disappointment over the Brazilian draft's failure to pass, and French Permanent Representative, Nicolas de Riviere, also voiced regret.

US actions since the beginning of the conflict have also sparked protests globally, with citizens in multiple countries expressing their discontent. Demonstrations outside US embassies in Jordan and Lebanon featured anti-US slogans, while protests in Tehran saw the burning of Israeli and US flags.

In the United States, hundreds of protesters packed the US House of Representatives office building, calling for a ceasefire between Israel and Palestine and leading to arrests by the police.

Adding fuel to the fire

On Wednesday, Biden arrived in Israel to demonstrate his support for Israel, just hours after an explosion at a hospital in Gaza killed hundreds, further escalating tensions and resulting in the cancellation of a summit with Arab leaders.

The cancellation of the summit, which cut Biden's Middle East tour to a "mini visit" lasting less than eight hours, is seen as "an obvious message that the Arab countries don't welcome the US president," said Mokhtar Gob-

ashy, deputy chairman of the Cairo-based Arab Center for Political and Strategic Studies.

Gobashy stated that the Arab world is not happy with the White House's "unfair" foreign policy regarding Israel and Palestine, adding that it has a track record of adopting "unjust" foreign policies to serve its own interests.

"Anyone who sees one side as entirely blameless and the other as exclusively at fault has lost the credibility to act as an impartial arbiter," the Egyptian scholar noted.

While the United States presented itself as a main sponsor of the Palestine-Israel negotiations, it has in fact consistently failed to uphold its commitments over the years.

The pledges made by the Biden administration, such as advocating Israeli-Palestinian peace, reopening the consulate general responsible for Palestinian affairs in Jerusalem, and halting the Israeli settlement expansion, have remained unattended to. Despite endorsing a "two-state solution," the administration has taken little action toward achieving this goal.

"Washington does not care about what Arabs want" and only acts to serve its interests, said Markram Rabah, an academic at the American University of Beirut in Lebanon.

"What the United States has done now is calling for war," he said, noting that with two US aircraft carriers patrolling the Mediterranean Sea, the region is now at a greater risk of a potential broader conflict than ever before.

Eyal Pinko, a political analyst at the Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies, Bar Ilan University in Israel, also warned against a possible spillover of the Israel-Hamas conflict.

He pointed out that should a ground offensive in Gaza begin, a scenario many anticipate in the coming days, Palestinians in the West Bank, Lebanon's Hezbollah, and even the Houthis in Yemen will probably become involved in the conflict. Agencies



Russia initiates UNSC meeting on Israeli-Palestinian conflict - Russia's UN mission

MOSCOW

RUSSIA plans to request another meeting of the UN Security Council in order to discuss solutions to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, Russian First Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN Dmitry Polyansky said on the Solovoyov Live television channel.

"We will definitely convene another Security Council meeting. As practice has shown, no one but us dares to do it," he said.

"As for the resolution, I do not know how soon we will reach the stage when we again try to adopt a resolution. Probably, we should first go through the General Assembly, which is a UN body where all 193 member-states of the organization are present, and there is such a rule that should the Security Council fail to perform its functions in preserving peace and

security, this issue goes to the General Assembly," Polyansky said.

According to the diplomat, the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is scheduled for next week.

"There is a collective appeal from Arab and Islamic countries asking to restart the special session. It is crucial that each country can have a say," he added.

On Wednesday, the United States vetoed the Brazil-drafted resolution on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Russia abstained from voting, which was caused by the fact that the UN Security Council had voted down its amendments to the Brazil-authored draft.

The UK also abstained, while the other twelve members supported the draft resolution.

Chinese envoy begins Middle East visit in push for peace

BEIJING

ZHAI Jun, China's special envoy on the Middle East issue, arrived in Qatar on Thursday, the first leg of his tour in the region aimed at gathering consensus and aligning efforts to cool down tensions between Palestinians and Israelis.

Zhai (pictured) held a series of talks in Doha, including with Mikhail Bogdanov, Russia's deputy foreign minister and special presidential representative for the Middle East and Africa, and Mohammed bin Abdulaziz bin Saleh Al Khulaifi, Qatar's minister of state at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



During the talks, Zhai expressed China's willingness to communicate and coordinate with relevant parties to promote the de-escalation of the conflict and the end to hostilities, as well as resuming peace talks.

"The fundamental reason for the current situation in the conflict is that the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people have not been guaranteed," Zhai told Bogdanov.

Noting that China and Russia hold the same position regarding the Middle East issue, Zhai said Beijing is willing to work with Moscow to implement the two-state solution and push for an early, comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the issue.

Bogdanov said Russia is willing to work with China to promote ceasefire and create conditions to bring the Palestinian question back on track, Bogdanov added.

When speaking to Khulaifi, Zhai said Qatar wields significant influence over the Israeli-Palestinian issue and China is willing to coordinate with Qatar to play a constructive role in easing the tension.

Khulaifi said Qatar is engaging in mediation and values China's role, and is willing to enhance communication with Beijing.

In another development, China's Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Mao Ning said on Friday that more than 1,000 Chinese citizens have left Israel and have returned to China or traveled to a third country since the outbreak of the conflict on Oct 7.

tremors, some measuring a magnitude of 6.3, jolted the western Herat province since Oct. 7, leaving thousands of casualties. "Even though the earthquake was over, we nearly lost the hope of life.

We don't know whether we can continue our life or not," Mohammad, a 40-year-old villager in Herat, told Xinhua.

Thousands of houses have also been damaged due to the tremors shaking several villages in Zindajan district of Herat

as many areas turned to rubble, forcing the survivors to live in open ground amid increasingly cold weather.

Although the caravans and tents donated by donor nations and aid agencies have reached the quake-affected areas, the affected families need to rebuild their houses or build new shelters.

"The United States which has oppressed the people of Afghanistan for years froze our money and refused to release it. If the

money were released, we could use it to rebuild our houses," Mohammad told Xinhua. "What America has done to us is with great injustice!"

Following the withdrawal of the U.S.-led forces from the war-torn country, Kabul's assets worth more than 9 billion U.S. dollars were frozen by the United States as part of its sanctions on the new rulers of impoverished Afghanistan.

To further mount pressure on the Taliban-run administration,

US President Joe Biden signed a decree in February last year allowing allocating 3.5 billion dollars from the frozen Afghan assets to the families of the 9/11 terror attack victims.

Echoing similar sentiment, Dawood, another local resident, opined that the U.S. sanctions have worsened the already difficult plight for quake-hit families.

The hardship of quake survivors is palpable as they live in open ground as the weather

is getting cold and the chilly winter is nearing. Each of them needs shelter to live in ahead of snowfall.

"The United States has blocked the assets of Afghans and this has further added the suffering of the already suffered nation," Dawood, who lost five members of his family including his wife and four children, lamented.

"Definitely the sanctions have 100 percent negative impact," he said, adding that due to the

measure the prices of bricks, cement, wood and other necessary building materials for rebuilding houses are rising, and far exceeding the affordability of Afghans.

Commenting on the U.S. sanctions on post-quake reconstruction, Herat provincial government spokesman Nisar Ahmad Elias said, "America or anyone else imposing sanctions on Afghanistan will largely punish the ordinary Afghans."

Xinhua

US sanctions cast pall over post-quake reconstruction in Afghanistan

HERAT

LIVING with six family members under the blankets in open ground, Mohammad, a resident displaced by devastating earthquakes in Afghanistan's Herat province, believed that the U.S. freezing of Afghanistan's assets has undermined the local post-quake rehabilitation and reconstruction.

Afghanistan has been hit by the most destructive earthquakes in recent decades as

Trump fined \$5,000 for violating gag order in NY civil trial

A New York judge on Friday fined Donald Trump \$5,000 for violating a gag order barring the former US president from disparaging court staff during his civil fraud trial, warning that any future transgressions would bring "far more severe" sanctions including imprisonment.

Justice Arthur Engoron said a Trump (pictured) social media post attacking the judge's clerk - which was deleted from the former president's Truth Social platform - had remained visible on his 2024 campaign website two weeks after an order was issued to take it down.

The judge noted that the gag order violation appeared inadvertent, but added, "Make no mistake: future violations, whether intentional or unintentional, will subject the violator to far more severe sanctions."

Those sanctions, the judge said, could include steeper fines and possible imprisonment.

Engoron is presiding over the trial

on civil charges brought by New York state Attorney General Letitia James accusing Trump of unlawfully inflating his net worth to dupe lenders.

Trump is the frontrunner for the Republican nomination to challenge Democratic President Joe Biden in next year's US election, holding a commanding lead over his rivals despite mounting legal troubles and court-ordered restrictions on his public statements.

Engoron imposed a limited gag order on Oct 3 after Trump in a social media post shared a photo of the judge's top clerk posing with US Senate Majority leader Chuck Schumer, a critic of the former president, and called her the senator's "girlfriend."

The judge in imposing the gag order said that comments directed at his staff were "unacceptable, inappropriate and will not be tolerated under any circumstances."

Trump at times has appeared in person at the ongoing trial, attacking James and Engoron in inflammatory



remarks to reporters outside of the courtroom.

The lawsuit by James accused Trump of inflating the values of his properties by billions of dollars in statements to banks, reaping hundreds of millions of dollars in ill-gotten savings on loan interest. Trump is also accused of manipulating asset values to dupe insurers.

Trump, who has sought to portray the case as intended to hurt him politically, has denied wrongdoing and

defended his asset valuations. He has said banks conducted their own due diligence and profited on the loans. The trial, which began three weeks ago, has centered on reams of emails and financial documents detailing how Trump's companies valued their properties.

Lawyers for the attorney general's office have sought to show that those valuations were arbitrarily inflated to satisfy Trump's desire for a high net worth. Trump's attorney has argued they were reasonable and based on his real estate expertise.

Trump faces criminal charges in four other cases involving his efforts to undo his loss in the 2020 election, his handling of classified documents after leaving office and hush money paid to a porn star. Trump has denied wrongdoing and pleaded not guilty in those cases. He also faces a January civil damages trial for defaming a writer who accused him of rape, which he denies.

On Oct 17, a federal judge in Washington overseeing a federal case accusing Trump of illegally attempting to overturn his 2020 defeat barred Trump from making public statements that "target" US prosecutors, court staff and potential witnesses involved in the case.

Trump is appealing that order.



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar meets Senior Minister of Singapore Teo Chee Hean on Friday. ANI

What is taking place in Middle East is still not entirely clear - Jaishankar

NEW DELHI

POINTING towards the ongoing Israel-Hamas war and Ukraine conflict, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said that these conflicts have emerged as a key contributor to global volatility and the consequences are visible beyond the immediate geography, adding that the prevailing situation in the Middle East is still "not entirely clear".

Emphasizing that terrorism has long been practised as a tool of statecraft, Jaishankar said that any expectation that conflicts and terrorism can be contained and their impact is no longer tenable.

Speaking at the Kautilya Economic Conclave, Jaishankar said, "A second contributor to volatility is conflict in a globalized world where consequences spread far beyond the immediate geography."

We have already experienced this with respect to Ukraine. The ripple impact of what is taking place right now in the Middle East is still not entirely clear... In different regions, there are smaller happenings whose impact is not inconsequential..."

"There is also the less formal version that is very pervasive, terrorism which has long been honed and practised as a tool of statecraft... Any expectation that conflicts and terrorism can be contained in their impact is no longer tenable," he added.

Highlighting that no danger is too distant anymore, Jaishankar said, "A big part of this is clearly economic, but do not underestimate the danger of metastasis when it comes to radicalism and extremism."

He further said that the position of India is currently far better today than it was before.

"... There has been a lot of evidence to show... that we are far better off today than we were a decade or 2 or 5 before. Because every set of solutions throws up a new generation of problems. We constantly dissect, analyze, debate, and sometimes even agonize," he said.

"The really good people in my business also imagine, anticipate, and foresee... We need both an evolutionary approach as well as audacious thinking... The reason for that is the churning on multiple fronts that the world is going through..." he added.

Jaishankar further stressed on direct disruptive impact of climate change on the international economy, as well as the concerns of the global economy.

"We have long debated that climate challenges as a trend undermine the well-being of our planet. However, as weather patterns shift, they can affect the loads of production as well as the supply chains that emanate from them. Given the increasing frequency of such weather happenings, this is now a risk that we need to build into our calculations," Jaishankar said.

He added, "The working of the global economy has itself added to the concerning side of the ledger. The last few years have witnessed rising debt often resulting from a combination of imprudent choices unbiased borrowings and opaque projects."

Market volatility has been difficult for smaller economies with a narrow trade basket to handle. Those highly exposed to tourism or remittances have experienced the consequences of slowdowns very strongly. International financial institutions have not been able to respond adequately, whether due to paucity of resources or lack of priority."

ANI

World Investment Forum 2023 ends with strong call for greater private and public investment

ABU DHABI

UNCTAD's 8th World Investment Forum came to a close on 20th October in Abu Dhabi with a powerful call to public and private investors to play a pivotal role in reshaping the world economy, and seize the emerging opportunities offered by the energy transition, transformation of the agrifood and health sectors and the changing solutions for sustainable development.

The week-long event saw the convergence of 8,000 participants, including government officials, international organizations, policymakers, 700 CEOs and investors, sovereign wealth funds, sustainable stock exchanges and key capital markets actors.

Held against the backdrop of a fragmented global economy, the forum addressed the profound

impact on trade and investment, with foreign direct investment experiencing a continued downturn as data from the first half of 2023 highlighted.

UNCTAD Deputy Secretary-General Pedro Manuel Moreno said the downturn "is of much concern as less investment means less economic growth and fewer means to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals - the SDGs."

Notably, small island developing states, exemplified by the presence of Fiji's Deputy Prime Minister Manoa Kamikamica, called for the leveraging of blended financing and other "derisking" solutions to tackle funding shortages in countries that face debt distress, the challenging international investment climate, tightening financing conditions and persistent institutional and infrastructure shortcomings.

Foreign direct investment and COP28

In a bid to include the investment perspective in COP28 deliberations and finance a just transition, a call was made to bring investor conversations from the forum into discussions at the forthcoming climate summit, as countries prepare their new national climate action plans by 2025.

New investment policy instrument

The forum also unveiled a suite of new investment policy instruments, including the identification of 50 SDG model special economic zones, the launch of a multi-stakeholder platform on international investment agreements reform, and a collaboration with the UN World Tourism Organization to establish guiding principles for sustainable tourism investment.

Partnerships with UNCTAD to drive investment in developing countries

In addition, the forum saw the announcement of several strategic partnerships. These include collaborations with the African Sovereign Investors Forum, regional partnerships for sustainability reporting in Asia, the Gulf region and Eurasia, and an agreement between the stock exchanges of Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand to launch a central sustainability platform for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations region.

To kickstart investment, the forum introduced two new donor-funded technical assistance programmes.

First, a funding partnership with the German International Climate Initiative and GIZ, the German development agency, to support sustainability reporting and climate disclosure in developing countries.

Second, a 2.8 million Euro partnership between Europe, the Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States and UNCTAD, aimed at bolstering the capacity for investment facilitation in Angola, Gambia, Nigeria, Suriname, Vanuatu, Zimbabwe and the wider African, Caribbean and Pacific group of countries.

This partnership will provide essential support through digital government tools such as information portals and single windows, streamlining administrative procedures for investors and fostering inclusive development. The project, set to run from October 2023 to September 2025, reflects a commitment to advancing investment facilitation and contributing to the SDGs.

The 9th World Investment Forum will take place in 2025.

ANI

Meloni's first anniversary as Italy PM marred by economic woes

ROME

WEAK economic growth and high interest on the country's huge debt are the main problems facing Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni after her first year in power, an anniversary marked by an abrupt announcement she was leaving her long-time partner.

Meloni's coalition, the first led by a woman in Italy's history, was sworn in a year ago after a sweeping election victory and will soon cruise past the 14-month average postwar term life for Italian governments.

It was seen on taking power as the country's most right-wing

since wartime dictator Benito Mussolini, as Meloni's Brothers of Italy party traces its roots to the post-fascist Italian Social Movement (MSI).

Yet Meloni, 46, set about quelling foreign concerns of possible extremism, forging good ties with allies by adopting a strongly pro-Western, EU-friendly stance and pledging staunch support to Ukraine.

At home she pleased her rightist grassroots through measures to defend the traditional family, protect Italy's cultural heritage and try to stem migrant arrivals.

"We have worked tirelessly to repay the trust and to demonstrate



with facts that it was possible to build a different Italy," she said in a video message this week.

However, an economic rebound from the COVID-19 pandemic has ground to a halt, with gross domestic product contracting by 0.4 percent in the second quarter, and

analysts forecast Italian growth will be among the lowest in the euro zone next year.

That makes it harder for Meloni to keep her tax-cutting promises and makes Italy's debt, equal to 140 percent of national output, vulnerable to market sell-offs.

"The economy is probably the toughest subject. The government has low margins in which to operate," said Valentina Meliciani, an economics professor at LUISS university in Rome.

Last week Meloni weathered the first of several reviews on Italy's debt when S&P Global Ratings confirmed the country's BBB rating with a stable outlook.

However, the prevailing view among analysts is that the rating agencies will worsen Rome's outlook while avoiding outright downgrades.

Meloni also has personal problems to deal with. She announced on Friday she was separating from her long-time partner. TV presenter Andrea Giambro, after he repeatedly sparked outrage for sexist comments made on and off-air.

This month the government approved a 2024 budget with around 24 billion euros (\$25.3 billion) of tax cuts and increased spending, despite a public debt that is proportionally the second highest in the euro zone after Greece's.

China-Egypt cooperation zone contributes to Egypt's industrial modernisation

THE China-Egypt TEDA Suez Economic and Trade Cooperation Zone (SETC-Zone), which sits on the shores of the Red Sea and south of the Suez Canal, and just celebrated its 15th anniversary, has developed into a thriving hub for trade and investment with well-built infrastructure, abundant industrial clusters, advanced logistics and warehousing facilities, and comprehensive amenities.

The cooperation zone, while accelerating strategic upgrading, has become a key platform of investment and cooperation for Chinese and Egyptian companies.

After two phases of construction, the SETC-Zone has grown into an industrial park featuring the best comprehensive environment, the highest density of investment, the highest per-unit output that attracts the most Chinese enterprises in Egypt.

It is now home to more than 140 companies, with actual investment exceeding \$1.6 billion, total sales volume of over \$3.7 billion and taxations of more than \$200 million. The cooperation zone offers nearly 6,000 direct jobs and about 50,000 employment opportunities in related industries.

Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sisi called the cooperation zone the most successful project of the Suez Canal Corridor.

"I've made many visits to the SETC-

Zone and each time I had new discoveries. The SETC-Zone is getting better and better, with more and more enterprises settling in," said Abdul-Majeed Saqr, governor of Egypt's Suez governorate, adding that the complete supporting facilities and favorable investment policies in the SETC-Zone are hugely attractive. He noted TEDA, the developer of the SETC-Zone, is a reliable partner of Egypt.

Chinese enterprise Jushi, which specializes in the manufacture and sales of fiberglass and its finished articles, has been investing in Egypt since 2012. Its subsidiary company in Egypt named Jushi Egypt Fiberglass Co., Ltd. (Jushi Egypt). It has a gigantic factory in the SETC-Zone, which has over 2,000 workers, as well as some 30 Chinese management personnel and technicians. Most of the jobs in production and management are taken by local Egyptians.

No one would imagine that the bustling factory was still a desert 10 years ago. Wu Ping, general manager of the company, said that Jushi encountered a series of challenges when it first entered Egypt, such as short power supply and water scarcity. However, it rose to these challenges and launched mutually beneficial cooperation with relevant parties in Egypt. In the past decade, Jushi Egypt built four production lines of fiberglass and assisting



A Chinese technician instructs an Egyptian employee in a dishwasher factory of Midea (Egypt) Kitchen & Water Heater Appliances Co., Ltd. (Photo by Zhang Zhiwen/People's Daily)

facilities. The factory, after four phases of construction, boasts an annual capacity of 340,000 tons, and is the largest production base of fiberglass in the African continent.

Jushi Egypt also actively fulfills its social responsibility, working to improve local environment and contributing to community development. It provides assistance for local orphanages and impoverished residents, and donates teach-

ing and living materials to local schools.

Egyptian Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouly said that as China Jushi expands its investment in Egypt, it has created a large number of job opportunities and driven the development of Egypt's manufacturing industry.

Nurturing talents that align with industrial and societal needs is one of the key objectives of Egypt's industrial modernization.

Lining the wide roads of the SETC-Zone stand rows of gleaming new workshops, which constitute a dishwasher factory of Midea (Egypt) Kitchen & Water Heater Appliances Co., Ltd. In the factory, local workers are always seen assemble parts along the production line, test equipment, and learn new techniques under the guidance of Chinese technicians.

Chinese companies investing in Egypt are not only creating quality products for local residents, but also helping equip the local workforce for Egypt's industrial modernization.

General manager Chen Weiwei of Midea (Egypt) Kitchen & Water Heater Appliances Co., Ltd. said that the dishwasher rack production line introduced by Midea has filled a technological gap in Egypt's dishwasher manufacturing sector. It has not only cultivated a batch of local welders, but also driven the localization of a series of key technologies, reducing the cost and price of dishwashers, and making dishwashers more affordable and accessible for Egyptian consumers.

Kamel, a team leader of the factory, was among the first batch of employees to join the company in December 2022. He received on-the-job training and learned the whole process of dishwasher manufacturing under the guidance of Chinese employees.

After three months of systematic training, Kamel turned into a skillful worker and was recently promoted to a team leader. Batches of new employees have acquired work skills under the instruction of key technicians.

"I'm glad that I can work here. I will keep working hard to create a better life with my own hands," said Kamel.

Chen noted that the current production capacity of this dishwasher assembly line can meet the market demand in the Middle East, and new assembly lines will be set up in the future to produce more dishwashers.

People's Daily

SPORT



Ngorongoro Queens' Mwanaidi Ammy (R) is presented with a Player of the Match prize by Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Treasurer, Yagnesh Patel, after the former's club took on Mount Meru Queens in the 2023 Tanzania Women's Cricket Premier League's match that took place in Dar es Salaam last week. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA CRICKET ASSOCIATION

Ngorongoro Queens tighten grip on Women's Cricket Premier League top spot

By Guardian Reporter

NGORONGORO Queens have tightened their grip on the top place in the 2023 Tanzania Women's Cricket Premier League (TWCP) after cruising to a comprehensive six-wicket victory over Mount Meru Queens at Leaders Club ground in Dar es Salaam last week.

Mwanaidi Ammy had an impressive outing with the bat as the clash's eventual winners, currently the serious contender for TWCP silverware, grabbed a six-win in a row.

Mount Meru Queens went in to bat first and were skittled for 88 runs in 20 overs, with team captain Monica Paschal happening to be the only cricketer with a significant contribution when the squad took the crease.

They endured a frustrating start to their innings following an early dismissal of opening cricketers, Sophia Frank and Malizia Salum.

They were dismissed in the very first over, as Sophia was bowled by Ngorongoro Queens' Mwajabu Hussein after executing five knocks and her fellow opener left the crease for duck.

Monica, deployed at number three, took crease and made her experience count with solid batting - scoring 36 runs that included three boundaries.

The batting outfit's key performer, Jenipher Gabriel, had a brief spell at the crease having managed to score seven runs, as Ngorongoro Queens piled pressure on Mount Meru Queens' batting unit.

Lightness Eliud, slotted in at middle-order, was also three runs short of two digits as she ended as another victim of Ngorongoro Queens' Mwajabu's tricky approach.

Aisha Mohamed (12 runs) and Gertrude Mushi (13 runs) did all they could to wade off Ngorongoro Queens' pressure and chipped in with two digits.

Mount Meru Queens' total was slightly improved by eight wides given away by Ngorongoro Queens during the latter's fielding time.

Mwajabu led Ngorongoro Queens' bowling onslaught, taking three wickets for 18 runs in four overs, and was ably assisted by the in-form Neema Justine (2-16 in four overs).

Needing 89 runs to garner a victory, Ngorongoro Queens embarked on the chase with ease, reaching the target in 16.1 overs whilst dropping four wickets.

Mwanaidi, who opened the innings, led the successful pursuit of the win with 41 runs, clearing the boundary on four occasions, and was rightly handed the Player of the

Match prize at the end of the clash.

There were also good knocks that were executed by fellow top-order cricketers, Shufaa Hamza (22 runs not out) and Neema (11 runs), to keep the game beyond Mount Meru Queens' reach.

Shufaa had partnered Mwajabu, who made her way back with seven runs not out, to frustrate Mount Meru Queens' hopes, which had come about following the dismissal of Mwanamvua Hamisi and Tabu Saidi.

Efforts by Mount Meru Queens' Monica - who had a three-wicket haul for 13 runs in 3.1 overs - to thwart Ngorongoro Queens' pursuit of the target ended in vain.

Mount Meru Queens, Ngorongoro Queens, Usambara Queens, and Kilimanjaro Queens are taking part in the Tanzania Women's Cricket Premier League, which takes place under the supervision of the Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA).

Cricketers making Mount Meru Queens include Foide Ezekiel, Mwamvita Mwasiga, Zakia Ally, Lightness Eladius, Bilhuda Salum, Jenipher Gabriel, Farida Amiry, and Gertrude Mushi.

Asha Lugali, Zena Hassan, Sophia Frank, Mwapwani Ally, Aisha Mohamed, Malizia Salum, and team captain Monica Paschal are the team's other cricketers.

Ngorongoro Queens' cricketers are Mwajabu Omary, Mwajuma Matheo, Remmy Mkina, Dorice Helmet, Lonsina Seperatus, Maua Alfani, Mwanaidi Sufiani, and Gertrude Faustine.

Mwana Ushanga, Tabu Said, Shufaa Hamza, Neema Justine, Joan Jackson, Mwajabu Salum, and Mwanaidi Ammy are also on the list.

Kilimanjaro Queens are made up of Florida Peter, Halima Ramadhani, Mariam Hussein, Zuhura Masoud, Angel Paschal, Sharifa Rashidi, Mwanaidi Mohamed, and Maimuna Fikiri. Shania Fikiri, Swaum Godfrey, Saum Deo, Gift Omary, Nasra Hamza, Fatuma Omary, and Maria Joseph also turn out for the outfit.

Cricketers making Usambara Queens are Perice Zakayo, Fat'ha Salum, Nice George, Magreth Patrod, Mwanaidi Amani, Lucy Raymond, Esther Frank, and Fatuma Hatibu.

Zulfa Hussein, Hadija Juma, Sheila Shamte, Hudaa Mrisho, Catherine Dominic, Saum Borakambi, and Happy George also made the team.

Dafa News is the main sponsor of the league which is also supported by Unity Computers, Sports Box, Delaware Investments, Reliance Insurance Tanzania, G1 Security, Meru, and General Petroleum Tanzania.

2024's Kilimanjaro International Marathon officially launched in Dar

By Guardian Correspondent

THE 22nd edition of the prestigious Kilimanjaro Premium Lager International Marathon was last weekend unveiled at the Serena Hotel in Dar es Salaam ahead of the event scheduled for February 25 next year.

Speaking during the colourful event, the Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB)'s Acting Director General Stephen Mpeka, who was the guest of honour on behalf of the board's CEO Damasi Mfugale, lauded the event's organizers for the strides it has made so far, especially for its contribution in promoting sports tourism.

"We are proud of the Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon as it has proved to be one of the biggest international events in the region as it brings together over 12,000 participants and an equal number of spectators from more than 56 countries and all these are potential tourists... this is such a big milestone," he disclosed.

Mpeka noted it is high time that the TTB forged tighter relations with Kilimanjaro Premium Lager International Marathon's organizers to explore more ways of promoting sports tourism as it is clear that the event is a big platform and has a huge following in and out of the country.

He revealed: "We supported the Kili Marathon in previous years but it is now time to come in with new and better ideas to increase the number of tourists who originate from the marathon."

"We will advertise our attractions adequately through this huge event to ensure we reach as many people as possible in and out of the country," Mpeka said.

He said the Kilimanjaro Premium Lager International Marathon has made an enormous contribution to sports tourism and this has greatly helped the government in implementing the tourism and sports policies respectively.

Mpeka pointed out: "I congratulate all the sponsors led by Kilimanjaro Premium Lager (main sponsor) and Tigo -21km race for your enormous contribution."

"I cannot also forget the water table sponsors Simba Cement, Kilimanjaro Water, and TPC



The Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB)'s Acting Director General, Stephen Mpeka (C), cuts the ribbon during the official launch of the 2024 Kilimanjaro Premium Lager International Marathon at Serena Hotel in Dar es Salaam last weekend. Others (L-R) are TBL Group Managing Director Jose Moran, Athletics Tanzania (AT) Secretary-General Jackson Ndarweka, Tigo Corporate Communications Manager Woinde Shisael, and the National Sports Council (NSC) Sports Development Officer Charles Maguzu. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Sugar. Official partners - KiliMedair, Garda World Security, CMC Automobiles, Sal Salinero Hotel, and official suppliers - Kibo Palace Hotel and Keys Hotel, without you, it would not be easy," he said.

The guest of honour more-over called on Tanzanians to prepare for the international event to ensure domestic athletes win most of the prizes.

He further appealed to participants and spectators to use the marathon season to tour various tourist attractions, including the great Mt. Kilimanjaro, Serengeti, Ngorongoro, Zanzibar, and other attractions.

He said this is not just for international tourists, they also have packages for local tourists.

The Tanzania Breweries Limited Managing Director, Jose Moran, said they are proud to, through Kilimanjaro Premium Lager, sponsor the event for the past 22 years, making it one of the longest sponsorships in Tanzania.

Moran pointed out that they have all these years been inspired by the support for tourism and Tanzania's culture as a whole - which the event helps to promote.

The MD said they have set aside 28m/- in prize money with the top winners in men's and women's categories walking home with 5m/- apiece.

He called on people wishing to battle it out in the showdown to register for it on time as reg-

istration is already available online via the marathon's website www.kilimanjaromarathon.com and Tigo Pesa.

The Tigo Corporate Communications Manager, Woinde Shisael, whose company sponsors the 21km race, said: "As part of our commitment to promote sports tourism in Tanzania and nurture athletics talents, we are thrilled to announce that Tigo will be the proud sponsor of the 2024 Tigo Kili International Half Marathon for the ninth year consecutively."

She said their innovative and simplified marathon registration and payment platform is open for all race categories.

Woinde noted runners can dial *150*01#, then press 5 LKS, then press 5 (ticket) and follow instructions to finalize registration."

Organizers of the event called on participants to take advantage of the 'early bird' entry fee from October 16 till midnight of December 14.

They disclosed that entry fees will, later, increase in all categories and all nationalities from December 15 until either midnight of February 5, 2024, or when they are sold out - whichever is earliest - as there is limited space. Entries are guaranteed on a first-come, first-serve basis.

The organizers also said that the event will next year also be supporting the Tumaini la Masha (TLM) charity that aims to

reach every child in Tanzania who suffers from cancer.

The project aims at ensuring that children access high-quality cancer treatment free of charge, with the hope for a continued and healthy life.

The organizers pointed out the event will set aside 5% from every entry fee paid for and the funds will go towards the charity. Through the various fundraising efforts by several runners and individual donations made when entering online, the 2023 Kili Marathon raised almost 11m/-.

The money was donated to Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre (KCMC), located in Moshi, to support the institution's Children's Cancer Ward.

"KCMC is an important partner to the Marathon due to its medical support at the event and the finish area each year and the support on route as the runners pass by the hospital on race day," the organizers noted.

The Kilimanjaro Premium Lager International Marathon is set to take place at the Moshi Cooperative University (MoCU) venue on February 25, 2024.

The showdown is organized by the Kilimanjaro Marathon Company Limited and locally coordinated by Executive Solutions Limited.

Wild Frontiers Events are the rights holders and responsible for all the inbound travel and international marketing of the event.

Dar school keen on boosting sports promotion

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

DAR ES SALAAM'S St. Mary's High School located at Mbezi Beach has said that it has built playgrounds at the school to encourage participation in sports and nurture students' talents.

The school's Principal, Ntipoo Reza, disclosed the project during the 22nd graduation ceremony for Form Four students held at its premises at Mbezi Beach last weekend.

The ceremony witnessed some of the school's students showcasing their talents in various sports and entertainment.

Reza said the school has arranged a special time for its students to participate in various sports such as football, handball, volleyball, and scout.

"The school is doing well academically but we have seen the importance of sports so we have built a volleyball ground, a football ground, and a basketball court," Reza revealed.

"We do not take sports matters lightly because we know that sports are an economic opportunity, there are people who earn billions through their talent in a variety of sports," he said.

"And we are very grateful to



St. Mary's Mbezi Beach Secondary School's students stage a circus show during the 22nd graduation ceremony of the school's Form Four students that took place at the school in Dar es Salaam last weekend. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JOSEPH MWENDAPOLE

the school's management for supporting us in sports and, on these grounds, we have built, floodlights akin to those found in large sports stadiums have been installed to help students practice at night," he said.

One of the school's students' parents, Anita John, expressed her satisfaction with the talents shown by the students at the

ceremony.

Anita urged the school to continue nurturing the students' talents, given there are many people who have been successful through sports. "We are happy to see the talents of these students in various sports and there are many ways to achieve success in this world," Anita noted.

She disclosed: "There is a student who may not be very good in the classroom but he has talent in either music, soccer, or basketball and, through his skill, he can get great success, so I would like (to request) other schools to set up programs like (the ones at) St Mary's Secondary School."

Morocco, Portugal, and Spain Continue Preparations for World Cup 2030

RABAT

THE presidents of the federations of Morocco, Portugal, and Spain met in Lisbon on October 18 as part of the ongoing joint preparations for the hosting of the 2030 World Cup, according to an FRMF press release.

The leaders' summit brought together Portuguese Fernando Gomes, Fouzi Lekjaa, and Spanish Pedro Rocha to continue preparations for the tournament, which unites two continents and aims to be the "best ever" World Cup.

This is the second time that the presidents of the three associations have met, but the first meeting was after FIFA's decision to award the three countries the 2030 World Cup.

During the meeting, held at the Portuguese Football Federation (FPF) headquarters in Cidade do Futebol, it was decided to present the letter of intent to host the World Cup on October 28, thus fulfilling one of the requirements of the bidding process.

According to the FRMF, this will be the first formal step towards formalizing the joint bid and will demonstrate the commitment of Morocco, Portugal, and Spain to organizing a successful World Cup.

This solemn moment will take place in Rabat, and will be followed by a press conference attended by the presidents of the three federations, according to the FRMF.

Meanwhile, the 2030 World Cup bid committee continued its work. On Wednesday, it held another meeting in Madrid to monitor the project.

Lekjaa told Asharq Sports in a recent interview that "in 2029, Morocco, Spain, and Portugal will jointly organize the Club World Cup not only to test but to confirm readiness a year before hosting the World Cup."

AGENCIES

Phil Foden shows why he's more Lionel Messi than David Silva in Man City win

By Pete Hall

AS Manchester City became only the second English team in history to complete the treble last season, the remarkable feat somewhat passed Phil Foden by.

Arguably the most gifted player to ever come through the City academy, the very definition of a generational talent, had little impact as his boyhood club blew everyone who dared step in their path away last term.

Remarkably, given all he has achieved on our shores, there are some who have remained critical of how Pep Guardiola has underused Foden, insisting a young, English magician needs to be centre stage.

This season, with several big personalities in the City dressing room having departed in the summer, Foden's role in Guardiola's squad has been catapulted from peripheral figure to integral leader, with only two players featuring in more games since the new campaign got under way.

Another surprisingly regular starter this season, Julian Alvarez, got the ball rolling with a fortunate finish early on as City went in front, looking to avoid slipping to three successive league defeats for the first time since 2016.

The impressive Jeremy Doku had a huge hand in the opener and kept Brighton pegged back right from the off.

Much had been made of the heir apparent to the Guardiola throne, Roberto De Zerbi, planning to upset the apple cart further at the Etihad, but his team were not allowed any time on the ball to do their thing, such was the hunger among the City ranks to get back to normality - winning games at a canter.

One such player desperate for his own turnaround in fortunes was Erling Haaland, without a goal in his previous two games - very much drought territory for the Norwegian goal machine.

His booming finish that proved decisive in the end was as emphatic an answer to his deluded critics as he could have possibly mustered, sweeping home an arrowing finish to make it two 19 minutes in.

Like the rest of his City side, Foden faded badly in the second half of the champion's edgy 2-1 win over Brighton, but the damage had been done in the first half at the Etihad.

Furthermore, in such a dazzling first-half showing, as the world waits for Foden to morph into a David Silva incarnation, the 23-year-old instead showed, in glimpses, that the wide role Guardiola continues to deploy him evokes more Lionel Messi feels than Silva.

When you are born with possessing your own gravitational pull over a football, just as the Argentine has, where Foden plays on the pitch is almost irrelevant.

THE INDEPENDENT

Manchester United say 'big goodbye' to Bobby Charlton with emotional win

LONDON

MANCHESTER United beat Sheffield United 2-1 on Saturday on an emotionally charged evening as the Premier League giants said a "big goodbye" to club great Bobby Charlton, who died earlier in the day.

Charlton's family announced that the England World Cup winner, who enjoyed a glittering career with United, had "passed peacefully in the early hours of Saturday morning" at the age of 86.

Tributes poured in from across the football world, with former United player and England captain David Beckham praising Charlton as a "national hero".

Elsewhere on Saturday, Manchester City beat Brighton 2-1 to return to the Premier League summit and Arsenal came from two goals down to draw 2-2 at Chelsea.

Manchester United's players paid a moving tribute to Charlton before kick-off against bottom club Sheffield United in the late game at Bramall Lane.

Captain Bruno Fernandes laid a wreath and a picture of the former attacking midfielder was displayed on a giant screen, while the fans chanted



Manchester United players observe a minute of silence in honour of late English soccer legend Bobby Charlton and for the victims of the Israeli-Hamas war before the English Premier League soccer match between Sheffield United and Manchester United at Bramall Lane in Sheffield, England, Saturday, Oct. 21, 2023. AP

Charlton's name during the match.

United manager Erik ten Hag praised the fans for their tribute.

"It was fantastic," he told Sky Sports. "We have to pay our contribution, pay our big goodbye, remembering Bobby Charlton because what he did was magnificent."

"He was outstanding on the pitch and off it. We wanted to remember Sir Bobby and I think we did it in a decent way."

The sluggish visitors went ahead against the run of play in the 28th minute when Scott McTominay controlled the ball on his chest and found the bottom corner from 12 yards out.

But the lead lasted just six minutes as Oli McBurnie scored from the penalty spot after Mc-

Tominay handled James McAtee's cross.

Ten Hag made three changes shortly after the hour mark, bringing on Anthony Martial, Alejandro Garnacho and Christian Eriksen in a desperate search for a winner.

But it was defender Diogo Dalot who produced the moment of magic to win the game in the 77th minute with a fine strike from long range to lift United to eighth in the table.

- City return to top -

Earlier, City manager Pep Guardiola also expressed his condolences for Charlton's death and called him "a big legend" after the champions held on to beat Brighton.

City's win was their 21st consecutive victory at the Etihad in all competitions, setting a new

record for a winning run at home by a Premier League club.

The treble winners, who had lost their previous two league games, took an early lead through Julian Alvarez before Erling Haaland doubled the lead - his ninth Premier League goal of the season.

It was a different story after the break. Ansu Fati pulled a goal back in the 73rd minute to heap the pressure on the home team, who held on despite the sending off of defender Manuel Akanji.

Liverpool had fortune on their side against Everton at Anfield, where Mohamed Salah scored twice in a 2-0 Merseyside derby victory.

Everton's Ashley

Young was sent off before half-time for two bookable offences, while Liverpool defender Ibrahima Konate escaped a second booking in the second half with the game still goalless.

Chelsea appeared to be on course for their third straight league win against after goals from Cole Palmer and Mykhailo Mudryk.

But Arsenal midfielder Declan Rice halved the deficit in the 77th minute, finishing from outside the box after Chelsea goalkeeper Robert Sanchez misplaced a pass straight into his path, and Leandro Trossard equalised.

"The way the team reacted to the second goal is phenomenal from the players on the pitch and the players on the bench thinking 'how the hell am I going to change this game?'," said Arsenal boss Mikel Arteta. "I loved that."

Newcastle, whose early-season struggles are now a distant memory, romped to a 4-0 win against sorry Crystal Palace and are now fifth in the table.

Brentford beat Burnley 3-0 while Wolves came from behind to beat Bournemouth 2-1. Luton recovered from 2-0 down to draw 2-2 with Nottingham Forest.

Tottenham, who started the day at the top of the table, are not in action until Monday, when they host Fulham.

AFP

Arsenal show their Premier League title credentials in fightback against Chelsea

By Sam Wallace

"A KNIFE between our teeth," was how Mikel Arteta characterised Arsenal's intense pursuit of the game from two goals down with the kind of comeback that all Premier League title contenders need to execute a few times a season in order to be taken seriously.

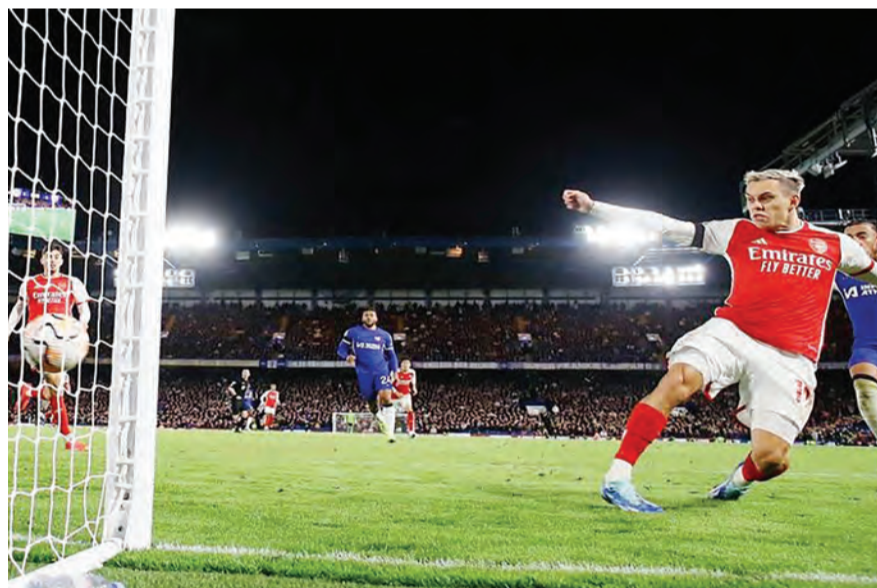
Stamford Bridge fell into a quiet dread as the final moments unfolded with the game level and no question that Arteta's players fancied their chances of a third goal. Where had this come from? The least you could say was that Arsenal had never given up on it and when Declan Rice was presented with half a chance to change the game, he took it.

"I really liked going into the dressing room and it's really quiet, after drawing 2-2 with Chelsea and coming back from 2-0 down," Arteta said, "because I know that they wanted more. That's the positive."

He said that he never doubted his side's durability, even when the second Chelsea goal from Mykhailo Mudryk had dropped over the head of David Raya three minutes into the second half and it looked like Mauricio Pochettino was getting all the breaks.

Up to that point, this was shaping up to be the definitive game - and the definitive win - of the Pochettino Chelsea regime thus far, and there were still moments that will give him some cause for optimism.

Yet in the end his side looked just as brittle as one might expect of this young, hastily-assembled squad that



Arsenal's midfielder Leandro Trossard scores their second goal during the English Premier League football match against Chelsea at Stamford Bridge in London on October 21, 2023. REUTERS

founded on a Robert Sanchez mistake and seemed to introduce that element of doubt.

Pochettino would later admit that it only takes a small set-back to rock the confidence of a young team. He had made some bold changes, especially in the aftermath of the Rice goal, as the game wound down and Leandro Trossard's equaliser came soon after.

He conceded that mistakes were simply part of football although his team needed to "manage games" when they could. "You need to know when to play," Pochettino said, "and when to take risks."

The first hour had been a template for how the Pochettino effect might work on these young Chelsea players. They were intense in their approach if not dominant in possession and the good fortune fell their way - first with a Var review for a dubious handball penalty against William Saliba. A strange decision that might yet feature on one of Howard Webb's sombre Var analysis shows.

The penalty was scored by Cole Palmer in whom Pochettino placed a great deal of faith as a proto centre-forward playing just ahead of Conor Gallagher, captain for the day, in a much more advanced position.

Palmer had to wrestle the ball from Raheem Sterling to take the penalty. There is much promise in this slight, elegant attacking player. Palmer certainly looked more composed than Nicolas

Jackson did in his second half substitute's performance.

While Chelsea's changes seemed to contribute to their uncertainty, Arsenal's felt different. Eddie Nketiah, as well as Trossard, gave another edge to the side. It was Bukayo Saka's cross for Trossard's goal.

The England winger had spent much of the game trying to get away from Marc Cucurella, instructed to stop Arsenal's No 7 at all costs.

"The way the team reacted to the second goal is phenomenal," Arteta said, "from the players on the pitch and the players on the bench thinking 'How the hell am I going to change this game?' I loved that."

Arteta had been booked by Chris Kavanagh for his response to the Var review that saw Saliba penalised for what was judged to be handball. No surprise there, because the Arsenal manager gets a lot of bookings, but he might have had a point on this one. Mudryk had seemed to head the ball onto the Arsenal defender's hand from close range.

As to why Saliba's hand was in that position, Arteta was unequivocal. "The law is clear as well in where the ball has to be in relation to the action. It's very close and it's impossible to jump without lifting your hands. Mechanically it's impossible."

Chelsea had less of the ball but much more of the hustle in the first half. Palmer scored the penalty, having been fortunate only to be booked

for a bad foul on Gabriel Jesus after just eight minutes.

Mudryk's goal looked like a cross, judging from the glance up from the Ukrainian which seemed to take in Sterling at the back post. If indeed he intended that drifting left foot shot from the left to flatten out and drop over Raya into his far corner - then it was a moment of inspiration.

Three goals in five games for club and country for Mudryk. This was one arguably his best day for Chelsea so far with an energetic, foraging performance. Later he would nick a pass from Raya who recovered to save from the winger.

Arsenal's break came on 77 minutes when Sanchez misjudged a pass-out from the back. It was a tough finish but Rice was up to it - a right foot shot curling inside to out and past Sanchez just inside his right post. Trossard plundered the second when Malo Gusto just seemed unaware of where the Arsenal substitute had gone.

THE TELEGRAPH

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Man U say 'big goodbye' to Bobby Charlton with emotional win

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TONIGHT @ 9:00

EATV MONDAY

11:00 DADAZ
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA
13:00 Zote Kuntu
13:30 Kaili Za Wana
13:55 Dandoo Za Michezo
14:00 SKONGGA (r)
14:30 Planet Bongo (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Akili & Me
15:55 Dandoo Za Michezo
16:00 Zote Kuntu
16:55 Dandoo Za Michezo
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 Kaili Za Wana
18:30 #HASHTAG
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 SPORTS
22:00 Zote Kuntu
23:00 Kurasa
23:05 EATV SAA 1 (r)

55Sports
The week's local and international sporting events as well as in-depth analysis of the biggest sporting highlights of the week are covered on 55Sports.

eastafrica RADIO

05:00 Supa Breakfast
09:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
19:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM

COSAFA Technical Study Group head in Rabat for CAF Instructors Course

JOHANNESBURG

COSAFA is about much more than what fans see on the pitch, it is a vehicle to develop and grow the game across the board in the Southern African region, providing opportunities not only to players but also coaches, match officials, and referees.

One such beneficiary has been Leah Sweetness Masango, who for several years now has headed up the Technical Study Group (TSG) at COSAFA tournaments.

She has done outstanding work in providing detailed reports that coaches and member associations can dissect to assess the latest trends in men's and women's football.

Leah is currently in Rabat, Morocco taking the next step in her journey as she attends a CAF Instructors Course, along with several others from the COSAFA region.

She hopes to begin to 'coach the coaches', bringing through a new wave of tacticians to develop the game further.

"We were identified during the CAF/COSAFA Women's Instructors Course that was held in March 2020," Leah said.

She revealed: "I appreciate the opportunity I was granted by the South African Football Association, COSAFA, and CAF, and all the mentors that have supported me on this journey."

There is further COSAFA representation among those who are presenting in Rabat as well.

"The elite instructors from our region who will present on this course are Jacqueline Shipanga from Namibia and Shilene Booysen from South Africa," Leah said.

Leah stated: "Some of the topics that will be covered are the CAF coaching convention and their Women's Football Division - how it has been running within CAF and what are the improvements they want to bring in going forward."

She pointed out: "Also the profile and role of an instructor, and an instructor's principles and teaching methods of training."

Masango has worked incredibly hard to develop her skills over the years and says her role as head of the TSG at COSAFA events has been crucial in that.

"Leading the TSG at COSAFA has had a positive impact on me as an instructor and coach, and has grown me in different ways," she said.

She pointed out: "I have improved a lot of skills, like managing the team and the methods we use as TSG."

She said: "And then afterward ensuring there is a report, which requires a lot of attention to detail and contains a lot of data."

Leah added: "We want to make sure everything is relevant and can improve the players, coaches and member associations." **AGENCIES**

Battle of elite ambitions beckons as Yanga hosts Azam FC



Yanga's midfielder, Mudathir Yahya (L), negotiates his way past Azam FC's players, midfielder James Akaminko (C), and goal-getter Prince Dube, when the two squads met in a 2023/24 Community Shield match which took place in Tanga in August. Yanga defeated Azam FC 2-0. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

MONDAY's heavy-weight showdown between Young Africans and Azam FC takes center stage in the 2023/24 NBC Premier League, with the title hopefuls locking horns at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam today.

It is a match that will have huge ramifications on the top of the table.

With five matches in the books, third-placed Young Africans, alias Yanga, trail table-topping Simba SC by three points, while Azam FC is sandwiched between the two.

Azam FC is yet to taste defeat in the NBC Premier League this season, while Yanga, under the tutelage of Argentine coach Miguel Gamondi, has lost one of the side's five league outings.

After kicking off this season's campaign with three straight wins, Yanga was brought back to earth in a 2-1 loss to Ihefu SC, but that result is now firmly in the past. Just before the interna-

tional break, they claimed a comfortable 3-0 victory over Geita Gold FC in Mwanza to return to winning ways.

In the Premier League, Azam FC has won four and drawn one of their five matches, with a hard-fought 1-0 victory on the road against Coastal Union coming last round. Victory will take Azam FC to the top flight's summit.

The ice cream makers will realize the importance of this fixture if they are to seriously challenge for the league title.

They need to land a blow on the current champions after losing both fixtures to them last season.

It is Azam FC's biggest league game of the season so far. If the club's ambition is to win the league title, this is a big opportunity for

the outfit to take a step towards that.

In the head-to-head record, Azam FC has failed to win any of the club's last six meetings with Yanga, suffering five defeats in all competitions.

Their inaugural clash this season took us back to Tanga in August. Yanga celebrated victory in the Community Shield mini-tournament with a convinc-

ing 2-0 semi-final victory at Mkwakwani Stadium.

Ahead of today's game, Yanga's Gamondi bemoaned the timing of the game, coming immediately after the international break, but stressed his players are well motivated.

The Argentine coach revealed: "We are doing well in preparations. As you know, this week is a little bit complicated because we had 10 players called up by their national teams and they reported late."

Gamondi noted: "Stephane Aziz Ki came on Friday after a long trip. But we are trying to do well. The players are motivated and ready to start this series of four games tomorrow."

Bruno Ferry, Azam FC's assistant coach, talked about how coming up against Yanga is always challenging because it is a big institution with a lot of force behind it.

The French coach noted: "I don't know what will happen tomorrow (today) but we hope to have a good performance because it is a big game against a big team."

Ferry said: "When you play Yanga, you are not playing against a team or a club but an institution with everything behind it, so, it can be a special game in one way and also not so special in another way because at the end if you win it is only points."

"We prepare the team the best we can, I think we are ready to play this game. We have a plan and what will be important is to respect the plan," he disclosed

Coach confident of Simba SC's progression to AFL semi-finals

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA'S Simba SC head coach Roberto Oliveira is confident that his squad will advance to the semi-finals of the inaugural African Football League (AFL) when the club comes up against Egypt's Al Ahly in the second leg of the showdown's quarterfinals at Cairo International Stadium tomorrow.

The Msimbazi Street outfit managed to notch a dramatic 2-2 draw with Al Ahly in the thrilling opening match of AFL which took place in Dar es Salaam last Friday.

Simba SC's Oliveira insisted anything is possible in the reverse fixture and is optimistic to advance to the semi-finals.

In this competition, away goals no longer count, therefore, the much-awaited rematch is anticipated to be a tightly contested and gripping affair.

According to the African football governing body CAF, the winners of the inaugural AFL will receive prize money amounting to 4 million dollars (equivalent to 10,012,000,000/-).

The runner-up will get 2.8 million dollars (equivalent to 7,008,400,000/-). The semi-finalists will each get 1.7 million dollars (equivalent to 4,255,100,000/-).

The AFL quarterfinalists will each rake in 900,000 dollars (equivalent



Tanzania's Simba SC striker, Kibu Denis (R), dribbles past Egypt's Al Ahly central defender, Yasser Ibrahim, when they met in the first leg of the quarterfinal of the inaugural African Football League (AFL) played at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam last weekend and culminated in 2-2 draw. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

to 2,252,700,000/-).

"We have few hours to prepare for the match, and we are happy with our improvement, our objective is to go into the semi-finals which is possible in knockout football," the Brazilian gaffer revealed.

Oliveira said: "We have shown our capacity and my players have shown

their personalities in big games like these."

The coach pointed out: "I have to approach this game in a different manner that cannot be anticipated by our opponents, I am thinking of starting a pure number nine but that will depend on how my players respond in training, since last time out I started a false nine."

"I am very happy with how my players performed in the previous match, showing a lot of aggression," the gaffer noted.

"Congratulations to them. It's time to prepare ourselves for the next game. In football everything is possible," he noted.

Oliveira said the selection of players in his squad, which is made up of 28 players, is

based on the type of match the club participates in.

He did not have a typical number nine in the AFL first leg against Al Ahly but forwards Jean Baleke, John Bocco, and Moses Phiri were on the bench.

His approach was brought about by the kind of match that needed more midfielders than attackers.

In another development, Simba SC jetted off to Cairo on Saturday evening for the second leg of the AFL last-eight showdown.

The Msimbazi Street club's goalkeepers, Aishi Manula and Hussein Abel, as well as Ivorian midfielder Aubin Kramo, are not in the squad that has traveled to Cairo.

Simba SC is the only outfit from the CECAFA region that participates in the eight-team continental showdown.

As per the criteria for selection of clubs participating in AFL, they are ranked first to eighth in CAF's club ranking, as well as battling it out in the confederation's inter-club tournaments regularly.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

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THE AMBULANCE

