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MPs: Borrow for coal, iron project

By Francis Kajubi, Dodoma

LEGISLATORS have challenged the government to secure loans for the Mchuchuma-Liganga iron and coal project if arrangements for private sector involvement are yet to bear fruit.

Contributing to debate on the Minerals estimated pegged at 89.36bn/- before it was approved by the National Assembly, MPs expressed irritation with the delay in project implementation on account of disputed investment modality.

They said the government needs to borrow for project execution in like manner as the standard gauge railway and the Julius Nyerere hydropower project.

Dr Joseph Mhagama (Madaba) argued that the project was second to JNHPP in spinning multiplier effects in the economy.

The southern railway project is directly linked to the Mchuchuma-Liganga project "thus the delay means failure in everything," he said, noting that the delay has impeded work on the Mkiu-Madaba highway, listed as an aspect of the project.

He said the project holds vast employment opportunities for host communities, apart from facilitating the generation of 600 megawatt of electricity from the Mchuchuma coal reserve.

Prof. Kitila Mkumbo (Ubungo) advised the government to invest into the project instead of hoping for investment that has actually failed.

"The government needs to borrow to invest in this project," he said, citing borrowing for projects with long term impacts like SGR and

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President Samia Suluhu Hassan speaks at the state banquet she hosted for her guest, Rwandan President Paul Kagame (2nd-L), at State House in Dar es Salaam on Thursday evening. Left is Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation minister Dr Stergomena Tax. President Kagame arrived in Tanzania earlier in the day for a two-day working visit and jetted back home yesterday afternoon. Photo: State House

Kagame ends visit, bilateral ties closer

By Guardian Reporter

RWANDAN President Paul Kagame yesterday finalised a two-day working visit on a high note as the two countries laid aside differences of the past ten years to focus on the deepening infrastructure and trade ties between them.

Leaders of the two countries agreed to strengthen cooperation in some key areas which have not been doing well, including increasing the trade volume

and logistical cooperation, a State House joint press conference had indicated.

Zuhura Yunus, the State House director of presidential communications said this was the tone of conversations at State House president made the remarks during a President Samia Suluhu Hassan struck with the visiting Rwandan president during the first day of his visit.

Tanzania Ports Authority's (TPA) handling of

Rwandan goods rose by 90-percent last fiscal year, with Dar port handling 1.3m metric tonnes from 922,135 metric tonnes back in fiscal 2017/18.

President Samia pointed at the trade gap in bilateral relations, explaining that the government was working to improve Dar port alongside Tanga port, plus kindred transportation infrastructure to offer better services to Rwanda and other landlocked coun-

tries.

In his remarks, the Rwandan leader said the two countries are committed towards building ties which will benefit people of both countries, sounding upbeat about progress being reached in the stalled conflict in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

Relations between the two countries reached a low ebb in 2014 on the confluence of the DRC con-

flikt, the still simmering situation in Burundi, along with tensions among East African Community (EAC) partner states.

After Uganda, Rwanda and Kenya formed a 'coalition of the willing' notably in relation to putting into action the East African Common Market Protocol, then President Jakaya Kikwete had a difficult moment to persuade the legislature from desisting to issue a resolution for

Tanzania to get out of EAC. During the fifth phase the level of cooperation rose to higher heights, partly because of kindred political orientation of fifth phase leader Dr John Magufuli and President Kagame. Building the standard gauge railway added flavour to still fledgling ties and now becomes the backbone of intensifying cooperation between the two countries, observers noted.

Education integration: EAC closing protocol gap

By Guardian Reporter

AS partner states of the East African Community (EAC) progressively implement the Common Market Protocol, the number of students studying in different partner states was steadily rising.

Dr Peter Mathuki, the secretary general, made this observation at the opening session of a three-day conference of Kenya Secondary Schools Heads Association (KESSHA) for the county of Machakos, taking place at the EAC headquarters in Arusha.

He said that the increase in student numbers is facilitated by the issuance of visa gratis to students admitted in approved training institutions across EAC member states.

The partner states are committed by

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TanzTech Solutions now close to local production of laptops



We want to bring these technologies to the local market," noting details in the ruling party's election manifesto on the matter. **The government encourages young people to study science for the country to generate experts in science and engineering**

By Augusta Njoi, Dodoma

A REGIONAL computer firm, Tanztech Electronics Ltd will next month start to produce tablets, projectors and laptops, on the basis of remarks by the Education, Science and Technology minister, Prof Adolf Mkenda. Gracing the annual science, technology and innovation competition here yesterday,

he said that the Arusha based firm will be producing such equipment and assist public institutions in delivering courses on electronic engineering. An online profile says that TanzTech Solutions is a freelance web design and development agency founded in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi, and operating on a wider scale in the region.

He urged the public to get prepared to buy locally made information and communication technologies (ICT) instead of importing them. The government has also requested the company to train a section of students in electronic engineering, he said. The training will be conducted

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MPs: Borrow for coal, iron project

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JNHHP. It needs to borrow for this project as well, he declared.

The project investment is estimated at \$3bn, with local experts saying its possible estimated returns are pegged at \$1.4bn a year, he asserted.

Rita Kabati (Special Seats), demanded that the government explain its hesitation in investing into the project. "The government should be transparent on what has been achieved so far in negotiations with willing investors," she stated.

Stella Manyanya (Nyasa) said the government should either invest or issue the go-ahead for serious investors, underlining that this is the right time for the project implementation. She said that the coal deposits must be put to use or be forgotten as industrial burning of coal was not proscribed but generating energy from it still has a market. "We must play to the tune instead of being intimidated by everything," she stated.

Concerns by MPs come two months after the government put to investigation members of the technical team involved in the 2011 signing of the Mchuchuma-Liganga project with Sichuan Hongda Group

Corporation (SHG). Back in February, Industries, Trade and Investment minister Dr Ashatu Kijaji told the House that the delay in the project execution is due to investment incentives demanded by SHG from the government that violate the country's laws on taxation and natural resources.

"This is the reason the project has not yet started. Investigation on the technical team members who led to the signing of the contract is ongoing," she said, elaborating that the government will not sign the notice or issue an addendum for project implementation on the ground of terms and conditions stipulated in the contract.

The Minerals ministry website shows that the Cabinet Circular No 14/2007 called for seeking out investors through competitive bidding. In 2011, 48 companies from different countries showed interest in investing into the project, whereupon the Sichuan Hongda Group Corporation (SHG) was picked.

Reports said it was preferred for high technology of executing the project, whereupon a joint venture agreement was reached with the National Development Corporation (NDC).

It created the Tanzania China International Mineral Resources Limited (TCIMRL), the NDC was to hold 20 per cent shares, the minister specified.



Dodoma regional commissioner Rosemary Senyamule (C) turns on a tap to launch a water project at Buigiri village in Chamwino District, Dodoma Region, on Thursday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Education integration: EAC closing protocol gap

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protocol to ease visa requirements for higher learning and other students, under the common market protocol, he asserted, hailing teachers as helping with EAC integration.

They are professionals in transforming society by opening up minds, he said, urging them to sensitize their students on the integration process and its attendant benefits.

"The education sector is a key contributor to the EAC integration process," he stated, describing teachers

as goodwill ambassadors to ensure ownership of the integration process by the people at the grassroots.

He said that the EAC Secretariat conducts an annual secondary school students' essay writing competition, with awards given at the EAC Summit. Teachers need to impress upon their students the need to participate in the annual competition, he stated, affirming that the summit has awarded 30 winners from 2019 to 2021.

The key to an expanded EAC market is increased

trade to promote economic growth and creating more employment opportunities for the youth in the region, he said, noting that this will be facilitated by drawing up strategies to facilitate accelerated integration of education delivery in the region.

The strategic plans are include the basic and tertiary levels of education, namely pre-primary, primary, secondary, teacher education, technical and vocational education and training (TVET), continuing and non-formal education

as well as special needs education.

The secretariat looks forward to harmonising EAC education systems and training curricula, as experts work on sustainability of EAC scholarship programmes via the Inter-University Council of East Africa (IUCEA), he said.

Taking up EAC teacher and students' mobility programmes would enhance the free movement of persons across the partner states envisaged under the protocol, he said. Those attending include

the Machakos County Education Board, chairman Prof. David Mulwa, the county director of education Margaret Mwirigi, and Machakos KESSHA chairman, Anthony Kitungi. Kitungi expressed gratitude to the EAC Secretariat for allowing the association to hold its conference at the EAC headquarters. As education goes beyond the classroom, it was an excellent opportunity for the teachers to interact with new people, understand their culture and get to see new environments, he added.

Enough is enough: Ruto warns Azimio against planned protests

KAJIADO

President William Ruto has hit out at the Azimio la Umoja coalition over their planned protests as the bipartisan talks take shape.

The head of state, speaking in Kajiado County yesterday, called out the Raila Odinga-led coalition for the destruction of property and businesses in several parts of the country as a result of their previous demonstrations.

"I heard that they want to protest in the city centre, let them try it. We have entertained their nonsense for so long. This time around I am saying enough is enough," Ruto warned.

"It is wrong for people to destroy property in the name of demonstrations. The Opposition thinks that us [government] giving in to the bipartisan talks is a weakness. I want to tell them I was legally chosen by the people of Kenya and

going forward I will not tolerate their nonsense," said Ruto during the commissioning of the 65-kilometer Ongata Rongai road.

The president avowed that instead of going back to the streets, the Odinga faction should channel that energy into building the country.

"The Constitution provides for us to engage in a constructive manner without violent confrontations. The interests of leaders cannot supersede those of Kenyans who put us in office. Therefore, I want to urge leaders in the Opposition to work with us in a collaborative manner."

His remarks come a week after Azimio announced that the anti-government demonstrations will resume on May 2.

Their decision to go back to the streets was influenced by the government's "failure to take the bipartisan talks seriously". AGENCIES



Nachingwea district commissioner Mohamed Hassan Moyo launches a weeklong national vaccination drive in the district on Thursday by giving a dose of polio vaccine to a baby. Photo: Correspondent

TanzTech Solutions now close to local production of laptops

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through institutions under the Vocational Education and Training Authority (VETA), Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology (DIT) and Arusha Technical College (ATC).

The government expects to discourage importation of the gadgets once the firm starts manufacturing them locally, he said, insisting that science, technology and innovation have a great contribution in shaping our economy.

A number of countries have attained economic success by investing in ICT, he said, citing Norway as having progressed by investing in education, especially science, technology and innovations.

"We want to bring these technologies to the local market," noting details in the ruling party's election manifesto on the matter. The government encour-

ages young people to study science for the country to generate experts in science and engineering, he stated.

Prof Carolyne Nombo, the permanent secretary, said the competition had since 2019 enabled 2,636 young designers and inventors to be identified and recognized, with 283 being assisted. The Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH) worked to enable their products to enter the market, she stated.

Buni Hub and Dar Teknohama Business Incubators (DTB) have worked together to bring up 94 young companies, enabling upwards of 30,000 young people to find indirect jobs.

The contribution of these companies to the national income is substantial as they pay 500m/- in taxes annually, when employing over 30 people per unit, she added.

By Henry Mwangonde

Experts call for agriculture innovation

AGRICULTURE experts have called for innovative ideas to make Africa realise its goal of becoming a global food basket including facilitating technology uptake.

Speaking at a meeting organised by the Embassy of the United States in Dar es Salaam, experts from Tanzania, Kenya,

and Uganda explored the need for awareness to farmers on the essence of technology in modern farming.

Dr Silia Nawada Principal researcher at the Uganda National Academy of Sciences said food security is critical, for the

African region adding that there is need to come up with innovative solutions to match the continents food needs.

"We have the technologists but the problem is the uptake of the technology, how do we make our people to practice what

the scientists are saying," she said.

Regional environmental Adviser for Morogoro Venance Igere said his office has been educating people in the region to diversify crops so that they do not only depend on staple foods which are

mostly affected by climate change.

Commenting on the same, US ambassador to Tanzania Michael Battle said president Samia has elaborated on the need for food security not only for Tanzania but also for the rest of the world.

He said the continent is blessed with tremendous resources including arable land and opportunities to grow food; however, he said there is a gap between the capacities due to technological shortfalls that need to be imported.

The envoy said Tanzania stands a better chance of becoming Africa's food basket adding that the current leadership has shown the direction for such an ambition.

"With the right kind of seeds and technology, Africa can be the bread

basket for the world and even the food conference which is going to happen in Tanzania is because president Samia has shown leadership," the envoy said.

The meeting was aimed at bringing scholars together who will discuss issues that are relevant on how to store the food and process them before they are sold.

Tanzania will no longer export unprocessed cashewnuts: govt

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

TANZANIA will no longer export unprocessed cashewnuts from the 2025/26 production year, the government has declared.

On the same note the government will in the coming financial year 23/24 set aside 10bn/- for the construction of three big cashew processing plants.

Minister for Agriculture Hussein Bashe made the revelation in Dodoma during a special meeting with cashewnuts' stakeholders from various regions producing the crop.

He said cashewnuts' warehouse selling system denies the government revenues as well as limits employment to Tanzanian youth.

Bashe said in order to achieve the goals, the plants will be constructed in Nanyamba district in Mtwara region,

Manyoni in Singida and Kongwa in Dodoma.

The minister warned companies and agents who sell fake inputs that stern legal actions will be taken against those who do the malpractice.

He said most farmers in the country fail to produce much crops as expected due to the fact they are given fake inputs and then get the right ones when the cropping season is over.

"We are determined to address the challenge, and the ministry has prepared a special programme to identify all companies that are doing the malpractice," he said.

"It is worrying to see how cashewnuts production is declining in the country when the country is blessed with many areas and suitable soil for the production of the crop," the minister added.

He said this year the aim was to produce more than 400,000 tonnes but the country has only managed to produce 180,000 tonnes.

Francis Alfred, Cashewnuts Board of Tanzania (CBT) director said the board was ready to implement various strategies aimed at promoting the production of the crop in the country.

"In collaboration with the Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute (TARI) Naliendele we are determined to ensure they produce the crop using modern agronomy with a target of producing at least 51,000 tonnes every year from 2024," he said.



Tanzania Education Authority director general Bahati Geuzye (3rd-R) presents a leaving certificate to an outgoing Form Six at a Tabora Boys' Secondary School graduation ceremony held in Tabora municipality earlier this week. Photo: Correspondent

WB: Commodity prices to register sharpest drop since the pandemic

By Guardian Reporter

THE World Bank's latest report has said global commodity prices are expected to decline this year at the fastest clip since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Commodity Markets Outlook report states that the drop in prices is expected to bring little relief to the nearly 350 million people across the world who faces food insecurity.

Although food prices are expected to fall by 8 per cent in 2023, they will be at the second-highest level since 1975.

As of February this year, annual food price inflation is at 20 per cent globally, the highest level over the past two decades.

Indermit Gill, World Bank's Chief Economist and Senior Vice President for Development Economics said: "The surge in food and energy prices after Russia's invasion of Ukraine has largely passed due to slowing economic growth, a moderate winter, and reallocations in the commodity trade."

Gill added: "But this is of little comfort to consumers in many countries. In real terms, food prices will remain at one of the highest levels of the past five decades. Governments should avoid trade restrictions and protect their poorest citizens using targeted income-support programs rather than price controls."

Ayhan Kose, the World Bank's Deputy Chief Economist and Director of Prospects Group, said: "The decline in commodity prices over the past year has helped reduce global headline inflation. However, central bankers need to remain vigilant as a wide range of factors, including weaker-than-expected oil supply, a more commodity-intensive recovery in China, an intensification of geopolitical tensions, or unfavorable weather conditions, could push prices higher and reignite inflationary pressures."

Valerie Mercer-Blackman, Lead Economist in the World Bank's Prospects Group said: "Metal prices, which increased slightly early in the year, are

expected to fall by 8 percent relative to last year, primarily because of weak global demand and improved supplies. In the longer term, however, the energy transition could significantly lift the demand for some metals, notably lithium, copper, and nickel."

Overall, commodity prices are expected to fall by 21 percent in 2023 relative to last year. Energy prices are projected to decline by 26 percent this year.

The price of Brent crude oil in U.S. dollars is expected to average \$84 a barrel this year—down by 16 percent from the 2022 average.

European and U.S. natural-gas prices are forecast to halve

between 2022 and 2023, while coal prices are expected to decrease 42 percent in 2023. Fertilizer prices are also projected to fall by 37 percent in 2023, which would mark the largest annual drop since 1974.

Fertilizer prices are still near their recent high last seen during the 2008-09 food crisis, it said.

Despite the large declines expected this year, prices of all major commodity groups will remain well above their 2015-2019 average levels.

European natural gas prices will hover at almost three times the average in 2015-19. Energy and coal prices will also remain above the pre-pandemic average.



Overall, commodity prices are expected to fall by 21 percent in 2023 relative to last year. Energy prices are projected to decline by 26 percent this year



Prof Shadrack Mwakalila (R, in specs), Rector of Dar es Salaam's Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial Academy, has a first-hand account yesterday of innovative works by the academy's students at the Innovation Week exhibition now under way in Dodoma city. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TEA plans to spend 8.9bn/- on projects geared to improve the education sector

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

THE Tanzania Education Authority (TEA) through the National Education Fund plans to spend 8.9bn/- on projects geared to improve the education sector.

The funds will be used to finance 96 projects in primary and secondary schools in Tanzania mainland as well as two higher education institutions in Zanzibar this financial year.

TEA Communications Manager, Bestina Magutu made the revelation when briefing journalists who visited the Msangalalee primary school in Dodoma Region where an English medium school has been built by TEA at a cost of 750m/-.

The new school started to operate in January this year with 215 students, she said, adding admission will continue until it reaches its capacity of 640 pupils.

She said the projects that will be funded will include the construction of classrooms, toilets, laboratories for science studies, teachers' houses, dormitories and infrastructure for students with special needs in primary and secondary schools.

She said in this fiscal year, the National Education Fund will improve infrastructure and enable the purchase of learning and teaching equipment for two higher education institutions in Zanzibar.

Magutu noted that, out of the funds, 447,520,444m/- will be directed to education projects in the Dodoma Region, which include construction of four teachers' houses and 24 pit latrines at Makole secondary school and 24 pit latrines at Mlowa primary school.

She said they will also build a dormitory for students with special needs at Ibonya primary school in

Kondoa District.

The manager said in three years from the 2019/2022 fiscal year, the Education Fund has funded projects worth 3,621,003,744/- in Dodoma Region.

Head Teacher of Msangalalee English medium school, Dina Mndasha, said the school that teaches in English belongs to the government and that they enroll pupils from Standard One to Standard Three.

She said so far eight class rooms have been completed and that six are used for teaching, one as a dining hall and the other as a rest room.

"The response is big, we are charging a relative fee that makes many parents send applications for their children," she said, noting teachers are given incentives to ensure pupils score high marks in each subject.

She said for each 'A' scored in any subject, a teacher receives 10,000/-



An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha
Department of Foreign Affairs

TENDER NOTICES

The Embassy of Ireland Dar es Salaam invites eligible Consultancy firms to express their interest in providing consultancy services. It is envisaged that the contract will run for a Term of 1 year. The contract may be extended by a period of 12 months (1 year), with a maximum of two extensions.

1. Provision of security services

The Embassy invites competent consultancy firms to submit tenders for the administration of the Ireland Africa Fellows Programme, SIDS Fellowship and Courtney Fellowship.

The scope of this contract is to complement the Embassy Fellowship Officer, details are found in the tender document.

Expression of Interest:

Expressions of Interest are sought by Embassy of Ireland from Consultancy firms interested in providing services as outlined in this notice.

Companies should register their interest and submit relevant and comprehensive information and documentation showing that they have legal status i.e. relevant registration certificates to provide such services.

The company should briefly demonstrate that they possess the required capability to carry out the tasks. The capability statement should include descriptions of similar assignments, qualifications, experience and provision of services particularly to Embassies and international organisations, costs submission, availability of appropriate skills among staff and any other relevant information.

In order to be included in the pre-selection process, the consultancy firm must furnish the information requested by the set deadline. Pre-selection will be made on the basis of the information provided by service providers.

Consultancy firms will be short listed based on qualifications, technical competence, experience

in similar services and the capacity to undertake the assignment.

Only consultancy firms with demonstrated experience, together with a track record in similar assignments, and which meet the pre-selection requirements will proceed to the subsequent stage.

Award Criteria for Final Tender:

The award criteria will be based on technical and financial aspects and level of after-sales service.

Please note the following:

- Existing consultancy firms are eligible to tender;
- Any interested consultancy firm should be willing to provide services as and when required be it during working hours, out of working hours.
- Each tender should also indicate the charges/costs and mode of payments.

Tender documents are available on the Embassy website

<https://www.dfa.ie/irish-embassy/tanzania/news-and-events/latestnews/request-for-tender-for-managing-the-selection-process-for-fellowships.html>

Tender documents are available on the Embassy website (Insert link). Tenders should be addressed to the Ambassador, Embassy of Ireland, and submitted to DarProcurement@dfa.ie not later than **18:00 on 19th May 2023**. Late bids will not be accepted.

The Embassy of Ireland reserves the right to accept or reject any tender. Canvassing will result in automatic disqualification of the tender.

P.O Box 9612 Dar es Salaam, Plot 353 Touré Drive, Masaki Tel: **+255 222602355/2602356/2602361**
Email: DarProcurement@dfa.ie
Website: www.dfa.ie/Tanzania

Govt to bring together investment experts, heads of public institutions for sharing of experiences in bid to raise \$9bn in 3 years

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

THE government will next month bring together heads of seven strategic public institutions and investment experts under the Public Private Partnerships (PPP) for purposes of sharing experiences that will help attract a \$9 billion (21trn/-) within three years.

PPP Commissioner in the Ministry of Finance and Planning, David Kafulila said the meeting that will be held on May 2nd to 6th, 2023 is part of a strategy to achieve the set objectives of the Third Five-Year National Development Plan (FYDP III).

Speaking at a meeting between the ministry and editors in Arusha, Kafulila said that PPP leaders from the World Bank and International Finance Corporation (IFC) are expected to attend the workshop.

Kafulila mentioned other relevant public institutions

including Tanzania Electric Supply Company Limited (TANESCO), Rural Energy Agency (REA), Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC), Tanzania Aviation Authority (TAA), Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC), DART and Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA).

He said some of the PPP projects currently in the market include the Kibaha-Chalinze Expressway project, construction of a 5-star hotel at Julius Kambarage Nyerere International Airport (JNIA) and construction of a business complex.

Kafulila stressed that PPP is now a global agenda because the needs of the people are greater, but the government doesn't have the ability to achieve the goals using taxes and loans.

He emphasized that the national debt of approximately 40 percent of the economy is moderate compared to all East African countries as well as those in Southern Africa.



Vodacom Tanzania Plc managing director Philip Besimire (L) receives a vehicle inspection certificate and a road safety sticker from Assistant Commissioner of Police Tanzania Michael Deleli. The latter made a brief visit to the firm's headquarters in Dar es Salaam on Thursday for an assessment of the level of compliance with the national policy on workplace health and safety. The visit was part of the commemoration of the World Day for Safety and Health at Work (April 28). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Use 'Mama Samia legal aid campaign' to provide information on incidents of sexual violence, PM appeals to public

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has asked Tanzanians to make use of the 'Mama Samia Legal Aid Campaign' to provide information on the presence of people or groups involved in sexual violence, especially against children.

He made the call on Thursday when launching the campaign which will be implemented for three years from March, 2023 to December 2025.

Majaliwa said the campaign will help to broaden people's understanding of the law and access to justice, justice delivery systems, legal issues and human rights. He said the education will

be provided in collaboration with government institutions, civil society organisations and development stakeholders.

"The campaign is expected to improve access to justice for disadvantaged people, especially women, children and other vulnerable groups. It will contribute in strengthening peace and stability as well as boosting individual's income and enhancing national unity," said the premier.

According to him, other benefits of the campaign are to help strengthen the legal aid service delivery systems at all levels from the central government to local governments.

He said the participation of stakeholders involved in the le-

gal aid service will increase by 80 percent at the levels of both central and local governments.

The premier instructed the Ministry of Constitution and Legal Affairs to set up a good system to handle the legal challenges that will be raised during the campaign.

"Let us not leave the people without getting answers to their challenges. This will help create a good image for the government and authorities that have approved the existence of this campaign," he said.

Majaliwa asked the ministry to execute its duties efficiently by adhering to professionalism so that Tanzanians get justice on time.

"For those who cannot afford the costs of hiring independent lawyers, the ministry should make sure they get legal aid services at reasonable charges," he added.

Minister for Constitution and Legal Affairs, Dr Damas Ndumbaro said the campaign follows instructions by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to ensure they provide legal education and help the needy across the country.

He said plans are to provide legal education in areas of land disputes, inheritance, marriage and child law especially on sexual violence.

The slogan of the campaign is "Unite with Mama Samia to oppose cruelty, respect the dig-

nity of your fellow, protect your neighbours' child; let's build a country with dignity, honour and peace".



Ndumbaro said the campaign will be implemented on both sides of the Union in collaboration with various government institutions and stakeholders including the office of the Director of Public Prosecution, Attorney General, social welfare officers, colleges and higher education institutions.

Others are the Tangayika Law Society (TLS), Tanzania Network of Legal Aid Providers (TANLAP), Legal Services Facility (LSF), Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC), European Union (EU), UNDP, Women in Law & Devel-

opment in Africa (WILDAP) and NMB Bank.



Let us not leave the people without getting answers to their challenges. This will help create a good image for the government and authorities that have approved the existence of this campaign

JOB ADVERTISEMENT

WASCO ISOAF Tz is a Tanzania-incorporated company with its head office in Dar es Salaam and its plant in Nzeqa District, Tabora Region. The Company has been contracted by the East Africa Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Project as a Thermal Insulation Contractor.

JOB DESCRIPTION

TITLE: MAINTENANCE MANAGER

ACCOUNTABILITY: PROJECT MAINTENANCE MANAGER DOTTED LINE TO MOBILIZATION MANAGER

JOB SUMMARY

The Maintenance Manager shall oversee all aspects of Maintenance including installation, repair and upkeep operations of the company's facilities. To manage the Maintenance department on staff development and departmental operational strategies.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Develop maintenance procedures and ensure implementation
- Carry out inspections of the facilities to identify and resolve issues.
- Check electrical and hydraulic systems of the site to ensure functionality
- Plan and oversee all repair and installation activities
- Allocate workload and supervise upkeep staff (custodians, janitors etc.)
- Monitor equipment inventory and place orders when necessary
- Monitor expenses and control the budget for maintenance
- Ensure health and safety policies are complied with

QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's degree in engineering or related field required
- 10+ years' experience in maintenance management role
- Strong knowledge of engineering concepts, including electrical, hydraulic and mechanical systems
- Ability to interpret blueprints, specifications and schematics
- Effective interpersonal and written communication skills
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- Must have experience in construction/Mining/Oil & Gas industry.

Apply to: recruitment-t@isoaf.com
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Please note that, should you not be contacted for more than two weeks after the deadline, consider your application unsuccessful



RECIPE FOR DISASTER: A stinking 'blend' of stagnant sewage and rainwater literally sits next to a busy market for vegetables, fruit and various other food items, as found at Mbezi Mwisho in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

Jafo underlines need for public institutions to use clean energy to reduce environmental destruction

By Guardian Reporter

MINISTER of State, Vice President's Office (Union and Environment), Selemeni Jafo has stressed the need for public institutions to use clean energy for cooking to control environmental destruction associated with the use of charcoal and firewood.

Jafo made the statement on Thursday when speaking during a Form Six graduation ceremony at Iringa Girls Secondary School.

He said the recent ban issued by the government on the use of firewood and charcoal is meant for institutions and not otherwise. He said the targeted institutions are those preparing food for over 100 people.

The minister considered that thousand acres of trees were being cut, hence decisions by the government

to launch a number of tree planting campaigns to control environmental destruction.

He said the LPG gas marketing company-Taifa Gas is expected to install gas cylinders at Iringa Girls Secondary School to enable the school to shift from dirty to clean energy.

"Our intention is to ensure environmental protection by controlling tree felling; this is why I issued directives on the use of clean energies. By using gas we can save a lot of money which could be spent to purchase charcoal and firewood. Institutions spend between 5m/- and 8m/- on cooking energy," said Jafo.

He said a school can use 1 tonne of gas per month at a cost of 2m/-. He said Ruvu Secondary School has shifted from firewood to gas, thus re-

ducing expenditures. He said it is possible for all the schools to start using gas in cooking.

Jafo commended the school for conducting a tree planting campaign, calling upon other schools to do the same. He said by doing so they are supporting the government's efforts towards environmental conservation.

Tanzania is currently losing 469,000 hectares of forest per year, the number which is too high compared to 300,000 hectares that were lost annually in the 1990s.

Africa's net forest loss exceeded 4 million hectares per year between 2000 and 2005 and approximately 3.9 million ha annually between 2010 and 2020, according to a 2020 report by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).

JOCV programme back in Tanzania after 3-year Covid-induced interval

By Guardian Reporter

JAPAN International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Tanzania has resumed the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers (JOCV) programme after almost three years of suspension due to the global pandemic COVID 19.

According to a statement issued yesterday by JICA, on February 7, 2023, one volunteer who is going to be assigned to one of the VETA centers in the field of mechanical engineering finally arrived in Tanzania thereby marking the resumption of the JOCV program in the country.

"Currently the volunteer is undertaking Swahili language and cultural training for one month before starting his assignment in mid-March 2023," JICA statement reads in part.

Just before the global pandemic COVID-19 occurred in March 2020, a total of 60 JICA volunteers were engaged in the different fields in Tanzania, but they were suddenly required to return to Japan. That was unexpected for all of them.

"At the same time, some candidates of JICA volunteers were about to leave Japan for Tanzania in March 2020, but their hope was discouraged. This newly arrived volunteer was one of them. He was waiting to come to Tanzania for about three years and now his dream has come true. The volunteer appreciates the Tanzanian government for accepting him to

work and share his knowledge and skills with Tanzanians," the statement said.

Japanese volunteers of the JOCV programme generally stay in Tanzania for two years to work in various fields which contribute to human resources development in a wide range of areas including education, governance, health, ICT, agriculture, environment, tourism, sports and several other technical fields.

The JOCV Programme is one of Japan's technical cooperation schemes operated as part of its Official Development Assistance (ODA) in 98 countries and regions including Tanzania. The main aim is to cooperate in the economic and social development, to share Japan's knowledge and technical expertise in developing countries and to strengthening friendship.

The JOCV programme in Tanzania has a long history, and it started in 1966, and so far JICA has dispatched nearly 1700 volunteers to various institutions in Tanzania.

With the JOCV programme back in action in Tanzania, JICA is hoping to expand the focus fields and geographical areas where Japanese volunteers will be supporting communities in Tanzania. JICA volunteers continue to work closely with Tanzanian friends at the grassroots level to cope with various development challenges with their Tanzanian colleagues. "It will enhance the relationship of the two countries. Thus, it



Prof Joyce Ndalichako (R), Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Labour, Youth, Employment and People with Disabilities), presents an award to Zaida Mahavu in Morogoro municipality yesterday at an event to mark World Day for Safety and Health at Work. The latter is the northern zone manager of the Public Service Social Security Fund (PSSSF), which emerged best overall nationally in the implementation of the Occupational Safety and Health Policy in the Social Security for Public Sector category. Photo: Correspondent

By Francis Kajubi, Dodoma

MPs appeal for govt's ownership of minerals

THE government has been challenged to select a few types of minerals that will be placed under full ownership of the government for it to hold enough reserves and sell to the rest of the world.

During their contributions to the minerals budget tuned at 89.36bn/- approved yesterday by the National Assembly, a number of legislators urged the government to identify a few minerals that it will control and oversee operations and trading activities for the state's benefit.

Prof Sospeter Muhongo, Rural Musoma legislator argued that the ministry had since the late 1960s focused on administration of the mineral sector by delegating its control of the natural resources into the

hands of investors.

According to him, state capitalism should be the way forward for Tanzania to benefit from its precious metals since the same model has been successful in China, India, Norway and Brazil where governments have full control for some of the explored minerals.

"There must be several minerals that are fully owned by the government. We need real investments in geological survey by empowering the Geological Survey Of Tanzania-GST and establishing high-tech mineral laboratories," said Prof Muhongo.

Prof Muhongo further encouraged the government through the

central bank to have a reasonable gold reserve.

He argued that the core countries with a strong veto at the World Bank's decision keep high stakes of gold reserves in their respective central banks, thus Tanzania should reconsider fully ownership of mines far from public-private partnership.

"At the WB voting powers are determined by the share of gold reserves the country holds apart from other factors. The US has a voting power of 17 percent with 8,133 tonnes of gold reserve; Japan is 8.55 percent with 846 tonnes of gold reserve and China 2.25 percent with 1,948 tonnes. BOT and the ministry need to act accordingly," said Prof

Muhongo.

Prof Kitila Mkumbo, Ubungo legislator also was of the view that the sector had not contributed enough to poverty alleviation among individuals thus growth in revenues is irrelevant to common people's welfare.

He argued that the minerals administration model should be reviewed on the way forward. He said that in reality the country's minerals ownership is largely in the hands of foreign investors.

"We need to make a decision of selecting some of the minerals to be fully under the government custody. The new model should allow the relocation of the selected minerals to

be under STAMICO. The same model has been applied in Botswana," said Prof Mkumbo.

In his response while winding up on legislators' contributions, Minerals Minister Doto Biteko acknowledged that it is high time for the government to take charge on some minerals through investment and direct ownership.

He said that in this case, minerals laws should be reviewed whenever necessary. Biteko stressed that things are being harmonized since President Samia Suluhu Hassan took power two years ago where the government has chipped in the sector with several investments through STAMICO.

He said towards achieving the same mission the ministry had since 2017 been lobbying for establishment of gold refineries for value addition. However, the central bank has so far purchased 400 kilograms of gold in this case. Several issues are being observed for the establishment of the national gold reserve.

He said on the way forward the central bank has agreed to cover costs for gold refinery to be purchased under this model.

"On some project under the public-private partnership the joint financial model is being observed. However, the public procurement regulations need to be reviewed to make it easier for the public sector to be competitive in business," said Biteko.



Hussein Zenzel (C), councillor for Dar es Salaam's Mikochei A, cuts ribbon earlier this week to inaugurate two Mikochei A Primary School classrooms built with Ishik Foundation funding. He is flanked by Feza Schools director Ibrahim Yunus (R) and Metis Montessori Lycum School teacher Pia Pinar. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

TMA forecasts three-day heavy rain in Z'bar and coastal regions

By Henry Mwangonde

REGIONS of Dar es Salaam, Tanga, Coast and Zanzibar are expected to experience heavy rains for three days beginning yesterday according to the Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA).

TMA said the rains will continue up to tomorrow warning residents in the regions to be alert as the rains may have effects on the two weather sensitive sectors.

TMA Weather analyst Rose Senyagwa said among the effects expected was that people's residences may be surrounded by water, destruction of transport infrastructure and challenges to businesses.

"Our systems shows there will be heavy rains from today (Friday) to Sunday but we are still in Masika season, people should continue to follow our updates frequently," she said.

She said responsible authorities must take precautions due to the ongoing rains to avoid serious damage to infrastructure and loss of life.

She added that during this season, the health sector must take precautions due to the threat of water borne diseases which usually erupt during such times.

In February this year, (TMA) advised authorities in weather sensitive sectors to take precautions to reduce effects of severe weather after its forecasts for Masika rains from March to May (MAM) showed there will be above normal to normal rains in some regions in the coastal zone.

The forecast showed normal to below normal rains are expected over most parts of bimodal areas except few areas of Dar es Salaam, Coast (including Mafia), northern Morogoro regions together with Unguja Island where normal to above normal rains are expected.

HPSS project, Ministry of Health release study findings to help UHI improvement

By Henry Mwangonde

THE Swiss government funded Health Promotion and System Strengthening (HPSS) project in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and the President's Office, Regional Administration, and Local Government have released a study whose findings are expected to inform the development of the national Universal Health Insurance (UHI).

Speaking yesterday at the research findings dissemination in Dar es Salaam, Jac-

queline Matoro, the National Project Officer at the Swiss Embassy, commended the government of Tanzania for the cooperation and support it continues to provide towards the implementation of the HPSS project.

"We hope these findings will form the basis for a further technical conversation to inform policy direction," she said.

The workshop also sought to engage researchers, policymakers, insurers, and the insurance regulator on the scientific study findings and recommendations on the

contributions of CHF insurance scheme as well as the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) to the UHI.

Among other things the report recommends that there should be a reimbursement formula to be revised and made transparent to the service providers.

It also recommends that there is a need to ensure timely disbursement of funds as defined within the contract.

The study calls for consideration for the request to develop a unique model of payment for private providers.

"There is a need for healthcare managers to internalize the iCHF scheme to ensure it full operation at different levels of implementation," the report reads.

The national CHF coordinator in the President's Office, Regional Administration, and Local Government Silvery Mkanza said the iCHF has so far registered four million members, saying this must be embraced in the new UHI.

He said among the key issues that the UHI must embrace which were successful in the iCHF was the registration of members us-

ing technology in which the member was registered and given an identity card immediately even in rural areas.

The other success was the medical package which was allowing a member to access services up to a regional referral hospital level.

HPSS project Manager Ally Kebby said the studies were timely and mandatory adding that the investment made by the government in the health sector must go in line with the ability to afford the services.

Tanzanians urged to produce, use organic foods

By Correspondent James Lanka, Rombo

AN International organisation, Slow Food Earth Markets Tanzania (SFEM-Tanzania) has appealed to members of the community to produce and use local natural organic foods produced using natural manures instead of artificial fertilisers for the sustainable good health.

According to the SFEM-Tanzania, most of the people in the community have changed their lifestyle by using foods that have been produced using modern farming including the use of hazardous chemicals for health, thus abandoning 'natural foods' produced using manures that have been left away for some decades.

Speaking with this paper at Mangulwa local market in Rombo district at a special natural organic foods exhibition that goes together with the launching of the heritage foods Community and Mangulwa Earth Market group, a representative of Slow Food Tanzania, Stephano Msuya explained that, among the natural organic foods left behind is yams and nutritious bananas famously known as 'Kitarasa'.

According to him, his organisation has established a special campaign on the importance of using natural organic foods that has reached more than 29 producers in Rombo, Moshi, Mwanga, Same and Hai districts.

"We have selected Rombo district as our pilot project as one of the crucial natural nutritious bananas famously known as 'Kitarasa' that was highly produced in this area is now endangered, while this variety is very nutritious and can be also used as a cure for some diseases," he explained.

Msuya further added that, one of the core aims of the Slow Food organization is to promote the production and the use of natural organic foods such as 'Kitarasa' bananas for sustainable good health.

"Through our projects, we are making sure that our peasants are producing and using natural organic foods in gardens at their premises, schools for sustainable nutritious food productions, thus eradicating hunger and poverty," Msuya explained.

He further explained that, they have established Mangulwa Earth Market for the core aims of revival the production and the use of endangered natural organic foods.



Road Fund Board acting manager Rashid Kalimbaga pictured yesterday briefing journalists who toured the board's pavilion at the innovations exhibition in progress in Dodoma city. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Bank to curb shortage of teachers' furniture at Sokoine Memorial Secondary School

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

NMB Bank is finalising plans for a permanent solution to eradicate shortage of teachers' tables and chairs at Sokoine Memorial Secondary School in Mvomero district that has forced teachers to use students' desks for their day-to-day activities.

The bank has thus made a pledge to donate 30 tables and 30 chairs worth 4m/- within three months to the school as part of its commitment to create a conducive working environment for the teachers.

Speaking during the first graduation ceremony for form six students in Mvomero district, the NMB Central Zonal Manager, Nsolo Mlozi said the bank is committed to creating a shared value for all stakeholders including communities where it operates.

Nsolo said that as part of the bank's commitment to complement various development initiatives by the government, the bank through its Corporate Social Investment (CSI) strategy each year sets a portion of its profit after tax to support development ini-

tiatives across the country in its key priority areas including education, health and emergencies.

Every year, NMB bank has been setting aside a portion of its profit after tax to support various development initiatives across the country. This year alone, the bank has set aside 6.6bn/- which will be channelled to support education, health, emergencies and environment," he said.

He added, "So as to address the challenge teachers desks and chairs at Edward Moringe Sokoine Memorial School, NMB will provide 30 teachers'

tables and 30 chairs and we believe our support will go a long way to create a more conducive teaching environment for the teachers.

Nsolo, who officiated as guest of honor at the graduation, challenged the form six candidates to make adequate preparations for the forthcoming national exams and urged them to stay disciplined as part of honouring and emulating the movements of life of the late Edward Sokoine who lived in those foundations.

Earlier, the form six candidates in a speech read by Boniface Ludovick (20

said that the school was facing various challenges including shortage of photocopy and printing machine, shortage of text books especially for form 5 and 6 for subjects such as Mathematics, Economics, Geography, English and History.

The school's Head Teacher Gosbert Rwegasira during the event said that despite receiving a lot of support from the government, the school still faces a lot of challenges that need to be addressed citing the construction of a permanent bridge since the temporary bridge available now makes movements for stu-

dents and teachers cumbersome especially during rainy seasons.

We have a temporary bridge that separates between the dormitories, administration offices and classrooms but during heavy rains, the bridge is impassable because the water overflows so for safety reasons, we are forced to use another alternative route which is longer and this consumes a lot of time.

We are so grateful for NMB's pledge to address the challenge of teachers' chairs and tables at our school and we believe this will make life easier for the teachers," Rwegasira said.

Residents of Kigamboni to gain from procurement of 2 new sea taxis, House told

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

RESIDENTS of Kigamboni in Dar es Salaam may soon have a reason to smile as the government plans to purchase two new sea taxis plying between Magogoni and Kigamboni, the Parliament heard yesterday.

Deputy Minister for Works, Godfrey Kasekenya told the lawmakers that the procedure to acquire the two vessels with capacity to carry 250 people each has started.

He was responding to a question asked by the Kigamboni MP, Dr Faustine Ndugulile who had wanted to know when the government would build new Kigamboni ferry to help reduce transport challenge to residents.

"When shall the building of the new ferry start following budget allocation in the 2022/2023?" asked the MP. In response, the deputy minister noted that the ministry through the Tanzania Electrical, Mechanical and Electronics Services Agency (TEMESA) has set aside budget for the purchase of new vessel in 2022/2023.

He said experience from the sea taxis owned by Azam Marine Company shows great success, thus the government has seen it wise to purchase such vessels.

"Procurement processes for the two vessels have commenced and soon they will be available," said the deputy minister.

The government last year revealed plans to construct five ferries that will be used to address transport challenges in different parts of the country including the Magogoni area in the city.

The ferries include the additional ferry that will ply between Mafia and Nyamisati village in the Coast Region. Others are Chanyakaliko-Kome in Buchosa District, Idinga-Tahangala in Magu District and Kisorya-Lugenzi in Ukerewe District in Mwanza, noting that the later has started operations.

The revelation came after the Magogoni ferries have caused fear among stakeholders including passengers using the ferry from the City Centre to Kigamboni and vice versa.



Bagamoyo legislator Muharami Mkenge (R) has a word with Sheikh Ramia Mohamed, the district's representative in the National Muslim Council of Tanzania (Bakwata), during a Quran recital competition held in Bagamoyo town earlier this week. It was organised by Shakiba Islamic and supervised by Sheikh Abdul Sharif Zahoro. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

WHO calls for increased implementation of recommended tools to fight malaria

By Guardian Reporter

THE World Health Organisation (WHO) has called for increased implementation of new and existing interventions to save lives from malaria.

Nearly 1.5 million children at high risk of illness and death from malaria in Ghana, Kenya and Malawi have now received their first dose of the first malaria vaccine, RTS,S/AS01 (RTS,S), thanks to an on-going pilot programme coordinated by WHO.

The malaria vaccine pilots, launched in 2019, are increasing equity in access to malaria prevention for the most vulnerable and are saving lives.

If implemented broadly, WHO estimates that malaria vaccines could save the lives of tens of thousands of children each year.

Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, Director-General of WHO said: "We have the tools to drive down malaria, a package of interventions that includes vector control, preventive medicines, testing, and treatment."

Dr Ghebreyesus said: "These are joined by a safe and effective malaria vaccine, which could save the lives of tens of thousands children every year. With sustained investment and scaled-up efforts to reach those most at risk, malaria elimination in many countries is in reach."

World Malaria Day 2023 is being marked

under the theme "Time to deliver zero malaria: invest, innovate, implement".

The theme urge for more effective implementation of available tools and strategies to prevent, diagnose and treat malaria, particularly among marginalized populations.

According to the latest World malaria report, published in December 2022, there were an estimated 247 million new cases of malaria in 2021.

The WHO African Region continues to shoulder the heaviest burden of the disease - accounting for an estimated 95 percent of all malaria cases (234 million) and 96 percent of all deaths (593 000) in 2021.

Nearly 80 percent of malaria deaths in

the African Region were among children under the age of five.

Countries have made some progress in expanding access to malaria services for most-at-risk populations. Despite some progress, many people at high risk of malaria still lack access to services that can prevent, detect and treat the disease.

Challenges in expanding access to malaria services have been compounded, particularly in sub-Saharan Africa, by the COVID-19 pandemic, converging humanitarian crises, restricted funding, weak surveillance systems, and declines in the effectiveness of core malaria-fighting tools.

WHO has also increased the transpar-

ency, flexibility and access to its malaria recommendations. The consolidated WHO Guidelines for malaria are now available through two digital platforms: MAGI Capp and the "Malaria Toolkit" app.

A second malaria vaccine, the R21/Matrx-M (R21) vaccine, if approved, could help close the sizable gap between supply and demand and further reduce child illness and death from malaria.

It is a priority for WHO to continue the thorough and efficient expert review of the R21 malaria vaccine once additional key safety and efficacy data from the on-going R21 phase 3 trial are available and provided to WHO.

Minister cautions contractors on \$500 million water project

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

WATER minister Jumaa Aweso has met with contractors implementing water projects in 28 cities and asked them to focus on quality.

He met the contractors yesterday at his office in Dodoma Region where they discussed various issues concerning the implementation of the project which will cost \$500 million.

The project is one of the largest strategic water projects in the country and is being made possible by the government through a softy loan from the government of India through the Exim Bank of India.

Minister Aweso asked the contractors to be careful in the implementation of the important task of providing Tanzanians with clean water services. He asked the contractors to work with great strength to ensure that it is completed within agreed time in the contract because the project has been awaited for a long time by the people.

"People in those cities are waiting for this

project so that they can get clean and safe water so everyone of you must work day and night to complete the project on time and with high quality as expected," said Minister Aweso.

Aweso also told them about the expectations of President Samia Suluhu Hassan who witnessed the signing of the project at Chamwino State House in Dodoma recently.

The implementation of the 28 Cities water project started on April 12, 2022 after the government completed the tax procedures and paid the advance payment to the contractors who are now scattered in various areas to implement the project.

This project will benefit the towns of Kaliuwa, Sikonge, Urambo, Kasulu, Mpanda, Kilwa Masoko, Nanyumbu, Ifakara, Rujewa, Makambako, Njombe, Wang'ombe, Chunya and Chamwino. Other cities that will benefit from the project are, Chemba, Singida, Manyoni, Mugumu, Geita, Kayanga, Chato, Handeni, Korogwe, Muheza, Pangani, Mafinga, Songea, Rorua / Tarime and Makonde.



Simanjiro District Council vice chairman Jacob Kimeso pictured earlier this week opening a councillors' meeting called to discuss quarterly reports for all wards in the district. Right is the council's executive director, Samwel Warioba. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

AfDB appoints Jean-Hubert Bayala as acting director for general services and procurement

ABIDJAN

THE African Development Bank Group (AfDB) has appointed Jean-Hubert Bayala, a national of Burkina Faso, as Acting Director for its General Services and Procurement department. The appointment took effect on 1 March 2023.

Bayala (pictured) has over 30 years of progressive professional, technical and managerial experience that includes supporting core Bank Group business operations and financial activities.

Before his appointment, Bayala led the bank's Business Continuity Unit, which oversees its capa-

bility to respond to threats and risks with the potential to disrupt operations. Since assuming that position in 2010, Bayala has developed, implemented and managed business continuity, including for operations and services.

Bayala has previously served as Acting Director of the General Services and Procurement department from February 2020 to April 2022. From May 2007 to December 2009, Mr Bayala was a risk and business continuity planning officer at the World Bank Group, where he worked on security, risk, and emergency management issues.



In an earlier stint with the African Development Bank, before he joined the World Bank Group, Bayala served as team leader for the Information Technology Security and Business Continuity Plan.

He was also a member of the Management Committee of the Information Technology department.

During this period—from 1992 through 2007—he played a lead role in developing and deploying the business continuity plan that paved the way for the Bank's relocation in 2003 from Cote d'Ivoire to Tunisia and its subsequent return to the former country in 2014.

Bayala holds a master's degree

in Electronics Engineering from l'Institut National Supérieur de l'Enseignement Technique, INP-HB Côte d'Ivoire. He also holds certificates in Leadership and Management Development from Cranfield School of Management in the UK and Persuasive Leadership Development from the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School (USA).

Commenting on his appointment, Bayala said: "I accept the appointment with humility and commitment to deliver on the Bank's noble mandate. I would like to thank President Adesina for the trust he always places in me, and

will do my best to lead the team to deliver in the interim period."

Dr. Akinwumi Adesina, President of the African Development Bank Group, said: "I am pleased to appoint Jean-Hubert Bayala as Acting Director of the General Services and Procurement department. Bayala is a respected professional and will lead and provide strategic direction to the team, ensuring that there is adequate management of the Bank's administrative affairs, effective and efficient management of the Bank's real estate portfolio and optimization of the bank's institutional procurement."

Tarime DC outlaws mining activities near water sources

By Ambrose Wantagwa, Tarime

TARIME District Commissioner Michael Mntenjele has banned all mining activities near water sources and asked all people who invaded the area to vacate.

The DC also instructed the environment department in the district here to supervise the cleansing of minerals outside the water sources so that the residents and small-scale miners carry out safe extraction.

The DC was chairing a meeting of water stakeholders in the Tarime district that sat to discuss the implementation of water projects and brought together village leaders and managers of water communities from all wards.

He said that in the implementation of water projects in the district, the government has provided an amount of 4.5 billion/- to solve the problems of the citizens, especially mothers who have to walk long distances to find clean and safe water services.

"Citizens are prohibited from carrying out mining activities in water sources because this action causes damage to the environment and also affects the health of users in those areas," said Mntenjele.

In another step, he has asked ward and village leaders to manage the protection of water sources while taking legal action against citizens who destroy infrastructure in order to deny residents access to that precious service.

DC Mntenjele has instructed the RUWASA water authority to continue providing regular education for all residents surrounding the project to appreciate the importance of water infrastructure.

"I also instruct the environmental managers from the Tarime District Council to encourage government institutions such as schools and non-governmental organisations to plant trees in abundance in their areas to protect the environment," he said.



Xavier Mrope, Deputy Permanent Secretary in the President's Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance), presses a button to launch a book on reforms the Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority has undergone between 2016 and 2022. This was at a meeting of the TCAA workers' council held in Morogoro municipality on Thursday. Photo: Correspondent Dickson Mulashani

Dar court adjourns until May forgery case facing former SUMA-JKT staff

By Correspondent Zuwena Shame

FIRST witness, MT 87161 Sergeant Zamoyoni Musa on a forgery case facing former SUMA-JKT staff, Peter Fumbuka (21) told the Kisutu Resident Magistrate Court how the accused was arrested.

Before the Kisutu Principal Magistrate, Richard Kabate and State Attorney Ashura Mnzava, Mussa claimed that the accused who previously worked at the Tanzania

People's Defence Force (TPDF) headquarters (investigation unit) whereby he is now at the military in Kibaha, Coast Region. Mussa told the court that they were tipped off by army officers Makambako that there is a person selling government trophies including army combat. He told the court that together with her fellow officers, they managed to arrest Fumbuka after they called him and pretended to be in need of forgery certificate.

Mussa stated that they both agreed to meet at Buguruni Darajani whereby one of the officers—Corp. Mapote stayed on top of the bridge and gave them a signal of the accused so that they could arrest him.

"We communicated with our bosses shortly after we arrested him. We were directed to take him to Temeke police station, but later on, we were ordered to take him to Kigogo police station," he narrated.

He also told the court that

on October 28th, 2021 they inspected Fumbuka's living room at Buguruni and found a TPDF certificate for one Pricila. He said they later on discovered that Fumbuka did not own the room, but he had rented another room at Vingunguti.

"At Vingunguti, we found the owner of the house—Lucy Mlai; we searched and found a radio call (Motorola), TPDF waist belt, stamps of the Principal of the Makongo training centre and a basic certificate of recognition

by Tanzania National Service(JKT) with the accused name" Musa told the court.

In the first count, between September 14th and October 14th, 2020 at Buguruni and Vingunguti within Dar es Salaam, the accused forged a basic driving certificate purporting to show that it was genuinely issued by TPDF.

On the second count, it was alleged that between December 18th and December 30th, 2020, the accused forged a

basic certificate of recognition by Tanzania National Service (JKT) with no. 302647 named Michel Peter Fumbuka for purporting to show that it was genuinely issued by JKT, a fact he knew to be untrue.

On the third count, on October 28th, 2021 at Buguruni and Vingunguti within Dar es Salaam, the accused forged a stamp of the Principal of Makongo training centre, the act which is contrary to the law.

It was alleged that on October

28th, 2021 the accused forged a stamp of the Principal of the militia chief in Sumbawanga.

On the same date at Buguruni Vingunguti within Dar es Salaam, the accused was unlawful found in possession of a public store with a radio call (Motorola) No. 422 hcl 8891, property of Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) and a waist belt, property of TPDF.

The case was adjourned until May 10 this year for another hearing.

The Guardian

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SATURDAY 29 APRIL 2023

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

Empowering girls, young women in ICT is investing in girls themselves

WE are living through the fourth industrial revolution where the future for young people remains bright in developing nations, especially in Africa.

Of the estimated 60 million people in Tanzania, more than 50 per cent are under 18 and over 70 per cent are under 30. Yet girls continue to be under-represented in the field of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics).

The barriers are related to access, affordability, education and lack of technological literacy, as well as inherent biases and socio-cultural norms that lead to gender-based digital exclusion.

Few women and girls in Tanzania participate in the ICT (Information, Communication and Technology) field. As a result, only 25 per cent of women hold tech jobs in Tanzania and girls comprise only 10 per cent of students earning degrees in computer science.]

The challenge of few women and girls participating in ICT is compounded by poor infrastructure and low funding in government secondary schools to deliver quality digital literacy training. In addition, teachers in these schools have limited skills and knowledge to deliver relevant training to the students.

Social and cultural barriers, where parents prefer boys over girls, especially in education, have led to fewer girls attaining tech training and having the required skills to pursue tech jobs.

Only 25 per cent of women hold tech jobs in Tanzania and girls comprise only 10 per cent of students earning degrees in computer science.

In order to cope with these obstacles, BRAC Maendeleo Tanzania, in partnership with Theirworld, a global children's charity, implemented the Skills for Their Future pilot project in 2019 at Temeke second-

ary school.

Teachers lack skills and knowledge in ICT subjects and have never had the opportunity to test how to use technology in classrooms.

The project was able to improve teaching pedagogy, increase content knowledge and increase access to learning materials for the teachers trained in this project.

The Temeke secondary school was able to see a considerable increase in the number of girls who performed well in science subjects, which was directly correlated to the project being available to them.

Girls in ICT Day is a moment to celebrate girls and young women who overcome the surrounding barriers and challenges.

The International Girls in ICT Day is celebrated on the fourth Thursday in April to create awareness on the need for more girls and women in the information and communications technology (ICT) sector.

The day is an initiative of the Plenipotentiary Resolution 70 (Rev. Busan, 2014) by the member states of the International Telecommunication Union to create programs that encourage girls and young women to consider studies and careers in information and communication technologies.[3]

In 2022, the African Development Bank's Coding for Employment program set aside half its training slots for women applicants to commemorate International Girls in ICT Day.

In 2015, annual Girls in ICT Day events recorded about 177,000 girls around the world through over 5,300 events in more than 150 countries.

By 2022, International Telecommunication Union data showed that more than 3,62,000 girls and young women have celebrated more than 11,000 celebrations in 171 countries worldwide during the International Girls in ICT Day.

A safe, healthy working environment fundamental principle, right at work

THE primary objective of the Occupational Safety and Health Authority (OSHA) is to ensure creation and maintenance of ideal work environments which are free from occupational hazards that may cause injuries or illness to all employees in work environment. This will be achieved by promoting occupational health and safety practices in order to reduce accidents and occupational diseases, and ultimately achieve better productivity.

OSHA was established under Executive Agencies Act No. 30 of 1997 and is the custodian of Occupational Health and Safety Act No. 5 of 2003.

In June 2022, the International Labour Conference (ILC) decided to include "a safe and healthy working environment" in the ILO's framework of fundamental principles and rights at work.

Yesterday, the ILO celebrated its decision, bringing together experts and constituents to discuss the implications it has for the world of work, as well as how to practically implement this right in the world of work.

Health, according to the World Health Organisation, is "a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease and infirmity".

A variety of definitions have been used for different purposes over time. Health can be promoted by encouraging healthful activities, such as regular physical exercise and adequate sleep, and by reducing or avoiding unhealthy activities or situations, such as smoking or excessive stress. Some factors affecting health are due to individual choices, such as whether to engage in a high-risk behaviour, while others are due to structural causes, such as whether the society is arranged in a way that makes it easier or harder

for people to get necessary healthcare services. Still, other factors are beyond both individual and group choices, such as genetic disorders.

The meaning of health has evolved over time. In keeping with the biomedical perspective, early definitions of health focused on the theme of the body's ability to function; health was seen as a state of normal function that could be disrupted from time to time by disease. WHO played a leading role when it fostered the development of the health promotion movement in the 1980s.

This brought in a new conception of health, not as a state, but in dynamic terms of resiliency, in other words, as "a resource for living".

In 1984, WHO revised the definition of health defined it as "the extent to which an individual or group is able to realise aspirations and satisfy needs and to change or cope with the environment. Health is a resource for everyday life, not the objective of living; it is a positive concept, emphasising social and personal resources, as well as physical capacities.

Systematic activities to prevent or cure health problems and promote good health in humans are undertaken by health care providers. In addition to health care interventions and a person's surroundings, a number of other factors are known to influence the health status of individuals. These are referred to as the "determinants of health", which include the individual's background, lifestyle, economic status, social conditions and spirituality.

In the first decade of the 21st century, the conceptualisation of health as an ability opened the door for self-assessments to become the main indicators to judge the performance of efforts aimed at improving human health.

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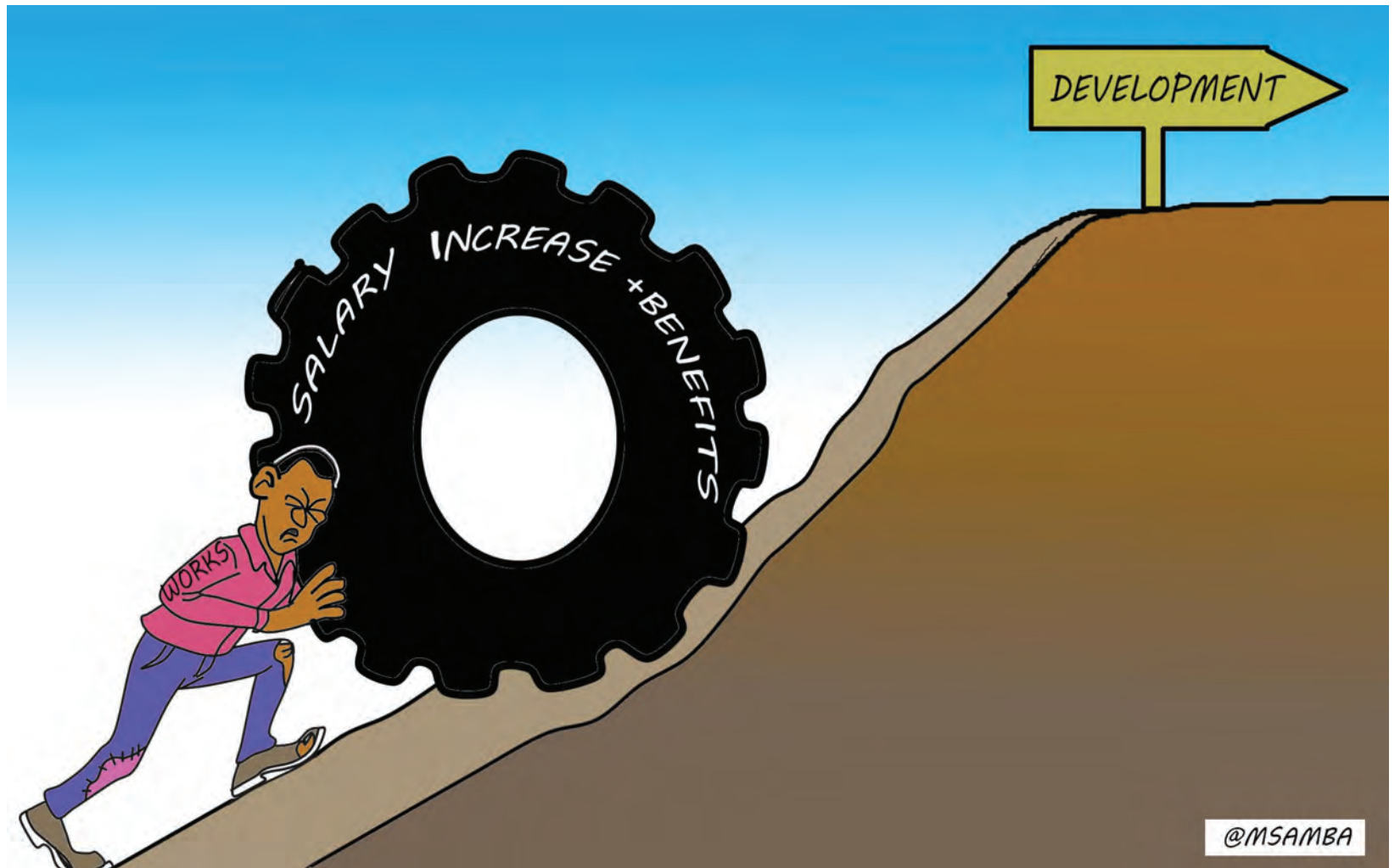
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Politicising Tanga Cement acquisition abets confusion

By Special Correspondents

FEARS were openly expressed in the National Assembly in Dodoma city recently that the planned acquisition of the Tanga Cement Co. Ltd. plant by the much more efficient Dar es Salaam-based Twiga Cement would push up the price of the all-important construction material.

Interestingly, this view is now being echoed at high levels of some of the country's political parties. It is unclear if the matter is one of civil litigation or regulatory clarity.

The thread runs thus: a former legislator from the leading opposition party has appealed to the government to stick to a verdict by the High Court against the sale of Tanga Cement to Twiga Cement.

While the former MP was insisting at a press conference that failing to do so violated the rule of law and ran against good governance, it is quite possible that the matter was being taken in a simplistic fashion.

If it were a matter of contested ownership of this or that company, the courts of law would be the last resort. If it so happened that pressure was being exerted on the company to

accept being acquired, that too could be an issue for the courts.

But what if the company set for sale is looking to the deal as badly needed salvation for the thousands of jobs now all but on the line?

The basic argument that selling Tanga Cement would trigger an increase in cement prices is being taken up by politicians wishing to generate some workable agenda before the public, which could basically have some legitimacy.

However, it is sort of milked from an old model of economy that ignores basic realities relating to price mechanisms by seeing pricing as competition between the two firms.

Rather, it ought to take into account cheaper foreign cement as a crucial determining factor, as that would check against the idea of monopolistic abuse that some MPs and now opposition politicians seem to be exclusively having in mind.

There is another sphere where the remarks by a top-level opposition activist may indeed have put things on their shoulders rather than on their feet.

This lies in the reminder that the Fair Competition Act, No. 8 of 2003

is clear that the Fair Competition Commission (FCC) first needs to protect the interests of the public, which would effectively mean consumers.

It appears that the particular activist stood firmly convinced that, at least by implication, FCC must abide by a ruling by the High Court and the Fair Competition Tribunal on the protracted issue of the sale of TCCL.

One clear problem here is that Tanga Cement is not a party to this contest on its sale and thousands of jobs are on the line; does this matter?

This harping on the supposed rise of cement prices in the wake of selling the company is little more than a hype, as prices are in a way kept down by imports and whatever is the tax level exercised on imports first and then on locally produced goods.

Still we don't have to belabour that point as we have signed up to the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

In this case, import tariffs have been agreed especially within the East African Community, also reconciled with expectations of the Southern Africa Development Community and AfCFTA protocols. So, the argument about prices ought to be put

aside as no company can really dictate things or terms.

The particular critic erred in suggesting that the cement prices now prevailing in Tanzania (yes, prices, since there is really no uniform price) are higher than those applicable elsewhere in the East Africa region. He definitely erred in citing a 50-kilogramme bag of cement as selling at 900/- in Kenya versus between 15,000/- and 17,000/- in Dar es Salaam.

First, in that the Kenyan shilling ordinarily fetches about 20,000/-, the price could be said to be lower in Tanzania than in Kenya.

The critic appears to believe that Tanga Cement can do meaningful business with the current price; false, the firm is collapsing.

It is also apparent that the critic forgot to factor in the impact of the fact that there are more players in Tanzania's cement industry than just Tanga and Twiga.

This is to talk of the likes of Mtwara-based giant Dangote Cement Plc and Tanga-based Huaxin Cement Co. Ltd. Additionally, as noted, the existence of cement imports cannot easily - or safely - be swept under the carpet.

The judiciary can lead in reversing negative effects of climate change

By Kalua Green

IN 2017, Kenya's Supreme Court ruled that Polling Station results were final. They cannot be adjusted at a later stage. This landmark ruling guided the way the 2022 election results were handled. This is just one illustration of how instrumental the Judiciary can be in entrenching binding ground rules for critical matters in a country.

However, the Judiciary cannot act on its own volition. It only delivers rulings when petition cases are presented before it, and watertight at that. As such, ordinary citizens can deploy the Judiciary's immense power for the good of a country.

Indeed, the Judiciary's mammoth power was spotlighted last week during the revolutionary 3rd Regional Symposium on Greening Judiciaries in Africa, which took place in Nairobi.

Held against the backdrop of severe famine in the Horn Africa, this Symposium's theme was quite relevant, "Strengthening the Role of Judiciaries in addressing climate change in Africa." The Judiciary is indeed uniquely equipped to tackle Climate Change issues decisively. It can do so through a variety of interventions that were spotlighted in the Symposium.

Firstly, polluters must be held accountable. Thankfully, a strong precedent was set in Mombasa's Environment and Lands Court. In July 2020, Environment and Lands Court Judge Ann Omolo awarded over 3,000 residents of Owino

Uhuru Sh1.3 billion for deaths, sickness and damages caused by emissions from a lead-smelting factory. Unfortunately, affected residents are yet to receive this money.

This brings me to the second intervention that must be enforced. The recently concluded Symposium asserted the need for guidelines to enforce court orders. In order to uphold public confidence in the judicial process, court orders must be obeyed to the letter, and by everyone regardless of their station in society. That must happen speedily because justice delayed is justice denied.

As a case in point, let's revisit the tragic scenario in Marsabit back in mid-January. Heavy rains swept away over 1,500 sheep and goats leaving great loss in their trail. As much as the floods were an act of nature, their impact could have been drastically reduced through better flood mitigation measures. In these circumstances, who, according to the law, is responsible for this death and destruction? What legal steps can a citizen take to ensure that those responsible compensate them? Who should fund this legal process if victims are unable to do so? Citizens must demand answers to these questions because they touch on their wellbeing and livelihoods.

Indeed, citizens have a societal obligation to engage the Judiciary in tackling the environmental and social challenges of our times. Doing so will result in replenishment, inclusivity and continuity. I dare say that it is largely because we are not taking our social responsibility seriously that our environment experiences depletion, not replen-

ishment. The Judiciary can halt this, but only if we engage it.

Indeed, critical environmental rights are being violated every day. Yet the United Nations makes it clear that every human being should enjoy the universal right to a clean, healthy, and sustainable environment. This right is also enshrined in our constitution, which states in Section 42 that every person has the right to a clean and healthy environment.

As such, no Kenyan should settle for anything less than this. If the environment in your residential neighborhood or workplace isn't clean, healthy and sustainable, someone is terribly violating your right. It is your civic duty to ensure that the violation stops immediately.

Finally, I suggest Kenya's parliament must act speedily to develop progressive policies and laws that secure a clean and healthy environment. We also need policies and laws that clearly apportion culpability for the preventable effects of climate change. For instance, if early warning systems forewarn that rains will fail, why should we stand by idly as famine rages havoc? I suggest that a new entity to standardize societal obligation be held duly responsible for that. And the Judiciary must step in to affirm the citizens' right. Tufuate sheria! Think green, act green!

The author is the Founder and Chairperson of Green Africa Foundation, an organization that was founded in the year 2000 that champions Sustainable Development in Africa.

Our shambolic public transport system violates Law of the Child Act (2)

By Telesphor Magobe

LAST week, we briefly looked at the plight of schoolchildren, especially the transport problem during this rainy season (but also in other times) and how it impacts on their punctuality and learning. We reflected on this issue in the context of Dar es Salaam and in light of section 5(2) of the Law of the Child Act (R.E. 2019) which prohibits discriminating against a child.

We found that schoolchildren are discriminated against on the basis of "socioeconomic status" because they pay less fare than that of an adult and are looked at as a business liability.

In the circumstances, if there is an adult and a schoolchild waiting for a commuter bus, the adult will be preferred to the schoolchild. The consequence is that schoolchildren go to school in the morning and return home in the evening late and this impacts on their learning and academic achievement.

Today, I invite you to reflect further on the plight of schoolchildren. Last week, when I was returning home in the evening as I shared it, I observed that there was a transport problem because when I arrived at the station where I usually take a minibus bus back home I found that there was none. Yet, there were many people, including schoolchildren, waiting for transport.

When minibuses started coming, people started



scrambling to enter. Some passengers entered through windows. In situations like this, it is only the strongest who enter and fill the minibus and other people like older persons, the sick, women who have children or pregnant ones, people with disabilities and, of course, schoolchildren and people who want to enter without being pushed or pulled this or that way, keep waiting until very late.

This can only be after peak hours, maybe from about 09:00 if it is in the morning or from about 20:00-21:00 if it is in the evening.

Schoolchildren are often told to wait until the minibus is full. But since there are always people waiting for transport and the schoolchildren are told to wait until the minibus is full, this means when it is full, they are not allowed to enter for safety reasons. In some cases, between three and five schoolchildren may be allowed and the rest will have to wait.

If it is in the evening, they will also be late to arrive home and they cannot have sufficient time for personal study and homework. Their problem becomes worse when it is during the rainy season and at some point, some drivers may park their vehicles earlier if they find

that they have collected enough for their bosses and for themselves. This aggravates the problem because it means fewer minibuses on the road.

As it was already 18:30, some minibuses were not reaching the end of their route. This was an inconvenience to a person who had a fixed fare because if the bus doesn't reach the end, then one has to wait for another minibus which reaches the end or take a motor bicycle which becomes even more expensive. Thus, when I found that it was impossible for me to travel by minibus, I resorted to taking a rickshaw which did not reach the end either, but I had almost covered three quarters of the journey.

Then, I took a motorcycle to the end of the route and then took my bicycle where I had packed it and cycled to my house. But what struck me that day which I didn't share last week is that when I was still waiting for a minibus, I was standing nearby schoolchildren. After they had waited for a long time without success, one of the girls who could be a secondary schoolgirl approached a police officer of the rank of staff sergeant who was also waiting for transport and asked him: "Sir,

what is wrong with us schoolchildren to be denied transport?"

The schoolgirl expected to get an affirmative reply, but she was disappointed to hear the police officer tell her: "You are not denied transport, you have only to enter a few of you at a time." After this answer, the schoolgirl left and was complaining that her going to the police officer to seek help was of no use.

It suffices to say that we haven't planned well the transport of schoolchildren who depend on public transport especially commuter buses to and from school and unless we get it right, their problem will remain.

We have the obligation to ensure our children get not just education, but better education which will enable them to find solutions to their problems and make Tanzania and the world a better place to live in. Education should lead to this end; otherwise it is a waste of money and time.

Today's proverb: "If you are not part of the solution, you are part of the problem."

The author is a lawyer based in Dar es Salaam. He can be reached at tmagobe@gmail.com



Union at 59: Debunking falsehoods and misconceptions about its formation (1)

By Obadia Kajungu

THE union between Tanganyika and Zanzibar which was sealed on 26 April, 1964 to form the United Republic of Tanzania, and cemented by the 1977 union constitution, has in recent years faced several criticisms particularly from academics and politicians.

The arguments, among others, is that it was devoid of free consent of citizens, it was entered into by fraud and deception, it lacks articles of the union, it was result of cold war and its resultant government structure is logically inconsistent.

This article is intended to show the validity and effectiveness of the union in the light of international law. Development of state union arises when there is death of one or more sovereign states that devolve their sovereignty into one succeeding state.

A political union is a type of state (such as a country) or sub-entity (such as an autonomous territory of a country), which is composed of or created out of smaller states, whereas, the individual states share a central government and the union is recognized internationally as a single political entity. For the union to exist there must be a concept of state succession.

State succession is a concept in international relations regarding a successor state that has become a sovereign state over a territory (and populace) that was previously under the sovereignty of another state.

The state succession is defined in the Vienna Convention, 1978 as "the replacement of one state by another in the responsibility for the international relations of territory." State succession can occur through decolonization, unification and separation of states.

Unification of states is defined as the merger of two or more states into a new entity whereas the predecessor states usually disappear; if not, one of them continues to exist and this case is referred to as absorption.

Therefore, the union between Tanganyika and Zanzibar and the resultant structure of the government of the United Republic of Tanzania is legitimate in the eyes of public international law under the justifications which shall be discussed hereunder.

In state succession, for purposes of the formation of political state union, one or more uniting states must surrender their sovereignty and concentrate

powers into one new state.

Most people confuse union of state as a result of succession of states cum state extinction as distinguished from succession of governments cum international treaties.

The union between Tanganyika and Zanzibar is a result of consensual state actions whereby Tanganyika, by consent lost both its sovereignty and identity while Zanzibar by consent lost only sovereignty, whereas both of two states by consent, concentrated their sovereignty into the United Republic of Tanzania. The principle of state sovereignty is that it is indivisible in the sense that sovereign powers are normally concentrated into one individual person.

The Legitimacy of the union There is no formal procedure under international law providing for the means through which state political union must be obtained. The union of the United States of America was obtained by bloodshed through the belligerent actions and presidential proclamations. That is to say, for example, once the state is defeated in war, automatically such a state loses sovereignty whereby the winning state becomes at liberty to declare the defeated state as part of the defeating state through presidential proclamation.

In Tanzania for ex example, it would have been possible for the late Mwalimu J. K. Nyerere through presidential proclamation, to declare Uganda as part of the United Republic of Tanzania after the defeat of Idi Amin in Kagera war in 1979

It must be remembered that the union of Germany was obtained by force, namely the Danish war of 1862, Austro-Prussian war of 1866 and Anglo Prussian war 1870-71.

The United Republic of Tanzania was obtained by the consent of two sovereign persons who surrendered the sovereignty of the Republic of Tanganyika and the People's Republic of Zanzibar.

Was the consent of the governed necessary for the creation and validity of the union? As it has been said in the foregoing, unlike government unions which are created by treaties, the state political unions are created by acts of state. The acts of state are not questionable by parliament, therefore need no consent of the governed.

The creation of German East Africa or separation Rwanda and Burundi from Tanganyika by Germans and Belgians respectively did not first seek prior consent of the covered governed popula-



tion. Therefore the state formation and state extinction never seek consent of the governed.

Many critics of the union between Tanganyika and Zanzibar have gone outside the context by insisting that there was supposed to be accession signature and ratification before embarking on the union as governed by the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties.

Unfortunately, the critics of the union seem not to be aware that it does not fall under the law of treaties as enshrined in the Vienna Convention and is a result of sovereign state actions. Thus, the issues of prerequisite accession and ratification under the Vienna Convention are irrelevant.

Lack of certificate at the United Nations

Lack of certificate at the United Nations is another area of criticism. Critics contend that failure of being in possession of certificate of the union by the United Nations renders the union void.

In my opinion, this is a serious misdirection in both legal and political theories. We should all agree that the international law has no centralized authority as it operates in most cases under the doctrine of opinio juris sive necessitatis.

This is a fundamental principle of customary international law to the effect that once one has estab-

lished the existence of a specified usage, it becomes necessary to consider how the state views its own behavior amongst the international community and it binds such state.

It specifies that determining a rule of customary international law requires establishing the existence of two constituent elements: a general practice, and acceptance of that practice as law. Therefore, under the doctrine of opinio juris, what matters after the formation of a new state is the test of state recognition.

Under international law, many new governments come into being within states in a manner contrary to declared constitutions whether or not accompanied by force. Therefore, it should be born in mind that state recognition would rather depend on the political considerations than legal considerations.

Under the doctrine of opinio juris, it is irrelevant to consider whether or not the government of the United Republic of Tanzania, at the time of recognition by the United Nations, was a government de jure or government de facto.

Lack of Articles of the Union

The union criticsizers also claim that its Articles of the Union are nowhere to be seen. Amazingly, history has proved that Articles of Union of Tang-

anyika and Zanzibar of 1964 have been the main foundation of the Constitutions of the United Republic of Tanzania of 1977 and that of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar of 1984.

The Articles of the Union were signed on April 22, 1964, by the founders of the union, Julius Nyerere and Abeid Amani Karume and agreed in 11 matters which later increased to over 22. However, most of critics, particularly separatists, make this false allegation.

(To be continued on Monday)

The author is an advocate of the High Court

China, Egypt to jointly write more splendid chapter of human civilisation

By Shen Xiaoxiao, Han Xiaoming,

IN the home of Egyptian translator Mohsen Fergani, a Chinese knot and paper cutting hung on a wall of the living room are quite conspicuous. By the side of them, a certificate of the Award for Outstanding Contribution to China-Arab Friendship Fergani has received is also impressive.

The award was issued to Fergani by Chinese President Xi Jinping when the latter was paying a visit to Egypt in January 2016. Xi met with Fergani and nine other friendly personalities, and shook hands and posed for pictures with them after conferring on them the awards.

"I was very honored that President Xi conferred the award on me in person. It was the proudest time of my life," Fergani recalled the moment, which still excites him today.

The sixth UN Secretary-General Boutros Boutros-Ghali, also former foreign minister of Egypt, received the award together with Fergani. The former UN head was in his nineties when receiving the honor. Xi came to him, bended over and shook hand with him, extending greetings to the old friend of the Chinese people.

"This scene made me feel deeper how President Xi cherishes the traditional

friendship between China and Arab states," Fergani told People's Daily.

On the second day, Xi delivered an important speech titled "Work Together for a Bright Future of China-Arab Relations" at the Arab League headquarters in Cairo.

"Yesterday, I met with ten old Arab friends who received the Award for Outstanding Contribution to China-Arab Friendship. It is the hard work of generations of friendly people from both sides that has enabled the seedlings of China-Arab friendship to grow into luxuriant and evergreen trees," said the Chinese President in the speech.

Xi's mentioning of the ten award receivers touched Fergani and also reminded the latter of his responsibility in promoting the friendship between Arab states and China.

Fergani has long been committed to the studies of Chinese literature and Chinese translation. He has published multiple translated Chinese ancient classics.

His study well reflects his passion and seriousness for translation - various types of books are often placed on his desk and the books piled up on the floor are as high as a meter. Besides, there are short sentences in both Chinese and Arabic neatly written by him on the door to and walls in the study, such



Chinese President Xi Jinping meets with ten Arab friends who received the Award for Outstanding Contribution to China-Arab Friendship and poses for a picture with them in Cairo, Egypt, Jan. 20, 2016. (Xinhua/Pang Xinglei)

as "both authenticity and simplicity are important for translation."

He has translated a series of Chinese works into Arabic, including ancient classics such as The Analects of Confucius, The Book of Songs, Tao Te Ching and The Strategies of the Warring States, as well as some contemporary literature works.

Fergani received the Special Book Award of China in 2013, becoming the first Arab winning the honor.

When receiving an interview with People's Daily, the Egyptian translator cited Xi's remarks at the opening ceremony of the eighth Minis-

terial Conference of the China-Arab States Cooperation Forum that the Chinese and the Arab civilizations, sharing a long history of mutually-reinforcing exchanges, have all the more reason to draw wisdom and strength from each other in this day and age.

He said Xi's remarks inspire him to make greater contributions to translating Chinese literature works and promoting cultural exchanges between Arab states and China.

"Chinese literature works are valuable marks left by the Chinese culture over the long course of history. I aspire to better introduce China to

Arabian readers and show them the splendid Chinese culture," Fergani told People's Daily.

In March 2014, Xi noted in a speech at the UNESCO headquarters that civilizations have become richer and more colorful with exchanges and mutual learning. Such exchanges and mutual learning form an important drive for human progress and global peace and development.

Fergani said this impressed him very much. He believes the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) proposed by Xi carries rich connotation, values people-to-people

bond and has built a very important platform for cultural communication.

"The ancient Silk Road was once a channel of commerce and civilization exchanges between the East and the West. Today, the BRI is once again facilitating mutual learning and exchanges between different cultures and ideas. Arab states are actively looking eastward to draw wisdom from the Chinese civilization," Fergani said.

China-Arab states relations are constantly being elevated to new heights today. Fergani told People's Daily that there has been a "Mandarin fever" in Arab states, and

more than 10 universities in Egypt have set up a Chinese language department or offered Chinese courses.

Since Oct. 1, 2022, the teaching of Chinese language has been included in Egypt's national education system, becoming an optional foreign language course for middle school students. This creates more opportunities for young Egyptians to know more about China.

"The 'Mandarin fever' has significantly promoted Chinese culture in Egypt and forged a closer people-to-people bond between the two nations, forming a synergy in building a China-Arab community with a shared future in the new era," Fergani said.

He told People's Daily that apart from keeping translating Chinese literature works, he will focus more on the training of translators so as to build a bigger translation foundation among young Arabians.

"Under the strategic guidance of the heads of state, the strategic partnership between China and Arab states will achieve long-term and stable development. It is hoped that the two sides can further strengthen communication on literature and art, and jointly write a more splendid chapter of human civilization," Fergani noted.

People's Daily

By Charlie Brown

Mercury project puts great UNEP treaty at risk

THE Minamata Convention on Mercury, a stellar success story to date, has been favorably compared to the

prototype success story for a treaty on toxins: the Montreal Protocol. Both had a single focused mission; both gained universal support across

the globe; both matched technological innovation with environmental science to discard old polluting methods.

But emerging after hidden negotiations with the mercury lobby is a GEF project with UNEP endorsement which ignores, if not outright defies, the will of the Parties. As COP5 approaches, here is the test case on whether Minamata continues to move our small planet toward an end to anthropogenic mercury—or become mired in corporate capture.

For the past decade, the Parties repeatedly rejected the agenda of the dental mercury lobby—the dentists who still cling to the 19th century tooth-unfriendly pollutant amalgam, despite it being 50% mercury and a health risk to their own dental nurses; and the waste industry, whose obvious self-interest is to keep amalgam going into perpetuity to sell their equipment.

The mercury lobby wanted a treaty focused on amalgam waste; the Parties said NO, this treaty is about use, not about waste. The mercury lobby wanted access to implant mercury fillings in all children, especially those in Africa, Asia, and Latin America; the Parties said NO, and adopted the Children's Amendment at COP 4—which enters into legal force on 28 September 2023.

So, the dental mercury lobby met repeatedly with GEF and UNEP staff in sessions closed to the Parties... closed to the Minamata Secretariat... closed to the Minamata Bureau... closed to the dozens of CSOs who have actively pushed for a treaty to phase out anthropogenic mercury.

Violating their own standards, GEF and UNEP constructed (or allowed without objection) a project that bypasses the Children's Amendment entirely in favor of trying to redirect the mission of the treaty from use to waste—the very position repeatedly rejected by the Parties since 2013.

Separators do not sell well because they do not and cannot eliminate mercury waste; they only catch the mercury in the dentist office—not the mercury implanted in people—and they require a massive infrastructure to ensure that even that par-

tial waste, from dental offices, is properly disposed of. Only one solution ends mercury waste from amalgam: the switch to mercury-free dentistry.

The #1 beneficiary of this Greenwashing is the world's only major publicly traded dental products maker expanding sales of amalgam: Southern Dental Industries (SDI) of Melbourne. While its competitors exited or scaled back amalgam—or never made it in the first place—SDI seized their exits as its opportunity to corner the amalgam market.

Just six weeks ago, in a call to its shareholders, SDI's CEO boasted about its huge increases in amalgam sales, detailed its entry into new markets to sell amalgam, and affirmed her personal goal of 'maximizing' amalgam sales! Wriggling into a GEF-UNEP amalgam "reduction" project while increasing amalgam sales, SDI is the sole dental products company in a project partnership role—hence given market access denied to their mercury-free competitors in nations on three continents. Here is a classic case of Corporate Capture!

GEF's requirement of stakeholder participation at the earliest stage was papered over via a legerdemain: a false claim that the NGOs are participating. Falsely listed as participants are the World Alliance for Mercury-Free Dentistry, Bangladesh-based Environment and Social Development Organization, Germany-based European Network for Environmental Medicine, Philippines-based BAN Toxics, Nepal-based Center for Public Health and Environmental Development, Cameroon-based Centre de Recherche et d'Education pour le Développement, and U.S.-based Consumers for Dental Choice.

Equally troubling, RAP-AL Uruguay, who leads the campaign for mercury-free dentistry for Latin America, is preliminarily assigned to promote separator sales—a goal anathema to its very mission.

UNEP top brass in Nairobi and GEF top brass in Washington need to act:

First, to determine who on their staffs submitted the plethora of false claims of CSO participation; Second, to kill this project, so that the Minamata Convention on Mercury does not become the

treaty about corporate capture and greenwashing;

Third, to use GEF funding to enact the will of the Parties as stated unequivocally in its 2022 Amendment: stop placing mercury fillings, for all time and all regions, in children and women who are pregnant or breast-feeding.

IPS UN Bureau
The writer is President, World Alliance for Mercury-Free Dentistry



Just six weeks ago, in a call to its shareholders, SDI's CEO boasted about its huge increases in amalgam sales, detailed its entry into new markets to sell amalgam, and affirmed her personal goal of 'maximizing' amalgam sales

Monthly interest rates as of MARCH 2023									
Loan Terms	Admin Fee	Insurance % on Monthly Instalment	Agent		Call Centre			US\$0	
			Refinance Loans	New	Refinance Loans	New	Consolidation		
3	0.00%	0.00%	3.62%	3.49%	3.49%	3.41%	3.41%	3.41%	
6	2.00%	7.08%	0.77%	0.77%	0.77%	0.69%	0.69%	0.69%	
9	5.00%	7.08%	0.84%	0.84%	0.84%	0.76%	0.76%	0.76%	
12	8.47%	7.08%	0.80%	0.80%	0.80%	0.72%	0.72%	0.72%	
18	8.47%	7.08%	1.58%	1.58%	1.59%	1.50%	1.50%	1.50%	
24	8.47%	7.08%	1.99%	1.99%	1.99%	1.91%	1.91%	1.91%	
30	8.47%	7.08%	2.23%	2.23%	2.23%	2.15%	2.15%	2.15%	
36	8.47%	7.08%	2.40%	2.40%	2.40%	2.32%	2.32%	2.32%	
42	8.47%	7.08%	2.51%	2.51%	2.51%	2.44%	2.44%	2.44%	
48	8.47%	7.08%	2.60%	2.60%	2.60%	2.52%	2.52%	2.52%	
54	8.47%	7.08%	2.67%	2.60%	2.67%	2.59%	2.59%	2.59%	
60	8.47%	7.08%	2.70%	2.66%	2.60%	1.97%	1.81%	1.81%	
66	8.47%	7.08%	2.74%	2.72%	2.64%	2.01%	1.85%	1.85%	
72	8.47%	7.08%	2.69%	2.63%	2.54%	2.05%	1.89%	1.89%	
75	8.47%	7.08%	2.71%	2.64%	2.56%	2.07%	1.90%	1.91%	
78	8.47%	7.08%	2.72%	2.66%	2.57%	2.08%	1.92%	1.92%	
81	8.47%	7.08%	2.73%	2.67%	2.58%	2.09%	1.93%	1.93%	
84	8.47%	7.08%	2.68%	2.59%	2.51%	2.11%	1.94%	1.95%	
87	8.47%	7.08%	2.75%	2.68%	2.52%	2.11%	1.95%	1.96%	
90	8.47%	7.08%	2.76%	2.69%	2.53%	2.13%	1.96%	1.97%	
93	8.47%	7.08%	2.77%	2.70%	2.54%	2.14%	1.97%	1.98%	
96	8.47%	7.08%	2.78%	2.65%	2.55%	2.14%	1.98%	1.99%	



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 ALIYEVUJUMA 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

MSD transforms healthcare services and medical supplies

By Guardian Reporter

IN every minute, a number of Tanzanians use any type of medicine to save their lives. Many people use these medicines without knowing how they got to where they are.

Medical Stores Department (MSD) is the state-run unit which makes these initiatives possible. It ensures that everyone in Tanzania gets drugs and medical facilities where they are.

Over 25 years, MSD continues to innovate and maintain efficient, secured and cost-effective systems of its four functions of production, procurement, storage and distribution.

It is currently undergoing complete reformation processes aimed at improving its operational performance.

Mavere Tukai, MSD's director general says that the main focus areas include service and operational excellence, timely availability of quality health commodities with affordable price through local production, as well as promoting good governance.

"We're determined to become the Center of Excellence for health commodities supply chain in Africa by ensuring that our products and services comply with international standards, and close cooperation with our stakeholders is maintained in order to reap maximum benefit of their support," he says.

Tukai unveils that MSD has warehouses that store drugs and medical facilities across the country and some warehouses can store enough products for nine months and others do not have that capacity.

"So, warehouses have been built following acceptable quality criteria to store health products in accordance with the manufacturers' guidelines. All products are received, stored and released from the warehouse using the system," says Tukai, noting that the department makes direct deliveries to the door of health centers every two months (6 times a year) and reaches 7,538 health care centers of all levels.

He however says that the distribution of health products is done using 185 vehicles, where the products are loaded according to the needs of customers.

"Health products are received using an electronic system that maintains receipt statistics known technically as "Proof of Delivery - PoD," he says.

Currently, MSD has achieved many achievements



Mavere Tukai, MSD's director general

to be proud of since its inception. Among the achievements is the purchase, distribution and installation of CEMONC products 256 types out of 345 with a value of 65bn/- (65 percent) of 99.6bn/- received at 284 health centers.

MSD has been able to install 2,315 laboratory machines and the supply of reagents to move services to people, reduce examination costs and increase the availability of services at centers as well as distributing 140 new blood purification machines in 14 referral hospitals.

The unit is set to distribute 7,012,660 bednets worth 48.3bn/- for the 2022/23 Fiscal Year to primary schools in Mbeya, Rukwa, Songwe, Njombe, Dar es Salaam and Singida regions and to centers providing healthcare services for mother and child.

But, MSD has also built capacity for

laboratory experts and standard technicians and medical equipment engineers about 346 across the country.

Government Chief Pharmacist Daudi Msasi, congratulates MSD boss, Tukai, who has been the catalyst for the success achieved now. The unit, Masasi says that ensures that even the low-income earner is guaranteed access to medicines.

However, the improvements taking place in the health sector, including the increase in health care centers in the country, are not a threat to MSD due to the strong modern systems that have been set up for the distribution of health equipment, including medicines, to the door of the respective center.

Masasi said that the improvements are in line with the instructions of President Samia Suluhu Hassan issued on March 30, 2021, which is a review of the

supply chain to strengthen productive purchases, avoid waste and get products at a good price.

The other is to enable MSD to operate more commercially by strengthening financial management, strengthening good governance in accordance with laws, regulations and procedures, and strengthening risk management systems.

Another is to enable all supply chain functions to be done digitally as well as strengthening employees' management by improving performance measurement systems using digital systems.

He mentions that it is to improve the management of the Institute's activities through the Strategic Office.

Due to the rapid growth of the health sector in the country, Tukai says MSD has come up with strategies to consider the large investment made by the gov-

ernment. These strategies include requesting capital from the government to meet all the needs of health products, building warehouses to store health products. We also intend to build warehouses in Dodoma, Mtwara, Kagera, Simiyu regions and a sales center in Ruvuma region.

According to Tukai, other strategies are the devolution of the department's responsibilities from the headquarters to the regional offices.

Others are to strengthen the use of Information and communication technologies (ICT), especially the use of statistics, increase the number of employees to match the needs, strengthen cooperation with stakeholders and complete the construction of the handball factory located in Idofo in Njombe region to start production in July, 2023.

Other strategies are to continue to strengthen the availability of health products to reach 90 percent by doing the following; Buying from producers in the country to reduce import time and build capacity for producers.

Others are to make purchases directly from foreign producers for products that are not available in the country in order to reduce prices and obtain products in bulk.

According to Tukai, other strategies are to use digital procurement systems and have long-term contracts to complete the establishment of a Subsidiary Company that will manage the operation of the factories.

To strengthen the supply chain for health products by preparing long-term contracts for 1,084 health products and developing and establishing an ERMS system that will simplify the performance and management of procurement activities and conduct training for all employees involved in procurement.

COVID-19 vaccine uptake soars in many vulnerable African populaces

By Guardian Reporter

COVID-19 vaccination coverage is on the rise in Africa as a current report by the Africa Centres for Disease Control (CDC) shows that over half of the population, 51.2 per cent is fully vaccinated.

As of July 2022, only 24.4 per cent of the population had received at least one dose, compared with the global average of 69.0 per cent.

While vaccine shortages were once the primary barrier to uptake, global dynamics have changed substantially over the past two years, with several donors and partnerships leading the cause.

Vaccine sentiments, hesitancy, and limited access due to delivery challenges are increasingly pressing obstacles to COVID-19 vaccine uptake in many African countries.

With the growing perception that we are nearing the end of COVID-19, improving the uptake of the vaccines is important as ever to combat ongoing threats of new variants (according to the Africa CDC, more than 18 countries have gone through at least five waves of COVID-19 infection), reinfection made more likely by lack of compliance with mitigation strategies due to pandemic fatigue.

The implementation of Risk Communication and Community Engagement (RCCE) is a key pillar accelerating COVID-19 vaccination across the continent.

As circumstances around vaccination rate vary in different countries, with 14 countries vaccinating over 70 per cent of their population and 16 countries vaccinating less than 40 per cent, a more flexible, agile, and urgent approach aligning with member states is required to increase the success rate.

A recent acceleration model has been adopted by the

Saving Lives and Livelihoods initiative, a \$ 1.5 billion historic partnership between the Africa CDC and Mastercard Foundation to support the purchase and delivery of COVID-19 vaccines to millions across the continent.

The new strategic priority aims to accelerate the implementation of the initiative to advance 100-100-70 vaccination coverage. The first 100 represents the percentage of vulnerable populations, including those above 60 years and those with comorbidities, the second 100 represents the coverage in the percentage of essential workers as well as workers in the hospitality industries, and 70 coverage of the target population.

In a recent meeting, the acting director of Africa CDC, Dr. Ahmed Ogwell Ouma, commended the good work of the partners and stated, "It is time to execute the sound practices that will take Saving Lives and Livelihoods initiative to a higher level, therefore let us act with speed and responsiveness to meet the set goals."

With the focus shift to acceleration, there will be greater emphasis on mobile outreach teams, mini and mass campaigns instead of the initial fixed sites.

Two countries, Tanzania and Nigeria, have been spotlighted as pragmatic examples of the effectiveness of the vaccine uptake campaign. In Tanzania, the acceleration strategies deployed include house-to-house mobilization, mobile, fixed post, reward-based implementation, and national and regional level acceleration.

The country started its implementation program on October 3, 2022; records from 10 out of 26 regions revealed the vaccination of 5,328,454 eligible populations by March, amounting to 151 per



Saving lives and livelihoods team and volunteers conducting mobilising vaccination campaign in Kibogoz health centre Karagwe District, Kagera Region, Tanzania

cent of the program target in that region.

Tanzania surpassed 100 per cent in 9 of the 10 implementing regions made possible by good coordination and collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Implementing Partners, Africa CDC, and targeted strategies.

As of January 2023, the East

African country recorded 86 per cent vaccination and a total of 46,848,520 doses administered but by March, the records had improved to an impressive 103.3 per cent with 66,188,165 doses administered.

In the first week of April, 403,000 doses were administered across the 19 countries implementing

the initiative, with Tanzania alone accounting for 39 per cent of the doses.

A similar improvement has been recorded in Nigeria, where the vaccination rate significantly increased. At the beginning of the year, the record showed that 55.3 per cent of the country's population was fully vac-

inated. Still, by April 1, 2023, 61.6 percent of the targeted eligible population had been fully vaccinated, making the total of fully vaccinated Nigerians 71,477,351 and another 82,474,931 people have received at least one dose of the vaccine.

Several countries saw the biggest jump in their cover-

age rate since the commencement of the Saving Lives and Livelihoods RCCE implementation phase in August 2022. It can be argued that significant progress has been made; however, with COVID-19 cases still being reported across the continent, there is a need to accelerate vaccination and ensure no one is left behind.



Oil firms' losses extend over weaker demands

SINGAPORE

Oil headed for a sixth straight monthly decline – its longest run of such losses in more than eight years – as slowdown concerns in the US and Asia weighed on the outlook.

Investors see US inflation continuing to accelerate, bolstering expectations the Federal Reserve will be forced to keep raising rates, making a recession more likely, which would dent energy consumption.

While West Texas Intermediate rose above \$75 a barrel Friday, they are also set for a second weekly loss.

Falling profit margins for refiners in Asia are signaling demand weakness in the biggest oil-importing region, but China's recovery is starting to take hold.

Top processor Sinopec said the nation's rebound will boost demand growth for refined oil products by more

than 10 percent this year.

Crude has been whipsawed in April, rising sharply after the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and its allies announced an output cut, but then giving up all those gains as the outlook deteriorated.

Supply from Russia has remained surprisingly resilient despite sanctions and a price cap, and China's rebound has been slower than some had anticipated.

Traders will be on the lookout for first-quarter earnings from oil majors including Exxon Mobil Corp. and Chevron Corp. – due later Friday – which could provide commentary on the outlook for the global market.

"Gains returned following two days of heavy selling amid mixed economic signals," said Charu Chanana, a market analyst for Saxo Capital Markets Pte in Singapore. "Focus today will be on company earnings from oil majors."

Mantra targets uranium extractions pilot project

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

MANTRA Tanzania is set to embark on a pilot mineral extraction operation (PMEO) project in Mkuju River, Namtumbo District.

The pilot phase, which will start in July this year, is expected to gobble up to US\$5 billion on its completion of main project.

It is projected that 5000Kg of the uranium yellow cakes will be produced annually for four consecutive years of the pilot phase.

After the four-years of the PMEO, the company which is operating as a subsidiary of Uranium One Mining Company and the Russian State Atomic Energy Corporation (ROSATOM) will venture into a 12 years of extraction and production of uranium yellow cakes.

Frederick Kibodya, the company's senior management advisor-cum-former managing director (MD), told The Guardian said the company is well prepared to run the initiative professionally and fruitfully.

The company has been in the country's uranium corridor since 2008 and in 2012 it conducted a definite feasibility study to determine resources of uranium deposits at Mkuju project, and the environmental impact assessment (EIA).

"In 2013 we successfully managed to obtain the Special Mining License from the parent ministry (Ministry of Minerals) but we were thereafter compelled to downsize activities due to a major fall in the price of uranium in the world market," Kibodya unveiled.

He further explained that during 2010 and 2012 the mineral attracted a profitable price at the global market of around US\$120 per 1Kg of uranium oxide, before shrank to US\$40 per Kg by 2016.



Frederick Kibodya. Photo: Correspondent Valentine Oforo

"By the time, especially in 2016, production cost of 1Kg of uranium oxide for the project was around US\$80, which translated a loss of US\$40," he said.

As the market and price of uranium yellow cakes have recently strengthened, Kibodya expressed optimism that the project will fetch the much-needed results, informed that the International Atomic Energy Association

(IAEA) was doing a great role in the supervision of the global uranium market.

"Globally, due to the sensitivity of uranium, there are few companies that have given green light to participate in supply and sell the mineral, including Uranium One and ROSATOM," he unveiled.

He said the mineral, uranium oxide was being used as a source of raw material for fuel in the nu-

clear power plants (NPP), saying there are over 400 NPP in different countries, including Russia, France, Japan, US, China, India and in South Africa, according to him.

He noted that Power generation from NPP source were carbon-free, an important and sustainable energy source in a time when the world was facing energy crisis.

And as part of observing local content requirements, he said Mantra Tanzania was at the forefront of knowledge transfer to locals in its daily executions.

"For instance, at the peak time of our exploration works in 2011, we had a total of 235 employees from Mantra and its contractors, and out of the figure, over 200 were locals," he insisted.

Currently, he said the reputable company has resumed its business with at least 165 workers from Mantra and its contractors who are involved in the construction of the pilot project, and the construction works of the facility for the main project will absorb about 1,700 workers.

After finalising the construction works, he noted, they were mulling to remain with 670 permanent workers for manning the company's future extractions, including locals and foreigners, with a higher percentage being nationals.

"The high profile foreigners expected to be from South Africa, Russia and Kazakhstan will be imparting their uranium extraction experience to locals," he explained.

He hailed and appreciated the close cooperation and support being provided by the Tanzania Atomic Energy Commission (TAEC) and the Mining Commission in ensuring the company's work to meet the intended outcomes.

Rombo wants to protect near-extincting natural food crops

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

A project to revive and promote traditional foods in Rombo district, Kilimanjaro region, got a big impetus following the launching of the heritage foods (Kitarasa) Community and Mangulwa Earth Market group.

The launching was organized and coordinated by the Slow Food Tanzania organization, over the weekend.

Speaking during the launching, the representative of Slow Food Tanzania during the occasion, Stephano Msuya, said the launching was part of the institution's agroecology project which is aimed at strengthening the production of traditional crops that are in danger of facing extinction a move which he said will also increase income for farmers.

"To start with, this project aims to strengthen the production of Kitarasa type of bananas to ensure that the crop, which is recognized nationally and internationally due to its health related qualities, does not become subject to extinction," he said.

"Also, farmers who are involved in traditional crops cultivation, will get education on organic farming and the importance of using traditional foods which are vital in building better health by avoiding among other health risks the Non-Communal Diseases (NCDs)," he said.

Msuya said that, apart from the farmers, education will be provided to students in all levels of education, the aim being to build among young children the habit of loving traditional foods which are good for health.

He also said that, in order to strengthen the project, Slow Foods was planning to establish gardens related to natural foods to make the project sustainable in Rombo district.

"There are 3,621 traditional foods related gardens in Africa and more than 40 in Tanzania, there are also more than 40 Earth markets which are designed

for traditional foods 89 in 30 countries including the one we launched in Rombo", he said.

Msuya continued to say that there were also 644 Presidia in 79 countries around the world which he said includes the one at Mangulwa market and that all of these are aimed at strengthening the production of traditional foods that are in danger of facing extinction.

The Presidia are Slow Food Communities that work every day to save native livestock breeds and crops.

Commenting on the future as far as the newly established project, Mr Msuya said Slow Food Tanzania was continuing with plans to start a special project for groups which will be involved in cooking traditional foods in the country like those found abroad, a move which he said will increase motivation and strengthen the production of traditional foods.

Speaking during the launching, the Rombo District Executive Director (DED) Mr Godwin Chacha, commended the management of Slow Food Tanzania for starting the project which he said compliments the government's efforts meant to improve agriculture in the country.

"Strengthening agriculture is the national agenda at the moment and fortunately President Dr Samia Suluhu Hassan is participating fully in this agenda; The President's recently directives that all extension officers be provided with working equipment that will make them able to provide reliable advice to farmers across the country", he said in a statement read on his behalf by Rashid Eliasa from the Rombo district council.

"Let me assure you that the Rombo district government through the district council will support the efforts initiated by Slow Food Tanzania with the aim of promoting the cultivation of traditional crops that are in danger of extinction," he said.



Ngualla project gets special mining licence

PERTH

Rare earths developer Peak Rare Earths has been granted a special mining licence for its Ngualla rare earths project in Tanzania.

The grant of the special mining licence follows the signing of a binding framework agreement with the government of Tanzania earlier this month, and will initially cover a 30-year term over an 18.14 km² area which contains the Ngualla project deposit.

In accordance with the framework agreement, the special mining licence area will

be expanded in the future to include an existing prospecting licence and a recently expired prospecting licence, while the initial term of the licence will also be amended to the shorter of 33 years and the life of the mine, with the ability to extend on application in accordance with the law at the time.

A recently updated bankable feasibility study (BFS) estimated that the project would require a capital investment of \$321-million and would support the production of 16 200 t/y of concentrates.

The updated BFS estimated a mine life of 24 years, and annual

operating costs at \$93-million a year, with the project expected to generate yearly average revenues of \$538-million a year and operating cashflows of \$276-million a year.

Peak says is now well positioned to increase its focus on completing key technical and commercial work streams ahead of a targeted Final Investment Decision by the end of September 2023 and the commencement of construction in October 2023.

The Ngualla Project is a world-class rare earth development located near the Ngwala Village and approximately 150km from

the City of Mbeya in the Songwe Region and on the edge of the East African Rift Valley.

The project entails the construction of a mine, mill, concentrator, community projects and associated infrastructure.

Construction of the project is expected to create around 600 and 3,000 indirect jobs during construction and around 220 direct and 1,000 indirect jobs during operations.

Ngualla is also host to widespread, high grade niobium-tantalum, phosphate, fluorapatite and barite mineralisation.

EcoGraph updates costs, production at Epanko Graphite project

By Guardian Reporter

EcoGraph Limited has updated its pre-development programme, including costs and production quantity for Epanko Graphite project located in Mahenge district, to replace the 2017 updates, ahead of final investment decision.

The company said the program identified a number of value adding opportunities for the stage 1 development.

According to the company announcement made yesterday, graphite production has been updated to 73,000t annually, from previously 60,000t in 2017, while pre-production capital has been increased to US\$134 million in 2023 from US\$88.9 million in 2017.

"Following depletion of Oxide ore, operations will revert to processing of fresh ore at a production rate of 60,000tpa from the stage 1 plant. Subject to completion of planned drilling and resource evaluation which will target Oxide ore, there is the strong opportunity to continue processing oxide ore at a 73,000tpa production rate," it says.

"The Oxide first strategy will see



The programme has identified a number of value-adding opportunities for stage 1 development

Oxide ore treated for the first eleven (11) years of operations and will result in concentrate production at 73,000tpa once ramp up is complete."

This will be achieved for very modest incremental capital

expenditure of US\$4m.

Deferral of approximately US\$6m in capital costs have been provisionally provided for the Fresh ore sulphide flotation circuit and lined sulphide tailings pond.

This expenditure is now deferred

for approximately 10 years, with scope for further deferral subject to the delineating additional oxide ore, the announcement says.

The company has also updated operating cost per tonne sold to US\$508 from previously US\$509

estimated in 2017.

"Lower operating costs associated with reduced drill and blast costs, reduced crushing and milling costs and reduced reagent costs. The Oxide only ore feed does not require the use of sulphide flotation reagents," it said.

"Oxide ore requires minimal drill and blasting, minimal crushing/primary milling and uses less reagents compared to Fresh ore. Prioritising the Oxide ore also defers the sulphide circuit and dedicated lined tailings cell that is proposed for processing of the Fresh ore," it says.

A pre-development program was subjected to rigorous due diligence by bank appointed Independent Engineers, SRK Consulting (UK) Limited.

In completing its Independent Engineer's report, SRK confirmed that all technical areas of the proposed Epanko development have been significantly advanced to conform to the requirements of international project financing standards.

It also confirms that the Environmental and Social Management Planning and supporting impact assessments

conform to relevant Tanzanian legislation, International Finance Corporation (IFC) Performance Standards and World Bank Group Environmental Health and Safety Guidelines.

The results of the Epanko program position the project to be a potential world class new graphite development, commencing with stage 1 with the intention to expand and match the rapid growth forecast for battery graphite to support the global transition to clean energy.

"Epanko is positioned to become a world class graphite project located in Tanzania with the recent signing of the Epanko Framework Agreement which positions the company to secure financing for a Final Investment Decision for the project," the announcement said.

On April 18 this year, the company signed the Epanko Framework Agreement with the Government of Tanzania for the development and operation of the Project.

A new joint venture entity Duma TanzGraphite to develop and operate Epanko, with an 84 percent interest held by EcoGraf and a 16 percent free-carried interest held by the Government.

Researchers invent fuel using cotton planter

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE Ukiriguru (Mwanza) Centre of the Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute's has successfully managed to research and invent a simple and modern cotton planting machines.

The high tech planting facility innovated by the agro pundits at institute, will help the cotton farmers to improve productivity.

Speaking with The Guardian on the sideline of the exhibition of this year's innovation week here, Dauson Malela, TARI Ukiriguru agriculture officer said that the inverted technology would enable the cotton farmers to deter from the use of hand hoes planting method, which costs time and reliability.

"For years, cotton farmers were facing major challenges when it came to adherence to recommended agronomic practices in planting cotton, as they were also spending a lot of money, and low yields," he observed.

With the newly-invented planter, he noted, farmers will stand a chance to minimise planting expenses as it will also make it easy to observe required cotton planting spaces.

"Technically, cotton need to

be planted in a space gape of at least 60 centimeters from one line to the other and at 30 centimeters variation from one plant to the other," he expressed.

"Most of the farmers were finding it difficult to abide to the formula due to myriad complications in using hand hoes."

For instance, he noted, with hand hoe, a total of nine farmers spend between eight to ten hours to plant an acre of cotton.

"To help address the challenges, we at TARI Ukiriguru innovated the said machine with an eye to enable the farmers and the general performance of the key sector to thrive at its deserved extent," he insisted.

Detailing over the stages in the successive innovation journey of the technology, he said that the planter was formerly designed in the manner that it was only operated by cows, but later on they transformed it to be operated through diesel-driven engine.

"We're grateful for the way the Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH) has boosted us to help advance the technology of the planter, making it operate through diesel engines," he expressed.

He stated that the planter was currently using two liters of die-



With hand hoes, nine farmers spend between eight to ten hours to plant an acre of cotton

sel, costing between 2,500/- and 3,000/- and with the capacity to plant one acre of cotton and recommended space standards within 30 minutes to one hour.

Malila added that the centre was currently working to acquire 'Intellectual Property' over their innovation from the country's Business Registrations and Licensing Agency (BRELA).

TARI will also enter into con-

tract with the Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO) for the Centre of Agricultural Mechanization and Rural Technologies (CAMATECH) for the multiplication of the machines.

For his part, Robert Cheleo, the assistant researcher at TARI Ukiriguru centre challenged the farmers to turn out in multitude to adopt the useful machine.

"We have all reasons to thank the minister of agriculture, Hussein Bashe for always being on our side to the tune we managed to innovate the machine," he appreciated.

He further detailed that apart from cotton, the tailor-made planter machine can be used to help planting other crops, including beans, maize and sunflower, among others.

KBL demands top executives be let loose in contempt suit

NAIROBI

Kenya Breweries Limited (KBL) has pleaded with a judge to suspend an application seeking to have its senior executives charged for alleged contempt of court in a fight with a former distributor.

KBL, together with UDV (Kenya) Ltd said Bia Tosha has filed the application at the High Court seeking summons against its officials, among them East African Breweries Limited (EABL) chief executive Jane Karuku, to appear in court for punishment.

Through senior counsel Njoroge Regeru, KBL said there is a risk that the case might be fixed for hearing yet they have filed an application for review of the judgment issued on February 17 at the Supreme Court.

"In view of the foregoing, it is clear that the petitioner's (Bia Tosha) applications are intended to pre-empt the outcome of the review application pending before the Supreme Court and to defeat any decision that the Supreme Court might make pursuant to the said application," Regeru said.

Justice Hedwig Ong'udi directed the case be mentioned on Friday for directions.

Karuku together with Andrew Kilonzo, the managing director of Uganda Breweries Ltd, want the apex court to review the decision issued in February, saying the court condemned them unheard.

Kilonzo says in an affidavit that they have never been served with any contempt of court application, at the High Court, Court of Appeal or the Supreme Court, yet a serious charge has been made against them.

The distributor has sought to commit the three senior officials of EABL to civil jail for six months, for allegedly disobeying court orders in a long-running court battle.

The former EABL distributor has also sought to be paid damages amounting to Sh1.073 billion.

Bia Tosha accuses KBL of terminating its distributorship contract entered between them in 2006.

The matter escalated to the Supreme Court, which in February ruled in favour of Bia Tosha and sent the matter back to the High Court for a hearing of the contempt of court application against KBL officials.

In the review, KBL has accused the distributor of deliberately concealing some facts about the matter, thereby misleading the Supreme Court to make the contempt of court decision, without giving them an opportunity to be heard. Regeru said the application for review is pending hearing and all parties have filed their responses.

He said there is a real danger that the executives might be condemned unheard and imprisoned since Bia Tosha was pressing on with contempt proceedings.

"Notably, the review application seeks, among other things, an order staying the very contempt proceedings that the petitioner has improperly brought before this court. This is therefore one of the issues that the Supreme Court has to rule on," Regeru submitted.

US economic growth slows to 1.1 percent in Q1

WASHINGTON

US economic growth slowed in the first quarter by more than expected as tepid business investment and a pullback in inventories tempered a pickup in consumer spending.

Gross domestic product rose at a 1.1 percent annualized rate on the back of the strongest consumer spending in nearly two years, the Commerce Department's initial estimate showed Thursday. The Federal Reserve's preferred underlying inflation metric accelerated to a one-year high.

The 3.7 percent increase in consumer spending reflected gains in both goods and services, including a surge in purchases of motor vehicles. Business investment in equipment posted the biggest drop since the start of the pandemic and inventories subtracted the most from GDP in two years.

The figures illustrate economic growth that is gradually downshifting under the weight of Fed interest-rate hikes and elevated inflation.



While the economy bounded ahead at the start of the year, helped in part by unseasonably warm weather, households and businesses pulled back on spending as the quarter progressed.

The outlook depends largely on the resiliency of the job

market. Low unemployment and persistent wage gains have so far allowed consumers to weather high inflation and keep spending.

The personal consumption expenditures price index grew at an 4.2 percent annualized pace in the January to March

period. Excluding food and energy, the index rose 4.9 percent, faster than forecast and the most in a year.

March data will be released Friday. Services inflation remained hot while prices of non-durable goods accelerated. The inflation and consumer

spending figures likely keep the Fed on track to raise interest rates by a quarter percentage point next week. First Republic Bank's continuing struggles, however, do raise the possibility that the central bank could pause.

"Inflation remains stubborn, and along with the continued strength in the labor market, it should keep the Fed on pace for a May and potentially a June rate hike," said Cliff Hodge of Cornerstone Wealth.

The median projection in a Bloomberg survey of economists called for 1.9 percent GDP growth and a 4 percent annualized gain in personal consumption. The S&P 500 opened higher, Treasury yields jumped and the dollar strengthened after the release.

Separate data out Thursday showed applications for unemployment benefits fell for the first time in three weeks. Continuing claims, which can offer insight into how quickly out-of-work Americans are able to find a new job, were largely unchanged.

WORLD

Sunak faces first comeback credentials test in local polls

SWINDON

RISHI Sunak faces his first big electoral test as British prime minister next week in local polls where the opposition Labour Party hopes to capitalize on a year of chaos for the governing Conservatives, ahead of a national election expected next year.

Sunak has tried to restore the credibility of the Conservative Party since coming to office in October, but he has struggled to draw a line under the turmoil that beset his predecessors despite breakthroughs on issues like Brexit.

The scandal-ridden premiership of Boris Johnson and the chaotic economic policies that brought down Liz Truss within two months presented Sunak with an unenviable inheritance: a double-digit poll lead for a resurgent Labor.

With voters going through a cost-of-living crisis and inflation stubbornly high at about 10 percent, local council votes in much of England on May 4 give Labor an opportunity to prove their electoral credentials.

It is towns like Swindon in southwest England which Labor leader Keir Starmer is targeting in a bid to return his party to power at the next national election, due before January 2025.

Swindon has returned lawmakers representing the winning party at every national election since 1983, making it a bellwether and a key target for Labor, who chose the town for the launch of their local election campaign.

"It's obviously a key staging post in terms of where we anticipate the next general election will be," Jonathan Reynolds, a Labor lawmaker in Starmer's shadow cabinet, told Reuters during a visit to Swindon.

He expressed optimism ahead of the vote, reflecting polls which give Labor an average lead of around 15 percentage points - a substantial lead but well down from highs of around 30 points during Truss's premiership.

Keiran Pedley, director of politics at Ipsos, said Sunak had been a steady influence but would have to deliver on issues like the cost of living to improve his party's ratings further ahead of the next national election.

"Whilst Sunak's personal poll ratings aren't great, they're not toxic in the way that his predecessors have been," he said.

Council elections can provide an indication of the public mood but also result in protest votes that overstate the unpopularity of the government, or be



Britain's Prime Minister Rishi Sunak talks to Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni during bilateral talks at 10 Downing Street in London on Thursday. Sunak faces his first big electoral test as British prime minister next week in local polls where the opposition Labour Party hopes to capitalize on a year of chaos for the governing Conservatives, ahead of a national election expected next year. (PHOTO / AP)

swayed by local factors.

David Renard, the Conservative leader of Swindon Borough Council, said the national picture might hinder his attempts to focus the campaign on more local issues.

"Whilst I think most voters think that the prime minister and the chancellor have steadied the ship in the last few months, there's still a little bit of residual anger about some of the things that went on last year," he told Reuters.

Conservative chaos

Swindon has a long industrial history as a site of rail works from the 19th century until 1986. While the borough has several prosperous parts, some of its neighborhoods are among the 10 percent most deprived in the country.

The Office for National Statistics in 2021 ranked Swindon as one of Britain's highest productivity areas outside of London thanks to its car manufacturing. But Honda closed its Swindon site that same year. US industrial real estate firm Panattoni will open a logistics and manufacturing hub at the site.

Zurich Insurance officially opened its new Swindon office block this month, and Jim Robbins, a local Labor councillor, said the town center needed further regeneration, with changing working habits since the COVID-19 pandemic hampering footfall.

He added that national stories like the resignation of Sunak's deputy Dominic Raab after a bullying investigation was a reminder "that there is a lot of Conservative chaos".

"It does feel like the mood is changing in Swindon as its changing in the rest of the country," he told Reuters.

In its town center, many voters expressed unhappiness with the Conservatives but some had a degree of sympathy for Sunak personally.

Carolyn Hyland, 57, a marketing executive, said she was likely to vote for Labor next week but was undecided heading into a potential general election.

"Actually, I quite like Rishi Sunak. I do think he's got principles," she said. "He's trying to be more transparent. But there's still going to be a legacy from the last leadership."

Agencies

China to actively implement global biodiversity framework

BEIJING

CHINA will actively contribute its share to achieving the goals set in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, an official said on Thursday.

The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, aimed at reversing biodiversity loss and setting the world on a path of recovery, was adopted at the COP15, formally known as the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Convention on Biological Diversity.

The framework has four long-term goals for 2050 and 23 action-oriented global targets over the decade to 2030. It seeks a harmonious coexistence between humans and nature by 2050.

To facilitate the implementation of the targets, China is formulating national biodiversity conservation strategies and action plans for the new era while



Huang Runqiu, COP15 president and China's minister of ecology and environment, announces the adoption of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, a UN deal aimed at reversing biodiversity loss and setting the world on a path of recovery, at the UN biodiversity conference, COP15, in Montreal, Canada, Dec 19, 2022. China will actively contribute its share to achieving the goals set in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, said Wang Zhibin, an official with the Ministry of Ecology and Environment, on Thursday. (PHOTO / XINHUA)

optimizing policies related to biodiversity protection, Wang Zhibin, an official with the Ministry of Ecology and Environment, told a press conference.

The country is also working to establish a nature reserve system with national parks at its heart and build ex-situ conservation facilities such as zoos, botanical gardens, and ex-situ conservation centers, Wang said.

Efforts will be made to strengthen the investigation, monitoring, early warning, and control of invasive alien species in key areas and improve the management and control of invasive alien species, Wang noted.

The country will resolutely crack down on the illegal activities that damage the ecological environment and wildlife resources, said Wang, calling for public participation in biodiversity conservation.

Xinhua

African executives call for investments in diagnostics to contain disease burden

NAIROBI

THE growing burden of infectious and non-communicable diseases in Africa will only be tamed once the continent prioritizes investments in modern diagnostic equipment, some executives said on Thursday at a briefing in Nairobi, the Kenyan capital.

African countries are grappling with diagnostic gaps at public health facilities, leading to a high rate of undetected killer ailments in the general population, said Allan Pamba, executive vice president of Roche Diagnostics Africa, a multinational pharmaceutical firm. According to Pamba, upgrading equipment for screening malaria, HIV and AIDS, hepa-

titis, cardiovascular diseases, diabetes and cancer will strengthen their treatment and care while averting a high fatality rate among patients.

"Though we are turning the corner on infectious disease as a continent, there is a need to invest in diagnostic infrastructure for screening emerging non-communicable diseases like cancer and chronic heart diseases," Pamba said, adding that reskilling of laboratory technologists in Africa and investing in digital tools will boost surveillance, detection and treatment of vector-borne and lifestyle diseases.

Taofik Oloruko-Oba, acting head of East and Anglophone West Africa, Roche Diag-

nostics Africa, stressed that a new vision for robust and well-functioning diagnostic infrastructure at Africa's public health facilities was long overdue, to help cope with a growing burden of diseases linked to unhealthy lifestyles.

Oloruko-Oba said that the priority among policymakers should be making sure that all citizens have access to timely, quality and affordable diagnoses for killer diseases at local health facilities.

The COVID-19 pandemic illustrated the urgency for African countries to invest in robust and home-grown diagnostic infrastructure as a means to avert mass fatalities, said Oloruko-Oba, who called for strategic partner-

ships between governments and industry to help bridge diagnostic gaps in Africa's public healthcare facilities, and enhance screening of disease-causing pathogens.

Jonathan Keytel, director of Strategy and Healthcare Transformation, Roche Diagnostics Africa, said African states should invest in a broad portfolio of diagnostic equipment to boost screening of diseases as part of the universal healthcare agenda. Governments should enact policies and legislation that guide quality diagnosis at every level of healthcare delivery in the continent in order to boost response to emerging diseases, Keytel added.

Xinhua

LIGHTERS are small, but their market isn't.

Most of the world's disposable lighters are manufactured in China. Last year, Shaoqing in central China's Hunan province shipped 3.52 billion lighters overseas, which were about half of China's total exports of the portable device during the same period.

The retail price of Shaoqing's disposable lighters has been set at 1 yuan (\$0.15) for two decades despite the increasingly fiercer international competition and a steep rise in labor and material cost. The secret lies in the industry's innovation.

Sci-tech innovation not only improves production efficiency, but also lowers cost for lighter manufacturers.

It takes not much money to buy a lighter, but it takes technologies to make one. A lighter, which comes with over 30

Lighter industry mirrors China's strength in manufacturing

spare parts such as a flame height adjuster and a gas valve, involves multiple techniques such as flame control and ignition intensity.

In 2009, an electric company focusing on lighter development, injection molding, testing and sales was established in Shaoqing by six local lighter exporters and five other enterprises in the industry. Nine years later, Shaoqing was approved to build a national-level demonstration base for foreign trade transformation and upgrade, and over 10 leading players in the industry have gone through automatic reform.

In the past, workers had to work in three shifts a day, but now all the 12 procedures can be completed automatical-

ly, which reduces the labor cost per lighter to 0.015 yuan from 0.1 yuan. The excellent cost management of the low-margin industry mirrors the profit-making capability and the development potential of the Chinese manufacturing industry.

The innovative design made by lighter manufacturers in Shaoqing further consolidated their advantages in the global market.

They wrap lighters with bright-colored cases to attract consumers who prefer colorful lighters. They also make basic ones to cater to those who like simple lighters. Besides, they even launched lighters with flashlight to win favor of young consumers who

like multifunctional ones.

Having a good nose for consumers' demands, lighter manufacturers in Shaoqing are at the forefront of innovation. The small commodity is a miniature of China's innovation capability and has found a huge market for the Chinese manufacturing industry.

The lighter industry of Shaoqing is by no means the only successful case of China's manufacturing.

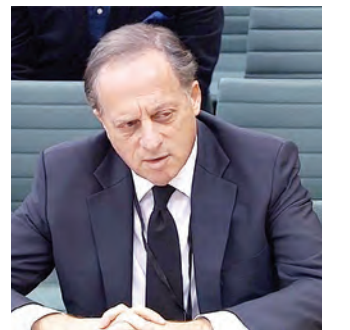
Hangji is a township with only 30,000 permanent residents in Yangzhou, east China's Jiangsu province. However, it produces 7.5 billion toothbrushes on an annual basis, which account for 60 percent of the market in China and 40 percent in the world.

BBC chairman Sharp resigns after report says he breached rules

LONDON

BBC Chairman Richard Sharp resigned yesterday after an independent report found he breached rules for public appointments in relation to a loan for then Prime Minister Boris Johnson.

Sharp (pictured) said he had agreed to a request to stay on until the end of June to give the government time to find his successor.



The country's public appointments watchdog has been investigating the way in which Sharp was selected by the government to chair the broadcaster in 2021.

The report found that while he did breach the government's code for public appointments by failing to disclose a potential conflict of interest, it was also the case that a breach did not necessarily invalidate his appointment.

But Sharp said staying until the end of his four year term would be a distraction from the broadcaster's "good work".

"I have decided that it is right to prioritise the interests of the BBC," Sharp said in a statement.

"I have therefore, this morning, resigned as the BBC chair to the Secretary of State and to the board."

Former US Vice President Pence appears before grand jury probing Trump

WASHINGTON

FORMER US Vice President Mike Pence appeared before a grand jury investigating former President Donald Trump's role in efforts to overturn the 2020 election, a source familiar with the matter told Reuters on Thursday.



Pence (pictured) was inside US District Court in Washington for more than seven hours, ABC News and NBC News reported earlier. Representatives for Pence had no comment.

The former vice president's appearance before the grand jury comes as he is exploring a possible challenge to Trump for the Republican presidential nomination in 2024.

Security was beefed up at the federal courthouse in Washington and a bomb-sniffing dog was spotted in the hallway.

Trump, who announced late last year his bid for the White House for 2024, was recently indicted in a separate probe in New York over alleged hush payments.

On Wednesday, Trump lost an appeal to block Pence from testifying in the special counsel probe, according to CNN.

Earlier this month, Pence disclosed that he would not appeal a judge's ruling that required him to testify to the federal grand jury about conversations he had with Trump leading up to the deadly attack on the US Capitol on Jan 6, 2021.

Special Counsel Jack Smith took over the probe into efforts to overturn the results of the 2020 presidential election, including a plot to submit phony slates of electors to block Congress from certifying Democrat Joe Biden's victory.

Ahead of the 2021 Capitol attacks by Trump supporters, the then-president repeatedly lambasted Pence for refusing to try to prevent Congress from certifying Biden's win in the 2020 election.

Trump is also facing other legal hurdles as well, including a separate special counsel probe into his handling of classified documents and a probe in Georgia related to alleged interference with the state's 2020 election.

Tunisia, EU discuss fight against human trafficking, illegal migration

TUNIS

TUNISIA and the European Union (EU) on Thursday held discussions on issues of common interest, including the joint fight against illegal migration and human trafficking.

Tunisian Foreign Minister Nabil Ammar met with visiting European Commissioner for Home Affairs Ylva Johansson in the Tunisian capital Tunis, according to a statement released by the Tunisian foreign ministry.

Ammar "highlighted the importance of the European support for Tunisia to carry out its socio-economic reforms and establish an inclusive and equitable development model to better manage common challenges, including the migration issue," said the statement.

Xinhua

These innovative toothbrushes, buttons and lighters are as great as other Chinese products such as high-speed trains, tunnel boring machines and supercomputers.

These Chinese industries might be small in size, but they are leading the world in their respective areas. They are working to develop key technologies, secure industrial chains, and promote high-quality development. They make an important part of the foundation of the Chinese manufacturing sector.

Their experience in transitioning to high-quality development has well proved that as long as enterprises pursue innovation, they can gain a firm foothold in fierce market competition.

People's Daily

'Harry not criticising queen over deal with Murdoch's UK group'

LONDON

PRINCE Harry is not criticizing his grandmother, the late Queen Elizabeth, or Britain's royal family over a "secret agreement" with Rupert Murdoch's UK newspaper arm, his lawyer told London's High Court on Wednesday.

Harry (pictured), the younger son of King Charles, is suing Murdoch's News Group Newspapers (NGN) for multiple unlawful acts allegedly committed on behalf of its tabloids, the Sun and the now-defunct News of the World, from the mid-1990s until 2016.

NGN, which has settled more than a thousand phone-hacking cases over the past decade, is trying this week to strike out Harry's claim and a similar case brought by British actor Hugh Grant, arguing they should have taken action sooner.

However, Harry says that he did not bring a lawsuit earlier because an agreement was struck between Buckingham Palace and senior figures at NGN to avoid embarrassment.

In a witness statement which was made public on Tuesday, Harry said his attempts to progress the case, with the backing of the queen, were stone-

walled by NGN and royal aides.

His lawyer David Sherborne told the court on Wednesday that Harry did not bring his lawsuit previously because of the agreement with NGN, which denies its existence.

Sherborne said Harry was "told more" about phone hacking in 2012, when Harry was in his witness statement that he was told his voicemails had been intercepted, "but that was essentially dealt with by his family ... and their solicitor".

"This is no criticism of the queen or his family," Sherborne said. "That is how it was done and he accepts it. As he explains, he had to."

Sherborne added that Harry was "kept out of the loop" about phone hacking and that he did not believe NGN "would have been stupid enough to go after his messages".

Harry said in his witness statement that royal staff were in communication with Rebekah Brooks - now chief executive of Murdoch's British arm News UK - and News Corp Chief Executive Robert Thomson about his lawsuit.

Sherborne said that, if the case goes to trial, "there will need to be evidence" from Brooks and Thomson



about the secret agreement. Harry has said NGN settled his brother William's phone-hacking claim "for

a huge sum of money in 2020... without any of the public being told, and seemingly with some favorable deal in return for him going 'quietly' so to speak".

Buckingham Palace have not commented and William's office said it could not comment on ongoing legal proceedings. NGN has disputed the existence of a "secret agreement" but declined to comment on whether it made a settlement with William.

The case is one of four Harry is currently pursuing against British publishers, following claims in his Netflix documentary and memoir 'Spare' accusing tabloids of widespread unlawful activity and his family of colluding with them.

The preliminary hearing is expected to conclude on Thursday, with a trial due in January if the judge allows it to go ahead.

Harry, who now lives in California with his family, was not in court, but watched proceedings by video link, Sherborne said.

Grant was also watching the proceedings remotely due to "unavoidable filming commitments", Sherborne said, but planned to attend in person yesterday. **Agencies**

Former US governor officially launches 2024 presidential bid

HOUSTON



ASA Hutchinson, former governor of the U.S. state of Arkansas, officially launched his bid on Wednesday for the Republican Party's 2024 presidential nomination.

"Today, I am announcing that I am a candidate for president of the United States," Hutchinson told supporters in Bentonville, Arkansas, his birthplace, one day after President Joe Biden announced he's running for a second term.

Hutchinson, 72, also a former congressman, administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and border security official, is the fifth Republican joining the field of Republican presidential hopefuls, which is expected to grow as campaign season revs up.

"From Congress to the DEA to Homeland Security, I have served our country in times of crisis. As governor of Arkansas, we cut taxes and created record surpluses. We increased pay for teachers. We reduced regulations; recruited industry, and the private sector grew by over 100,000 jobs. My mettle has been tested," he said.

Hutchinson said he knows how to balance a budget and doesn't want an "unending" war in Ukraine, emphasizing that the United States must secure its southern border and put Social Security and Medicare on a more sustainable path.

In his remarks, Hutchinson didn't mention former President Donald Trump, who was the first Republican candidate to formally announce a 2024 presidential run. However, in an interview with CBS News over the weekend, Hutchinson argued that Republicans "best opportunity is to have a new face."

Other Republicans who have formally joined the race for the party's presidential nomination include Nikki Haley, former governor of South Carolina and former ambassador to the United Nations, Vivek Ramaswamy, a former biotech executive, and Larry Elder, a conservative talk radio host and a gubernatorial candidate during California's 2021 recall effort.

King Charles coronation to be recorded as an album Russia's economy is recovering, even foreign forecasts favorable - Mishustin

LONDON

THE coronation of Britain's King Charles next month will be released as an album, the first time a recording of such a historic ceremony will be available to audiences worldwide.

In a statement on Friday, label Decca Records said it would record the May 6 service at Westminster Abbey, as well as pre-service music, as The Official Album of the Coronation and release it for streaming and download on the same day.

A physical version will go out on May 15.

Running at over four hours long, the album will feature all the spoken words of the ceremony as well as its music, including 12 new compositions commissioned by Charles.

"This will be a truly historic recording, capturing



Britain's King Charles III waves as he arrives for a visit to the new European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) in London, March 23, 2023. (PHOTO / POOL / AP)

a glorious range of music from across centuries and continents, reflecting the world-wide interest in our traditions, covering multiple locations in the wonderful acoustic of Westminster Abbey, and involving an unprec-

edented technical plan to present the entire experience to the world on the day itself," producer, Anna Barry said in a statement.

Katy Perry to perform

Among the commissions for the occasion is the Coronation Anthem, composed by musical impresario Andrew Lloyd Webber.

MOSCOW

THE Russian economy is steadily recovering and even international organizations are predicting it will follow a positive trend, Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin said on Wednesday, while addressing participants in the Znanie educational marathon.

"Our economy is recovering steadily. Now even international organizations are predicting more positive dynamics for us over two years to come," he said, pointing out that in April the International Monetary Fund "revised upwards its assessment of Russia's economic growth by a factor of two."

Mishustin (pictured) noted that inflation did not reach the 20% level predicted for Russia, but was less than 12% by the end of 2022 and is now under 3%.

He recalled that in the spring of 2022, analysts predicted a double-digit slump in Russia's GDP, but in reality "the decline, which is inevitable in such circumstances, was quite moderate."

Mishustin said that a 2.1% decline in the GDP in 2022 did distract some resources, but "still it is far from the catastrophe that our ill-wishers had been probably eager to see."

Mishustin stressed that forecasts of a 10% un-

employment rate in Russia also proved wrong: it was at the 3.7% mark in December 2022 and dropped to an all-time low of 3.5% in February.

"All this shows that our economy is adjusting itself to external pressures and the general situation in the world," Mishustin said, adding that the collective West was trying to "turn its control of global infrastructure into a weapon."



Chinese enterprises make remarkable contributions to South Africa's industrialisation

WIDE and flat roads, orderly traffic flow, and neatly built factory facilities - these are the most prominent features of the Hisense South Africa Industrial Park, a manufacturing quarter built by Chinese home appliance giant Hisense in Cape Town, North Africa.

"I've been working in this industry for nearly 30 years, and this year marks the 10th year for me to work in the industrial park. I'm glad to see the young people gaining better and better vocational skills today," said Valeri, Workshop Director of Industrial Park Television Factory.

Valeri is about to retire. She had gone through the hardships of factory shutdowns and unemployment. For a time, she had to do some vending businesses to make a living.

After the Hisense South Africa Industrial Park was built in the Atlantis industrial area in Cape Town, the woman immediately applied for a job there.

She started from the most basic position and became a team leader and then workshop director after training. Valeri now has apprentices. The products manufactured by her factory are available in many home appliance shops in South Africa, which makes her proud, Valeri told People's Daily.

The Hisense South Africa Industrial Park was jointly built by Hisense and the China-Africa Development Fund in 2013 with an investment of \$350 million. After years of development, the park is able to produce 400,000 television sets and 400,000 refrigerators on an annual basis today.

Now, Hisense televisions, air conditioners, refrigerators and other home appliance products are sold in over 5,000 shops under 18 major chain stores across South Africa, accounting for 30 percent of the market share in the country. Besides, these products are exported to more than 10 African countries such as Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Madagascar, as well as European destinations including the UK.

More and more factories on the supply chain of the home appliance industry have been built in the Atlantis industrial area because of the influence of the Hisense South Africa Industrial Park. The Atlantis industrial area has become an important manufacturing hub for electronic and home appliance products in South Africa and designated as a national-level special economic zone.

Sizo Nkala, a researcher at University of Johannesburg Centre for Africa-China Studies, told People's Daily that the Hisense South Africa Industrial Park, attracting more and more Chinese enterprises to South Africa, has contributed to South Africa's re-industrialization.

While promoting industrialization in South Africa, Chinese enterprises attach high importance on talent cultivation, which helps improve vocational skills of the local workforce.

Many local workers including Valeri have joined vocational training programs launched by Chinese enterprises, and now about 70 percent of the management positions are held



Local employees assemble motors in a workshop in the Hisense South Africa Industrial Park. (People's Daily/Zou Song)

by local employees.

Besides, to improve the vocational skills of local young employees, Hisense and a local middle school have jointly established an electronics technology research and development training base, which offers electronic, software and equipment operation courses. So far, the base has trained a total of more than 1,400 people.

Today, Valeri and her family are living an obviously better life than before. She said her job has brought dramatic changes to her family. "We expanded our residence, and I can enjoy my twilight years after retirement," she told People's Daily.

A number of residents in the Atlantis industrial area have secured a job near their homes, and many of them have bought their own cars. Since the Hisense South Africa Industrial Park was put into use, it has created around 1,000 jobs for local people and indirectly offered 5,000 jobs.

This year marks the 25th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties

between China and South Africa. Alvin Botes, Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation of South Africa, noted that Chinese enterprises have made constant and remarkable contributions to promoting South Africa's industrialization. He hopes that the two countries can achieve more fruitful results in their future cooperation.

People's Daily



More and more factories on the supply chain of the home appliance industry have been built in the Atlantis industrial area because of the influence of the Hisense South Africa Industrial Park

US expands legal pathways to deter border crossers

WASHINGTON

THE United States will ramp up deportations while also expanding legal pathways for would-be migrants as it braces for a possible spike in illegal border crossings when COVID-19 restrictions are set to end next month, U.S. officials said on Thursday.

The US will double or triple the number of deportation flights to some countries and aim to process migrants crossing the border illegally "in a matter of days," the US State Department and US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) said in a fact sheet about their plans.

At the same time, the US will expand legal pathways for migrants, encouraging them to apply for refugee resettlement or other forms of entry at two new processing centers in Guatemala and Colombia without having to travel to the US-Mexico border.

The centers, with the support of the United Nations, aim to screen 5,000 to 6,000 migrants each month as the United States has pledged to accept more refugees from within the Western Hemisphere. Canada and Spain have also said they would accept migrants through the centers, US officials said.

The centers will also process family reunification applications, a program already available to Cubans and Haitians that will now be expanded to nationals of Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, US officials said. The program allows certain migrants with US relatives to enter and work legally while they await their US visas.

The mix of immigration enforcement measures and new legal ways to enter the country is part of US President Joe Biden's plan to address a possible increase in illegal immigration when COVID-19 border restrictions, in place since 2020, are expected to end on May 11.

Biden, a Democrat, has struggled politically with record numbers of migrants caught crossing the US-Mexico border illegally and gradually toughened his approach to border enforcement.

Republicans have said Biden has failed

to curb crossings and want a return to the more hard-line approach of former President Donald Trump, the front-runner for the Republican presidential nomination.

Biden, who is seeking re-election in 2024, has tried to tread a careful line, angering some Democrats and immigration advocates by adopting more restrictive measures while at the same time promising a more humane approach than Trump.

"Our border is not open and will not be open after May 11," Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas said during a news conference with Secretary of State Antony Blinken in Washington on Thursday.

Biden's plan for the lifting of the COVID restrictions, known as Title 42, centers on a new regulation expected to be finalized in the coming weeks that resembles Trump-era policies blocked by U.S. courts.

The regulation would deny asylum for migrants who passed through other nations without seeking protection there first or who failed to use U.S. legal options for entry.

Aiming for the fewer crossings

The Biden administration says this mix of deterrence and legal options has worked in the past to reduce the number of border crossers.

Earlier this year, after the United States began rapidly expelling Cubans, Haitians, Nicaraguans and Venezuelans back to Mexico under the Title 42 restrictions, the number of migrants caught crossing from those countries dropped dramatically.

Under the post-Title 42 plans, the US intends to continue to send those migrants to Mexico, a US official said during a call with reporters. The Mexican government did not respond to a request for comment.

In January, Biden launched a program that allows 30,000 migrants per month from Cuba, Haiti, Nicaragua and Venezuela with US sponsors to enter the country by air. Those slots will remain open and migrants will also be able to apply for an appointment to approach the border via an online app.

Part of the plan is to increase the number of available appointments through the app, known as CBP One, the Biden administration said. Migrants have said appointments currently fill up within minutes each day.

To discourage Cubans from trying to enter the US via perilous boat journeys, DHS said any Cubans caught attempting to travel by sea will now be ineligible for the humanitarian parole program launched in January.

Agencies



Tanzania's Simba Queens forward, Asha Djafari (R), challenges Uganda's She Corporate FC goal-getter, Phiona Nabumba, when the two clubs took on each other in the previous season's CAF Women's Champions League CECAFA Zonal qualifiers final at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam. Simba Queens won 1-0.

Simba Queens set for CAF Women's CL CECAFA Zonal Qualifiers in August

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

THE 2023 CAF Women's Champions League CECAFA Zonal qualifiers will be held in Uganda in August this year.

The Council for East and Central Africa Football Associations (CECAFA) has confirmed the news following a meeting held earlier this week.

The tournament is expected to kick off on August 12 and culminate on August 26 2023 according to the regional soccer governing body.

Tanzania's Simba Queens are the defending champions and had representatives CECAFA Zone in last year's CAF Women's Champions League hosted by Morocco.

Simba Queens crashed out of the continental showdown's semi-finals after suffering a 1-0 loss to South Africa's Mamelodi Sundowns Ladies.

In the tournament's third-place playoff, Simba Queens conceded a 1-0 loss to Bayelsa Queens of Nigeria to settle for fourth place.

Simba Queens will represent Tanzania after winning last season's Mainland Tanzania Women's Premier League, lifting the title for three successive seasons since the top flight's establishment in 2016.

Last year, Simba Queens clinched the CECAFA Women's Club Championship title after beating She Corporate FC of Uganda 1-0 at Azam Complex Stadium in Dar es Salaam on August 27.

Kenya will be hoping to send a representative to this year's edition after missing out last year due to the FIFA suspension imposed on the Football Kenya Federation then.

This will be the third edition of the regional competition, the inaugural one had taken place in Nairobi in 2021 before Tanzania played host in

2022.

Vihiga Queens, then Kenya Women's Premier League champions, won the first edition of the regional tournament, with Simba Queens winning the subsequent one held in Dar es Salaam last year.

"In the same meeting held on Tuesday, it was agreed that the Women's Champions League for the Zone takes place August 12-26th in Uganda," part of a statement by CECAFA read.

The confirmation comes at a time when Uganda is set to stage the 2023 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) Qualifiers Group F home match against Algeria in Cameroon in June.

Uganda has opted to have its home duel taking place in Cameroon because renovation at the Mandela International Stadium is yet to be completed.

In a press statement released on Tuesday, FUFA, the country's football body, confirmed hosting Algeria in Cameroon, while expressing disappointment over slow work at Uganda's biggest stadium which is currently under renovation.

FUFA described the work as very slow and insensitive to cries of the public to be able to host the matches in Uganda.

"I call upon the relevant government authorities to urgently cancel the contracts of the contractors and supervisors and immediately procure experienced service providers in stadium construction even if it means being obtained from outside Uganda," Moses Magogo, FUFA president, said.

"The country is likely to have a delayed project, substandard work, and without value for money," the official noted.

Independent Premier League Board solution to matchday costs

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

WHEN the Bagamoyo Resolution was reached in a meeting held in Bagamoyo, Coast Region in 2007, soccer stakeholders in Tanzania wanted to ensure football is run more professionally with everyone taking initiative instead of relying on a certain body to do the duty for them.

The world football governing body (FIFA) convened the meeting between the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) and the federation's stakeholders, particularly the clubs that are the biggest participants in daily football activities.

The topics were about efficiency in running the football and what should be done to change the structure and enable each side to deal with its responsibilities, have a broad understanding, and finally develop methods to develop its area.

For a country like England, development has reached the level that even referees have their association which operates a company dealing with the development of the profession, interests, and training.

That means England's Football Association (FA) is more concerned with development programs, policies, regulations, and cases concerning the problems that arise in the running of the league and other aspects of day-to-day operations.

That is why if a coach commits a mistake, the FA is accused instead of the federation accusing the coach and then letting its committee judge him.

There is an independent body that can even identify the fault of the accuser, even though the latter is very careful and does not have a problem.

And that is where the league supervision began getting out of the hands of the country's football associations.

At the end of the 1990/91 football season, a proposal was submitted for the establishment of the Premier League in England which would be independent from the FA.

All 18 clubs that were participating in the First Division League agreed to the proposal and later the FA showed their agreement which included its publication of the guide to developing football.

The clubs signed the agree-



Azam FC right-back Nathaniel Chilambo (L) challenges Mbeya City FC's forward Joseph Ssemuji when they met in a recent match in Mbeya.

ment of the founding members in July 1991 and that was the beginning of the English Premier League (EPL), which ended as an independent entity that operates without interference from the FA.

This means the EPL is free to design its rules that will benefit the clubs and make the league the best in the world, attracting all stakeholders including investors, sponsors, and foreign footballers.

In England, an individual cannot lock himself in and make his rules without involving the representatives of the clubs.

An individual can hardly sign sponsorship contracts for the Premier League when the league owners are there, and sign advertising rights contracts when the football owners are there.

In other words, the rules that govern the operation of the league and the issues of the income distribution are formulated by the league owners based on the circumstances of the time, such as the availability of stadiums and their costs to benefit all parties.

Sponsorship contracts/television broadcast rights are discussed in detail with the league owners (clubs) and are not presented cunningly.

Those involved and the costs of the match must be mentioned in the regulations that have been discussed widely and at length with the parties instead of a group of people who are not responsible for the clubs but are responsible for another entity that does not affect the league's operations.

Where there are problems,

the clubs stick together to ensure that justice is done because if one club is aggrieved and no action is taken against the matter, such a problem could face other clubs, therefore, there is great attention to ensure that justice is done for all.

With the current structure of football operations in Tanzania, the complaints that the referees are pressured into biased refereeing cannot end because the officials work under TFF, not clubs.

When there is a strong body that manages the league, the blame will move to the referees that either have been bribed or they hardly know the rules.

Issues about income distribution especially the issues of match expenses which, as the days go by, are increasingly troubling TFF and Premier League Board (TPLB) officials. The clubs are as well silent because they are becoming part of the problem.

Stakeholders feel that there is a problem but the leaders of all parties have gone silent.

Since clubs' leaders see that they are not to be blamed, they become part of the problem and since other parties see that the perpetrators are participating, they do not see a reason for addressing the issue.

If TPLB was a true representative of clubs and is responsible for the latter, such baseless complaints would be reduced.

The body would come up with proposals at the end of every season, distribute them to the clubs, and later discuss them in working sessions before being approved by the general meeting.

It would have what it takes to deal with such setbacks and serve clubs. The outfits would have the power to face it and fight it in terms of league management and other issues.

It was strange that Simba SC CEO at the time Barbara Gonzalez was prevented from accessing the VIP section of Dar es Salaam's Benjamin Mkapa Stadium by TPLB officials when Simba SC faced Yanga in a league tie hosted by the former.

In South Africa, for instance, the Premier League allows clubs to prevent players from turning out for their respective countries' national teams on non-FIFA dates.

South African soccer big gun Kaizer Chiefs sought the postponement of its league game due to the COVID-19 crisis.

The country's Premier League governing body refused to postpone the match despite several Kaizer Chiefs players being found to be infected.

On that day, the referees went to the stadium as usual but they found the doors closed and the security guards did not allow anyone to enter and the match eventually did not take place. No action was taken against Kaizer Chiefs, alias 'Amakhosi'.

The freedom has indeed exceeded the standards but that shows how strong the clubs are in ensuring that the procedure is observed instead of waiting for the federation to make a mistake the same way the federation did in the Premier League tie between prominent clubs, Simba SC and Yanga.

Therefore, the only remedy that can reduce the suspicions over the swindling of revenues, is the clubs ought to take charge of the league and ensure that they participate in making regulations that will benefit them.

The current tendency by some outfits to disrespect the TPLB will come to an end because the clubs will know that TPLB is their body and if they do not listen to their advice, its leaders will be replaced by competent officials that will be responsible for the clubs.

In countries that boast lots of success in football, development came after there was a division of responsibilities. The TFF should be involved in the development and provision of policies and vision.

Mainland Tanzania Premier League should be run by the clubs and the referees should have an independent body.

Youngsters' involvement in sports nurtures talent, fights moral decay

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

MORAL decay is a term used to describe the decline or fall of the moral values of a civilization. This concept is sometimes called decadence.

Recently, government, societies, and religious leaders have raised alarm on moral decay among Tanzania's youths with the majority of them engaged in evil practices like homosexuality, and called upon collaborative efforts with various stakeholders to stop it.

Deputy Minister for Culture, Arts, and Sports, Hamisi Mwinjuma, on April 18, said the government looks forward to integrating the moral subject into schools' education curriculum to tackle moral degradation.

"Moral subject will be integrated into the new improved curriculum and every pupil/student will be compulsory to study it," Mwinjuma disclosed.

The Deputy Minister, also a popular Hip Hop artist, re-

vealed at a Parliament session in Dodoma while responding to a question posed by Special Seats Member of Parliament Bahati Ndingo who sought to know steps taken by the government to deal with moral decay.

The introduction of the moral subject alone cannot eliminate moral decay thus the government should put much emphasizing on extra-curricular activities like sports and games in schools.

There is a need for it to introduce subjects centering on personality and ensure there is a sports development syllabus, a move that could offer a solution to the problem.

Sports and games enrich students' skills, discipline, physical, and mental fitness by keeping their brains active.

Participation in sports boosts students' thinking productivity, reduces their indulgence in immoral acts, as well as seeks for development of the youngsters and the communi-

ty. Sports also develop talents, and self-confidence, and motivate creativity.

With such benefits, parents/guardians, government, education stakeholders, and leaders now fighting moral decay should focus on motivating and influencing schoolchildren to increase their efforts in participating in sports and games.

Participation in sports is widely believed to improve moral character, sportsmanship, and the ability to collaborate toward a common goal.

It is an endeavour that could make youngsters feel better, appreciated, as well as improve their creativity by thinking constructively, promoting discipline, unity, and cooperation. Studies show that the longer an individual takes part in sports and the higher levels such an individual achieves, the more morally and ethically stable he/she becomes.

Continues on Monday



Junior sailors that form Tanzania's junior sailing team that will participate in the Optimist African Championship in Morocco next week are pictured during the team's announcement in Dar es Salaam recently. The team, led by coach Hamisi Muhidini, is made up of Abubakhar Mpondi (Kigamboni Sailing Center), Ikram Rashid (Kigamboni Sailing Center), Shayaan Powar (Dar Yacht Club), Mussa Mtulya (Kigamboni Sailing Center), Aaron Karani (Dar Yacht Club), and female sailor Alyah Hart (Dar Yacht Club). PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Man Utd's future still uncertain as deadline for third bids looms

LONDON

THE future of Manchester United could be decided on Friday when the deadline passes for a third round of bidding to buy the Premier League giants.

United's owners, the Glazer family, reportedly want a world record £6 billion (\$7.3 billion) fee for a sports club before they agree to sell the Old Trafford outfit.

That eye-watering price has so far not been met, raising fear among a discontented fanbase that the Americans could yet prolong their controversial 18-year reign.

Qatari banker Sheikh Jassim bin Hamad bin Jassim bin Jaber Al Thani and British billionaire Jim Ratcliffe are the front runners should the Glazers decide to sell their majority shareholding.

Deeply unpopular with supporters since they saddled the club with debt in a £790 million leveraged takeover in 2005, the Glazers appeared ready to cash out at an enormous profit when they first invited external investment in November.

However, Elliot Investment Management and The Carlyle Group are among the private equity firms in the market for a minority stake that could allow the Glazers to retain control and provide the funding for investment in the club's infrastructure, such as a redevelopment of Old Trafford.

According to reports, executive co-chairmen Avram and Joel Glazer are keen to hold on to their stakes in United, while siblings and fellow directors Kevin, Bryan and Edward Glazer and Darcie Glazer Kasewitz are open to offloading their shares.

Offers from the second round of bidding last month were believed to have been worth around £5 billion.

That would smash the Premier League record of £2.5 billion paid for Chelsea last year by a consortium led by Los Angeles Dodgers co-owner Todd Boehly and private equity firm Clearlake Capital, with a further £1.75 billion promised in investment in infrastructure and players.

The Manchester United Supporters' Trust (MUST) has called for a swift conclusion to the process to allow new owners to be in place for the summer transfer window.

"We are in dire need of new investment, which undoubtedly requires new ownership. MUST, along with United fans all around the world, are calling for this process to be concluded without further delay," the fans' group said in a statement.

- Decade of decline -

The history of the Glazers' time in charge, though, suggests they are unlikely to bow to fan sentiment.

United have been in a steady decline on and off the field over the past decade.

The Red Devils have not won the Premier League title since former manager Alex Ferguson retired in 2013, while the club's revenue has fallen behind local rivals Manchester City and Liverpool due to a lack of regular Champions League football and a failure to modernise Old Trafford.

But they are enjoying a renaissance under Erik ten Hag's management this season, having ended a six-year trophy drought by lifting the League Cup in February.

They also face Manchester City in the FA Cup final on June 3.

Sheikh Jassim's bid for 100 percent control of the club promises to erase United's \$620 million debt, as well as investing in an overhaul of the stadium and training ground.

Just months after hosting the 2022 World Cup, a successful Qatari bid would give the Gulf state pride of place in the Premier League -- the world's most-watched domestic competition.

But Sheikh Jassim is the son of former Qatari prime minister Sheikh Hamad bin Jassim bin Jaber Al Thani, and his close links to the Gulf state's ruling elite would raise questions over another Premier League club becoming a state-backed project.

INEOS chemical company founder Ratcliffe, a boyhood United fan, has been more circumspect in his assessment, insisting he will not pay a "stupid" price in a bidding war for one of football's most iconic clubs.

Reports that Ratcliffe could make an offer for a majority stake in the club, but allow Joel and Avram Glazer to remain as shareholders have also raised concerns among the fanbase.

Finnish tycoon Thomas Zilliacus is the outside contender, having said his offer from the second round of bidding still stands despite labelling the prolonged sale process as a "farce".

AFP

Is Manchester City's domination of the Premier League bad for business?

By Oliver Brown

WITH their now-customary late-season flourish stretching to seven successive wins, Manchester City could yet wrap up a fifth league title in six years on 94 points. Once, 90 appeared a threshold of unfeasible brilliance, achieved by teams of such rare vintage as Arsenal's 2004 Invincibles and the architects of Manchester United's 2009 'three-peat'. But since Pep Guardiola's second season at City, three of four triumphs have been sealed with totals of 100, 95 and 93. They have made absurdly impressive levels look positively mundane.

It is tempting to declare that City's bludgeoning brilliance is detrimental to the health of the Premier League. Except few advanced this theory when United won five in six from 1996 to 2001, as part of a broader sequence of 13 in 21. On the contrary, a torrent of adulation swept Alex Ferguson to a knighthood 14 years before he finally retired. So, is there a risk of a double standard here? And if so, is it because City, falling outside that coterie of so-called "legacy clubs", are seen as too minted, too corporate, too acquisitive to deserve any wider affection?

This is the caricature that stalks Paris St Germain. They were only founded in 1970, and



Pep Guardiola

until the Qatari takeover in 2011 had managed just two French championships. Since then? Eight in 10 years, a record their owners are so desperate to sustain that we now witness the absurd spectacle of Neymar, Kylian Mbappe and Lionel Messi facing off together against Strasbourg or Brest. "Farmers league," as Ligue 1 has come to be known, with PSG depicted as a vampiric enterprise devouring the poor countryside cousins.

By degrees, the same accusations are being levelled against City. A recent profile of Erling Haaland for Forbes declared that the Norwegian was, through his prodigious scoring, turning the Premier League into farmers-league territory. City's power surge

is more than just a matter of perception. Chelsea, since last winning the league in 2017, have not come within 15 points of them. Antonio Conte, despairing of the futility of closing the champions down, described them as a "monster" during his unhappy time at Tottenham. To judge by the lopsidedness of City's 4-1 win over Arsenal this week, their dominance is poised to become more monstrous yet.

At least Arsenal and Liverpool can be credited with resisting a runaway train. And yet even Liverpool's headiest achievements have not always been enough: just when Jurgen Klopp's players reeled off nine victories in a row to conclude

their 2019 campaign, City managed 14 straight to prevail by a point. Arsenal, likewise, are discovering the hard way that history is written by the winners. Having led this year's race by as many as eight points, they now risk being gobbled up by City on the home straight with room to spare. They are a brilliant young side, but ultimately, it looks as though it is their fate to be mere ornaments decorating the latest sky-blue parade.

We are still far removed, thankfully, from the preordained feel of the Bundesliga, although Bayern Munich are at least being pushed all the way by Borussia Dortmund this season if they want to claim an 11th

consecutive title. With the exception of one tight duel with Borussia Dortmund in 2018, just look at the points gap between first and second over that period: 25, 14, 10, 10, 15, 21, 13, 13, 12. It is a frankly ludicrous monopoly, sustained by Bayern's habit of hoovering up whoever takes their fancy among their supposed rivals. Robert Lewandowski lights it up for Dortmund in 2012, propelling them to a precious domestic double? He signs a pre-contract agreement to join Bayern the next season. Leon Goretzka establishes himself as a sensation for Schalke? Instant one-way ticket to Bavaria.

City are seldom guilty of such ritual plunder. Their recruitment is at such a sophisticated pitch that they spend years ensuring they are at the front of the queue for Haaland. They integrate Manuel Akanji seamlessly into the first XI at the age of 27. All this is made possible, of course, by vast Abu Dhabi sovereign wealth that equips them to afford such expensive mistakes as Danilo, bought for £26 million in 2017 as a replacement right-back and then let go after two years after making only 34 appearances. But theirs is a dynasty, unlike Bayern's, that has not been built on raiding the competition.

It could admittedly be frightening if City prise Jude Bellingham away from Dortmund this summer.

They have usurped Real Madrid as the favoured destination for these generational talents, and it is all because of Guardiola, the man who attracts the best and makes them even better. Even after six years with Ederson, he still pushes his goalkeeper, breaking off a celebration of City's first goal against Arsenal to berate him for dawdling over a clearance. He mentors Haaland so astutely that the centre-forward breaks the scoring record for a 38-game Premier League season with seven matches to go.

The bare essentials of Guardiola's career are staggering. If he leads City across the line next month, he will have won a league title in 11 of his 14 seasons as a manager. He will be the first to acknowledge that he has benefited from a galaxy of superstars at Barcelona, Bayern and now City, but it is Guardiola, with his fondness for living on the ragged edge, who embodies the merciless pursuit of excellence. It is Guardiola who gives City the soul that PSG, those other plutocratic playthings, so conspicuously lack. What happens when he departs? Does the entire edifice start to crumble? City can hardly bear to contemplate the idea. For now, they are content, under their insatiable coach, with making the ridiculous seem routine.

THE TELEGRAPH

Arsenal are in danger of one of the all-time Premier League title chokes

By Jason Burt

IT remains to be seen how kind history will be to the great Arsenal choke of 2023.

The discarding of six points, with three successive draws, followed by the crushing defeat away to Manchester City may still ultimately prove to be a blip. But it may also be a deeper scar, a permanent reminder.

But first Arsenal, lest it be forgotten, remain two points clear at the summit of the Premier League. While City have two games in hand and while, undeniably, the momentum has shifted so emphatically to the champions, Arsenal are still in this.

And yet if they had not surrendered two-goal leads away to Liverpool and West Ham United, if they had not somehow contrived to be 3-1 down against the league's worst side, Southampton, before salvaging a draw, how different today would look. If, if, if... three painful ifs and there is no sugar-coating it. The draws at West Ham and Southampton were terrible results.

Had Arsenal turned those three draws to wins their lead would be eight points. Their destiny, with five games to go, would still emphatically be in their own hands. City would have been unable to do anything about it

even if they collected a maximum return in their remaining seven fixtures.

Arsenal could have afforded to go to the Etihad and been pummeled. They could have lost to City in the league to an aggregate of 7-2, as they have done, and still gone on to win it.

Instead the label of chokers is being applied even if, again, it comes in a campaign where the height of Arsenal's ambitions appeared to be finish in the top four. Not to come close to winning their first title in two painful decades.

All careers, especially sporting ones, can be reduced to a few images both glorious and often, unfortunately, cruel. Just ask Steven Gerrard whose slip to allow Demba Ba to score for Chelsea came nine years ago on Thursday and helped end Liverpool's hopes of winning the title for the first time since 1990.

Liverpool did not choke - they won 10 of their last 12 league games, drawing the other - but the slip came at precisely the wrong time especially as it was followed by losing a 3-0 lead to draw away to Crystal Palace and 'Crystanbul' and the narrative was formed as City ran them down and were crowned champions instead.

And so there was one painful statistic doing the rounds in the

minutes after the final whistle at the Etihad on Wednesday with Opta stating that Arsenal are the first team to go four consecutive Premier League games winless while starting the day top for each match since March 2008. And which side did it then? Arsenal of course.

They had been five points clear but their resolve seemed to be shattered when Eduardo so horrifically broke his leg under Martin Taylor's challenge in the draw away to Birmingham City.

It was the first of four consecutive draws before a defeat away to Chelsea and the theory developed that Arsene Wenger's Arsenal were showing a tendency to choke when the pressure was on them.

The enduring image was of captain William Gallas sat on the turf on

his own and refusing to budge after the final whistle until ordered to do so by Wenger who, eight years later, was still protesting that Arsenal were not serial chokers.

That was also through the lens of Arsenal fading badly in previous title races, not least 2010-11, when they again appeared set to usurp Manchester United only to finish fourth and 12 points off the pace. The collapse was blamed on another game against Birmingham, the shock loss of that season's League Cup Final.

When Arsenal were five points clear again in Nov 2013 it prompted United striker Wayne Rooney to say: "We've seen before that they've been in the top two until February or March and then faded away." It was the season City won their second title

under the Abu Dhabi ownership.

Having lost five of their last 10, including two of their final three, league games last season to drop out of the Champions League places at the very least Arsenal have to ensure they finish strongly. In losing to City they confirmed a top four finish for the first time since finishing runners-up to Leicester City in 2016. But there is no comfort in that yet.

If Arsenal fear they will once more be entering the pantheon of Premier League chokes - and it does sound harsh especially given the power of the opposition they have been challenging in Pep Guardiola's City - at least it will not rank alongside Newcastle United's collapse in 1996. In January Newcastle established a 12-point

lead over United before what remains one of the most dramatic capitulations in the history of football. The enduring image this time was Kevin Keegan's emotional meltdown in front of the cameras and the line: "I will love it if we beat them. Love it."

It did not happen and, since then, Newcastle have never come as close to winning the title. That will be the fear for Arsenal this season even if their squad and their development under Mikel Arteta appears to be built on more solid foundation.

But April has been the cruellest month for them, with just six points from 15, and as excellently as they have performed this season history may be about to classify them alongside other infamous collapses.

THE TELEGRAPH

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Is Manchester City's domination of the Premier League bad for business?

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TONIGHT @ 9:00

MONDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 Weekend Movie (r)
14:00 SKONGA (r)
14:30 Planet Bongo (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Akili & Me (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELECT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Bongo Hit
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 5SPORTS LIVE
22:00 Zote kuntu
23:00 Kurasa (r)
23:05 EATV SAA 1 (r)

5Sports
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 5sports.

eastafrica RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM

Dar golfers set for 2023 Galinoma Memorial Golf Tournament

By Guardian Correspondent

ABOUT 130 golfers are this morning set to take Dar es Salaam's Tanzania People's Defence Force (TPDF) Lugalo Golf Club course to compete in this season's Galinoma Memorial Tournament.

The showdown, which is played annually, is coordinated by the family of the late Brigadier General (Retired) Ernest John Galinoma in memory of the deceased that was also a respected amateur golfer.

The organizers noted the tournament, the fourth edition, will be graced by former minister, Abdulrahman Kinana.

They disclosed the showdown is a three-day event, adding they plan to include a tournament for caddies that was slated for Thursday and a showdown for professional golfers that took place yesterday.

Today, a final will be played with junior golf players and amateurs showcasing their skills, to be followed by presentation ceremony involving all categories.

The organizers stated that they sincerely hope other players will be on hand to support their caddies on Thursday morning and more will hopefully be in attendance to cheer professional golfers on display come Friday.

The Galinoma family added that it is thankful for numerous support and assistance from different people and entities.

It disclosed that it is, especially, grateful to all sponsors- Tanzania People's Defense Forces to The Countrymen, The Guardian, Tigo, Precision Air, Bonite Bottlers (Kilimanjaro Water), Mwananchi Communications Limited, SBC (Pepsi), ItalFrame, Binti Mabut, and Silver Lake Inv. Limited.

The tournament, which is now in its seventh year as the sports fraternity took a break during the COVID-19 pandemic, includes a variety of activities for both adults and children.

In addition to the golf tournament, there are golf clinics (free golf lessons) hosted by professional golfers for the general public, both kids and adults who are new to the game and either have an interest in golf or just want to improve their golf skills.

According to the family free health check-ups are also part of the numerous activities held on this day, making it not just a celebration of golf but also a means of promoting social wellness and healthy living.

The Galinoma Memorial Tournament has become an important event for the local community, particularly for golfers, from junior golfers to senior players.

The tournament also provides a platform for juniors to showcase their skills and passion for the game.

Many current golfers have used this tournament as a stepping stone to start playing golf or even participate in other golfing showdowns.

Nigerian coach backs Rivers United to shock Yanga in CAF CC quarterfinal rematch



Tanzania's Yanga midfielder, Stephane Aziz Ki (C), attempts to shoot past Nigeria's Rivers United goalkeeper, Victor Sochima, as defender Denis Ndasi attempts to tackle the midfielder when the clubs met in a 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup quarterfinal match at Godswill Akpabio International Stadium in Uyo, Nigeria last Sunday. Yanga clobbered Rivers United 2-0. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

FORMER head coach for Nigeria's Kwara United, Samson Unuanel, says he is optimistic the country's club, Rivers United, can overturn the two-goal deficit against Tanzania's Yanga when the two sides lock horns in the rematch of the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup last eight tomorrow.

Rivers United landed in Dar es Salaam on Friday morning contrary to what was reported that they will arrive today.

It should be recalled that the Port Harcourt-based club faces a daunting task in the outfit's bid to secure a place in the semi-finals of the CAF Confederation Cup after suffering a 2-0 home defeat to their opponents in the first leg that took place in Uyo last Sunday.

According to the statistics of the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup quarterfinals' first

leg matches, Yanga is the only team that stamped an away victory.

The game between Egypt's Pyramids FC and Marumo Gallants of South Africa, which took place in Cairo, ended in a 1-1 draw.

Tunisia's US Monastir and Ivory Coast's ASEC Mimosas fought to a barren draw whereas USM Alger registered a 2-0 home win over AS FAR of Morocco.

Stanley Eguma-coached Rivers United will have to score three goals without conceding in the second leg at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam tomorrow to make it to the next round.

The Nigerian side is familiar with the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium where they claimed a 1-0 win over Yan-

ga in a 2021/22 CAF Champions League First Preliminary Round match in 2021.

In an interview with The Guardian, Unuanel stated that Rivers United can turn the game around against the Mainland Tanzania Premier League defending champions.

The tactician disclosed: "They may be down but not out completely because I am still optimistic they can overturn the two-goal deficit against Yanga in Tanzania."

"Impossible they say is nothing. If Yanga can beat Rivers United in Nigeria why can't they do the same thing in Tanzania?" the gaffer queried.

"I am very sure the Nigerian club will take the game to them and shock them in

Tanzania."

The winner of tomorrow's encounter will take on either Pyramids FC of Egypt or South Africa's Marumo Gallants FC in the semi-final.

As reported via Yanga's Instagram page, the outfit stated that each of the VIP A tickets that were being sold for 30,000/- have been sold out, hence people should continue to buy tickets reserved for VIP B, C, and ordinary seats.

Meanwhile, President Samia Suluhu Hassan has topped up prize money she has pledged to Tanzania's envoys in the last eight of this season's CAF Champions League and CAF Confederation Cup, Simba SC, and Yanga, once the clubs score goals.

Samia had, during the continental competitions' Group Stage, handed over 5m/- for every goal the two clubs scored in their respective fixtures.

Government spokesman, Gerson Msigwa, yesterday said the President has, this time, pledged to hand over 10m/- for every goal the two clubs will score and ultimately qualify for the semi-finals of the CAF Champions League and CAF Confederation Cup.

Simba SC last night took on Morocco's Wydad Athletic Club in CAF Champions League last-eight rematch in Casablanca, with the former boasting a 1-0 victory in the first encounter that took place in Dar es Salaam last weekend.

Yanga will tomorrow host Nigeria's Rivers United in the CAF Confederation Cup last-eight rematch at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Yanga, in the previous clash that took place at Godswill Akpabio International Stadium, Uyo, garnered a 2-0 victory.

Msigwa disclosed President Samia wishes Simba SC and Yanga all the best and has asked the players to give their all to make sure they win the quarterfinals and sail through to the semi-finals.

The official clarified the goals set to garner the cash are the ones scored during either the 90 minutes or 120 minutes of the ties, not penalties.

KMC FC gears up for final push in relegation battle

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

KINONDONI Municipal Council FC media officer Christina Mwangala is confident the club will avoid relegation from the 2022/23 NBC Premier League despite the outfit's run of poor form.

Kinondoni Municipal Council FC has been dragged into the relegation fight in recent weeks with four defeats from the squad's last five league outings dropping the club into the bottom three.

Their four-point cushion over the bottom two could all but disappear with a home defeat to Singida Big Stars in their next assignment, hardly the best time for KMC FC's newly appointed coach Jamhuri Kihwelo 'Julio' to get his first win.

Christina said they have resumed preparation for the final push to avoid relegation to the Championship League next season. She reaffirmed their belief that they can survive relegation.

The KMC FC leader noted: "We have resumed preparations for the remaining three games. We have a match on May 12 against Singida Big Stars here at Uhuru Stadium,

another match is against Tanzania Prisons on May 24 and, on May 28, we are going to end the season against Mbeya City FC."

The KMC FC leader pointed out: "As the club management we are working on our strategies. We cannot reveal the strategies but, inside the office, we know what we are doing to ensure that Tanzanians, Kinondoni residents, fans, and supporters of the KMC FC will continue watching our brand of football next

season."

"We are in a position that is not good. We are in 14th place with three games left but we have not lost hope. We have not given up, it's not over until it's over," Christina noted.

Kinondoni Municipal Council FC has recorded just one victory in the club's last 10 outings in this season's NBC Premier League.

It is a sequence of results that prompted the club management to sack head coach Thierry Hitimana. Former

Mwadui FC and Dodoma Jiji FC coach Julio has been appointed to help the team beat the drop.

There are four relegation spots in NBC Premier League this season.

The bottom half of the league is full of evenly-matched teams all simply hoping to survive, as many as seven clubs are in danger of going down.

The bottom two will go down automatically at the end of the regular season.

As it stands, Ruvu Shooting and Polisi Tanzania need a miracle to avoid automatic relegation.

Clubs that finish in the 13th and 14th spots will play a two-legged relegation play-off between themselves. The aggregate winner retains Premier League status.

The loser of the relegation playoff meets the aggregate winner of the Championship League promotion/relegation playoffs in another two-legged tie.



Radio One's Director, Deogratius Rweyunga (C), speaks at an occasion for announcing a soccer match between Simba SC and Yanga veterans at the radio station's office at ITV Mikochei in Dar es Salaam on Thursday. Radio One and ITV have coordinated the clash that is set to take place at Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium in Arusha on May 6. Others are Yanga veterans' Chairman, David Lihenga (R), and Simba SC veterans' official, Innocent Njovu. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT SABATO KASIKA

Flexibles by David Chikoko

