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## Uongozi Institute, Treasury experts ponder Vision 2050

By Correspondent James Kandoya

EXPERTS familiar with preparations for the Tanzania Development Vision 2000-2025 are participating in a meeting in Dar es Salaam to help set the framework for Vision 2050.

Kadari Singo, Uongozi Institute chief executive officer, yesterday officiated at the opening of the consultative meeting, standing in for Dr Natu Mwamba (pictured), the Treasury permanent secretary.

He said the meeting involves about 100 reviewers readying to prepare the new vision, leading up to 2050, with preparation of the new guiding document coming after Vice President Dr Philip Mpango launched the process.

Once completed, the new Vision will be rolled out starting end 2025 when the current document is eclipsed, he said, noting that the current vision has been a milestone.

It has propelled the country's



**The current growth rate is well above most of Sub-Saharan Africa, which on average stands at 3.6 to 3.9 per cent per annum**

economic growth at an average rate of 5.2 per cent, bringing it on the margin of lower middle-income status by 2020, he said.

Vision 2050 will be crucial for generating future development, the director noted, affirming that stakeholders will share experiences with the new secretariat tasked to prepare the guiding document.

Increasing community awareness to ensure that Vision 2050 is well known and the public becomes part and parcel of its preparation is vital, he stated.

Dr Mursali Milanzi, chairman of the Vision 2050 Secretariat, said that human capital and modernised economy are major priorities in the new development vision.

The Vision document will link agriculture products with industries to ensure availability of sufficient raw materials for the industries and markets for the products, he said.

Remarkable successes noted in the roll out of Vision 2025 include improved healthcare services, widening access to health facilities, schools, universities, roads and railways, he stated.

Innovation and technology count

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# Govt issues electoral law review assurance



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa has a feel of jewellery on display at a mining exhibition held in Mwanza city yesterday in tandem with the Federation of Tanzania Miners Associations (FEMATA) general meeting. Left and second left, respectively, are exhibitors Farida Peter and Khadija Ashibaye. Photo: PMO

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government is ready to proceed with a review of electoral laws as part of preparations to write a new constitution, the legislature was told yesterday.

Jenista Mhagama, the Policy, Parliamentary Affairs and Coordination state minister at the Prime Minister's Office, said in a response that the government was ready for such changes at any time.

Sophia Mwakagenda (Special Seats-Opposition), had demanded when the government would bring electoral laws for review in order to kick-start the constitution writing process.

The MP argued that the constitutional review process should involve as many people as possible, such that the government needs to review the relevant laws to allow the process to start, with a wider range of people being involved in the process.

In response, the minister praised President Samia Suluhu Hassan for agreeing to proposals made by the task force drawn from the political parties' council and other stakeholders.

"Following the president's directive the council and other stakeholders are working on strategic plans, via PMO, to ensure the laws are brought to the legislature for amending before this year elapses," she said, underlining the government's commitment to review the relevant laws to make the constitution drafting exercise smooth.



**If we want, we can go with the draft constitution and present it to the people for referendum so that a new constitution is approved**

Ussi Salum Pondeza (Chumbuni) wondered if the government was ready to provide civic education to the public on a new constitution, and if the now envisioned process will incorporate the initially established copy of the new constitution whose finalisation stalled.

Pauline Gekul, the deputy minister, said in response, that the government has set aside funds for public education on the 1977 constitution and the Zanzibar Constitution of 1984 (as amended).

Deus Kibamba, a noted political analyst, commended President Samia for seeing the importance of reviving the constitution making process.

"There are people who think we should start afresh, but to know where to start from we need to know where we stopped. The fact is that we ended with a draft constitution which was drawn up by the constitutional assembly," he said.

"If we want, we can go with the draft constitution and present it to the people for referendum so that a new constitution is approved," he said.

There is a need for consensus on the matter as the draft constitution is not supported by the whole country, he said, noting that a preliminary legal process will be required before the country can

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# MPs: Tobacco farmers merit fertiliser subsidy

By Francis Kajubi, Dodoma

MEMBERS of Parliament yesterday asked the government to cover tobacco farmers in the next financial year's fertiliser subsidy arrangement.

Debating the 2023/24 estimates for Agriculture tuned at 970.79bn/- a number of MPs said that the crop employs many farmers in the country, thus demanding quality subsidised fertilizer supplied to obtain higher yields.

They called for early registration of tobacco farmers to enable timely deliverance of subsidised fertilizer before



**The system allows multiple scanning while the logging off time takes too long**

cultivation starts, with a view to enabling producers in Katavi, Tabora, Mwanza, Geita, Morogoro, Simiyu and Shinyanga.

Concerns were expressed as tobacco exports dwindled to 40,954 tonnes priced at \$154m in fiscal 2022/23 from 53,689 tonnes fetching \$187.34m in 2019/20.

Official data shows that tobacco yields moved from 58,508 tonnes in fiscal 2020/21 to 70,699 tonnes the next year and 125,592 tonnes in the current year.

Ezra Chiwelesa (Biharamulo) urged the government to place tobacco in fertilizer subsidy scheme as the cash crop is among

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# 'Telecom subscribers have to be innovative'

By Guardian Reporter

TELECOM service providers need to develop more innovative and cost-effective products to attract more subscribers in the future.

Vincent Mpepo, a lecturer at the University of Dodoma, aired this view in the wake of the latest quarterly report of the Tanzania Communication Regulatory Authority (TCRA), showing modest increases in subscribers for their various



products.

The data for the first quarter of 2023 (January-March) indicates that the total number of active SIM cards in the country rose from 61,157,974 in January to 61,983,164 in February, sliding slightly to 61,879,725 in March.

The varsity analyst shed light on the challenges and opportunities the telecom sector faces within the dynamics of competition in the industry, affirming that as the telecom industry becomes more crowded, providers will need to think outside the box to attract and retain customers.

"It's not just about lowering prices but offering unique value propositions that stand out in a crowded market. Companies that can innovate and adapt to changing

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Inspector General of Police Camillius Wambura (R) and the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) representative in Tanzania, Manshik Shin, pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday exchanging documents on an agreement under which Tanzania and South Korea will co-operate in the implementation of a three-year capacity building training programme for Tanzanian police personnel. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

## Maswa needs about 1,140 new teachers

By Guardian Correspondent, Simiyu

MASWA District council needs 1,140 teachers to cater for the increasing number of pupils who joined school after the introduction of free education policy which had increased from 15,174 in 2021/22 to 15,946 in 2022/23.

Speaking to this paper head of the primary school education department Dr Lucy Kurogwa said the district council is now in dire

need of primary teachers due to the increase in number of pupils who enroll in standard school. "We have a total of 135 primary schools and out of them 132 are government owned, three are privately owned, enrollment has increased by 95-percent compared to 84-percent last year," she said.

She said this has led to the shortage of teachers of 1,109 teachers who are available currently while the needs are 2,257.

On infrastructure, she said the district council needs 930 classrooms equivalent to 41-percent out of the 1,327 classrooms which are available currently.

Fidericy Aporinary head of secondary education department said there has been an increase in secondary schools from 40 to 45 which has been embedded by an increase of nine percent from 15,673 pupils to 17,540 with pass rate in form four increasing by

three percent from 92percent to 95-percent.

"Secondary education is doing fine, we are working on addressing absenteeism and this will be a success because the infrastructure are supportive," she said.

Speaking recently, Regional Commissioner for Simiyu Dr Yahaya Nawanda said there has been various challenges in the education sector in the region saying that his office was working on addressing them with support from various stakeholders.

"Apart from the 126bn/- which we received in the two years of president Samia's presidency, we have also received 9bn/- for construction of 100 toilets, construction of teachers houses and classrooms," he said.

## 'Telecom subscribers have to be innovative'

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customer needs will have a better chance of success in the long run," he stated.

TCRA observed that mobile network subscribers account for 99.86 percent of all subscribers, with the fixed network having a paltry 0.14 percent. Fixed services are offered the state telephone operator, while mobile services have six dynamic service providers.

Dr Jabiri Bakari, TCRA director general, said the report is crucial for telecom companies to assess the performance of their services, and for policymakers to monitor the industry's growth and impact on the economy.

In the previous quarter, Vodacom had the highest number of subscriptions at 18,364,363o

while Airtel came in second with 16,654,648 subscriptions. Tigo was close behind at 16,292,808 subscribers, he said.

Moving to the end of March 2023, Vodacom still led with 18,553,779 subscribers, with Airtel second with 17,054,716 subscribers. Tigo, now merged with Zantel came third with 16,599,038 subscribers, he elaborated. New operator Smile closed the list with 15,171 subscribers, the data indicated.

Subscriptions increased by 1.2 percent from 60.3m subscriptions in December 2022 to 61.9m, an increase of 0.59 percent monthly during the quarter under review.

Uplift in numbers of active subscribers highlights the state of competitiveness in the sector, the director added.

## Govt issues electoral law review assurance

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affix its signature on a new mother law.

Views issued by a majority of Tanzanians was their displeasure with the proposed constitution, preferring the draft constitution drawn up by a panel chaired by former premier Joseph Warioba.

Even during the fifth phase where the government declared the constitution making process as not

a priority, the overall view was to revive the process by starting with the Warioba draft, he asserted.

Stakeholders have similarly proposed that the president should appoint a team of experts to review the Warioba draft and remove any shortfalls they will identify.

Tundu Lissu, Chadema deputy chairman (Mainland) said there was no action towards constitution making and instead people are merely issuing statements.

## MPs: Tobacco farmers merit fertiliser subsidy

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the top ten export income earners of the country.

To distribute fertilisers on time there must be distribution centers at the ward level, apart from cooperative unions, to enable ease of access, he said.

Selemani Kakoso (Mpanda Rural) argued that as Katavi is a leading tobacco producing region denying subsidised fertilizer is to curb the farmers' inclusion in economic activities.

"Katavi tobacco farmers are pleading for subsidised fertilizer in the coming season," he told the House.

Dr Florence Samizi (Special Seats) suggested that it is high time for the country to heavily invest in local fertilizer supply to reduce importation and creating jobs.

Annual fertilizer importation stood at 617,000 tonnes by last month, she said, noting that imports accounted for 92 percent of the total. Local production stands at 75,000 tonnes, lower than eight percent of market needs, he said, urging a change of approach to fertilizer production.

Luhaga Mpina (Kisesa) criticised the modality of registering farmers to access subsidised fertilizer as defective, with wide room for fraud. The system was approved without the knowledge of E-Government Authority (e-GA), he pointed out.

"The system allows multiple scanning while the logging off time takes too long," he said, noting that this puts farmers' money at risk.

Josephat Gwajima (Kawe) was of the view that apart from subsidizing

fertiliser the ministry needs to focus on establishing an indigenous seed bank for future food security.

Tabling the estimates on Monday, the minister, Hussein Bashe said that the Tanzania Leaf Tobacco Co. (TLTC) was shut down years back as Mkwawa Leaf Tobacco Processor Ltd (MLTL) came in, promising greater processing capacity.

The firm has so far processed 7,518 tonnes and agreed with the government to purchase another 41,605 tonnes in the next harvesting season starting next month.

He said the Tobacco Board of Tanzania has sensitized 20,958 farmers on advanced technologies in tobacco farming in Tabora and Katavi regions.

During the current financial year the ministry set funds to facilitate the Tobacco Research Institute of Tanzania (TORITA) finalise research on new tobacco seeds defying drought and diseases.

The ministry targets producing 1,200 kilograms of seeds in this plan, facilitating farmers to produce 160,000 tonnes of tobacco in the next fiscal year, he said.

The tobacco board will train farmers on good agriculture practices to improve yields to 1,600 kilograms per hectare from 1,400 kilograms in the current season.

Through the Agricultural Trade Management Information System (ATMIS) the board will register 1,500 tobacco picking centers and 750 selling points to oversee quality standards. The ministry has so far facilitated the supply of 84,938 liters of tobacco pesticides, the minister added.



National Assembly Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson (L) chairs a meeting of the legislature's leadership committee in Dodoma city yesterday as it reviewed the schedule of the House's ongoing sessions. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Zanzibar's April inflation slightly up

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

INFLATION in Zanzibar for April, 2023 has increased to 1.85-per cent compared to 0.09 per cent which was reported in March, this year.

The head of statistics at the office of the government chief statistician in the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar Salma Saleh Ali revealed this when releasing statistics for the month of April at the agency's headquarters, Mazizini Unguja.

She said inflation for food and non-alcoholic goods for the month of April increased to 3.38 per cent

compared to 0.6per cent recorded during the month of March, this year.

She said the general prices of goods increased by 106.24 per cent for the month of April compared to 98.84 reported during the same period in 2022.

She named the goods that are leading to the increase as Rice Thailand (3.6percent), rice from Mbeya (1.4percent), fish (12.8percent), sugar (1.1percent), Bananas (33.2per cent).

Speaking on inflation of food items for the month of April, the officer said it increased

by 11.52-percent compared to 10.26percent recorded during the month of March. The officer said average prices for food items for April increased by 111.81 per cent from 100.26percent recorded in April in 2022 in which inflation for non-food items increased by 102.44percent in April this year compared to 97.79 per cent recorded which was recorded during the same period last year.

She however explained that inflation for non-food items decreased to 4.75 per cent in April compared to 4.49 per cent recorded in March this year.

An economist from the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) Ulrick Momburi said Tanzania was doing fine in money circulation and managing inflation compared to other African countries.

He said during the month of Ramadhan goods were sold at a higher price a move which helped to shape the annual budget formulation.

He gave an example of Kenya where in March 2023, inflation reached 8.2 per cent from 7.8percent while in mainland Tanzania inflation reached 4.8 per cent from 4.7 per cent.

## Uongozi Institute, Treasury experts ponder Vision 2050

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among the key drivers of Vision 2050 to cope with global advanced in technology, he asserted.

Early last month, the VP launched preparations for kick-starting consultations ahead of drawing up Vision 2050, noting that if all key players collaborate fully, rolling out the new Vision will place the economy on the path to be one of the strongest in the continent.

The current growth rate is well above most of Sub-Saharan Africa, which on average stands at 3.6 to 3.9 per cent per annum.

As Africa and the rest of the world's economy recover from the Covid-19 fallout and a range of environmental and strategic shocks like the Russian invasion of Ukraine, all of this has worsened already acute rates of inflation and borrowing costs in 2022, he added





Pupils from Kisiwani Primary School in Dar es Salaam Region's Kigamboni District in Dar es Salaam pictured yesterday following a road safety programme through a moot juvenile court, where the driver (L) is charged with breaking the law by not stopping at zebra crossing near the school. The sensitisation event was organised jointly by local NGO Amend and Traffic Police. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Tanzania appointed to the UN Statistics Commission

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

TANZANIA has been appointed member of the United Nations Statistical Commission, the highest body of the global statistical system bringing together the chief statisticians from member states from around the world.

A statement issued by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) indicates that Tanzania's four years' membership commences on 1st January, 2024.

The commission is the highest decision making body for international statistical activities, responsible for setting of statistical standards and the development of concepts and methods, including their implementation at the national and international level.

NBS said that according to a letter from the Director of the United Nations Statistics Division, Department of Economics and Social Affairs, Stefan Schweinfest to the Statistician General, Dr Albina Chuwa, the appointment was done during the Economic and Social Council meeting, held on 5th April, 2023.

In his letter Schweinfest applauded Tanzania for the appointment, expressing hope in further collaboration with Tanzania through NBS, noting it will contribute in helping the commission find solution to global statistical challenges.

"Through the appointment, Tanzania becomes one of the 24 countries in the world to form the United Nations Statistical Commission," read the statement.

The Commission consists of 24 member countries of the United Nations Economic and Social Council on the basis of an equitable geographical distribution.

They are as follows, five members from African state, four members from Asia-Pacific States, four our members from Eastern European States, four members from Latin American and Caribbean states as well seven members from Western

European and other states.

Speaking at the opening of NBS staff meeting recently, Dr Chuwa, explained that Tanzania is also a member of the five country's committee on distribution of statistics globally. She observed that the committee under International Statistical Institute (ISI), is like global statistical parliament.

She also congratulated the government through the Ministry of Finance and Planning for approving the second plan to strengthen and improve statistics in the country, where its implementation will reduce the costs of conducting various studies in the future.

She explained that the programme is funded by the government in collaboration with the World Bank (WB) and other development stakeholders to improve the production and distribution of official statistics in the country, especially administrative statistics through ministries, departments and government institutions.

For his part, the deputy minister for Finance and Planning, Hamad Chande, urged the NBS staff to be honest in the entire process of data production, especially when collecting, processing, interpreting and reporting the data.

In another development, the deputy minister asked the NBS staff to broaden their knowledge whenever they secure such an opportunity within and outside the country.

Chande said that the sixth phase government led by President Samia Suluhu Hassan has been recognising the great contribution of workers in bringing about the country's development and production of goods and the provision of services to the community.

He noted that the mission of the government is to continue improving and strengthening employees' welfare and create a better working environment for them so that they can produce and provide better services for their own development and the nation in general.

## Police, Koica conduct investigative training

By Correspondent Anaeli Mbise

POLICE in Tanzania in collaboration with the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) have signed a three years agreement to conduct investigative training.

Speaking to journalists in Dar es Salaam during the signing ceremony, Inspector General Camilius Wambura said the training aims at capacitating police officers with practical knowledge, professionalism in investigations of digital crimes.

He said the training will also focus on handling Gender Based Violence (GBV) and violence against children so that the officers have the ability to handle the issues which are now rising in the country.

"One of the things that the president Samia Suluhu Hassan is doing is to ensure that the police becomes excellent in professionalism and she has also directed me to ensure that we create and police which is able to deal with modern day crimes and we decided to look for our

colleagues from Korea so that they offer us their expertise," he said.

He said the training will help in nurturing talents and skills for police officers which will have a chance to travel to Korea for training.

Korean ambassador to Tanzania Sunpyo Kim, said the training is based on the diplomatic relations that exist between the two countries saying this will help in promoting proper investigations in the country.

He said in the agreement, police officers from Korea will also

come to Tanzania to learn how the police operate in which their counterparts in Tanzania will also learn on the new and modern ways to carry out investigations.

Koica representative Manshik Shin, said they will work together in community and economic sector development but also promote collaboration between the two institutions.

"We value the support which we get from the police in Tanzania and our people have also been volunteering to support the efforts," he said.

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CAMFED

## JOB VACANCY

**Job Title:** Regional Internal Auditor  
**Location:** 3 roles, 1 role based in each location: Tanzania, Malawi or Ghana

CAMFED (Campaign for Female Education) is an international non-profit organisation tackling poverty and inequality by supporting marginalised girls to go to school and succeed, and empowering young women to step up as leaders of change. Since 1993, CAMFED's innovative education programmes in Zimbabwe, Zambia, Ghana, Tanzania and Malawi have directly supported more than five million students to attend primary and secondary school.

**Role**  
 Working with the Regional Audit Manager to provide independent objective assurance and consulting engagements to key stakeholders, designed to help the organization to achieve its strategic objectives, add value, improve operational efficiency, ensure effective, accurate and timely reporting and compliance to donors and regulatory requirements. You will support Regional Internal Audit Manager to plan and execute risk-based audit engagements for CAMFED covering Zimbabwe, Zambia, Tanzania, Malawi and Ghana, in accordance with CAMFED Internal Audit processes, policies and the International Professional Practices Framework (IPPF).

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- Partly qualified with any of the following professional certifications (ACCA, CPA, CIA, CISA, ACFE)
- Four (4) plus years of audit experience internal/external audit, strong applications in finance/accounting and/or grants will be considered.
- Knowledge of Salesforce or Financial Force software will be an advantage.
- Proven experience in Risk Based Auditing and procurement.
- Maintain a current knowledge base of audit industry practices and to ensure best practices as always considered.
- Considerable knowledge of the Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing and the Code of Ethics developed by the Institute of Internal Auditors.
- Good analytical, interpersonal, time management, research, and communications skills.
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- The position requires the ability and willingness to travel domestically and internationally up to 40 % of the time. This role involves working in a virtual /geographically dispersed / multi-culturally team.

CAMFED is committed to providing equality of opportunity and valuing diversity for all current and prospective staff, volunteers and Board members. We aim to ensure that this commitment, reinforced by our values, is embedded in our day-to-day working practices and our work together.

**Application Details**  
 If you are interested in this opportunity, please get in touch soon, sending your CV together with a covering letter to [hr@camfed.org](mailto:hr@camfed.org). For the full job description please visit [www.camfed.org](http://www.camfed.org). We will close this vacancy once we have sufficient applications for the role. Due to the volume of responses only successful candidates will be contacted.



## HakiElimu recommends 20 per cent addition to education sector budget

By Correspondent Mary Kadoke

HAKIELIMU-NGO has recommended 20 percent addition to the education sector budget unlike the 14 percent that the government has been setting since 2015 to date (2023).

Speaking before journalists at the organisation's headquarters in Dar es Salaam, HakiElimu executive director Dr John Kalage, said the settled budget to the ministry for years has not been in accordance with the agreed international standards.

"2015 Incheon declaration demands Southern African Development Community (SADC) country members to set at least 20 percent of the national budget to the education sector. Despite the agreement, from 2015 to 2023 only 14 percent is set on the education sector," he said.

He added: "If 20 percent was to be set by the government to the sector it's obvious that it would clear away challenges that would at one point or the other raise the education sector standards."

He also recommended that its time the government likewise lawmakers think of planning an education budget that's proportional to the third programme on education.

To maintain the education infrastructure, the government should set scheme plans to at least construct 25,000 classes (20,000 secondary and 5,000 primary) to waive class shortage in five years to come, proposing 375bn/- for a successful work done.

HakiElimu's concern is that the government should come up with better plans on subsidy addition to primary and secondary schools from suggesting 25,000/- to primary schools and 50,000/- to secondary schools.

"In the year 2021/22 we urged

the government to set a five year plan so as to wipe out teachers shortage in the country. Among the recommendations was the government need to enroll 40,000 in a year (25,000 secondary and 15,000 primary). The plan that will cover teachers' shortage in the country. The government should add the number of teachers enrolled in employment to 40,000 in the year 2023/24."

Dr Kalage recommended that one of the tactics that the government can endorse to attain more budget on the sector is blocking loopholes on fund mismanagement upon the set budget.

Quoting 2021/22 Controller and Auditor General (CAG) Charles Kichere report showed that 88.4bn/- set as loans to youth, women and people living with disabilities in local governments was not returned or paid back.

However the report highlighted fund embezzlement on projects such as Tanzania Railway Corporation (TRC) caused 503bn/- loss by just not being ready to engage a bidder who was ready to be paid 616.4bn/-.

"The embezzled fund would have two times cover challenges facing the education sector. The government should closely monitor the allocated budget so that the future generation is not loaded with a loan to pay."



**The government should add the number of teachers enrolled in employment to 40,000 in the year 2023/24**



Dr John Kalage, executive director of the non-profit CSO HakiElimu, briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on its recommendations to the government in respect of what the Education, Science and Technology ministry is expected to table in the National Assembly as its Budget estimates for financial year 2023/2024. Photo Correspondent Mary Kadoke

## Stakeholders laud president's decision to upgrade Kilombero Game Reserve

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

CONSERVATION and tourism stakeholders have applauded the decision taken by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to upgrade the Kilombero Game Reserve in Morogoro Region, something which is important in ecology and has great contribution to the nation.

They made the appreciation on Monday when speaking during the seminar for Members of the Parliamentary Public Investment Committee (PIC) organised by the Tanzania Wildlife Authority (TAWA). The seminar was aimed at informing the PIC members on the importance of the game reserve, challenges facing it and how TAWA has prepared to curb the challenges.

Joas Makwati, conservation

commissioner in Southern Highlands said the establishment of the game reserve comes with a lot of ecological and biodiversity opportunities and that President Samia saw it better to ensure that the area is protected for the benefits of the current and future generations.

"I really commend President Samia for the good decision, the Kilombero Game Reserve contributes 65 percent of water in the Julius Nyerere Hydro-Power Project (JNHPP) which will support production of 2,115MW of power to be used in various activities," he said.

He promised to continue cooperating with various stakeholders including MPs in respective areas as well as citizens so as to achieve the goals of sustainable conservation for the benefit of the community and the nation at large.

He said President Samia made an

important decision to protect the forest, which is the catalyst for opening up tourism opportunities, including tourist hunting activities that increase foreign currency considering that until now the Kilombero Game Reserve has four tourist hunting blocks.

Makwati also said that in the period between 2016/17 to 2020/21, TAWA provided 425m/- to Kilombero, Ulanga and Malinyi district councils as dividends of 25 percent of the total income coming from tourism activities in the game reserve.

According to Makwati, TAWA has also authorized sustainable fishing to people living on the edge of the game reserve through special permits to increase income for the community and maintain good relations between the people and conservationists.

He however said that the reserve

was facing a severe shortage of staff where currently there are only 88 workers out of 279 required staff.

He added that TAWA has prepared an inclusive plan to be implemented from this year to 2025 to ensure that the game reserve is well protected by facilitating sustainable use of natural resources including water and wildlife as well as improving infrastructure.

He said that the authority has however taken steps which include improving the infrastructure, installing beacons, construction of two patrol camps, providing conservation education to 9,861 citizens in 16 villages in Kilombero, Malinyi and Ulanga districts.

"We have also increased vehicles which include five cars, four patrol boats, two tractors and two motorcycles to further strengthen security within the game reserve.

Anderson Mutabebwa, deputy permanent secretary in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism said the government has already conducted assessment of residents in Ngombo village and the hamlets that need to be removed from the park.

Mabula Nyanda, conservation commissioner at TAWA said a large section of the Kilombero River falls within the Kilombero Game Reserve, something which has the potential to contribute to the power generation at the JNHPP.

Nyanda also emphasised on the issue of land use plan saying that this need to be implemented by engaging various ministries and stakeholders.

Augustino Vuma, the committee's vice chairman commended TAWA for organising the workshop to enable MPs to have a deeper understanding on the Kilombero Game Reserve and how it is managed where he promised that the committee will continue working closely with the authority to ensure that the game reserve is protected to benefit surrounding communities and nation at large.



### JOB VACANCIES

#### Communications Officer - Dar Es Salaam

WWF is one of the world's largest independent conservation organizations, active in over 100 countries. WWF's mission is to stop the degradation of the earth's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by conserving the world's biological diversity, ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable, and promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption.

WWF Tanzania is currently implementing its Country Strategic Plan (2021 - 2025) in three landscapes (SOKNOT, RUVUMA, WATER TOWERS and RUMAKI Seascape) with funding from different donors including Corporates, PSP, Trust & Foundations, private individuals, and WWF Network Offices to continue with its effort of natural resources conservation for people and nature.

WWF Tanzania wishes to recruit a competent individual to fill in the position of a Communications Officer to be stationed at its HQ in Dar Es Salaam

Interested applicants may get the detailed Terms of Reference (ToR) through the following website: [https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs\\_and\\_opportunities/jobs/](https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs_and_opportunities/jobs/) Applications must include a complete Cover Letter & CV with full contact details of three referees and should be addressed to the People & Culture Manager, via email to: [hresources@wwftz.org](mailto:hresources@wwftz.org) by Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> May, 2023 at 1700hrs pm. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted

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Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition [THRDC]				
P. O. Box 105926 Dar es Salaam, Tanzania Mob: +255 769 642 208 E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@thrde.or.tz">info@thrde.or.tz</a> Website: <a href="http://www.thrde.or.tz">www.thrde.or.tz</a>				
TANZANIA HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS COALITION (THRDC) REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022				
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2022				
	Notes	2022 TZS	2021 TZS	
<b>ASSETS</b>				
<b>Non-current assets</b>				
Property and Equipment	6	336,609,382	324,339,000	
Intangible assets	7	818,000	1,156,000	
		<u>337,427,382</u>	<u>325,495,000</u>	
<b>Current assets</b>				
Prepayments	8	92,137,839	95,095,728	
Subscription in Arrears	9	25,170,550	19,200,600	
Cash and Cash Equivalent	10	579,571,104	808,315,611	
		<u>696,879,493</u>	<u>922,611,939</u>	
<b>Total assets</b>		<u>1,034,306,875</u>	<u>1,248,106,939</u>	
<b>Equity and liabilities</b>				
Accumulated surplus		63,365,187	55,303,216	
Capital Fund		528,080,632	496,686,293	
Revaluation surplus		45,817,467	14,051,196	
		<u>637,263,286</u>	<u>566,040,705</u>	
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Deferred income	12	383,129,689	642,577,234	
Payables	15	13,753,900	39,489,000	
Subscription in Advance	9	160,000	-	
		<u>397,043,589</u>	<u>682,066,234</u>	
<b>Total equity and liabilities</b>		<u>1,034,306,875</u>	<u>1,248,106,939</u>	
The financial statements were authorised for issue by the board of directors on 15/05/2023 and were signed on its behalf by:				
Ms. Joaquina Demello Chairperson		Mr. Onesmo Olungurumwa National Coordinator		
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2022				
	Notes	2022 TZS	2021 TZS	
<b>Revenue</b>				
Donor Receipts	12&16	3,019,175,658	2,312,791,325	
Member Subscription	13	24,900,000	20,800,000	
Other Revenue	14	66,235,092	30,503,788	
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<u>3,110,310,750</u>	<u>2,364,095,113</u>	
<b>Expenditure</b>				
Members Affairs	17	246,805,609	278,316,992	
Protection	18	1,855,483,983	1,223,569,234	
Institutional Capacity Building	19	954,305,060	785,327,085	
Depreciation charge	6	53,378,098	76,043,812	
Amortization of Intangible	7	338,000	338,000	
<b>Total expenditures</b>		<u>3,110,310,750</u>	<u>2,364,095,113</u>	
<b>Surplus for the period</b>		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	





GF Trucks & Equipment Ltd marketing and sales director Salman Karmal (L) has a word with mineral dealers shortly after launching machinery sales and rentals for the miners in Geita on Monday. Story on Page 13. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Trade Unions in East Africa start engaging governments to ratify ILO Convention 190

By Marc Nkwame, Arusha

THE East African Trade Union Confederation is pushing for the governments in the seven EAC partner states to endorse the International Labour Organisation's new global standards for eliminating ending violence and harassment at the workplace.

It was revealed during the EATUC meeting in Arusha that as of now, none of the East African Community Partner States has ratified the convention to ensure that their respective governments prioritise the Ratification of the ILO Convention 190.

The International Labour Organisation has set new global standards for eliminating ending violence and harassment at the workplace, known shortly as Convention 190 or simply C190, which however, Tanzania and her East African siblings of Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, DR Congo and South Sudan seem to snub.

The President of the Organisation of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU) Dr Francis Atwoli stated that the Engagements of social partners must be strengthened and facilitated.

"This is also because the Ratification of 190 will go a long way in addressing existing policy gaps within Partner States labour related legal framework particularly in the area of violence against women in the workplace," Dr Atwoli, who is also the Vice President of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) explained.

It is against this background therefore that EATUC together with the ILO have organised a social

partners' engagement meeting in Arusha, Tanzania.

The overall objective of the meeting, according to the Secretary General of the Trade Union Congress of Tanzania (TUCTA), Hery Mkunda is to build a consensus towards a campaign for ratification of convention C190 and fight against Gender-Based Violence in the East African Community.

It was also said that the presence of Labour Commissioners from various countries will give an opportunity for EATUC and its affiliates to engage their governments' commitment on ratification of C 190.

They are also seeing how at the national center they can jointly engage on the bottle necks to ratification; this will also be an important opportunity for EATUC regional strategy to be based on the update from the ministries, not just from the affiliates.

Specific objectives of the meeting are to gain insights into ongoing government plans and processes towards ratification of ILO C190.

Delegates at the Arusha meeting are also expected to receive a status report of trade union work and progress on C190 from EATUC affiliates, as well as developing joint action strategy on awareness raising campaigns on ratification of C19 by EAC partner states.

*"This is also because the Ratification of 190 will go a long way in addressing existing policy gaps within Partner States labour related legal framework particularly in the area of violence against women in the workplace"*

## Govt contemplates recognizing local brewers, Parliament hears

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

'ILLICIT brewers' may soon have a reason to smile as the government contemplates recognizing them, and educate them on how to prepare their products in a clean environment and adoption of new technology and packaging materials.

Deputy Minister for Investment, Industry and Trade, Exaud Kigahe told the Parliament yesterday that the move comes in effort to

improve the technology used in making local brews.

He was responding to a question raised by the Special Seats MP, Agnes Hokororo (CCM), who wondered why the Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO) does not focus on improving technology for production of alcohol from ethanol instead of just providing education.

"What is the government doing to recognise liquor produced from cashew nut product and

help increase the crop's value and market?" he asked.

In response, the deputy minister said the government has taken several initiatives to help improve technology on production of local brews and adoption of cheaper technologies.

He said, "Through SIDO, the government acknowledges activities of illicit brewers, educates them on the hygiene on their production areas, new technologies and cheaper

packaging".

Kigahe, however noted that due to some challenges facing the producers of local brews and failure to meet the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) requirement, the government through TBS in collaboration with SIDO has initiated a programme to educate them.

"At least 43 quality assurance certificates were issued for the production of liquor by October, 2022 and 22 new applications are still under review," he said.

The deputy minister added that through SIDO, the ministry will continue improving production of local brews in accordance with the demand for that.



UNITED NATIONS INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION



## PRESS RELEASE

In Tanzania, UNIDO has been implementing a project titled "Promoting public health and social resilience by strengthening the domestic supply chain of personal protective equipment" with support from the government of Japan since 2021. The overall objective of the project is to promote public health and social resilience against COVID-19 and other infectious diseases by strengthening the domestic supply chains of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), disinfectants and other hygiene supplies.

The project provides humanitarian support to promote public health that brings stability to both economic activities and the livelihood of the people in the country. It is also intended to assist the country in preparing for a possible resurgence of the pandemic and mitigating the risks of future health crises. Under the UNIDO project, seven private sector companies and two key public institutions in the national supply chains of personal protective equipment (PPE), disinfectant

and hygiene were engaged and assisted. The major intervention activities encompass a series of capacity-building training programs and equipment donations. The training programs cover broad industrial and productive topics including productivity improvement, organizational resilience, business continuity planning, and quality management system according to ISO 9001.

On 9th March 2023, a N95 respirator mask production equipment was handed over to the Ministry of Health through the Medical Store Department (MSD) and it is now in fully operation as one of the first production hubs for N95 respirator masks in Tanzania. The handover ceremony was attended by the Ambassador of Japan, H.E. Yasushi Misawa, Hon. Godwin Molllel (MP) Deputy Minister, MoH and other senior officials from the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Investment, Industry and Trade, Tanzania Medicine and Medical Devices Authority (TMDA), Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS), as well as the

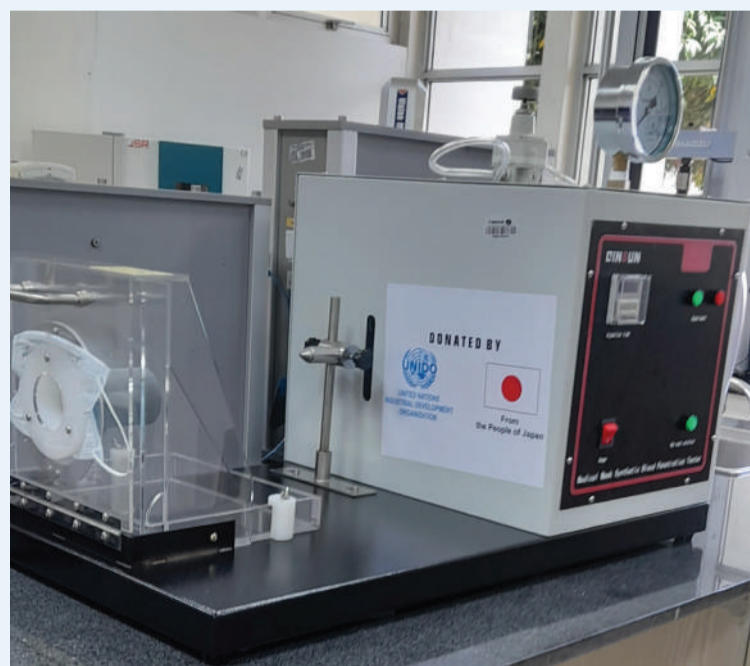


Figure 1: Mask Synthetic Penetration Tester

invited private sector PPE manufacturing firms.

Furthermore, on 08th May 2023, UNIDO Tanzania officially handed over two more laboratory equipment, which assess the efficacy of various medical mask and textile materials, to the Ministry of Health. These equipment are Mask Synthetic Penetration Tester and Mask Bacterial Filtration Efficiency Tester, which have been

installed at the Tanzania Medicines and Medical Devices Authority (TMDA). The equipment donated to TMDA will be used to test all types of masks produced in the country including N95 respirator masks produced by MSD as results of the same UNIDO project. TMDA reported that there will be about 10 -15% increase in the revenue, thanks to the extended laboratory testing services.



Figure 2: Mask Bacterial Filtration Efficiency Tester

The UNIDO project strongly contributes to the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) number 3 (Health and Well-Being), SDG number 5

(Gender equality) and SDG 9 (Resilient infrastructure, sustainable industrialization and innovation). For more information, please visit: [www.unido.org](http://www.unido.org)



## UNFPA, Denmark offer medical facilities, buildings to promote reproductive health

By Getrude Mbago

THE United Nation Population Fund (UNFPA) with support from the government of Denmark has donated medical equipment, an ambulance and renovated spaces with a total worth of 615.2m/- to support sexual and reproductive health in Chamwino District, Dodoma Region.

The tools which include medical equipment, an ambulance, and renovated spaces, including an operating theatre and maternity ward, were handed over to the Chamwino District Council in a ceremony today at Dabalo Health Centre in Dodoma.

Speaking during the handing over event held at the Dabalo Health Centre in Chamwino, Minister of State, President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government (PORALG) Angellah Kairuki thanked UNFPA and the government of Denmark for extending the support to ensure that maternity services are improved.

She said that out of the total worth of donation, 327,000,000/- has been used for construction and renovation and 288,205,539/- has been used for procurement of an ambulance and medical tools.

She noted that the donation is part of a \$2.3 million project implemented by UNFPA that focused on enhancing access to sexual and reproductive health in rural Tanzania, and has enhanced the safety of tens of thousands of births.

Kairuki said that the project has helped enhance availability of sexual and reproductive health services.

"It was noted that in project regions, over recent years, there has been increased percentages of deliveries assisted by skilled health attendants and increased percentages of women delivering in health facilities," she said.

"The contribution of equipment and renovated space at Dabalo Health Centre enables the provision of comprehensive emergency obstetric and newborn care services. Through the same effort, three dispensaries in Chamwino (specifically Itiso, Manda and Nhinhi dispensaries) received

donations of medical equipment to facilitate health services including basic emergency obstetric and newborn care.

UNFPA Country Representative, United Republic of Tanzania, Mark Bryan Schreiner said the medical equipment, with a total value of over \$83,000 includes: fatal heart monitors, oxygen concentrators, hospital beds, and tables specifically designed for operations, and labour and delivery.

"Through provision of reproductive health services and information, the Denmark-funded project has made a difference in the lives of tens of thousands of women, men and adolescents," said.

"We recognise our joint commitment together with the government of Tanzania to provide rights and choices for all, and we honour the dedication of health workers in delivering sexual and reproductive health services."

As part of the Denmark-funded sexual and reproductive health project, training for over 600 health care workers has been provided over the past few years in the project areas of Dodoma, Simiyu and Zanzibar, covering topics in reproductive, maternal, newborn, child and adolescent health. Participants included nurse-midwives, clinical officers, and medical officers. And, to further disseminate essential knowledge, multiple groups were prepared as mentors and trainers of trainers on sexual and reproductive health standards.

The Denmark-funded project also established a youth-friendly facility for sexual and reproductive health services at Nhinhi dispensary in Chamwino district.

To complement the effort, 50 young people in Dodoma were trained on adolescent sexual and reproductive health, and Gender Based Violence prevention and response. These young people are now working as peer educators, and have contributed to the project reaching some 50,000 adolescents and young people with sexual and reproductive health information and services.

## FCS launches project to promote CSOs' participation in democratic governance

By Getrude Mbago

THE Foundation for Civil Society (FCS) has launched a three-year "Uraia Wetu" project aimed to enhance the capacity of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and citizens to effectively participate in democratic governance processes, including in constitutional review and national reconciliation processes.

Supported by the European Union (EU), the project will be implemented by FCS through 12 organisations both in mainland and Zanzibar where among them are Tanganyika Law Society (TLS), Tanzania Constitution Forum (TCF) and Tanzania Association of Non-Governmental Organisations (TANGO).

Speaking in Dar es Salaam yesterday during the launching event, FCS executive director, Francis Kiwanga, said the "Uraia Wetu" project will contribute to an improved and enabling policy framework and environment for effective civic engagement to promote democratic governance in Tanzania.

He said the EU will support the "Uraia Wetu" initiative 2023 to 2025 where a total of 4,916,402,000/- has been issued in sub-grants to twelve CSOs in both Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar to undertake activities that will contribute to the realisation of the project's objectives.

"Citizens play an active role and are a key ingredient of our democracy. The 'Uraia Wetu' project aims to promote freedom of expression, access to information, freedom of assembly and will seek to identify available avenues and opportunities for increased civic engagement," he said.

He said: "During the previous constitution review process, we learnt that citizens are interested in constitutional reforms, seeking increased transparency, accountability, national values, and authentic anti-corruption efforts. However, when civic space is limited, marginalized groups like women, youth, children, and people with disabilities face challenges, as

they lack platforms to voice their concerns."

He added that FCS believes that when grassroots civil society is strengthened and has appropriate spaces to play its roles effectively, citizens will be aware of their rights and exercise them. The role of civil society in moving citizens' agenda is paramount.

"FCS aims to ensure that Tanzanians are empowered and responsible so as to get their basic economic and societal rights to make their lives better. The EU-funded project will also strengthen CSOs' capabilities to ensure effective engagement with the government and key development actors. With increased capabilities, the CSOs will be able to play their roles effectively, and engage with the government to influence change," Kiwanga said.

Edna Chilimo, the FCS Programmes Manager in charge of Governance and Social Inclusion, said the project focuses on promoting meaningful participation of civil society in multi-stakeholder policy processes and strengthening CSOs' capacity to promote public accountability.

The project exemplifies FCS and the EU's dedication to promoting and safeguarding human rights through dialogue, advocacy, and technical interventions. These efforts target media freedom, access to quality information, peace and conflict prevention, civic participation (especially for women and youth), access to justice for vulnerable populations, and anti-corruption initiatives.

Mack Mshana, programmes manager at Tanganyika Law Society (TLS) said: "We are happy to sign this cooperation with FCS, we will look at all areas related with the constitution review process."

Bob Wangwe, TCF executive director commended FCS and EU assuring that they are going to work tirelessly in the three years to educate CSOs and the public on the importance of participating in the constitution making process and democratic processes.



Kishapu legislator Boniphace Butondo (L) moves to calm down his Tarime Rural counterpart, Mwita Waitara, who burst into tears when contributing to debate in the National Assembly in Dodoma city yesterday. The latter expressed dissatisfaction with the government's response to a question he had asked in connection with an alleged delay in the payment of compensation for residents of Komarera, Nyamichele and Murwambe relocated to give way to Barrick North Mara gold mine operations. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

## Govt to draft new agricultural laws to protect farmers' rights

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government intends to draft new agricultural laws to protect farmers from increasing violation of their rights by companies that deal in agricultural products like cooperatives, among others, it has been revealed.

Minister for Agriculture, Hussein Bashe said this in the Parliament yesterday while responding to a supplementary question raised by the Muhambwe MP, Dr Florence

Samizi (CCM), who wanted to know what the government was doing to contain those who violate farmers rights.

"How is the government planning to deal with companies which buy crops but do not pay farmers on time while some of them do not pay them at all?" asked the lawmaker.

In his response, Bashe admitted that there are companies which collaborate with cooperatives to swindle farmers, giving an example of Katavi region.

"The government is taking action against these and that is why we are coming up with a specific agricultural law that will criminalize crimes committed against farmers," he explained.

Initially, in his basic question, Simizi wanted to know when tobacco farmers will be paid their money from Jespan Company for the 2021 sales season in Muhambwe constituency.

But while responding, the Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Anthony

Mavunde said due to the delay in payment, the government has started taking legal action against companies that bought tobacco from farmers and failed to make payments.

"Therefore, the payment of farmers will be made in accordance with the judicial bodies, including the court," he stressed.

He said the Jespan Company failed to pay the farmers after tobacco market was affected by the effects of Covid 19. He said that through the Kigoma Tobacco Regional Board (KTCU) and the Kigoma Regional Prosecutor's Office, they are finalising the process of opening a civil case against Jespan Company so that farmers can be paid.



Shaik Choughule (2nd-L), councillor for Dar es Salaam's Kivukoni ward, pictured at the weekend presenting clothes to special needs children taken care of by Rev Williards Nangawe in the city's Sea View Street area. Left is businessman Zubeiry Naik, one of the people who extended the support. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## KCBF, GIZ to sponsor 960 students for vocational training

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

KENYA Commercial Bank Foundation (KCBF) in Tanzania has partnered with the German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) programme to offer scholarships to sponsor 960 students for vocational training at the Vocational Education and Training Authority (VETA) in Mainland and at the Vocational Training Authority (VTA) in Zanzibar.

The KCB Foundation's 2jajiri programme and GIZ E4D/programme- Employment and Skills for Eastern Africa - Tanzania Initiative have sponsored students in the project dubbed Skills and Enterprise Development to increase their employability and income generation.

The special project which was implemented from 2021 to April this year included scholarships for training and provision of working tools to some trainees worth 2.2 bn/-. According to the high ranking official of the KCB bank, the bank is expected to fully sponsor a total

of 5,000 Tanzanian youths in such training and skills by June this year.

Speaking at the special graduation ceremony of the 130 youth who fully sponsored by the KCB Foundation's 2jajiri programme and GIZ E4D programme who completed their studies at VETA-Moshi, the Head of Marketing and Corporate Affairs at KCB bank Tanzania, Christina Manyeye explained that, the Skills and Enterprise Development project broadly seeks to increase employability and income generation for youth in the formal and informal sector in Tanzania.

"Specifically, the project aims to secure employment and self-employment for the youth in the construction sector and entrepreneurship," she explained.

She added that, this will be achieved through practical oriented vocational training, life skills, work readiness training and enterprise development skills necessary to drive employment and wealth creation in the construction and agriculture sectors.

The applicants were selected

based on the following criteria: Tanzanian youth, aged 18-35 years old, in possession of a National ID, Introduction letters from the authorised local leaders in his/her residents or above, and applicants from vulnerable backgrounds and People Living with Disability were given priority.

According to her, the scholarship is funding practical oriented vocational training to the youth in construction and entrepreneurship.

"In the construction subsector, the students are receiving training in masonry, carpentry, plumbing, electrical installation, metalwork, roofing, painting and tile laying.

Manyeye further explained that, at the end of their course the students will sit for their exams both theory and practical after which successful graduates will be enrolled for the KCB Foundation business development services support.

"During the year-long incubation KCB Foundation will extend asset finance, start-up capital, working capital and management support

to the entrepreneurs," the Head of Marketing and Corporate Affairs at KCB bank Tanzania further enlightened.

Commenting on the special vocational training in the special event that was graced by the Kilimanjaro regional commissioner, Nurdin Babu, and the Moshi District Commissioner, Kisare Makori, among many government officials, the Acting VETA-Moshi Principal, Joyce Makyao explained that, the beneficiaries undergo a 6 months training that also include industrial attachment for hands-on training in their respective fields.

Meanwhile, the Kilimanjaro RC Nurdin Babu and the Moshi DC Kisare Makori hailed the role played by the KCB Foundation and GIZ in the economy of the country as well employment among many Tanzanian youths.

They appealed to the youth to use the skills and the working tools that KCB has provided to them by employing themselves and other people for sustainable income generations.





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Taking A New Look  
At The News  
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## Businesses in urban areas could safely run non-stop

REPORTS that the National Environment and Management Council (NEMC) has closed 89 pubs, bars and entertainment centres for violating conditions of their licences will be received by mixed sentiments in the city of Dar es Salaam. The council said in a statement that the joints were making noises that exceeded legally acceptable levels, relating that the council conducted a week-long operation in various parts of the country. The situation is clearly visible even for those who were not aware such an operation was being conducted everywhere.

It is possible that the council has forgotten that there was a suggestion in the past, which failed to take off despite that the vow was given by none other than the president, sometimes in 2019 or thereabouts, that city businesses ought to operate for 24 hours. This is the case for petrol stations, and a number of bars with night club licences where the mode of operation after certain hours is clearly stipulated, and there is no reason why others could not follow. Chances are that sections of the public want the joints closed for specific ethical reasons.

What some sections of society don't realise, on account of the often misleading maxim of 'self-employment' is that it is difficult to get income earning openings on a day to day basis. This implies that it is helpful for large numbers of persons to have such facilities to render services, as otherwise their clients are occupied until late evening or early in the night. It is sufficient to look at motor traffic congestion when people return from work, even at late as 10pm, on major

roads.

Such people are usually more often on their desks from early or even late afternoon depending on sectors or institutions, and they only can rest after leaving office-ware at home and coming out for a breeze, or dining out. This idea isn't grasped by a section of traditionalists, who think everyone wakes up at six and goes to work, returns at least by six and is in bed by midnight or earlier. Noise is often exaggerated; sharp music is silenced in case of complaint.

Again, in a situation where bureaucrats know that each agency works as it pleases, even paying nearly twice the bill for an airplane in comparison with contractual terms, closing down pubs and asking for millions of shillings would imply that the operators ignore neighbours complaints. The council doesn't say if there is noise call the local leaders or nearby militia on guard, and they are everywhere. They give own toll numbers to slap fines, or close down a joint.

At times there is competition at work as well, where some operators will even be glad that others have their licences rescinded so their usual customers will then crowd at their joints, a nice harvest. That is why regulatory changes would be helpful to save the many job openings that keep city youth busy at this time of the day, some driving people to entertainment places, guarding their vehicles, cooking or roasting edibles, serving customers, or accompanying customers at late hours as they have no time in early hours, etc. It is a business issue, firstly; also when they are allowed to operate, the streets become much safer as well.

## Forests and trees provide vital goods and ecosystem services

FORESTS are resources of global significance. They cover nearly one-third of the Earth's land surface and contain the majority of terrestrial biodiversity. The forest area continues to shrink, however, despite efforts to halt deforestation and restore degraded lands.

Forests are crucial for mitigating climate change. They contain 662 billion tonnes of carbon, which is more than half the global carbon stock in soils and vegetation.

Societies benefit from and are highly dependent on forests. More than half of world gross domestic product is estimated to depend significantly on ecosystem services.

Forest cover in general refers to the relative (in percent) or sure (in square kilometers/square miles) land area that is covered by forests or the forest canopy or open woodland. Forest cover is one category of terrestrial land cover. Land cover is the observed physical features, both natural and manmade, that occupy the earth's immediate surface.

Global forest cover, however crucial for soil health, the water cycle, climate and air quality it is, is severely threatened by deforestation everywhere, as a direct consequence of agriculture, logging, and mining all of which can be attributed to human overpopulation. Forest cover can be increased by reforestation and afforestation efforts, but loss of old-growth forests is irreversible in terms of its ecological services.

Since the onset of agriculture (about 12,000 years ago), the number of trees worldwide has dropped by 46 per cent, according to one research published in 2018.

Global forest cover now has been estimated to be just 30 per cent or 40 million square kilometres.

Forestry experts from East African region are meeting this week in Dar es Salaam to develop the region's capability to monitor changes in

forest cover and land use.

The six-day Remote Sensing Survey Workshop for East African countries is being organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) as part of the ongoing Global Forest Resources Assessment 2020 (FRA 2020).

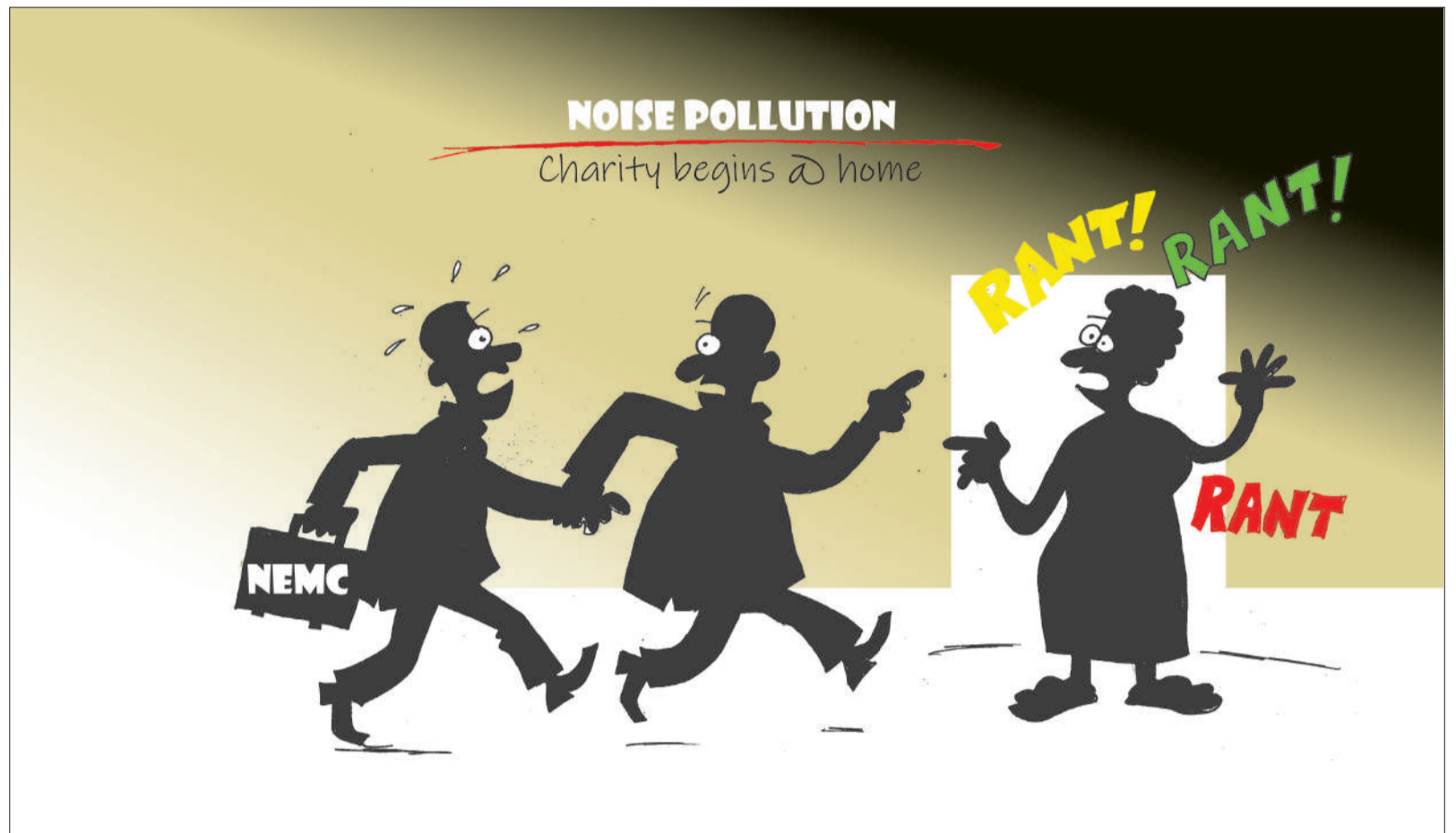
The workshop is expected to develop regional capacities in the utilization of the participatory FRA 2020 Remote Sensing methodology. Participants will be trained in visual image interpretation, and each of them will collect data for at least 250 Remote Sensing Survey samples within their territory.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, Valeria Contessa, Geospatial specialist at FAO, said, "The recent rapid development of affordable cloud-based solutions for storing, accessing and analyzing remote sensing data and products have drastically facilitated remote sensing based assessments even in developing countries with low technical capacity and computing infrastructure".

"It also comes at a time when these solutions can play an important role in improving the national, regional and global data bases on forest and land resources as well as their changes and facilitate monitoring progress towards several SDGs," Valeria added.

The data collection will be carried out using Collect Earth Online tool developed in collaboration with NASA and Google and tailored for FRA 2020 Remote Sensing Survey purposes.

The Global Forest Resources Assessment FRA 2020 Remote Sensing Survey Workshop for East African countries is one of the approximately 30 workshops organized by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in collaboration with its partners, which will train, in total, about 600 country experts in remote sensing and visual interpretation of satellite imagery.



## Mozambique embraces dialogue for lasting peace

By Mirko Manzoni

THE signing of the Maputo Accord for Peace and National Reconciliation has generated hope and inspiration.

In a world where good news is scarce, Mozambique's peace process stands as an extraordinary triumph, marking the long-awaited conclusion to the armed conflict that has plagued the country since its independence in 1975.

The signing of the Maputo Accord for Peace and National Reconciliation three years ago has generated hope and inspiration. Achieved in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic and extreme weather events, the landmark peace deal has resulted in former combatants disarming, demobilizing and reintegrating in the society.

Since then, "silencing the guns" and embracing dialogue has become a Mozambican way of life, which is essential for the attainment of long-lasting peace.

As the Swiss Ambassador to the country and later as Personal Envoy of the UN Secretary-General for Mozambique, I have spent 6 years accompanying and actively supporting the negotiations that led to the historic peace agreement between the Government of Mozambique and the Mozambican National Resistance (Renamo), the country's principal opposition party.

Mozambique has demonstrated the remarkable achievements that can be attained through negotiated solutions, serving as a global exemplar of the potential for resolving armed conflicts through dialogue.

I see three fundamental reasons for the Mozambique peace pact's success:

One, the process was nationally-led from the outset. As part of a small mediation team, I spent three years shuttling -- often to the bush -- between talks with the President of Mozambique Filipe Jacinto Nyusi and the late Afonso Dhlakama, Renamo's leader at the time.

From the outset, the Government of Mozambique and Renamo took ownership and initiative in establishing a national peace architecture, fostering trust through shared commitment and mutual respect.

Their earnest efforts to achieve a lasting agreement were exemplified when they announced a ceasefire just one month after resuming talks. This spirit of reconciliation continued with Ossufo Momade, who succeeded Mr. Dhlakama after his unexpected death.

While the core mediation team played an important facilitation



President Filipe Nyusi and Renamo leader Ossufo Momade (file photo).

role, the government championed national solutions to the country's problems by listening and creating a culture of dialogue between itself and Renamo.

Two, the process was based on ensuring a peace dividend and support for reintegration into civilian life. The disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration (DDR) process was a key element of the peace initiative. It has resulted in more than 4,800 individuals settling in locations of their choice to begin their reintegration journey, with communities welcoming home these women and men.

Inclusive local development has played a pivotal role in anchoring peace within communities. By involving all individuals, it has significantly enhanced the prospects of success for peace.

A push by both parties on investing in locally-led development is spurring reintegration partners to support interventions aimed at promoting participatory planning processes and investment cycles at the community level.

These efforts prioritize the voices and experiences of community members and former combatants, creating a sturdy foundation for reinforcing the social fabric of communities and advancing reintegration and national reconciliation.

With more than three years of implementation, the Maputo Accord for Peace and National Reconciliation is steadily establishing deeper roots. The peace process showcases the unwavering commitment of Mozambique's leaders to dialogue, as the chief sustainable route towards lasting peace.

Three, the process takes a forward-thinking and adaptive approach with targeted

investments to embed peace. The parties dealt with obstacles they encountered along the way through direct and open dialogue, employing agile decision-making and taking decisive actions.

For example, numerous activities ground to a halt because of COVID-19. Yet, within a month, President Nyusi and Renamo leader Mr. Momade swiftly met and held extensive consultations, leading to the safe and successful resumption of DDR activities in June 2020.

In the past, DDR was treated as a technical and time-limited process. By contrast, this time round, the peace negotiations tackled long-standing issues for the demobilized and introduced innovative reforms that encouraged the involvement of a broad range of actors, including those in the private sector.

The recent groundbreaking signing of a decree incorporating eligible demobilized DDR beneficiaries into the national pension system sets an example for reconciliation.

Guided by the need to serve the interests of all Mozambicans, both parties' ability to agree on the challenging issue of pensions served as a clear demonstration of the negotiators' human-centered approach to the process. It marks a milestone in our collective pursuit to achieve a peaceful and prosperous Mozambique.

As we build on these gains and strengthen the foundations of peace and national reconciliation, the UN reiterates its unwavering commitment to supporting the people of Mozambique in their pursuit of a brighter future and enduring peace.

Implementation With more than three years of implementation, the Maputo

Accord for Peace and National Reconciliation is steadily establishing deeper roots. The peace process showcases the unwavering commitment of Mozambique's leaders to dialogue, as the chief sustainable route towards lasting peace.

In Cabo Delgado Province, Mozambique also is applying a model of building peace and security through dynamic regional and local solutions, seeking to apply inter-African interventions to resolve challenges in the region.

As Mozambique seizes this tremendous opportunity as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), the country has a chance to bring its unique experiences to the world stage.

In March this year, I had the privilege of sharing some of these lessons at the Peacebuilding Commission and at the UN Security Council open debate on "Silencing the Guns in Africa". President Nyusi chaired both sessions.

Mozambique has demonstrated the remarkable achievements that can be attained through negotiated solutions, serving as a global exemplar of the potential for resolving armed conflicts through dialogue.

I am confident that Mozambicans will continue to share their best practices with the world.

As we build on these gains and strengthen the foundations of peace and national reconciliation, the UN reiterates its unwavering commitment to supporting the people of Mozambique in their pursuit of a brighter future and enduring peace.

Mirko Manzoni is Personal Envoy of the UN Secretary-General for Mozambique



# Mother's Day: Let's replace social media wishes with actions

ON 14 of this month, Tanzania will join the rest of the world to commemorate Mother's Day. This day is a celebration honouring the mother of the family or individual as well as motherhood, maternal bonds and the influence of mothers in society.

But a mother is not always who gives birth to her child; mother can also be who raises children. Also, some women who are unable to give birth but raise adopted children very well.

Mother's Day is a day to celebrate all mothers in special way by thinking of the relationship between a mother and child, their bond and all the memories and experiences shared together. Nowadays social media never allow us to forget any special days in our lives. Social media play an important role to celebrate special days like Mother's Day.

Happy Mother's Day in advance to all mother's in the world. Thank you for raising us and for not giving up on us. Thank you for all the sacrifices, every word of encouragement but even for scolding us for our mistakes because love is also hidden behind your scolding.

Nothing beats love of a mother and no one can love more than a mother. Of course, I understand there are some few cases of bad mothers do nasty things including abandoning their children but they are just few.

Wishing the Happy Mother's Day is not enough to express our love and respect towards our mothers. We have to be practical for every single need of our mothers. A mother should be the first to get the love, care and respect from us. Sorry fathers, I know you deserve a lot also but wait for your day to hear some-

thing from me.

I understand Mother's Day cannot be the same for all the people. Some people feel the pain of having lost their mother. Also, there are many women who long for wishes but are unable to give birth to biological children because of fertility issues.

But nowadays things have changed for the better as having a family via surrogacy is an incredible achievement. Those lucky enough to be part of the process are seen as angles by many, including parents and medical specialists. So International Mother's Day is also meant to honour some of the most selfless and giving women we know namely surrogate mothers.

There is also a group of people who play motherly role like early childhood teachers and nurses. We should appreciate



them profoundly.

There are mothers on the streets with their children and mothers on the roadside who wait for other's help to take care of their children. All these mothers deserve respect not only on Mother's Day but every day. Adoption has always attracted unwanted questions and drama in our society; it is definitely not the most conventional way to become a parent. We should not forget these kinds of mothers as they raise children and hence deserve respect and love no less than a biological mother.

Some say that motherhood changes a woman's life completely but some would beg to differ. Now-

adays women break the stereotype picture of another who sacrifices her career and everything for their children and in the end they suffer loss of identity.

Nowadays women know how to balance their child care responsibilities and their own career. Most women nowadays set an example that motherhood does not mean the end of a woman's career.

These everyday heroes should not be celebrated just for their dedication but also for breaking stereotypes around motherhood which prevents people from appreciating working moms for all the hard work they put in.

But we never pay attention to our

mothers' actual needs. We become too busy in growing up that we forget that they finish their whole life sacrificing for us. They do not demand our money, our property, our busy time but they only want to give us love and care and little love and respect from us in return.

Why are most of us become so negligent towards our parents in their time of need? Why are we not able to give them back the sacrifices they made for us in our childhood?

I do not think social media post for one special day has anything to do with real life love. In reality, our mothers are neglected in return for their selfless activities, love and

care for us. Most of our old mothers don't even have a place in their children's house.

I wish all the mothers of the world happiness, blessings and love and respect from their children. Mothers' love should be reciprocated. They should get their love back from their children and loved ones. The day we attempt to repay our mothers' love and care, the world will be a better place. I said attempt purposely because actually repaying is impossible.



**Pressing Issues**  
With  
**Chaitra Chatterjee**

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# The govt did well to evacuate Tanzanians from Sudan early

By Mark Mapambano

WITH mistrust between warring parties in Sudan continuing amid negotiations, foreign nationals still trapped in the country now fight for the few escape routes with Sudanese themselves.

The situation is dire because no much progress has come out of the Saudi-US mediated talks in Jeddah between the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) and paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF) that began last weekend. There are blame games for repeated violations of ceasefire.

On Monday, SAF leader General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan told Egypt's Al-Qahera News TV that "there is no use in sitting at the negotiating table in Saudi Arabia without a genuine ceasefire."

Also, former foreign minister of Sudan, Mariam al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, told BBC Focus on Africa radio that she doubts the rival military factions can agree on a genuine ceasefire due to their deep mistrust.

This means it may take longer than expected for SAF and RSF to finally silence the guns. For, General Burhan said he welcomed all initiatives that aim to stop bloodshed but stressed that the RSF must give up its weapons.

The sad reality is that numerous ceasefires have been violated since the conflict erupted on 15 April. With civilians (Sudanese and foreigners) caught up in the crossfire, the civilian death toll reached 411 people two weeks ago, reported Sudan Doctors' Syndicate, which monitors casualties.

The fighting had wounded 2,023 civilians, the syndicate added, although the true toll was thought to be much higher. The Sudanese Health Ministry had put the overall death toll, including fighters, at 528, with 4,500 wounded. The International Rescue Committee (IRC) estimates that 334,000 have been displaced within Sudan, with almost 65,000 estimated to have moved over borders as refugees.

Stories of those who make it out alive are heart-breaking. For, many leave behind their savings and properties they have accumulated for decades. In short, people who had relatively comfortable life get out with nothing but that is better than being shot dead.

Tanzania is one of the countries that moved swiftly and rescued their citizens from Sudan. On 27 April, An ATCL Dreamliner plane touched down at the Julius Nyerere International Airport in Dar es Salaam carrying a total of 206 Tanzanians including students and embassy staff who were evacuated from the conflict-hit country.

The special mission ordered by President Samia Suluhu Hassan was coordinated by Tanzanian embassy in Khartoum with the help of the President's Office and involved an elaborate logistical effort.

Addressing reporters after the arrival of the Tanzanians, Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Dr Stergomena Tax, said it was not an easy task to locate Tanzanians amid conflict and get them out of Sudan safely.

For, not all Tanzanians in Sudan had registered at the embassy in Khartoum and gave their physical addresses and telephone numbers for contact. That meant coordinators of the evacuation did extra work of using people who had contacts to trace others and arrange transport



Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Dr Stergomena Tax (L), welcomes Tanzanians evacuated from conflict-hit Sudan at the Julius Nyerere International Airport on 27 April 2023. File photo

for them.

Arrangement of travel logistics from dangerous streets of Khartoum in a convoy of buses that made a two-day drive to Gondar in northern Ethiopia where they were later dispatched to Addis Ababa's Bole International Airport was painstakingly done.

I say so because in an armed conflict, it takes not only money to get your people out to safety. It requires diplomacy to avoid what is called collateral damage. That is how they refer to deaths of or injury to civilians not involved in an armed conflict.

President Samia did well to order such an operation which saw Tanzanians get out of Sudan before things escalated to the current situation whereby only the lucky ones leave as mistrust

between the warring parties increases.

What the President did is recognized by the United Nations as the Responsibility to Protect. It originated from the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document in which Heads of State and Government affirmed their responsibility to protect their own populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity and accepted a collective responsibility to encourage and help each other uphold this commitment.

They also declared their preparedness to take timely and decisive action, in accordance with the United Nations Charter and in cooperation with relevant regional organizations, when national authorities manifestly fail to protect their populations.

It reads as follows: "Each individual State has the responsibility to protect its populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity."

This responsibility entails the prevention of such crimes, including their incitement, through appropriate and necessary means. We accept that responsibility and will act in accordance with it. The international community should, as appropriate, encourage and help States to exercise this responsibility and support the United Nations in establishing an early warning capability."

The short background of the conflict in Sudan is that both SAF and RSF had been involved in the overthrow of the civilian government in 2021. The tension between the two was brought

to a head following an internationally-brokered agreement to return the country to civilian rule, with the RSF refusing to join the Sudanese military. As ceasefire attempts fail, the conflict continues on the streets of Khartoum, resulting in a humanitarian crisis.

**The author is a political analyst based in Dar es Salaam. He can be reached on 0655 522 922.**



# Parliamentarians urges G7 summit to support human security and vulnerable communities

By Cecilia Russell

**P**ARLIAMENTARIANS from more than 30 countries agreed to send a strong message to the G7 Hiroshima Summit in Japan later this year, focusing on human security and support of vulnerable communities, including women, girls, youth, aging people, migrants, and indigenous people, among others.

The wide-ranging declaration also called on governments to support active political and economic participation for women and girls, enhancing and implementing legislation that addresses gender-based violence (GBV) and eradicating harmful practices like child, early, and forced marriages. During discussions and in the declaration, a clear message emerged that budgetary requirements for Universal Health Care (UHC) should be prioritized and the exceptional work done by health workers during the pandemic be recognized.

In his keynote address, Japan's Prime Minister Kishida Fumio reminded delegates that Covid-19 had exposed the "fragility of the global health architecture and underscored the need for UHC."

Kishida said that the central vision of the G7 Hiroshima Summit was to emphasize the importance of addressing human security - through building global health architecture, including the "governance for prevention, preparedness, and response to public health crises, including finance. We believe it is important for the G7 to actively and constructively contribute to efforts to improve international governance, secure sustainable financing and strengthen international norms."

Apart from contributing to resilient, equitable, and sustainable UHC, health innovation was needed to promote a "more effective global ecosystem to enable rapid research and development and equitable access to infectious disease crisis medicines ... and to support aging society," Kishida said.

Former Prime Minister of Japan Fukuda Yasuo, Chair of APDA, and Honorary Chair of JPPF said this conference and its declaration would follow in a tradition of delivering strong messages to the G7 that improving reproductive health was crucial to the development and the future of a planet which now had 8 million people living on it.

"International Community is becoming increasingly confrontational and divided, and there is the emergence of a national leader who is threat-

ening the use of nuclear weapons. No nuclear weapons have been used in the nearly 80 years since Hiroshima and Nagasaki. We must work together to prevent the use of nuclear weapons, which can take many precious lives and people's daily lives. In this instance, I would like you to search for the path toward appeasement and not division. We must keep all channels of dialogue open so as to ease tension," Fukuda asked of the conference.

While calling on parliamentarians to work together to address challenges, Fukuda also expressed concern about the widening inequities caused by Covid-19 and climate change and noted: "This network of parliamentarians on population and development has been a vital resource for parliamentarians who share the same concern for not only their own countries but for the entire planet and future generations."

Kamikawa Yoko, MP Japan, Chair of JPPF, said that with a world population of 8 billion, it was essential to "realize a society where no one is left behind ... and Japan would share its experiences of being on the frontlines of an aging society with declining birth rates. "We are living in an aging society ... and given these challenges in Japan, we will try to share with you our experience and lessons through our diplomacy while trying to deepen our discussions and exchanges to seek solutions."

Japan's Foreign Affairs Minister Hayashi Yoshimasa said it was essential for all to cooperate during the "Anthropocene era, when human activities have promised to have a major impact on the global environment, global issues that transcend national borders, such as climate change, and the spread of infectious diseases, including Covid-19 are becoming more and more prevalent."

He reminded the delegates that at the center of Japan's economic growth post World War II was mainly through health promotion and employment policies.

Director of the Division for Communications and Strategic Partnerships of UNFPA, Ian McFarlane, said it was not about the "numbers of people but the rights of the people that matter. It's not about whether we are too many or too few, but whether women and girls can decide if, when, and how many children to have."

A recent UNFPA report indicated that nearly half of the women across the globe could not exercise their rights and choices, their bodily autonomy, and expressed hope that policies in the fu-



Parliamentarians attending the Global Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development Toward the 2023 G7 Hiroshima Summit. Credit: APDA

ture continue to focus on humanity and universal human rights.

Despite being close to the 30th anniversary of the International Conference on Population and Development (ICPD), the conference heard that much still needed to be done regarding women's rights.

New Zealand MP and co-chair of AFPPD Standing Committee on Gender Equality and Women Empowerment, Angela Warren-Clark, reminded the audience that women still only held 26 percent of parliamentary seats globally. While women make up 70 percent of the workforce in the health sector, only 25 percent have senior leadership positions.

"It is women in this pandemic who bore the increased burden of unpaid work at home as schools were closed, and it is girls and the poorest families who were taken out of school and forced into early marriages ... We believe that if women had an equal say in decision-making during the pandemic, some of these mistakes would have been avoided."

Baroness Elizabeth Barker, MP from the United Kingdom, told parliamentarians their role was to ensure that "no person on earth, from the head of G7 country to a poor person in a village, can say that they do not know what gender equality is. And they do not know what gender violence is."

Barker suggested they use international standards, like the Istanbul Convention on Violence Against Women, to compare countries. "And you

know that if your country doesn't come out very well, they really don't like it."

She pointed to two successes in the UK, including stopping virginity testing and tackling the practice of forced marriages. She also warned the delegates that there was a right-wing campaign aimed at destroying human rights gained, and they chose different battlegrounds. The overturning of abortion rights in the United States in the Roe vs. Wade case was an example, as was the anti-LGBTQ legislation in Uganda.

Hassan Omar, MP from Djibouti, gave a host of achievements in his country, including ensuring that women occupy 25 percent roles in politics and the state administration and the growing literacy of women numbers in his country.

Risa Hontiveros, MP Philippines, painted a bleak picture of the impact of Covid in her country.

Hontiveros said GBV increased during Covid and extended to the digital space.

"The Internet has become a breeding ground for predators and cyber criminals to prey on children, especially young women, and girls. The online sexual abuse and exploitation of children ... has become so prevalent in the Philippines that we have been tagged as the global hotspot."

In a desperate attempt to provide for their families, even parents produced "exploitative material of their own children and sold them online to pedophiles abroad."

To address these, she filed a gender-responsive and inclu-

sive Emergency Management Act bill, which seeks to address the gender-differentiated needs of women and girls, because they were "disproportionately affected in times of emergencies."

Former MP from Afghanistan Khadija Elham's testimony united many in the conference and even resulted in proposals from the floor to include a condemnation of the Taliban's women's policies.

Elham said GBV had increased since the Taliban took over - women were forced to wear a burqa in public, they were not allowed to work, and those who wish to "learn science or (get an) education are forced to continue their studies and hidden places like basements."

If their secret schools are exposed, they face torture and imprisonment. During the last two months, 260 people, including 50 women, were publicly whipped - a clear violation of their human rights. Women's representation in political life has been banned, and women are no longer allowed to work in NGOs - and it has been "550 days since women could attend high schools and universities."

She called on the international community, the United Nations, to pressure the Taliban to restore women's work and education rights.

Nakayama Maho, Director of the Peacebuilding Program at the Sasakawa Peace Foundation, announced new research on factors contributing to men's propensity to GBV. The research found that the higher a man's edu-

cational attainment, the lower the level of violence. There were also lower levels of violence with "positive" masculinity - such as a man being employed, married, and capable of protecting his family. Men who experienced violence during times of conflict tended to support violence to instill discipline, or protect women and communities.

Dr Roopa Dhatt, Executive Director of Women in Global Health, summed up this critical session by saying, "Equal leadership for women in all fields is a game changer, particularly in politics and health."

Japan's Health, Labour and Welfare Minister, Kato Katsunobu, noted during his closing address that the G7 countries "share the recognition that investment in people is not an expense, but an investment... and as you invest in people you can create a virtuous cycle between workers well-being and social and economic activities."

He said Japan had a lot to offer concerning aging populations.

"Japan has been promoting the establishment of a comprehensive community-based care system so that people can continue to live in their own way in their own neighborhood until the end of their lives and is in the position to provide knowledge to the G7 countries and other countries who will be facing (an aging population) in the future."

Dr Alvaro Bermejo, Director-General of IPPF, commended the conference and said he was "thankful" that

the conference declaration would tell G7 governments to set an example. "Marginalized and excluded populations are at the heart of human security and can only be achieved in solidarity, and that message from this conference is clear."

Professor Takemi Keizo, MP Japan, Chair of AFPPD, summed up the proceeding by saying that parliamentarians as representatives of the electorate were vital to creating a "positive momentum in this global community and overcoming so many difficult issues."

Takemi elaborated on some issues facing the world now, including climate change and military conflicts, but as parliamentarians, there was the opportunity to "build up the new basis of the global governance, which can be very beneficial."

Note: Global Conference of Parliamentarians on Population and Development Toward the 2023 G7 Hiroshima Summit was organized by the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA), the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD), and the Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPPF).

It was supported by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan (MOFA), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), Japan Trust Fund (JTF), and Keidanren-Japan Business Federation in cooperation with the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF).

IPS UN Bureau Report

## CAPITAL RADIO

# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
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 UMJUAUVO 16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEVUMA 18:00-21:00HRS BUZUKI TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:00-09:00HRS HABARI NA MATUKIO YA WIKI 09:00-11:00HRS THE SUNDAY 11:00-13:00HRS TOP 20 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CAPITAL MICHEZONI 16:00-18:00HRS UKURASA WA MBELE 18:00-21:00HRS JIACHIE 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-01:00HRS LADHA LAINI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO



# Farming waste to biodegradable seedling pots in eastern Uganda

KAMPALA

SCIENTISTS at the National Agriculture Research Institute in Uganda are hoping to save the environment from plastic waste with their new eco-plastic potting bags.

Traditionally, farmers use plastic wrappings to pot seedlings.

The plastic wrappers are thrown away at the planting stage which is a danger to the environment.

Now Ugandan scientists have made a biodegradable type which goes in the soil together with the seedlings.

The bio-plastic rots in the soil and adds nutrients back into the farm.

"It is coming from our own agriculture waste, that means, banana, cassava, cereal can be used, unlike the traditional one where we have to use oil-based plastic material or what we call the fossil-based plastics," Dr. Ephraim Nuwamanya at the Heads Biochemistry Unit, National Agriculture Research



Institute.

Plastic waste contributes to 60% of pollution to the environment in Uganda. Most of this is washed into drainage channels and into lake Victoria which millions depend on.

The government has on several occasions put a ban on single use plastic but it has not been enforced.

The researchers are now making use of readily available farm waste to make bio-plastic bags.

This is how the paste is made: Once farm waste is dried, it's shredded into powder form and mixed with other products including starch to form a paste.

The paste is what is dried and rolled out into this sheet of biodegradable plastic for use as seedling pots.

Field trials are going on with seedling farmers in the Mt Elgon region in Eastern Uganda. But the bags can easily be attacked by insects.

The researchers have developed a plant-based repellent to stop paste attacks.

"We are convinced that the moment you apply it on the bio-plastic it will be effective and repel the insects," Biochemistry master's student Profilo Tukundane explains.

"At the same time it also has mortality effects, it kills some of them, that is in case the concentration is high," the Makerere University student adds.

In Uganda up to 1.4million tonnes of Agriculture waste is produced annually and most of it is under utilized.

The researchers say farmers will benefit enormously from this project by selling waste for processing.

Uganda is working with the University of Bangor in the UK to roll out mass production in about a year.

# 100 youths in Mufindi DC benefit from agriculture, animal husbandry training

By Guardian Correspondent, Iringa

A TOTAL of 100 youth from disadvantaged families in Mufindi District, Iringa Region have benefited from training on agriculture and animal husbandry to empower them economically.

The ten-day training has been organized and facilitated by Mufindi District Council and Youth Agency Mufindi (YAM).

Training facilitator Aidan Kiwale urged beneficiaries of the training to invest more of their energy in agriculture and livestock keeping as the two sectors play key role to their economic growth.

He said that there are great opportunities in agriculture and animal husbandry, but most of the young people have been behind investing in agriculture and most of them believing that money is available for them to run to the cit-

ies or conquer the villages.

"Personally, I have invested more in the cultivation of food crops and business such as the cultivation of apricot fruit trees, which now in the Mufindi district is our gold," said Kiwale.

Kiwale said that for an avocado tree farmer he has a great ability to change his life within a short period of three years, the harvest begins and it is a guaranteed harvest for each tree, you can harvest be-

tween 200 kg and 300 kg while one kg can be sold at 1,700/- and finally a farmer can get between 800,000/- and 15m/- per acre.

He stated that young people have a great opportunity to rush to invest in agriculture and beauty, the government has continued to put in place a good plan to improve the agriculture sector for young people.

One of the project beneficiaries, Dotto Mponzi said that the training for them is a great

capital to go and fight for their economy.

Mponzi said that before the training, they had no plan to make you an entrepreneur in breeding or agriculture, but now they are very sure that they will bring an entrepreneurial revolution to their villages.

Igoda village resident, Godluck Mazona, asked for the project's efforts to be supported by the government by providing them with interest-free loans to develop their capital

in agriculture and animal husbandry.

Project manager Zilipa Mgeni said that the project implemented by Mufindi Council and Fox Community and wildlife conservation (FCWC) is a project that will reach more than 320 young people and 80 children with disabilities from Luhunga, Mbabulo and Ihanu wards and 16 villages.

However, Mgeni said the biggest challenge for them is how to get the capital that will ena-

ble them to do various production activities as well as the empowerment that the project will help them with so they asked the government to increase more.

The official said that it is clear that through the training they will start large and many economic projects that will require more money and if they lack capital funds for agriculture and animal husbandry they will not be able to take further steps.

# Katavi National Park unveils strategies to promote tourism

By Guardian Correspondent, Mpanda

KATAVI National Park (KANAPA) has put in place many strategies to promote tourism including marketing in media outlets within and outside the country and participation at local and international exhibitions.

Beatrice Kessy, Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) Assistant Conservation Commissioner in-charge of business portfolio, said the authority in the southern zone which includes Katavi, Ruaha and Kitulo national parks have been participating in various international exhibitions to promote attractions.

Francis Kone, Senior Conservationist (good neighbourhood unit) at TANAPA said to improve relations between the reserve and people surrounding the reserve, they have been providing aid to the community for the past five years.

The projects include construction of water wells at three villages-Sitalike (16m/-), Igongwe (16m/-) and Matandarari (16m/-). The project was implemented in 2017/2018.

Others are construction of

the Mwamapuli health centre (112m/-), in 2018/2019 and water wells at Lukima and Majimoto wards (17.5m/-) in the 2018/2019 financial year.

Kone said they have also constructed pit latrines at Usevya secondary school (33m/-), classrooms and office building for teachers at Kasegenyama primary school (45m/-) and construction of a dormitory for girls at Sitalike secondary school (75m/-).

"We continue to encourage various groups of people living around the park to visit the available attractions to also broaden their understanding on conservation matters," he said.

Silvester Lameck, second master at Sitalike secondary school thanked TANAPA through Katavi National Park for building a girls dormitory, saying it will save them from walking long distances, thus avoiding acts of violence on the way to and from school. The dormitory has the capacity to accommodate 80 girls.

Juma Kiambile, Riverside Hotel Owner, said the government's efforts to advertise tourist attractions has resulted in an increased number of foreign tour-



Tourists at the heart of Katavi National Park. File Photo

ists visiting KANAPA compared to previous years.

He said construction of a tarmac road from Mpanda to Tabora and Mpanda to Mbeya as well as reliable air transport, railway and opening of the Karema Port connecting Tanzania and DR Congo has helped to promote tourism in the southern circuit. Igongwe village chairman, Ephraim Mwambu commended the park management for sponsoring people to visit the attractions every year as part of efforts to improve relations with the community.

"Through the plan I have been able to visit the reserve and learn a lot of things. I also had an opportunity to see wild animals such as lions, leopards, elephants and giraffes and be told about their lives and behaviours," he said.

Balusa Ndegeleki, a livestock keeper at Songwa village thanked KANAPA for educating herders on conservation matters. He asked fellow herders

to stop grazing within the reserve and respect its boundaries.

Manendo Maziku, KANAPA's acting assistant commissioner for conservation urged tourists to consider visiting the park to witness a section of attractive wild animals and other attractions such as flowing rivers and two lakes.

He said efforts by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to promote tourism attractions through Royal Tour film have increased the number of tourists at the park. He however said the park faces several challenges including shortage of water during summer due to the drying up of the Katuma River, which flows through the park and drains its water into Lake Rukwa.

"Drying up of this river is due to some farmers diverting water for agricultural activities, thus affecting water flow," he said.

# Drivers told to observe road traffic regulations

By Guardian Reporter

DRIVERS have been advised to observe traffic regulations and road safety rules to avoid accidents that have been causing permanent disability and sometimes deaths.

The advice was given yesterday in Dar es Salaam during the road safety training for drivers conducted by the police force (traffic department) in collaboration with an international road safety non-governmental organisation-AMEND through its 'Kids' Court Programme'.

The AMEND's Kids' Court Programme was purposely introduced to punish reckless drivers violating traffic rules when driving at school areas.

Assistant Police Inspector from the traffic police headquarters, Faustina Ntunguru said there are challenges of road accidents which are mostly caused by reckless drivers ignoring road safety rules.

"We are approaching the world road safety week; we are collaborating with AMEND in providing road safety training to primary

school students including those at Kisiwani primary school in Kigamboni. The main goal is to remind drivers to comply with road safety rules especially when driving at school areas where a good number of children cross the road," said Ntunguru.

She said the road speaks itself, when a driver is driving, road signs direct him or her if there is a pedestrian crossing, corner or an area for animals crossing.

Ndunguru added that Tanzania without road crashes is possible, hence the need for

drivers to fulfil their responsibilities. She said the introduction of the Kids' Court Programme has largely helped to reduce accidents through education provided to drivers.

AMEND programme manager, Neema Swai said they are currently carrying out a scientific study to find out how the road safety education offered under the kid's court programme has helped to reduce accidents.

She said their expectation is to ensure the education on road safety reaches many school areas, adding there

have been remarkable successes since its establishment in 2018.

"Our organization, in collaboration with the police force's traffic department, has been providing training on road safety by reminding drivers and other road users to observe the laws, the thing that has reduced accidents," said Swai.

Salome Masaga, a lawyer by profession, said she is pleased to see the various efforts taken by stakeholders in providing road safety education to drivers.

She linked most of the road crashes in the country with reckless driving, insisting the need for drivers to observe the laws to ensure their safety as well as other road users.

Emmanuel Masimo, a tricycles Bajaj from Kigamboni District said he was once taken to the kid's court after failing to stop at a pedestrian crossing.

"I felt ashamed to be taken to the kid's court; I now drive carefully, observing all the road safety rules," said Masimo, appealing to fellow drivers to consider looking at

road signs to avoid accidents. Kigamboni resident, Paul Makanja said providing both children and drivers with road safety education would greatly help in reducing accidents.

Students at Kisiwani primary school, Maria Simon and Nuru Issa called upon drivers to avoid speeding when crossing at schools. They commended the police force and AMEND for introducing the kid's court programme because most of the drivers are now obeying the rules when driving near schools.







## Tanga Cement Plc, KCB shares prices gain at week's opening

By Guardian Reporter

TANGA Cement Company Limited (TCCL) and KCB Bank share prices started the week in high notes, after appreciating, when compared with the last trading day of last week.

Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) daily market report show TCCL share price closed at 1,220/- on Monday, an increase of 8.93 percent, compared with 1,120/- closed on Friday last week.

During the reported day, the cement company, which recently announced precautionary notice on second Fair Competition Commission (FCC) application transacted 1,720 shares valued 2.1mn/- traded at a price of 1,220 per share in five deals.

The appreciation of TCCL share price has also increased its market capitalization to 77.68bn/- on Monday's close, compared with 71.31bn/- on Friday's close.

The trend also improved the Industrial

& Allied Index (IA) to close at 5,090.87 points on Monday this week, compared with 5,085.27 points recorded during the closing trading session of last week.

This is being experienced in a time when the acquisition of the Tanga based cement maker by Twiga Cement's parent company still facing uncertain, as the government has therefore intervened.

Minister of finance and planning Dr Mwigulu Nchemba and minister of investment, trade and industries Dr Ashatu Kijaji have assured the management of Tanga Cement, when meeting in Dodoma on Monday this week that, the 942bn/- planned investment by acquiring firm will increase production, jobs and taxes.

Dr Kijaji said its unavoidable for struggling Tanga Cement to get new strategic investor, following reported loss making over the last five years, putting 3,000 jobs at risk. The report shows KCB Bank share price closed at 540/- on Monday's



The appreciation of TCCL share price has also increased its market capitalization to 77.68bn/- on Monday's close, compared with 71.31bn/- on Friday's close.

close, an appreciation of 1.89 percent, compared with 540/- on Friday's close.

The appreciations of the two companies also caused the gaining of the DSE All Share Index (DSEI) by 1.12 points to 1,827.46 points on Monday's close, com-

pared with 1,826.34 points on Friday's close.

Top loser during the opening day of this week were CRDB Bank and NICO of which their shares prices slipped by 1.96 percent and 2.44 percent respectively.

CRDB Bank Plc share price closed at 500/- on Monday, compared with 510/- on Friday last week, while the NICO share price decreased to 400/- from 410/- respectively.

Top mover during the reviewed period was CRDB Bank

Plc which transacted 80,207 shares valued 40.2mn/- traded at a price ranging from 500/- to 510/- in 46 deals, followed by NIO which transacted 7,020 shares valued 2.8mn/- traded at a price of 400/- per share in six deals.

## GF Trucks implements govt plea on support to miners

By Guardian Reporter, Geita

GF Trucks & Equipment Ltd, the Kibaha based vehicle assembler headed Minerals minister Doto Biteko's request of reaching out to small scale miners by taking closer mining services through opening of zonal and district offices.

At the annual meeting with small scale miners held in Dar es Salaam last month, Biteko asked heavy machines manufacturers

and suppliers especially those engaged in mining equipment business to bring their services even closer to small miners by opening sales points in the district with mines instead of limiting their presence in Dar es Salaam city.

Speaking at the opening of GF Trucks zonal office in Geita town, the Association of Small-scale Miners in Geita (Gerema) Secretary Golden Hainga said that small-scale miners have

been subjected to poor machines thus losing a large quantity of gold they produce.

He said that small gold miners in Geita lose about 40 percent of the gold they produce due to the lack of technology and modern mining equipment that make them unable to achieve their goals.

He further said that with the arrival of GF Trucks, the lake zone will be the savior of small miners.

Hainga said the presence of better technology, education, and modern equipment for mining and refining will enable small miners to benefit and produce more than 90 percent of gold.

"Mining, especially for small miners, is not easy. They use a lot of energy and poor technology, so they get little gold while a large percentage remains in the ground;

But the opening of this new

office that allows miners to take equipment on loan will help them get modern equipment and abandon old unproductive mining," said Hainga.

GF Trucks sales and communication director, Salman Karmal said that the company has entered into an agreement with financial institutions to enable small miners to get modern mining equipment at a low cost.

He said that small-scale miners are getting money and that

survey by GF shows miners have the financial ability to enable them to borrow equipment, but their challenge is the failure to keep records of income and expenditure.

GF Trucks, in collaboration with commercial banks, has set up a procedure to enable small miners to borrow machinery on concessional terms and the response is promising.

The Chairman of Women Miners Geita town Asia Masim-

ba region has said that access to modern equipment and technologies will help miners dig modern and asked the company to give priority to women miners by lending them equipment so that they can dig modern.

"At the moment we are not benefiting properly from gold excavation because we are using poor equipment. I am aware that GF will help us reduce the environmental damage caused by deforestation," said Masimba.

## NSE sinks to 10-year low as telecom, bank shares drop

NAIROBI

SHARE prices of Safaricom and top banks including Equity and KCB have witnessed a sustained drop in prices despite record profit and dividends, pulling the combined wealth of Nairobi Securities Exchange (NSE) investors to levels last seen 10 years ago.

Market data shows investors' paper wealth touched Sh1.604 trillion on Friday and recovered slightly by Sh8.5 billion to close Monday at Sh1.613 trillion, keeping NSE near the level seen in the week ended July 25, 2013, when the market hit Sh1.432 trillion.

Safaricom, KCB, Equity, Co-op Bank and East African Breweries (EABL), which account for 68.3 percent of the entire market capitalisation, have shed Sh142.31 billion in the past four weeks, leading to the NSE tumble.

The announcement of the Sh23.42 billion Safaricom interim

dividend that was paid on March 31 failed to lift the telco's share that closed Monday trading at Sh15.95, a drop against Sh24.15 at the close of December.

Nine tier-one lenders – Equity, KCB, Coop Bank, NCBA, DTB, Stanbic Bank, Absa Bank, StanChart and I&M – have suffered a similar fate despite increasing their combined dividend payouts by 22 percent to Sh63.07 billion as net profit for last year rose by 25.2 percent to Sh176.86 billion.

Analysts say the fall in share prices despite growth in profits and dividend payout is because of sustained foreign investors selling their shares for attractive returns in developed markets such as the US and retail investors responding with panic sales, pulling down the prices further.

Kenneth Minjire, senior associate for debt and equity at AIB-AXYS Africa, said there has been a general apathy of local high-net-worth in-

dividuals and retail investors, causing a depression in the prices.

"Despite the good dividends, buyers are few. Retail investors have really been selling off and there are not enough offshore volumes to support the prices despite there being good financial results," said Mr Minjire.

"As long as offshores stay out, our local returns cannot support our market. When offshore investors are out, it is like saying 50-60 percent of our market is not trading."

Weak shilling, dollar shortages and the geopolitical concerns over the continued Russia-Ukraine conflict and the spiralling inflation that forced benchmark interest rates hikes in Western markets such as the US, also contributed to the capital flight from the NSE.

More price drops are expected in the coming days as at least 22 NSE firms including Jubilee, Equity, BAT, Stanbic and KCB close their books between this month and the



end of July for dividend payment.

Safaricom has between April 6 and Monday shed Sh106.17 billion to account for the bulk of the NSE decline over the past four weeks.

EABL and KCB have in the past four weeks shed Sh17.2 billion and Sh15.1 billion respectively. The value of Equity has dropped by Sh2.08 billion while that of Co-op Bank fell by Sh1.76 billion.

The share of EABL has cooled off after the end of Diageo's offer to buy 118.39 million EABL shares at

Sh192 apiece, representing a premium of 39 percent.

Retail investors are usually expected to be attracted to discounted share prices when foreigners retreat but this has not been happening, leaving the trade volumes low and depressing prices further due to oversupply.

"There are many retail investors going through a difficult time economically and so they have been cashing their shares as they see prices falling, affecting the prices further," said Mr Minjire.

## Oil prices ease in cautious trade ahead of US inflation data

SINGAPORE

OIL prices fell on Tuesday, relinquishing some of the strong gains of the previous two sessions with the market cautious ahead of US inflation figures for April, which will be a key to the Federal Reserve's next interest rate decision.

The Brent crude price was down 54 cents, or 0.7 percent, at \$76.47 and US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude fell 50 cents, or 0.7 percent, to trade at \$72.66 at 0650 GMT.

Both contracts had settled up more than 2 percent in the previous trading session.

"Oil prices have rebounded somewhat in the last two sessions, so now is time for a pause

... with no real positive data coming out," said Suvro Sarkar, lead energy analyst at DBS Bank.

"The market is cautious today ahead of the inflation data.... With net long positions declining sharply over the last two weeks, a lot of traders are already out of the market, so volumes are low."

US consumer price index (CPI) figures for April are due on Wednesday.

The Fed raised rates last week in what may be the last hike of its tightening cycle. It dropped guidance about the need for future hikes, with inflationary pressure starting to ease.

US consumers said last month they expected slightly lower inflation in a year's time, a report

from the New York Federal Reserve showed on Monday.

"If tomorrow's CPI data remains at around 5 percent by market consensus, and if the core CPI does not drop significantly, it will likely continue to support the rise in oil prices," said CMC Markets analyst Leon Li.

While oil markets fell sharply last week, prices rose on Friday and Monday as fears of recession eased in the US, the world's biggest oil consumer, and some traders saw crude's three-week slide on demand worries as overdone.

Also supporting oil prices, the Canadian province of Alberta declared a state of emergency over the weekend in response

to wildfires that have displaced nearly 30,000 people and prompted energy producers to shut in at least 280,000 barrels of oil equivalent per day, more than 3 percent of Canada's output.



**The market is cautious today ahead of the inflation data.... With net long positions declining sharply over the last two weeks, a lot of traders are already out of the market**



The Brent crude price was down 54 cents, or 0.7 percent, at \$76.47



## Chinese data, US debt ceiling worries send shares lower

LONDON

SHARE markets dipped yesterday as traders were kept on edge by weak Chinese trade data and the impasse over the US debt ceiling, which also caused a sharp sell-off in short-dated US Treasury bills.

Crucial US inflation data due on Wednesday that could cause a change in current market pricing for US rate cuts later in the year was top of investors' minds as well.

Europe's broad STOXX 600 index dipped 0.55 percent but was just about still in touch with mid April's 14-month high, after MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan had dropped 0.88 percent.

The Asian benchmark was dragged down by declines in onshore Chinese blue chips, off 0.86 percent and Hong Kong 2.12 percent lower, after Chinese trade data showed an unexpected decline in imports and slower exports growth, underlining

the struggles facing the world's second-biggest economy despite the lifting of COVID curbs in December.

"When it comes to the Chinese market, you have the question coming from investors now about the strength of the recovery," said Frank Benzimra, Societe Generale's Hong Kong-based head of Asian equity strategy.

"So when you have some trend data which is not as good as people expect, it raises doubts," he said.

Back in Europe, real estate stocks were in the spotlight, with the European subindex down more than 2 percent at one point after top Swedish landlord SBB scrapped plans for a rights issue amid growing liquidity concerns that sparked S&P to cut its credit rating to junk. SBB's shares are down nearly 25 percent across the last two sessions.

US S&P 500 E-mini futures were down 0.34 percent.

In bond markets, most of the action was at very short end of



US Fed Reserve

the US curve.

The 1-month Treasury bill yield rose 15 bps to 5.61 percent, and yields on the 2-month T-bill climbed 13 bps to 5.26 percent, as investors sold off bonds that will mature around the time the U.S. could hit its debt limit.

On Monday, Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said that a failure by Congress to raise the \$31.4 trillion federal debt limit would cause a huge hit to

the US economy and weaken the dollar as the world's reserve currency.

"Failure to raise the debt ceiling would be a major risk to the economy and markets, and even a 'close call' in 2011 resulted in significant underperformance of equities versus bonds," said Morgan Stanley in a note. Also top of mind is Wednesday's U.S. consumer inflation report after Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell said last week that policy

decisions will be "driven by incoming data", while signalling a likely pause in the rate hiking cycle.

At the same time, Friday's robust payrolls report prompted investors to dial back expectations for the timing and size of the Fed's first rate cut.

Money markets currently expect two quarter point rate cuts by year-end, with a risk of a third.

Economists forecast a slight moderation in the core inflation number to 5.5 percent annually for April, matching February's print, which was the lowest since the end of 2021.

The 10-year Treasury yield eased off a one-week high to last sit just below 3.5 percent, the German 10-year yield was steady at 2.318 percent.

The risk off tone was also playing out in currency markets, with the euro down 0.25 percent to \$1.09775.

The dollar index, which measures the currency against six major peers, was little changed at 101.53 after climbing overnight from near the bottom of its trading range.

## China's cotton crop seen shrinking on freeze, smaller area

BEIJING

COTTON production in top grower China could decline this year after frigid weather delayed sowing and hurt plants in some areas, and acreage dropped as some farmers followed government advice and switched to grain.

The harvest may fall by as much as 1 million tons from last year, according to Guo Chao, the general manager of Hebei Xingyu Textile Material Co., a major cotton trader and processor. If realized, that would represent a decline of more than 15 percent from production of about 6 million tons in 2022.

China is the world's biggest textile producer and one of the largest cotton importers. Any shortfall in production could potentially boost purchases of foreign cotton, but

that may be countered by a lackluster outlook for demand as exporters of textile products grapple with a slowing global economy.

Unseasonably cold weather damaged the cotton crop in the main producing region of Xinjiang, just as local governments were encouraging farmers to switch to growing grains under a nationwide drive to bolster food security. Cotton farmers in some areas were told to plant grain on as much as 10 percent of their land, according to Mysteel, a commodity consultancy in China, and the company is predicting a 10 percent drop in cotton acreage from last year.

Still, the crop has time to recover. Sunnier and warmer conditions this week may improve the outlook, though the long-term market trend is firm, Guo said at a conference Friday. Planting normally starts at



the beginning of April, and according to state television, almost 90% of the Xinjiang crop has been sown. Extreme weather from drought to cold in the past few weeks has roiled everything from apples

to rubber and cotton in China. Temperatures were so low in the cotton areas that emerging crops were damaged, and hailstorms only worsened the impact, traders and analysts said.

## Energy Bank to free Africa from expensive oil loans

KAMPALA

THE Uganda Petroleum Authority (PAU) has said the Africa Energy Bank, expected before the end of this year, will free Africa, Uganda inclusive from expensive energy-related funding, resulting from perceived increase in risks.

Reacting to reports that the African Petroleum Producers Organisation (APPO) had finalised plans to set up the Africa Energy Bank before the end of this year at the weekend, Mr Ali Ssekatawa, the PAU legal and corporate affairs director, said the bank was a welcome idea that could help counter the global trend against financing oil and gas projects, which continues to hinder progress of African projects.

The International Energy Agency, he said, indicates that funding energy projects in Africa is currently seven times more expensive than in Europe due to perceived higher risk by funders, which results into expensive energy infrastructure projects.

"European funders often impose onerous terms such as political insurance cover and the application of foreign law, as well as external dispute resolution mechanisms like international arbitration, which do not recognise African jurisdictions," Mr Ssekatawa said, noting the Africa Energy Bank could provide an equitable and just alternative for African countries and companies in the overall scheme of energy transition.

The declining investment in hydrocarbons continues to pose significant challenges to Africa's exploration of fossil fuels at a time when the world is emphasising a shift to green energy.

However, African leaders argue that the transition should be a process that allows the continent to use resources from oil to transition to green energy.

The bank is expected to, among others, finance oil and gas activities, much of which is tied to external financiers.

Last week, Dr Omar Farouk Ibrahim, the APPO general secretary, said, African countries subscribing to the organisation will partner with the African Export-Import Bank to establish an energy bank, which will essentially focus on funding oil and gas projects on the continent due to reduction of funding by Western funders.

The bank, which was mooted last year during the eighth African Petroleum Congress and Exhibition in Luanda, Angola, will mainly attract investment from countries such as Saudi Arabia, UAE, Qatar and Kuwait, which have a lot of stake, and history in the development of oil and gas.

Uganda is yet to subscribe to APPO, but Irene Bateebe, the Ministry of Energy permanent secretary, at the weekend told Monitor that apart from increasing its engagement with other oil producing countries, Uganda is evaluating the process of joining APPO.

"As a country, we are not yet subscribers, but we are evaluating the process and criteria, and we will definitely join soon," she said. The move to form the Africa Energy Bank comes at a time when many international funders such as HSBC, Standard Chartered and Standard Bank, among others, are facing a lot of pressure from climate activists to stop funding oil projects, many of them in Africa, over carbon emissions, and the need to shift to cleaner energy.

## Toyota to set up two new factories in Africa

CAIRO

THE two plants should make 100,000 cars per year, each. Egypt, which already has a well-established automotive ecosystem, is a favorite candidate to host one of them.

Japanese carmaker Toyota Tsusho is planning to set up two new plants in Africa, the group's senior executive adviser Jun Karube announced on May 2.

"Toyota will establish two plants on the continent, each with a production capacity of 100,000 cars per year, in addition to its existing plants in several African countries," Karube said at a meeting in Cairo with the chairman of the Egyptian General Authority for Investment and Free Zones (GAFI), Hossam Heiba.

Karube, who was previously the chairman of the board of directors of the Toyota Tsusho Group, also said that Egypt is among the favorites to host one of the plants. He noted that the North African country already hosts several automotive suppliers, has skilled workers, and a business climate that is good for investment.

The plants' announcement comes on the sidelines of the tour of the Japanese Prime Minister, Fumio Kishida, on the continent. The Japanese leader has already visited Egypt and Ghana and should head next to Kenya and Mozambique.

In Africa, Toyota already has vehicle assembly plants in South Africa, Kenya, and Ghana.



Toyota plans to build 2 new factories in Africa including one in Egypt



# UK retailers say sales growing again

LONDON

UK retail sales increased at a steady clip for the second month, indicating households are absorbing higher prices by adjusting their spending habits, the British Retail Consortium said.

The value of retail sales rose 5.1 percent from a year in both March and April, the lobby group said in a report Tuesday. Volumes fell once again as a squeeze on living standards from double digit inflation meant consumer spending didn't stretch as far as it used to.

Households cut back on clothing to pay for basics including food, according to the figures collected by BRC and the consultant KPMG. Food sales increased 9.8 percent – half the pace of the 19 percent jump in grocery prices – as shoppers switched to cheaper products.

Britons are struggling through the worst living-standards crisis in decades. Energy bills have rocketed, and wages are rising at about half of the 10.1 percent rate of inflation. Rising interest rates as the Bank of England seeks to restrain inflation are adding to the burden.

"While retail sales grew in April, overall inflation meant volumes were down for both food and non-food as customers continued to adjust spending habits," said Helen Dickinson, chief executive officer of the BRC, said in a statement.

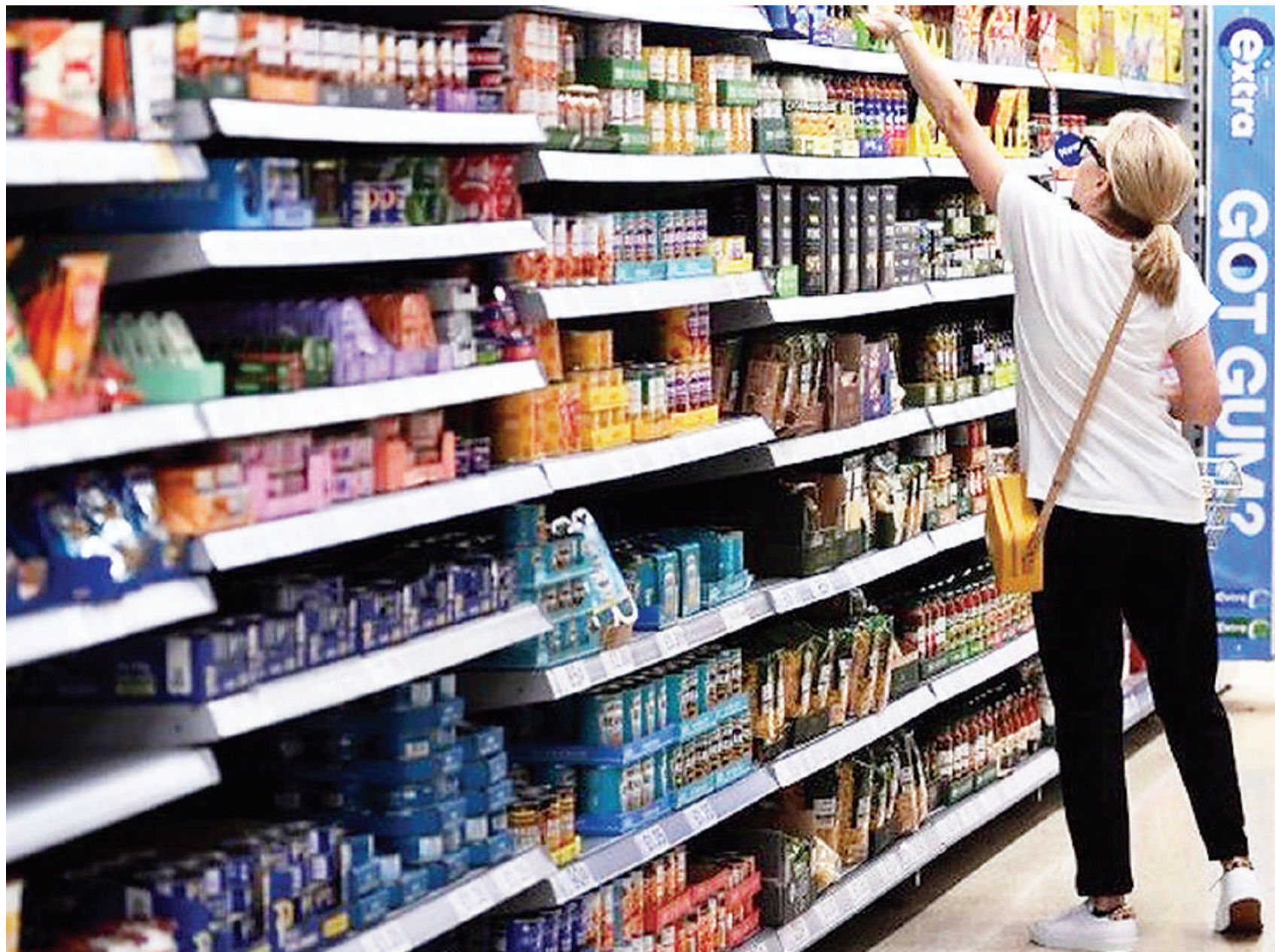
A separate monthly spending report from Barclays Plc echoed the BRC findings. Its measure of consumer spending, based on credit and debit card transactions it handles, grew 4.3 percent in April, slightly higher than the 4 percent seen in March.

Households continued to "switch to lower-priced products and seek out discounted 'yellow sticker' groceries, the bank said. Spending in restaurants and on clothes fell for a third month.

BRC said retailers anticipate an improvement as summer approaches and people enjoy an extra bank holiday for the coronation of King Charles III.

"Retailers hope sales will improve over the warmer summer months, especially as consumer confidence stabilizes and inflation begins to ease," Dickinson said.

Spending on jewelry, watches and cosmetics improved in April, helped by a boost from overseas tourism, the BRC said. Barclays said Britons are spending more on entertainment, leisure and holidays. There was "a noticeable uplift" in entertainment, helped by ticket sales for the Eurovision song contest being held in Liverpool on May 13.



## Asia rice output turns corner as farmers expand planting

SINGAPORE

ASIA'S rice output is set to climb this year as higher prices spur farmers to expand acreage and use more fertilizer, easing supply concerns after production suffered its first decline in seven years in 2022.

Production from recently harvested off-season rice crops in India and Thailand, the world's top two exporters, has exceeded last year's levels, and farmers are gearing up for main crops to be planted in coming months, with prices hovering near two-year highs.

Major northern hemisphere producers, including India, Pakistan and Thailand, will start planting their main crops in May and June, said Shirley Mustafa, an economist at U.N.'s Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).

A greater area will be planted with rice "in response to increases in rice prices, and greater access to fertilizers could sustain an output expansion from these crops," Mustafa said.

India's export restrictions last year, combined with lower global production after a heatwave in China and floods in Pakistan, lifted prices of the staple, deepening worries over food inflation.

However, prices have declined in recent weeks, with the widely used 5% broken rice variety in India, the world's largest rice producer, and Thailand quoted well below two-year highs seen earlier in 2023.

Production from winter-sown rice in India jumped to 22.8 million tonnes from 18.5 million tonnes a year ago as above-average rainfall in September-October allowed farmers to expand.

The rebound compensated for the drop in the summer-sown crop.

In Thailand, output from this year's off-season crop is expected to have risen to 5.1 million tonnes, up 24 percent from a year ago, according to the FAO.

"Last year, rains were very good and reservoirs had plenty of water for irrigation," said a Bangkok-based trader at an international trading company, who declined to be named because he was not authorised to speak to the media.

Globally, the area under rice cultivation is forecast to climb to 165.70 million hectares in 2023/24, from 163.74 million hectares, according to the International Grains Council (IGC).

World production is projected to climb to 521.49 million tonnes, up from 509.30 million tonnes.

"Prices are higher, and we are expecting that to encourage plantings for the 2023/24 crop, particularly in the major exporters," said Peter Clubb, a market analyst at IGC.

Rice producers, encouraged by higher grain prices and lower costs of crop nutrients, are also expected to use more fertilizer to boost yields.

Prices of fertilizers fell in the January-to-March quarter as supply from Belarus, the third-largest potash exporter, resumed and costs of key inputs, including nitrogen, fell from 2022 highs.

However, weather remains the key for Asian rice production, with some forecasters predicting an El Nino event, which brings dryness to large parts of Asia.

"As far as weather conditions go, yes, it is early and there is some concern about the impact of El Nino on rainfall in Asia," Clubb said.

"Of course, the length and intensity of these weather systems will determine final conditions."



# MONDAY - WEDNESDAY FROM 10:30 PM



### ITV PGM SCHEDULE

#### TUESDAY 9 May

5:00	Soap rpt: Uzalo
5:30	Uwajiza wa Mazoezi
6:00	HABARI
6:40	Kumekucha
7:30	Kumekucha Michezo
8:00	Habari za saa
8:55	Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30	Soap: In Love with Ramon
10:00	Watoto wetu
10:25	Kipindi maalum: REA rpt
10:55	Habari za saa
11:00	Chetu ni chetu
11:55	Habari za saa
12:00	Al Jazeera
12:30	Alya ya jami
12:55	Habari za saa
13:00	Kipindi maalum
13:35	Shikabamba
13:55	Habari za saa
14:00	Shikabamba
14:15	Igizo rpt: Slay Queen
14:55	Habari za saa
15:00	Meza huru
16:30	Watoto wetu
17:00	Music: The Base
18:00	Jiji Letu
18:15	Mapishi
18:30	Kipindi Maalum: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ
19:30	Soap: In Love with Ramon
20:00	Habari
21:05	Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba
21:30	Kipindi Maalum: NSSF
21:45	Chetu ni chetu
22:30	Soap: Uzalo
23:00	Habari
23:30	Music: The Base
00:30	Al Jazeera
02:00	DWTV

#### THURSDAY 11 May

5:00	Soap rpt: Uzalo
5:30	Uwajiza wa Mazoezi
6:00	HABARI
6:40	Kumekucha
7:30	Kumekucha Michezo
8:00	Habari za saa
8:55	Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30	Soap rpt: In Love with Ramon
10:00	Watoto wetu
10:30	Shamba lulu
10:55	Habari za saa
11:00	Ripoti maalum rpt
11:55	Habari za saa
12:00	Al Jazeera
12:30	Jarda la wanawake rpt
12:55	Habari za saa
13:00	Kipindi maalum rpt: BOT
13:30	Kipindi maalum: Bwela
13:45	Shamsham za pwani rpt
13:55	Habari za saa
14:00	Shamsham za pwani rpt
14:55	Habari za saa
15:00	Meza huru
16:30	Watoto wetu
17:00	The Base
18:00	Kumekucha Kishindo
18:15	Mapishi
18:30	Kipindi maalum: TMDA
19:00	Usafiri Wako
19:30	Soap: In Love with Ramon
20:00	Habari
21:05	Malumbano ya hoja
23:00	Habari
23:30	Music: The Base
00:30	Al Jazeera
02:00	DWTV

#### FRIDAY 12 May

5:00	Soap rpt: Uzalo
5:30	Uwajiza wa Mazoezi
6:00	HABARI
6:40	Kumekucha
7:30	HABARI
8:00	Kumekucha Michezo
8:55	Habari za saa
9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30	Soap rpt: In Love with Ramon
10:00	Habari za saa
10:30	Watoto wetu
10:55	Habari za saa
11:00	Igizo: Mizengwe rpt
11:15	Jungu kuu
11:55	Habari za saa
12:00	Al Jazeera
12:30	Kipindi maalum rpt: Tanesco
12:55	Habari za saa
13:00	Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba rpt
13:30	Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ
13:55	Habari za saa
14:00	Kipindi Maalum rpt: Sema na Mahakama ya TZ
14:30	DW Afrimax rpt
15:00	Meza huru
16:30	Watoto Wetu
17:00	The Base (DJ Show)
17:30	Kislim
18:00	Jiji Letu
18:15	Kipindi maalum: REA
18:45	Kipindi maalum: Soka Bet
19:00	Shamba lulu
19:30	Soap: In Love with Ramon
20:00	Habari
21:05	Kipindi Maalum: Maisha ni Nyumba
23:00	Habari
23:30	The Base
00:30	Al Jazeera
02:00	DWTV

#### FRIDAY 13 May

5:30	Uwajiza wa Mazoezi
6:00	HABARI
6:40	Kumekucha
7:00	Habari
8:00	Al Jazeera
9:00	Watoto wetu
10:00	Kipindi maalum: FAO
10:05	Shika Bamba 5
10:35	Mjuzi Zaidi rpt
11:15	Chetu ni chetu rpt
11:50	Hawawumi lakini wamo
12:50	Usafiri wako
13:20	Art and Lifestyle
13:50	Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt
15:45	Igizo: Mizengwe
16:10	Igizo: Slay Queen
17:00	Shamsham za Pwani
18:00	Jiji Letu
18:15	ITV Top 10 rpt
19:00	Jungu Kuu
19:30	Shika Bamba

#### SUNDAY 14 May

5:30	Uwajiza wa Mazoezi
6:00	HABARI
6:40	Kumekucha
7:00	Habari
8:00	Al Jazeera
9:00	Watoto Wetu
10:00	Soap: In Love with Ramon rpt
11:50	Bongo Movie rpt
14:00	Tamasha la Michezo
15:30	Mwangaza
16:30	ITV Top 10 rpt
17:20	Kipindi cha kikristo
18:00	Jiji Letu
18:15	Mapishi
18:30	Matukio ya wiki
19:30	Igizo: Slay Queen
20:00	Habari
21:00	Kipindi maalum: Biko
21:10	Kipindi maalum: Reflexology
21:15	Kipindi maalum: Michezo Supa Jackpot
21:30	Igizo: Mizengwe
21:45	Mjuzi Zaidi
22:20	Bongo movie:
23:30	Soap: Uzalo rpt
02:05	Al Jazeera

#### TUES 09 May

06:00	Al Jazeera
07:00	Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00	Dw
11:00	Al Jazeera
11:30	Monday agenda rpt
12:15	Spots gazette
12:45	Filler doc
13:00	Telenovela rpt: The Three Sides Of Ana
14:00	Club 101 (Via Capital Radio)
15:00	Culinary Delights Rpt
16:30	Capchat rpt
17:30	Meza huru
18:30	Innovation
19:00	Our Earth
20:00	Decor Rpt
20:45	Telenovela: The Three Sides of Ana
21:30	Capital Prime News
22:00	Jajina rpt
22:30	EcoAfrica
23:00	Al Jazeera

#### Wed 10 May

06:00	Al Jazeera
07:00	Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00	Dw
11:00	Al Jazeera
11:30 T	omorrow Today rpt
12:00	Dw News Africa rpt
12:30	Our Earth
13:00	Telenovela rpt: The Three Sides of Ana
14:00	Club 101 (Via Capital Radio)
15:00	Business Edition Rpt
16:30	Culinary delight rpt
17:00	Innovation rpt
17:30	Meza huru
19:00	Sports Gazette
19:30	Chetu ni chetu
20:00	Monday Agenda Rpt
20:45	Telenovela: The Three Sides of Ana
21:30	Capital Prime News
22:00	Dakika 45
22:45	The Decor
23:15	Al Jazeera

#### Thurs 11 May

06:00	Al Jazeera
07:00	Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00	Dw
11:00	Al Jazeera
11:30	Spots gazette
12:00	Innovation
12:30	Culinary
13:00	Telenovela rpt: The Three Sides of Ana
14:00	Club 101 (Via Capital Radio)
16:00	Tomorrow Today
16:30	Business edition rpt
17:00	In good shape
17:30	Meza huru
19:00	Out & About Rpt
19:30	EcoAfrica
20:00	Our Earth Rpt
20:45	Telenovela: The Three Sides of Ana
21:30	Capital Prime News
22:00	Capchat rpt
23:00	Al Jazeera

#### Frid 12 May

06:00	Al Jazeera
07:00	Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00	Dw
11:00	Al Jazeera
11:30	Spots gazette
12:00	Capchat
12:30	Decor
13:00	Telenovela rpt: The Three Sides of Ana
14:00	Club 101 (Via Capital Radio)
16:00	Dw News Africa rpt
16:30	The Monday Agenda rpt
17:30	Meza huru
19:00	Rev
19	Out & About Rpt
20:00	Albu Yako
20:15	Local Pgm: Business Edition
20:45	Telenovela The Three Sides of Ana
21:30	Capital Prime News
22:00	Malumbano ya hoja rpt

**CAPITAL**



## WORLD

## UK police sorry for coronation arrest of Republic leader

LONDON

BRITISH police expressed regret over the arrests of the leader of anti-monarchist group Republic and five others at the coronation of King Charles, following criticism that the security response was heavy-handed.

London's Met Police said they regretted that six of those arrested at the event

were prevented from protesting during the coronation on Saturday. They have had their bail cancelled and no further action will be taken, the police statement added.

"We regret that those six people arrested were unable to join the wider group of protesters in Trafalgar Square and elsewhere on the procession route," the statement, issued late on Monday, said.



Britain's King Charles III (left) and Queen Camilla wave to the crowds from the balcony of Buckingham Palace after the coronation ceremony in London, May 6, 2023. (PHOTO / AP)

The chief executive of Republic, Graham Smith, who was one of the six protesters arrested, said on Twitter that police had apologized to him in person on Monday but he planned to talk to lawyers about taking legal action.

Police said the arrests were made because of items which officers believed could have been used to disrupt the event.

The police said in their statement on Monday that they were unable to prove that the protest-

ers intended to use the items to lock themselves to positions on the coronation route.

Republic said the items in question were intended for securing placards.

One man was also arrested for possession of a knife/pointed article.

There were over 11,000 police on the streets of central London for the coronation, the biggest ceremonial event staged in London for 70 years, and a total of 64 arrests were made.

## Putin, CIS leaders lay wreath at Tomb of Unknown Soldier near Kremlin wall

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin and CIS leaders laid flowers at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at the Kremlin wall after the Victory Day Parade on Moscow's Red Square yesterday.

Presidents of Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan Alexander Lukashenko, Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, Sadyr Japarov, Emomali Rahmon, Serdar Berdimuhamedov and Shavkat Mirziyoyev and Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan gathered together to attend the Victory Day festivities in Moscow on May 9.

Together with Russian President Putin, they watched the Victory Day Parade on Moscow's Red Square and then came to the Kremlin's Alexander Garden to attend the wreath-laying ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier.

To the tune of the Russian anthem, they bowed their heads to commemorate those fallen during the Soviet Union's 1941-1945 Great Patriotic War against Nazi Germany.

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier is a national WWII military memorial of honor. The remains of the Unknown Soldier were transferred from a mass grave near Moscow and re-buried in a solemn ceremony in the Alexander Garden at the Kremlin wall in 1966.

The memorial integrating the Eternal Flame and an alley of hero cities as its key elements was opened the next year. The memorial was subsequently expanded with a monument to Russian cities of military glory. The Guard of Honor was posted here in 1997 and is now Post No. 1.

## Japan speeds up efforts to fulfill military ambitions

TOKYO

JAPAN is accelerating efforts to fulfill its military ambitions by amending its Constitution and increasing engagement with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida expressed hope for a revision of the country's Constitution in a video message sent to a forum in Tokyo hosted by groups that support constitutional changes, the newspaper Asahi Shimbun reported.

"It is more important than ever to further heighten momentum toward constitutional revision," Kishida said in the message on May 3, Japan's Constitution Memorial Day. "A stance for revising parts of the Constitution that are out of step with the times is required."

He referred to the security environment that Japan faces as "the most severe and complex", saying it is extremely important to position the Self-Defense Forces, Japan's de facto military forces, in the Constitution.

Article 9 of the Constitution renounces war and prohibits Japan from maintaining "war potential", banning the country from maintaining land, sea or air forces.

The nation's exclusively defense-oriented principles are built on the idea of developing

defensive capabilities, while being consistent with the Constitution's pacifist principles, the newspaper Mainichi Shimbun said in an editorial.

Since the second administration of the late Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, which started in December 2012, Japan has been preparing to rewrite its Constitution.

Late last year, Kishida's Cabinet approved revisions to three national security documents, which specify Japan's acquisition of "counterstrike capabilities" to attack enemy bases. The Kishida administration intends to raise defense spending to 2 percent of GDP by 2027, equating to a 60 percent increase over five years. This would give the country the third-largest defense budget in the world.

The increase is a major turnaround from Japan's post-World War II security policy and transforms its defense-oriented principles, the Mainichi Shimbun said.

The newspaper urged Japan to draw up a strategy that avoids being left at the mercy of the escalating United States-China confrontation. "While the Japan-US alliance remains the axis of Japan's foreign policy, Tokyo's relations with China are vital on the economic and other fronts," it said.

Kishida has vowed to revise the Constitution before his current



Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida speaks during a joint press conference with the Republic of Korea's President Yoon Suk-yeol after their meeting at the presidential office in Seoul on Sunday. AFP

term as president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party expires in September 2024.

Before holding a national referendum on revising the Constitution, a draft bill for a constitutional amendment must be initiated by the Diet and obtain a majority vote in the Commission on the Constitution in both houses of the Diet, Japan's parliament, followed by a two-thirds majority vote at the plenary session of both houses.

Japan's National Referendum Law stipulates that a referendum must be held 60 to 180 days after the amendments are initiated by

the Diet.

In order for Kishida to revise the Constitution during his tenure, it will be necessary to initiate the amendments by the middle of next year at the latest, the newspaper Yomiuri Shimbun said.

The Japanese public is split on the need to speed up parliamentary debate on amending the Constitution, according to a Kyodo News survey conducted in March and April.

The survey found that 49 percent of respondents said the Diet needs to accelerate discussion on amendments to the Constitution, including Article 9, while 48 per-

cent said it does not.

More than two-thirds of lawmakers support the constitutional amendments, according to Ken Takada, one of the leaders of a Tokyo-based civic group that opposes rewriting the Constitution. He said the Japanese government is eager to legitimize its endeavors to build up the military.

While the Kishida administration pushes for constitutional revisions, it is also intensifying engagement with NATO.

The transatlantic alliance is planning to open a liaison office in Tokyo next year, the first of its kind in Asia, according to Nikkei Asia.

NATO has similar liaison offices at the United Nations in New York and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe in Vienna, as well as in Georgia, Ukraine, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Moldova and Kuwait.

In many cases, the host nation offers office space for NATO. If Tokyo provides the funding for a Western military alliance to have a foothold in Japan, it would symbolize a new phase in defense cooperation, Nikkei Asia said.

NATO and Japan will also upgrade their cooperation, aiming to sign an individually tailored partnership program before the NATO Summit in Vilnius, Lithuania, on July 11-12.

Agencies



Presidents Sadyr Japarov of Kyrgyzstan, Vladimir Putin of Russia, Emomali Rahmon of Tajikistan, and Serdar Berdimuhamedov of Turkmenistan

## Sound overseas Chinese work helps advance national rejuvenation

BEIJING

ON Monday, the 10th Conference for Friendship of Overseas Chinese Associations opened in Beijing. As an important platform that gathers associations of overseas Chinese from around the world, the conference this year is attended by about 500 heads of such associations from over 130 countries and regions.

As the Chinese leadership once noted, for Chinese people, both at home and abroad, the rejuvenation of the Chinese nation is a shared dream.

The Chinese government has always attached great importance to closely uniting overseas Chinese, returned overseas Chinese and their relatives, and encouraging them to play an active part in national rejuvenation.

To ensure that work related to overseas Chinese is sound and effective, Chinese authorities have held meetings to enhance overall planning, and also reformed relevant institutions and mechanisms.

These measures have enhanced the coordination of departments, enabling work related to overseas Chinese to progress in a systematic and holistic manner. With an effective work mechanism established, the Chinese government was able to introduce more tangible measures to attract overseas Chinese to participate in China's social and economic development.

For instance, in 2014, the State Council approved the establishment of the 480-square-km China (Shantou) Pilot Zone for Economic and Cultural Cooperation with Overseas Chinese in Shantou, Guangdong Province. After years of development, the zone has become a significant booster of local economic development. In 2020 and 2021, the annual GDP growth rate of the zone stayed above 20 percent.

Over the past decade, central and regional authorities have been constantly upgrading measures to serve overseas Chinese and safeguard their legitimate rights and benefits. On April 27, two vessels of the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy arrived in the Saudi Arabian port of Jeddah on an emergency evacuation mission.

That day, 668 Chinese citizens were evacuated from Sudan, where weeks-long conflicts posed severe safety threats. "Above all, we are so grateful to our motherland. The motherland is always our strong backing," said Chen Lihui, an evacuee. Ensuring safety and well-being is only one aspect of China's endeavor to serve overseas Chinese. Xinhua

Xinhua

## Africa's travel show opens in South Africa's Durban

DURBAN

AFRICA'S Travel Indaba kicked off Monday in Durban, KwaZulu-Natal of South Africa, with the country's Minister of Tourism Patricia de Lille calling for collaboration between African countries to grow the tourism sector.

De Lille said the event provides for face-to-face interactions, networking, sharing ideas, and forging partnerships that will enhance the industry's recovery.

More than 20 African countries are taking part in the event,

which will end Thursday, where over 350 tourism products are displayed. "We are determined to drive the recovery of the tourism industry and to ensure that we continue to contribute to creating jobs and grow the continent's economy.

It is vital that we work together to promote Africa as a preferred tourist destination for both leisure tourism and business events.

The public and private sectors must unite to showcase the continent's diverse offerings and leverage technology, spur innovation,

and create memorable experiences for visitors," said de Lille.

Premier Nomusa Dube-Ncube of KwaZulu-Natal Province welcomed delegates and encouraged them to visit various resorts during their stay to explore the province.

She said tourism is one of the priority areas used to recover from COVID-19. "Africa's Travel Indaba is a welcome boost for KwaZulu-Natal. It is an appropriate opportunity for our country and province to reenter the world stage and through tourism, to re-

kindle and enhance the prospects of our economic growth and employment creation."

"We are ready to welcome the world to the Zulu Kingdom and let our story shine through our rich history, meandering mountains, authentic Zulu culture, our renowned World Heritage sites and vibrant city nightlife," Dube-Ncube said.

Africa's Travel Indaba is an iconic African leisure trade show, owned by South African Tourism, with the specific objective of creating market access for

## Australia boasts budget surplus, before spending gobbles it up

SYDNEY

AUSTRALIA'S Labor government yesterday boasted the first budget surplus in 15 years as strong jobs growth and bumper mining profits swelled its coffers, but it will quickly be swallowed up by spending on everything from health to energy and defence.

In his second budget since winning power in May last year, Treasurer Jim Chalmers also announced billions in cost-of-living relief aimed at lowering power bills and consumer prices in a helping hand to the Reserve Bank of Australia's (RBA) fight against inflation.

"Providing responsible, targeted relief is the number one priority in our Budget," Chalmers told lawmakers, while also lauding the improvement in the budget bottom line.

"This Budget, we've returned 82 percent of the extra revenue windfall that's largely come from lower unemployment, stronger jobs and wages growth, and higher prices for key exports."

The highlight was a projected A\$4.2 billion surplus for the year to June 2023, the first since 2008/09 and a huge turnaround from the A\$37 billion shortfall forecast just eight months ago.

The former Liberal National government came tantalisingly close to a surplus in 2019, only for COVID-19 to blow a pandemic-sized hole in the accounts and lift the deficit to a record A\$134 billion.

The latest improvement owes much to a surprisingly strong labour market, which has taken unemployment to near 50-year lows of 3.5 percent and boosted income tax while curbing welfare payments.

High prices for Australia's commodity exports have also delivered a windfall to mining profits, and thus tax receipts, though prices are now well off their peaks.

Chalmers also expects the domestic economy to brake to just 1.25 percent in 2023/24 from 3.25 percent this fiscal year, in large part due to a painful 375-basis-points of rate rises from the RBA.

That tightening should have the desired impact on inflation, which Chalmers sees slowing to 3.25 percent by mid-2024, down from the current blistering 7.0 percent pace. Treasury estimates its relief package for energy bills alone will cut 0.75 percentage points from consumer price inflation in 2023/24.

Higher interest rates, however, have sharply raised the cost of funding

the government's near-A\$1 trillion in debt, with debt repayments the fastest growing cost in the accounts.

Labor has also promised to honour a commitment by the previous government to slash income taxes from 2024/25, cuts that are projected to cost a budget-busting A\$254 billion over the first 10 years.

The cuts are not especially popular with the public given the vast majority go to the higher paid, but Labor is loath to break an election promise and seems boxed-in.

There are plenty of other demands on the public purse. Annual spending on hospitals and aged care is seen ris-

ing by 6 percent or more every year for the next decade, while interest payments are up almost 9 percent and disability payments 10 percent.

Defence is set for the biggest increase since World War Two amid plans to spend A\$368 billion out to the 2050's on nuclear powered submarines from the UK and United States.

All of which means the budget will soon be back in the red, with Chalmers forecasting deficits of A\$14 billion in 2023/24 and A\$35 billion the year after. As surpluses go, this is very much a one-off.

Agencies



# China protests expulsion of diplomat in Canada

OTTAWA

THE Chinese embassy in Ottawa, in response to Canada expelling a Chinese diplomat, said the consequences arising from the action shall be borne by the Canadian side.

"The Chinese side strongly condemns and firmly opposes this and has lodged stern protest with the Canadian side," said a statement on the embassy website.

The Canadian government declared a diplomat from the Chinese Consulate General in Toronto "persona non grata", Canadian Foreign Minister Melanie Joly announced on Monday.

The Chinese embassy said the move was based on "rumors of the so-called 'China Interference' hyped up by some politicians and media" and it has "seriously violated international law".

Experts interviewed by China Daily also said that the move will further strain already fragile economic and political ties between the two countries.

The Chinese government also said that it has rejected the allegations of meddling in Canada's domestic affairs and has "no interest whatsoever in doing so".

"China never interferes in other countries' internal affairs. The so-called 'China Interference' is totally groundless, which is the out-and-out smear of China and the political manipulation driven by ideological bias.

"Such provocations by the Canadian side have severely undermined the legitimate rights and interests of the Chinese diplomatic and consular personnel," the embassy statement said.

"Instead of protecting China's diplomatic and consular personnel's le-

gitimate rights, the Canadian side has chosen to condone and echo the anti-China forces' hype-up and conduct extreme actions against a Chinese consular official. China does not accept this completely," the statement said. "We urge the Canadian side to step back from the brink and refrain from moving further down the wrong path. If the Canadian side acts wantonly and arbitrarily, it will be met with China's resolute and strong reactions."

In March, the Conservative Party of Canada forced the House to put forward a motion that called for the expulsion of diplomats involved in "foreign interference", which stem from several Canadian media reports alleging that China interfered in Canada's last two elections.

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has asked former governor general David Johnston to investigate to determine whether there should be a public inquiry into the matter.

The Globe and Mail reported last week that Canadian Member of Parliament (MP) Michael Chong was targeted by the Chinese government and that a Chinese diplomat in Toronto was alleged to have intimidated Chong and his relatives in Hong Kong.

China's Consulate General in Toronto said the claim "has no factual basis and is totally groundless".

The consulate said it has always followed the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations and the Consular Agreement between the two countries and that its officers have never engaged in activities inconsistent with their official capacities.

"Those Canadian media and politicians have been spreading dis-



This file photo taken on Dec 5, 2017, shows Canadian and Chinese flags taken prior to a meeting with Canada's Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and China's President Xi Jinping at the Diaoyutai State Guesthouse in Beijing. AFP

formation with intent to damage the reputation and image of the Chinese Consulate General and maliciously disrupt normal exchange and cooperation between the two sides," the consulate said.

Jing Wenran, an adviser to the Asian Program at the Institute for Peace & Diplomacy, told China Daily that Canada's action will precipitate a more negative turn in bilateral relations.

"It is still not very clear what exactly happened other than an intelligence leak to the media over something in 2021," Jiang said. "Although the public is given very little details on what exactly happened, the overall tone in the Parliament and in public discourse has turned very negative against China."

He said the Liberal government in Ottawa has been under pressure from Conservatives on the issue. That is partly fed by Canada's spy agencies through targeted leaks to the media, Jiang said,

Development told China Daily that the diplomatic incident not only will hurt Canada's relationship with China but also the interests of Canadians in general.

"Arresting, or to be more exact, kidnapping (Huawei CFO) Meng Wanzhou at the baton of the Americans gave rise to a crisis that lasted several years (and) triggered huge anger that had never been there from the Chinese people towards Canada and has not yet been left in oblivion," Dai said.

"This time, the Liberals are yielding to partisan political pressure from the Conservatives, which spotted a convenient opportunity to gain political advantage by using Chong's false claim with no evidence," he said. "These people do not know what they are doing: For their own petty political gain, they are further damaging our traditional good relations with China, and more dangerously, drawing Canada and Canadians into a big war (in which) Canada should have no part."

David Choi, co-chair of the National Congress of Chinese Canadians told China Daily: "Canadian business and jobs have been hurt due to the strained relations. Last May, China lifted a ban on imports of canola, Canada's largest crop. ... We don't want to see the tensions intensified as better relations benefit both sides."

Guan Jianhong, an agent at Harmony Legal Service, said "the Conservative Party's Michael Chong accusation is groundless. It is a desperate move by the Liberals under pressure from the Conservatives, but also a foolish one." Guan said he expects China to "definitely" reciprocate. **Agencies**

## Mexico urges US to tackle gun violence on border

MEXICO CITY

MEXICAN President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador on Monday urged US decision-makers to adopt effective policies to stop gun violence on both sides of the US-Mexican border.

Speaking at his daily press conference, Lopez Obrador called in particular on Texas Governor Greg Abbott and Florida Governor Ron DeSantis to pursue gun control and slow arms trafficking across the border.

"That is a good initiative to prevent these unfortunate murders, these shootings that are constantly taking place" in the United States, Lopez Obrador told reporters at the National Palace in Mexico City.

"Why don't they get involved in that and stop accepting money from weapons manufacturers, from the war industry, for their campaigns?" he asked rhetorically, adding that was one of the factors "behind" the problem.

Some politicians in the United States "don't say a word" about lax arms sales as they receive money from weapons manufacturers to finance their re-election campaigns, he said.

The Mexican government has filed lawsuits in the United States against manufacturers and distributors of weapons there, accusing them of negligent business practices that fuel gun violence in Mexico.

Mexican authorities have estimated that at least half a million firearms flow illegally from the United States to criminal groups in Mexico each year.

Xinhua



**Why don't they get involved in that and stop accepting money from weapons manufacturers, from the war industry, for their campaigns?**

## Sudanese army chief says open to initiative to alleviate citizens' suffering

KHARTOUM/ANKARA

ABDEL Fattah Al-Burhan, chairman of Sudan's Sovereign Council and commander-in-chief of the Sudanese Army, said yesterday that the Sudanese government is open to any initiative that may help relieve the suffering of the Sudanese people.

Al-Burhan (pictured) made the remarks yesterday during phone conversations with Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan and Azali Assou-

mani, president of the Union of the Comoros and chair of the African Union (AU), Sudan's Foreign Ministry said in a statement. "Al-Burhan expressed the Sudanese government's openness to any initiative that would help relieve the Sudanese people of the atrocities committed by the rebel Rapid Support Forces (RSF)," it said.

According to the statement, Assoumani underlined the importance of maintaining stability in Sudan and supporting

the ongoing talks in the Saudi city of Jeddah to stop the fighting and facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid.

Assoumani was quoted as saying that he would send a special envoy to Jeddah to help reach an agreement to end the conflict and restore stability in Sudan.

While expressing his concern over the increasing number of fatalities and injuries in the conflict between the Sudanese army and the paramili-



tary RSF, Erdogan offered to host peace talks, his office said in a statement.

Türkiye is "ready to host the talks if they decide to start comprehensive negotiations,"

the statement quoted Erdogan as saying.

Ankara will continue its contact with the United Nations to ensure that the urgent humanitarian needs of the Sudanese people are met, Erdogan added. Erdogan also discussed with Al-Burhan the evacuation and safety of Turkish citizens in Sudan, the statement said. Sudan has been witnessing deadly armed clashes between the Sudanese army and the RSF in the capital city of Khar-

toom and other areas since April 15, with the two sides accusing each other of initiating the conflict. According to UN statistics, thousands of Sudanese citizens have been displaced or forced to seek refuge in safe areas in Sudan and neighboring countries, including Egypt, Ethiopia and Chad. So far, the deadly clashes have left at least 550 people dead and 4,926 others wounded, according to the Sudanese health ministry.

Xinhua



## UN chief condemns looting of WFP facility in Sudan

UNITED NATIONS

UNITED Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres strongly condemned the looting of the main compound of the World Food Programme (WFP) in Khartoum, the capital of Sudan, over the weekend, a UN spokesman said on Monday.

"The secretary-general reiterates the need for parties to protect and respect humanitarian workers and facilities, including hospitals," Farhan Haq, deputy spokesperson for Guterres, said in a statement.

"Civilians and civilian infrastructure must be protected in order to save lives," he added. In the statement, Haq noted that the looting of the WFP compound was the latest violation of humanitarian facilities since the start of the crisis in Sudan, which is in its fourth week.

Most, if not all, UN agencies and its humanitarian partners have been impacted by large-scale looting, said Haq. Looters raided the main offices of the World Food Programme (WFP) in the Sudanese capital of Khartoum over the weekend, days after looting 17,000 metric tons of food from WFP warehouses in the country, a UN spokesman said on Monday.

Farhan Haq, the deputy spokesman for UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, said the UN chief strongly condemned the looting. "This is the latest violation of humanitarian facilities since the start of the crisis, which is in its fourth



week," Haq said. "Most, if not all, United Nations agencies and our humanitarian partners have been impacted by large-scale looting." Haq said the secretary-general reiterated his call to protect and respect humanitarian workers and facilities in order to save lives.

"The needs of the Sudanese people, who are caught up in a humanitarian catastrophe, must come first," the spokesman said. He said the latest looting involved office equipment and supplies, including laptops. No value was given.

The food looted from warehouses was valued at more than 13 million U.S. dollars. However, the spokesman said, the UN and its partners are working to expand humanitarian operations. "This includes efforts to move supplies into and around the country, as we respond to rapidly growing needs."

Haq said that in Blue Nile State, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and its partners are sup-

porting health and nutrition programs, including immunizations, screening and treatment for malnutrition, as well as pregnancy care and reproductive health services.

In North Darfur, he said humanitarian partners are supporting health facilities with medicine, water and other items.

Twenty healthcare facilities received water, sanitation and hygiene support, with at least 100,000 liters of water brought in by truck. The spokesman said that in Port Sudan, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Arab Emirates delivered 30 tons of medical supplies containing essential medicine and emergency surgical items to reach 165,000 people through 13 major health facilities. It is WHO's first air delivery to Sudan since the conflict erupted.

Officials authorized customs clearance for 80 tons of medical supplies offloaded in Port Sudan last week, he said.

The shipment includes intravenous fluids and supplies for treating traumatic injuries and severe acute malnutrition. "With more humanitarian shipments expected to arrive in Sudan in the coming days and weeks, we call for customs clearance to be expedited to ensure that life-saving assistance can reach people in need as quickly as possible," said Haq. He said WFP restarted its operations in Sudan last week to meet the needs of 384,000 pre-existing refugees, host communities and both pre-existing and newly internally displaced people across Gedaref, Gezira, Kassala and White Nile states.

Xinhua

## Gunmen in Nigeria kidnap 40 worshippers from church

KADUNA

GUNMEN abducted 40 people from a church in a remote village in northern Nigeria, a local Christian group said on Monday, in the latest attack against worshippers.

Armed gangs, known locally as bandits, have been abducting people from villages, schools and highways mostly in the northwest of the country, where government security is

thin. Reverend Joseph John Hayan, chairman of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) in Kaduna state, said the attack took place on Sunday when gunmen attacked worshippers during a service at Bege Baptist Church, in Madala village, in Chikun local government area.

Chikun is among two districts in Kaduna where ransom-seeking armed gangs are most active.

Hayan, however, said 15 of those kidnapped escaped from

their captors on Sunday night.

"We have not heard any contact for ransom or anything from them (gunmen) concerning the remaining people and we pray that the abductors would be merciful to release the remaining 25 back to their families," Hayan said.

A Kaduna police spokesperson did not respond to calls and messages to their mobile phone.

Agencies



In this file photo taken on Dec 16, 2020, shoes of the kidnapped students from Government Science Secondary School are seen inside their class room Kankara, Nigeria. (PHOTO / AP)

## Lawmakers back strict methane rules, EU set for tough talks

BRUSSELS

THE European Parliament voted yesterday in favour of rules that would force companies selling oil and gas in Europe to cut their methane emissions, setting itself up for tough negotiations with EU countries seeking weaker limits on the potent greenhouse gas.

Methane is the second-biggest cause of climate change, after carbon dioxide. In the short term, it is more potent than CO2, but

methane emissions leave the atmosphere more quickly - so rapid methane cuts can accelerate efforts to slow climate change.

The European Union will this year negotiate a law to cut methane emissions. In a vote on Tuesday, the EU Parliament said it would back rules requiring oil and gas companies in Europe to check their above-ground infrastructure every two-to-four months, and fix methane leaks they discover.

Lawmakers also backed rules,

originally proposed by the European Commission, to largely ban companies from "venting and flaring" methane - intentionally releasing or burning it.

"Routine venting and flaring of methane is irresponsible and fuels the global climate crisis," Jutta Paulus, Parliament's lead lawmaker on the rules, said.

The Parliament said the rules should also cover imported fossil fuels from 2026, by requiring importers of oil, gas and coal into

Europe to prove that their foreign suppliers comply.

That goes further than the Commission's original proposal, which did not target fuel imports.

The 27-country EU imports more than 80 percent of its gas. Most methane emissions associated with that consumption occur abroad. Satellite footage and infrared cameras have shown emissions of methane gushing out of fossil fuel companies' infrastructure, inside Europe and in coun-

tries from which it imports gas.

An attempt by some centre-right EU lawmakers to weaken the law, by making leak checks less frequent, failed to win majority support yesterday.

But the attempt reflected the view of some EU countries seeking weaker rules and concerns about the difficulty of implementing the rules are likely to resurface in upcoming negotiations between Parliament and EU countries on the final law.



**The Parliament said the rules should also cover imported fossil fuels from 2026, by requiring importers of oil, gas and coal into Europe to prove that their foreign suppliers comply**



# SPORT



Junior athletes battle it out in a recent race at Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium in Arusha. Tanzania Youth Athletics Championship (TAYAC) coordinated the race. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA YOUTH ATHLETICS CHAMPIONSHIPS

## Arusha to host 2023 Youth Athletics Championships

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

MORE than 300 junior athletes from several regions in Tanzania are expected to compete in a two-day Junior Athletics Championships slated for the end of this week at Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium in Arusha.

Tanzania Youth Athletics Championships (TAYAC) is the showdown's organizer, with the competition's winners in various categories set to be awarded medals and trophies.

Juliana Mwamsuva, one of TAYAC's directors, said all is set for the championships.

She said the championships have been divided into three age groups 6-8, 9-11, and 12-14.

She stated that the junior championships are aimed at promoting athletics in the country and the top three performers in each category will be awarded medals.

According to Juliana, there will moreover be a special award of a trophy presented to the top winner in each group.

The official also disclosed that the best-performing athletes will be selected for a special training program to be conducted by Arusha District athletics coaches that will cooperate with athletics coaches Patrick Mgoyo and Suleiman Nyambui.

Juliana pointed out: "This year's edition of Tanzania Junior Athletics Championships will be held this weekend, we expect more than 300 junior athletes to compete."

"This year we have athletes from Moshi, Manyara, and Rukwa and many more others from Arusha schools registering to compete, three winners in each age category will as well be awarded medals," the TAYAC boss revealed.

"The top winner in each group will be awarded a trophy, we will also select 15 to 20 best athletes for our six-month training program, the program will be conducted on weekends," she said.

The TAYAC director said the championships are sponsored by her organization and others sponsoring in kind and financially.

Recently Nyambui that is as well a reputed athletics administrator had, in a separate interview, stressed the need for the country to have more junior athletics events for it to realize its dream of having many top athletes.

Nyambui, former Athletics Tanzania (AT) Secretary-General, said all countries now doing well in athletics are investing in junior events.

"The best way for the country to produce top athletes who can compete in both local and

international events and bring home medals is to start from the grassroots," the official that was also Brunei's national athletics team's head coach in the past stated.

"We must organize many tournaments for the youths, the tournaments will help the juniors gain experience and exposure," he said.

Juliana disclosed: "TAYAC deals with organizing sports competitions in track and field at both local and regional levels, in the past three years we have been organizing athletes events for juniors of between 6-14 years."

The TAYAC boss added: "Most of the athletes who competed in the championships in the past three years are matured now, so, the coming event is aimed at welcoming them to another age group, we don't want to leave them behind."

According to the official, the organization believes that talented athletes should be nurtured at a tender age and the junior championships are a better platform for transition.

Juliana further noted TAYAC also aims to see that many junior athletes are graduating to the senior team so that they can represent the country in both local and international events.

She pointed out they always make follow up on talented athletes and offer some athletic coaching lessons.

TAYAC, Juliana noted, is pleased to see that some of the athletes who have been competing in the organization's events were selected to represent Arusha in the National Athletics Championships.

The organization, she pointed out, also has programs focusing on promoting youths' participation in sports, health development in youths, and increasing youths' access to health care.

Juliana said TAYAC further creates a market place for young athletes by introducing training sessions supervised by international coaches and clubs.

The organization, according to the TAYAC boss, provides the youth community with an opportunity to continue athletics professional training and expose youths' hidden talents to quality fields, coaching, and standard competitions.

The junior performers later participate in sports competitions, earn recognition, and garner awards for their talents.

The programs are also aimed at reducing of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) as chances of cardiovascular, respiratory, diabetes, and cancer are reduced.



Tanzanian athlete, Omari Maulid 'Pengo' (L), his German counterpart Florian Zittel are pictured engaging in training at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam yesterday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

## SPORTS

## Yanga boldly set their sights on achieving an unprecedented feat

By Correspondent Lloyd Elipokea

IT is a sad truism that football clubs in our country have never claimed even one much sought-after trophy on the no-holds-barred fiercely competitive continental football landscape in our history.

Despite this frustrating fact, though, local football aficionados are daring to dream this season of domestic juggernaut Yanga achieving unprecedented glory in continental football's second-tier competition, the CAF Confederation Cup.

Indeed, there are rock-solid grounds for our fans' optimism as this season, Yanga has fantastically advanced to the semi-finals of the 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup, which is a landmark achievement for the club.

Hopes are high on the home front that Yanga will progress to the final of the CAF Confederation Cup at the expense of South African outfit Marumo Gallants, who are the opponents of the Jangwani Street side in the semi-final, which will likely be an exciting and nail-biting two-legged affair.

Let us maintain this football theme, and mull over this year's eagerly expected FIFA Women's World Cup, which will be co-hosted by New Zealand and Australia.

Despite facing many nay-sayers and doubters in its early days, global women's football has indisputably grown and improved by leaps and bounds during the last couple of years.

Encouragingly, this fast-paced development of international women's football has also delightfully been witnessed on the continental women's football stage.

Indeed, gone are the days when the Super Falcons of Nigeria would easily hold sway over African women's football as last year's Women's Africa Cup of Nations (WAFCON) finals so clearly demonstrates.

With Nigeria being the hot favorites to maintain their long winning streak at the 2022 Women's Africa Cup of Nations finals in Morocco, the Banyana Banyana of South Africa brilliantly put paid to the Falcons' hopes by securing their first-ever title.

In the big picture, though, the teams which finished in the top four of the WAFCON finals all sealed their spots in this year's FIFA Women's World Cup.

And, these teams are to wit, South Africa, Morocco, Nigeria, and Zambia, who have taken admirable giant strides in women's football.

At this juncture, let us now examine the groups which our four African teams have



Tanzania's Yanga footballers, attacker Fiston Mayele (L), and keeper Djigui Diarra are pictured during their squad's training in Dar es Salaam last weekend, shaping up for a 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup semi-final first leg against South Africa's Marumo Gallants to be played in the city on Wednesday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

been drawn into at this year's FIFA Women's World Cup.

First off, Nigeria has been drawn into Group B alongside co-hosts Australia, the Republic of Ireland, and women's football powerhouse Canada.

Despite being no strangers to the ultra-demanding and intimidating arena of global women's football, Nigeria will likely have to contend with the jeers of a hostile home crowd when they face off against co-hosts Australia.

However, Nigeria on their day is a match for any team, so it is hoped that the Falcons will be able to produce a splendid display that will ultimately see them carry the day.

On paper, the Republic of Ireland ought to be an easy opponent for Nigeria to defeat as the European country has rarely achieved prominence in women's football in the past.

Nonetheless, it is expected that Canada will prove to be the toughest opponent for Nigeria in this group as the North American country has an established history of excellence in women's football.

Another African team, Zambia has been drawn into Group C along with Spain, Costa Rica, and erstwhile world champions, Japan.

Seeing as they will be making their debut in the prestigious FIFA Women's World Cup this year, one, unfortunately, feels that Zambia will face a difficult learning curve when confronting each of their Group C opponents.

As for the reigning African champions South Africa, they were drawn in Group G where they will be pitted against Sweden, Italy, and Argentina.

Indeed, considering their lengthy involvement in women's football, one strongly suspects that Sweden will pose the biggest headache for the ascendant Banyana Banyana of South Africa in this particular group.

And lastly, Morocco was drawn into Group H alongside Colombia, South Korea, and the greatly feared Germany.

One doesn't need to be a top-notch neurosurgeon to figure out that Germany will be the biggest obstacle for Morocco to overcome in this group.

Generally speaking, though, it is hoped that our African representatives will

stunningly put their best foot forward at this year's FIFA Women's World Cup, which will hopefully be a gloriously impeccable football spectacle.

## Marumo Gallants' head coach highlights threat posed by Yanga

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SOUTH Africa's Marumo Gallants' head coach Dylan Kerr has expressed wary over the offensive threat that the club's opponent, Yanga of Tanzania, possesses ahead of today's 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup semi-final first leg encounter between the two teams at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Marumo Gallants arrived in Dar es Salaam yesterday morning in search of their first CAF Confederation Cup semi-final victory over high-flying Yanga who are enjoying an impressive run in the competition.

Kerr, who previously coached Tanzania's other prominent outfit Simba SC, said he is aware of the presence of Congolese talisman, Fiston Mayele who has recorded over 20 goals this season in all competitions for Yanga.

Moreover, Kerr insisted that since this season's CAF Confederation Cup final will be played on a home-and-away basis, it could be embarrassing to miss the opportunity of playing at home if Marumo Gallants excel to reach the final.

Kerr disclosed: "Sometimes it's a good thing to know who your opponent is and who are the dangerous players to have the best way to deal with them."

The English coach noted: "Mayele is a threat, not only for us but also for any team in Africa. I have come for Marumo Gallants and our goal is to play in the final so we will be ready to face any, not only Mayele but also the whole team so that we can achieve our plan."

In the 16-team South African Premier Division, termed DStv Premiership,

Marumo Gallants are occupying 14th place with 29 points from 29 matches and are just three points above the bottom-placed Maritzburg United.

Though they seem to be struggling in the domestic league, Marumo Gallants have had an outstanding performance in the CAF Confederation Cup and are not a team to be underrated.

They topped the continental competition's Group A with 12 points from six games after registering four wins and two defeats.

Having led Simba SC in his tenure as a head coach Kerr said: "It's been a few years since I worked in Tanzania and East Africa, but my heart is still here, I have had friends that we still keep in touch with."

"We know we will meet a difficult match because that stadium is not an easy place to play, Simba SC and Young Africans (Yanga) have many fans," the tactician noted.

Heading into this duel, Yanga has cautioned the club's fans to avoid using fireworks and laser-pointing lights during the remaining CAF Confederation Cup matches to escape penalties imposed by CAF.

This comes shortly after CAF imposed 80m/- fine on the club as a penalty for its followers displaying fireworks and laser pointing lights during a 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup's quarterfinal rematch against Rivers United of Nigeria.

To reach here, Jangwani Street-based Yanga produced a 2-0 aggregate win over Rivers United which was enough to drive the former to the best-four category of the continental showpiece.

The Tanzanian club won 2-0 at Godswill Akpabio International Stadium in Nigeria with Mayele scoring a brace while the return leg encounter at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium ended goalless.

“

Mayele is a threat, not only for us but also for any team in Africa. I have come for Marumo Gallants and our goal is to play in the final so we will be ready to face any, not only Mayele but also the whole team so that we can achieve our plan



## Lakers rally past Warriors 104-101, take 3-1 series lead

LOS ANGELES

ALTHOUGH Lonnie Walker began the season as a starter for the Los Angeles Lakers, he got injured and slipped all the way out of their rotation after they transformed their roster at the trade deadline.

Walker didn't sulk or complain. He cheered from the bench. Worked even harder in practice. Waited for his chance to shine.

And when it arrived, the unsung pro with inextinguishable confidence outshot Stephen Curry in the fourth quarter of a playoff win that put his Lakers on the brink of an unlikely trip to the Western Conference finals.

"(It's) the greatest feeling you could ever imagine," Walker said with a smile. "As a kid, this is something I've been dreaming of."

Walker scored all of his 15 points in a phenomenal fourth quarter, and the Lakers rallied late to take a 3-1 second-round series lead with a 104-101 victory over the Golden State Warriors on Monday night.

LeBron James scored 27 points and Anthony Davis had 23 points and 15 rebounds for the seventh-seeded Lakers, who moved one win away from knocking off the champions with their eighth consecutive home victory since March.

Los Angeles overcame Curry's third career postseason triple-double down the stretch largely because of Walker, who has made a seismic impact in returning to the Lakers' rotation in this series. He went 6 for 9 in the fourth quarter, starting with a 3-pointer on the opening possession of the period to cut Golden State's lead to four points.

After sitting out Game 1, Walker contributed nine points in Game 2 and 12 more in Game 3. His emergence in this series is a shocker to most, but not to Walker or his teammates.

"I'm a scorer mentality first," Walker said. "I've got a lot of confidence in myself. I know what I'm capable of, and after a lot of sacrifice and a lot of time in the gym, the fruition finally came today."

Walker eventually hit the go-ahead jumper with 1:53 to play. Curry's layup with 1:05 left trimmed the Lakers' lead to one point, but Curry missed a long jumper and a 3-point attempt on Golden State's next possession before Walker made two free throws with 15 seconds left, and Los Angeles got one last defensive stop to seal it.

"We don't win this game tonight without Lonnie Walker, that's for sure," James said. "As hard as this game was, it's going to be even harder. We understand that. We know that."

## Messi scoops individual, team Laureus double, Fraser-Pryce honoured

PARIS

ARGENTINA and Paris Saint Germain veteran star Lionel Messi on Monday scooped a unique double, landing individual and team Laureus awards for his exploits and those of his World-Cup winning nation.

Messi, 35, finally landed a first World Cup winners medal in Qatar last December after a thrilling penalty shootout final win over France -- enough to earn him an individual accolade while the seven-time Ballon d'Or winner also accepted the team award at a prestigious Paris ceremony.

The Argentine, who attended the ceremony with wife Antonela Rocuzzo, previously had won the award jointly with British Formula One champion Lewis Hamilton in 2020.

The accolade saw Messi, who earned a fine and suspension from PSG for making an unauthorised promotional visit to Saudi Arabia, see off competition notably from clubmate Kylian Mbappé, whose World Cup final hat-trick was not enough to earn him glory in Qatar.

Jamaican sprinter Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce, who last August earned a fifth world 100m crown at Eugene, Oregon, picked up the fe-

Game 5 is Wednesday night in San Francisco.

Curry had 31 points, 10 rebounds and 14 assists in his 13th career triple-double for the sixth-seeded Warriors, who will have to overcome a 3-1 series deficit for only the second time in franchise history to continue their NBA title defense. Golden State also did it in the 2016 Western Conference finals.

"It feels like what it is: (a) 3-1 (deficit). You go home, take care of business, get a win, and the momentum is right back in your favor," coach Steve Kerr said. "That's all it is. ... The Lakers did a great job of holding serve here, so now we've got to go back and get a win at home and flip the momentum."

The Warriors led by 12 late in the third quarter, but the Lakers chased down the champs and finished them with Walker leading the way in front of even James and Davis, who hugged Walker after the buzzer.

"The kid is a beautiful kid," Lakers coach Darvin Ham said. "He fell out of the rotation through no fault of his own, but he remained professional. He remained high-spirited, positive, and really kept working on his game every day, especially in these playoffs. When your mind is in the right place, your body follows."

Gary Payton II scored a season-high 15 points in his first start of the season for Golden State, but Klay Thompson had his second straight quiet game in Los Angeles, scoring nine points in 41 minutes. Andrew Wiggins added 17 points for the Warriors, who made just 25 combined 3-pointers in their two games in Los Angeles after making 21 apiece in the first two games in San Francisco.

"We're still positive," Payton said. "We know we have them down the line. We've just got to make one more run late, and you just create that space and opportunity."

Kerr switched to a three-guard starting lineup to affect the Los Angeles defense that held the Warriors to 97 points in Game 3, and the changes largely worked: Davis, who blocked 11 shots in the first three games, wasn't able to protect the rim with the same ferocity when his defensive matchups required him to go out to the perimeter, and the Warriors capitalized with 52 points in the paint.

The Lakers compensated: They made all 20 of their free throws, and Austin Reaves added 21 points.

But they won with a gritty, timely effort by Walker, who picked up the Lakers' slack when D'Angelo Russell scored just four points on 1-for-10 shooting after a strong performance in Game 3.

male athlete award while US Open tennis champion Carlos Alcaraz earned the World Breakthrough of the Year award.

Going back to football, Denmark and Manchester United star Christian Eriksen earned a Comeback Award for returning to the top of the European game after collapsing with cardiac arrest during the Euros two years ago.

Swiss para-athlete sensation Catherine Debrunner meanwhile picked up the Disability Award after triumphing in her opening two marathons

The Sport for Good Award was presented to TeamUp -- a programme for children displaced by war -- by Barcelona and Poland star Robert Lewandowski.

Meanwhile, Chinese-American Olympic ski freestyle champion Eileen Gu won the World Action Sports person accolade.

The awards have been made annually since 2000 by a jury comprising 71 members of the Laureus World Sports Academy, representing the past 50 years of athletic excellence.

This year's ceremony following two virtual editions owing to Covid restrictions.

AFP

## CAF Confederation Cup semi-finals: Five things to know

JOHANNESBURG

A NEW name will be engraved on the CAF Confederation Cup trophy this season as the Moroccan near monopoly of the competition comes to an end.

In the semi-final first legs today, Young Africans of Tanzania host Marumo Gallants of South Africa and ASEC Mimosas of the Ivory Coast entertain USM Alger of Algeria.

The line-up contains several surprise qualifiers and is unusual in that the dominant region in African club football -- the north -- has only one representative.

Moroccan clubs Raja Casablanca and Renaissance Berkane each won two of the previous five finals with Egyptian outfit Zamalek the other side to win the African equivalent of the Europa League.

AFP Sport introduces some of the stars who could play key roles in deciding which teams advance to the final.

### \*Menacing Mayele

Young Africans forward Fiston Mayele has scored 12 goals this season in the two CAF club competitions -- the Champions League and Confederation Cup.

A 28-year-old from the Democratic Republic of Congo, he bagged seven goals in the Champions League, including two hat-tricks.

When the Dar es Salaam outfit were demoted to the Confederation Cup, he continued to torment rivals, scoring the two goals that eliminated Rivers United of Nigeria in the last round.

### \*Red-hot Chivaviro

Ranga Chivaviro of Marumo is the joint leading scorer in the Confederation Cup with six goals, and will appreciate the hot weather forecast for the first leg against



USM Alger star Aymen Mahious (R) playing for Algeria against Senegal in the African Nations Championship final. (Agencies)

Young Africans.

"I spent six months playing for a club in Kosovo two years ago and could not get used to the cold conditions," said the 30-year-old.

His quarter-final first-leg header against Pyramids in Egypt earned Gallants an unexpected draw, and a solitary goal gave the South Africans victory in the return match.

### \*Twin threats

It is 24 years since ASEC last experienced African glory by defeating Tunisian giants Esperance to lift the CAF Super Cup one season after winning the CAF Champions League.

Now, the goals of Aubin Kramo and Pacome Zouzoua have brought the Abidjan outfit to the brink of another final appearance.

Kramo has netted four times and Zouzoua on three occasions as ASEC hope to become the third west African winners of the competition after Hearts of Oak from Ghana and Stade Malien of Mali.

### \*Beware Mahious

Sharpshooter Aymen Mahious experienced heartbreak this year as hosts Algeria lost a penalty shootout against Senegal in the African Nations Championship (CHAN) final.

He was one of the stand-out players in the tournament for home-based stars, scoring the only goal in each of three group victories and winning the Golden Boot with five goals.

Mahious has proven equally threatening in the Confederation Cup by netting three times -- one of four USM players to achieve that feat in the African campaign.

### \*History seekers

Young Africans, Marumo, ASEC and USM are carrying the hopes of four countries who have never lifted the Confederation Cup since its introduction in 2004.

South African clubs Orlando Pirates (twice) and SuperSport United have lost finals while a similar fate befell Algerian trio Entente Setif, Mouloudia Bejaia and JS Kabylie.

Sewe Sport were the only finalists from the Ivory Coast, losing to Egyptian giants Al Ahly in 2014, while Young Africans are the first Tanzanian side to get beyond the quarter-finals.

## Champions League derby days decisive for Milan and Inter

MILAN

MILAN is gearing up for its biggest local derby in a generation as two of Europe's grand old clubs face off today in a blockbuster Champions League semi-final.

Two clashes full of colour, noise and drama await in one of the continent's football capitals, AC Milan and Inter Milan battling at the San Siro for the chance to take the Italian city's European trophy tally to 22.

Milan and Inter are no longer true giants like the other semi-final's contenders Real Madrid and Manchester City but today's match will be unbeatable for atmosphere and played in one of football's most evocative arenas.

"The atmosphere at the stadium is incredible... Everyone here is a fan, men and women alike. The pressure is there all the time," said AC Milan defender Pierre Kalulu in an interview with AFP.

"When you first arrive here you don't feel all that involved, but after a while you begin to feel that passion. You can feel that it's a match which can change your season."

"You kind of go back to being a kid scoring a goal in the playground. You put all that in the Champions League and I can't imagine what these matches will be like."

Both teams' seasons hinge of the result of the all-Italian tie, with qualification for next year's competition far from certain thanks to disappointing league campaigns which left last season's main Serie A title challengers miles behind newly-crowned champions Napoli.

Inter, though, come into the match in blistering form and with a previously misfiring attack suddenly banging in the goals left and right.

Simone Inzaghi's side have won five on the bounce, scoring 14 times in that run. Of those goals 10 have been scored by the forwards, with Romelu Lukaku in particular suddenly finding some form towards the end of what has been a largely dismal return on loan from Chelsea.

Since the start of April Lukaku has scored five times and set up four more in all competitions, and his well-taken goal in Saturday's 2-0



San Siro Stadium

win at Roma was the latest sign the Belgium striker might be getting back to his best.

- Electricity -

Lukaku wants to stay at Inter but there is little chance that his loan will be extended beyond the end of a season which could end with them crowned European champions or not even in the competition

"The most important thing is Inter. All I can focus on is helping the team," said Lukaku.

Strike partner Lautaro Martinez has netted six times in as many appearances and set up three after breaking a worrying eight-match scoring drought and even Edin Dzeko is back in the goals after not scoring since January.

Milan meanwhile are sweating on the fitness of Rafael Leao, who in recent weeks has shown just how important he is to Stefano Pioli's attack but picked up a thigh injury in the weekend's win over Lazio.

Of the eight matches this season which Leao has either missed through injury or not started, Milan have won only one.

The Portugal winger has started every single one of Milan's 10 continental matches and was crucial to their getting past newly-crowned Italian champions Napoli in the last eight.

Leao played the crucial pass for both Milan's goals in the tie and his

burst downfield for Olivier Giroud's decisive tap-in in Naples exemplified the difference he brings to the team when he's in the mood.

Without him Milan's chances against an in-form Inter will diminish as the left flank, with Theo Hernandez, is such an important part of the way the team attack.

"We need to enjoy everything that will surround us up until the minute before kick-off, then we need to unload everything we have," said Pioli at the weekend.

"Inter are in great form right now, and they're a great team. I don't think we're favourites but it doesn't matter, we're in good shape."

"We're in a Champions League semi-final, for almost all of us it's the first time. We need to feel the electricity, the excitement of the occasion."

## Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

## CAF Confederation Cup

### semi-finals: Five things to know

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Skippers of outfits that are set to take part in this season's Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup tournament and representatives of the show-down's sponsors are pictured during the showdown's launch at a restaurant in Dar es Salaam on Sunday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF CARAVANS CRICKET CLUB

## Dar cricketers set for 2023 Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup tourney

By Guardian Reporter

CARAVANS Cricket Club has officially launched the squad's highly anticipated tournament, termed Petrofuel DC Caravans T20

Cup, with an exciting inaugural function and captains meet held at the Akemi Restaurant in Dar es Salaam on Sunday.

The tournament is considered the biggest in the country, fielding the top 10 teams tak-

ing on each other to find out the best amongst the rest.

Caravans Cricket Club has been conducting its Anniversary tournament since 2009, and this edition is the club's 15th in succession.

Last weekend's event was well-attended by the sponsors, franchises, and captains of all participating teams who were introduced to each other and had the opportunity to discuss the tournament's rules and regulations.

This season's Caravans T20 Cup tournament promises to be an action-packed event, featuring a T20 format as per ICC guidelines, and culminating in the grand finale.

The winner of the 10-team showdown will take home the coveted Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup silverware, which was on full display at the venue.

Speaking at the function, Caravans Cricket Club's Chairman expressed his excitement for the tournament, stating that it was a great opportunity for his club to promote the sport and bring together the cricketing community in Tanzania.

He also unveiled the mascot of the tournament, a Giraffe, one of the most treasured animals in Tanzania.

He went on to mention that the mascot was chosen to spread awareness of wildlife conservation.

The inaugural function also saw the unveiling of the tournament's trophy which was designed to reflect the spirit and competitiveness of the event, by the title sponsor, Petrofuel.

Special jerseys presented to the showpiece's title sponsor - Petrofuel and Platinum category sponsors - Alliance Insurance, TATA Holdings, Colourflex, RAS Logistics, Rickshaw Travels, and ASAS Pepsi- were also displayed and handed over to their respective representatives.

The 10 franchises of the tournament were also unveiled at the function. The teams contesting in this year's Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup tournament are Alliance Caravans, Aurobindo Aga Khan SC, Jiuzhou Gymkhana, Remax Strikers, and E-Parking Aces.

Flashnet Pak Stars, Azania Bank Upanga Club, All Season Lions, Ateme SKLPSC, and RAS Logistics Caravans are the other sides.

All captains of the respective teams were called onto the stage and their official jerseys were unveiled during the function.

Hisense, Autotark, Aucom & Harmonic, Oman Air, General Petroleum, Ashton Media Honeywell, Horizon Teleports, and Car & General are part of the Gold sponsors for the tournament, besides several other corporates and institutions coming forward to support the prestigious Tournament. With the tournament set to commence in the coming days, cricket enthusiasts in the city and remaining areas in Tanzania can look forward to a thrilling display of cricketing talent and sportsmanship.

The showdown's organizers appealed to the cricket community to stay tuned for more updates on the 2023 Petrofuel DC Caravans T20 Cup, as the action unfolds on the cricket field from May 13 until July this year.

## Pazi trounces Ukonga Kings in 2023 RBA League opener

By Guardian Correspondent

DAR ES SALAAM Regional Basketball Association (RBA) League defending champions, Pazi, opened its campaign in this season's tournament in grand fashion following the club's 90-62 win over Ukonga Kings at Don Bosco Oysterbay courts last weekend.

Pazi dominated the open exchanges and ended the opening quarter with a 27-10 lead.

The second quarter of the clash turned out to be quite thrilling, with the squads attacking each other and was level 21-21 at the end of the quarter, leaving Pazi leading 48-31.

Ukonga Kings mostly made up of youthful ballers from the second-string squad, Ukonga Warriors, managed to Pazi slow down in the third quarter, which ended with Pazi leading 22-8.

In the fourth quarter, Ukonga Kings' ballers played their hearts out seeking to tame Pazi, the latter nevertheless were still in control because of their pacy approach. The period culminated with Pazi commanding 23-20.

Ally Mwenda Pazi notched a game-high 31 points, out of which eight were three-point shots, and fellow baller Denis Chibura chipped in with 18 points.

Ukonga Kings' baller, Sisco George, had a good game notching 21 points, followed by Stanley Mtongoa who scored 14 points.

In another fixture played at the same venue, DB Oratory commanded a 57-41 win over Jogoo in a game that was equally pacy and exciting.

The tie saw DB Oratory stay in control of the proceedings to lead 14-5 in the first quarter, they were 17-20 down in the second period, before bouncing back in the third quarter to notch a 20-8 lead, the other period ended with the club falling short with 6-7 outcome.

Saika Seka of DB Oratory led by scoring 14 points followed by Yang Ogweni and Isaiah William who scored 11 points and 10 points.

Jogoo's baller Pius Albert recorded 11 points for his outfit, followed by Ayub Majid who scored 10 points.

In the league's women's category, Pazi Queens came out victorious in a match against City Queens in a pulsating clash.

Pazi Queens started impressively and led 14-13 in the first quarter, they were thereafter 10-8 ahead, they were later outplayed to end the third quarter 7-16 but bounced back to command a 16-8 lead in the fourth.

Maria Alex of Pazi Queens posted 19 points followed by Zinduna Mposi who scored eight points, and Jaqueline Sendi recorded 18 points for City Queens.

## Yanga eyes first-leg advantage against Marumo Gallants in 2022/23 CAF CC semis



Tanzania's Yanga head coach, Nasreddine Nabi (L), and the outfit's shot stopper, Metacha Mnata, speak to reporters in Dar es Salaam yesterday at a pre-match conference of a 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup semi-final clash against South Africa's Marumo Gallants slated to take place in the city later in the afternoon. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA'S Young Africans SC will set their sights on making home ground advantage count when they host South Africa's Marumo Gallants in a 2022/23 CAF Confederation Cup first-leg semi-final match at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam in the afternoon, with kick-off slated for 4 pm.

Young Africans, alias Yanga, booked their spot in the final four of this season's competition with a 2-0 aggregate win over Nigeria's Rivers United.

The Tanzanian giants were held goalless at home but had done enough in the first leg to schedule their first-ever continental semi-final appearance.

Nasreddine Nabi-coached Yanga are undefeated at home in this year's competition having recorded three wins and one draw in Dar es Salaam.

Piston Mayele and Kennedy Musonda have both netted for Yanga in the tournament and they will look to inspire their team to another victory.

Meanwhile, Marumo Gallants

continued their dream run in the competition after edging out 2019/20 finalists, Egypt's Pyramids FC 1-0.

The South African team went through 2-1 on aggregate having played to a 1-1 draw in the first leg in Cairo last weekend. Even then, Pyramids FC had to score a last-minute penalty to tie the game.

Despite their fairytale run in the CAF Confederation Cup, Marumo Gallants will go into this match as underdogs on the back of a difficult domestic season in which they are in danger of being relegated.

The club is positioned 14th in the South African Premier Division, termed Dstv Premiership, with 29 points - just three points above bottom-placed Maritzburg United and with the same points as Chippa United who occupy the play-off spot.

Crucially, however, Chippa United and Maritzburg United both now have a game in hand on Marumo Gallants.

Dylan Kerr-coached Marumo Gallants have recorded five wins, two defeats, and one draw in the CAF Confederation Cup, scoring 14 goals while conceding 11, with six clean sheets coming along the way.

In a pre-match press conference yesterday, Marumo Gallants' assistant coach Raymond Mdaka said they are taking one game at a time and so did not make special preparation to face Yanga.

Mdaka disclosed: "We are taking one game

at a time, we didn't have special preparation for this game. We know Yanga has been doing well in this competition but we are ready for the challenge."

Marumo Gallants will derive inspiration from 30-year-old striker Ranga Chivaviro who has scored 15 goals in all competitions including five for the team in the CAF Confederation Cup.

Yanga will have their work cut out to prevent Chivaviro from adding their name to the list of teams he has scored against this season.

Lucky Mohomi, is another player Marumo Gallants will hope he brings his A game in the semi-final clash.

The 30-year-old midfielder has been central to Marumo Gallants' resurgence under Kerr, playing almost every minute of the last nine games and pulling the strings in the middle of the park.

*Fiston Mayele and Kennedy Musonda have both netted for Yanga in the tournament and they will look to inspire their team to another victory*

## Flexibles by David Chikoko



**EATV WEDNESDAY**

**TO NIGHT @ 9:00**

**UJENZI**

11:00 DADAZ  
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA  
13:00 MJADALA (r)  
13:30 Movie  
13:55 Dondoo Za Michezo  
14:00 Movie  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 Mpera Mpera  
15:55 Dondoo Za Michezo  
16:00 Hot Spot  
16:30 Zote Kuntu  
17:00 SSELEKT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 Kali Za Wana  
18:30 #HASHTAG  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
20:00 DADAZ (r)  
21:00 UJENZI  
21:30 Mid Week Movie  
23:00 KURASA  
23:05 Club Bangers

UJENZI provides information and ideas on residential construction, interior decor and residential appliance markets values. The show aims to enhance residential construction. It provides free expert advice, news and commentary.

**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

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