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President Samia Suluhu Hassan receives a dummy cheque for 153,917,950,278.75/- from Tanzania Ports Authority director general Plasduce Mbossa in the agency's dividends to the government at an event held at State House in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: State House

Registrar hands Samia 637bn/- total dividends, govt unsatisfied

By Henry Mwangonde

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan yesterday called for further reforms to enhance profitability in government investments in commercial and regulatory institutions.

The president made the call in Dar es Salaam yesterday when receiving 637bn/-, consolidated dividends from 145 institutions, where 278bn/- was contributed by business entities and 358bn/- from regulatory institutions.

Institutions yielding dividends are those in which the government has minority shareholding, she said, asserting that as the country heads towards graduating from Least Developed Countries (LCDs) status, "it is vital to strengthen local entities to guarantee self-reliance."

The government is committed to strengthening the economy by improving the environment for doing business to ensure that businesses flourish and grow, she stated, elaborating that this will have some results in external financing.

There are some loans which will no longer be given as we shall not be a poor country, she said, underlining the need to strengthen local institutions to back up growth efforts.

The government seeks to raise the contribution of about 50 companies in their non-tax revenue to 10 percent in the next five years, she said, explaining that the companies must improve in their contributions and pull up those that have not been contributing to dividends for various reasons.

"We want the government to receive sufficient dividends and bolster its fund

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Samia, Odinga console Malawi on VP's death

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan yesterday joined world leaders in sending condolences to the people of Malawi following the tragic plane crash claiming the life of Vice President Dr Saulos Klaus Chilima and nine others.

A State House statement said yesterday that the president cabled Malawi President Lazarus Chakwera, to convey deepest condolences to himself, the people of Malawi as well as family and friends.

Ex-Kenyan premier Raila Odinga said on X that the whole of Africa joins Malawi in mourning the country's vice president, while South Africa's Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) joined in mourning with the people of Malawi, in a statement placed on social media.

Cheikh Mohamed Ahmed Ould Ghazouani, current chairman of the African Union (AU) and president of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania said in his condolence message that the AU is in strong solidarity with President Lazarus, the government and people of Malawi.

VP Chilima died on Monday along with nine others on board a Malawi military aircraft, on the way to the northern city of Mzuzu for the burial of a former cabinet

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CSOs seeking civic polls, general elections merger

This includes drafting new laws to govern local government elections and NEC structures, removing the use of district executive directors (DEDs) in polls supervision

By Gertrude Mbago

POLITICAL stakeholders have appealed to the government to amend current election laws to merge local government and general elections.

Bob Wangwe, executive director of the Tanzania Constitution Forum (TCF) issued this appeal at a media engagement event on perceived loopholes in election laws.

The event on Monday was part of a civic education project conducted by the Foundation for Civil Society (FCS), intended to enhance the capacity of civil society organisations (CSOs) and the wider public in electoral participation.

Participants are looking at democratic governance processes, along with the perennial issue of constitutional review and the national reconciliation process, he stated.

He said that even with current government efforts to review various laws to strengthen democracy, there were still some loopholes to be addressed in election laws to streamline the process.

Merging the two poll events is pegged on the view that conducting the two elections separately incurs the country unnecessary costs that can be rescued by merging them.

Improvements are needed in the Local Government Elections Act No.1 of 2024, the National Electoral Commission (NEC) Act No 2 of 2024 and the Political Parties Affairs Laws (Amendment) Act No. 3 of 2024 to further promote democracy and justice, the director noted.

Maintaining the use of public servants in election activities is inappropriate and may affect trust in the process and results

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SPORTS

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Biashara United, Tabora United set for tight first leg playoffs final

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Researchers closing in on snakes, reptiles in Ruaha

Ruaha is notably home to an estimated 15,000 giant elephants, over 20,000 buffaloes, 575 bird species and more than 300 ostriches, hosting prides of rather big lions

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Iringa

RUAHA National Park is setting out to conduct the first dedicated research on snakes.

Marcy Farreny Rwezoula, a senior conservation officer for Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA), said the study is intended to determine the variety of species and specific behaviours of the slithering reptiles in that part of the country.

Once completed, it will probably be the first serious study on snakes to be conducted in the country's parks and perhaps in the East Africa region, she said.

Most people have a horror for snakes but there is large number of local and foreign visitors who want to see snakes, one such vicinity being the snake park at Meserani, near Arusha city.

Thousands of visitors turn up at the Nairobi snake park in neighbouring Kenya, she said.

Gasper Kahabi, a conservation officer with the park, said that diversifying tourism products in the park will help widen the cast of visitors at Ruaha boost their numbers, he said.

Ruaha is second to the Selous-Nyerere national park and ecosystem, mapped within 20,000 square kilometers, with up to 70 percent of its area yet to be fully explored, he said.

It is home to some 15 species of reptiles, including oversized crocodiles and a va-

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Another surprise? Europe's biggest soccer show to begin in Germany and as usual it's unpredictable

CSOs seeking civic polls, general elections merger

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in general, he said, noting that despite acute changes to create an Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), the changes are not seen as structure and processes were still the same.

He said holding free and fair elections presuppose fulfilment of specific conditions including the presence of appropriate election supervision organs.

Stakeholders also demanded that presidential election results be challenged in court to promote transparency and democracy.

Dr Ananilea Nkya, the TCF chairperson, said that the new election laws need to be amended to protect aspirants from disqualification due to presumed administrative errors.

Electoral bodies in Kenya and South Africa are mandated in law to

help aspirants in filling the forms to avoid administrative errors, say in filling birth dates, she said, noting that it is high time the government improved election laws.

This includes drafting new laws to govern local government elections and NEC structures, removing the use of district executive directors (DEDS) in polls supervision.

Rosemary Mwakitwange, a human rights activist and administrator, urged media practitioners to play their roles like educating the public on elections and the right to participate in civic processes.

"Citizens play an active role and are a key ingredient of our democracy," she stated, urging the pursuit of initiatives to promote freedom of expression, access to information, freedom of assembly and greater civic engagement.

Researchers closing in on snakes, reptiles in Ruaha

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riety of snakes now being studied, including Boomslang snake, a tree dwelling variety of green mamba, whose venom causes blood to come running out of every pore in the body.

A researchers' lobby, 'Save the Snake' says in a report that there are more than 420 species of reptiles in East Africa, with snakes seen as endemic, especially those slithering in the Eastern Arc Mountains, notably in Morogoro Region.

These include the black mamba, cobra and puff adder, with zoologists pointing out that there are few studies done on snakes in East Africa, an authoritative paper on common snakes in Tanzania post-

humously published in 1975.

The study was conducted by Desmond Foster Vesey-FitzGerald, a scientific officer for national parks at the time of independence, while in 1991 scientists Donald Bradley and Kim Howell published the 'Checklist of Reptiles in Tanzania.'

The purpose was to build biogeographical and macro-ecological relationships of the East African herpeto-fauna, with no detailed survey of snake fauna carried out since then.

Ruaha is notably home to an estimated 15,000 giant elephants, over 20,000 buffaloes, 575 bird species and more than 300 ostriches, hosting prides of rather big lions, he added.

Samia, Odinga console Malawi for VP's death

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minister, media outlets noted. Early reports said that the aircraft went 'off radar' after it left Lilongwe, having been warned not to land at Mzuzu on account of rough weather on Monday morning.

It appeared the plane was negotiating its way out of a weather mess, then crashed on mountains near the northern city, with efforts by aviation authorities to make contact with the aircraft hitting a wall of silence.

Colleen Zamba, secretary to the cabinet, said that the plane left Lilongwe, the capital, at 9:17am, failing to make its scheduled landing at the Mzuzu International Airport at 10:02am.

After a frantic search for the plane, remains of the crashed 1

plane were found on the nearby mountains with no possible survivors, its most important passenger being VP Chilima, born on February 12, 1973.

He was first sworn in as VP on May 30, 2014, ran for president and lost in the following general elections, then joined Chakwera as running mate for the last polls, thus on June 28, 2020 he took oath as VP.

Reports say he came from the private sector as CEO of Airtel Malawi, the leading mobile telecommunications company in the southern African country. Earlier he was a senior sales marketing official in the banking sector and in a number of companies like the Leasing and Finance Co., Unilever Malawi, Coca-Cola and Carlsberg. He leaves behind a widow and two children.

South Africa's National Assembly set to hold first sitting on June 14

JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH Africa's National Assembly will hold its first sitting Friday to elect the speaker, deputy speaker and the president of the country for the next five years, Chief Justice Raymond Zondo said Monday.

This follows the country's 2024 general elections on May 29 where members of the National Assembly and provincial legislatures were elected. The law requires the first sitting of the National Assembly to take place within 14 days after the announcement of the election results.

"Chief Justice Zondo has determined that the first sitting of the National Assembly shall be on Friday," said a statement issued by the Office of Chief Justice. "During the first sitting of parliament, the chief justice will administer the prescribed oath or affirmation, as the case may be, to members of the National Assembly."

According to the statement, after legislators are sworn in, Zondo will preside over the election of the speaker of the National Assembly, who will then preside over the election of the deputy speaker.

"After the deputy speaker is elected, the chief justice will then take

over again and preside over the election of the president," said the statement.

As far as the National Council of Provinces (NCOP), or the upper house of the parliament, is concerned, the chief justice has determined that its first sitting will be held Saturday.

"The chief justice will swear in, and administer the prescribed affirmation to members of the NCOP and thereafter preside over the election of the chairperson of the NCOP. Thereafter, the chairperson of the NCOP will preside over the election of the deputy chairperson of the NCOP," the statement said.

Zondo has also designated judges-president in the provinces of the country to determine the first sittings of the provincial legislatures in their respective provinces.

On June 2, the Electoral Commission of South Africa (IEC) announced the final results of the 2024 national and provincial elections. The IEC then handed over the lists of the members of parliament and members of provincial legislatures to Zondo who, in turn, handed them to the secretary of parliament in preparation for the first sitting of the National Assembly.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa has a word with Gairo constituency legislator Ahmed Shabiby (R) at Parliament grounds in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: PMO

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to enable it to implement development projects and improve social welfare," she said, pointing out that the 50 companies contribute about three percent of the government's non-tax revenue standing at about 3.5trn/-.

Heads of entities failing to give dividends and those which delivered dividends below the required level "need to ensure they do better before the end of this year," she said.

Those giving dividends yesterday included the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA), Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA), Tanzania Forest Service Agency (TFS), the Ngorongoro Conserva-

Registrar hands Samia 637bn/- total dividends, govt unsatisfied

tion Area Authority (NCAA), NMB Bank, Airtel (T), Twiga Minerals and UTT AMIS.

UTT AMIS contributed upwards of 2bn/-, a leap from its previous contribution of 700m/-, she stated.

TPA director general Plasduce Mbossa handed over a dummy cheque for 153bn/-, while NMB Bank's dividend cheque posted 57.4bn/-, with experts pointing at the correlation between the macroeconomic environment and the

bank's financial successes.

Ruth Zaipuna, the NMB Bank CEO said that growth in the government dividend reflects strides in a thriving economy, in which case the bank posted strong financial performance in its sustained efforts to foster economic growth.

Treasury Registrar Nehemia Mchechu said in his remarks that the office has designed a procedure where all entities where the government holds shares will be deliv-

ering dividends at the same time.

The Registrar's office had embarked on training board chairmen for public institutions in collaboration with the Uongozi Institute "to nurture their skills for proper management of the companies," he said.

Positive change was noticed in the process of carrying out reforms in public institutions. Leading to increased government shares in some companies, he added.



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi pictured in Zanzibar yesterday opening a conference on the 60th anniversary of the January 12 Zanzibar Revolution and of the April 26 Union of Tanganyika and Zanzibar. Photo: State House

Forty-nine die after boat capsizes off Yemen - IOM

SANA'A

AT least 49 people from the Horn of Africa have died after their boat capsized off the coast of Yemen, according to the UN's International Organization for Migration (IOM).

Among the dead were six children and 31 women. Survivors told rescuers that the vessel, carrying 260 migrants, sank on Monday in strong winds.

The search continues for 140 people who are still missing.

The boat left Somalia at 03:00 (01:00 BST) on Sunday carrying 115 Somali nationals and 145 Ethiopians, part of a recent rise in migration from the Horn of Africa to Yem-

en, according to the IOM.

Local authorities in Rudum, east of Aden, said that those on board were migrants who use Yemen as a transit point to reach Gulf States.

According to the IOM, tens of thousands of people a year attempt the journey, crossing by sea from the Horn of Africa to Yemen and then travelling on to Saudi Arabia or other wealthier nations.

Hadi al-Khurma, the director of Rudum district told Reuters news agency the boat sank before it reached the shore.

Fishermen and residents managed to rescue survivors, who reported that more migrants were missing from the same boat. Mr al-

Khurma said.

"The search is still ongoing and the United Nations has been informed of the incident," he said.

The IOM said the ongoing search and rescue operation has been challenged by a shortage of operational patrol boats.

It said it was providing aid to 71 survivors, including six children, with eight migrants referred to hospital.

In a statement on Tuesday, IOM spokesman Mohammedali Abunajela said, "this recent tragedy is another reminder of the urgent need to work together to address urgent migration challenges."

According to the UN, 97,000 mi-

grants arrived in Yemen from the Horn of Africa last year. They are motivated by political and economic instability, droughts and other extreme weather events in their own countries, the organisation said.

The number of migrants arriving to Yemen annually has tripled from around 27,000 in 2021 to more than 90,000 in 2023, the IOM said. The increase has occurred despite the war in Yemen and recent Houthi assaults on ships in the Red Sea.

The journey is perilous: Since 2014, the IOM has recorded 1,860 migrant deaths and disappearances along the route from East Africa and the Horn of Africa to the Gulf, including 480 people who drowned.



Legal Services Facility board chairperson Beng'i Issa (L) accompanied by executive director Lulu Ng'wanakilala (3rd-L) when presenting a token of appreciation to Denmark's Ambassador to Tanzania, Mette Dissing-Spandet (2nd-L), in Dar es Salaam yesterday in recognition of Danish contribution to the achievements LSF's programme on justice has made in the last 12 years. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

LATRA publicises SGR train ticket prices ahead of rides due next month

By **Getrude Mbago**

THE Land Transport Regulatory Authority (LATRA) has announced new ticket prices for the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) train from Dar es Salaam to Makutupora in Dodoma.

The transport which is set to commence operations next month will see passengers paying fares ranging from 1,000/- to 37,000/- for those aged over 12 years, as well as between 500/- and 18,500/- for children aged between four and 12 years.

According to a statement released on Monday evening by Salum Pazy, Head of Public Relations and Communications Department at LATRA, the fares have been set according to a decision made by the authority's board of directors after reviewing requests by stakeholders, including Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC).

Pazy said that for the journey from Dar es Salaam to Morogoro spanning 192 kilometres, the fare is set at 13,000/- for adults and 31,000/- from Dar es Salaam to Dodoma in standard class.

"Passengers travelling from Dar es Salaam to Ruvu in Coast Region will be charged 5,000/-, Dar es Salaam to Ngerengere in Morogoro will pay 9000/-, Dar es Salaam to Mkata (Coast) will be 16000/-, Dar es Salaam to Kilosa (Morogoro) is 18,000/-, Dar es Salaam to Kidete (Morogoro) will be 27000/- and Dar es Salaam to Bahi (Dodoma) 27,000/-," he said.

He said the rates apply to adults while children aged from four to 12 will pay half the adult fare and a child under the age of four will not be charged.

The official said that the new rates are designed to ensure affordability while maintaining financial sustainability of the railway operations.

The fare structure takes into account the quality of service and the significant investment made in the SGR project, which represents a major step forward in modernizing Tanzania's transportation

infrastructure.

LATRA and TRC work to ensure that all systems are in place to facilitate a smooth start. This includes finalising the infrastructure, testing the trains and setting up ticketing systems to handle the expected demand.

According to the Ministry of Transport, initial operations of the electric train from Dar es Salaam to Morogoro and later to Dodoma are expected to kick off 14 June ahead of the official rides on July 25.

Implementation of the SGR is expected to not only improve passenger travel but also enhance transportation of goods across the country, thereby reducing costs and improving efficiency in the logistics sector. This aligns with Tanzania's broader economic goals of fostering regional integration and boosting trade within East African Community.



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'Build warehouses to popularise soya growing in Chunya District'

By **Guardian Correspondent, Chunya**

PARTICIPANTS of a short course on modern technologies in growing and marketing soya which ended here on Monday asked the government to build warehouses in Chunya District, Mbeya Region, to promote cultivation of the crop.

A declaration adopted at the end of the course said the lack of grain warehouses in the district serves the interests of middlemen instead

of those of the peasants who toil to grow food and cash crops.

They argued that currently, peasants sell crops to middlemen at a loss because there are no warehouses for storing crops so that they can be auctioned at appropriate prices recommended by the government, arguing that having warehouses would encourage peasants to grow cereals and soya.

Zacharia Mwambene, a course

participant, said Chunya District is suitable for growing different types of cereals but lack of storage facilities is a disincentive to growing crops, including soya.

Another participant, Suzan Silindwe, said storage facilities can promote soya growing in Chunya District.

Chunya District Agriculture Officer Cuthbert Mwinuka said Chunya District Council has set aside 250m/- for building a big warehouse and 50,000 acres for

growing soya. He added that 23 villages have set aside land for construction of warehouses.

The course was jointly organised by the Ministry of Agriculture and the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (Sagcot).

Abdallah Msambachi, Sagcot Manager responsible for promotion of soya, called on farmers to value commercial agriculture and promote soya value chains for their own benefit.



An official with a firm associated with the envisaged implementation of three projects in Mbarali District, including the construction of an airport and a tourism college, briefs Mbeya regional commissioner Juma Homera (R). The RC was on a visit to Mbarali District at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Nebart Msokwa

Ruaha National Park set to get new airstrip, apron

By **Correspondent Nebart Msokwa,**

Mbarali

THE government's efforts to market the country's tourist attractions have started to produce positive outcomes with the new investor out to give the Ruaha National Park a facelift.

The Dar es Salaam-based Six Rivers Africa has expressed interest in investing in tourist infrastructure as well as conservation efforts within the park.

This was revealed yesterday here during a tour by Mbeya Regional

Commissioner Juma Homera in Mbarali District.

Speaking during the occasion, head of operations at Six Rivers Africa Abubakari Mure said among others, the firm has started investment by constructing an airstrip and an apron for parking aircraft within Ruaha National Park.

He said that the firm will also construct a tourism college in the outskirts of the park at Mlungu Village in Miyombweni Ward to help youth from the Southern Highlands to study tourism courses.

"The company plans to spend \$1.1

million for initial investment where the airstrip will be constructed at \$350,000 and construction of the tourism college will cost \$750,000," he said.

Mure further said that the firm also expects to purchase two patrol airplanes.

"The apron will have capacity to accommodate two small airplanes and one helicopter," he added.

Muhsin Mchau, a representative of Ruaha National Park said the investment by Six Rivers Africa will help improve tourism since construction of the airstrip is expected to attract more tourists.

"Many people here want to take their children for tourism courses but most of them fail to attend college. So, construction of this college will bring relief and increase experts in the sector," he said.

In his remarks, Homera urged investors to also think of constructing special camps for tourists who visit the park to rest before going to other areas.

He said the new investment in the park will also heighten protection of wildlife due to availability of patrol airplanes and increased public awareness on conservation issues.

RC wants councils to allocate bigger budgets for sanitation

By **Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole**

DAR ES SALAAM Regional Commissioner Albert Chalamila has asked municipal councils in the city to allocate sufficient funds for environmental conservation and garbage collection.

He made the call in Dar es Salaam yesterday when chairing a strategic meeting of stakeholders on waste water management and environmental conservation.

He said certain councils in the city have not prioritized environmental conservation and sanitation, leading to accumulation of garbage in various parts of the city.

He said garbage has been disturbing many residents of the city despite the fact that there are experts, including those who studied abroad and specialized in environment and sanitation.

Chalamila said when such experts return to their work places, they do not implement what they learnt hence heaps of garbage and broken sewerage systems in parts of the city.

He said city residents and leaders should make the issue of cleanliness a habit and a culture that can help keep the city in a clean state.

"Environmental conservation issues must be given priority by all institutions and districts in this region, yet. Budgets allocated for garbage collection are very small and calls for improvements so that they have sufficient funds," he said.

He also ordered that immediate steps be taken to beautify the city, including improving areas along roads by planting flowers and gardens as well as painting old buildings.

Chalamila criticized the trend of

vehicles being parked on the road which causes heavy traffic in many areas of the region, thus hindering various economic activities.

He asked the district commissioners in Dar es Salaam Region to ensure that they come up with plans to remove vehicles parked in unofficial areas to end congestion.

He asked the officials to be creative so that the task of removing garbage becomes an employment opportunity for youth, most of whom struggle to find employment.

Dar es Salaam Regional Administrative Secretary Dr Toba Nguvula assured the regional commissioner that he would act on the issues raised.

The session involved stakeholders and experts from institutions and districts in Dar es Salaam Region.



Environmental conservation issues must be given priority by all institutions and districts in this region, yet. Budgets allocated for garbage collection are very small and calls for improvements so that they have sufficient funds

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In Reply, Please Quote:

Ref: No. RA. 222/301/02/152 11 June 2024,

CALL FOR INTERVIEW

The Government of the Republic of Tanzania (GoT) and the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) have entered into a partnership agreement to improve the livelihoods of rural people through an intervention focused on smallholder dairy producers. The project goal is to contribute to the transformation of the dairy value chain to improve livelihoods, increase food safety, and to mitigate the impact of the dairy sector on climate change. The development objective is to improve income, climate resilience and nutrition of smallholder dairy producers and their participation in a competitive and safe value chain.

The project aims to deliver on the following two interlinked development outcomes, backed with effective project management, monitoring and evaluation; (i) increased climate-smart production, productivity, and resilience of dairy smallholder production systems and; (ii) improved market access for smallholder farmers and reduced environmental footprint of the dairy value chain;

Based on the foregoing, the following candidates are cordially invited to attend oral interview scheduled for 26th June 2024 at the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries conference room, the Government City Mtumba from 9:00 AM in Dodoma.

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HIGH COMMISSION OF INDIA
DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA



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yoga

Theme: Yoga for Women Empowerment

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Ada Estate, Kinondoni,
PO Box 9270
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

REF: KSL/IOM/253/24

Date: 12 June 2024

INVITATION TO BID

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is an intergovernmental organization established in 1951 and is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits both migrants and society.

In the framework of IOM Operations in Tanzania, IOM now invites Bidders to submit "Bids" for the Proposed Construction of Immigration District Office, Busega District, Simiyu Region, Tanzania.

No	Description of work	Quantity	Bid collecting date from 0900 - 1500hrs	Bids Submission date: at 10:00AM
1	Proposed Construction of Immigration District Office, Busega District, Simiyu Region, Tanzania.	1	13.06.2024 - 22.06.2024	05.07.2024

Interested bidders shall obtain a complete set of the "Instruction to Bidders". The Instruction to Bidders will be obtained at the IOM Office in Dar es Salaam and Kasulu Sub Office for further (see dates mentioned above)

- IOM Kasulu is located at Kasulu Town, Murubona road, near Kasulu TTC. Box 303, Kasulu.
- IOM Dar es Salaam is located at Ruhinde Street, Plot 92, ADA Estate, Kinondoni - Dar es Salaam.
- Only construction companies registered as "Class 5 to 1 building" are invited to participate in the tender.

Submission of Bid is due (see above-mentioned dates). Late bids shall be rejected. Bids will be opened within the validity period of the bid.

IOM reserves the right to accept or reject any bids, cancel the procurement process, and reject all bids at any time prior to awarding the Contract, without obligation to inform the affected Bidder/s of the ground of IOM's action.

Very truly yours,
IOM- Tanzania Bids Evaluation Committee



Opposition Alliance for Democratic Change former secretary general Doyo Hassan Doyo (4th-L, front row) and Schola Deonatus pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday showing forms they said they have picked up as they prepare for nomination as aspirants for the opposition party's national chairmanship and vice chairpersonship, respectively. Photo: Correspondent Imani Nathaniel

Tanzanian forest recreated in Italy for biodiversity research

By Special Correspondent, Rome

VARIOUS species and colours flutter freely and butterfly pupae are suspended in a structure as they grow into adult insects inside a greenhouse of the Museo delle Scienze (MUSE), a science museum in Trento, Italy. The ecosystem created in this greenhouse is modelled on part of a mountain range and rainforest area in south-central Tanzania.

"The butterfly forest project is contextualized in the MUZE tropical greenhouse, which is strongly focused on the Tanzanian environment of the Udzungwa Mountains, and this is because the museum has an ecology monitoring centre in Tanzania, in that national park," Lisa Angelini, MUSE greenhouse director said.

Through a partnership with Tanzania National Parks, MUSE in 2006 established the Udzungwa Ecological Monitoring Centre to support the park in ecological monitoring and biodiversity research, as well as to support development of environmental education programmes for schools.

The forest in Trento is designed to create public awareness on some of the research that MUSE is doing in Udzungwa Mountains to study and protect the world's biodiversity against threats such as deforestation and climate change.

Deforestation leads to habitat loss, which causes declines in nectar sources for butterflies, changing the functioning of the ecosystem.

By fragmenting forests, deforestation limits the movements of the insects and reduces their genetic diversity.

These impacts cause declines in biodiversity and potential extinction of vulnerable butterfly species.

The body temperatures and metabolic rates of butterflies are influenced by air and soil temperatures.

Climate change is altering the life cycles of the insects, impacting their development rates, mating behaviours, and migration patterns.

Butterfly populations are declining in many areas, especially in places under intensive land use.

The scientists behind the Butterfly Forest hope that their research will spur the development of conservation strategies aimed at increasing knowledge of butterfly communities in specific habitats and monitoring their distribution over space and time.

"Our aim is that of being able to study better, to understand better what is happening," says Lisa Angelini, a botanist and director of the MUSE greenhouse. "Our work consists of monitoring and trying to give, to develop projects in order to bring attention to biodiversity-related issues, so that we can always do better," she said.

The butterflies fluttering around the facility are currently mainly sourced from butterfly farming projects in Costa Rica and feature insects native to South America and Asia, for reasons of transport and availability.

Butterflies are key pollinators that enable plants to reproduce and therefore facilitate food production and supply.

They are also food for birds and other animals. The insects are indicators of biodiversity and scientists use them as models to study the impacts of habitat loss and other threats.

"Insects in general play a fundamental role in the proper functioning of ecosystems," said Mauro Gobbi, an entomologist and a researcher at MUSE.

With at least 2,500 plant species, more than 120 mammals, and thousands of invertebrate species, Udzungwa Mountains is rich in biological diversity and has more than 40 endemic species of butterflies.

It's part of the Eastern Arc Mountains of Kenya and Tanzania that are a proposed UNESCO Heritage site.

High-altitude environments like Udzungwa Mountains National Park are highly suitable for studying the effects of climate change because they usually have no direct human impact, said Gobbi.

"Generally high altitude environments are the most suitable for studying climate change's effects because usually there's no direct anthropogenic (human) impact. The work we are carrying out as MUSE, but also in collaboration with colleagues around the world, demonstrates that we are facing an important biodiversity crisis."

The tropical greenhouse in Trento has more than 200 plant species and 13 animal species.

It features plant species endemic to the Eastern Arc Mountains, as well as birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish and invertebrates such as butterflies, all inside 600 square metres of forest that has a waterfall, cliffs and

inclinations. The key challenge for butterfly conservation is to change the current farming policies to increase the amount of low-intensity farmland, and promote heterogeneous landscapes preserving the remaining patches of natural habitats, increasing the extent of semi-natural habitats and limiting the distribution of monocultures.

Multilateral banks for same way of measuring, reporting climate

ABIDJAN

AT COP28, multilateral development banks (MDBs), including the African Development Bank, agreed to develop a common approach for measuring and reporting climate results.

Historically, MDBs have jointly reported climate finance volumes, but this has not fully captured the tangible impacts of these interventions. The new agreement aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the outcomes of climate investments, enhancing learning and identifying areas needing additional support.

The common approach adopted by MDBs ensures transparency, consistency and comparability across institutions and contributes to global efforts to establish standardized frameworks for assessing climate progress. It represents a significant advancement in the way climate finance impacts are measured, reported, and utilized to drive effective climate action worldwide.

The new framework is structured into three levels: Global and country context which integrates the latest climate science and sets the context for urgent action, referencing global greenhouse gas emissions and the vulnerability of populations to climate risks.

Results from operations which evaluate the contributions of MDBs to equitable, low-carbon, and climate-resilient development by tracking emissions from financing operations for mitigation and identifying beneficiaries of resilience-enhancing interventions.

Institutional efforts monitor the financial resources and technical assistance used by MDBs to implement climate interventions.

This common approach is not a new reporting mechanism; it is a tool to enhance harmonized reporting on climate outcomes across MDBs and other stakeholders. While MDBs already report on climate outcomes, this unified approach offers significant benefits, including improved data aggregation, comparability, and learning opportunities.

MDBs will continue refining this approach, working together to develop a set of common indicators. These indicators will track mitigation efforts by monitoring emissions from financing operations and, where possible, measure the beneficiaries of interventions aimed at enhancing climate resilience. Progress on these developments will be reported at future climate conferences.

Prof Anthony Nyong, Director of Climate Change and Green Growth at the African Development Bank, emphasized the significance of this milestone: "This approach allows us to see what we are actually achieving in the countries we support and where there are gaps that need addressing. It will help inform and refine MDB interventions, ensuring that our efforts are as effective and impactful as possible."

By adopting this unified approach to measure climate results, MDBs are taking a crucial step towards more transparent, accountable, and impactful climate action.

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IN The Guardian & Nipashe

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AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS MAXINSURE TANZANIA LIMITED FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2023 PURSUANT TO SECTION 41 (1) OF INSURANCE ACT 2009

MAXINSURE (TANZANIA) LIMITED


STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2023 TZS '000	2022 TZS '000
Insurance service revenue	9,201,255	4,487,610
Insurance service expenses	(2,146,176)	(10,336,963)
Net Income/(expenses) from reinsurance contracts	(4,727,972)	6,097,893
Insurance service result	2,327,107	248,541
Interest income from financial assets not measured at FVTPL	137,303	127,658
Other investment revenue	-	-
Net impairment loss of financial assets	-	-
Net finance expenses from insurance contracts	-	-
Net finance income from reinsurance contracts	-	-
Net Investment results	137,303	127,658
Revenue from investment managed services	-	-
Other Income	19,103	39,016
Administrative expenses	(3,016,172)	(2,400,131)
Profit before tax	(532,659)	(1,984,916)
Tax	-	(552,455)
Profit for the year	(532,659)	(1,432,461)
Other comprehensive income	-	-
Other Comprehensive loss for the year net of tax	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income for the year attributable to the owners of the company	(532,659)	(1,442,223)

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2023 TZS '000	2022 TZS '000
OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Cash generated from operations	(782,948)	(3,007,722)
Investment Income	137,303	127,658
Other income	-	-
Tax paid	(108,478)	184,803
Net Cash from / (used in) operating activities	(754,123)	(2,695,261)
INVESTING ACTIVITIES		
Purchase of property and equipment	(33,377)	(10,460)
Purchase of unlisted share	-	-
Liquidation/purchase of government bond	-	-
Decrease/(Increase) in government securities	(236,262)	96,272
Liquidation of Corporate bond	-	-
Decrease/(increase) in fixed deposit	-	(192,190)
Investment in related Company	-	-
Proceeds from disposal of property and equipment	-	-
Proceed from disposal of shares	-	-
Net cash from / (used in) investing activities	(269,639)	(106,378)
FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Advance towards share capital	1,000,000	1,933,000
Short term loan	-	860,000
Net cash from / (used in) financing activities	1,000,000	2,853,000
(DECREASE)/ INCREASE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENT	(23,762)	51,361
Movement in cash and cash equivalent		
At the start of the year	(193,183)	(244,544)
(Decrease)/ Increase	(23,762)	51,361
At the end of the year	(216,945)	(193,183)

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

	Share Capital TZS '000	Advance towards share capital TZS '000	Contingency Reserve TZS '000	Accumulated Losses TZS '000	Total TZS '000
At 1 January 2022	8,834,880	-	1,582,562	(5,435,372)	4,982,070
Revaluation	-	-	-	-	-
Issue of shares	-	1,993,000	-	-	1,993,000
Net Profit after tax	-	-	-	(1,442,223)	(1,442,223)
Transfer to contingency reserve	-	-	146,803	(146,803)	-
Transfer- Capital reserve	-	-	-	-	-
Proposed Dividend	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	8,834,880	1,993,000	1,729,465	(7,014,736)	5,532,609
At 1 January 2023	8,834,880	1,993,000	1,729,465	(7,014,736)	5,532,609
Revaluation	-	-	-	-	-
Issue of share	-	1,000,000	-	-	1,000,000
Net Profit	-	-	-	(532,659)	(532,659)
Transfer- Contingency reserve	-	-	213,599	(213,599)	-
Transfer- Capital reserve	-	-	-	-	-
Adjustment on Prior year acc depreciation	-	-	-	1,574	1,574
Dividend paid	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2023	8,834,880	2,993,000	1,943,064	(7,769,182)	6,001,762

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2023

	2023 TZS '000	2022 TZS '000
Capital Employed		
Share capital	8,834,880	10,827,880
Advance towards sharecapital	2,993,000	-
Call on shares	-	-
Contingency reserve	1,943,054	1,729,455
Capital reserve	-	-
Retained Earnings	(7,769,182)	(7,014,736)
Proposed Dividend	-	-
SHAREHOLDERS' FUND	6,001,752	5,542,599
ASSETS		
Property and equipment	52,615	36,260
Intangible assets	39,900	47,880
Insurance contract assets	-	-
Reinsurance contract assets	13,707,617	16,116,690
Other receivables	1,086,454	1,059,733
Deferred Tax	758,030	758,030
Current tax	84,395	74,980
Deferred Tax	770,645	758,030
Government securities	1,270,842	1,034,580
Deposits with Financial institutions	705,000	705,000
Cash and Bank Balance	241,166	274,029
TOTAL ASSETS	17,946,020	20,107,182
LIABILITIES		
Insurance contract liabilities	10,783,246	13,289,022
Reinsurance contract liabilities	-	-
Other payables	702,909	808,349
Bank overdraft	458,111	467,212
Current tax	-	-
TOTAL LIABILITIES	11,944,266	14,564,583
TOTAL RESERVES AND LIABILITIES	17,946,018	20,107,181

These financial statements were approved by the Directors on 28th March 2024 and were signed by:

Mustafa Rashid
DirectorMohammed Jaffar
Director

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Singida district administrative secretary Naima Chondo (R) in tête-à-tête at the weekend with Pili Hassan Majengo (90) of Ntondo village, in the course of a visit during which the DAS sought to resolve disputes related to land ownership and use as well as various other challenges. Photo: Correspondent Thobias Mwanakatwe

By Special Correspondent

African elephants call each other unique names, new study shows

AFRICAN elephants call each other and respond to unique names, a phenomenon that is rare among wild animals, new research shows.

The names can be heard in low rumbles that carry long distances across the Savanna. Scientists say that naming behaviour is more common in animals with social structures and families that separate and reunite.

"Elephants are incredibly social, always talking and touching each other – this naming is probably one of the things that underpins their ability to communicate to individuals," said co-author and

Colorado State University ecologist George Wittemyer, who is also a scientific adviser for the non-profit Save the Elephants.

Humans have naming procedures, and so do dogs, baby dolphins and parrots. Naming species can also learn to pronounce unique new sounds during their lives.

"Just like humans, elephants use names, but probably don't use names in the majority of utterances, so we wouldn't expect 100 percent,"

said study author and Cornell University biologist Mickey Pardo.

Biologists in the study, published in *Nature Ecology & Evolution*, used machine learning to detect naming in a sound library from Kenya's Samburu National Reserve and Amboseli National Park. The researchers also followed elephants in jeeps to look for calls and responses. A mother might call out to a calf or a matriarch to a straggler trailing behind the group.

Analysis of the audio data by a

computer model predicted which elephant was being addressed 28 percent of the time, likely due to the use of its name. The model only accurately labelled 8 percent of calls when given meaningless data.

The rumbles are below the range of human hearing, and scientists do not know which aspect of the vocalization is the name.

Elephants responded more energetically to recordings that contained their names, flapping their ears and lifting their trunks.



Fred Mango of Mikwamba village in Muheza District goes about his routine work of crushing stones to get pebbles for sale, as found at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Steven William

Africa CDC to support top-up of Gavi vaccine funds in Paris

ADDIS ABABA

THE Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) is set to support the 2024 Gavi replenishment event hosted by France in Paris next week.

Africa CDC is the continental public health agency mandated to support African member states in building robust and resilient health systems. Its mission is to safeguard Africa's health security and accelerate the achievement of universal health coverage.

Its strategic focus is on three critical priorities including an outbreak and pandemic prevention, preparedness, and response; health systems strengthening, with an emphasis on primary health care and community health; and effective local manufacturing of health commodities, including vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics.

Africa CDC recognizes Gavi as a pivotal partner for health security

and collective resilience to vaccine-preventable diseases across the continent. Indeed, from 2000 to 2022, Gavi invested US\$11.9 billion to enhance access to life-saving vaccines in Africa, resulting in 11.1 million future deaths averted in Africa.

This week, the Gavi Board approved the Gavi Alliance's new five-year strategy (2026-2030), focusing on accelerating vaccine coverage, introducing new vaccines, strengthening health systems for equity, and supporting global health security and regional vaccine manufacturing.

As a public-private partnership, Gavi is funded through replenishment events hosted by donor governments to mobilize support from governments, philanthropies, the private sector, various institutions, civil society organizations, and individuals.

In a show of commitment and support as the continent is the primary beneficiary of Gavi funds,

Africa CDC, the African Union and African member states stand ready to fully support the 2024 replenishment event hosted by France in Paris on June 20th.

This 2024 replenishment meeting will be unique, highlighting Gavi's support for Africa's crucial agenda of local manufacturing, as endorsed by African Heads of State under the Africa CDC's Platform for Harmonized Health Manufacturing in Africa (PHAHM).

Indeed, Gavi will unveil a groundbreaking US\$1 billion commitment over ten years through a new initiative called the African Vaccine Manufacturing Accelerator (AVMA), aimed at bolstering African health security and sovereignty. At the Gavi Board meeting on June 7th, the Director General of Africa CDC Dr Jean Kaseya underscored the importance of respectful partnership and collaboration, stating, "Local manufacturing is the second independence of Africa because it impacts our health

security and economic growth. Additionally, Africa CDC will spearhead the Lusaka agenda to strengthen national leadership and partner coordination for effective implementation of the One Plan, One Budget, and One M&E Framework.

"In recognition of AVMA's significance to Africa, Dr Kaseya announced that the popular launch of AVMA will occur on African soil in the coming weeks. This momentous occasion will bring together African leaders, Gavi, donors and partners, African Civil Society Organizations, and communities to reflect on and celebrate the journey toward Africa's self-reliance in manufacturing vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics.

Together, we stand on the brink of a new era for Africa's self-reliance in health security, driven by innovation, partnership, and a shared vision for a safer, healthier, and more prosperous Africa.

Global spending on clean energy to hit \$2 trillion in 2024, says IEA

By Guardian Reporter

GLOBAL spending on clean energy technologies and infrastructure is on track to hit \$2 trillion in 2024 even as higher financing costs hinder new projects, notably in emerging and developing economies, according to the International Energy Agency (IEA).

Despite pressures on financing, global investment in clean energy is set to reach almost double the amount going to fossil fuels in 2024, helped by improving supply chains and lower costs for clean technologies, said IEA in its latest report.

Total energy investment worldwide is expected to exceed \$3 trillion in 2024 for the first time, with some \$2 trillion set to go toward clean technologies – including renewables, electric vehicles, nuclear power, grids, storage, low-emissions fuels, efficiency improvements and heat pumps – according to the latest edition of the IEA's annual World Energy Investment report.

The remainder, slightly over \$1 trillion, is going to coal, gas and oil. In 2023, combined investment in renewable power and grids overtook the amount spent on fossil fuels for the first time.

The new report warns, however, that there are still major imbalances and shortfalls in energy investment flows in many parts of the world. It highlights the low level of clean energy spending in emerging and developing economies (outside China), which is set to exceed \$300 billion for the first time – led by India and Brazil.

Yet, this accounts for only about 15 percent of global clean energy investment, far below what is required to meet growing energy demand in many of these countries, where the high cost of capital is holding back the development of new projects.

"Clean energy investment is setting new records even in challenging economic conditions, highlighting the momentum behind the new global energy economy. For every dollar going to fossil fuels today, almost two dollars are invested in clean energy," said IEA Executive Director Fatih Birol.

"The rise in clean energy spending is underpinned by strong economics, by continued cost reductions and by considerations of energy security. But there is a strong element of industrial policy, too, as major economies compete for advantage in new clean energy supply chains. More must be done to ensure that investment reaches the places where it is needed

most, in particular the developing economies where access to affordable, sustainable and secure energy is severely lacking today," he added.

When the Paris Agreement was reached in 2015, the combined investment in renewables and nuclear for electricity generation was twice the amount going to fossil fuel-fired power.

In 2024, this is set to rise to ten times as much, the report highlights, with solar PV leading the transformation of the power sector.

More money is now going into solar PV than all other electricity generation technologies combined. In 2024, investment in solar PV is set to grow to \$500 billion as falling module prices spur new investments.

China is set to account for the largest share of clean energy investment in 2024, reaching an estimated \$675 billion. This results from strong domestic demand across three industries in particular – solar, lithium batteries and electric vehicles.

According to IEA, Europe and the US follow, with clean energy investment of \$370 billion and \$315 billion respectively. These three major economies alone make up more than two-thirds of global clean energy investment, underlining the disparities in international capital flows into energy.

Global upstream oil and gas investment is expected to increase by 7 percent in 2024 to reach \$570 billion, following a similar rise in 2023.

The growth in spending in 2023 and 2024 is predominantly by national oil companies in the Middle East and Asia. The report finds that oil and gas investment in 2024 is broadly aligned with the demand levels implied in 2030 by today's policy settings, but far higher than projected in scenarios that hit national or global climate goals.

Clean energy investment by oil and gas companies reached \$30 billion in 2023, accounting for only 4 percent of the industry's overall capital spending, according to the report. Meanwhile, coal investment continues to rise, with more than 50 gigawatts of unabated coal-fired power approved in 2023, the highest since 2015.

In addition to economic challenges, grids and electricity storage have been a significant constraint on clean energy transitions. But spending on grids is rising and is set to reach \$400 billion in 2024, having been stuck at around \$300 billion annually between 2015 and 2021.

Dragon boat race billed to spur Uganda-China tourism advance

ENTEBBE

THE government of Uganda and the Chinese Embassy in Kampala have jointly launched a tourism season between the two countries, with a dragon boat race held ahead of the traditional Chinese Dragon Boat Festival.

Chinese companies in Uganda dispatched their best paddlers, both Chinese and Ugandan, to compete in the race, which also attracted participants from local communities, near the shore of Lake Victoria in central Uganda on Sunday.

Vibrant sounds filled the air as supporters cheered for their teams in an event that analysts say is a show of growing Uganda-China ties in diplomacy, economy and culture.

Ugandan Minister of State for Tourism, Wildlife and Antiquities Martin Bahinduka, was the chief guest. He urged Ugandans to learn from the Chinese who attach great importance to their culture, noting Uganda's abundance of cultural heritages that should be cherished.

The minister said this year's Dragon Boat Festival was a springboard to promote Uganda to Chinese tourists.

"This is a very big market from which we can tap from," Bahinduka said. "We have 9,000 Chinese coming to Uganda annually as of 2023. We believe we can increase this number to 15,000-20,000."

and interim of the Chinese Embassy in Uganda, said the Dragon Boat Festival is a key tradition that brings Chinese people together, and hosting dragon boat races will consolidate the public foundation for China-Uganda friendly cooperation and further promote the cultural exchanges between the two countries.

"Although China and Uganda have different traditions, we have the same concept to integrate the history, culture and modern civilization into tourism development," he said.

As tourism has become an important channel for exchange and mutual learning among civilizations, Fan said, the Chinese Embassy is working with the Ugandan government to promote Uganda as a destination for Chinese tourists.

"Every year, 130 million Chinese tourists go abroad. We hope we can bring more Chinese tourists to Uganda to explore its beauty," Fan said, adding that a tourism seminar will be convened later this year to promote Uganda in China.

Rodney Babala, one of the Ugandan paddlers, said after the race that his team, with both Chinese and Ugandan nationals, had practiced together for a month to prepare for the event.

He said China has played a great role in the development of Uganda, in sectors ranging from infrastructure development, and trade, to health and tourism.

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EU initiative could be pursued as a renewable energy strategy

CHANGES being initiated in the way millions of households and street-side businesses use energy are being complemented by another version of the clean cooking energy strategy or programme.

The latest input is from the European Union, which has expressed intention to finance projects under the cooking energy shift - and thus replenishing a clean energy fund located in the Energy ministry. This is primarily meant to help push efforts by the government with additional flavouring.

While accepting the wider goal that more than 80 per cent of Tanzanians will be using clean cooking fuel by 2034 by abandoning charcoal and firewood, it has a clear focus on a renewable energy strategy, where biofuels - just like gas - don't come up much.

That is precisely why it is of vital importance for more discussion among energy sector stakeholders who were lately evaluating the direction of the energy sector policy and the role each of them would be taking in enabling or clarifying it.

Adding a strong dose of renewable energy to energy sector policy calls for a wider look at the background and current situation in relation to policy making

There is a void in the renewable aspect in the clean cooking strategy, and this for the simple reason that it is not as much of a strategic issue as a family or business income matter.

Electricity is clean energy, whether it is solar, thermal, hydro or some other kind, in which case nearly all families have this choice by virtue of its countrywide spread. Yet it is obvious that the costs aren't manageable for many.

That is where the EU initiative comes in, as it contains proposals or suggestions on how to implement clean cooking energy strategy.

And, in so doing, the intervention adds elements that could be pursued in a different trajectory.

The reason here would be that clean cooking basically relates to households.

The major concern here is with those doing the cooking, the smoke and pellets of fire they face, and at times the dangers of collecting firewood from afar. There are also sustained verbal and other forms of violence when they can't bring food to the table at the right time.

So, for the sake of simplicity and 'do-ability', the clean cooking energy project relates mainly to spreading the use of gas preferably to all households and, within that scope of issues, it can't be doubted.

An EU energy projects manager believes, to achieve its goals, Tanzania must create a good environment for gas cylinder use and manufacturing of electric stoves to encourage people to use clean energy for cooking at low cost and quick access.

It was a technological input - that it isn't just a matter of shifting to gas as good sense but also making it cheaper and accessible nearly to all.

Looking at the EU clean cooking energy fund, particularly the way it seeks to help institutions such as prisons, schools and hospitals set up clean cooking energy infrastructure in their areas, it is noticeable that the EU prefers to tie the project with our country's own Rural Energy Agency (REA).

That means that they can set up biomass electricity generation units, as they have the best sources for that method, and do not skip the renewable source and adopt gas cylinders, overly expensive to refill all the time - unlike biomass.

It is a bargain even in relation to hydropower, and has fewer installation material or technology compared to solar or wind power.

This could be followed up as a parallel strategy, with institutions, households and whole neighbourhoods choosing what they can do. The more renewable energy is taken up, all the better for sustainable use by households - and a better carbon footprint tie.

Tour operators show the way in taking up school meals as CSR

ENSURING that pupils attend school by making it possible for them to get meals by early afternoon greatly reduces hunger-induced truancy and lack of attention in class.

A Special Seats legislator was recently on record in the legislature as having hailed tour operators for routinely providing free meals to 850 pupils at a school in Meatu District, Simiyu Region.

The legislator said that, for the past year, a tour firm working with financing from a conservation fund had supplied monthly stipends to facilitate the buying of food for pupils, appreciably reducing the incidence of truancy.

While the praise went to the tour firm and its NGO associates, there is something that can be learned from that example, at least to help reorient regulations as to where cash provided as corporate social responsibility ought to be directed.

The explanation is that all-weather roads are demands that push the government and even the local authorities to work overtime to see ensure that it is done.

Trying to push schools to allocate funds for the purpose can hardly do, while compelling parents to contribute for meals might be more usable as a proposition but, in the event of failure, it is children who will suffer.

That is what would undeniably be changed by placing CSR to this issue, in the sense that it is

a vital need that lacks effective representation in resource plans.

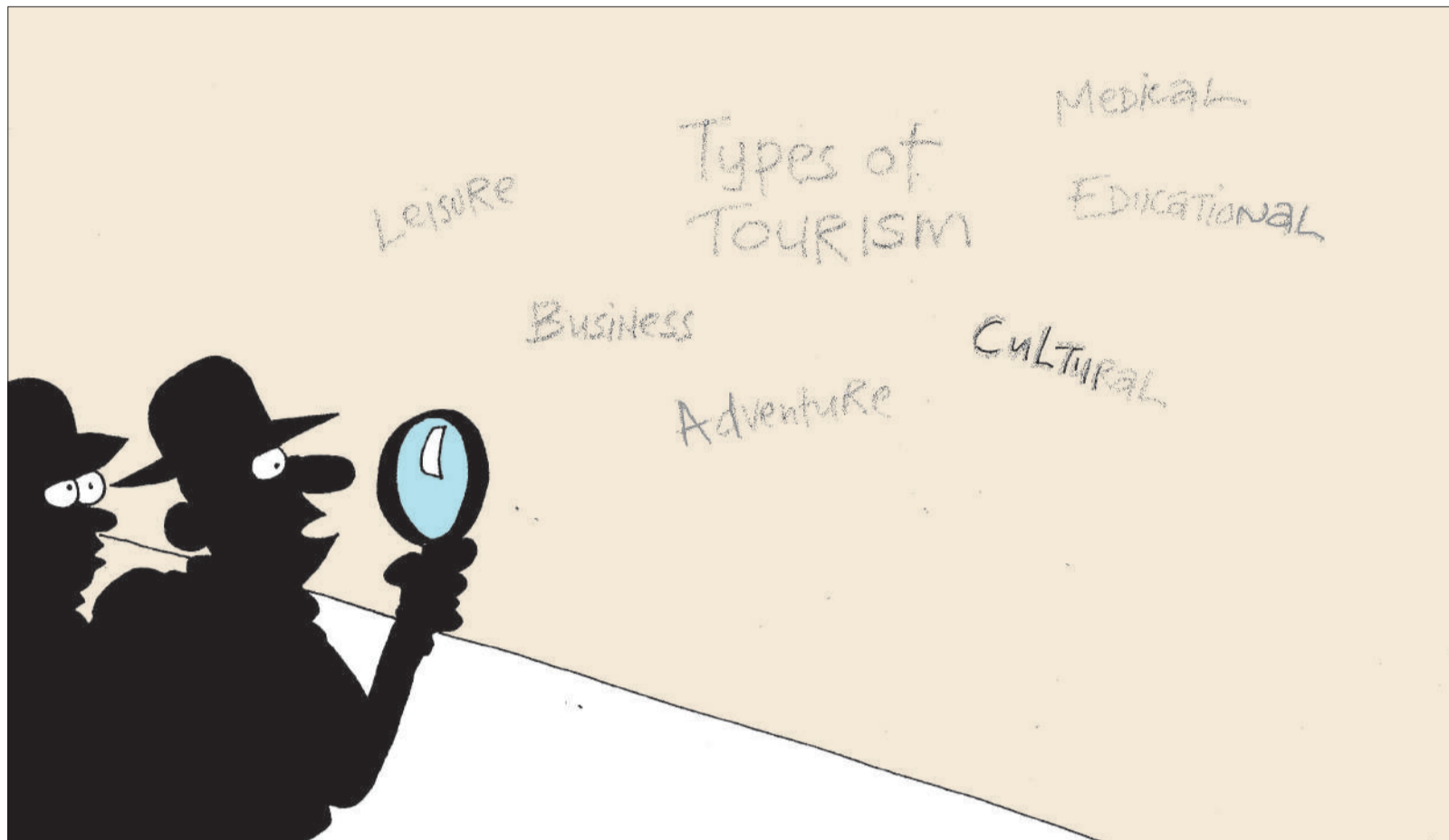
The MP recommended that the particular firm's efforts be commended as a major contribution to the children's development for having provided free lunch with an 11.5m/- donation monthly for procurement of food. It has also built a 37.4m/- school kitchen and supplied rainwater harvesting technology worth 30.8m/-

This was not just an example to be emulated but also validated recommendations that some regulations be so altered as to make providing school meals the core use of CSR funds.

This could be described as positive guidance as to how best to use CSR funds in that, if they are left alone, some authorities would be nowhere near discovering that this is what ought to be done.

It would not amount to default by local authorities alone but of representative attitudes or representation of group demands, a method once used to predetermine the use of Highly Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) governments.

That was at a time when the global sovereign debt was being cut considerably - or altogether cancelled. The World Bank resolved that the funds be used for schools, health and rural roads, not 'casually' added to budget sums to be used as some governments wished.



By Jakkie Cilliers

THE election outcomes of 29 May 2024 have the potential to enable a realignment of South African politics that I previously thought was only possible with elections in 2029. Will it be poverty or growth?

Let me explain.

In 2017, I wrote a book, *Fate of the Nation*, arguing that Cyril Ramaphosa's strategic challenge is modernising the ANC. I wrote extensively about the extent to which the ANC is divided between traditionalists and reformers.

This is, I argued, much more than a struggle for power but about contending visions of South Africa's future and that the outcome will determine the future of the ANC and likely the country. Failing modernisation, the party will rapidly fade into irrelevance while South Africa will struggle for several years to find its footing.

With the exception of the Inkatha Freedom Party and various small fringe parties, since 1994 the successive splintering of the ANC has determined opposition politics among those contesting for the votes of black South Africans.

It started with the formation of the United Democratic Movement (UDM) in 1997, then the Congress of the People (COPE) in 2008, followed by the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) in 2013 and, in 2023, with the establishment of the uMkhonto Wesizwe (MK) party that now garnered 14% of the national tally including 45% of votes cast in KwaZulu-Natal.

Instead of the growth of opposition parties, each split has been accompanied by reduced voter turnout. Instead of voting for parties such as the Democratic Alliance (DA) and the host of small parties on offer, black voters have chosen to stay away. The majority of South Africans are disaffected with Africa's oldest liberation party's incompetence, corruption and lack of action, but do not see a viable alternative.

My baseline forecast (the scenario was called *Bafana Bafana* after our then bumbling national soccer team) was for the ANC to fall below 50% in 2024 and enter into various alliances with smaller parties to govern, and that a coalition of opposition parties could govern South Africa from 2029.

In this sense the rise of MK is a gift, forcing the ANC to 40%. But it comes with risks.

To understand the challenges within the ANC we need to remember that the exile ANC of 1990 was small and weak organisationally. It was able to build a national movement through its partnership with labour (Cosatu) and, in rural areas, by alliances with groups and parties from the former homelands, particularly with the incorporation of homeland officials into the

What happens next within the ANC will determine South Africa's future



South African president Cyril Ramaphosa

provincial administration and its own structures.

In urban areas, the ANC was able to ride on the wave of support of the United Democratic Front (UDF) which constituted a mass-based social movement unprecedented in South Africa's modern history. With the ANC unbanned and South Africa democratising, the UDF subsequently disbanded in 1991, with much of its political capital inherited by the ANC.

The national and global stature of Nelson Mandela, international support for the transition, and white shame translated into political dominance for a fractured ANC party that, since then, has been increasingly held together by the extent to which political power translated into economic opportunity, most notably through cadre deployment and top-down efforts to advance black ownership of our skewed economic structure.

The trend grew exponentially under the presidency of Jacob Zuma, during which ethnicity became an additional consideration in South African politics, eloquently reflected in a detailed submission to the State Capture Commission by Ivor Chipkin that also detailed the extent to which the ANC, after 1990, entered into a partnership with elites from the various Bantustans.

It was the start of the federated structure that remains a hallmark of the ANC today.

On average South Africans have become poorer, and unemployment has increased while inequality has risen every year since the global financial crisis of 2007/8.

In *Fate of the Nation*, I argued that if progress is not made with the ANC's modernisation project, it will be increasingly relegated to rural areas and eventually wither away.

Subsequent events have provided much fuel to this argument. Now the impasse presented by the 29 May 2024 elections provides an opportunity for a brighter future.

The decision by the EFF not to become part of Ramaphosa's government of national unity (GNU) is an important first step in this journey, although that could change given the mercurial nature of its

leader.

The ANC now has to consider its relationship with the MK party. Based on its policy document and pronouncements on the rule of law, the MK party cannot and should not be part of a national coalition. It would, among others, spell the end of efforts to bring those responsible for State Capture to account, undermine the rule of law and institutionalise corruption and patronage based on the well-documented history of its leader.

There is practically also no chance that a broad government of national unity that includes MK and the DA could be formed or held together for the next five years. The result will be an impasse and paralysis with no movement on policy or implementation.

What South Africans need is, however, not an ANC/DA alliance but an offer from Ramaphosa, John Steenhuisen and others to enter into a commitment to work together to create an alliance and eventually a combined vehicle that will bring together sufficient voters from urban and rural areas to form a majority party in 2029 - a South Africa Party.

This is not as crazy as it seems. The inability of the DA to grow its support base demonstrates the extent to which its support has plateaued. Like the IFP and MK, the DA is essentially a regional party, not a government in waiting. Race runs deep in South Africa and under its current leadership, it has a limited future outside of the Western Cape.

For its part, the ANC is now a rural party and given education and trends with urbanisation, it has no prospects of political power except in deep rural South Africa. Its support will continue to decline unless it is able to rejuvenate itself as a modern, urban-based party able to attract the black stay-away vote.

A vision of a modern, growth party will require huge sacrifices from all. But unless we seize the moment, South Africa is trapped on a low-growth, unhappy and increasingly turbulent trajectory, illustrated by the various forecasts that we have done on South Africa's development prospects.

A host of talented black politicians

and parties such as Rize Mzansi and BOSA are now represented in Parliament which should join this quest and help take South Africa forward by providing expertise (including in Cabinet) and moral leadership.

But only Ramaphosa has the national breadth of support and stature to pull this off and it needs to start now, giving this new alliance or structure a full five years to prove itself.

It is clear that South Africa desperately needs a political vehicle that energises the urban black vote and includes whites, coloureds and Indians, that is truly nonracial in character and commits to growing the economy while using the proceeds from that growth to deal with the inequities of the past.

The political vision thing will not be enough, however.

The current negotiations will help frame the content of our growth and development agenda, but much more needs to be done to establish a clear growth strategy.

A host of publications and a mountain of reports present all the evidence of what needs to happen. The Centre for Development and Enterprise is currently releasing a set of policy proposals to this effect. In 2019, Philippe Burger published *Getting it Right: A New Economy for South Africa* and then there is the 2022 edited volume of contributions, *Better Choices: Ensuring South Africa's Future*, edited by Greg Mills. There are many more.

There is also little dispute among mainstream analysis, including from the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, about what needs to happen. We just need to accept the evidence and implement it - and leave our ideological preconceptions at the door.

South Africa's proportional system of political representation has many advantages, but it also means that governance under this system will be slow and laborious.

Growth requires decisive action and prioritisation, which was the recipe that worked when Thabo Mbeki and Trevor Manuel embarked on the 1996 Growth, Employment, and Redistribution (GEAR) plan.

The 2024 government needs to decide on five or six priorities and then act, while also setting a political vision for the future to create a majority party come 2029. Both major parties to this agreement will lose support in the process, the ANC to the left and the DA to the right, but the centre will eventually emerge much stronger than either on their own.

And South Africa will be better served. **DM**

By Special Correspondent

Farming with a mixture of crops, animals and trees is better for the environment and people

FARMING just one kind of crop in a field at a time, and using a lot of chemicals, poses a risk to both people and nature. This simplified intensive agriculture often goes hand in hand with increased greenhouse gas emissions, land and water degradation, and loss of biodiversity.

There's another way to farm: increasing the number of crop and livestock species. This is biologically diversified agriculture.

Growing more than just a single crop year after year is one way to diversify. Farmers might rotate between corn one year, then pigeon peas intercropped with peanuts the second year, and beans the third year. They can also plant trees, or cover crops such as peas or grasses to avoid leaving the soil bare after harvest and risking erosion.

We wanted to understand what kinds of diversification strategies are being used and whether they are working. So, using data from 2,655 farms across 11 countries and covering five continents, we combined qualitative methods and statistical models to dive into 24 different datasets. Each of the datasets studied farm sites with varying levels of diversification, including farms without any diversification practices. This allowed us to assess the effects of applying more diversification strategies.

We found that farmers can achieve more environmental and social benefits if they use several diversification strategies together rather than just one at a time. Having looked at multiple different contexts - including mixed maize in Malawi and cocoa agroforestry in Ghana - we can say that diversified agriculture is a promising avenue to bring about more sustainable food production.

Benefits in Africa

Smallholder farmers in the datasets from Malawi are integrating livestock, legumes and fruit trees into their maize production. Livestock can provide nutrients and organic matter for the maize and legumes; this, in turn, can improve smallholders' food security and well-being. Improved soil fertility has positive effects on biodiversity.

Having trees such as papaya and mango on the farms offers multiple benefits. For example, they provide micronutrient-rich fruits. Trees can also generate extra income when fruits or other products are sold at the market. This income provides smallholders with purchasing power for other foods. And trees can improve soils, supporting production of the main crop. Trees on smallholders' farms in Malawi also attract more bees, which



are key pollinators.

In Ghana, smallholders from the datasets are integrating shade trees when producing cocoa. This strategy improves nutrient cycling and carbon sequestration. Farmers often note a reduction in input costs when integrating shade trees, as well as a new source of income from fruit or timber shade trees. This also has beneficial effects on community cohesion: farmers support each other through communal labour efforts to establish and maintain diversified farms.

In our paper, we also discuss many other diversification strategies.

Previous studies have tended to assess specific strategies individually.

Barriers

Transitions to diversified farming systems in Africa will require financial support. But this can be done. In our study we saw how farmers in Ghana overcame the financial barriers to hiring labour by using reciprocal labour exchanges. And in Malawi, a non-profit organisation provided training and diversified seeds to farmers. They had to "pay it back" the following year so

that other farmers could receive the seed.

Starting to diversify might be costly at first and need labour. Results may take time. These barriers might prevent farmers from trying diversification strategies unless they get financial support.

A new way of thinking is needed too. Development initiatives have long promoted simplified cropping and increased input use rather than diversified farming practices.

In Ghana the government's food security initiatives have historically focused on agricultural modernisation. A prime example is the Planting for Food and Jobs initiative. It promotes simplified farming through large-scale, mechanised monocultures. Such initiatives tend to overlook the grassroots work done by NGOs and farmers through farmer-to-farmer training.

The unfortunate result is that current policies have tended to lock in simplified, conventional farming rather than enable transitions to diversified farming.

A path towards diversified farming

Important lessons can be learned from areas where communities have found ways past the barriers.

In Malawi and Ghana, farmers' collective actions through social networks have made it easier to get the resources needed for a transition to diversified agriculture, including knowledge, land, seeds, equipment, processing infrastructure and markets. Specifically, farmer networks have allowed for farmer-to-farmer experimentation, teaching and sharing.

The result is that farmers prefer a diversified approach, including livestock integration, use of compost and other soil health innovations, trees on farms, and the cultivation of multiple crops.

UN to remove Tanzania from LDCs list: A mixed bag of marked improvements in several key areas

By Adonis Byemelwa

IN a significant development, Vice President Dr. Philip Mpango announced at the first National Conference on the preparation of Tanzania's National Vision and Development 2050 that the United Nations plans to remove Tanzania from the list of least developed countries. The announcement, made at the University of Dar es Salaam on June 8, 2024, highlights the nation's progress across various development indicators from 2000 to 2018.

Dr Mpango emphasized the marked improvements in several key areas. "This year, 2024, the United Nations has begun the process of removing our country from the group of least developed countries. Regarding specific development indicators, the rate of basic needs poverty has decreased from 36 percent in 2000 to 26.4 percent in 2018," he stated.

He also noted that food poverty dropped from 19 percent in 2000 to 8 percent in 2018, while the under-five mortality rate fell from 147 per 1,000 live births in 1996 to 43 in 2022. Additionally, access to essential medicines in health centers improved from 64 percent in 2015 to nearly 80 percent in 2022, and primary school enrollment surged from 69 percent in 1999 to 97 percent in 2022.

However, Dr. Mpango acknowledged that despite these strides, poverty reduction in Tanzania remains inadequate. He stressed the need for continued government efforts to ensure equity and create a robust workforce by balancing the distribution of basic needs among citizens.

"A basic needs poverty of 26.4 percent, meaning 16.3 million people, is still very high and unacceptable. Similarly, a stunting rate of 30 percent in a nation with a surplus of food is unsatisfactory if we aim to develop a robust workforce," he asserted.

The conference, organized by the President's Office of Planning and Investment, brought together various stakeholders, including political parties, academicians, civil society, students, religious leaders, and other groups. Key themes of the discussion included the economy, population, the vision's drafting process, and the institutions responsible for its implementation.

In his presentation, renowned academician Professor Issa Shivji highlighted the ideological framework of the vision, advising that it should not be time-bound. "A vision is not the same as a development plan; a development plan is for a specific period. In my opinion, a vision has no specific timeframe," Professor Shivji explained. He cited the Arusha Declaration as an example of a national vision without a set timeframe.

Professor Shivji also cautioned against subjecting the nation to experiments in the creation of its vision. "Let's not allow ourselves to be experimented on; the experiments that took place in the 1960s are enough."

We should involve the citizens wherever they are to get their opinions about the country they want, the Tanzania they desire, and prioritize their aspirations. This cannot be achieved without having a national dialogue," he emphasized.

The panel discussion included politician Zitto Kabwe, former leader Gertrude Mongella, and academicians Professor Samuel M. Wangwe, Dr. Richard Mbunda, and Neema Mduma.

There was a strong emphasis on local ownership of the vision. Participants highlighted that the first vi-



Vice President Dr Philip Mpango

sion was not truly locally owned due to the extensive influence of development support agencies, and the lack of adequate national consultation made the vision appear partisan.

One of the aspirations of the current vision, an inclusive economy, was noted as unachieved, partly due to a lack of discipline in implementing the country's vision. "The first plan to implement Vision 2025 was enacted in 2010.

This is over ten years since the enactment of the vision; this itself shows a lack of discipline," said Zitto Kabwe. He argued that for Tanzania to attain middle-income status by 2050, it needs at least 8 percent growth in the first 10 years, which requires disciplined leadership.

While Tanzania has made significant progress, the situation reflects a broader paradox seen in many developing countries.

Nations like Ethiopia and Rwanda often show impressive development statistics yet continue to grapple with pervasive poverty. Despite rapid economic growth and infrastructural advancements, the benefits often do not reach the common citizenry.

In Ethiopia, for instance, GDP growth has been among the highest in the world, but a significant portion of the population remains impoverished. According to World Bank data, Ethiopia's poverty rate fell from 44 percent in 2000 to 24 percent in 2016, but the absolute number of people living in poverty remains high due to population growth.

Economist Stefan Dercon noted, "Ethiopia's growth has been impressive, but it is still a country where millions struggle daily to meet basic needs." The disparity between urban and rural areas is stark, with rural communities lagging significantly in access to services and economic opportunities.

Rwanda presents a similar scenario. Often lauded for its rapid development and stability since the 1994 genocide, Rwanda's GDP growth rate has consistently been over 7 percent annually. However, around 38 percent of its population lives below the poverty line.

The government has implemented ambitious social programs, yet the rural population, which makes up the majority of Rwandans, faces persistent challenges in health, education, and income generation. Economist David Booth emphasizes, "While Rwanda has made notable progress, its development remains uneven, and poverty reduction has not kept pace with economic growth."

These examples underscore the complexities of development. Impressive statistics on paper do not always translate into tangible improvements in the lives of ordinary citizens. In Tanzania, despite the reduction in basic needs poverty from 36 percent in 2000 to 26.4 percent in 2018, Vice President Mpango's acknowledgment of the still-high poverty rates and stunting underscores the challenge of ensuring that economic gains are broadly shared.

To address these issues, it is essential to focus on inclusive growth and equitable distribution of resources. Dr. Mpango's commitment to investing in equitable distribution and creating a strong workforce is a step in the right direction.

However, achieving this requires a multi-faceted approach involving robust policy frameworks, effective implementation, and constant monitoring.

Economist Amartya Sen's concept of "development as freedom" highlights that true development involves expanding people's freedoms and capabilities rather than merely increasing income.

This approach emphasizes the importance of health, education, and political and civil rights as integral to development. As Tanzania prepares its Vision 2050, incorporating such holistic perspectives will be crucial to ensuring that development benefits all citizens, not just a privileged few.

The National Conference on Vision 2050, with its diverse stakeholder engagement, reflects a positive move towards inclusive planning. By listening to a wide range of voices, including political parties, academicians, civil society, and ordinary citizens, Tanzania can craft

a vision that truly reflects the aspirations of its people. As Professor Shivji rightly pointed out, involving citizens fully in the visioning process is essential for genuine national ownership and successful implementation.

The UN's removal of Tanzania from the list of least-developed countries marks a significant milestone, underscoring the nation's progress. However, this achievement comes with a stark reminder of the persistent challenges ahead.

Despite impressive development strides, nearly 26 million Tanzanians still live in extreme poverty, surviving on less than \$1.90 a day, according to a World Bank report. The lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic pushed an additional 100,000 people into poverty in 2022 alone. As Tanzania charts its course to 2050, the imperative is clear: economic growth must translate into tangible improvements for all citizens, ensuring no one is left behind.

UNITED STATE OF AMERICA, CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSION, EMBASSY OF KINGDOM OF NETHERLAND, NORWEGIAN, FINLAND & UNITED NATIONALS CHILDREN'S FUND (UNICEF) DAR ES SALAAM

PUBLIC AUCTION :

UNIVERSAL AUCTION CENTRE under instructions received from American Embassy, Canadian High Commission, Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherland, Norwegian, Finland, & Unicef . We shall sell Household furniture's, Vehicles, Motor cycle & Generator by public auction on Saturday June 15, 2024 commencing at 10:00 am. The auction will take place at Golden Resort Sinza, Lion Street.

Furniture and Computers Bidding Start at 10:00am; Sofa sets, Chest drawer, Book case, Office table, Office chairs, Steel file cabinet, Beds, Mattress, Fridge double door & single door, Freezer,Washer, Dryer, Gas & Electric Cooker, Garden Table, Garden chairs, Laptops, Computer set, Printer HP Laser Jet, Photo copy M/c. Xerox 7845, Kyosera KM2560, Flat TV, Music system, Air Compressor Atlas Copco, Assorted GYM M/C, A/C split unit, Tires size 265/70R17,265/65R17 etc.

Motor Vehicles & Generator Bidding Start at 12:00 hrs.

Unit	Make	Model	Year	Duty
1	Toyota Land Cruiser Prado TX S. Wagon	1KD Diesel Engine	2014	Paid
1	Toyota Land Cruiser V8 Station Wagon	1VDO Diesel Engine	2009	Paid
1	Toyota Land cruiser V8 Station Wagon	UZJ Petrol Engine	1998	Not Paid
1	Nissan Patrol Station Wagon	TD42 Diesel Engine	2012	Paid
1	Mitsubishi canter Pick up 2 Tons	4D33 Diesel Engine	2001	Paid
1	Yamaha motorcycle	125CC Petrol Engine	2016	Not Paid
2	Generator KVA 500KVA -3 Phase	Perkins Diesel Engine	-	Not Paid
1	Generator 150KVA -3 Phase	John Deer Diesel Engine	-	Not Paid

All items may be inspected at Golden Resort Sinza, Lion Street from June 12 to 14, 2024 from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.

AUCTION CONDITIONS:

- The winning bidder for Furniture has to make full payment to cashier immediately. For Vehicle or Generator winning bidder must pay 25% to cashier immediately and the final payment in full within 4 working days by June 21, 2024 at 4:00pm. For payments not made within 4 working days, the Vehicle or Generator will be offered to the next highest bidder and the advance payment will be forfeited.
- Payments via CRDB and NBC Bank VISA & Master Cards will be accepted.
- All items are sold on "as is" basis with no guarantee.
- Duty and all taxes are the responsibility of the buyer.
- Bidder will remove the items after all payments and duties
- All persons entering the premises must obtain a Bid Number at the entrance.

For further information, contact:

UNIVERSAL AUCTION CENTRE, (PLOT NO. 5 "E" LION STREET SINZA) DAR ES SALAAM

Cuban farmer seeks to multiply permaculture opportunities

By Luis Brizuela

FARMER Ivonne Moreno sees permaculture as not only a philosophy of life but also a sustainable model for producing food, reducing environmental impact, and projecting sustainable communities in urban or rural areas of Cuba.

These and other principles have guided the planting of dozens of species of fruit trees, vegetables, tubers, aromatic and medicinal plants, as well as shrubs and timber trees on her farm La Luisa, located in Cotorro, one of the 15 municipalities that make up the Cuban capital.

Her food forest, as she defines it, provides fruits, seeds, flowers, roots, leaves, condiments, medicinal products, and firewood, among other inputs, while also serving as a habitat for birds, insects, and other animal species that enrich the soil and enhance biodiversity.

"When I hear about a fruit in danger of extinction, I look for its seed and plant it. I don't remove the leaf litter to preserve the soil microorganisms. I also use organic fertilizers from manure from a nearby dairy farm, along with peels and other waste," Moreno explained to IPS during a visit to her farm.

However, the food forest "has not been fully implemented because it also requires animals that need to be free and whose food should not compete with human food. It needs to be properly designed," noted the 51-year-old farmer, who is married and has two daughters.

Moreno's connection to La Luisa began in childhood when she spent vacations on the 0.7-hectare farm acquired by her great-great-grandfather in 1878.

"I embraced permaculture as an ideology of life, with a consciousness of caring for the environment and generating as little waste as possible," Ivonne Moreno said.

After living in a populous area of the capital, in 2010 she decided to settle permanently on the land where "the connection with nature is direct."

And without knowing it, "I started doing permaculture. I embraced it as an ideology of life, with a consciousness of caring for the environment and generating as little waste as possible."

It is, she added, "a way of living wherever you are, on a plot in the countryside or in an apartment in the city."

Solutions to Global Problems

Permaculture is a concept that has evolved from "permanent agriculture" in its beginnings to a more contemporary one related to "permanent culture."

As a design tool, with principles, practices, and attitudes, it envisions sustainable human settlements where people coexist harmoniously with other animal and plant species and mitigate environmental impact.

It includes sustainable agriculture, the construction of ecological housing, as well as better utilization of natural resources and clean energy sources. It has political, economic, and social connotations.

According to experts, permaculture is a creative response to the environmental crisis in a world where energy and resource availability are global problems.

Permaculture arrived in Cuba in the early 1990s. The economic crisis on the island conditioned the development of agro-productive systems on more sustainable bases, more due to the lack of resources to acquire fuel, machinery, and agrochemicals than consciously.

A network of development and groups of permaculturists extends throughout this Caribbean island country, articulated around the non-governmental Antonio Núñez Jiménez Foundation of Nature and Man (FANJ), the main promoter of this practice in Cuba.

Founded in 1994, the FANJ is a cultural and scientific civil institution dedicated to the research and promotion of educational, community, and research programs and projects, particularly those related to culture, society, and the environment.

"I took an introductory workshop at the FANJ. Then came the design workshop. My husband Juan Carlos Martínez and I are facilitators of this knowledge, and



Cuban farmer Ivonne Moreno among plum trees on her La Luisa farm, in Havana, where she uses permaculture techniques. The formation of a food forest provides fruits, seeds, flowers, roots, leaves, condiments, medicinal products and firewood, among other inputs

the farm is the headquarters of the permaculture group in the Cotorro municipality, which brings together about 10 people," Moreno explained.

She noted that based on the learnings, she has a "base plan" and a "contextual plan." The former reflects what exists and the latter what is projected to form the most efficient system possible.

In the case of La Luisa, Moreno's "dream" includes building a biodigester, installing windmills, solar panels, fish ponds and cisterns to store rainwater.

"We would have liked to advance faster and have all these systems up and running. But the country's economic situation makes it very difficult to buy materials and supplies," lamented the farmer, who takes care of the farm along with her husband and the occasional support of her father.

She highlighted "the repair of several parts of the house with natural materials, without using cement, to favor air conditioning. We also separate black and gray water and place filters. It seems to work well because the grass stays green where the latter drain."

In more than a hundred hives, melipona bees - a stingless species - promote pollination and provide honey, bee bread (concentrated pollen), and wax, products that, in the absence of chemicals, enhance their nutritional, medicinal, and cosmetic value.

"My dream is to have at least 200 hives, but the conditions must be created. For now, as part of the project, we promote training on the management and care of hives because they can be feasibly kept anywhere where bees can be guaranteed adequate flowering," Moreno emphasized.

She noted that a problematic context like

the COVID-19 pandemic demonstrated the opportunities of permaculture, "because even when locked down, I had a variety of foods instead of relying on one or two crops, which is a vulnerability factor in phenomena like hurricanes."

La Luisa's production is mainly for self-consumption, but surplus fruits and honey are sold, and donations are made to minors with cancer and homes for children without family support.

Moreover, as part of a local development project pending approval, Moreno hopes that staying on the farm will serve as an experience to learn about how to do permaculture in a specific space, which would also provide income to make the exploitation sustainable.

Specialists agree that stimulating permaculture in Cuba would help achieve food



A chayote (Sechium edule) grown on the La Luisa farm, in Havana, belonging to farmer Ivonne Moreno. She highlights that in a problematic context such as the Covid pandemic, the opportunities of permaculture were evident in Cuba, since it provides a variety of foods and does not depend on one or two crops, a factor of vulnerability to phenomena such as hurricanes.

security, environmental sanitation, rescue and preserve farming culture, generate jobs, and design urban or rural spaces more in line with local needs and traditions.

It would also stimulate the diversification of clean energy sources, enhance recycling, improve soil treatment, and use water more rationally.

Challenges Experts on the subject point out that the family space has been the scale of the introduction of permaculture in Cuba.

Statistics indicate that family and private producers' agriculture provides 70% of the food produced nationally, generally through more efficient land use and better soil conservation compared to conventional agricultural systems.

However, it remains a problematic issue in a country with deficient agricultural production that maintains high prices and imports about 80% of the food for domestic consumption.

Most Cuban families spend more than 70% of their monthly expenses on food.

Although many actions have been developed in recent years to transition to sustainability-focused agriculture, the conventional agriculture paradigm still dominates in Cuba. From academic spaces and small producers, there is insistence on overcoming this approach that prioritizes obtaining large production volumes despite high economic, energy, and environmental costs.

In addition to degrading natural resources and increasing vulnerability to climate change. It is considered a partial and unsustainable solution that also limits the transition to food sovereignty.

According to Moreno, permaculture in Cuba faces "a mentality problem, of wanting to do things the same way, 'it's always been done that way' mentality. If you do something different, even if it has results, they call you crazy."

The other major problem, in her opinion, is related to obstacles in accessing environmentally friendly technologies "like solar panels to produce electricity or systems to recycle water and even make it drinkable." She emphasized the importance of using appropriate technology, that which the person can afford wherever they are.

"The compost I make here is not something someone living in an apartment in the city center can do. But both can produce clean energy, recycle water, and grow condiments and vegetables in pots made from plastic bottles," she said.

In her case, it seems to fulfill the maxim that no one is a prophet in their own land, judging by "the resistance shown in her environment," she assured. However, over time she has managed to get some community members to apply organic fertilizers and start showing interest in the subject.

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO



INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF SERVICE PROVIDERS FOR PROVISION OF REPAIR & MAINTENANCE OF RADIATORS, SEAT COVERS, AND CABINS REPAIR.

I. INTRODUCTION

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

The Company is in the process of prequalifying service providers for the Provision of Repair & Maintenance of Radiators, Seat Covers and Cabins Repair and is, therefore, inviting eligible and interested applicants to submit expressions of interest as detailed below.

NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST IN THIS SERVICE. SHORTLISTED APPLICANTS WILL BE SUBJECTED TO THE ANGGOLD ASHANTI VETTING PROCESS.

Scope of Service

REFERENCE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
GGME01869	PROVISION OF REPAIR & MAINTENANCE OF RADIATORS, SEAT COVERS, AND CABINS REPAIR

II. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
COMMERCIAL
Company Profile and updated organogram
Company Code of Conduct and Ethics
Copy of Current Business License
Copy of Certificate of Incorporation, the most recent BRELA search, and the latest BRELA application of annual return.
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC), TIN Certificate and VAT Registration Certificate
NSSF Compliance certificate
Copy of Company Memorandum and Article of Association
Compliance with Mining Act-Approved Local Content Plan.
FINANCIAL POSITION AND TERMS OF TRADE
Applicants audited financial statements for the latest three years.
Bank statements of the Applicants active bank accounts for the past 6 months.
SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS
OSHA Compliance Certificate
Environmental compliance certificate
Workers' compensation fund certificate
Safety and Environmental policy
OTHER POLICIES
Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure
Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labour
Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment
Grievance Procedure
Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Programme
PAST EXPERIENCE
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)
TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01869)
Provide evidence (reference PO's) to show experience of repair and maintenance of seats, seat covers and radiators for various mining equipment, not less than 6years.
Catalogue and evidence of ownership of critical machines and tools used for repair and maintenance of seats, seat covers and radiators, include technical & safety datasheet for the machines
Provide evidence of ownership of repair facility or workshop in Geita that will be used to execute the contract of repair and maintenance of seats, seat covers and radiators.
Proof of ability to provide Warranty for repair works, not less than 6months

III. Interested Applicants must submit their Expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting "GGME01869 – PROVISION OF REPAIR & MAINTENANCE OF RADIATORS, SEAT COVERS, AND CABINS REPAIR" on THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL.

Applicants must also submit supporting information to the Company, which states the full name, address, telephone, and e-mail address of the company, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline why the Company is of interest to work with, what the company has to offer and how the skills and experience are valuable to the Company.

IV. All LOIs and supporting documentation (in PDF format) must be submitted to the Company via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com without copying any individual from the Company. Submission must not be later than 8.30 AM (EAT) on 25th June 2024 . (the "EOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions must not exceed 150MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 150MB, applicants must split the submissions into multiple emails.

V. Shortlisted Candidates will be notified within forty-five (45) calendar days from the submission deadline. Candidates not contacted within the forty-five (45) calendar days should consider themselves unsuccessful.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=



INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - PREQUALIFICATION OF SERVICE PROVIDERS FOR MEDIA MONITORING FOR THE COMPANY'S PUBLIC RELATIONS

I. INTRODUCTION

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

The Company is in the process of prequalifying Service Providers for Media Monitoring for the Company's Public Relations and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible applicants to submit Expressions of Interest for this service as detailed below.

NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST ON THIS SERVICE. SHORTLISTED CANDIDATES WILL BE SUBJECTED TO THE ANGGOLD ASHANTI VETTING PROCESS.

Scope of Service:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01860	PROVISION OF MEDIA MONITORING FOR THE COMPANY'S PUBLIC RELATIONS

II. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
COMMERCIAL
Company Profile and Updated Organogram
Company Code of Conduct and Ethics
Copy of Current Business License
Copy of Certificate of Incorporation, the most recent BRELA search, and the latest BRELA application of annual return.
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC), TIN Certificate and VRN certificate
Copy of Workers' Compensation Fund Certificate
Copy of Company Memorandum and Article of Association
Compliance with Mining Act-Approved Letter of Local Content Plan.
FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE
Applicants audited financial statements for the latest three years.
At least 1 reference from the applicant's bankers regarding supplier's credit position. If any.
All bank statements of the Applicants active bank accounts for the past 6 months to date
SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS
OSHA Compliance Certificate
Environmental compliance certificate
Safety and Environmental policy
OTHER POLICIES
Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure
Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labor
Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment
Grievance Procedure
Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Program
PAST EXPERIENCE
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients
TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01860)
Demonstrable ability to use cutting-edge software and techniques to give the Company a competitive advantage in media monitoring across all platforms. Please attach Key Personnel CVs.
Distinguished ability to produce high quality in-depth monthly media analysis reports with excellent infographics. Please provide a profile showcasing the same.
Demonstrable proficiency in translation of media content/articles in both English and Kiswahili. Attach a media report that has been translated into English from the original Swahili text and vice versa.
Proven experience of company and key personnel in undertaking media monitoring for large corporates, including in the mining industry. Provide case studies (online links) to showcase this experience and ability over the last 2 years.

III. Interested Applicants must quote " GGME01860 – PROVISION OF MEDIA MONITORING FOR THE COMPANY'S PUBLIC RELATIONS" on THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL for submission of Letters of Interest ("LOI"). Letters of Interest must indicate the Applicant's full name, contact details, and name of the principal contact.

IV. All LOIs and supporting documentation (in PDF format) must be submitted to the Company via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com without copying any individual from the Company. Submission must not be later than 8.30 AM (EAT) on 25th June 2024. (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 150MB per email. In case the size of the email with attachments exceeds 150MB, applicants must split the submissions into multiple emails.

V. Shortlisted Applicants will be notified within forty-five (45) calendar days from the submission deadline. Applicants not contacted within the forty-five (45) calendar days should consider themselves unsuccessful.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=



INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF INDUSTRIAL KITCHEN EQUIPMENT

I. INTRODUCTION

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

The Company is in the process of prequalifying suppliers for the Supply and Delivery of Industrial Kitchen Equipment's and is, therefore, inviting eligible and interested applicants to submit expressions of interest as detailed below.

NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST ON THIS SUPPLY. SHORTLISTED CANDIDATES WILL BE SUBJECTED TO ANGLOGOLD ASHANTI VETTING PROCESS.

II. Scope of Supply:

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01873	SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF INDUSTRIAL KITCHEN EQUIPMENT

III. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
COMMERCIAL
Company Profile and updated organogram
Company Code of Conduct and Ethics
Copy of Current Business license
Copy of Incorporation Certificate, the most recent BRELA search, and the latest BRELA application of annual return.
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC), TIN Certificate and VRN certificate
Copy of Workers' compensation fund certificate
Copy of company memorandum and article of association
Compliance with Mining Act-Approved Local Content Plan.
FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE
Applicants audited financial statements for the past three consecutive years.
At least 1 reference from the applicant's bankers regarding supplier's credit position. If any.
All bank statements of the Applicants active bank accounts for the past 6 months to date
A guarantee from a reputable financial institution to support any declared alternative source of funds.
SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS
OSHA Compliance Certificate
Environmental compliance certificate
Safety and Environmental policy
OTHER POLICIES
Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure
Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labor
Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment
Grievance Procedure
Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Program
PAST EXPERIENCE
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients
TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01873)
Proof of Dealership Agreements with industrial kitchen equipment manufacturers (Must be Electrolux Brand)
Proof of availability of Warranty and After Sale Services from Electrolux manufacturer
Electromechanical Technicians (Provide at least 4 CVs)
Proposal for energy-efficient design that reduces carbon footprints
Proof of supply of Electrolux brand ranges of Industrial Kitchen and Catering Equipment

IV. Interested Applicants must quote "GGME01873 – SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF INDUSTRIAL KITCHEN EQUIPMENT ON DDP SITE 2010 INCOTERMS" on the subject of the email for submission of Letters of Interest ("LOI"). Letters of Interest must indicate Applicant's full name, contact details and name of the principal contact.

V. All LOIs and supporting documentation (in PDF format) must be submitted to the Company's via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com without copying any individual from the Company. Submission must not be later than 8.30 AM (EAT) on 25th June 2024. (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 150MB per email. In case the size of the email with attachments exceeds 150MB, applicants must split the submissions into multiple email.

VI. Shortlisted Applicants will be notified within forty-five (45) calendar days from the submission deadline. Applicants not contacted within the forty-five (45) calendar days should consider themselves unsuccessful.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=



INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF SUPPLIERS FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) FIREFIGHTING SKID UNIT.

I. INTRODUCTION

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

The Company is in the process of prequalifying suppliers for the Supply and Delivery of Firefighting Skid Unit and is, therefore, inviting eligible and interested applicants to submit expressions of interest as detailed below.

NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST IN THIS SUPPLY. SHORTLISTED APPLICANTS WILL BE SUBJECTED TO THE ANGLOGOLD ASHANTI VETTING PROCESS.

II. Scope of Supply

REFERENCE NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
GGME01870	SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF ONE (1) FIREFIGHTING SKID UNIT

III. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
COMMERCIAL
Company Profile and updated organogram
Company Code of Conduct and Ethics
Copy of Current Business license
Copy of Incorporation Certificate, the most recent BRELA search, and the latest BRELA application of annual return.
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC), TIN Certificate and VRN certificate
Copy of Workers' compensation fund certificate
Copy of company memorandum and article of association
Compliance with Mining Act-Approved Local Content Plan.
FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE
Applicants audited financial statements for the past three consecutive years.
At least 1 reference from the applicant's bankers regarding supplier's credit position. If any.
All bank statements of the Applicants active bank accounts for the past 6 months to date
A guarantee from a reputable financial institution to support any declared alternative source of funds.
SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS
OSHA Compliance Certificate
Environmental compliance certificate
Safety and Environmental policy
OTHER POLICIES
Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure
Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labor
Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment
Grievance Procedure
Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Program
PAST EXPERIENCE
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients
TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01873)
Proof of Dealership Agreements with industrial kitchen equipment manufacturers (Must be Electrolux Brand)
Proof of availability of Warranty and After Sale Services from Electrolux manufacturer
Electromechanical Technicians (Provide at least 4 CVs)
Proposal for energy-efficient design that reduces carbon footprints
Proof of supply of Electrolux brand ranges of Industrial Kitchen and Catering Equipment

III. Interested companies must submit their Expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting (GGME01870 – SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF FIRE FIGHTING SKID UNIT) on THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL. Applicants must also submit supporting information to the Company, which states the full name, address, telephone, and e-mail address of the Company, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative.

IV. All LOIs and supporting documentation (in PDF format) must be submitted to the Company via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com without copying any individual from the Company. Submission should not be later than 8.30 AM (EAT) on 25th June 2024. (the "EOI" Submission Deadline") . EOI submissions must not exceed 150MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 150MB, applicants must split the submissions into multiple emails.

V. Shortlisted Candidates will be notified within forty-five (45) calendar days from the submission deadline. Candidates not contacted within the forty-five (45) calendar days should consider themselves unsuccessful.

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BUSINESS

AfDB empowered with \$117bn capital boost for Africa's future

Study urges proactive approach to cybersecurity risks for enterprises

By Guardian Reporter

THE 2023 Annual Cybersecurity Report reveals that over 161 billion threats were thwarted, signifying a significant 10 percent increase from the previous year's global statistics.

Produced by Trend Micro, the report issues a warning, highlighting that cyber attackers are increasingly using sophisticated tactics to target fewer victims, which could lead to higher financial gains.

Entitled "Calibrating Expansion," the report serves as a compelling reminder that enterprises need to adopt a proactive stance in mitigating risks across the entirety of the attack surface in today's ever-evolving cybersecurity environment.

Additionally, the report revealed a 349 percent year-over-year surge in email malware detection worldwide. In contrast, detections of malicious and phishing URLs decreased by 27 percent year-over-year. Cloud app access posed the greatest risk, with Trend's Attack Surface Risk Management (ASRM) recording nearly 83 billion access attempts.

For instance, in Morocco, Trend Micro effectively blocked and detected over 52 million threats. This includes the prevention of over 40 million email threats and over 1.6 million malicious URL victim attacks. Additionally, the report identified and stopped more than 3.7 million malware attacks, showcasing its expertise in safeguarding digital assets in the country.

"In the realm of cybersecurity, a breach isn't always a catastrophe in itself; rather, it's often our response that can escalate it into a major challenge or crisis", said Assad Arabi, Managing Director, Africa & Venture Markets, Trend Micro. "At Trend Micro we understand this critical distinction. We help organizations stay ahead of cyber threats by adopting the latest solutions, including the seamless integration of AI. Our proactive approach

allows us to anticipate and address potential breaches before they escalate. Our annual report stands as a testament to this commitment, showcasing how we navigate and mitigate breaches, turning potential crisis into opportunities for resilience and growth".

As part of its ongoing commitment to enhancing cybersecurity awareness, Trend Micro will participate in GITEC Africa, taking place in Morocco. This engagement underscores Trend Micro's dedication to fostering a more secure digital environment by sharing insights, showcasing innovations, and collaborating with industry leaders and stakeholders at one of Africa's premier technology events.

Trend Micro, a global cybersecurity leader, helps make the world safe for exchanging digital information. Fueled by decades of security expertise, global threat research, and continuous innovation, Trend Micro's cybersecurity platform protects hundreds of thousands of organizations and millions of individuals across clouds, networks, devices, and endpoints.

As a leader in cloud and enterprise cybersecurity, the platform delivers a powerful range of advanced threat defense techniques optimized for environments like AWS, Microsoft, and Google, and central visibility for better, faster detection and response. With 7,000 employees across 65 countries, Trend Micro enables organizations to simplify and secure their connected world.



In the realm of cybersecurity, a breach isn't always a catastrophe in itself; rather, it's often our response that can escalate it into a major challenge or crisis



Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u (L), AfDB Governor for Kenya with Philippe Lasmel, Temporary Governor of Côte d'Ivoire at the AM2024 in Nairobi Kenya. Photo AfDB

By Guardian Reporter

THE African Development Bank Group (AfDB) concluded its 2024 Annual Meetings with a reinforced mandate from its shareholders, allowing it to better align with the evolving global finance architecture and enhance its support for the continent.

A statement issued yesterday by AfDB and shared to this paper, indicated that over the course of the five-day meetings, held in the Kenyan capital, Nairobi, shareholders approved a \$117 billion callable capital increase, raising the Bank's total capital to \$318 billion. This boost is intended to strengthen the Bank's capacity for interventions across Africa.

"This is a major demonstration of the faith, of the confidence that our shareholders have in us," said Bank president Akinwumi Adesina. "Their confidence in our ability to use resources well, their confidence in our ability to mobilize more capital with what we have, and it will give us more liquidity as a bank to be able to do more."

The theme of this year's event, was "Africa's Transformation, the African Development Bank Group, and the Reform of the Global Financial Architecture." Adesina emphasized the necessity for a fairer and more equitable global financial architecture and climate finance system, ensuring it benefits the countries that need it most.

The event saw Kenya pledging \$20 million to AfDB, the concessional window of the Bank Group serving 37 low-income countries. This pledge makes Kenya the largest

regional member country contributor to the fund. This year's meetings attracted over 10,000 participants from Africa and beyond and marked the launch of the Bank's 60th anniversary celebrations. Delegates included several African heads of state and government, Bank governors, executive directors, senior government leaders, development partners, the academia and civil society representatives.

Apart from statutory meetings, the event featured several side events and knowledge-sharing dialogue sessions, led by African and global experts. The Bank's flagship African Economic Outlook report was also unveiled, revealing that African economies are demonstrating resilience despite challenging economic conditions. The report noted an average GDP growth of 3.7 percent for 2024, with a projected increase to 4.3 percent in 2025.

Adesina underscored the importance of Africa being central to the global financial architecture: "The Bank must continue to lead that charge. We need to be at the table. As Africans, we should believe in ourselves and write a new narrative for Africa. The growth of Africa will support the growth of the world with Africa at its heart."

There was consensus that to achieve Africa's structural transformation, there is need to improve the macroeconomic environment, domestic resource mobilization, tax collection, digitalization, formalizing the informal sector, tackling illicit capital flows and corruption, and improving the capacity of countries to better negotiate taxes and

royalties from their vast natural resources.

Shareholders also strongly endorsed the creation of an African credit rating agency, designed to better understand and fairly assess the continent's conditions.

"That African rating agency is not going to be a replacement for the global ratings agencies," Adesina explained. "What the heads of state are saying is they want a counterpart institution that understands the conditions in the continent better."

He stressed the need for reform in the global rating system: "The global rating system has to change. We need to create a fair response that rates African countries properly and with equity. Africa is not asking for a pass, but there needs to be a fair process that rates African countries properly. It's about fairness, it's about equity, it's about making sure that both sovereign and non-sovereign are rated properly."

In the final Communique, the Bank's Governors, representing shareholders, highlighted several positive developments, including the Bank's efforts to enhance food and nutrition security in Africa through its Feed Africa Strategy. They also expressed confidence in Africa's ability to build a green energy infrastructure while pursuing a low-carbon future.

The Communique underscored the need for increased private sector investments to accelerate Africa's transformation. It called on the Bank's management to further strengthen support for regional member countries to help them achieve sustainable development goals.

The Governors welcomed efforts to secure over \$1.5 billion in financing through the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) and to mainstream gender across all operations.

The Nairobi gathering marked the 59th Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of the African Development Bank and the 50th Meeting of the Board of Governors of the African Development Fund.

The meetings concluded with Kenya's Cabinet Secretary for National Treasury and Economic Planning, Prof. Njuguna Ndung'u, chair of the 2024 event, handing over the baton to Côte d'Ivoire's Minister of Economy, Planning, and Development, and Bank Governor, Niale Kaba, as the country prepares to host the 2025 Annual Meetings in Abidjan.

The Bank will climax activities marking its 60th anniversary later in September this year.

Tanzanian-based bank acquired by Nigerian business

By Guardian Reporter

A Nigerian-based bank has completed its acquisition of African Banking Corporation (Tanzania) Limited, in line with its strategic expansion goals.

Information made available to this paper indicated that with the acquisition, the Tanzanian bank

will now be merged with the banking operations of Standard Chartered Bank Tanzania to form a new entity.

Roosevelt Ogbonna, Access Bank's Chief Executive Officer said in a statement that the move is to add greater depth and breadth to their operations and creating more significant opportunities for financial inclusion, diversified product range and enhanced customer experience.

"This strategic move represents a notable step towards setting a railroad in Tanzania for intra-African trade within the East African region, Africa and the rest of the world. It underscores our commitment to creating a robust East African banking network, driving positive change and innovation," said Ogbonna.

Adding: "We are excited about the opportunities this acquisition presents for

our operations in Tanzania and are eager to leverage our combined strengths to deliver exceptional financial solutions and experiences to our customers."

Commenting on the transaction, John Imani, Managing Director, African Banking Corporation (Tanzania) Limited, said, "The completion of our transaction, not only underscores the bank's strong confidence in our operations and the Tanzanian market

but brings new and exciting opportunities for our customers, employees, and stakeholders."

"The new entity is poised to enhance our service offerings, leveraging the bank's extensive resources and expertise to deliver even greater value to our clients. We look forward to an exciting and prosperous future, driving economic growth and financial inclusion across Tanzania," he added.

Tourism emissary to lead expedition up Mt Kilimanjaro for record-setting climb

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi.

IN an effort to showcase Tanzania's tourism destinations globally, Macon Dunnagan, the country's Goodwill Ambassador for tourism in the USA, is set to lead his expedition up Mount Kilimanjaro next month, joining him will be a group of fellow tourists from the US.

During his 51 climbs earlier this year, Dunnagan fell short of reaching the summit and has now returned for his 52nd attempt to maintain his record on this special expedition up Mount Kilimanjaro.

The Tanzania tourism emissary in the US commended the Tanzania Forest Services (TFS) for their role in preserving and conserving the coun-

try's natural resources crucial to tourism.

In his 50th climb up Mount Kilimanjaro, Dunnagan led a group of American tourists on a unique six-day expedition along the Rongai route starting in early June of this year.

Speaking exclusively with this journalist, Dunnagan revealed that the key to his success in special mountain expeditions in Tanzania lies in the unwavering support of his wife, Kimberley Dunnagan, as well as the team from ZARA Tours.

In 2021, Dunnagan successfully summited Mount Meru for the first time, reaching its highest peak, the Meru summit, which stands at 4562 meters above sea level, before embarking on his 46th climb up Mount Kilimanjaro for a charitable



Macon Dunnagan pictured the highest peak of Mount Kilimanjaro. File Photo

cause.

During his Mount Meru climb, which is located within Arusha National Park, Dunnagan also visited other tourism destinations within the park, including Little Serengeti and Momella Lakes, to promote Tanzania's tourism attractions.

Additionally, Dunnagan mentioned that the USA will experi-

ence a solar eclipse on April 8, 2024, with more than 30 million Americans residing beneath the eclipse's path set to witness the total eclipse.

One estimate suggests that the eclipse generated a staggering USD\$6 billion in economic activity, prompting brands to launch marketing campaigns and special

product offerings. Wireless providers also anticipated a surge in cell phone usage as customers geared up for the event. Dunnagan noted that preparations for the 2024 eclipse began shortly after the 2017 Eclipse.

Describing the solar eclipse of April 8, 2024, also known as the Great North American Eclipse,

Dunnagan explained that it was a total solar eclipse visible across a band stretching from Mexico to Canada and traversing the contiguous United States.

Dunnagan elaborated that during a total solar eclipse, the moon appears nearly the same size as the sun, resulting in a few minutes of totality where the moon entirely blocks the sun's disk, allowing the stunning view of the sun's corona with the naked eye.

Highlighting the upcoming eclipse in Tanzania and, notably, Zanzibar on May 21, 2031, which is only seven years and one month away, Dunnagan emphasized the importance of early planning to accommodate the influx of tourists and seize the opportunity to showcase Tanzania and Zanzibar to the global audience.

He commended on the production of the Royal Tour documentary by President Samia Suluhu Hassan, noting the positive impact it has had on promoting Tanzania's tourism destinations worldwide. He emphasized that the president's decision to create the film was wise, as it is expected to attract more investment, leading to the creation of additional job opportunities.

Prior to his official marriage in the US, the Goodwill Ambassador proposed to his wife Kim Brown at Serengeti National Park (SENAPA) several years ago. The couple then celebrated their engagement by embarking on a special expedition to climb Mount Kilimanjaro via the Rongai route.

Having summited Mount Kilimanjaro an impressive 50 times, Dunnagan visits Tanzania two or three times a year, leading groups of tourists on mountain climbs and excursions to various tourism destinations in Tanzania, including the renowned Serengeti National Park (SENAPA).

Dunnagan further elaborated on his close connection with Mount Kilimanjaro, has authored numerous books highlighting the country's appealing tourism destinations. His renowned book, "Sons of Kilimanjaro," played a significant role in his appointment by the Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB) as a Goodwill Ambassador for tourism in his home country.

Africa's economic potential positions the continent as a key player globally

By Guardian Reporter

Dr. Akinwumi Adesina, President of the African Development Bank Group (AfDB), highlights the pivotal role of financing in unlocking Africa's vast potential and numerous opportunities. He emphasizes that Africa's significance can no longer be overlooked.

Delivering an impactful address to a diverse audience of diplomats, investors, academics, politicians, and media at the esteemed Chatham House in London, Dr. Adesina passionately explained the reasons behind his optimism for Africa.

According to a statement released by the bank yesterday, AfDB highlighted Africa as a continent brimming with tremendous opportunities. With a youthful, dynamic work-

force, significant renewable energy potential, rich biodiversity resources, rapid regional integration, and innovative solutions, the continent is poised for growth.

Dr. Adesina emphasized the resilience of African economies amidst global challenges, pointing out that the region is the second-fastest-growing after Asia. Citing the Bank's African Economic Outlook Report, projecting economic growth of 3.7 percent in 2024 and 4.3 percent in 2025.

The report, unveiled during the Bank's Annual Meetings in Nairobi in May, revealed that 15 countries achieved real growth rates exceeding 5 percent, with half of the world's 20 fastest-growing economies located in Africa.

As he discussed the path to achieving strong economic



growth and resilience, Dr. Adesina emphasized the importance of addressing challenges such as climate change, rising debt levels, and the need for critical global financial reforms.

Highlighting the essential factors for unlocking Africa's economic prospects, he stressed the necessity of structural economic changes, increased agricultural productivity, reliable electricity provision, accelerated infrastructure investments, digitalization, empowerment of women and youth in the economy, and industrialization through enhanced private sector engagement.

During the address, focus was placed on successful initiatives like the Technologies for African Agricultural Transformation program, which has significantly boosted crop productivity for millions of farmers. Noteworthy achievements, such as achieving self-sufficiency in wheat production in Ethiopia through the distribution of heat-resistant wheat, covering millions of hectares, were also shared.

The event, attended by a diverse audience including diplomats, international institutions, investors, startups, civil society, students, academ-

ics, and media representatives, aimed to facilitate discussions on key issues impacting Africa's economic development.

Dr. Adesina acknowledged prevailing challenges like youth unemployment, poverty, debt vulnerability, and political instability but dispelled misconceptions about Africa being a risky investment destination. Referencing a comprehensive study, he highlighted Africa's low infrastructure loan default rate, indicating a promising investment landscape compared to other regions worldwide.

Dr. Adesina, President of the African Development Bank Group (AfDB), emphasized the need for an independent African credit rating agency to address misperceptions and ultimately save African countries billions in debt service payments. He also highlighted the importance of enhancing security, expanding concessional and private sector financing, and the recent approval of a \$117 billion callable capital increase to bolster the Bank's lending capacity and support Africa.

As the Bank aims to "be bigger, bolder, and better," Dr. Adesina discussed successful initiatives such as the issuance of sustainable hybrid capital, attracting global commendation. Projects like the Alliance for Green Infrastructure in Africa (AGIA) and the Desert-to-Power initia-

tive in the Sahel aim to promote green projects and solar power generation, reflecting the Bank's commitment to sustainable development.

The Bank's support for large-scale projects, such as the LNG project in Mozambique, the Dan-gote Refinery Complex, and the OCP phosphate company in Morocco, showcases its dedication to mobilizing private sector investments in Africa. Dr. Adesina emphasized these accomplishments as key components of the Bank's new strategy for 2024-2033, envisioning a prosperous, inclusive, and resilient Africa.

With a focus on education and skills development, particularly for youth and women, the Bank's initiatives like the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA) and the Africa Investment Forum aim to empower women entrepreneurs and attract investments in Africa, amounting to over \$180 billion since 2018.

Dr. Adesina expressed optimism about Africa's future, emphasizing its pivotal role in global prosperity saying the continent is critical to the future of the world. It's a vision Africa deserves and it's a vision we'll achieve.

"Africa's prosperity and emergence as a pivotal continent are not just aspirations but attainable realities," he affirmed.

Firm to train locals on global project management criteria

By Guardian Reporter

RENOWNED project management consultancy firm has expressed commitment to continue supporting government in offering transformative professional training programmes across the country to meet global standards and achieve sustainable growth after emerging as Africa's Training Provider of the Year 2024.

Hebo group, said training programs that integrate global best practices with local insights can significantly enhance

the capabilities of project managers and their teams.

Founder and Director of Training Services at HEBO, Bula Boma Hekeno said the group has demonstrated excellence in delivering transformative training programs across Tanzania, Uganda, Malawi, and beyond.

She said their commitment to quality training has empowered professionals and organizations to achieve their full potential and drive sustainable growth.

"We are truly honored to receive this

recognition from the Africa Company of the Year Awards (ACOYA). This award is a testament to the hard work and dedication of our team who are committed to delivering transformative training programs," she said.

She added that the goal of the firm has always been to empower professionals and organizations in Africa to achieve their full potential through rigorous training and meticulous capacity building.

She further said successful projects

in Africa can lead to substantial community benefits and economic improvements.

"For example, infrastructure projects can improve connectivity and accessibility, health projects can enhance medical services, and educational projects can raise literacy rates and skill levels," she noted.

She said investing in the professional development of project teams through rigorous training programs is crucial for the success of projects in Africa.

She said the firm will continue leading the way by providing high-quality training that equips professionals with the necessary skills to navigate complex project environments.

With operations in Tanzania, Uganda, and Malawi, HEBO Consult serves a wide range of professionals and organizations, helping them to achieve operational excellence and strategic objectives through expert-led training, consultancy and advisory services.

Govt celebrates WB's efforts in boosting access to clean water

By Francis Kajubi

THE government has commended the World Bank for its support in enhancing access to clean water and sanitation in schools and rural communities through the Sustainable Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Programme (WASH).

Engineer Mwajuma Waziri, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Water, expressed gratitude to the World Bank for its support by highlighting the successful outcomes of the program at a special result and learning multi-country roundtable in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday.

She noted that the USD 352 million funded program has played a crucial role in boosting investments in the water sector, resource mobilization, and capacity building. The program, implemented in 25 regions (excluding Dar es Salaam) since 2019, is expected to achieve further milestones next year.

According to the PS, there has been an increment in the number of rural functional water supply points that has reached 72.3 percent. This has contributed to impacting the access to clean and safe water in rural areas to 85 percent.

She asserted that the programme complements the National Development Vision 2025 and is in line with the implementation of the Five-Year Development Plan 2021/22 to 2025/26 with a great focus on increasing access to water, hygiene and sanitation.

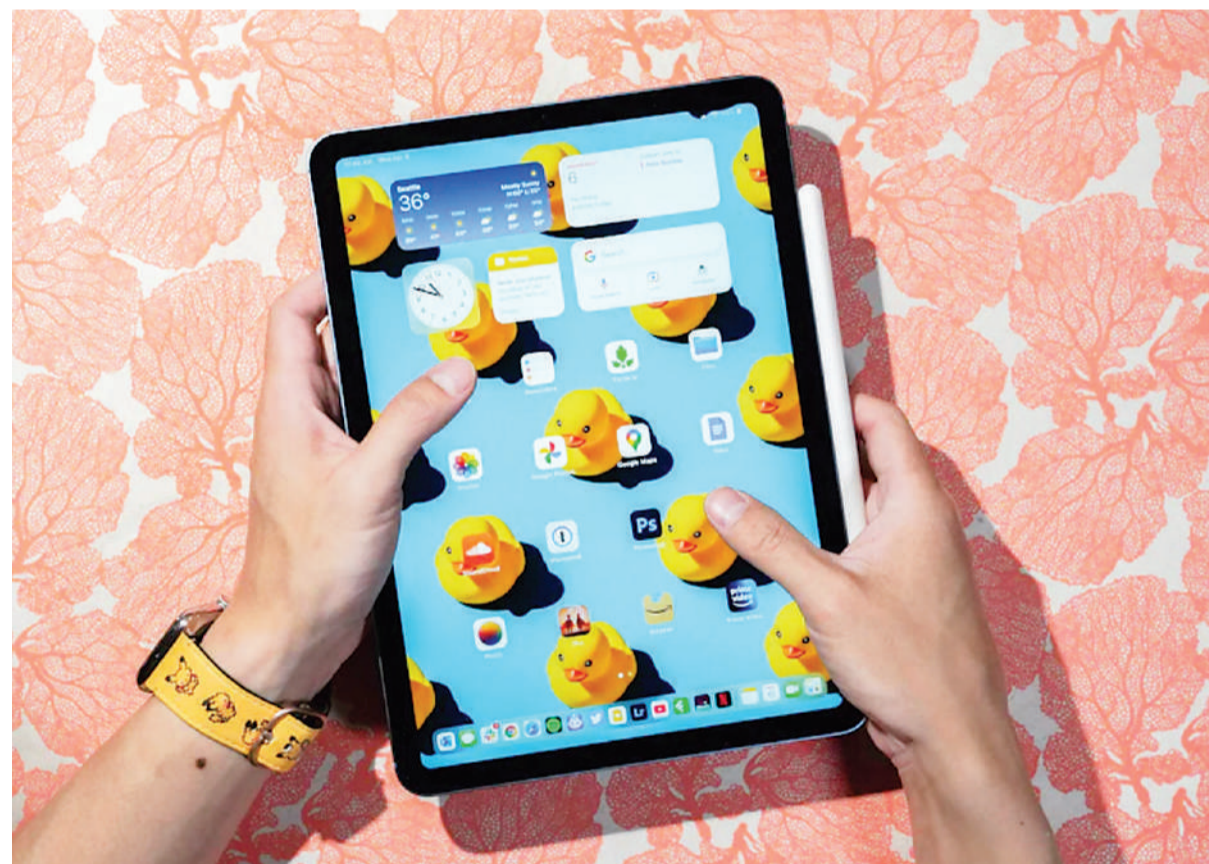
The plan is set to ensure that by 2026 about 95 percent of the urban population will have access to improved water sources.

"To achieve these targets in line with sanitation the government had in July 2022 launched the third phase of the Water Sector Development Programme (WSDP) which targets at strengthening institutions for integrated water resource management, increasing water supply, sanitation and hygiene service," said Waziri.

The programme is about to meet its target of increasing water supply to over eight million people.

On his part, Engineer Mashaka Sitta, Project Coordinator in the Ministry of Water commended the World Bank's programme for having been instrumental in improving WASH in schools.

"The programme has been of positive benefits for pupils especially teenage girls and the host communities of the over 1,300 schools that have been covered so far out of the targeted over 1,800 schools," said Sitta.



Census enumerators made to wait for payment over two missing iPads

KAMPALA

THE National Housing and Population Census conducted in May was like a well-oiled machine, with 99 percent of citizens counted.

This impressive feat, as reported by Dr Chris Mukiza, the executive director of the Uganda Bureau of Statistics and Census Commissioner, might seem like smooth sailing.

However, beneath the surface, enumerators faced a series of hurdles and challenges to reach this 99 percent.

The census was more than just a count; it provided much-needed jobs for the country's youthful population.

Among the sea of applicants, only a few lucky ones were selected, lured by the promise of daily allowances and a Shs500,000 al-

lowance at the end of the exercise. For many, the money arrived as expected.

Yet, for those working in Nakawa Division, their hard-earned Shs500,000 remains elusive, tangled up in the mystery of two missing iPads.

Imagine this: amidst the bustling streets and crowded households, enumerators juggled their duties with the ever-present risk of their equipment being stolen.

In a twist worthy of a detective novel, some enumerators decided to disappear with the iPads. According to a reliable source, one enumerator brazenly declared he wouldn't return the iPad until their payment was fully disbursed.

It's a standoff, with an official at UBOS saying, "We will not pay until you return the two missing iPads."

Catherine (not her real name),

one of the enumerators, shares a glimpse into the tension: "I know the guy who took one of the iPads, but he has refused to return it because he fears UBOS might not pay us. You know how Ugandan things be."

Her frustration is palpable, reflecting the mistrust simmering beneath the surface. She adds, "We were told we would be paid after we returned the materials given to us for the enumeration: the tablet, power bank, and USB."

The saga of the missing iPads has cast a shadow over the successful census, like a cloud obscuring the sun. The resolution remains uncertain, as enumerators and officials find themselves locked in a standoff, each side holding firm to their conditions.

The missing iPads have become a symbol of the broader challenges and complexities that lie behind the numbers.

Tech event to connect innovators, leaders, visionaries for innovation

By Guardian Reporter

TECHNOLOGY innovators, specialists, and thought leaders will gather in South Africa for the Africa Tech Festival, an African platform that brings together stakeholders from various sectors of the continent's technology industry to collaborate and drive innovation.

A statement released yesterday shared to this paper has that the event will bring various stakeholders from startup founders to business leaders, policymakers, investors, and rising newcomers, the festival aims to build a more inclusive and sustainable world through technology.

Comprising four anchor events namely; AfricaCom, AfricaTech, Africalignite and AI, the summit is Africa's showcase of enterprise tech innovation across key sectors like telecoms, connectivity, cybersecurity, cloud and data centres, green ICT, and media and entertainment.

With a focus on showcasing how Africa's cultural stories are being told through technology, the festival aims to drive positive change and foster collaboration within the African tech ecosystem.

Africalignite focuses on the startup ecosystem, with discussions covering everything you need to know to successfully launch a startup, to exclusive networking and members-only events.

The AI Summit Cape Town 2024 is part of the AI Summit Series, a global leader in AI events since 2016. Making its debut at Africa Tech Festival, attendees can expect a dynamic programme exploring how this transformative technology can create a brighter future for Africa. This includes thought-provoking discussions, cutting-edge presentations and plenty of networking opportunities.

"Africa's technology landscape is growing at a rapid rate. On a continent where the number of e-commerce users is expected to grow to over 152 million by 2029 and tech startups are attracting significant local and international investment, Africa Tech Festival is a hands-on demonstration of the power of cross-industry collaboration to create collective value," said James Williams, the Event Director. "By bringing together key players from across the tech ecosystem, we provide the perfect forum for Africa's tech sector to connect, learn and ultimately collaborate to drive innovation and positive change."

"This year, we're excited to unveil a more technical and targeted content lineup, accompanied by enhanced networking opportunities, Williams added. "We're building on our reputation as the continent's biggest tech event, to deliver value-driven experiences that empower attendees to make lasting connections and drive tangible outcomes."

Empowering equity, dignity: The Labour Act's impact on workplaces

By Norman Mwita

THE Employment and Labour Relations Act in Tanzania serves as a critical shield, meticulously forged to defend individuals from unjust treatment and arbitrary job terminations, fostering a fair and just work environment for all.

Far beyond mere legalities, this Act serves as a powerful advocate for workers, championing their rights and paving the way for a workplace ethos grounded in compassion, fairness, and respect for every individual under its purview.

Enshrined within the Code of Good Practice GN.No.42 of 2007, this Act stands as a cornerstone, providing a critical foundation for cultivating equity and inclusivity within work environments.

Particularly in cases involving employees diagnosed with HIV/AIDS, this legislation acts as a pivotal bulwark against discriminatory behaviors that may arise.

By firmly disallowing dismissals solely based on an individual's HIV/AIDS status, the Act staunchly defends the intrinsic rights of those affected, enabling them to pursue their work without apprehension of unjust consequences.

Moreover, the code unequivocally requires that in the event an employee is unable to carry out their duties due to an HIV/AIDS-related illness, employers are obligated to explore all possibilities in securing alternative employment.

This mandate is underscored by the assurance that the employee's benefits will be preserved without any hint of partiality.

In cases where an HIV/AIDS-infected employee's health prevents them from continuing their regular job duties, the guidelines within the Act and any relevant collective agreements addressing incapacity due to ill health must be meticulously followed.

This meticulous approach guarantees that the affected employee's rights and welfare are shielded, establishing a robust framework for handling health-related obstacles in the workplace.

In essence, the Act not only bars discrimination based



Each employee has the right to be free from unfair labour practices. File Photo

on HIV/AIDS status but also sets a compassionate and supportive tone, where individuals grappling with health issues are treated with dignity and given the chance to contribute to the workforce for as long as their health permits.

The provisions transform the workplace

into a realm governed by principles of equity, impartiality, and esteem, nurturing an atmosphere of inclusivity and empathy.

Besides the Act's emphasis on allowing HIV-positive employees to continue their work under normal conditions, provided they are medically able, is a significant

step towards combating stigma and promoting workplace equality.

This provision not only protects the livelihoods of affected employees but also fosters a culture of understanding and support within organizations. It underscores the importance of judging employees

based on their ability to perform their job duties, rather than on medical conditions beyond their control. In practical terms, the provisions outlined in the Act offer a lifeline to individuals living with HIV/AIDS, ensuring that they can maintain stable employment and income to support themselves and their families.

By offering legal protection against arbitrary dismissal, the legislation provides much-needed stability and security to employees facing the challenges associated with their health condition. This not only benefits the affected individuals but also contributes to a more compassionate and socially responsible work environment.

Furthermore, by setting a clear precedent that discriminative actions against HIV-positive employees are unacceptable and unlawful, the Act plays a crucial role in reshaping organizational attitudes and practices.

Companies that adhere to these guidelines demonstrate their commitment to diversity, equity, and respect for all employees, regardless of their health status. This, in turn, can enhance employee morale, foster trust in the organization, and contribute to a more harmonious and productive workplace culture.

Norman Mwita is Head of Employment and Labour from Rive & Co, a law firm known for its commitment to trust, credibility, and innovation in providing top-tier legal services. This article is for informational purposes only. For personalized legal advice, consult a qualified professional.

Reforms set to improve interbank efficiency and lower lending rates

NAIROBI

THE Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) has taken measures to tighten the disparity between interbank rates and its benchmark lending rate in a bid to reduce credit costs. This strategic move is part of a comprehensive set of reforms aimed at enhancing the efficiency of the interbank market and improving the transmission of interest rate decisions to lower lending rates for businesses and individuals.

The reforms introduced by CBK involve establishing upper and lower limits for interbank rates, as well as the CBK emergency loan rates, in alignment with the prevailing Central Bank Rate (CBR). The revised framework aims to ensure that interbank lending rates remain below 1.5 percent of the CBR, down from the previous 2.5 percent, while the discount window rate has been reduced to 3 percent above the CBR, compared to the earlier 4 percent.

CBK's decision to narrow the interest rate corridor around the CBR, from 250 basis points to 150 basis points, underscores its commitment to addressing market inefficiencies, including the issue of varying interest rates faced by small and large banks in the interbank lending market. This reform is particularly crucial in mitigating segmentation within the banking sector and promoting equitable access to funding for all financial institutions.

By streamlining interbank lending rates and aligning them with the discount window rate, the CBK aims to facilitate smoother operations within the financial sector and encourage banks to seek funding from the central bank as a last resort, ensuring a more robust and sustainable monetary environment. The discount window now offers secured loans to commercial banks at a punitive rate above the benchmark lending rate, incentivising prudent borrowing practices and discouraging excessive reliance on CBK funds.

While these reforms signal a positive shift towards lower interbank rates, CBK Governor, Kamau Thugge, clarified that the adjustments do not equate to an overall loosening of interest rates or monetary policy. Rather, the refinements are intended to enhance the effectiveness of the existing framework, streamline policy implementation, and enhance the direct transmission of monetary policy decisions to the broader economy.

As the CBK continues to drive forward these reforms, focus remains on fostering a more efficient and inclusive financial system, supporting credit access for businesses and individuals, and ultimately contributing to sustained economic growth and stability. **Agencies**



CBK governor, Kamau Thugge. File Photo

MONDAY - WEDNESDAY FROM 10:30 PM

ITV

WEDNESDAY 12 June		FRIDAY 14 June		SATURDAY 15 June	
5:00	Sosp rpt: Uzalo	5:00	Sosp rpt: Uzalo	5:00	Sosp rpt: Uzalo
5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00	HABARI	6:00	HABARI	6:00	HABARI
6:40	Kumekucha	6:40	Kumekucha	6:40	Kumekucha
7:30	HABARI	7:30	HABARI	7:30	HABARI
8:00	Kumekucha Michozo	8:00	Kumekucha Michozo	8:00	Kumekucha Michozo
8:55	Habari za saa	8:55	Habari za saa	8:55	Habari za saa
9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo	9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo	9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30	Sosp: Laws of love	9:30	Sosp: Laws of love	9:30	Sosp: Laws of love
9:55	Habari za saa	9:55	Habari za saa	9:55	Habari za saa
10:00	Watoto wetu	10:00	Watoto wetu	10:00	Watoto wetu
10:30	Jungu Kuu rpt	10:30	Jungu kuu	10:30	Jungu kuu
10:55	Habari za saa	10:55	Habari za saa	10:55	Habari za saa
11:00	Mjuzi zaidi	11:00	Mjuzi zaidi	11:00	Mjuzi zaidi
11:40	Mapishi	11:40	Mapishi	11:40	Mapishi
11:55	Habari za saa	11:55	Habari za saa	11:55	Habari za saa
12:00	Al Jazeera	12:00	Al Jazeera	12:00	Al Jazeera
12:50	Bundesliga na DW rpt	12:50	Bundesliga na DW rpt	12:50	Bundesliga na DW rpt
12:55	Habari za saa	12:55	Habari za saa	12:55	Habari za saa
13:00	Dakika 45 rpt	13:00	Dakika 45 rpt	13:00	Dakika 45 rpt
13:55	Habari za saa	13:55	Habari za saa	13:55	Habari za saa
14:00	Chetu ni chetu rpt	14:00	Chetu ni chetu rpt	14:00	Chetu ni chetu rpt
14:40	Kipindi maalum: NHF rpt	14:40	Kipindi maalum: NHF rpt	14:40	Kipindi maalum: NHF rpt
14:55	Habari za saa	14:55	Habari za saa	14:55	Habari za saa
15:00	Meza huru	15:00	Meza huru	15:00	Meza huru
16:30	Watoto Wetu	16:30	Watoto Wetu	16:30	Watoto Wetu
17:00	MUSIC: The Base	17:00	MUSIC: The Base	17:00	MUSIC: The Base
18:00	Hapa na Pale	18:00	Hapa na Pale	18:00	Hapa na Pale
18:15	Maji Kilimanjaro	18:15	Maji Kilimanjaro	18:15	Maji Kilimanjaro
18:30	Jarida la wanawake	18:30	Jarida la wanawake	18:30	Jarida la wanawake
19:00	Kipindi maalum: BOT	19:00	Kipindi maalum: BOT	19:00	Kipindi maalum: BOT
19:30	Sosp: Laws of love	19:30	Sosp: Laws of love	19:30	Sosp: Laws of love
20:00	HABARI	20:00	HABARI	20:00	HABARI
21:05	Albu Yako	21:05	Albu Yako	21:05	Albu Yako
21:05	Kipindi maalum: Watumishi Housing	21:05	Kipindi maalum: Watumishi Housing	21:05	Kipindi maalum: Watumishi Housing
21:20	Kipindi maalum: Tanesco	21:20	Kipindi maalum: Tanesco	21:20	Kipindi maalum: Tanesco
21:50	Ripoti maalum	21:50	Ripoti maalum	21:50	Ripoti maalum
22:30	Sosp: Uzalo	22:30	Sosp: Uzalo	22:30	Sosp: Uzalo
23:00	Jiji letu	23:00	Jiji letu	23:00	Jiji letu
23:30	MUSIC: The Base	23:30	MUSIC: The Base	23:30	MUSIC: The Base
00:30	Al Jazeera	00:30	Al Jazeera	00:30	Al Jazeera
THURSDAY 13 June		FRIDAY 14 June		SATURDAY 15 June	
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WORLD

South Africa's Ramaphosa to miss G7, focus on finding partners to govern

JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH African President Cyril Ramaphosa will not attend this week's Group of Seven summit in Italy, his spokesperson said on Monday, as his party rushed to find partners to govern the country.

Ramaphosa's African National Congress (ANC) is holding talks with a wide range of other parties, saying it wants to form a national unity government after losing its majority for the first time since the end of apartheid 30 years ago in the May 29 election.

Diplomatic sources had said Ramaphosa was due to take part in the G7 summit from June 13-15 at the invitation of Italy, which holds the rotating presidency of the G7 and wants to broaden the gathering beyond the usual seven industrial democracies: the United States, Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy and Japan.

"The president will not be attending the G7 meeting due to current domestic priorities he needs to focus on," Ramaphosa's spokesperson Vincent Magwenya told Reuters.

The ANC said last week that it favored forming a broad-based government of national unity, but some of the smaller parties have rejected one another and it is unclear whether any kind of deal will have been reached by Friday and who will be included.

"It's completely up in the air," said Ebrahim Fakir, analyst at the Electoral

Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa. "There's too many variables. There's too many things that different parties want."

The ANC is under pressure to reach an agreement quickly because the new National Assembly is set to hold its first sitting on Friday, adding to the sense of urgency for political parties to form a governing alliance after none of them won a majority of seats.

One of the national legislature's first acts will be to elect the next president, which is still expected to be Ramaphosa as the ANC remains the biggest party, controlling 159 of the 400 seats in the new parliament. Its nearest rivals are the pro-business, white-led Democratic Alliance, with 87 seats; the populist uMkhonto we Sizwe led by former president Jacob Zuma, with 58; and the hard-left Economic Freedom Fighters with 39.

The constitution says that a newly elected parliament must convene within two weeks of election results being announced.

At the first sitting, which will take place at a convention center in Cape Town, Chief Justice Raymond Zondo will oversee the swearing-in of the newly elected or reelected members of the National Assembly.

He will then preside over the election of the chamber's speaker, who will in turn oversee the election of the deputy speaker. Zondo will then preside over the election by lawmakers of the coun-



President of the African National Congress (ANC) and South African President Cyril Ramaphosa reacts during the party's National Executive Committee (NEC) meeting in Borsburg, east of Johannesburg on June 6, 2024. AFP

try's president.

Zuma vs Ramaphosa

"Theoretically it's still possible even for a party in minority to elect the president," said Fakir, citing the process described by the constitution.

It says the president must be elected by a majority of lawmakers, which most experts say means more than 50 percent of those present at the sitting.

If no candidate gets a majority, the person with the lowest number of votes is eliminated and the process is repeated until someone receives a majority of the votes.

That would suggest President Cyril Ramaphosa, the ANC leader, is highly likely to win a new term in office, although forming a stable government could prove highly challenging.

Business leaders and financial markets would favor a deal between the ANC and the DA, but that option is unpopular with ANC supporters, many of whom regard the DA as a defender of white privilege despite its denials.

An alliance with the EFF would be more popular with parts of the ANC base, but investors have expressed concerns about EFF policies such as nationalizing banks and mines and

seizing land from white farmers without compensation.

A further complicating factor is Zuma's MK party, a new entrant that came a surprisingly strong third in the election but has nevertheless been alleging vote-rigging took place and threatening to boycott the new parliament. Parliament said it had cancelled flights and accommodation for the party's elected members, citing the need to avoid wasting resources. MK's spokesperson did not respond to a request for comment.

Zuma openly loathes his successor, and his party has said it will not work with "the ANC of Ramaphosa".

Forced to quit as president in 2018 after a series of scandals, Zuma was jailed for contempt of court in 2021 after refusing to participate in an inquiry into corruption during his nine years in office, a factor that barred him from running for parliament.

However, he retains a vast and loyal following, especially in his home province of KwaZulu-Natal, where MK came first, trouncing the ANC.

Extra police have been deployed since the election in the eastern province, where Zuma's sentencing in 2021 triggered deadly riots.

More and more countries approve Chinese-Brazilian consensus on Ukraine, says Foreign Minister

BEIJING

THE consensus of China and Brazil on the Ukrainian settlement is being endorsed by an increasingly large number of countries, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi said during the meeting with his Brazilian counterpart Mauro Vieira, which took place during the BRICS ministerial meeting in Nizhny Novgorod.

"Recently, China and Brazil published a joint statement, in which they presented their 6-point consensus on political settlement of the Ukrainian issues. More and more countries understand and approve it," Wang Yi said, according to the Chinese Foreign Ministry website.

Wang Yi specified that China and Brazil are major developing countries, who positions on pressing international issues must be "fair, balanced and constructive." He noted that Beijing is ready to promote the cooperation with Brazil within the expanded BRICS.

According to Wang Yi, it is necessary to aspire to make the BRICS' role in global management increasingly significant.

Earlier in May, China and Brazil published a joint statement in the wake of Wang Yi's talks with the Brazilian presidential aide on international issues Celso Amorim. The statement says that dialogue and negotiations are the only way to settle the Ukrainian crisis. China and Brazil also proposed to hold a peace conference with "equal participation of all sides and discussion of all peace plans."

Universities in India can now admit students twice a year on lines of foreign varsities - UGC chairman

NEW DELHI

UNIVERSITIES and higher education institutions in India can now admit students twice a year similar to the admission process followed by universities abroad, according to the University Grants Commission (UGC) Chairman Jagadeesh Kumar.

The two admission cycles will be July-August and January-February from the 2024-25 academic session.

"If Indian universities can offer admission twice a year, it will benefit many students. Such as those who missed admission to a university in the July/August session due to a delay in the announcement of board results, health issues, or personal reasons. Biannual university admissions will help students maintain motivation since they do not have to wait one full year to be admitted if they miss admission in the current cycle," UGC Chairman Kumar said on Tuesday.

Currently, UGC Regulations allow the Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) to admit students in one academic session in a year starting in July/August. An 'Academic session' is twelve months, beginning in July/August.

Indian HEIs, therefore, follow the academic session that begins in July-August and ends in May-June.

UGC had decided in its 571st commission held on 25 July 2023 to permit biannual admissions under Open and Distance Learning (ODL) and Online modes in January and July during an academic year.

As per the information furnished by the HEIs on the UGC DEB portal, in addition to a total of 19,73,056 students were enrolled in July 2022 and an additional 4,28,854 students joined in January 2023 in ODL and online programs.

Considering the tremendous response and interest from the students in ODL and online programs in biannual admissions, in its meeting held on May 15 this year the UGC took a policy decision to allow Higher Education Institutions who offer programs in regular mode to admit students twice in a year, either in January/February or July/August from the coming academic year, the UGC chairman said. Those institutions that have the required infrastructure and teaching faculty can utilize the opportunity to admit students biannually.

Offering biannual admissions is not mandatory for the HEIs; it is the flexibility that UGC provides to the HEIs who want to increase their student intake and offer new programmes in emerging areas. To be able to admit students twice a year, HEIs must make suitable amendments to their institutional regulations.

UGC Chairman Kumar said, "With biannual admissions in place, Industries can also do their campus recruitment twice a year, improving employment opportunities for the graduates."

Biannual admissions will also enable the HEIs to plan their resource distribution, such as faculty, labs, classrooms and support services, more efficiently, resulting in a better functional flow within the university, he said.

ANI

Blinken: Hamas signal of support for Gaza truce deal is hopeful sign

TEL AVIV/CAIRO

US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said on Tuesday a Hamas statement of support for a UN resolution backing a proposal for a ceasefire in the Gaza war was a "hopeful sign" though word from the militant group's leadership in the enclave was vital.

Conversations on plans for Gaza after the Israel-Hamas war ends will continue on Tuesday afternoon and in the next couple of days, Blinken said in Jerusalem after talks with Israeli leaders. "It's imperative that we have these plans."

Blinken met Israeli officials on Tuesday in a concerted push to end the eight-month-old war a day after US President Joe Biden's proposal for a ceasefire was approved by the UN Security Council.

Ahead of Blinken's trip, Israel and Hamas both repeated headline positions that have undermined previous mediation to end the fighting, while Israel has pressed on with assaults in central and southern Gaza, among the bloodiest of the war.

On Tuesday, however, senior Hamas official Sami Abu Zuhri, who is based outside Gaza, said it accepted the ceasefire resolution and was ready to negotiate over the details, adding that it was up to Washington to ensure that Israel abides by it.

He said Hamas accepted the formula stipulating the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Gaza and a swap of hostages held in Gaza for Palestinian prisoners jailed in Israel.

"The US administration is facing a real test to carry out its commitments in compelling the occupation to immediately end the war in an implementation of the UN Security Council resolution," Abu Zuhri told Reuters.

Blinken said the Hamas statement was "a hopeful sign" but definitive word was still needed from the Hamas leadership in Gaza. "That's what counts, and



US Secretary of State Antony Blinken waves as he arrives at Ben Gurion airport near Tel Aviv, in Israel, on Monday. AP

that's what we don't have yet."

Israel has said it will agree only to temporary pauses in the war until Hamas is defeated, while Hamas has countered it will not accept a deal that does not guarantee the war will end.

Blinken, speaking to reporters, also said his talks were also addressing day-after plans for Gaza, including security, governance, and rebuilding the shattered enclave.

"We've been doing that in consultation with many partners throughout the region. Those conversations will continue...it's imperative that we have these plans," he said.

Fears of major Israel-Hezbollah war

In his visit, his eighth to the Middle East since the Israel-Hamas war erupted last October, Blinken also hoped to counter rising violence between Israel and Lebanon's Hezbollah after both signalled readiness for a major spillover conflict.

Blinken met with Israeli President Isaac Herzog, popular centrist ex-military chief Benny Gantz, who quit the hard right-dominated government on Sunday over

what he said was its failure to outline a plan for the war's end, and opposition leader Yair Lapid.

The US State Department said Blinken discussed Biden's truce proposal with Gantz and reiterated that it would advance Israel's security interests, bring hostages home and raise the chances of restoring calm along Israel's border with Lebanon.

Biden's proposal envisions a ceasefire and release of hostages in exchange for Palestinians jailed in Israel in stages, ultimately leading to a permanent end to the war.

The US is Israel's closest ally and biggest arms supplier, though it has become increasingly critical of the high civilian death toll, vast destruction and humanitarian crisis caused by Israel's Gaza war and pressed harder for an end to it.

The war raged on in Gaza on Tuesday as Israeli forces stepped up strikes on its southern city of Rafah a day after four soldiers were killed in an ambush claimed by Hamas.

Israeli Army Radio said the soldiers died in an explosion in a building in Rafah's Shaboura neighbourhood. Hamas said it had ambushed troops by detonating explosives previously planted in the building.

Protracted quest to clinch ceasefire

The Israel-Gaza war began when Hamas-led Palestinian Islamist militants stormed into southern Israel from Gaza on Oct 7, killing more than 1,200 people and seizing more than 250 as hostages, according to Israeli tallies.

Israel's retaliatory air and ground blitz on the densely populated Gaza Strip has killed more than 37,000 Palestinians, the Gaza health ministry has said, and reduced most of the tiny besieged enclave to wasteland, with malnutrition widespread.

Agencies

China makes big strides in new energy vehicle development with innovation

ON May 14, Leapmotor International, a joint venture established by Leapmotor, a Chinese maker of electric vehicles, and Stellantis, a multinational auto company headquartered in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, began operation. Four months later, two pure electric models of Leapmotor will be exported to nine European countries including France, Italy and Germany.

On May 20, German carmaker Audi and Chinese car manufacturer SAIC Motor announced to jointly develop a new platform for intelligent and electric vehicles.

The increasing international cooperation exactly mirrors

China's leading position in the development of new energy vehicles (NEVs) worldwide.

In recent years, the Chinese automotive industry, striving to manufacture electrified, intelligent, and connected products, has been actively promoting innovation in technologies, products, and business models.

In 2023, China's sales of NEVs exceeded 9.49 million units, nearly 126 times compared to 2014 and accounting for over 60 percent of the global market share, ranking first globally for nine consecutive years. The proportion of NEVs in China's annual sales of automobiles has increased to 31.6 percent.

However, 10 years ago, the global NEV industry was still an emerging sector heavily reliant on charging infrastructure and had yet to achieve commercialization. Numerous obstacles stood in the way of its progress, such as underdeveloped technologies, potential safety concerns regarding batteries, high production costs, poor user experience, and an untapped market.

Fu Bingfeng, executive vice president and secretary-general of the China Association of Automobile Manufacturers (CAAM), attributed the huge achievements of the Chinese NEV industry to the country's forward-looking and highly practical industrial policies,

and its strategic efforts to advance future-oriented charging infrastructure.

He said that the technological innovation made by the industry and relevant enterprises as well as the vast Chinese market also contributed significantly to such achievements.

In the past decade, China has introduced over 70 policies and measures to bolster its NEV industry. It has established a complete and coordinated industrial system, fostered the world's largest market for NEV consumption, and built a favorable environment in which the NEV sector and relevant industries mutually reinforce

each other through win-win cooperation.

Wei Yeguo, who lives in Xinglong township, Wanning, south China's Hainan province, bought a pure electric vehicle produced by Chinese NEV giant BYD last September.

"We have installed a charging pole at home, which makes charging incredibly affordable. Over the past six months, I have saved at least 10,000 yuan compared to driving a fuel-powered car," Wei told People's Daily.

If favorable policies were what propelled NEV sales in the early stage of the industry development, then the increasingly convenient and

diversified charging modes and low charging costs have become the market catalysts sustaining the rapid and continued growth of China's NEV industry after the phase-out of subsidies in 2023.

China has built the world's largest and most extensive-coverage charging infrastructure network. As of the end of 2023, the number of NEV charging facilities in China has grown 65 percent year on year, reaching almost 8.6 million.

Besides, China has witnessed continuous extension of industrial chains in power battery recycling and reuse, cascade utilization, and material regeneration. More

than 10,000 power battery recycling service outlets have been built across the country, making local recycling possible.

Recently, a Chinese extended-range vehicle drove 2,141.4 kilometers from Wuhu, southeast China's Anhui province, to Guangzhou, capital of south China's Guangdong Province, without recharging or refueling during a livestream event, which attracted massive attention.

Notably, the vehicle, manufactured by Exeed, the premium brand of Chinese automaker Chery Automobile Co., Ltd., completed the challenge in 42.5 hours with a full load.

People's Daily

Russia welcomes Venezuela's interest in BRICS, to strengthen ties – Lavrov

NIZHNY NOVGOROD

RUSSIA welcomes Venezuela's interest in BRICS and will contribute to the strengthening of relations as its chair, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said during talks with his Venezuelan counterpart Yvan Gil Pinto on the sidelines of the BRICS Foreign Ministers' meeting.

"We are glad to see you and your delegation in Nizhny Novgorod. We support Venezuela's interest in BRICS. As the chair, we will contribute to the strengthening of relations,"



the top diplomat said.

Lavrov pointed out that the countries are "effectively cooperating in the energy and

medical spheres."

"We are creating financial and logistical mechanisms that are resistant to external influence and ensure the independence of our relations, progressive development and protection from illegitimate actions, primarily by Washington and its allies. We value our interaction in the international arena, where, in particular, within the UN framework, cooperation is actively developing on the basis of the Venezuelan initiative to create a group of friends in defense of the UN Charter," the Russian foreign minister added. **Agencies**

Cooperation with China boosts rice harvest in Cote d'Ivoire

ABIDJAN

ON May 31, farmers in the Guiguidou area, Divo Province in southern Cote d'Ivoire, gathered around several brand-new agricultural machines, chatting with one another about how to use them against a backdrop of newly planted rice seedlings swaying in the wind.

"This time, we provided a batch of agricultural machinery to Cote d'Ivoire, including rice selectors, combine harvesters, rice milling machines, and 10 tons of rice seeds," said Guo Changyou, chief of the 11th Chinese Agricultural Technical Assistance Mission (MATAC) in Cote d'Ivoire, at the handover ceremony of agricultural equipment and rice seeds.

"We must take care of this gift because we produce millions of tons per year during the 2 cycles. With this donation, we will be able to improve our performance," said Alain Beugre, president of the Guiguidou Rice Farmers Cooperative.

In 1997, the Guiguidou area welcomed the first MATAC which supported local farmers in rice cultivation, repaired and maintained water conservancy facilities, and trained talents in the rice industry.

After nearly 30 years of unremitting efforts by Chinese agricultural experts, the rice varieties in the Guiguidou area have been optimized with ever-increasing quality and harvests of rice.

As stated by Zhang Jing, an expert from the 11th MATAC, four high-yield and high-quality rice varieties have been cultivated and approved by the Ivorian government and greatly improved in yield, quality, and taste compared with local traditional varieties. Among them, variety C26 can produce about 7 tons per hectare and has been widely promoted throughout this West African country.



Zhang Jing, an expert from the 11th Chinese Agricultural Technical Assistance Mission (MATAC) in Cote d'Ivoire, guides a local farmer in his work in the rice fields in Guiguidou area, Divo Province in southern Cote d'Ivoire, May 31, 2024. Xinhua

"The certification of another new variety C10, is also nearing completion. This high-quality variety will also be widely promoted in Cote d'Ivoire, benefiting the

rice industry of the entire country," Zhang added. Nowadays, Cote d'Ivoire is working on achieving self-sufficiency in rice by 2025 and increasing its polished rice production to more than 2.6 million tons, said Yacouba Dembele, general director of the Agency for the Development of the Rice Sector in Cote d'Ivoire.

Kobenan Kouassi Adjoumani, minister of agriculture and rural development of Cote d'Ivoire, said recently that support from partners is critical for Cote d'Ivoire to increase rice production and

achieve rice self-sufficiency.

Li Chengyao, economic and commercial counselor at the Chinese Embassy in Cote d'Ivoire, said the agricultural sectors of China and Cote d'Ivoire, a major agricultural country in West Africa, are highly complementary and the bilateral agricultural cooperation has broad prospects.

"China is willing to support Cote d'Ivoire in achieving self-sufficiency in rice, improving its rice product processing capacity, and becoming a major grain (producing) country," he said.

Xinhua



Britain's Prime Minister and Conservative Party leader, Rishi Sunak, conservative prospective parliamentary candidate, Jeremy Quin (right) and Sussex police and crime commissioner, Katy Bourne (2nd left), meet with Neighbourhood Watch representatives in Horsham, south of London, June 10, 2024, ahead of a campaign event in the build-up to the UK general election on July 4. AP

Under pressure, Britain's Sunak unveils party election manifesto

LONDON

BRITISH Prime Minister Rishi Sunak unveils his Conservatives' agenda for government on Tuesday, promising to offer voters in an election on July 4 the kind of financial security he says the opposition Labour Party can never provide.

With his governing party well behind in the opinion polls just weeks before the national election, Sunak will again try to convince voters that he has a bold plan to cut taxes, boost the economy and curb migration.

So far, his message has failed to start closing the gap with Labour, and he now faces a challenge from the right-wing Reform UK party, which, under the leadership of Brexit campaigner Nigel Farage, has vowed to lead a "revolt" against the Conservatives.

The launch of the party's manifesto, a document which sets out which policies the party will pursue if in government, is yet another roll of the dice for Sunak, who is expected to make much of his already-announced tax cuts and who could go further.

"We Conservatives have a plan to give you financial security," he will say at the manifesto launch, according to excerpts of his speech.

"We will enable working people to keep more of the money you earn be-

cause you have earned it and have the right to choose what to spend it on."

He will again attack Labour leader Keir Starmer and his team, repeating an accusation that the party will increase taxes by more than 2,000 pounds (\$2,545) on working households - a charge Labour says is a lie and which has been questioned by economists.

In what has become a rancorous campaign, Sunak will champion Conservative pledges to protect pensions, a guarantee not to raise income tax, national insurance or VAT, and what he describes as a tax cut for parents.

He will also repeat his pledge to abolish "the double tax on work when financially responsible to do so" - a reference to scrapping the national insurance payroll tax.

But he is on the back foot. An early departure from D-Day commemorations in France alongside other world leaders last week backfired when veterans were angered, prompting members of his party to question his decision-making skills. Sunak apologised.

Before the manifesto launch, Labour said the document would be "littered with unfunded commitment after unfunded commitment". "Whatever the Tories announce tomorrow, the money is not there," said Labour's Jonathan Ashworth. **Agencies**

Tatarstan: A meeting point of civilisations

By Andrey Avetisyan

ON the 12th of June we celebrate Russia Day - the National Day of the Russian Federation, a perfect occasion to show our appreciation for the unity of a multitude of ethnicities and a wide variety of religious groups under one flag. Russia is home to more than 160 nationalities, all with their own rich history, vibrant culture and language. This intricate tapestry of different ethnic and religious groups sharing one land is something with which many of our African friends may find a connection. Therefore, as it was in the past years, we continue to share with you the information about the many wonderful corners of Russia that have so much to offer to our guests.

With its territory spanning from Europe to Asia, Russia has had a unique opportunity to connect civilizations via ancient trade routes, providing a place for them to coexist peacefully. This is especially in Tatarstan - a republic that, due to its geographic position, has for centuries served as a bridge between Russia's European and Asian parts. Standing on the crossroads of trade routes and serving as a meeting point for Eastern and Western religious and cultural traditions, Tatarstan has accumulated extensive experience in maintaining inter-ethnic and inter-faith harmony. This serves as a perfect platform for the republic to build up contacts with the world, developing trade, scientific and cultural links.

Even though the archaeological evidence of human settlements here date back to VIII BC, the earliest known organized state within the boundaries of modern Tatarstan arose around AD 700. Known as Volga Bulgaria, it was an advanced state with trade contacts throughout Inner Eurasia, the Middle East, and the Baltic region. Here Islam was introduced to the population in AD 922 and Volga Bulgaria became an Islamic state. It existed until AD 1238 when it fell under the attack of the Mongol prince Batu Khan.

Despite the following rich and varied history, this region continued its traditions of connecting peoples, nations and religions. Today modern Tatarstan is home to more than 173 ethnic groups including Tatars (53.2%) and Russians (39.7%), Chuvashes and Udmurts, Mordovians and Maris, Ukrainians and Bashkirs. It covers an area of 67,800 km², its population is a little over 4 million. In accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Tatarstan, the two state languages are Tatar and Russian.

Islam and Orthodox Christianity are traditional religions in Tatarstan, with Catholicism, Protestantism, Judaism and other faiths also represented. The balance of interests of the two main confessions and full equality before the law for all religions is the basis of inter-faith accord in the republic. At all public events, an Orthodox priest is invited along with an Islamic



mufti. This makes it very similar to Tanzania. The panoramic view of the Kazan Kremlin with the Kul Sharif Mosque and the Annunciation Cathedral standing together within the fortress walls has become recognizable all around the world as Tatarstan's symbol.

This mutual religious tolerance is rooted in history. Even in the more modern era Tatarstan stayed true to this principle. In the 19th century it became a center of Jadidism, an Islamic movement that preached tolerance of other religions. Under the influence of the Jadidist theologians the local population became famous for cordial relations with other peoples of the Russian Empire.

Even though during the Soviet rule religion was largely suppressed, modern day Russia has provided ample opportunities to rebuild religious traditions and places of worship in the republic. This helped turn Tatarstan into a platform for dialogue with the Islamic states of the world. The capital city of Tatarstan, Kazan, was host to the International Economic Summit of 2020 "Russia-Islamic World: KazanSummit". In 2022 Kazan became the Youth Capital of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC).

On October 22-24, 2024 Kazan will host the BRICS Summit under the Russian chairmanship in the organization.

Present-day Tatarstan is a dynamically developing region. It is maintaining its position as one of the leaders in oil and petrochemical industries, as well as a center for manufacturing KAMAZ heavy-duty trucks and Mi helicopters, and as an important agricultural producer. But with its long-standing traditions in higher education, Tatarstan is increasingly becoming involved with new technologies.

The city of Kazan - the Republic's capital with over a thousand years of history - is home to more than 1.1 million people, over 40% of whom are younger generation.

For them Tatarstan offers opportunities in higher education in forty universities, including Kazan Federal University that celebrates its 220th anniversary in 2024, Kazan State Medical University, Kazan National Research Technological University, Kazan A.N.Tupolev National Research Technical University and Russian Islamic University.

One of the most innovative initiatives was the establishment of a new ultra-modern city of Innopolis, that has become a unique center for education, research and work for IT specialists. Its residents enjoy exceptional tax breaks, companies are attracted by the special economic zone and tax rebates. The city and its inhabitants have access to the

best modern technologies and world practices.

Tatarstan is making an emphasis on developing infrastructure as it has been host to many large-scale international events such as the 27th Summer Universiade in 2013, the FINA World Championships in 2015 and matches of the World Cup in 2018. From February to March 2024 Kazan hosted the high-tech multi-sport international tournament "Games of the future".

Sports have a long-standing tradition in the region and Tatarstan is continuously expanding its infrastructure in this area. Presently there are more than nine thousand sports venues in Tatarstan. Soccer being among favorites in Russia, has strong foothold here, in the home of the Rubin Kazan, a major European soccer team which has played in the UEFA Champions League and the UEFA Europa League. Twice Russian champion, Rubin Kazan plays in the Russian Premier League.

Not only that, but it is a well-known tourist destination with three UNESCO world heritage sites - the Kazan Kremlin, the Bulgarian State Museum-Reserve and Assumption Cathedral and the Monastery of the town-island of Sviyazhsk. Tatarstan has more than a hundred museums attended by more than 1.7 million

visitors a year.

Among the republic's famous cultural events are large international festivals such as the Feodor Chaliapin International Opera Festival, the Rudolf Nuriiev International Classical Ballet Festival, the Europe-Asia Contemporary Music Festival, the Rashit Vagapov Tatar Song Festival. Each fall Kazan hosts the Kazan International Muslim Film Festival. The Creation of the World Music Festival has been held here annually since 2008. And on top of that in the beginning of summer the entire republic joins in the wide-scale celebration of the ancient holiday of Sabantuy to mark the end of spring-time field work.

Russia and Tanzania enjoy friendly relations dating back to the glorious struggle of your people for freedom and independence. Now these relations are expanding, especially in areas like trade, economy, investment and tourism. Promoting people to people contacts, knowing each other better will surely benefit both friendly countries.

Andrey Avetisyan is the Russian Ambassador to Tanzania

SPORT



Jrue Holiday

Celtics traded for Jrue Holiday with NBA Finals in mind, and now they're 2 wins away from title

BOSTON

THIS moment is exactly why the Boston Celtics went out and got Jrue Holiday.

When president of basketball operations Brad Stevens and the rest of the front office sat down after last season to piece together their next steps following Boston's Eastern Conference finals loss to Miami, a question hovered over them.

How much were they willing to shake up the core of a team that had lost in the NBA Finals in 2022 and then came up a game short of returning the following season?

In the end they opted to swing big, trading longtime point guard Marcus Smart as part of the deal that netted 7-footer Kristaps Porzingis. Then, after Milwaukee traded Holiday to Portland to get Damian Lillard, the Celtics pounced, dealing former NBA Sixth Man of the Year Malcolm Brogdon and big man Robert Williams III to get Holiday.

The bold moves have proven to be exactly what the Celtics needed, helping produce a 64-win regular season, a romp through the first three rounds of the playoffs and a 2-0 lead over the Dallas Mavericks in the NBA Finals.

For the defensive-minded Holiday, whose defense limited Kyrie Irving, combined with a 26-point, 11-rebound effort helped Boston salvage its 105-98 Game 2 victory, it's the latest example that Holiday is where he is meant to be.

"I think that this is what was supposed to happen. And I'm glad that I'm here and I'm glad that I'm in this moment," Holiday said prior to the start of the Finals.

"(Celtics coach) Joe Mazzulla has talked about that a lot, especially this season is being in the moment, and that's what I've tried to do."

Part of what's made Holiday so effective for the Celtics is the 33-year-old's willingness to adapt his game to fill whatever his team has needed this season.

A No. 3 scoring option in Milwaukee behind Giannis Antetokounmpo and Khris Middleton during the Bucks' 2020-21 championship season, Holiday has accepted being the fourth or fifth option in Boston. His 12.5 points per game average this regular season was the lowest since his rookie season.

But there have been times, such as in Game 2, when Dallas doubled up on All-Star Jayson Tatum, put more pressure on Jaylen Brown or Porzingis struggled, when Holiday had to increase his output.

He's done it, while maintaining intensity on the defensive end this season. He was selected

to the NBA All-Defensive second team. It was the sixth time he was picked for the first or second team in his career.

Holiday believes it's a byproduct of the collective unity the team has been building throughout the season.

"I think when you sacrifice together and you do something together, it brings you closer," he said. "I think being able to go through wins and losses and to build something, it means a lot. ... From (roster spots) 1 to 15, somebody's sacrificed something."

Part of what's helped ease Holiday's transition to Boston has been the familiarity he already had with Tatum, with whom he played alongside on the 2020 U.S. Olympic basketball team that captured the gold medal during the Olympics in Tokyo.

Tatum said that relationship made periodic check-ins he had at times this season with Holiday easier.

"I would just check in or always remind him to be yourself and, we're going to need you in big moments, obviously like (Game 2)," Tatum said.

It's allowed Holiday to play to his strengths, most notably his ability to bring a measure of calm to the court in Mazzulla's controlled chaos.

Holiday's also been able to provide stability in crunch time for a team that in recent playoff runs sometimes wilted in those moments, often trying to lean on one-on-one play or committing turnovers.

And while a player such as Smart was a dominant alpha on the court, Holiday knows what it's like to play alongside a star such as Antetokounmpo, and coax the best out of them.

Asked to imagine what position the Celtics might be in without Holiday on the roster, Tatum didn't want to entertain the thought.

"Good thing we don't have to find out," he said.

No matter what happens over the remainder of the Finals, this won't be a one season-and-done stop for Holiday, who signed a four-year extension in April.

"From here on it's like - I'm supposed to be here," Holiday said. "And I'm supposed to be with my teammates. And we're supposed to do this together."

But there's only one way he'll feel as if his arrival in Boston can be deemed a success.

"It's been great and the journey's been awesome, but at the end of the day, the job is not done," he said.

AP

SPORTS

Mshery eyes more playing time to cement position in national team

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

GOALKEEPER Abutwalib Mshery, who has served as the number two goalkeeper for Young Africans SC for three successful seasons, is reportedly seeking to leave the club in search of a team that will offer him more playing time.

This move is motivated by his desire to cement a spot on the national team, Taifa Stars.

Mshery joined Young Africans in December 2021 and has contributed to the team's success, including winning the Premier League and FA Cup titles. He was also part of the squad that reached the CAF Confederation Cup final.

Despite these accomplishments, Mshery has often found himself playing second fiddle to Diarra Djigui, Young Africans' first-choice goalkeeper.

According to a source close to the player, Mshery's contract with the club has concluded.

"Mshery signed a three-year contract that has now expired. He is currently with the national team, and while he hasn't signed with another club yet, his goal is to join a team that will guarantee him more playing opportunities," the source said.

Speaking recently, Mshery confirmed the end of his contract with Young Africans but refrained from revealing details about potential offers from other teams.

He stated: "It is true that my contract with Young Africans has ended after this season. I am happy to have had three excellent seasons with the team despite various challenges, including injuries that kept me off the field for a while."

He continued: "I am currently at the national team camp. I had great seasons with Young Africans, but now it's time to serve the nation. Details about my new contract will be disclosed in due time. It's not for me to discuss. There are people responsible for managing



Taifa Stars and Young Africans goalkeeper Abutwalib Mshery. Agencies

these matters."

With Mshery's contract coming to an end, Young Africans now face a gap in their goalkeeping lineup. Metacha Mnata, who had a six-month loan spell with Singida Fountain Gate, has also completed his tenure. As a result, Young Africans are left with only Djigui and the U20 youth team's goalkeeper to fill the position.

Mshery's departure signifies a significant shift for Young Africans, which have seen considerable success over the past three seasons. The team has clinched three consecutive Premier League titles and the FA Cup, with Mshery playing a crucial role as a reliable backup goalkeeper.

However, his quest for more playing time and a secure position in the national team has prompted him to seek opportunities.

Mshery's journey with Young

Africans has been marked by both triumphs and challenges. Despite being the second-choice goalkeeper, he played a pivotal role in the team's achievements. His decision to move on reflects his ambition to further his career and make a more substantial impact on the field.

The future remains uncertain for Mshery as he navigates the transition to a new team. His dedication to improving his skills and cementing a spot on the Taifa Stars is evident. As he explores his options, the football community will be watching closely to see where he lands next.

Meanwhile, Young Africans will need to address the gap left by Mshery's departure. The club's management will likely be on the lookout for a new goalkeeper to complement Djigui and maintain their strong performance in the league and cup competitions.

Aussems targets top honors after taking Singida Black Stars reins

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

NEWLY appointed Singida Black Stars head coach Patrick Aussems has expressed his desire to compete for top honors after returning to the Tanzania Premier League on a one-year deal.

Aussems (pictured) signed a contract that will run out on June 30, 2025, but with an option to extend at the end of the season.

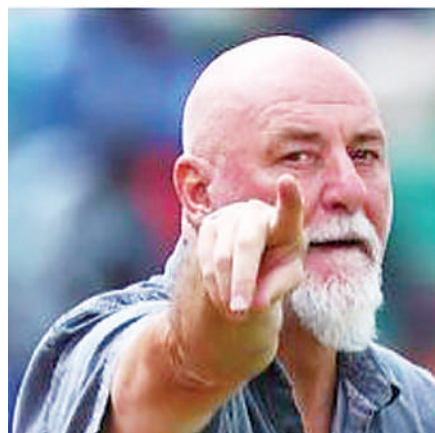
Singida Blacks Stars, previously known as Ihefu, parted ways with former coach Mecky Mexime after the conclusion of the 2023/2024 Premier League season.

The side finished in seventh place in the Premier League with prowess signings done during the January transfer window.

Aussems landed the Black Stars' job just days after being overlooked for the vacant top job at Gor Mahia in Kenya's premier league.

The move marks a significant chapter in the Belgian's coaching career, which involves stints in club and national team management across several continents.

Aussems' credentials and experience quickly caught the eye of Singida Black



Stars following his achievements with Simba in the 2018/2019 season when he won the Tanzania Mainland Premier League title and led the Msimbazi Street-based side to the CAF Champions League quarter-finals.

Speaking on his new chapter in Singida, Aussems said he aims to get involved in the players' recruitment as well as pre-season preparations as the team is eyeing top honors in the league.

"I am delighted to get this opportunity to return to Tanzania, a country where football is very passionate to the fans. During my time here, I enjoyed the

competition in the league. Things have changed over the years, but the growth has been immense and I look forward to competing among the best.

"Currently, it is important to get involved in recruitment and see how we can strengthen our squad and become competitive in the upcoming league season. I know the club aims to compete for honors and top four finish. I know it is going to be tough but nothing is impossible," said Aussems.

Aussems, who is set to commence his duties on July 1, this year, is already working with the management team on player registrations, highlighting his proactive approach to his new role.

Aussems is a UEFA Pro licensed coach with extensive experience managing prominent clubs in Africa, Europe, and Asia. His previous roles include coaching Al Hilal Omdurman (Sudan), Simba SC (Tanzania), AFC Leopards (Kenya), Shenzhen Ruby (China), as well as Evian Thonon Gaillard FC and Angers SCO in France.

Additionally, he has coached the national teams of Nepal and Benin and served as the Director of Technical at Marbella FC (Spain).

Ronaldinho, Weah, Okocha to feature in Veteran Clubs World Championships

By Guardian Correspondent

FOOTBALL legends from across the world are set to meet in Kigali, Rwanda, in September for a 20-game tournament to be known as Veteran Clubs World Championship (VCWC).

Among the legends are Ronaldo de Assis Moreira, alias Ronaldinho Gaúcho, George Weah and Jay-Jay Okocha, according to the organisers of the tournament

Ntoudi Mouyelo, an official from the organisers, said other legends who are expected to be in the tournament are Mboma, Oliver Kahn, David Trezeguet, Bacary Sagna, Louis Saha, Andy Cole, and Djibril Cissé, to name a few.

He said that the VCWC will take place from September 1 to 10, featuring 150 legends who will participate in the tournament as well as five economic forums on peace, education, health, business, and tourism.

Mouyelo explained that the sponsorship will include pre-event legend visits to Tanzania and Uganda, where some of them will engage in community programs such as coaching clinics.

"What we want is to amplify the voices of these legends across the continent," said Mouyelo. "Supporting this event is a

way to give back to the community that trusts our brand and is a way also to support the legends in their mission to create new legends across the continent. So let's watch with excitement the likes of Ronaldinho, George Weah, Jay-Jay Okocha, and all those other legends coming here."

For his part, VCWC founder Fred Siewe said that the legends will come from 60 countries across the world.

"All those legends decided to be part of the platform because the need was there. How can the legends impact society, impact the youth, and give back also to society, as former football players?" he said.

Siewe called on football fans to show up in large numbers for the tournament in Kigali and when the legends visit different African countries ahead of the main event.

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Mouyelo explained that the sponsorship will include pre-event legend visits to Tanzania and Uganda, where some of them will engage in community programs such as coaching clinics

Palestinian players continue push for World Cup qualification amid war back home

PERTH, Australia

MOHAMMED "Of course, it's (World Cup) a big dream," Rashid said. "Everything is possible. There's a lot of hard work that needs to be done before we get there."

Team officials discourage politically charged questions at news conferences. But the players are willing to publicly engage in conversations about the devastation in Gaza. More than 36,700 Palestinians have been killed, according to the Gaza Health Ministry, which does not differentiate between civilians and combatants in its counts. The war was sparked after Hamas and other militants killed some 1,200 people in the Oct. 7 attack on Israel, mostly civilians, and took around 250 people hostage.

Playing "gives the chance to raise the name of Palestine to the whole world, and the World Cup is the biggest platform for this," said Rashid, a defensive midfielder. "What's happening right now is affecting all of us. You can't help but be affected by it."

Rashid once worked as a forklift driver in a Chicago warehouse.

Fast forward to these grim times and Rashid, along with his Palestinian soccer teammates, carry a heavier weight knowing success on the field offers a little respite from the war raging in Gaza.

Amid the backdrop of the Israel-Hamas war, now in its eighth month, an inspired Palestinian squad has produced a stirring run to reach the third round in Asia of World Cup qualifying for the first time.

"What doesn't kill you makes you stronger," Rashid said in Perth on Monday, on the eve of his team's last second-round game against Australia. "We're here for one cause and one goal."

"Whoever is on the team has to perform. There is no other way to it."

The Palestinian team, 93rd in the world rankings, has never come close to reaching the World Cup via the Asian Football Confederation's qualifying route. With the 2026 World Cup expanding to 48 teams, and Asia's automatic qualification allocation doubling to eight, there's a better chance to make history.

The Palestinians play Australia at HBF Park on Tuesday to complete the Asian second round. Both teams are safely through to

September's next stage.

Rashid was on a college soccer scholarship in Illinois from 2013-17 before signing with the Palestinian Premier League one year later.

While most United Nations members do not recognize Palestine as a country, including the U.S. and Australia, the Palestine Football Association became a full member of FIFA in 1998.

The team affectionately known as Al Fida'i (The Warriors) had only moderate success at the continental level until recently. With a disciplined style of play, mirroring the resolve of its players, the Palestinian team has conceded only one goal in five matches in this qualifying cycle.

It's been a remarkable effort given the team hasn't played on home soil since 2019, having been forced to host matches in Kuwait and Qatar. Players have had to flee for safety and seek overseas leagues.

Rashid, who plays club soccer for Bali United in Indonesia, said for his team the hardest part of competing in international competition was not being able to play at home.

"The last time we played Saudi Arabia at home, it was a full house. People were climbing trees to watch the game," he said. "We've had 28 games away, which is rough. But we're always playing for our people."

The team's mere existence is seen by some as a political statement. The Palestinian football association president, Jibril Rajoub, was denied an entry visa for Australia. Rajoub is also a politician and heads the Palestinian Olympic committee.

The visa issue surfaced on the weekend when the team arrived in Perth. By Monday, Australia Prime Minister Anthony Albanese was questioned about it in Canberra, the capital.

"These decisions are made at arm's length by the bodies, by the immigration department," Albanese said.

Rashid and his teammates are hoping to put that setback aside and continue to offer inspiration for Palestinians.

"When it comes to (soccer), you try to get your head out of it," he said. The soccer team's international matches "is the only thing they (Palestinians) are watching. The only thing giving them hope."

"For us this is a big motivation."

AP

Bolivian teenager to miss Copa America because he doesn't have parental permission to travel

LA PAZ, Bolivia

SIXTEEN-YEAR-OLD Bolivia midfielder Moisés Paniagua will miss the Copa America in the United States because he doesn't have permission to travel from one of his parents.

Paniagua, who plays for local club Always Ready, could not arrange an entry visa to the United States because he didn't have full parental authorization, the Bolivian Football Association said in a statement.

The Bolivian FA did not identify which parent.

He was picked for friendlies against Ecuador and Colombia in the U.S. but did not travel. Coach Zago will announce his final squad of 26 soon.

Paniagua made history in the Copa Libertadores in February by becoming the second youngest scorer at 16 years, 188 days. He scored in a 6-1 victory over Peru's Sporting Cristal.

Bolivia is in Group C, which includes the U.S., Paraguay and Panama. Its first match will be against the host on June 23 in Arlington, Texas.

AP

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Paniagua, who plays for local club Always Ready, could not arrange an entry visa to the United States because he didn't have full parental authorization, the Bolivian Football Association said in a statement.

Another surprise? Europe's biggest soccer show to begin in Germany and as usual it's unpredictable

BY JAMES ROBSON

A RETURNING Cristiano Ronaldo, a rampant Kylian Mbappé and a resurgent Germany.

Throw in a Harry Kane-powered England and defending champion Italy and Euro 2024 is wide open.

That's without mentioning three-time winner Spain.

The unpredictability of the European Championship, which begins in Munich on Friday, is what makes it such compelling viewing. Even in its expanded format of 24 teams, there is always the potential for a surprise.

This is the tournament, after all, that was won by rank outsider Greece in 2004. In 1992, it was won by Denmark, a team that hadn't even qualified for the finals but was granted entry at the 11th hour when war-torn Yugoslavia was banned.

Host nation Germany hopes to create a welcoming and festive atmosphere for millions of soccer fans who will watch the games in stadiums or fan zones across the country - like it did when it hosted the 2006 World Cup.

However, this tournament will be played in a different political context. Europe's biggest sporting event since the Russian invasion of Ukraine is taking place in the shadow of the most devastating conflict in Europe since World War II.

Ukraine is participating and can expect a warm reception in Germany, which hosted the team's home matches during the qualifying campaign. Russia was excluded from qualifying - it has been suspended from all international competitions by European soccer body UEFA as well as global counterpart FIFA.

Meanwhile, Georgia is coming to its first major soccer championship as a political crisis deepens at home. The South Caucasus country has seen weeks of protests against a controversial law that opponents say would



FILE - The trophy is on display during the presentation of the European soccer championship 'EURO 2024' trophy at the Olympic Stadium in Berlin, Germany, on Wednesday, April 24, 2024. AP Photo

crack down on media freedom and hinder efforts to join the European Union.

And across the EU, voters will still be digesting the results of elections to the European Parliament - the 27-member bloc's legislature - as the tournament gets underway. Early results Monday showed a surge in nationalist and far-right sentiment, which has often manifested itself in Europe's soccer stadiums, particularly among hardcore ultras.

As always, the threat of hooliganism looms over the European Championship, where clashes between rival fans have become a common feature. The threat of terrorism and political violence is an even bigger security concern, following a series of attacks on politicians in Germany.

German authorities are stepping up border controls during the tournament. More than 20,000 police officers will be on duty.

Given the tensions surrounding the Gaza war, UEFA and Germany avoided even higher security concerns when Israel was knocked out in the playoffs for Euro 2024.

On the field of play, there is reason to expect an exciting tournament, without the COVID-19 restrictions that were in place during the previous Euros in 2021.

England and France are among the favorites.

Three years ago, England was just a penalty shootout away from winning its first trophy since the 1966 World Cup but lost the final to Italy. Since then, manager Gareth Southgate has seen the emergence of Jude Bellingham as one of the top talents in world soccer, while Phil Foden is living up to the hype he generated when first emerging at Manchester City. Meanwhile, Harry Kane scored 44 goals in 47 games in his first season at Bayern Munich.

France also suffered the heartbreak of a shootout defeat when it lost the World Cup final in Qatar to Argentina. Mbappé remains its star attraction, but he is surrounded by top class talent throughout the French squad in the form of Antoine Griezmann, Eduardo Camavinga, Aurélien Tchouameni, Ousmane Dembélé and Kingsley Coman.

Ronaldo will be back competing in Europe after heading to Saudi Arabia to play his club soccer. Even at the age of 39 the former Real Madrid and Manchester United striker is still a goal machine - scoring 10 during Portugal's perfect qualifying campaign.

Germany is a question mark after a string of disappointments at recent major tournaments, but new coach Julian Nagelsmann has lifted the mood of the host nation just in time for Euro 2024, with morale-boosting wins in friendlies against France and the Netherlands.

It's a dangerous game to make predictions about Italy after the traditional powerhouse of international soccer failed to qualify for the last two World Cups but won the Euros in between.

Spain is looking to restore its former glory after having dominated international soccer from 2008-2012 when it won two Euros and was also crowned world champion. There is no shortage of talent at coach Luis de la Fuente's disposal, with Man City midfielder Rodri establishing himself as arguably the best in his position and Barcelona's Lamine Yamal among its emerging stars.

Other teams to watch include Croatia, which came third at the Qatar World Cup, and still has Luka Modric producing at the highest level with Real Madrid. Belgium's golden generation has disbanded, yet it still qualified as a group winner, with striker Romelu Lukaku the top scorer with 14 goals.

If this is the year of another surprise winner, potential candidates could include Ralf Rangnick's Austria, which impressed during qualifying; Denmark, a semifinalist in the last Euros; or Serbia, which has some serious attacking talent.

In a tournament that has produced some of international's biggest shocks - anything seems possible.

AP

Real Madrid coach Carlo Ancelotti warns of snub to FIFA Club World Cup before his bosses backtrack

GENEVA

REAL Madrid is the main attraction at the biggest ever Club World Cup next year in the United States but the Champions League winner was ready to boycott it, according to coach Carlo Ancelotti on Monday, citing a dispute with FIFA over money.

Not so, his employer said hours later, backtracking from claims by the hugely respected Ancelotti published in an interview with FIFA.

The U.S. is hosting the first revamped edition of the FIFA club tournament in June-July 2025 with Madrid and its superstar players Kylian Mbappé, Vinícius Júnior and Jude Bellingham the standout among 32 teams, including 12 from Europe. It is due to be played every four years.

But Ancelotti said FIFA "can forget about it" in an interview published Monday by Italian daily Il Giornale.

"A single Real Madrid game is worth 20 million and FIFA wants to give us that amount for the entire cup. Negative," the Madrid coach said. "Like us, other clubs will turn down the invite."

Ancelotti is perhaps the most universally liked coach in world soccer but his published claims were questionable and led to a quick climb down in Madrid.

"Real Madrid never questioned its participation in the new Club World Cup to be organized by FIFA," the club said in a statement. "Therefore, our club will compete, as planned, in this official competition that we face with pride and with the utmost enthusiasm to make our millions of fans around the world dream again with a new title."

In a later social media post, Ancelotti didn't deny his comments to Il Giornale but said his words were not interpreted the way he intended.

Madrid typically earns about 10 million euros (\$10.7 million) per Champions League game in prize money from UEFA in a revenue distribution model that FIFA is expected to closely mirror.



Players throw Real Madrid's head coach Carlo Ancelotti in the air after winning the UEFA Champions League final soccer match against Borussia Dortmund at Wembley Stadium in London on Saturday, June 1, 2024. AP Photo

It was also far from clear which other clubs would refuse FIFA's invitation and pass up likely tens of millions of dollars in guaranteed prize money.

The exact amount clubs can expect to earn is unclear as FIFA still has not announced broadcast and sponsor deals for an event that kicks off June 15 next year. FIFA has been in talks with tech giant Apple about a global streaming rights deal, and Saudi Arabian sponsors are expected to be confirmed.

A Madrid snub of FIFA also was unlikely because its place would go to another Spanish team - its biggest rival Barcelona, which has been in a prolonged financial crisis. Atletico Madrid

already secured its place in Spain's quota of two entries.

Ancelotti's claims also had seemed to reflect Madrid's status as would-be disrupters in European soccer politics and also its isolation since president Florentino Perez was a driving force behind the breakaway Super League.

That project failed within 48 hours of launching in April 2021 after a furious backlash by fans and lawmakers in England.

The other 11 European teams which qualified for the Club World Cup - including Manchester City, Bayern Munich, Paris Saint-Germain and other consistent performers in the past four Champions League seasons

- are all members of the influential European Club Association.

Real Madrid has been exiled from the ECA since the Super League debacle. It also included Atletico and Juventus, who are now back in the fold of the 600-member club network and going to the Club World Cup.

The ECA last year renewed its working agreement with FIFA, a so-called "memorandum of understanding," which included promises of cooperation on the club tournament and getting a bigger say in its commercial decisions.

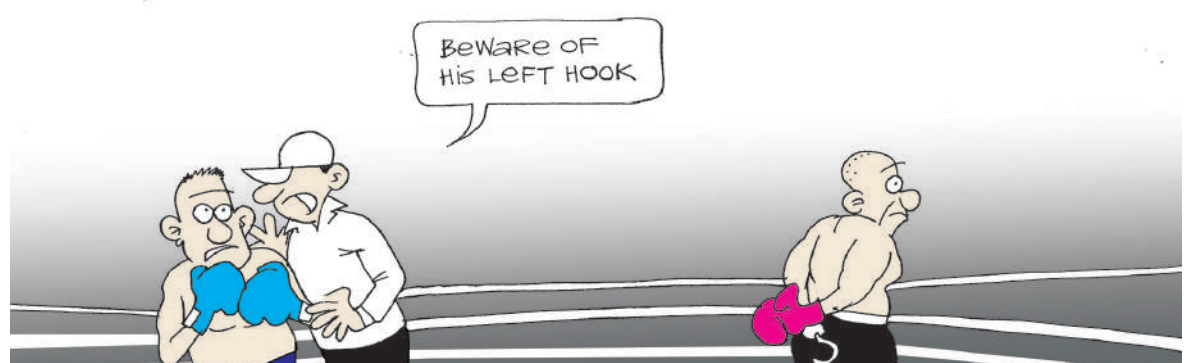
"FIFA and ECA will also now establish closer working practices on a future revamped Club World Cup, including the sporting and commercial aspects for the 2025 edition," ECA chairman Nasser Al Khelaifi said in March 2023, "and working together on future editions including on potential structures for managing the commercial rights going forward."

By not being an ECA member, Madrid has less input on negotiations about Club World Cup prize money.

Al Khelaifi also is the president of PSG, whose refusal to join the Madrid-led Super League helped undermine its credibility. The Qatari executive has close ties to UEFA as the head of one of its most valuable rights holders, BeIN Sports, and as a member of the European soccer body's executive committee.

Three of the 32 Club World Cup teams have yet to be confirmed: Two of the six South American entries plus a team from Major League Soccer.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Another surprise? Europe's biggest soccer show to begin in Germany and as usual it's unpredictable

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

One Morogoro Golf Open 2024 attracts more than 80 players

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame

MORE than 80 golfers from various countries will be participating in the One Morogoro Golf Open teeing off from June 14 to 16, this year.

The Tanzania Golf Union (TGU) secretary general, Dickson Sika, points out that this year's golfing tournament in Morogoro seems to be attracting more participants judging from the current response.

Sika, who is also the chairperson of the Morogoro Gymkhana Club, encourages more residents of Morogoro Region to take part in the golf tournament since the sporting events help to promote the region, the municipality as well as boost tourism and travel industries in the precinct.

His views are also echoed by the Morogoro Regional Commissioner, Adam Malima, who insists that the tournament as well as other sporting events taking place in the area play an important role in promoting the local tourism industry both nationally and internationally.

"Morogoro is not only endowed with a variety of attractions but the region is also a very safe area for visitors and tourists alike," Malima maintained, adding that the region was working to introduce golf in local communities.

"We are clearing the notion that golf is an elite sport meant for just the affluent," said the regional commissioner, lauding the Gymkhana management for identifying and grooming young talents.

On his part, the captain of the Morogoro Gymkhana Club, Seif Mcharo, said all local golf clubs in the region are expected to participate in the tournament alongside players hailing from other regions and outside the country.

"There will also be special junior programs for children during the grand event," said Mcharo, adding that the Morogoro Gymkhana Club offers free golf training sessions for aspiring young Tiger Woods.

According to the captain, the One Morogoro Open forms part of the Tanzania Golf Union's calendar of events and is recognized in the World Amateur Golf Ranking.

"And the 18-hole Morogoro Golf Course is also different in that unlike the other green fields, this one is a unique brown golf course which can attract visitors on its own," said Sika.

EATV TUESDAY

TO NIGHT @ 9:00

MJADALA

11:00 DADAZ
12:00 KIPENGA XTRA
13:00 Mpera Mpera
13:30 Kali Za Wana
13:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
14:00 5SPORTS (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Mpera Mpera
16:00 Zote Kuntu
16:55 Dondoo Za Michezo
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 Kali Za Wana
18:30 #HASHTAG
19:00 EATV SAA 1
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 MJADALA
21:30 Zote Kuntu
23:00 Kurasa
23:05 EATV SAA 1

MJADALA is a program that brings together stakeholders and the executive elite to discuss timely, national development issues.

The program targets an audience that is aware of current developmental challenges and opportunities and is keen to share, engage and participate in the shopping process.

eastafrika RADIO

05:00 Supa Breakfast
09:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
19:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM

Kagame Cup 2024 to kick off on July 6 with 16 teams



Christian Council of Tanzania's basketball team coach Majina Mbegu (R) gives instructions to Dar es Salaam Region players during a training session at the Jakaya Kikwete grounds recently. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma.

By Correspondent Seth Mapoli

THE Council for East and Central Africa Football Associations (CECAFA) has officially announced that the Kagame Cup 2024 will be held in Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar from July 6 to 22.

This year's tournament will feature 16 teams, including three invited clubs - TP Mazembe from DR Congo, Nyasa Big Bullets from Malawi, and Zambia's Red Arrows FC - all of whom have confirmed their participation.

Initially, the tournament was scheduled to run from July 20 to August 4 in Tanzania. However, due to the Confederation of African Football (CAF) schedule showing the start of its competitions in early August, CECAFA decided to move the tournament dates forward.

This adjustment ensures that the CECAFA Kagame Cup concludes a few days before the commencement of the CAF club competitions for the 2024/2025 season.

Speaking about the tournament, CECAFA Executive Director John Auka Gecheo said: "This competition will help our teams in the Zone prepare better in the pre-season ahead of the 2024/2025 CAF Champions League and CAF Confederation Cup which start in August."

"Having top sides from DR Congo, Malawi, and Zambia will also spice up our club competition and give our teams a real test."

The alteration in schedule has also led to the cancellation of the CECAFA Senior Challenge Cup for 2024, originally planned to open the CECAFA calendar from June 29 to July 14.

The decision was made to allow players more time to prepare with their clubs ahead of the Kagame Cup.

The teams participating in the 2024 CECAFA Kagame Cup are VitaO (Burundi), APR (Rwanda), El Merriekh, Al Hilal, and Hai El Wadi (Sudan), Young Africans, Simba, Azam, and Coastal Union (Tanzania), Gor Mahia (Kenya), SC Villa (Uganda), JKU SC (Zanzibar), El Merriekh FC-Bentiu (South Sudan), Nyasa Big Bullets (Malawi), TP Mazembe (DR Congo), and Red Arrows (Zambia).

The last edition of the tournament, held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania in 2021, saw Uganda's Express FC emerge victorious by defeating the guest side Nyasa Big Bullets from Malawi 1-0 in the final.

Simba hold the record for the most CECAFA Kagame Cup titles, having lifted the trophy six times. They are closely followed by their long-time rivals, Young Africans, and Kenya's Tusker FC, who have won the cup five times each.

Other notable winners include APR FC (Rwanda), Al Merriekh (Sudan), SC Villa (Uganda), and Kenya's Gor Mahia FC, each with three titles.

The anticipations of this year's tournament are very high, as it not only offers a chance for regional teams to compete against top clubs from neighboring countries but also serves as a crucial preparatory platform for the upcoming CAF competitions.

The participation of high-profile clubs like TP Mazembe, Nyasa Big Bullets, and Red Arrows FC is expected to elevate the competitive level of the tournament, providing a thrilling experience for fans and valuable exposure for the teams involved.

In the lead-up to the tournament, clubs will be gearing up to showcase their best performances. The inclusion of TP Mazembe, a team with a formidable reputation in African club football, alongside the competitive squads from Malawi and Zambia, underscores the tournament's growing prestige and importance.

As the teams prepare for the tournament, fans across the region eagerly await the thrilling matches and the chance to see their favorite teams and players in action.

The tournament promises to deliver high-quality football and further strengthen the bonds of sportsmanship and camaraderie among the East and Central African football community.

The shift in schedule and the cancellation of the CECAFA Senior Challenge Cup also highlight the organization's adaptability and focus on providing the best possible conditions for club preparations ahead of the critical CAF competitions.

The CECAFA Kagame Cup continues to be a cornerstone event for regional football, fostering talent and offering a stage for clubs to test their mettle against some of the best teams in the continent.

Biashara United, Tabora United set for tight first leg playoffs final



Biashara United players celebrate in one of their matches. (Agencies)

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

WITH the prize of Premier League status up for grabs, Biashara United and Tabora United meet in the promotion/relegation playoff final, and the midweek's first leg clash takes place at Karume Stadium in Musoma.

Two games over the space of four days will decide both clubs' fate, as hosts Biashara United seek a return to the elite while Tabora United try to retain their place in the top flight.

After a late stumble saw them miss out to Pamba for automatic promotion, Biashara United finished third in the final Championship table.

They edged out Mbeya Kwanza in a two-leg playoff affair to earn

themselves direct entry into the playoff final.

Having only won the first leg at Karume Stadium 2-0 in the first leg, Biashara United still had plenty of work to do in the reverse fixture to keep their promotional dreams alive, with Amani Josiah's men sealing a record-breaking success to blow their visitors away by a 4-0 aggregate victory.

Ahead of today's first leg, the Musoma-based club have only lost once in 16 home fixtures this season.

They have won five of their last 13 home league games, so head coach Josiah will be hopeful of notching a first-leg advantage in front of their fans.

Biashara United most recently met Tabora United in the Championship last season when the Bees won the reverse fixture en route to promotion, but this time both sides have much more to lose

on this occasion.

Tabora United, meanwhile, travel to Karume Stadium having been held to a goalless draw by JKT Tanzania in the second leg of the relegation playoff.

As a result, they were knocked out on a 4-0 aggregate score.

The draw with JKT Tanzania means Tabora United are winless in their five most recent fixtures in all competitions.

In addition, they have failed to win any of their 16 league games on the road and will now have to fight hard to break that streak to make the most of their second chance.

Looking ahead to the team news, Tabora United have to make the trip without their suspended head coach Masoud Djuma Irambona.

The Burundian coach has been suspended by the club due to poor results.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

