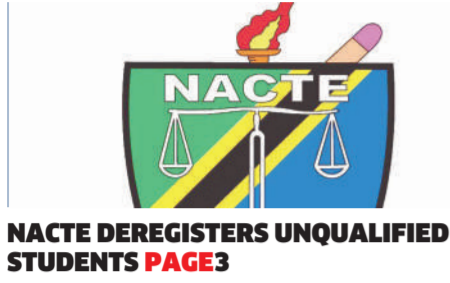




EDUCATION



INVESTMENT



AGRICULTURE



OBITUARY



SGR tests for locomotives, wagons set for late April

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) expects that test drives for locomotive engines and wagons on the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) will start by late April. Director General Masanja Kadogosa said this yesterday during the ongoing TRC Week aimed at raising public awareness on safety in ongoing construction of the SGR, on the ferrying of

passengers and cargo. The test drive for rail tracks, signals and other systems was part of an equipment supply contract signed last October, where the corporation now awaits the arrival of locomotives and wagons, he said. Implementing the SGR project will improve transit trade connecting the East African zone with neighbouring countries such as Democratic

TURN TO PAGE 2



President Samia Suluhu Hassan addresses a Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture Belgium-Luxembourg-Africa-Caribbean-Pacific (CBL-ACP) meeting in Brussels yesterday. Founded in 1964, the CBL-ACP is meant to facilitate and develop economic exchanges between Belgium, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg and the African (North Africa included), Caribbean and Pacific countries. Photo: State House



TMA expects rains till the end of May

By Henry Mwangonde

MOST parts of the country are expected to receive normal to above normal rains in the long rains season for areas that receive rains twice a year, from late February to end of May. The Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA) made this observation in statement yesterday, setting out the weather scenario for the long 'masika' rains, indicating a normal to above normal rains, showing that rains are likely to be normal to above normal over most parts covered by the long rains pattern. Periods of enhanced rainfall are expected next month over the northern coast and in April over the north eastern highlands, with the season likely to start

in the third or fourth week of February, continuing intermittently until the end of May. "Stakeholders in various social and economic sectors are advised to utilize tailor made products provided by TMA during planning and implementations of their activities," Director General Dr Agnes Kijazi (pictured) noted in the statement. The 'masika' rainfall season is specific to areas of the northeastern highlands (Arusha, Manyara and Kilimanjaro regions), northern coast (northern part of Morogoro region, Coast (including Mafia Island), Dar es Salaam and Tanga regions, Unguja and Pemba isles), the Lake Victoria basin (Kagera, Geita, Mwanza, Shinyanga, Simiyu and Mara regions) and the northern part of Kigoma region. The rains will ensure adequate soil moisture for crop growth and water harvesting for irrigation over a breadth of areas for later use. There are also fears that continuous rains may cause excessive soil moisture and hamper field crops that do not require much water such as maize and leguminous crops, she stated. Farmers are advised to start land

TURN TO PAGE 2

Z'bar president sidelines revenue chief executive

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Mwinyi yesterday suspended the Isles' Revenue Board commissioner Salum Yusuf Ali to pave the way for investigations into losses of billions of shillings. Chief Secretary Zena Ahmed Said explained in a statement that Dr Mwinyi made the decision during a visit to the Zanzibar Revenue Board (ZRB) offices and had a direct conversation with the management, with the presence of officials of the Zanzibar Anti-Corruption and Economic Crimes Authority (ZAECA). He tasked ZAECA with an investigation in collaboration with security organs to establish the channels that the lost revenue had been directed, stressing that the need for monitoring

“That is why I wanted an investigation and if the suspects were found not at fault justice will be done and if proven guilty the matter will follow the law”

information passed to the investigative unit, to ensure that all relevant areas are covered. The president demanded investigation into fuel costs of 58m/- as to where its tax was paid, demanding also that due to the sensitivity of the ZRB registration, audit and investigation unit, the probe should be independent and its findings handed to the ZRB commissioner. A special audit should similarly be conducted to check the performance of the revenue collection system as it appears to be compromised, monitoring bank accounts of taxpayer owing money to the board, noting the port fee to determine which accounts the shipping company's money has gone into. Such measures are a factor in the poor performance of the revenue board, the

TURN TO PAGE 2

State agencies piling up parastatal service debts

● TANESCO owed 238bn/-, DAWASA 422bn/-

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

THE National Assembly has raised concern over huge debts that state-based customers owe key government institutions and state-owned companies, saying the situation was threatening the financial viability of the service parastatals. Those showing large debts in their books include the Tanzania Electric Supply Co. Ltd (TANESCO), the Dar es Salaam Water and Sewerage Authority (DAWASA), the National Housing Corporation (NHC), the Medical Stores Department (MSD), the Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO), the National Service Corporation (SUMA JKT), the Tanzania



Electrical and Electronics Services Agency (TEMESA) and the Public Service Social Security Fund (PSSSF). A report tabled in the House by the parliamentary standing committee on Public Investment and Capital Committee (PIC), found that the huge sums of funds in the hands of consumers was thwarting operational capacities of the public firms. Committee chairman Jerry Slaa (pictured) said up to June 2020, TANESCO was being owed a total of 422.37bn/- from consumers reluctant to clear their debts, with the 238bn/- it owes being in the hands of ministerial departments via a series of public institutions. "The large unpaid debt impairs TANESCO's capacity to implement key projects as well as hindering the firm from carrying out its day to day activities. This is a huge challenge and it needs to be taken seriously as it has a massive negative impact to the company and the public interest at large," he said. He was also of the view that this burden has been shifted to the public waiting to get

TURN TO PAGE 2



SGR tests for locomotives, wagons set for late April

FROM PAGE 1

Republic of Congo (DRC), thus promoting trade.

"It is a historic rail, over 100 years since the German authorities constructed the central railway. We are now talking about SGR being used nearly across the country, thus it is important to increase public awareness about major projects taking place in their localities. It is our hope that upon completion, they will play a key role in protecting such infrastructure," he said.

During the TRC week, a campaigning team informs the public on the rail infrastructure and services provided, so that they eventually know their role of protecting these infrastructures against unfaithful people.

The TRC Week event will be held in regions harbouring SGR construction, namely- Mwanza, Simiyu, Shinyanga, Tabora, Singida, Dodoma, Morogoro, with the director's tour ending in

Tanga, Kilimanjaro and Arusha regions, where a similar route is on the cards.

Yapi Merkez, the contractor, on Wednesday started an electric railway inspection car as the next step, after a long test drive using a diesel railcar, he said, noting that the test drive to check rail tracks, signals and other systems agreed in the contract signed in October.

The Dar es Salaam-Morogoro (km 300) section is nearly done, while the Morogoro-Makutupora (km 422) section is more than three quarters finished. The Isaka-Mwanza (km 361) section is yet to reach halfway point while the Makutupora-Tabora (km 361) section is only in the final stage of procurement, he stated.

So far, over 14.7trn/- has been spent in SGR construction, with TRC seeking to awaken citizens in 16 regions where the rail is passing to take up the responsibility of protecting the infrastructure, he added.



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi holds talks with Zanzibar Revenue Board members and officials when he toured ZRB offices at Mazizini yesterday. It was later announced that he had revoked the appointment of the board's commissioner, Salum Yussuf Ali. Photo: State House

State agencies piling up parastatal service debts

FROM PAGE 1

reliable power supply but as the firm faces financial challenges, services will still be poor, noting also that DAWASA faces a similar challenge, with 422bn/- still in the hands of debtors.

As of June 30 2020, NHC was claiming 38.28bn/- from government institutions and the private sector, with 32.9bn/- being debt to individuals and private firms, and 5.3bn/- owed by state agencies, the committee noted, asserting that the debt challenge was enormous.

NHC has to come up with a quick and achievable strategy for debt collection,, while TEMESA faces similar levels of debt, with 38.78bn/- being demanded from ministerial departments and agencies.

The economic wing of the National Service Department is owed plenty of money by government agencies and private firms, as by last September a total of 12.7bn/- remained unpaid by public institutions and 17bn/- by private sector firms, the committee report specified.

MSD was demanding 269.13bn/- from government agencies and various private firms, with the committee urging public firms demanding large amounts of cash to strengthen debt collection measures to ensure that the debtors repay their receivables.

The government needs to push state institutions with huge receivables demanded by service parastatals to pay up, so that the service providers can operate smoothly for the public interest, it added.

Z'bar president sidelines revenue chief executive

FROM PAGE 1

president said, underlining that he would not discriminate against anyone. "That is why I wanted an investigation and if the suspects were found not at fault justice will be done and if proven guilty the matter will follow the law," he stated.

He said that he had received a report from the ZRB Investigation Unit responsible for conducting tax evasion investigations, but a shutdown of that

investigation report followed, also citing an investigation conducted by a passenger shipping company.

It showed differences of payment of 9.65bn/- which the books showed it had not been paid by the time this investigation was conducted, while the probe discovered that the money was being regularly but was nowhere in the books, he stated.

Hashim Kombo Haji, the ZRB director of registration, audit and investigation, ordered the report to be

removed and not sent to the leadership, thus the report was precluded from presentation to the ZRB board.

Some companies sought audits on their payments to ZRB and found that they were listed not to have paid taxes from 2016 to 2021 when the report was compiled, but the commissioner issued a statement saying the past should be forgotten and instead companies start looking closely at 2021 reports, Dr Mwinyi said in illustration.

An oil company listed as not having

paid 58m/- tax on the Mainland came up in an investigation by the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) showing that the amount wasn't paid because the oil was meant for Zanzibar. Investigation showed that the money wasn't paid to either part of the United Republic, he stated.

The revenue authority is the heart of the government and ZRB efficiency is what enables the government to fulfill its developmental and operational responsibilities, he added.

TMA expects rains till the end of May

FROM PAGE 1

preparation and planting early, using appropriate soil management practices and technology to control soil erosion and nutrient loss. They should also exercise seed and crop selection based on seasonal characteristics, the director underlined.

Farmers must also improve agricultural infrastructures to help minimize negative impacts that may occur from rainfall variations, plus controlling pests causing fungal diseases, among others. Weeding on time and seeking professional advice

from agricultural extension officers was also advisable, she said.

Pasture and water availability for livestock are expected to be sufficient over most areas during the long rains or 'masika' season, while livestock pests and diseases associated with intense rainfall are also feared during the season, the statement indicated.

The potential occurrence of extreme weather events is likely to affect transport infrastructure, leading to damage of roads or railway infrastructure, while causing accidents, it added.



Home Affairs minister Hamad Masauni (L) has an audience with Canada's High Commissioner to Tanzania, Pamela O'Donnel, in Dodoma city yesterday on cooperation between the two countries. Photo courtesy of Home Affairs ministry

Special strategy for supporting small-scale miners ready - govt

By Getrude Mbago

THE government has developed a special strategy aimed to support development of the small-scale miners in the country including those in Njombe Region.

Deputy Minister for Minerals Dr Stephen Kiruswa made the statement in the Parliament when responding to a question by Njombe MP, Deodatus Mwanyika.

In his main question, the lawmaker sought to know when the government will start supporting artisanal miners in Njombe as it is doing in other areas.

The deputy minister responded that the government through the State Mining Corporation (STAMICO) had prepared the strategy to be implemented in this fiscal year.

He said the strategic plan consists of a year-long training programme which will be conducted nationwide and was prepared by engaging the small-scale miners through the representation of their associations (FEMATA).

The training will be issued by various

institutions including the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA), Minerals Commission and district councils.

"We also implement the strategy by educating and connecting the artisanal miners with financial institutions and STAMICO has already entered agreements with the banks such as CRDB bank, NMB bank and KCB bank to enable the miners to access capital and low interest loans," he explained.

He said the corporation has also entered into a pact with the Geological Survey of Tanzania (GST) so as to help the miners get required information on sediments in their areas before they start excavating.

"We are also working to get enough mining equipment that is specifically for small-scale miners to help them conduct their extraction activities well," he added.

He added that the government was committed and striving to make sure that minerals benefit the people, elevate the incomes of small-scale miners as well as boost government revenues.

'Digital application to track internet bundles spending is in the pipeline'

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

THE government has said that it is developing a digital application so as to help mobile users to track spending of their internet bundles.

Minister for Information, Communication and Information Technology, Nape Nnauye said the application was currently in trial stages and is soon set to be launched.

The minister was speaking in the House upon tabling a report over implementation of activities of the Infrastructures Development Committee over the past one year.

He said that many people were complaining against telecommunications companies that

their internet bundles were sometimes found running out even without putting on their phones or using them.

"There were complaints over how internet bundles have been used up in mobile phones, with consumers accusing telecoms that they have been stealing their bundles," he said.

Nnauye said that the government has made huge investments in the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) to ensure that it supervises the sector to facilitate win-win situations.

He said the TCRA Consumer Consultative Council (TCRA CCC) has designed an application that is currently on trial to help a consumer to make follow up of used bundles and be

able to switch off some of applications in their smartphones.

"We are now doing trials on the application, upon completion we will give it to the consumers. Apart from that we continue educating the mobile phone users over proper use of the smart phones," he said.

The minister said the TCRA has continued assessing complaints from mobile users that sometimes their bundles were used up before a particular customer used them.

However, results of assessed complaints show that there were no thefts committed, but there is a challenge of using smart phones by mobile phone users," he stated.

He said it was found that the

challenges occurred in two areas, including that the smartphones, even if you don't use them, there are some applications that continue working and use bundles.

"As a result, customers find that their bundles have been used without knowing. Another reason, the smart phones have what is called a 'hot spot' which allows phone users to use other's internet bundles," he noted.

Nnauye said after investigation on some customers' complaints it was found that their bundles were used up by others through the 'hot spot' connections.

He however said that in its report the committee noted with concern the decline in mobile money transactions contrary to policy expectations in the sector advising the TCRA to meet stakeholders and service providers in finding out sources of reduced transactions.



Former Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development minister William Lukuvi (L), hands over office documents to his successor, Dr Angeline Mabula, in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Munir Shemweta

NACTE deregisters 2,854 students in a year for missing qualifications

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE National Council for Technical Education (NACTE) deregistered 2,854 students enrolled at various technical colleges for the 2020/2021 academic year over problems with qualifications.

Acting Executive Secretary, Dr Adolf Rutayuga made the revelation on Wednesday when speaking to journalists shortly after opening a two-day meeting for college officials including those dealing with registration of students applying for studies at higher learning institutions.

Dr Rutayuga said the council has been working to control deceitful officials who have been registering disqualified students. He said eligible students are those with the 'D' pass mark in at least four subjects.

"We discovered that some 2,854 students enrolled at various technical colleges did not meet the required qualifications. We are doing this to save them from wasting their time," he said.

He said the two days meeting was meant to discuss the various challenges facing the colleges during

the registration process. He said they have also invited stakeholders to help in finding solutions to the challenges.

He cautioned that failure to respect the guidelines would result in students spending their time while not qualifying for particular courses.

He warned students from being enrolled at colleges that are not legally registered because their certificates will not be recognized. He urged students to make close follow up of the colleges before being enrolled and make sure they have a 'D' pass mark in at least four subjects.

Mwinyi calls for increased investments in seaweed farming, export in Zanzibar

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Mwinyi has called on African Export-Import (AFREXIM) Bank to work with his government in securing markets for seaweed so that farmers can fully benefit from blue economic agenda.

Dr Mwinyi made the request yesterday when he met with the leadership of Egypt-based AFREXIM Bank who arrived at the Zanzibar State House as a continuation of his talks with investors with the aim of identifying various areas with investment opportunities in the country.

He said that through the agricultural sector, Zanzibar relies on two major commercial crops, including seaweed where farmers face the challenge of selling seaweed at low prices in the markets.

"The clove crop market is good, the main challenge is reliable market for seaweed and this is an area, where we

need to find partnerships to increase their value as well as raise prices so that our farmers can benefit," he said.

Dr Mwinyi said Zanzibar has many areas of investment through the blue economy sector, including tourism, oil and gas, fisheries and so on, so he noted the importance of the bank in working with the government to develop those sectors. He said Zanzibar was facing the challenge of having dilapidated infrastructure that did not meet oil storage requirements.

The Isles leader commended the bank's readiness to continue the negotiations that will lead to the establishment of the construction of international conference center as well as industrial areas.

Dr Mwinyi described the AFREXIM Bank as of great potential and has been cooperating with various African governments in investing in major development projects, calling the bank's leadership to increase efforts to

all potential customers.

He also tasked the bank to meet with the leadership of the Ministry of Trade and Industry Development with a view to discuss various opportunities available in the country, where AFREXIM Bank can assist in various fields including lending to various companies.

AFREXIM Bank Deputy Executive President Amri Kamel thanked Dr Mwinyi for great reception they received, in line with the opportunity to see the various areas of investment.

Kamel said that the bank's leadership will continue to engage with various institutions involved in the investment sector as well as implement the advice given by President Mwinyi, to achieve the intended goals.

The arrival of AFREXIM Bank's leadership in the country follows a visit by Zanzibar President, Dr Mwinyi, earlier this year to South Africa and a meeting with the bank's management.

By Correspondent Geoffrey Nangai

Tanzania's food stock rises to a record 214,968 tonnes

TANZANIA'S food stocks rose to a record 214,968 tonnes since November 2015, after the National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) procured more food stocks in December last year to boost the country's food security.

The food stocks procured by the food agency consisted of maize, paddy and sorghum.

According to Bank of Tanzania (BoT) Monthly Economic Review for January 2022, the country's food reserve increased by 5,911 tonnes from 209,057 tonnes recorded in November 2021 to 214,968 recorded in December last year.

Wholesale prices of the selected food crops however increased in December 2021 compared with the corresponding period in 2020 save for beans and round potatoes.

"On month-to-month basis, all prices of selected food crops continued to increase relative to the previous

month," the report said.

According to figures released by the BoT, the sack of maize (100kgs) increased from 49,683/- in November 2021 to 57,105/- recorded in December 2021 while the sack of rice (100kgs) increased from 154,394/- in November 2021 to 164,880/- recorded in December, 2021.

On the other hand, the price of beans increased from 178,045/- in November 2021 to 182,164/- reported in December, 2021 while the price of sorghum also increased from 178,045/- to 182,164/- during the same period.

The headline inflation rate rose slightly to 4.2 per cent in December, 2021 from 4.1 per cent in the preceding month, on account of increased food and energy prices.

"Inflation however remained within

the target of 3-5 per cent in line with the EAC and SADC convergence criteria despite slowly edging up since June, 2021," the report added.

The Twelve-months food inflation increased to 4.9 per cent in December 2021 from 4.4 per cent recorded in the preceding month of November, 2021 following increase in the price of cooking oil, banana, fruits, wheat flour, goat meat, beef, potatoes, soft drinks, sorghum flour and rice.

Non-food inflation however declined to 3.9 per cent from 4 per cent during the same period.

Meanwhile, domestic pump prices of petroleum pump products maintained an upward trend since June 2020, in line with the prices of the world market.

The United Republic of Tanzania President's Office TANZANIA SOCIAL ACTION FUND



VACANCY ADVERTISEMENT

Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) is currently implementing Productive Social Safety Net Program which aims at protecting the vulnerable poor households from severest consequences of poverty by implementing interventions that will lead to increased household incomes and opportunities while increasing consumption.

The TASAF Executive Director is inviting applications from suitably qualified Tanzanian nationals to fill the below vacant posts:

- | | |
|---|--------|
| 1. Accounts Manager | 1 post |
| 2. Disbursement Manager | 1 post |
| 3. Safeguard Specialist | 1 post |
| 4. Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist | 1 post |
| 5. Senior System Officer | 1 post |
| 6. Accountant - Final Accounts | 1 post |

Job Descriptions and required qualifications for these posts are available in TASAF website www.tasaf.go.tz

How to apply;

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

**Executive Director
Tanzania Social Action Fund
Kambarage Tower
Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete Road
P.O. Box 2719
DODOMA.**

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

- 2) Applications made in a way other than the above will not be considered,
- 3) Deadline for receiving applications is 01st March, 2022
- 4) Those who will not hear from us, 14 days after the deadline, should consider themselves as unsuccessful.

**Ladislaus J. Mwamanga
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

216696501



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

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

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

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES:

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

SAFETY STANDARDS AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS

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

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

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

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

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

216709901

Morogoro DC tells social welfare officials having child and women protection committee mandatory

By Correspondent Michael Sikapundwa, Morogoro

MOROGORO district commissioner Albert Msando has directed social welfare officials to create a child and women protection committee within 21 days, a move meant to increase awareness and identification of various forms of crimes against children and women at grassroots levels. Msando gave the order over the weekend when inaugurating a one-stop center constructed by Safina Women Association (SAWA) for purposes of facilitating tracking and reporting of gender based violence (GBV). The 137m/- project which have been supported by J-Hope through the ChildFund Korea will see the one-stop-centre offering all the required services due to the presence of social welfare officers, police and local government leaders. Msando said the committees should be formed at grassroots level because it is where such incidents happen. He said through the committee it would be easy to identify the culprits. "Construction of the centre will also reduce walking distances by the residents who were forced to look for health services at far located facilities," he said, adding with the centre cases of GBV will be solved within two days. The DC called upon municipal educational stakeholders to create ant sexual abuse clubs at primary and secondary schools to create awareness to children. Sidina Mathias, the Municipal Social Welfare Officer, commended J-Hope support calling upon other stakeholders to construct similar centres following the growing population as well as needs for such services. She said the municipality faces a shortage of social welfare officials, because there are a total of 29 wards, but the number of the officers had remained 14 for many years. SAWA Director, Hellen Nkalang'ango said they also constructed a second one-stop centre in 2019 in Mvomero District council. She said projects are geared at meeting SAWA's 2030 goals that focus on providing child security protection, health care and quality education. "SAWA is committed to provide sustainable support to communities in selected areas. We have four projects namely investing in the child, child protection, access to girls' education and Leena Pre and Primary school," she said. Amina Mhando, social welfare officer at Sabasaba health center said that presence of the centre will increase the number of GBV cases reported because previously people feared to report them over lack of privacy.



Shinyanga District social worker Christopher Malengo pictured yesterday conducting Agape-organised sensitisation training on ways to improve the upbringing of children within the family setting and to combat incidents of violence against women and children. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

Govt all ready to build 12,000 classrooms in primary schools

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

THE government is next year set to construct a total of 12,000 new classrooms in various primary schools in the country so as to facilitate smooth teaching and learning and thus boost academic performance. Deputy Minister of State in the President's office, Regional Administration and Local Government, David Silinde informed the Parliament yesterday during the questions and answers session. He said the classrooms will be constructed through BOOST project which is being implemented in primary schools. He was responding to a main question from Maimuna Mtanda (Newala rural) on when the government will embark on an exercise of refurbishing old public primary schools whose infrastructures are in bad shape. Silinde said the government will complete refurbishment and rehabilitation of all old primary schools nationwide which are in bad shape. "Despite other strides, the government will also spend local funds through the local government for the construction and rehabilitation of old primary schools countrywide," he said.

He said the government is aware of the outdated infrastructures in some of the old primary schools saying they are in its programmes to have them renovated to the needed standards. Silinde said the government has finalized refurbishment of old secondary schools thus moving their focus to old public primary schools. He further said the government has started the renovations through a number of education projects. He further expressed the government commitment to ensure they have in place conducive learning and teaching environments at all education levels including primary schools. The deputy minister named some of the education projects which are supporting the government in renovations and rehabilitation of the dilapidated old primary schools infrastructure as EP4R. He added that in the 2021/22 financial year the government through the EP4R has undertaken construction of 1,970 primary schools classrooms, 5,303 pit latrines, construction of 17 teachers houses in a bid to improve the education infrastructures. Furthermore, he said, through the IMF Covid-19 relief fund (TCRP) the government has constructed 3,000 classrooms.

House wants fruitful tax incentives for investors

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

PARLIAMENTARY Budget Committee has called on Investment, Industry and Trade ministry to put in place incentives for investors and make follow-ups to make sure they are fruitful. The panel's chairman, Daniel Sillo made the remarks here on Wednesday at the sitting to receive report on the procedure in providing tax incentives for big strategic projects. Sillo said the ministry should continue putting in place the incentives but should examine their effectiveness to have positive results for the country's economic growth. "We recommend for the strengthening of tax incentives, introducing the right taxes, making a critical examination of incentives being given and to critically examine strategic projects that need taxes. "Other recommendations include increasing projects' time for projects that are found to strengthen safeguards for internal investors," he added. For his part, Deputy Minister for Investment, Trade and Industry Exaud Kigahe said the government will continue improving the investment environment by adhering to tax incentives. He assured committee members that the ministry will work on all its views and recommendations in mobilising both local and foreign investors in the country's sustainable economic development. Earlier, the ministry's Director of Investment Development, Aristides Mbwaswi said the government has been able to register 42 projects valued at \$12.3 million.

strategic projects that need taxes. "Other recommendations include increasing projects' time for projects that are found to strengthen safeguards for internal investors," he added. For his part, Deputy Minister for Investment, Trade and Industry Exaud Kigahe said the government will continue improving the investment environment by adhering to tax incentives. He assured committee members that the ministry will work on all its views and recommendations in mobilising both local and foreign investors in the country's sustainable economic development. Earlier, the ministry's Director of Investment Development, Aristides Mbwaswi said the government has been able to register 42 projects valued at \$12.3 million.



Iramba district commissioner Selemani Mwenda launches a tree-planting campaign at Mayanzani village yesterday, the target being to plant 250,000 seedlings. Photo: Correspondent Jumbe Ismailly

5,000 Babati District farmers to benefit from avocado cultivation

By Guardian Correspondent, Manyara

OVER 5,000 farmers in Babati District, Manyara Region are to benefit from avocado growing to raise their earnings and be certain of the crop's reliable market. The remarks were made here yesterday at a brief event that launched the avocado project sponsored by Maisha Capacity Development Opportunity (MCDO) in collaboration with Tanzania Horticultural Association (TAHA). Speaking on the project, MCDO Director Fr Jasson Kahembe said the plan in place for the next five years - 2022 to 2026 is to reach out to 5,000 farmers, building for them the capacity of avocado cultivation, facilitating them with the needed equipment and form farmers' association for the crop (MWAPAMA). Kahembe said during the period MCDO will accomplish various issues - conducting various researches and provide training to farmers, establishing avocado seedling block for easy availability of the seedlings to farmers and to improve the health of the people. He also said they will also develop the environment by growing avocado trees. "We plan to plant 300,000 avocado trees as our contribution to environmental preservation," said Fr Kahembe. He further said they will increase employment opportunities for the youth who have graduated from various universities who have been complaining of joblessness. For his part, TAHA's development manager,

Antony Chamanga said they have decided to establish cultivation of the crop because Babati has a good climate fit for the crop. "In order to produce the crop you must have the technology for its cultivation, and we have the technology for avocado farming as we want to become among the hubs for avocado cultivation," said Chamanga. He assured farmers that as for now avocado is in great demand in European countries, USA, Asia and South Africa. He said a three-year old avocado tree can produce over five kgs of the fruit and when it reaches five years it can produce over 50 kgs. Earlier, launching the project, Babati District Commissioner, Lazaro Twange said the council anticipates to earn revenue and that the economic wellbeing of the people will change for the good. He admitted that the crop has caused land price hikes in Mbeya Region and praised the youth from Mbeya for involving themselves in avocado cultivation.

TANGAZO LA MNADA WA HADHARA

KWA IDHINI TULIYOPEWA NA PROJECT CONCERN INTERNATIONAL (PCI) MAKAO MAKUU MUSOMA. JUZUMA COMPANY LIMITED, TUTAUZA KWA MBNADA WA HADHARA MAGARI KAMA IUFAVAYO:-

- LAND CRUSER HADTOP YENYE NAMBA ZA USAJILI T 577 CUP.
- LAND CRUSER HADTOP YENYE NAMBA ZA USAJILI T 574 CUP
- LAND CRUSER HADTOP YENYE NAMBA ZA USAJILI T 572 CUP
- LAND CRUSER GX V8 YENYE NAMBA ZA USAJILI T 833 CUZ
- TOYOTA DOUBLE CABIN YENYE NAMBA ZA USAJILI T 977 DRG
- TOYOTA DOUBLE CABIN YENYE NAMBA ZA USAJILI T 969 DRG

MNADA UTAFANYIKA SIKU YA JUMAMOSI TAREHE 26/02/2022 KUANZIA SAA TATU KAMILI ASUBUHI KATIKA ENO LA HALMASHAURI YA WILAYA YA BUNDA MJI.

MASHARTI YA MNADA

MNUNUZI ATAKAYE BAHATIKA KUNUNUA GARI, ATATAKIWA KULIPIA ASILIMIA 25% PAPO HAPO BAADA YA NYUNDO YA DALALI KUTUA NA ASILIMIA 75% ZILIPWE NDANI YA SIKU KUMI (10) KINYUME NA HAPO MNUNUZI ATAKUWA KAPOTEZA HAKI YAKE YA AWALI NA MNADA UTARUDIWA UPYA.

KUTAKUWA NA KINGILIO KATIKA MNADA HUO KIASI CHA TSH 50,000/= AMBACHO UTALIPIA NA KUPEWA KADI YA KUINGILIA AMBAYO ITAKURUHUSU KUNUNUA.

SIKU YA UKAGUZI NI JUMAA TAREHE 25/02/2022 KUANZIA SAA TATU ASUBUHI MPAKA SAA TISA ALASIRI NA UKAGUZI UTAFANYIKA BURE.

KWA MAWASILIANO ZAIDI WASILIANA NASI
KWA SIMU NAMBA 0783204012/ 0734490605.

TUNAPATIKANA MANISPA YA MUSOMA JENGO LA UPENDO HOUSE,
CHUMBA NAMBA 1 GHOROA YA KWAZA.

NYOTE MNAKARIBISHWA.



Inspector General of Police Simon Sirro (L) pictured in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday test-riding one of ten motorcycles worth a total of 51.3m/- donated by UNFPA in support of efforts to curb gender-based violence. Right is UNFPA official Georgette Kyomba, who handed over the items. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

MDH gives ICT equipment worth over 100m/- to ministry of health

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

THE Management and Development for Health (MDH) yesterday handed over stationaries and ICT equipment worth over 100m/- to the Ministry of Health to strengthen surveillance of infectious diseases and laboratory testing for pathogens like influenza and COVID-19.

MDH donated the equipment with support from The Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) through the Global Health Security Programme. It is part of the US government's efforts through CDC to support the ministry to improve data management and reporting in the context of COVID-19.

Speaking during the handing over ceremony in Dodoma, MDH Chief Operation Officer, Dr Nzovu Ulena said the donated equipment includes laptops, projectors, printers, tablets, WIFI routers, Modern GPS reader machines, Software, Operating system and stationery supplies all worth 105m/-.

Dr Ulena who represented the Chief Executive Officer, Dr David Sando said the equipment will help the ministry in preparation of its scientific laboratory reports and publications.

He said that strengthening surveillance of infectious diseases and laboratory testing is important and requires the ministry to have capacity to recognize causes of the diseases, report cases on time and be able to fight the diseases by following internal and international guidelines.

"MDH and CDC is aware of the importance of timely reporting of the disease outbreak to centers that works to control epidemic diseases especially respiratory diseases which are epidemic potential," Dr Sando said.

Dr Rogath Kishimba, Acting Director (Epidemiology and Disease Control) in the ministry of Health said: "We appreciated the support from MDH and it is our hope that you will continue to support the government's efforts in controlling both communicable and non-communicable diseases."

Dr Kishimba added that since the department is responsible for disease surveillance and reporting, the donated items will ensure early detection and timely reporting of cases.

He said early detection will help the government in taking combative measures to curb the spread of particular epidemic diseases.

CDC supports activities to strengthen disease surveillance such as equipping ILI/SARI sentinel sites, supporting upgrade of the electronic Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response System (eIDSR), improving border health screening processes (AfyamSafiri system development, support of electronic equipment),

enhanced laboratory testing for pathogens like influenza, Ebola and COVID-19 and establishing national and subnational Emergency Operation Centers.

Through Global Health Security funding MDH has worked with MOH to conduct supportive supervision in 13 ILI/ARI/SARI sentinel sites, as well as conduct mentorship in these sites.

Other activities under ITF-GHSA funding include supporting the establishment of the COVID-19 ECHO platform at Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH), procurement and distribution of supplies for critical care management of COVID-19 cases, and development of electronic systems to support disease surveillance and response.



Mwanza Centre of Excellence | PO Box 5208
Mwanza, Tanzania | Tel: +255-28-2501236

Mbeya Centre of Excellence | PO Box 2663
Mbeya Tanzania | Tel: +255-25-2500217

REQUEST FOR QUOTATION

SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF DESKTOP COMPUTERS


Baylor Tanzania, has set aside funds for operations during the financial year 2022/2023. It is intended that part of the proceeds of the fund will be used to cover eligible payment under the Purchase Order for Supply and Delivery of 15 Desktop Computers (CPU, Keyboard, Mouse and Monitor) for our Mbeya Zonal Office located within Mbeya Zonal Referral Hospital Complex.

Now, Baylor Tanzania invites Tanzanian eligible and competent Computer Dealers and Suppliers who are interested in entering into this agreement, to submit their Quotation in accordance to our detailed Technical specifications. Interested Dealers and Suppliers may wish to access our Detailed Technical specifications by navigating through this link: <https://jobs.baylortanzania.or.tz/pc.pdf>

Quotations are to be submitted electronically to procurement@baylortanzania.or.tz.

Deadline for submission of the quotations is **28/02/2022, at 1530hrs**

21671101



TANZANIA REVENUE AUTHORITY

PUBLIC NOTICE

REQUIREMENT TO UPGRADE ELECTRONIC FISCAL DEVICES TO ALIGN WITH ELECTRONIC FISCAL DEVICE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Dar es Salaam, 18 February, 2022:

Tanzania Revenue Authority reminds all traders who are using Electronic Fiscal Devices (EFDs) that, they are required/obliged to upgrade their devices to abide with the improvements made on EFD system, in line with "QR Code" features that allows automatic verification of receipts and invoices issued by the devices.

Thus, all taxpayers are advised to contact their respective EFD suppliers to upgrade their devices and configure them with **Protocol 2.1** that is in line with current EFD communication requirements for generation of verification code for receipts and invoices.

Further, take note that this Public Notice serves as last reminder following earlier Public Notices issued on **7th December, 2020 and 20th January 2022** through newsletters, on the improvements made on EFDMS and the requirement to upgrade the devices within the period of thirty days (30) from the date of the advertisement. In addition to that TRA announced another 30 days for those who have not complied with the requirement to upgrade or acquire new device which align with the improvement of the EFDMS.

After the given deadline, TRA made analysis and noted that implementation of the directive to upgrade their devices to Protocol 2.1 was not effectively effected by some traders.

By this notice the public is reminded that **28th February 2022** is the last deadline for all traders who have not yet upgraded their devices. Please also note that, failure to comply with this new deadline will compel TRA to take administrative actions including but not limited to blocking the un-upgraded devices.

"Together We Build Our Nation"

Issued by;

**DIRECTOR OF TAXPAYERS SERVICES AND EDUCATION
TANZANIA REVENUE AUTHORITY**

Stop slowing down on agricultural production gains, Kikwete appeals

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

BOOSTING production of strategic crops such as soybean for local and international markets as well as industrial raw materials is the way forward for Tanzania's agriculture, former President Jakaya Kikwete, has said.

Kikwete, who is a member of the Board of AGRA (the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa), spoke in Mbeya Town, during his ongoing field tour of projects supported by the organisation. He challenged stakeholders to beef up improved soybean farming in Mbeya, Njombe, Ruvuma, Iringa and other parts of the Southern Highland region to meet and expand the current annual market of 300,000 tonnes to China.

"A hectare of soybeans yields up to one tonne, which means about 300,000 hectares, can produce enough for the Chinese market. We need to work together to introduce more farmers into soybean farming," he said, lamenting cases of agro-processing industries operating below capacity due to inadequate raw material.

Between 2017 and 2021, AGRA worked with diverse partners to link farmers to input and output markets, increasing maize, beans and soybean production in Iringa, Njombe and Ruvuma regions.

Kikwete is accompanied by Tanzania's Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Anthony Mavunde, AGRA's Vice President for Programme Innovation and Delivery, Agnes Asimwe Konde and Tanzania country manager Vianey Rweyendela as well as private and public sector stakeholders.

The Chief Executive Officer of the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT), Geoffrey Kirenga, called on agricultural stakeholders to continue promoting the adoption of improved technologies to remain competitive, improve efficiency and quality of produce.

Kikwete's delegation also visited Raphael Group Limited, a rice miller in Mbeya Town, which also deals in beans, sorghum, groundnuts, sunflower and maize. Raphael Group Limited is a key market, buying produce from over 42,000 small-scale farmers, some of whom have been supported by AGRA, through the SAGCOT initiative dubbed the Integrated Knowledge and Information for Agriculture (SIKIA), which has been critical in empowering rice farmers to increase yields and incomes.

"I value smallholder farmers. I am part of them. I work with them. I started from very low, with a small store where I could only keep eight



I value smallholder farmers. I am part of them. I work with them. I started from very low, with a small store where I could only keep eight bags of maize

bags of maize," Raphael Simon Ndelwa, Raphael Group CEO told the delegation. The company provides warehousing facilities to smallholder farmers, who need storage for at least 10 bags of produce.

At Meru Agro-seed Multiplication Farm in Mbozi Songwe, Kikwete hailed the homegrown company for enabling smallholder farmers access quality seeds. The firm previously received support from AGRA to increase its maize seed multiplication capacity to over 3000 tonnes per season.

"There is need to increase efforts in enabling more local production of improved seeds that are affordable for smallholder farmers," he noted.

The former President's delegation also visited Mpui Saccos/Amcos, a farmers' organization with over 1000 members that has benefited from AGRA's initiative to increase production. Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Anthony Mavunde, pledged to send experts from the ministry to work with the farmers on accessing sunflower seeds.

Earlier, the former President heard from agro-dealers, farmers organisations, aggregators and processors in the Iringa Region on how AGRA's Partnership for Inclusive Agricultural Transformation in Africa (PIATA) initiatives in Tanzania have increased uptake of their respective activities and production along the agriculture value chain.

Expressing satisfaction with AGRA's impact in boosting the agricultural sector, Kikwete hailed self-made entrepreneurs including input suppliers and processors along the agriculture value chain, who started small and steadily grew into bigger and formidable enterprises serving thousands of farmers, with support from AGRA.

Mining firm donates three classrooms in Sengerema

By Carlos Banda

MINING firm-OreCorp Tanzania Limited yesterday handed over three new classrooms to Ngoma Secondary School in Sengerema District, Mwanza Region to support the community by improving children's teaching and learning environment.

Handing over the classrooms, OreCorp's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Matthew Yates, said that the donation comes at a critical time when the company has given a Special Mining License on 13 December 2021 to Sotta Mining Corporation Limited (SMCL).

The company is a joint venture between Tanzania (16 percent) and OreCorp (84 percent), to develop the 670bn/- Nyanzaga Gold Project (Nyanzaga or Project) south of Ngoma in the Sengerema District.

Acting Sengerema District Commissioner, Veronica Kessy, lauded the company for its support to the community in Sengerema District in which she also requested the mining firm to donate more desks that can be used in the three new classrooms.

Ngoma Secondary School's Head Master, Bale Kephah Matondo thanked the OreCorp for its unwavering support to the school following the construction of the new classrooms which will help students to study in a

suitable learning environment.

OreCorp Tanzania's General Manager Damien Valente said: "OreCorp is proud of its continued support to providing our children with a safe and comfortable environment in which to learn and further their studies."

The construction of the three new classrooms was endorsed by the District Executive Director on 08 December 2021 and was completed on 11 January 2022. The classroom construction is the latest in several community enhancing projects that OreCorp has fully funded and completed as part of its generous community enhancement scheme and in accordance with its approved Corporate Social Responsibility Plan.

Other community enhancement projects that OreCorp has completed as part of its CSR in Sengerema district include the construction of washrooms and desks for Ngoma Secondary School which was worth 26mn/- in July 2021 and the provision of 45mn/- for the construction of the new Ngoma Police Station in April 2021.

The construction of the new classrooms was endorsed by the DED of Sengerema on 8 December 2021 and construction work commenced on 11 January 2022. These classrooms were fully funded by OreCorp as part of its generous community enhancement scheme.



Hamisi Mwinjuma alias Mwana FA (R, gesturing), legislator for Muheza constituency in Tanga Region, has a word with fruit vendors at Ubembe village earlier this week. Photo: Correspondent Steven William

By Guardian Reporter, Siha

ARMYWORMS (Spodoptera Exempta) have invaded villages in three wards of Siha District, Kilimanjaro Region threatening food security in the region.

The villages include those in Donyomoruak, Ormelili and Orkolili wards in the district.

Maize and beans farmers in the area fear for their crops' destruction in case urgent steps in pesticides spraying are not taken.

Siha District Executive Director's report issued yesterday by Zakayo Moshia, his Information Officer says that he received reports from people

Armyworms invade 3 wards in Siha District

on the existence of armyworms in Majengo, Donyomoruak and other nearby areas.

"We have already made a follow up on the existence of the destructive pests that calls for pesticide spraying from the Ministry of Agriculture to exterminate them."

"Initial steps taken by Siha District Council is provision of advice to our

farmers through extension officers at village and ward level in areas invaded by armyworms," Moshia said on behalf of Siha DED.

He added: "we are doing so even though in some areas farmers have not yet started planting maize, but they have been gripped with fear regarding the destructive pests."

He also stressed that extension

officers have already started advising farmers and other people in general to buy pesticides available in shops selling farm inputs to spray the vermin.

According to experts from the Agriculture Ministry, there are two types of armyworms that destroy crops - Spodoptera Exempta and Fall Armyworm (FAW) also known as Spodoptera Frugiperda.



Ruvuma regional commissioner Brig Gen Wilbert Ibuge (L) presents a postcode placard to the NMB Bank Plc's Songea branch manager, Daniel Zake, shortly after launching the national Physical Addressing NaPA system at a ceremony held in the municipality. The manager received it on behalf of the bank to mark the beginning of residential addressing and postcode services in the region. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

'90 pct of KIWOHEDE workers vaccinated against Covid-19'

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

KIOTA Women Health and Development Organisation (KIWOHEDE), a non-governmental organisation says 90 per cent of its workers have received Covid-19 jabs since vaccination started August last year.

This was revealed yesterday by the NGO's Managing Director Justa Mwaituka in an interview with this paper in Dar es Salaam saying they

made the effort because vaccination is essential.

"KIWOHEDE has 50 workers countrywide and already 90 per cent of them have been vaccinated including myself, and I was the first to do so," she said.

She said her organisation has made the achievement because the workers have mobilised themselves after realizing the importance of vaccination against the disease.

Mwaituka said KIWOHEDE workers

did not need to be mobilised by health workers but did so as they knew the adverse effects of the disease.

"I believe the remaining few will also receive the jabs soon as we continue mobilising one another, even though vaccination is voluntary," she added.

She further said apart from receiving the jabs, they continued adhering to health experts' guidelines including frequent washing of hands with soap and running water, using sanitizers and the wearing of masks.

"I call upon fellow Tanzanians to abandon street talk that go against health experts, as Covid-19 still exists and continues to destroy human lives, we should take precaution," Mwaituka added.

She said since the pandemic entered the country in 2020 there has been some false beliefs against guidelines given by health experts and that has been the main reason for some people giving vaccination a wide berth.



Ruvuma regional commissioner Brig Gen Wilbert Ibuge cuts the ribbon earlier this week to inaugurate Tanzania Commercial Bank's Mkili Road branch in Mbeya District. Witnessing the event are the bank's CEO, Sabasaba Moshingi (L), and branch manager Egno Ngole. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter

Dr Mwinyi says Maalim Seif Sharif Hamad 'unforgettable'

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has said that late Maalim Seif Sharif Hamad will continue to be remembered owing to his robust leadership.

Dr Mwinyi made the remarks in his message of condolences to the family, relatives, friends, and members of ACT-Wazalendo Party in commemoration marking one year since Maalim Seif's death.

In his message, President Mwinyi explained that he join "with relatives,

friends, and ACT-Wazalendo members in this day by continuing to pray for the late Maalim Seif, who, until his death was Zanzibar's First Vice President, and pray to God to rest his soul in peace, Amin."

President Mwinyi stressed that the Zanzibar government will continue holding late Maalim Seif and his family in high esteem due to his great

contribution to economic, political and social development to Zanzibar.

Until his death, late Maalim Seif was chairman of ACT-Wazalendo Party.

Late Maalim Seif was born on October 22, 1943 and died February 17 2021 at Muhimbili National Hospital, Dar es Salaam to where he was admitted since February 9 2021 for treatment.

Creative youths to benefit from EU-funded horticultural project

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

YOUTH with creative minds in horticultural products in Southern Highlands Zone have started to benefit with a programme for the strengthening of the value chain in regard to coffee, tea and horticultural products dubbed AGRI-CONNECT in accessing capital.

The programme run by European Union (EU) sponsorship is being implemented in southern highlands regions and Zanzibar and aims to improve markets and roads infrastructures.

RIKOLTO, a Non-governmental Organisation (NGO) as one of the programme's implementers expects to spend more than 700m/- to benefit 400 youths with creative minds on business and entrepreneurship.

The remarks were made here on

Wednesday by RIKOLTO's coordinator, Shukuru Tweve when receiving business ideas from 26 youth to compete among themselves saying more than 100 youth participated in the contest.

He said in Phase I of the programme, youth from four regions - Mbeya, Njombe, Songwe and Katavi participated in the competition out of whom 18 won and were provided with capital to develop their businesses.

"These 18 young people explained their innovations in practice, in regard to implementation, but the exercise is sustainable and the funds set aside are immense, hence we believe they will help these youths to employ themselves," said Tweve.

AGRI-CONNECT coordinator for Katavi region, Frank Kaminyoge said the money given to the youth whose business ideas won is in regard to

horticultural development in their areas.

He further said the funds will be used in the development of horticultural businesses and processing plants thereof, according to how they made their submission.

He said the aim of the project is to make sure farmers sell their crops after adding value to them instead of continuing selling raw materials whose market value is low.

Speaking on behalf of the Mbeya Regional Commissioner, Mbeya District Commissioner Rashid Chuachua called on the youth to make sure they use the capital provided by sponsors for the intended aims.

He appealed to them to grab the opportunities provided by AGRI-CONNECT programme for their businesses saying it employs many people.



BARRICK

NORTH MARA

REQUEST FOR TENDER

North Mara Gold Mine, a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is ultimately owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania requests the submission of Tenders from reputable, experienced, certified and qualified parties to provide the following:

Design, Engineering, Procurement and Construction of New Mine Clinic; Construction of New Camp Houses; Civil Works for New Emulsion Plant; and Feasibility Study & Design works - New Crushing Circuit

Pre-qualification Criteria

Reference No.	Description	Pre-Qualification Criteria
1	NM30/2022/A Design, Engineering, Procurement and Construction of New Mine Clinic	i. Applicants that had successfully executed EPC Contracts on a turnkey basis from design stage to commissioning of projects over the past three (3) years shall be considered. ii. Applicant should be capable and prepared to undertake Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) project for Building New Clinic facility from Front End Engineering Design stage to successful completion of the facility as per Scope of works iii. Completion certificates of previous projects with reference list of Clients, applicant agrees - without reservation-upon the submission of EOI, that the Company has the full right to contact any of the references provided iv. Local compliance with valid CRB registration, Class 3 contractor v. Applicant should provide proof of statements - financial stability, engineering capabilities, organizational structure, experienced personnel, list of equipment's owned, expertise in relevant types of building construction facilities and familiarity with Tanzanian laws and Regulations
2	NM30/2022/B Construction of New Camp Houses	i. Applicants that had successfully executed Civil Building Contracts on over the past three (03) years shall be considered. ii. Completion certificates of previous projects with reference list of Clients, applicant agrees - without reservation-upon the submission of EOI, that the Company has the full right to contact any of the references provided iii. Local compliance with valid CRB registration, Class 5 contractor iv. Applicant should provide proof of financial stability, organizational structure, experienced personnel, list of equipment's, expertise in relevant types of building construction facilities and familiarity with Tanzanian laws and Regulations
3	NM30/2022/C Civil Works for New Emulsion Plant	i. Applicants that had successfully executed civil projects over the past two (2) years shall be considered. ii. Completion certificates of previous projects with reference list of Clients, applicant agrees - without reservation-upon the submission of EOI, that the Company has the full right to contact any of the references provided iii. Local compliance with valid CRB registration, Class 5 contractor iv. Applicant should provide proof of financial stability, organizational structure, experienced personnel, list of equipment's, expertise in similar type of jobs and familiarity with Tanzanian laws and Regulations
4	NM30/2022/C Feasibility Study and Design Works for New Crushing Circuit	i. Company profile with proven experience with Study and design works for new processing plants, crushing circuits, expansion / upgrades of process plants or crushing circuits ii. Completion certificates of previous projects with reference list of Clients, applicant agrees - without reservation-upon the submission of EOI, that the Company has the full right to contact any of the references provided iii. Local compliance with valid ERB registration iv. Applicant should provide proof of financial stability, organizational structure, experienced personnel, list of resources & CVs of key technical personnel, expertise in similar type of jobs and familiarity with Tanzanian laws and Regulations

Expression of interest
If your company meets the pre-qualification criteria and would like to be considered to receive the invitation to tender (ITT), an expression of interest (EOI) including your company profile and evidence of compliance with pre-qualification criteria may be submitted to nm.proposal@barrick.com

Applicants must quote the tender description(s) and the respective reference no.(s) in the subject line of the email.


NB: The Company reserves the right to invite any other supplier(s) who did not submit an EOI through this advertisement.

Pre-qualification of any company submitting an "Expression of Interest" shall be at the sole discretion of NMGM

Key Dates

- Last date to submit EOI **February 23, 2022**

North Mara Gold Mine Limited



EAST AFRICAN CRUDE OIL PIPELINE

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST: PROVISION OF SECURITY GUARDING AND SECURITY RECEPTIONIST SERVICES FOR DAR ES SALAAM OFFICE REFERENCE NO. 0010007504

East Africa Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) Ltd, invites experienced and reputable organizations to express their interest in providing security guard and receptionist services for the Dar es Salaam Office to the EACOP project.

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

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SCOPE OF THE SERVICES:

- Provision of 24/7 manned guarding services for office premises.
- Provision of reception services during normal office hours - English Speaking.
- Provision of Security Control Room monitoring services 24/7 - English Speaking.
- Provision of a dedicated Security Supervisor.
- Provision of Security Information reporting services for the East African Region, especially Tanzania and Uganda.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:
Companies expressing their interest are invited to document their request with:

- ISO18788 Certification.
- Proof of commitment to upholding the VPSHR.
- Proof that hiring practices avoid the recruitment of personnel involved in human rights violations.
- Demonstrate the capacity to manage security operations, to provide training and that he implements a robust Corporate Social Responsibility policy in line with national labour regulations.
- Sample of employee training materials for guard, receptionist, SCR operator, and supervisor. *
- Sample of Incident investigation and reporting procedure and templates.
- References of similar services.
- Proof of good financial solvency to deliver the services.
- Proof of Business licenses and all regulatory licenses or certifications required for providing these services.
- Proof of registration with the Tanzania Revenue Authority and Tax (TRA) Clearance Certificate for the latest year available.
- Application for registration with the EWURA Local Supplier Service Provider (LSSP) database at the time of submission of the response to this expression of interest is strongly recommended.
- Compliance with Local Content Regulations, 2017 and Local Company definition.

***Note:** the training materials should be a sample only, submission of full training manual is NOT required. However, an overview of the syllabus and details of typical training / retraining schedule should be included.

Companies which have the ability, capacity and resources to implement the activities listed above should express their interest by sending together with the documents stated in the above section through an email to eacop-tz.eoi.1000001@totalenergies.com (max. email size 20Mb) on or before **17:00** hours East African Time (EAT), on **4th March 2022**. Email subject should be **0010007504**.

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

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO
Circulation Manager: EMMANUEL LYIMO

Newsdesk

News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON
0757154767
General line: 0745700710
E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz

Advertising

Mobile: 0782253676
E-mails: advertise@guardian.co.tz
Website: www.ippmedia.com
epaper.ippmedia.com

Greater media convergence vital for people-to-people cooperation

TIMES are changing in the media industry each passing day, with growing ease of communication and more open political inclinations facilitating direct communication between individuals and agencies across borders.

This was part of what was in the air as a team from the top management of Vodacom Tanzania Ltd visited the IPP media outlets on Wednesday.

This came nearly at the same time as broadcasts of ITV, EATV and a few other local channels started becoming visible at DSTV, the global South African service provider.

The crucial event towards this convergence of the media is a changing political atmosphere, with two 'firsts' registered within a week. One was the re-certification of some vibrant newspapers, the other the removal of controls on direct television by satellite for a whole range of operators.

Noticeable political or communications convergence was such that while DSTV was beginning to show ITV programmes, the Vodacom delegation's tour came as President Samia Suluhu Hassan met and conversed with exiled Chadema presidential candidate Tundu Antipas Lissu.

A former legislator for the opposition party, Lissu is also the party's national Vice Chairman.

Communications analysts often ponder on the role of media outlets in evolution of political dialogue, if they just cover events and carry sentiments as given out in wider society or also constitute a moment of the shaping of the content.

Realism demands that political events take the lead, and the media merely pick up portions of the dialogue

in accordance with orientations and sense of values of each outlet in relation to its stakeholders and customer base.

So the politics affects, in a very important way, how each segment of society thinks or expects in mass communications.

Watching these converging trends and events, it is understandable when or if one gets the feeling that there is an atmosphere of change that is unlikely to be rolled back by a change of mood in the near future.

Usually rollbacks take place for non-institutionalised prerogatives, as they look like privileges given by the rulers. They lack in bilateral, multilateral or regional commitments - while current changes are based on a new multilateral ethos.

Thus the newly forged links in the field of multimedia as well as communication proximity involving the local communication service provider anchored in the South African Vodafone group, as an extension of the UK giant, may be here to say.

There is much less competition between nascent communication firms at the local level and international or multinational firms, as the audience of the former also branch into the outside.

From strict reliance on television channels or newspaper distribution, plenty is now placed on YouTube or other access points - that is, into multimedia.

Local players are longer in a position to complain with respect to sharing out local communication space. This also applies to removing non-tariff barriers in regional trade, from the East African Community and Southern African Development Community (SADC) zones to the African continental free trade area. Indeed, the sky is the limit.

Lecture by US envoy at National Defence College watershed event

THE Ambassador of the United States to Tanzania, Dr Donald Wright, on Wednesday delivered a lecture on US foreign policy and relations between the two countries.

The event will have served as an eye opener to those following developments in US-Tanzania partnership.

The envoy's visit to the Dar es Salaam-based National Defence College, whose students are chiefly drawn from middle and higher ranking military cadres in Tanzania and other parts of the region, was salutary.

Developing countries usually have multiple links with various other countries, often recognising them as development partners. But there is special care as to which they cultivate intense affinities with when it comes to national defence.

When a country is invited to share ideas on how the military thinks or plans, that means it is part of a country's vision of its own security, not merely rolling out sectoral plans for possible financing.

Changing the image of Tanzania's relationships abroad was one of the cardinal projections of the foreign policy outlook that President Samia Suluhu Hassan laid out when appointing key officials, notably ministers and permanent secretaries.

In reconstructing the image of the country as regards foreign policy as well as defence and security, the president appointed two long-serving diplomats.

These are current Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation minister Liberata Mulamula and her Defence and National Service counterpart, Dr Stergomena Tax.

To be sure, US-Tanzania relations even in the field of security are of a

long date, not just owing to a changing outlook from liberation politics to regional security but also in large measure owing to shared threats, including terrorism pressures in the East African region.

Neither the US Embassy in Tanzania nor policy makers at the Tanzanian Foreign Affairs ministry are in a position to forget the August 10, 1998 "twin" bombings of US embassies in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam. The events permanently altered the global picture about threats to national security, which also dictates the key allies involved.

From that moment onwards, a number of contours have become especially visible in an evolving relationship. This is considering bilateral links and forging a specific relationship within a wider web of multilateral relationships.

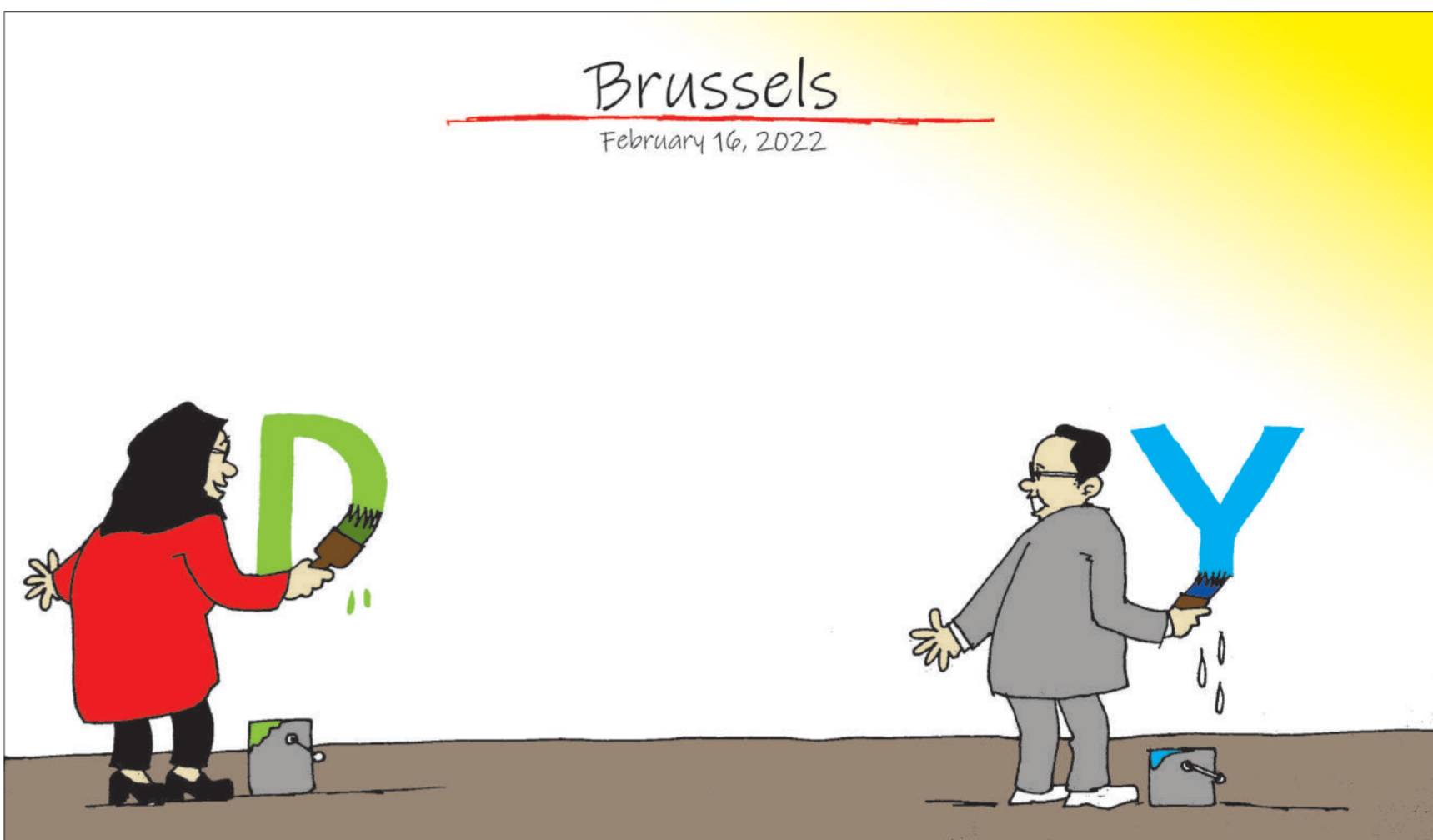
China may evidently have been increasingly more important a segment of the region in infrastructure projects and imports of a wide array of basic consumer goods.

However, the US retained the leading role in various other goods on which undeniably a wide section of the population relied.

Other changes were developing, among them strategic commercial links with the US after AGOA (African Growth and Opportunity Act), in 2003.

AGOA was a piece of US legislation meant to assist the economies of sub-Saharan Africa and to improve economic relations between the US and the region.

As noticeable were regional police anti-crime cooperation obtaining support from the US Federal Bureau of Investigations - as it was for the 1998 outrage. In a way, this explains Wednesday's visit and lecture by the US ambassador.



Data from scientists valuable but need a human face to help

By Sherry Ricciardi

HUMANISING data is all about breathing life into numbers. Doing so successfully is the challenge journalists face as they cover global events, from the Covid-19 pandemic and migration to conflict and terrorism.

Data literacy trainer Tricia Govindasamy reminds journalists that data scientists generate valuable statistics, but she cautions: "A spreadsheet is just numbers until a human face is put to them."

Govindasamy, data product manager for Code for Africa, coaches reporters on how to take a new slant on something they already do well: interviewing.

When faced with a data set, reporters should question the numbers as if they were a person. Interviewing the data can flesh out story ideas, identify new angles and lead to human sources, she said.

If a data set documents devastation caused by flash floods, for instance, the reporter should study the numbers to determine: Which villages were affected? Where are the survivors now? How many lost loved ones?

With this information, reporters are able to humanise the tragedy. Data become a guide to the human condition, helping create change, accountability and impact that otherwise might be ignored.

Govindasamy cited The Pandemic Poachers as an example of how humanising data strengthened a story. For their report, InfoNile interviewed local communities about the consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic as restrictions halted tourism and impacted daily life. "The human touch brought the issue to life," she said.

Scientific research supports Govindasamy's premise. Psychologist Paul Slovic uses the terms "compassion fade" and "psychic numbing" to explain how the brain responds to numbers that have no human connection.

"If readers don't relate to the information, they are less likely to act and use it," said Slovic, who is a member of the US National Academy of Sciences and the president of Decision Research, a collection of scientists who study the human psyche.

His advice: "Don't just throw numbers at people. That's the worst way to go about it."

This begs the question: How useful are data sets if they don't resonate with

the audience?

Slovic expands this theory in a co-authored paper about psychic numbing. Reads an excerpt: "Large numbers have been found to lack meaning and to be underweighted in decisions unless they convey affect (feeling)..."

"On the one hand, we respond strongly to aid a single individual in need. On the other hand, we often fail to prevent mass tragedies - such as genocide - or take appropriate measures to reduce potential losses from natural disasters.

"We believe this occurs, in part, because as numbers get larger and larger, we become insensitive; numbers fail to trigger the emotion or feeling necessary to motivate action."

Case in point: When the body of two-year-old Syrian refugee Aylan Kurdi was washed ashore in Turkey in September 2015, a photograph capturing the image went viral, sparking off an outpouring of aid for refugees and policy changes on migration.

The death toll in Syria numbered in the hundreds of thousands with scant international response. Suddenly, a tiny corpse face-down on a beach moved the public in ways statistics could not.

"Overnight, that picture woke up the world. People got emotionally connected to the problem," said Slovic, adding: "Generally, if there's something people can do to help, they will do it. If they don't feel that they can make a difference, they get turned off."

He advises journalists to convey a strong connection to people in their stories, to personalise events through the eyes of those experiencing them, to put themselves in the shoes of those who are suffering, and to talk to people on the ground for firsthand details.

The following are examples that exemplify the relationship between numbers and the human condition, **the first being The New York Times'**



People start to yawn if they don't understand the implications of the data. We wanted them to 'see' the story and react. It definitely was worth the extra time and effort

Covid-19 coverage.

The New York Times won the 2021 Pulitzer Prize for public service for chronicling the toll of Covid-19 at home and abroad. "We strove every day not to be so focused on the numbers that we forgot the people behind them," said assistant managing editor Marc Lacey.

The newspaper's database of Covid-19 cases and deaths was sourced from the websites of hundreds of state and county health authorities, using a combination of manual and automated processes.

The ways the dead were memorialised include **first: What loss looks like.** Readers were asked to submit photographs of objects that reminded them of loved ones who died over the last year from Covid-19 or other causes. The images and personal stories were published digitally as an interactive feature that became a virtual memorial.

Second: Those we have lost. The Times' obituaries editor solicited contributions from the newspaper's bureaus in the US and around the world. The Times informed readers: "This series is designed to put names and faces to the numbers."

Starting in March 2020, the series profiled more than 500 people who lost their lives to the coronavirus; the project ended in June of that year.

Third: Wall of grief. In February 2021, the New York Times featured a graphic on its front page that began with a single dot which grew to 500,000, each representing a life lost in the US to the coronavirus. One year ago, COVID-19 had already resulted in more deaths than World War I, World War II and the Vietnam War combined.

Humanising migration: Shamim Malekmian quickly said YES when editors at the Dublin Inquirer asked her to create an immigration beat for the newspaper. She made it her goal to bring a human perspective to the coverage of refugees flowing into Ireland from places like Nigeria and South Africa.

"Immigrants are not just another statistic. Every person has a story that numbers alone can't tell," said Malekmian.

She has since written about dozens of migrant children who have gone missing while in the state's care, and reported on asylum-seekers in limbo during the long wait for interviews. She also chronicled racist attacks against people of colour in Dublin.

Malekmian advises others reporting on immigration to always go beyond

press releases and the official government line, let the data guide you to stories and new angles, establish strong connections with the people you are covering - as this is the best way to gain their trust.

She adds: Stay in touch with sources and follow up on their stories, as on-the-ground reporting is vital, despite limitations placed on the media by refugee centres.

Finding lost mothers: When ProPublica and National Public Radio partnered for the series "Lost Mothers", they discovered that the US has the highest rate of women who die during pregnancy, childbirth and postpartum in the developed world. As reporters dug into the data, a human factor was missing: **Who were the mothers?**

According to Nina Martin, who led the project for ProPublica, when a pregnant woman or a new mother dies in the US, her identity is shrouded by medical institutions, regulators and state maternal mortality review committees. She is almost invisible.

Martin's team created a first-of-its kind national database of women who died from pregnancy-related complications. They combed social media and **crowdfunding** sites for leads, and turned to obituaries and Facebook to verify information and locate family and friends.

"We knew the statistics, but we didn't have the human stories," said Martin.

Nearly 5,000 responses came from all 50 states, Washington, DC, and Puerto Rico. The prize-winning project has been widely credited with sparking off change in the US health care system.

Putting human faces to Lost Mothers was "a conscious choice and a necessity", said Martin, who now works with Reveal, from the Centre for Investigative Reporting.

"People start to yawn if they don't understand the implications of the data. We wanted them to 'see' the story and react. It definitely was worth the extra time and effort," she noted.

This article was adapted from a story originally posted on DataJournalism.com. It was edited and republished on IJNet (Investigative Journalists' Network), a project of the Washington-based International Centre for Journalists (ICFJ). Sherry Ricciardi, PhD, is the co-author of ICFJ's Disaster and Crisis Coverage guide and an international media trainer who has worked with journalists around the world on conflict reporting, trauma and safety issues.

Quitting to pursue your passion is great but must be measured

EARLY last year, Philip a long-time acquaintance, walked out of his 4th job. He had tolerated it for approximately eight months and the chickens were now coming home to roost.

It was a hazardous environment. Everybody gossiped about nothing in particular but trivial things that had no spine. Employees were programmed to throw one another under the bus every time they had a chance.

He sat on his seat that Friday morning and looked at his office desk phone, his desktop computer, and his colleagues and wondered what he was doing there!

He picked his brown leather jacket and left. They called, he didn't answer. They texted, he did not respond. Three days later, he received a termination letter. He felt pretty bad the entire day until he got home, sat on his couch and thought to himself on how he just woke up and quit.

He had tinkered with the idea of solely working for brands. He had pitched a couple of brands, some were warm, most of them were cold but none of them were hot. He had never been impressed with the idea of doing things simply for a pay cheque.

He worked hard so he could get to a place where he was able to choose



projects he believed in. Quickly, he realised he might kill the beauty he had going on, the beauty of mechanics and KPIs and the last thing he wanted was to wear shoes that neither fit nor looked good on him simply because

there had a pay cheque in his palms at the end of each month.

He sat on his living room couch and racked his brain. He stared at the TV, it stared back, blankly. He needed to reinvent the wheel or he was back to

shuffling excel sheets and gossiping at the water dispenser with his work colleagues about nothing of great importance. He looked into space and at his brown leather jacket. Life had never been so confusing to him before.



As an author, the idea of writing a book was something that crossed his mind on a daily basis but felt foreign and out of his scope. Chimamanda and Ngugi wa Thiong'o write books and are his highlight but who was he to write one? He didn't even know what he would write about, he had thought that if he ever wrote a book it would be something philosophical and deep, like the centre of the ocean; something that would sit right next to the bestselling author Charles Dickens.

But now sitting on his couch, at 28, not wise enough to write Dickens 2.0, the month dipping with cold leads slipping through his fingers and his brown leather jacket staring back at him, he was terrified of his future.

He knew if he was to put out a book, it needed to be electric, done with flair, and touching on things he felt strongly about. Yet not too strong that he couldn't watch it fail and be okay with it. He knew that it needed to have a sense of continuity. Somewhere he could pick from and run with if there was demand for a sequel. So he sat on the couch and wrote his first book in two weeks.

The experience gave him a new perspective and put to waste a lot of fears that he had built up over the years. He realized that he could actually live off doing what he loved. Moulding sentences into paragraphs. Sculpting words till they ignite the same way they were singing in his mind. Telling stories that matter to him the way he wanted to without worrying about mechanics or shoes that neither fit nor looked good on him as he went to the office each day. That was a year ago, today he unlocks more milestones in his writing career.

Regardless of your work environment, quitting a job isn't a fortnight decision, like Philip did. Might be luck, might be passion, resilience and zeal but it worked for him and he envisions sticking and hanging unto his tough decision so many years to come.

It ought to be a well-planned decision though because the streets are not as friendly as the internet CEOs depict it to be. Philip pursuing his writing career solely might be everyone's dream—going for what you really love but let that be a tailored approach, it's not a walk in the park.

TRIPOLI, Libya

Libya was supposed to hold elections early this year. Instead, it now has two rival political administrations – a return of the divisions of the past.

Libya is entering a new cycle of its political crisis. In December 2021, a mere 48 hours before polls were supposed to open, the elections were postponed. Emad Sayah, the head of Libya's High National Election Committee (HNEC), declared it to be a case of force majeure. He then proposed to Libya's parliament, the House of Representatives (HoR), to reschedule the elections for 24 January 2022.

This deadline has now also passed. But rather than resolve and reschedule elections, the HoR appointed a new rival Prime Minister Fathi Bashagha on 10 February, dividing Libya between two rival political administrations.

Libya's now faces a dangerous new reality, as rival factions cling to power returning the country to the political divisions of the past, whilst proposing future election roadmaps designed to bring about the demise of their political rivals while guaranteeing their own political survival.

The tactical moves on the part of rival factions go back at least twelve months. Since then, Libya's constitution, election law, and judiciary have become weapons in a new battle over Libya's electoral roadmap as political actors attempt to either stall or re-sequence elections to push a rival out of power, whilst preserving one's own institutional power indefinitely.

The crisis began shortly after the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum (LPDF), a United Nations appointed body of 75 members, was tasked with appointing a new interim unity government and establishing a political roadmap to culminate with democratic elections.

The LPDF made early progress in appointing an interim Government of National Unity (GNU) to be led by Abdulhamid Dbeibah that took office in March 2021 and in agreeing to schedule simul-

The weaponisation of Libya's elections



Graffiti on a wall in Benghazi, Libya, calls for elections and democracy. Credit: The United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL)

taneous presidential and parliamentary elections for 24 December.

Libya's political deadlock

Since last summer, however, the LPDF faced internal political deadlock over how to proceed with the legal framework, namely a constitutional basis for elections. Libya has had a draft constitution since 2017, but it has faced criticism for its lack of inclusivity.

At the same time, it became clear that the widespread threat of a boycott of the referendum would almost certainly lead to further delays to the political transition – especially if the constitution were rejected at a pre-election referendum.

The debate over how to establish a constitutional basis before the elections swiftly became a reality check over how long Libya's political transition would last, as factions within the LPDF alleged this would stall the transition and extend the GNU's interim mandate beyond 24 December.

In the LPDF's stalemate, the HoR's chief speaker Aguila Saleh captured

an opportunity to reshape the political roadmap to remove the GNU from power whilst preserving his own power in parliament. In September, Saleh illegally bypassed a parliamentary vote and issued a presidential elections law by decree.

The law rescheduled the LPDF roadmap by sequencing presidential elections before parliamentary elections instead of holding them simultaneously, a move designed to ensure an end to the GNU's eight-month political tenure whilst extending Saleh's eight years of institutional control over parliament.

Moreover, the law sidestepped the constitutional referendum and used Libya's rump 2011 constitutional declaration that offers weak legal restraints and limits on the power of Libya's first elected president, increasing the prospects of a winner-takes-all outcome at the polls.

The law also faced criticism by the GNU's prime minister Abdelhamid Dbeiba for including conditions to block his candidacy, whilst being tailored to allow Saleh and one of his key allies responsible for Libya's civil war,

Khalifa Haftar, the self-styled leader of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces (LAAF), to run on the presidential ballot, but return to their positions in parliament and the LAAF should they lose.

Saleh's law sparked outrage from parliamentarians and members of the LPDF, but was accepted by former UN Special Envoy to Libya, Jan Kubis, who – rather than reject the law and mediate – decided to accept Saleh's law to expediate the process to hold one (but not both) elections by any means on 24 December.

When Kubis resigned one month before the elections and was replaced by his predecessor Stephanie Williams as UN Special Advisor, it became clear that confidence was lost in the UN mediation and election process under his custodianship. However, it was left to HNEC, the body responsible for administering elections, to announce the news – without compromising their apolitical standing.

The future of parliamentary and presidential elections remains unclear under the HoR's new political roadmap but what comes next is cer-

tain to be a deeper political crisis and potential delays to full elections by years. The international community have already ruled out recognising a replacement for the GNU before elections.

The appointment of a new parallel administration is thus a cynical attempt at a power grab in the knowledge it returns Libya to the tense years of political divisions between East and West that legitimised Haftar's war on Tripoli in 2019. Secondly it is a major setback for the UN's Berlin process that will require the UN to reverse course on its democratic roadmap to address the present elite power struggle before future elections can be rescheduled.

Finally, the HoR's roadmap remains weaponised to include milestones to extend the political life by years, and in the process sparking new legal disputes that will drag Libya into a new complex crisis. Saleh has passed a motion to allow the HoR to draft a new constitution rather than pass a referendum on the current draft prior to elections.

Saleh's own constitutional process

is designed to allow him to delay parliamentary elections until the HoR's work on a new constitution is completed.

Given the 2017 constitution was drafted by a democratically elected assembly in 2014, Saleh's proposed constitution lacks an elected mandate to replace it and would open so many further legal disputes and political challenges prior to parliamentary elections that the HoR's new roadmap could delay parliamentary elections and extend the HoR's mandate by years not months.

Today's crisis is in large part based on the assumption that individuals responsible for Libya's political crisis and wars will demonstrate self-sacrifice and willingly give up the political institutions and military power they have clung to for years through an electoral roadmap of their own design.

The UN's Berlin roadmap offered the international community an opportunity to erode the power of spoilers by dismantling the political and military institutions responsible for war into a unified neutral state rather than reward the figures at their helm with an opportunity to revive their political fortunes through elections.

Now it's high time for the UN to demonstrate bold leadership and resuscitate the aims of the Berlin Process, and sequence a neutral political roadmap, setting sober election milestones based on substantive compromise and institutional reform, rather than stick to dates and timelines for political expedience that disguise conflict and reward spoilers with custodianship over Libya's future.

Anas El Gomati is the founder and current Director General of the Tripoli-based Sadeq Institute, the first public policy think tank in Libya's history established in August 2011.

Source: International Politics and Society is published by the Global and European Policy Unit of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Hiroshimastrasse 28, D-10785 Berlin.

Agricultural power, waning industry dictate Brazil's future

RIO DE JANEIRO

With its accelerated growth agriculture has emerged as a key sector of Brazil's economy, but it is failing on its own to spread prosperity and reduce poverty and inequality, with industry in decline.

However, it can do so by bringing in foreign exchange with its large exports and thus create macroeconomic conditions for pro-poor social policies, argues Carlos Guanziroli, a professor at the Fluminense Federal University.

Brazil used to be a food importer, producing only about 50 million tons of grains in 1980. Thirty years later the harvest was three times bigger and in 2020 it reached more than 250 million tons, the economist noted.

The fivefold increase in the harvest in 40 years was due to a strong growth in productivity, since the sown area expanded by only 60 percent, from 40 to 64 million hectares, according to the Agriculture Ministry's National Supply Company.

The country became the world's largest producer and exporter of soybeans, meat, sugar, orange juice and, long before that, coffee. Agribusiness exports reached 120.6 billion dollars in 2021 and led to a sectoral surplus of 105.1 billion dollars, which more than offset the industrial deficit.

Economic cycles

Brazil achieved this agricultural strength in the midst of dizzying economic, demographic and political upheavals in the country over the last 100 years.

The 20th century industrialization drive, which picked up speed after World War II and continued until the 1980s, was apparently set to give rise to a new industrial powerhouse, the "Great Brazil" announced by the 1964-1985 military dictatorship's propaganda.

But industry stalled since the 1980s, with its share of GDP declining in the following decades, while agriculture took off.

In the 1990s, a previously neglected sector, family farming, gained a more clearly defined identity, thanks to promotion policies. Guanziroli, then a researcher at the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), contributed to this process.

Industrialization accelerated the urbanization of the population. Only 36 percent of Brazilians lived in cities in 1950. By 1980 the proportion had climbed to 67 percent and in 2010, when the last national census was carried out, it stood at 84 percent, according to data from the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE), which puts the current population of Brazil at 214 million.

In other words, during the following cycle of strong agricultural expansion and industrial stagnation the tendency towards urbanization was maintained. Mechanization, extensive monocultures and the high concentration of land ownership are some of the reasons for the massive rural exodus.

But agriculture involves an extensive chain, which includes manu-



Credit: United Brazil has become the world's leading exporter of beef in recent years. It has more cattle than its 214 million human inhabitants. But this leads to serious environmental damage: deforestation of the Amazon rainforest, as cattle drive the illegal appropriation and possession of deforested public lands. CREDIT: Mario Osava/IPS

facturers of tractors, harvesters and other machinery, chemical inputs, packaging, as well as activities such as transportation and other services, said Guanziroli.

"This chain accounts for 22 percent of GDP and 28 percent of all jobs" in Brazil, he stressed in an interview with IPS in Rio de Janeiro.

Family farming

Family agriculture, which comprises 3.9 million farms with more than 10 million employed workers in Brazil, according to the 2017 agricultural census conducted by IBGE, is a sector which stands to experience major social and economic benefits from public policies.

"It is more labor-intensive and responds to trends towards local consumption and organic production,

which are more evident in developed countries, especially in Europe," said Rafael Cagnin, an economist at the Institute for Industrial Development Studies, promoted by the sector.

In addition to providing employment for families and potential employees, family farming enhances food security and boosts the local economy.

The activity is defined not by the size of the property or what it produces, but by the predominance of family labor, which must not be surpassed by hired workers, said Guanziroli.

Studies and proposals of researchers on the subject, especially in the 1990s, "sought to avoid simplifications, such as saying that family farmers were all poor and only produced food," he said.

A misconception that is widespread - not only in Brazil - is that family farming is responsible for the production of

70 percent of the country's food, Guanziroli said. He clarified that this is correct with regard to beans and cassava, but not to food production as a whole.

"This is a lie used for political means that affects dialogue and public policies, rhetoric that is not based on serious evidence," he argued.

Studies estimated the share of family farms in total agricultural production at 38 percent in 1996 and 36 percent in 2006, according to IBGE census data. In 2017 the proportion dropped to 28 percent because of a prolonged drought that began in 2012 in the semi-arid Northeast region, which concentrates almost half of the country's family farms.

Long-range policies

In Brazil, the recognition and clear definition of family farming benefited

from good statistics from IBGE, a factor absent in many countries.

But studies on the subject and the proposals of researchers taken up by the government face hurdles, due to "ideological issues and the antagonism with agribusiness which has worn the issue down," lamented Guanziroli.

"The idea was to clearly define family farming in order to promote projects and policies, such as credit," he explained. It is an activity that is part of the agricultural business, integrated into the marketing chain, and inputs.

In spite of everything, the researcher assesses the balance of the last 30 years as positive. "Family farming has been consolidated, it has irreversible policies giving it a solid structure," he said.

The best example is the National Program for the Strengthening of Family Agriculture (Pronaf), created in 1995, which continues to guarantee credits with low interest rates and favorable payment conditions. Not even the current far-right government, hostile to peasant farmers, has dared to abolish the program.

What is most lacking is technical assistance, "which never reached family farmers in those 30 years. We tried a thousand formulas, old institutions, non-governmental organizations, but we were unable to mobilize agronomists," said Guanziroli.

Agriculture and industry

Nevertheless, he believes

that Brazil's competitiveness lies in agriculture. "In industry we fell behind, it is difficult to compete with Asia," he said. Some services, such as digital platforms, can be an alternative, but they require a long-term effort in education, in which Brazil is lagging.

But Cagnin told IPS from São Paulo that "Resuming Brazil's economic and social development does not seem possible without progress in industry, following the example of other countries, especially the more complex ones."

It is the sector that "generates and disseminates the most innovations in a capitalist economy, the one that builds bridges between other activities, adds value to agricultural or mineral products and promotes more sophisticated services," he argued.

The economist, who specializes in industrial development, recognizes that Brazil's political conflicts and educational shortcomings hinder progress in the midst of "technological transformations," productive reorganization and new labor relations.

But industry is also indispensable because of the numerous serious risks facing the "agriculture of the future," such as the climate crisis, changes in consumption and the directions that the large Chinese market will take, he maintained.

Everything points to the wisdom of not limiting the economy to a few export products, as Brazil is doing, and to seeking "synergies between industry and agriculture," instead of excluding other sectors, he argued



A farmer harvests lettuce in Santa Maria de Jetibá, a mountainous agricultural municipality, the main supplier of horticultural products for school meals in the city of Vitória, in southeastern Brazil. The synergy between family farming and school meals programs strengthens local production in the country. CREDIT: Mario Osava/IPS



Soybean is the main symbol of the success of agribusiness in Brazil, whose landscape has been stained with its monotonous crops. In four decades, agricultural research has achieved high soy productivity in the hot lands of the Cerrado, the Brazilian savannah. Flat land suitable for mechanization, with regular rainfall and the possibility of planting corn or cotton after the soybean harvest are the advantages of tropical agriculture in Brazil. CREDIT: Mario Osava/IPS

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

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

POLITICAL parties have called on the Zanzibar Alcoholic Drinks Control and Advisory Board (ZLB) to administer the law governing alcoholic drinks in Zanzibar enacted by the House of Representatives that came into effect after receiving Presidential assent on May 1 2020.

The parties - CHADEMA, AAFP, DP, ADA-TADEA and NLD made the appeal on Tuesday this week as they spoke to reporters at different times on the implementation of the Zanzibar Alcohol Control Act (No 9 of 2020).

The Chairman of CHADEMA Elders Council, Hashimu Issa Juma said it is pleasing to note that ZLB started its work with the right foot after Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi dissolved the former Board and formed a new one due to the failure by the former to oversee the law properly.

Hashim said the move by the current Board to appoint three firms out of nine that had applied in the 2022 tender has abided by the conditions stipulated in section 33(10) of the Zanzibar Alcohol Control Act following its contravention since it came into effect May 11 2020.

He said Section 33(1) of the Act says licences for the importation of alcoholic drinks should be issued to not more than three dealers, whose owners should be Zanzibaris but it came to light that even Europeans were given licences.

For his part AAFP Chairman Said Soud Said, said ZLB is supposed to continue inspecting bars as many people have complained over their



Chadema elders council chairman Hashimu Issa Juma speaks to journalists on the implementation of the Zanzibar Alcohol Control Act (No 9 of 2020). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Political parties urge ZLB to stand by Zanzibar alcoholic drinks law

locations for contravening section 28(k) of the Act that had set a condition for bars to be more than 1,000 metres away from areas with basic social services including schools, health centres, mosques, churches, madrassas, markets or bus stations.

He said acts of gender based violence and child abuse have been increasing in Zanzibar due

to increase of alcoholic drinks businesses in residential areas that has impacted on Zanzibar's customs and traditions.

NLD Chairman Mfaume Khamis said Members of the House of Representatives should be praised for passing the new alcoholic drinks law and these are the fruits of the country is witnessing following the appointment of the new Zanzibar

Alcoholic Drinks Control and Advisory Board.

For his part DP Chairman Peter Magwira said the control of liquor business in residential areas will help in the protection of Zanzibar customs and traditions.

Chaani Member of the House of Representatives, Nadir Abdullatif said the aim to enact the new law on alcoholic drinks is to reduce the

multitude of bars in residential areas as well as controlling smuggling.

He said Section 28(k) of the same Act had set a condition for bars to be more than 1,000 metres away from areas with basic social services including schools, health centres, mosques, churches, madrassas, markets or bus stations, but the old liquor board had ignored this stipulation.

AGRA goals are being met, especially in improving the conditions of smallholder farmers," he posited.

Kikwete for partnership for inclusive agricultural development

By Guardian Correspondent, Iringa

ALLIANCE for Green Revolution (AGRA) lead Partnership for Inclusive Agricultural Transformation in Africa (PIATA) initiatives in Tanzania has increased agro-led industrialisation-drive momentum.

Agro-dealers, farmers' organizations, aggregators and processors have increased uptake of their respective activities and production along the agriculture value chain, according to testimonies shared to former President Jakaya Kikwete, by agriculture stakeholders in the Iringa Region during the first day of his week-long tour to PIATA partnership initiatives.

Kikwete hailed self-made entrepreneurs along the agriculture value chain, who started small and steadily grew into bigger and formidable enterprises serving thousands of farmers. He attested that it was the way to take homegrown processing into huge and competitive enterprises.

The AGRA board member, is accompanied by Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Anthony Mavunde, AGRA Tanzania Country Manager Vianey Rweyendela is hosting the delegation, including stakeholders drawn from the private and public sectors. With them also is Agnes Asimwe Konde, Vice President, Program Innovation & Delivery.

JK expressed his satisfaction with using funds provided by AGRA and partners in Tanzania for beefing up the agricultural sector. The funds were provided in agribusiness consortia model.

"AGRA goals are being met, especially in improving the conditions of smallholder farmers," he posited.

The President expressed his joy to see input suppliers and processors who have been supported by AGRA in one way or the other, taking their businesses to the next level and, in turn, helping thousands of farmers to improve their livelihood.

The President had a conversation with Magreth Aidan Sanga, an agro-input dealer trading as Iwawa General Supplies based in Iringa town.

Magreth serves about 10,000 farmers directly and many others through 10 Village-based Advisors (VBAs) and about 15 retailers spread across Iringa and Njombe in the Southern Highlands.

"Every year, the business has been growing. I have managed to increase and improve my distribution channels thanks to PIATA partnership, which has brought the new challenges of growth, especially the need for more capital to supply VBAs," she noted.

PIATA's resource partners include Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF); Rockefeller Foundation (RF); United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO), and German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). MasterCard and IFAD were also key contributors.

Then the delegation visited Super Seki Investments, the largest fortified maize processor in the Southern Highlands, serving local and export markets. The firm's CEO Rita Sekilovele, told Kikwete, the firm has grown from humble roots, where she used to grind maize into flour and sell in "debes"-20 kg tin container.

"Today Super Seki buys maize from over 5000 smallholder farmers in a season, we provide them with inputs," she said.

PIATA partnership has been instrumental in providing farmers' education and capacitating her to expand her warehouse.

"I have opened a branch in Ruvuma," she said.

Kikwete commended the growth of the business but added it was paramount for the factory to become more modernized and acquire state-of-art-plant to grow into the next level.

The delegation then visited Green Valley Agro (GVA), GBRI Solution and Agriedo, where the firm's CEO Hadija Jabiri, had the opportunity to brief Kikwete about their activities along the agriculture value chain. The firms have been working closely with the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT), vital in PIATA partnerships in Tanzania. GVA is producing hybrid seeds (tomato) that are exported to Europe. According to Hadija her firms revolutionized how agriculture business is done and provided education to smallholder farmers around their farm on transforming their farming activities into modern enterprises.

The delegation also visited Silverlands Tanzania, one of the most remarkable farms in the southern highlands, which is involved in the multiplication of maize, sunflower, and potato seeds but at the same time focus on poultry, poultry feed, day-old chick and livestock. In the implementation of PIATA AGRA had partnered with Silverlands to provide aggregator and off-taker services to smallholder farmers.

Johnson Mhavi, informed the former President the farm has come up with a new chicken variety, suitable for mass production, and what was needed was advocacy for more Tanzanians to start consuming the delicacy.

According to the national five-year development plan 2021/22 - 2025/2, which is the final plan for Tanzania's implementation of Vision 2025 as the National overall development framework, at its heart is realising competitiveness and industrialization for human development.

Increasing productivity in manufacturing using the resources available in abundance within the country is a key factor, and agro industrialisation drive is one of the nation's low hanging fruit to take advantage of, noted private sector representative, Geoffrey Kirenga - Chief Executive Officer - SAGCOT.

SGA Security tips Tanzanian women on leadership, emotional intelligence

By Guardian Reporter

WOMEN in the corporate world have been tipped on the importance to growing their potential in the corporate world.

This was during a special event organised by SGA Security as part of the Valentine's Day celebrations where female employees of their 6,000 personnel in the country received special training on leadership and emotional intelligence.

The event was facilitated by renowned speakers George Obado, an expert in leadership, and Ruth Serem, an expert in women empowerment who took the women through stages and attributes of what experts termed as a 'phenomenal woman'. The team of representatives from various sections in SGA was tipped on emotional intelligence, being a topical subject for leaders in today's corporate world.

Speaking during the event, SGA Tanzania Managing Director, Eric Sambu, reiterated that women play a critical role in strategic decision-making.

He pointed out that women have a natural gift in risk management and often consider all factors that can affect an objective and hence most of the time they get it right.

He urged the women to believe in themselves and take advantage of their natu-



A cross-section of SGA Security female employees celebrating Valentine's Day on Monday. Centre is the SGA Tanzania managing director Eric Sambu and Motivational Speaker George Obado. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

ral gifts to elevate themselves to positions of influence in the corporate world.

He advised them against viewing their counterparts as adversaries but instead focus on tapping the synergies and work together.

George Obado reiterated the need for women to be self-aware, regulate and motivate themselves and manage relationships well, with social responsibility.

He advised the have personal values and emotional maturity and to do this, they need to understand their strengths and weaknesses.

Ruth Serem also brought in tips on how to be phenomenal, borrowing a leaf from Maya Angelou, which are made special, and indeed phenomenal.

SGA Security Human Resources Manager, Ebenezer Kaale, stated that the firm

encourages women in their ranks to continue prospering, saying it is the secret of their success.

"Even though security industry does not attract many women, SGA has created equal environment and have many women in key ranks and experience has shown that they are phenomenal", he said.

"Women are extra careful with compliance to policies

and regulations and are often honest, which are the key attributes in our industry", he added.

SGA Security is one of the largest employers in the country and the oldest security company, having operated since 1984. It offers specialist services in guarding, cash management, electronic security solutions, emergency response services and courier services.

The fierce urgency of now is required to include crisis-affected children with disabilities in education, ECW's Yasmine Sherif says

NAIROBI

Unable to walk, see or hear, and without assistance, the multiple barriers between 240 million children with disabilities and the education system mean nearly half are likely never to have attended school.

"We must reach these children with the fierce urgency of now," says Yasmine Sherif, Director, Education Cannot Wait, speaking at the Global Disability Summit.

UNICEF research paints a dire picture for millions of children with disabilities worldwide. Forty-nine percent were more likely to have never attended school; 47 percent were more likely to be out of primary school. One-third are likely to be out of lower secondary school, and 27 percent are likely to be out of upper secondary school.

In emergencies and protracted crises in countries like Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Chad, Lebanon, Syria, and many more, Sherif says, "No one is left furthest behind and more vulnerable than a refugee or forcibly displaced child with disabilities."

At the Global Disability Summit, hosted by the International Disability Alliance (IDA) and the governments of Norway and Ghana, on February 16-17, 2022, Sherif spoke about the harsh reality challenges faced on a daily basis by crisis-affected children with disabilities within current education systems and the urgent need to intervene.

She urged the global community to be concrete in action and not abstract in thinking, calling for a collective response for children with disabilities caught in armed conflicts, forced displacement, climate-induced disasters, and protracted crises. Their inclusion in response and protection interventions need to be systemized through legal frameworks and leveraging on pooled funding.

"Being the only global fund for education in emergencies and protracted crises, ECW cannot accomplish its mission unless all children with disabilities can learn in an inclusive and protected setting along with their peers," she says.

"Nor will we collectively ensure the right to inclusive, equitable, and quality education for every child if children with disabilities remain behind."

The world should, with urgency, remove the barriers to education for crisis-affected children with disabilities, says Education Cannot Wait Director Yasmine Sherif. Here she is pictured in Lebanon speaking to a young child at an ECW-supported facility. Credit: Education Cannot Wait (ECW)



ECW commits to ensuring that its partners and grantees embed inclusion standards in their investments and act upon them.

"More specifically, ensuring that families of children with disabilities and organizations of persons with disabilities are engaged throughout each programme cycle with adequate budgetary allocation to support and sustain participation. This includes enhancing accountability to the affected population," she says.

For disability rights groups, activists,

experts, and supporters, the ongoing Summit is key in highlighting that the time to make education in emergency and protracted crises settings inclusive is now.

The Summit is pivotal in ensuring that governments, UN entities, and civil society back their commitments to persons with disabilities with adequate resources to implement them.

Sherif spoke in a high-level panel discussion of experts including Gerard Quinn, UN Special Rapporteur on Persons with Disabilities; Peter Maurer,

president of the International Committee of the Red Cross; Gillian Triggs, Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, UNHCR and Nadia Hadad, European Disability Forum.

Also in attendance were Johanna Sumuvuori, State Secretary Minister for Foreign Affairs of Finland, and Nujeen Mustafa, a UNHCR Supporter who, at 16, traveled 3,500 miles from Syria to Germany in a steel wheelchair; her compelling story captured in the book 'Nujeen, One Girl's Incredible Journey from War-Torn Syria in a

Wheelchair'.

Hadad opened with astounding statistics indicating that 41 million people with disabilities would need humanitarian assistance in 2022.

Against this backdrop, Triggs emphasized respect for those displaced by conflict, including internally displaced persons and refugees. She affirmed that disability inclusion remains a priority for UNHCR and that the UN Refugee Agency is firmly committed to doing more to achieve it.

Maurer confirmed that the International Committee of the Red Cross is seriously taking on board the philosophy of inclusion in their humanitarian work, and more so, in conflict situations.

Mustafa explained she was born with cerebral palsy in Syria, and as a result, society saw a girl without a future. She said conflict situations further exposed the lack of infrastructure, support, and protection for people with disabilities.

Sumuvuori expressed Finland's commitment to champion the rights and inclusions of persons with disabilities "with a special focus on the rights of women and girls with disabilities. Building on our existing efforts in humanitarian assistance, Finland commits to promoting meaningful participation of persons with disabilities."

Quinn called for increased visibility for persons with disability, saying that war is not a thing of the past because conflicts were very much alive.

The character of conflict

was changing, but it has not gone away. It has become more lethal for those with disabilities, Quinn says.

"This leaves people with disabilities at even greater risk of violence and discrimination. Demand for active and meaningful participation is not a favor but a right for all people living with disabilities," Mustafa told a community of global participants.

Sherif noted that disability inclusion for children in emergencies and protracted crises requires the removal of economic barriers.

Sherif stresses that families of children with disabilities bear extra costs to send them to school, including transportation and assistive devices.

"Families, therefore, may not afford to send their children to school or may not see the need for it because of widely shared negative attitudes toward children with disabilities and their potential," Sherif says.

Once children with disabilities in emergencies and protracted crises go to school, says Sherif, they often must overcome inaccessible pathways and navigate schools and temporary learning spaces that are not accessible. Accessible transportation and assistive devices are usually not provided in these contexts.

Without training and support for teachers to adapt the teaching and learning environment to the special needs of vulnerable learners, children with disability struggle to learn the basics. More often than not, few enter higher learning and training.

Sherif says that quality and safety start with inclusion, ensuring that children with disabilities learn along with their peers.

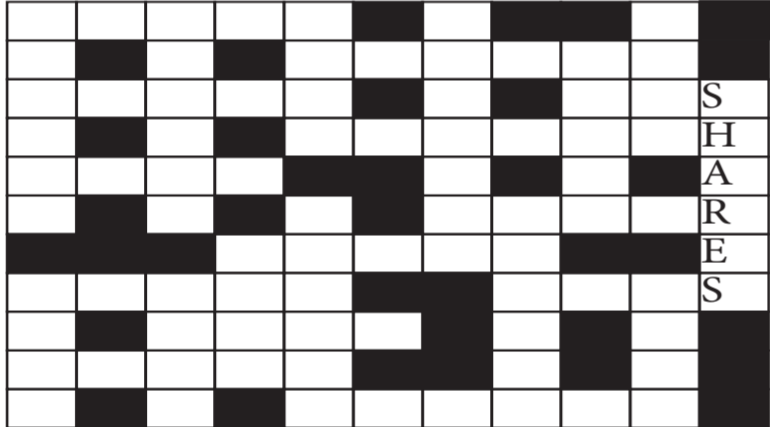
"Ensuring quality education in an inclusive setting necessitates knowledge and capacities, adapted curricula, and targeted interventions such as the provision of specialized material and equipment," Sherif emphasizes.

"In emergencies and protracted crises, where resources are often scarce, it is fundamental to leverage local resources through partnerships between school personnel and families."

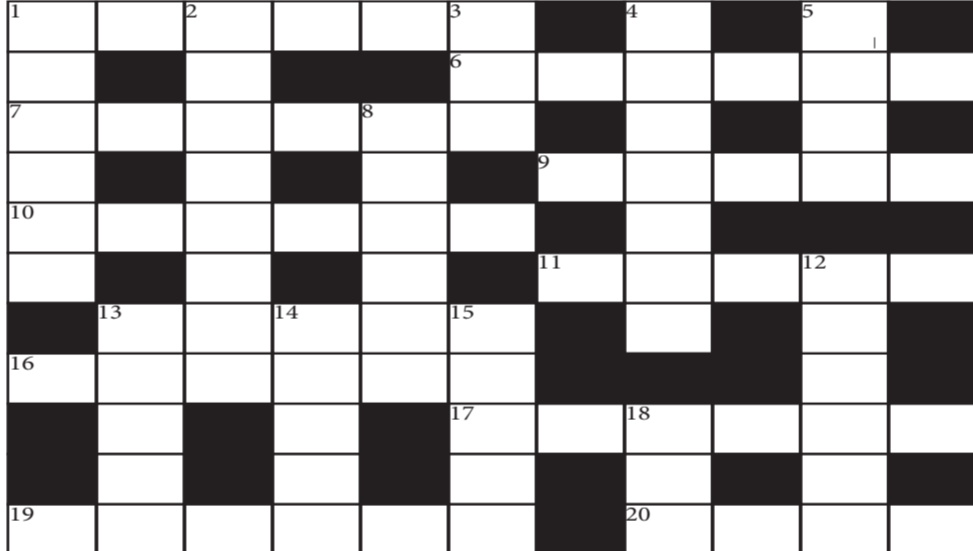
Sherif concluded by saying it is possible to intervene and maintain educational systems even in the aftermath of conflict to ensure that future generations can escape the cycle of poverty.

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 227 00--

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



- 3 Letters: ASS,
4. Letters: YULE, MASS, OMEN, WASH, PASS, SPAN, REEF, HEED, TRAP,
5 Letters: MONEY, SKILL, DAILY, MAYOR, HAMAS, WATER, SHADE
6 Letters: MOSCOW, NOISES, UGANDA, SHARES, ASMARA, CAREER, REMAIN
7 Letters: SANGOMA, ENGLISH,



- CLUES: Across
1. Tanzania's Capital
6. Nation created in 1948
7. Christian festival celebrating the resurrection of Christ
9. turn away
10. Second largest city in Tanzania
11. step in a process
13. mischievous person
16. skilful
17. large round citrus fruit
19. sell goods by going from place to place
20. utter words
Down:
1. images seen while you sleep
2. a place far away
3. the mixture of gases surrounding the earth
4. personal, secret
5. beloved
8. consisting protein that is produced by a living organism
12. an off break bowled with an apparent leg-break action
13. a surface which is higher on one side than the other
14. keep away from someone
15. demonstrate by evidence
18. a donkey

SOLUTIONS
WORD-FIT: READY, SCOPE, SHELTER, SAME, TEA, YAH, P, SNACK, IRAQ, MAST, EAST, G, T, ARK, I, ANAPA, I, P, I, C, F, R, O, S, T, M, A, S, H, E, R, H, A, Y, E, O, W, L, N
CROSSWORD: FARMER, LEASE, ISLAND, P, K, D, L, O, I, L, E, R, ANYONE, A, M, Y, M, E, D, D, L, E, A, S, C, L, A, N, E, S, P, L, A, N, T, A, T, I, O, N, S, O, E, R, I, E, A, A, L, A, G, T, A, C, E, T, G, O, N, E, Y, I, T, S, U, E

RADIO One RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

Table with 7 columns: MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY. Each column lists time slots and program names.

MTWARA REGION FACES SHORTAGE OF INDUSTRIAL PARKS FOR SMES

By Beatrice Philemon

MTWARA Region is facing the shortage of Industrial parks for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to establish and operate their businesses, mainly value addition activities in agriculture.

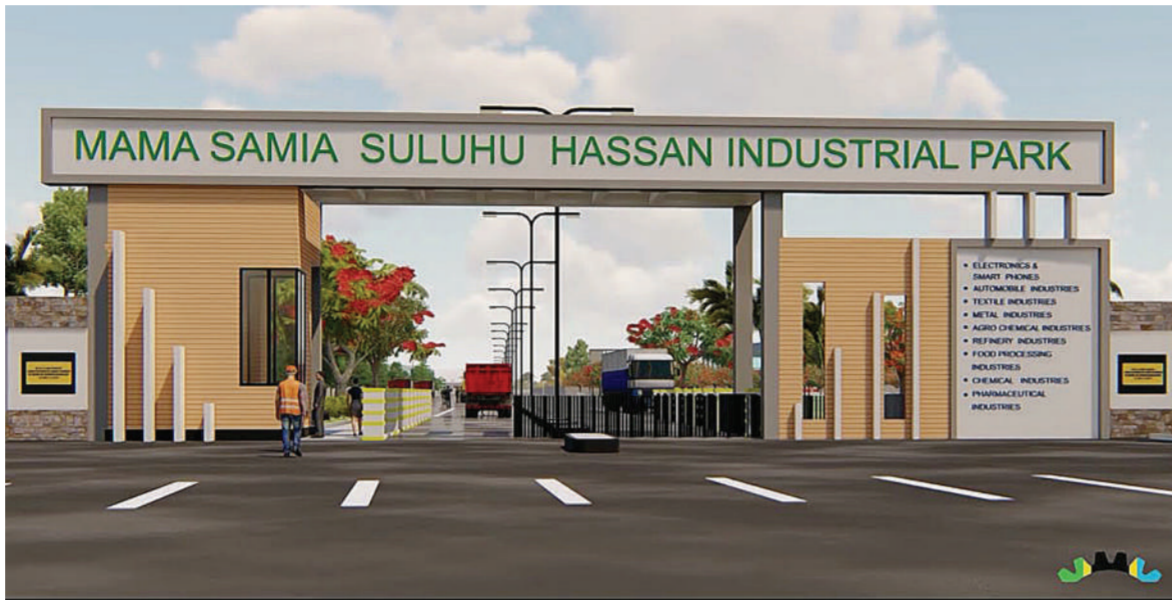
Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO)'s Mtwara Regional Manager, Twaha Sued told 'The Property Watch' that so far SIDO-Mtwara has already built two industrial parks worth more than 200m/- in 900 square meter at SIDO Industrial Area and is now fully occupied with SMEs and employ more than 300 people.

"Right now, we called on the government to support us more funds to construct more industrial parks for small-scale factories and other industrial businesses because the demand is very high for SMEs in Mtwara Region," he said.

SMEs engaged in spice processing business, soap manufacturing, cashew spirit and wine processing and cashew-nut processing are now operating their business inside the industrial parks.

"We decided to build industrial parks due to increased demand for SMEs that need those infrastructure and most of them don't have enough funds to build their own facilities," he said.

The industrial parks will contribute greatly to social and economic



benefits to the nation at large and provide employment for Tanzanians. In September last year, The East African Community (EAC) Secretary General Peter Mathuki appealed to the regional partner states to invest in industrial parks.

Dr Mathuki urged the partner states' governments to enhance industrial productivity and strengthen institutional frameworks and policies to accelerate economic growth in the region.

So far SIDO has 17 Industrial estates in Tanga, Dar es salaam, Lindi, Mtwara, Ruvuma, Iringa, Mbeya, Rukwa, Kigoma, Tabora, Singida, Shinyanga, Mwanza, Mara, Kilimanjaro and Arusha region.

Mtwara region is endowed with

abundant natural resources which have started to create growing opportunities for investment to generate wealth and prosperity for all.

Potential investment area in Mtwara include the new high economic growth sectors of oil and gas, as well as the more traditional agriculture, fishing, mining, industry, and tourism sectors.

With a view to provide support services and a cost-efficient platform for doing business, in Mtwara, The Region offers investment opportunities in the provision of economic services infrastructure that includes Port, Railway, Airport, Roads, Electricity, Water and Telecommunications) and social services (General Education, Vocational

Training and Health Services).

The region is situated in the southernmost regions, it lies between longitudes 38oand 40o30' east of Greenwich. Situated between latitudes 10o05' and 11o25' south of the Equator.

It borders Lindi region to the North, the Indian Ocean to the east and separated by the Ruvuma River from Mozambique in the south. To the west it borders Ruvuma region.

The region occupies 16,710 km² (6,450 sqmi) or 1.9% of Tanzania Mainland land area of 885,987 sq. kms Climate.

The temperature is 27o C in December and lowest is 23.8o C in July. The rain along coast is of two seasons.

From the mid-March to May Population according to the 2012 national census, the region had a population of 1,270,854, with 1.2 %average annual population growth rate.

The region is densely populated with 76 people per square kilometer. "As SIDO we also provide technical assistance for SMEs to operate their business more effectively, including offering financial services in accordance with the business they have," he said.

Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO) is a parastatal organization which was established under the Act of Parliament No. 28 of 1973. The organization is mandated to plan, coordinate, promote and offer every form of services to SMEs.

The responsibility of the organization includes facilitating entrepreneurship development and offer extension services, promotes technology development and transfer and provision of technical services, dissemination of business information and marketing, provision of work places and financial services.

SIDO has been working with SMEs for over four decades now and it has been practically proved that growth and competitiveness hinges on effective delivery of capacity development services.

This is mainly done through facilitation to impact skills, attitude and knowledge by providing among others training, business management, and consultancy and extension services.

Africa: Regional infrastructure projects key to success for AfCFTA

ADDIS ABABA

THE critical need to invest in Africa's transport and tourism sectors was the focus of a high-level meeting convened this week in Addis Ababa by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).

The gathering of senior business leaders, executives and head of governments - the fifth edition of the African Business Forum - took place on the margins of the African Union summit to spotlight transport infrastructure with an emphasis on air transport and tourism.

Vera Songwe, United Nations Under-Secretary-General and ECA Executive Secretary, told the Forum that prioritization of regional infrastructure projects is essential to "significantly increase traffic flows on all transport modes - road, rail, maritime, and air." These increases are required for the success of the newly launched the African Continental Free Area (AfCFTA), she said.

According to an ECA study released before the Forum, the free trade agreement has potential to boost intra-African trade by more than 50 percent through elimination of import duties and reduction of non-tariff barriers. Estimates regarding the impact the AfCFTA can have on African economic progress indicate that more than 25 percent of intra-African trade gains would go to transport and nearly 40 percent of the increase would be in transport.

Songwe told the Forum that investment in the tourism and the transport sectors, though often overlooked, is essential for African economic growth. Implementation of AfCFTA will require \$411 billion to develop transport infrastructure, according to the UNECA.

"The estimated cost of trucks needed for AfCFTA is \$345 billion," Songwe said - almost equal to the size of one of the continent's largest economies, South Africa. The commission's data indicates that 2.2 million trucks, 169,339 rail wagons, 135 vessels and 243 aircraft will be needed to implement the free trade agreement.

There is also a critical need to diversify transport infrastructure so that goods can move efficiently from one country to another. "We are only moving three percent of our goods by rail," Songwe said. "With a \$36 billion dollar investment, we could boost that to 6.8 percent" - still lower than Europe's 16 percent, said Songwe. For road transport, a doubling of freight is needed.

Infrastructure upgrade will not only improve connectivity of states but also help drive down transport costs and thereby increase private sector productivity. High transport costs in Africa are partly due to a shortage of affordable and reliable transport along with vital logistics services, according to Amani Abou-Zeid, the African Union Commission commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy.



Credits to building and construction contract in 2021

BY GUARDIAN REPORTER

CREDITS to building and construction contracted consecutively during twelve months of last year, which indicated less financing were available for construction and real estate.

Construction sector is the second largest contributor of the economy, as it was valued 19.4tr/- in 2020 (at 2015 constant prices) of 21trn/- at current prices, accounting for nearly 15% of the GDP.

During the first nine months of 2021, the sector contributed 15trn/- to the GDP, according to National Bureau of Statistics data.

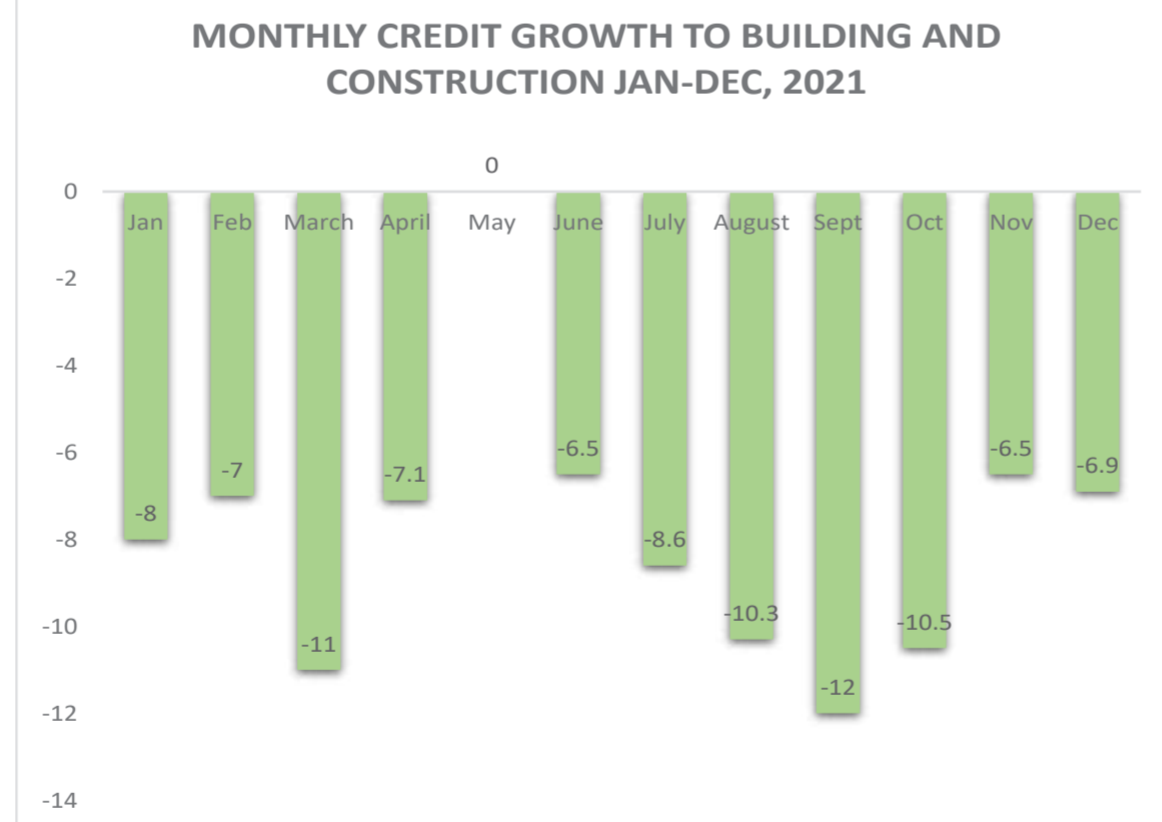
Bank of Tanzania reports have shown that monthly credit growths to building and construction during last year were negative throughout the year ranging between 6.5% and 11%, compared with positive growth of up to 30% recorded in mid-2020.

The sharp contraction of credits to building and construction last year recorded in September at 12% and March in at 11%.

This is being experienced while the credit market is growing at an annual rate of 15% as of December 2021, compared with projected 11% during the financial year 2021/2022.

The share of credits to building and construction remained nearly flat during twelve months of last year, ranging between 4.7% and 5.4%.

Credits to building and construction in Tanzania are issues in different forms of products including mortgage finance,



personal loans (home improvement loans), housing purchase and other construction activities.

Expert in real estate said the shrink of credits to building and construction caused by the impact of covid-19 pandemic, where number of construction projects were suspended. It is hoped that things will change this year, as economies

are now recovering from the impact of the pandemic.

He said since the economy is recovering, number of construction projects including infrastructure and housing will increase this year, which will turn the negative rates of credit growth to positive.

Tanzania in recent years has witnessed growth in the construc-

tion industry, both private projects such as residential and commercial real estate as well public projects such as construction of roads, railways, bridges, water systems, telecommunications, and air transport networks.

However, high interest rates and lack of affordable housing remain the major constraints on the Tan-

zania mortgage market growth despite the high demand for housing and housing loans.

The typical interest rates offered by mortgage lenders ranged between 15% and 19% in 2019, compared to 22% and 24% in 2010.

However, lenders offer loans for home purchase and equity release while a few offer loans for self-construction which for the most part continue to be expensive beyond the reach of the average Tanzanians.

The GDP highlights for the third quarter 2021 shows Real estate activity recorded the growth rate of 4.6 percent in the third quarter in 2021 compared to 4.5 percent recorded in the third quarter in 2020.

The growth was attributed demand for accommodation especially in urban areas.

Construction activity, which includes general construction and specialized construction activities for

buildings and civil engineering works recorded a marginal growth rate of 5.8 percent in the third quarter in 2021 compared to 13.9 percent in the corresponding quarter in 2020.

The growth was attributed to an increase in local production of construction materials like iron and steels which are proxies for construction activities.

Dubai property market: Off-plan sales jump over 300% in January

DUBAI

DUBAI real estate market recorded 5,797 sales transactions worth Dh16.69 billion last month, becoming the best January ever on record, Property Finder said in its monthly report on Thursday.

In January 2022, 53 per cent of all transactions were for secondary/ready properties and 47 per cent were for off-plan properties.

The off-plan market transacted 2,706 properties worth a total of Dh5.32 billion while the ready market transacted 3,091 transactions worth Dh11.37 billion.

Comparing January 2022 month-on-month to December 2021, the off-plan value fell by more than six per cent but the volume increased by 5.58 per cent.

Secondary volume increased by more than 1.74 per cent and value increased by 13.68 per cent. Looking at overall transactions,

total transaction value increased by 6.40 per cent and volume increased by 3.5 per cent compared to December.

Comparing overall performance for the month compared to January 2021, January 2022 had 74.56 per cent more transactions with 145.31 per cent more in value.

Comparing it to the exact time last year, the secondary volume increased by 30.70 per cent and value by 106.77 per cent.

The rebound we have seen in the off-plan

market has been significant, as off-plan sales transaction value increased by 307.88 per cent and volume increased by 183.05 per cent.

"There are many questions as to how 2022 will pan out. Based on numerous factors such as the data and trend patterns, it looks like 2022 will continue on an upward trajectory when it comes to sales volumes and price increase in prime, popular areas," said Lynnette Sacchetto, Director of Research

and Data at Property Finder.

"New supply will be low in prime areas and certain asset classes, such as villa/townhouses, therefore we can continue to expect price increases in these areas as demand continues to be strong. The off-plan segment will most likely not cool down anytime soon due to investor sentiment, attractive pricing, the lure of Dubai and overall good projects launching in the market."

POPULATION GROWTH OFFERS FUTURE HOUSING INVESTMENT HORIZON

Andrew Chimphondah, (pictured) is the group managing director/chief executive officer, Shelter Afrique. For 40 years, Shelter Afrique has actively supported housing and urban development across Africa. In this interview, he speaks about the real estate sector—the opportunities, challenges and the vital role that funding plays in closing the widening housing gap as the pan-African housing financier.

realised as an opportunity or a challenge is down to planning. We, as an organisation, have made this advocacy central to our strategy.

Since its inception, Shelter Afrique has facilitated affordable housing on the African continent. What would you say have been the major highlights of this 40-year journey?

The attainment of a 40th year is an achievement in itself. It means that we have remained a going concern as a business but, more importantly, remained relevant to our shareholders. It is my privilege to be at the helm of affairs now. I have not been here for 40 years, but the moment is not lost on me. It is most gratifying to see how the organisation redefines itself, how it has adapted and grown. Today, we have 44 member countries, up from 17 in 1981, and three Regional African Organisations, as shareholders. The landscape is different from when the organisation was instituted; many other organisations mimic what we do. Others are on the border of our activities; commercial banks, other development finance institutions, but our member countries still have recourse to us regarding matters of affordable housing and, increasingly, matters of large-scale development. It should give our shareholders some comfort that the organisation will always be fit for purpose and remains committed to its founding vision which is providing affordable housing for all Africans.

We also directly impact livelihoods and quality of life; in 2019, we estimate that we delivered 3,821 housing units and impacted 19,015 beneficiaries and created 26,747 jobs and empowered 242 women with housing units.

In 2020, we delivered 5,101 housing units, housing 25,505 individuals; this translates to 15,303 direct jobs and 20,404 indirect jobs created. This is the real way we impact livelihoods and improve the quality of life in Africa.

We also have a very vibrant stakeholder universe with other organisations such as the UN-Habitat, the African Union, the European Investment Bank, the West African



Development Bank, BOAD, the Islamic Development Bank, Commonwealth Development Bank, the German Development Agency, KfW, Trade Development Bank, TDB, Agence Française de Développement, the French Development Agency. We are also equity partners in such institutions as the Kenya Mortgage Refinance Company (KMRC) and Tanzania Mortgage Refinance Company (TMRC), and the Nigerian Mortgage Refinance Company, which we were instrumental in creating.

Based on your engagements across the continent, what are the key challenges facing the real estate sector on the continent?

Well, there are four broad ways to categorise the challenges on the continent: government policy and regulation, high cost of finance, prohibitive loan tenors, and lack of capacity. Government will need to drastically improve registration of land titles and digitisation of records. Governments need to make housing policy and housing projects a front-of-mind issue which has not been the case.

Relatedly, transportation and infrastructure policy have to be drafted with housing in mind - This has a knock-on effect on housing with regard to the accessibility of land. Governments should also consider incentivising developers and reducing the administrative bottlenecks. We have found that money tends to follow government interest and direction. As an organisation, we have tried to address these gaps with the Yaoundé Declaration; the Yaoundé Declaration is a policy

framework agreed to by our 44 member countries at the 40th Annual General Meeting to address affordable housing and governance frameworks.

Secondly, the high cost of finance and short tenors are prohibitive to investing in affordable housing. Typically, we see that developers are discouraged from participation because of the slim margins.

To solve this, affordable housing must be conceived as a volume business to make sense for developers. We have addressed this by proposing Private-Public-Partnerships (PPPs) of no less than 1,000 units; this is our primary product under our revised strategy. We are seeing traction in Rwanda, Togo, Cameroon and are concluding conversations in Nigeria to deliver similar projects.

We are also advocating for strengthening the capital markets as a source of financing. Many African capital markets lack size and liquidity due to the low depth and liquidity of local markets; trading is often limited to a few stocks, which represent most of the market capitalisation. We have often used the capital markets to raise money for affordable housing, we floated an FCFIIO billion bond on the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA), which was oversubscribed by 163 per cent in 2014 and the KES 3.5 billion bond that was oversubscribed by 43 per cent on the Nairobi Stock Exchange in 2013.

We believe the capital markets are an under-utilised avenue for fundraising. Beyond this, we can leverage our partnerships and relationships to crowd-fund for affordable housing. We have relationships

with other multi-laterals such as the African Development Bank, the European Investment Bank, the Islamic Corporation for Development, the German Development Bank (KfW), and the French Development Agency (AFD).

We also have member countries contributing to the capital. Over the last four years, we have received over \$100 million from member countries which commits us to participate in their affordable housing programmes. Indeed, this is our second strategic pillar, Shareholder Value and Developmental Impact. It guides our investment philosophy in our member countries.

How has the coronavirus pandemic affected this outlook and how have stakeholders managed to navigate these uncertain times?

The pandemic has affected the industry, and we are not exempted from that. To begin with, the lockdown measures that were enacted by many African nations in response to the pandemic forced the stoppage of work on many construction sites.

Additionally, there is a natural aversion to risk, so many companies are unable to access credit or finance, which is likely to remain for the foreseeable future. There has been disruption to supply chains the world over, which has a direct impact on the housing industry, as many of our African countries are still import-reliant economies.

There is also the very heavy toll the pandemic is having on the human resource in the industry. The workers, temporary and permanent who work in the industry or who have created a mushroom industry around construction, have been rendered jobless; many African countries do not have the same welfare safety nets that are offered in more developed nations.

In our day-to-day business and operations, like most businesses, we have created systems that allow

our employees to work remotely and initiated strict COVID-19 protocols and measures. Travel, which is an integral part of our work, has been suspended for the year, so we are holding all major meetings virtually, including our Annual General Meeting.

However, we cannot deny that it has had a material effect on our business. Initially, when the pandemic broke and lockdowns were initiated in various countries, the level of new business activities reduced due to the employee-related, social and economic issues customers had to deal with. Recently, as customers have adapted, there has been an improvement as they embrace technology.

Additionally, our inability to engage with the customer physically (specific to due diligence processes in the underwriting process) has affected the level of new business activities leading to reduced new business underwriting.

However, we also see an opportunity to address the policy surrounding informal settlements; research has shown a direct relationship between the spread of contagion and informal housing where social distancing cannot be successfully enacted. Our COE is considering this as an important area of research. It also forces policymakers and decision-makers to begin developing and encouraging industrialisation, manufacturing and inter-African trade. The pandemic has exposed our lack of self-sufficiency as a continent. We, as an organisation, will be exploring how we can leverage the African Continental Free Trade Agreement for affordable housing.

Beyond these, we acknowledge the human cost of the pandemic. We worked through the Shelter Afrique foundation at the height of the pandemic when most African countries went into lockdown and provided relief materials to 4000 low-income beneficiaries across Africa.

Data centres expected to be next high-growth property segment

MANILA

THE data center market is expected to be the next high-growth segment of the property market amid growing demand from prospective operators, according to Santos Knight Frank, a real estate services firm.

The company said it expects the energy drawn by Philippine data centers to "more than double in the medium term," with an energy requirement of 125 megawatts (MW) projected to be added to the current 94 MW used by incumbent data-center operators.

"This puts us ahead of Vietnam and catching up with Thailand, definitely among the emerging countries for this sector in Southeast Asia," Santos Knight Frank's Data Centers Lead Monica Gonzalez said in an online briefing on Wednesday.

Data centers, which are energy intensive, house servers and other equipment that cater to businesses' online operations.

Santos Knight Frank said data centers are considered an emerging sector globally. The global data center market was estimated at \$59.3 billion last year and is expected to grow to \$143.4 billion by 2027.

The Asia-Pacific (APAC) is expected to post 90% growth in total data capacity by 2023, with data center spending in the region projected to grow to over \$30 billion by 2023.

"The APAC region is actually the fastest growing market for data centers in the world. Not the largest yet, compared to North America, but the fastest-growing currently," Ms. Gonzalez said.

"In fact, 30% of global revenue of the data center sector will come from the APAC region as early as next year," she added.

Interest in the Philippines centers on the government's push to develop infrastructure and digitize many processes, as well as the talent pool of engineering and information technology (IT) professionals, Santos Knight Frank said.

The Philippines' plan to shift to renewable energy, as well as the underdeveloped market, are also attractive to investors, it said.

"Singapore is the leading hub for data centers in the region but they have a moratorium in place for new data center development because of how the data centers use quite a lot of land and power, so this has pushed the interest to other countries in Southeast Asia that can absorb that demand such as Malaysia, Thailand, and now the Philippines," Ms. Gonzalez said.

Most of the data centers in the Philippines are located in Metro Manila and are dominated by telecommunications companies.

The typical data center in the Philippines draws power of 5-7 MW or even less, but Ms. Gonzalez said the firm is seeing demand for centers that require 10-70 MW.

Real estate markets in Africa to watch out for in 2022

Lagos

FROM increased foreign direct investment, shifting occupier patterns to e-commerce, 2022 is expected to be a record year for the real estate market in Africa. However, a divergence continues to exist in market performance across key markets in the continent.

Real Estate Boom in Egypt set to continue

The Egyptian real estate market has generally emerged as a winner from the pandemic. The sector grew by 8% in 2021 according to the Ministry of Planning, with developers noting that the local real estate sector remains stable for the first time in 15 years. Overall, the market attracted approximately US\$10 billion in sales in 2021 with further foreign investments of US\$ 500million underpinning the growing investor confidence in the market.

This stability across the property cycle makes the general real estate mar-

ket across all sectors one to watch out for in 2022, especially for core capital allocation. The residential sector in specific is set to be a stand out performer underpinned by increased foreign investments as well as a decline in interest rates allowing for increased investments. As a result, the sector is set to record steady demand as well as increased supply in the number of completed units as highlighted by the Egyptian Businessmen Association.

Growth expected in Nairobi's real estate market

Kenya's real estate sector grew by 5.2% in the third quarter of 2021. This represented an increase in comparison to the 3.7% increase recorded in the corresponding quarter in 2020 (Kenya National Bureau of Statistics).

Over the same period, the number of land transactions more than doubled from the 1,734 transactions recorded in 2020 according to the Ministry



of Lands and Physical Planning, underscoring the return to market activity in the real estate market.

Whilst this increased activity is set to continue throughout 2022, currency fluctuations and political uncertainty against the backdrop of the upcoming general election are set to weigh on the momentum gained by the sector with overall GDP growth projected to slow to 5.9% in 2022 from 8% in 2021 according to the Central Bank of Kenya.

That said, the prime office market will remain a key sector to watch out for in the market with Nairobi's position as a regional hub being buoyed by the inauguration of the Global Trade Center tower as well as the establishment of the Nairobi International Financial Centre. Combined with pent up demand for prime offices, vacancy levels are set to remain low with major office parks such as the Garden City Business Park recording occupancy levels above 90%.

Emerging hotspots to steer growth in Nigeria

The Nigeria real estate market remained relatively resilient in the year to December 2021 in a return to market activity. However, key sectors such as the office and hospitality sector remained subdued with offices recording vacancy levels of up to 36% for Grade B offices and the hospitality sector recording low occupancy levels of 55%.

That said, we anticipate the market will continue growing with sectors such as residential,

logistics and healthcare, fueling this growth. Increased demand coupled with limited supply in the residential sector in particular, are set to underpin the sector's performance in 2022.

What's more, increased infrastructure developments are set to result in key emerging hotspots in areas such as Epe and Yaba that are expected to outpace the overall residential market. These areas recorded a surge in demand over the past year and have seen their overall rental yields track the average market rate of 5% at 4.3% and 5% respectively.

Ghana's real estate market

According to the Ghana Investment Promotion Center, the country attracted \$2.65bn in foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows in 2020, the highest amount in West Africa. This growth continued in 2021 with the country recording over \$800mn in FDI during the first half of the year.

The real estate sector in particular remains among the most attractive sectors due to its strong income profile with annual yields averaging 10% across the retail, office and industrial properties.

CONSTRUCTION

 The Guardian
PROPERTY WATCH
 DISCOVER INFORM INSPIRE

ECB WARNS ABOUT VULNERABLE PROPERTY MARKET IN EURO ZONE

FRANKFURT

THE property market is a “key vulnerability” for euro zone banks as the rise of remote working since the pandemic dents demand for offices and households take on more debt to buy expensive homes, the European Central Bank has said.

Central bankers have been ringing alarm bells about the euro zone’s booming property market that has a decade of ultra-low interest rates and light-touch prudential regulation have helped create.

In the latest warning, the ECB’s supervisors said commercial and residential real estate had become a cause for concern, and they planned to take a closer look at banks’ exposure to it.

“ECB Banking Supervision identified banks’ exposures towards the commercial and residential real estate sectors as a key vulnerability,” the ECB said in its newsletter.

It announced plans for a “targeted review” of a sample of banks with material exposure to commercial and residential real estate.

“The commercial real estate (CRE) sector is considered vulnerable to the impact of the pandem-



ic, while medium-term risks of price corrections continue to grow in the residential real estate (RRE) sector, with signs of a potential overvaluation in housing prices and elevated household indebtedness,” the ECB said.

Banks’ exposures to commercial real estate account for around 8% of supervised banks’ loans and over 20% of their corporate loans, the ECB said.

In the third quarter of 2021,

house prices, as measured by the House Price Index, rose by 8.8% in the euro area and by 9.2% in the EU compared with the same quarter of the previous year.

This is the highest annual increase for the euro area since 2005 when house prices started to be collected, and since the second quarter of 2007 for the EU.

In the second quarter of 2021, house prices rose by 6.8% and 7.4% respectively. These figures come

from Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union.

Compared with the second quarter of 2021, house prices rose by 3.3% in the euro area and by 3.1% in the EU in the third quarter of 2021.

In contrast to previous quarters, all Member States for which data are available showed an annual increase in house prices in the third quarter of 2021 and, for half of them, this increase exceeded 10%. The lowest increases were

registered in Cyprus (+2.2%) and Italy and Spain (+4.2% each). The highest increases were recorded in Czechia (+22.0%), Lithuania (+18.9%), Estonia (+17.3%) and The Netherlands (+16.8%).

Compared with the previous quarter, prices increased in all Member States. The lowest increases were registered in Romania (+0.1%), Finland (+0.2%) and Denmark (+0.3%). The highest increases were recorded in Czechia (+7.3%), The Netherlands (+5.9%), Lithuania (+5.4%) and Ireland (+5.1%).

Looking across Europe, there are a number of countries facing housing shortages, especially in the cities. The United Kingdom is particularly hit hard by this, and construction here has been largely halted over the last two years. This has led to house prices increasing quite significantly across the country.

On the continent, things are looking a little different. Countries like Germany and Portugal opened up again for residential construction in 2021.

This has brought an end to the dip in new dwellings being registered that was seen in 2020 during the heavier lockdowns. In

Germany, 2021 saw an increase of dwelling permits of 4.8% compared to the previous year. In time, this should even out the supply and demand issue.

Europe is one of the most attractive regions worldwide for investments in real estate.

In 2020, the commercial real estate sector was estimated at approximately nine trillion US dollars, while the market cap of listed real estate companies was over 577 billion US dollars.

Shortly after COVID-19 hit the continent, industry experts were still targeting a return level between five and ten percent for their property investments in 2021.

In an investment climate affected by artificially low interest rates and tricky geopolitical events that can affect stock markets drastically, some think investing in European housing, office or warehouses is a good alternative.

Despite successful vaccination programmes and economic support policies, Covid-19 continues to impact our real estate markets.

As the pandemic posts its latest resurgence, most European governments have been able to successfully limit its economic impact.

This is offering a different environment for real estate as well, triggering the question how real estate investors can best realign their investment strategy in a post-Covid world.

Electronic signatures “largest area of change” for property industry

LONDON

THE use of electronic signatures has been the “single largest area of change” in technology for the property industry over the past 18 months, a survey has found.

The conveyancing process was viewed by most property professionals as the main source of delays in 2021, followed by property searches, though residential conveyancers put searches top of the list.

The report, The New Normal, by search provider TM Group and sales platform mio, was based on responses from 800 residential conveyancers, estate agents, lenders, surveyors and commercial real estate professionals.

When asked which new technologies they would be implementing, most professionals said electronic signatures, followed by case management tech and digital government services.

Researchers said the type of technologies adopted over the last 18 months were “driven by short-term needs rather than longer-term planning” and increased use of electronic signatures, a “good example

of this”, was the “single largest area of change”.

The move was “driven both by an obvious short-term requirement and the relative ease at which such technology can be adopted” by opening an online account with leading providers.

“Beyond this, it would be reasonable to assume that the same would be true with onboarding solutions.

“Client portals are also being adopted to enable and manage online communication with customers, and those again can often be easily sourced and activated through existing search providers and others.

“However, there was a sense that bigger and more fundamental investment decisions around technology, such as case management software, had again been postponed and would be looked at in 2022.”

A government-backed industry working group said earlier this month in a report for the Law Commission that the most sophisticated kind of electronic signatures could be more reliable than signatures witnessed the traditional way.

Researchers said the conveyancing process had “come under substantial and sustained pressure” during the course of the pandemic.

“The average time taken to transact a property, which was taking almost four months prior to the pandemic, has been seen to rise to over six months according to some.

“It’s then no real surprise that respondents identified the conveyancing process itself as the single biggest cause of delays, followed by the time taken to obtain relevant property searches, as well as taking time to blame other parties.”

Researchers said many local authorities had “reduced and restricted access to their search provision”, which caused average search times to double at times.

“There were even several high-profile authorities where search times increased by over a month.

“Delays were then exacerbated by the volume of associated communication that was demanded by all parties, giving rise to the view that other parties contributed to the problem.”

Residential conveyancers ranked

searches as the top source of delays, followed by the conveyancing process and “other parties in the transaction”.

When asked about the impact of the last 12 months on their businesses, the most common impact for all types of property professional was increased working hours. Conveyancers were most likely to rank this top, estate agents the least.

For conveyancers, the next most important impacts were reduced staff and increased fees/profitability. For estate agents the second biggest impact was reduced fees/profitability, followed by higher costs.

More than 10% of property professionals said their firm did “nothing” when it came to wellbeing initiatives. More than two thirds of these firms (68%) were residential conveyancers.

When asked which factors would have the greatest impact on their roles in 2022, consumer confidence was the most important choice for estate agents. However, for conveyancers this came in third place, behind interest rates and longer term pandemic uncertainty.

North Texas’ housing market starts 2022 with double-digit sales price spike

TEXAS.

THE North Texas housing market started the new year with another huge rise in prices.

Median sales prices for single-family homes sold by real estate agents shot up by 23% in January compared with a year earlier.

A mid-priced house sold for \$350,000, according to the latest data from the Texas Real Estate Research Center at Texas A&M University and the North Texas Real Estate Information Systems.

Even with the higher costs, total sales of houses in the area rose by 4% from January 2021 with 7,143 properties changing hands. It was the highest number of home sales by agents ever recorded in the area in January.

Only 5,620 single-family homes were listed for sale with agents in the more than two dozen counties included in the North Texas survey. That’s the lowest inventory of houses available for purchase in more than three decades.

The number of houses on the market in January was down more than 28% from a year earlier and represents less than one month’s supply.

Houses that sold through the MLS went for an average of 101% of asking price across the board.

The greatest sales increases from a year ago were for properties priced between \$400,000 and \$700,000.

The chronic shortage of homes for sale and continued moves to North Texas are likely to keep home costs high, analysts say.

“The housing market remains starved for inventory and that continues to make it a seller’s market,” said Ted Wilson, principal with Dallas-based housing analyst Residential Strategies. “Housing affordability likely will emerge as a growing challenge in 2022.

“The ultra-low 30-year mortgage rate masked the financial impact of rising prices for the purchase of new and existing homes during 2021,” Wilson said. “But with mortgage rates now inching higher along with continued house price increases, monthly payments on new purchases will not be quite as enticing as they have been in the past.”

In 2021, local real estate agents sold a record 117,700 houses. Median home purchase prices for the year were 18% higher than in 2020.

Asking prices for houses in the Dallas-Fort Worth area continued to move higher in January.

The median list price of homes in the area hit a record \$400,000 last month — up by more than 14% from a year earlier, according to Realtor.com.

Steve Brown, Real Estate Editor. Steve covers commercial and residential real estate in Dallas-Fort Worth.

Philippines to allow foreign ownership in further infrastructure sectors

MANILA

THE Congress of the Philippines has ratified a bill to amend the Public Service Act (PSA) to allow up to 100% foreign ownership in the telecommunications, airlines and railways sectors.

Under the revised version of the PSA, telecommunications, domestic shipping, railways and subways, airlines, expressways and toll ways, and airports would be excluded from the definition of “public utility”.

This means they would no longer be restricted to the 40% foreign ownership cap under the country’s 1987 Constitution.

The revised version of the Act is awaiting approval from the country’s president Rodrigo Duterte.



Once approved, these business sectors would be open to much-needed foreign investment, which could provide cheaper airfares, lower transportation and shipping costs, more affordable internet services and more infrastructure investment.

William Stroll, a partner at Pinstent Masons MPillay,

the Singapore joint law venture between MPillay and Pinstent Masons, said: “It is encouraging to see that the Philippines is lifting the cap on foreign ownership in these sectors. We see that there a large number of international investors who are interested in investing in the Philippines but are

deterred by the existing restrictions on foreign investment. We know that investors view the Philippines as an attractive jurisdiction to invest and these amendments will be well received.”

“However, there is clearly appetite within the international investment community for further re-

moval of the restrictions, particularly the restrictions in the power and energy sectors. The lifting of the cap for geothermal energy in November 2020 was well received and there is clear investor demand for a lifting of the cap in the wind and solar and other power and energy sectors. Raising the cap in these sectors will make foreign investment easier to achieve and will raise investor confidence in the country,” he said.

Sectors in natural monopolies including transmission and distribution of electricity, petroleum, water, seaports, and public utility vehicles, will continue to be limited to a cap of 40% foreign ownership, IJGlobal said.

Foreign state-owned enterprises are prohibited

from owning capital in any public service classified as critical infrastructure, and foreign investments are reviewed by the National Security Council.

Foreign nationals will not be allowed to own over 40% of capital in public services involved in the operation and management of critical infrastructure, unless their country grants reciprocal treatment to Philippine nationals.

This includes the generation, distribution and transmission of electricity, petroleum and petroleum products, pipeline transmission systems, water pipeline distribution systems and wastewater pipeline systems including sewerage pipeline systems, seaports and public utility vehicles.

Biden, Scholz discuss results of their talks with Putin and Zelensky – White House

WASHINGTON

US President Joe Biden and German Chancellor Olaf Scholz discussed the results of their recent talks with Russian and Ukrainian Presidents, Vladimir Putin and Vladimir Zelensky, the White House said on Wednesday after their telephone conversation.

The US and German leaders “discussed their respective conversations with President Putin and President Zelensky regarding Russia’s continued military build-up on Ukraine’s borders,” it said.

“They reaffirmed their commitment to Ukraine’s sovereignty and territorial integrity and underscored the importance of continued transatlantic coordination on diplomacy and deterrence measures and the reinforcement of NATO’s eastern flank if Russia further invades Ukraine.”

The West and Kiev have recently been echoing allegations about Russia’s potential invasion of Ukraine.

Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov



castigated these claims as “empty and unfounded”, serving as a ploy to escalate tensions, pointing out that Russia did not pose any threat whatsoever to anyone.

However, Peskov did not rule out the possibility of provocations aimed at justifying such claims and warned that attempts to use military force to resolve the crisis in southeastern Ukraine would have serious consequences.

After his talks with Scholz in Moscow on Tuesday, Putin stressed that Russia doesn’t want a war and that is why it came out with an initiative to hold talks on ensuring equal security in Europe.

Agencies

US mulls easing COVID-19 restrictions amid regional give-ups

NEW YORK

THE U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is reviewing its mask guidance, shifting its focus to COVID-19 hospitalizations as a key measure of the severity of the outbreak and a future guide for determining whether health safety protocols need to be tightened, according to CDC Director Rochelle Walensky.

“We must consider hospital capacity as an additional important barometer,” Walensky told the public during a White House COVID-19 update on Wednesday.

“We want to give people a break from things like mask-wearing when these metrics are better, and then have the ability to reach for them again should things worsen,” she said.

The CDC currently recommends that people wear masks in indoor public places regardless of their vaccination status, if they live in an area with high viral transmission.

Nearly every U.S. county has high transmission. People are required by federal law to wear masks on planes, buses, trains and other forms of public transportation.

As new infections from the Omicron variant rapidly decline from their peak levels in January, the authorities in California, Connecticut, Illinois, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York and Oregon have announced that they were loosening indoor mask requirements, while some cities and school districts are keeping their mandates in place.

Walt Disney Co. is ditching its mask requirement for fully vaccinated visitors at its Florida and California theme parks, starting Thursday.

The shift comes as COVID-19 cases decline in many parts of the country and as major employers including Amazon, Tyson Foods and Walmart drop face-covering mandates for vaccinated workers.

Disney cited “recent trends and regulatory guidance” in easing its pandemic-related rules. It does not require proof of vaccination to get into its parks. People will still need to wear masks on shuttles, buses and other forms of “enclosed” transportation at the parks, said Disney’s update.

“We expect guests who are not fully vaccinated to continue wearing face coverings in all indoor locations,” the company stated on its Disney World



People line up at a COVID-19 testing site in Times Square during the coronavirus disease pandemic in the Manhattan borough of New York City (File photo)

website.

Disneyland in California announced similar steps, in line with new California guidance that had the state lifting its mask requirement for the fully vaccinated inside businesses as of Wednesday.

The change in policy comes on the heels of Universal Orlando dispensing with its mask requirement, and as two big outdoor music festivals – Coachella and Stagecoach – drop all COVID-19 rules for their April events in Indio, California.

“There will be no vaccination, testing or masking requirements at Stagecoach 2022,” organizers tweeted on Tuesday.

After weeks of back-and-forth, Virginia Governor Glenn Youngkin, a

Republican, signed into law on Wednesday a bill that will effectively bar mask mandates in schools, by giving parents the right to exempt their children from mask-wearing without stating a reason. “Today, we are re-establishing and restoring our power back to parents,” he said.

The bill will also take away school districts’ freedom to close schools and switch to remote instruction, except in limited circumstances.

It requires that every district provide in-person instruction for “the minimum number of required annual instruction hours” in a standard school year, or else face financial penalties.

Also on Wednesday, Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton and U.S. House Representative Beth Van Duyne, both Republicans, filed a lawsuit against the Biden administration to end mask mandates on planes, arguing that the mandate imposes a “restriction on travelers’ liberty interests” and that the CDC does not have the authority to introduce such a blanket preventive measure.

The suit is the latest in a slew of state efforts to challenge COVID-19 safety measures in court.

The state is locked in several legal battles with cities, counties and school districts over masks in public schools.

Texas also has sued the Biden administration over federal vaccine mandates for health care workers, federal contractors and large businesses.

Jokowi urges G20 collaboration amid geopolitical tensions

JAKARTA/TOKYO

THE crisis in Ukraine overshadowed a gathering of finance leaders from the world’s top 20 economies that kicked off yesterday, with host Indonesia’s president warning “now is not the time” to create new risks to a fragile global recovery.

Russia’s military presence at Ukraine’s borders have led to one of the deepest crises in East-West relations for decades, jolting financial markets and adding to the headwinds facing a global economy still emerging from the COVID-19 pandemic.

Geopolitical risks and the economic fallout from the pandemic will likely be among key topics of debate at the G20 finance leaders’ meeting,

as well as rising global inflation and tighter monetary policy in some regions.

Joko Widodo, president of host country Indonesia, urged G20 nations to focus on collaboration to revive a global economy that is “still shaken” from the pandemic.

“In a situation like now, it is not the time for rivalry,” he said in opening remarks at the G20 meeting, which many ministers are attending online due to the pandemic.

“It is not the time to create a new tension that disrupts the global recovery, especially one that endangers the safety of the world like what is happening in Ukraine now.”

Analysts, however, warn the diverse membership of the G20 may make policy coordination hard.

The G20 finance leaders are expected to issue a communique after their two-day meeting ends on Friday.

As the US Federal Reserve eyes raising interest rates and some of its counterparts seen following suit, the G20 finance leaders are likely to call on major central banks to communicate their intentions clearly to prevent causing big market swings.

The G20 policymakers are also expected to warn emerging nations to brace for potential market fallout from monetary tightening in major economies, according to a document with the



agreed position of European G20 members, seen by Reuters.

“Divergent economic recovery may have significant implications, since it can lead to a different pace of policy normalization and potentially create a tighter global financial condition,” Indonesian Finance Minister Sri Mulyani Indrawati told the G20 finance leaders.

“In this regard, global coordination, including a discussion on exit strategy, will be critical,” she said.

The G20 faces the difficult task of navigating policy amid global divergences in the pace of recovery from the pandemic.

While COVID-19 Omicron variant cases are receding in many wealthy countries, they are still rising in many developing nations including host Indonesia.

The International Monetary Fund warned on Wednesday that downside risks continued to dominate, as renewed mobility restrictions in some countries and supply-demand mismatches likely to drag on growth.

The IMF has said it will seek G20 support for strengthening a debt restructuring framework for poor countries as default risks rise and demands for easier debt terms increase.

US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen will urge her G20 counterparts to help international organizations address bottlenecks in the deployment of vaccines, and support investment in pandemic prevention, a US Treasury official said on Tuesday.

Agencies

Hungary’s govt criticises EU court for political bias

BUDAPEST

THE government of Hungary on Wednesday accused the European Court of Justice of political bias and abuse of power following the latter’s decision to link the disbursement of European funds to the rule of law.

In late 2020, the European Union adopted a mechanism that allows the European Commission, the EU’s executive branch, cut funding to member states – such as Hungary and Poland – that violate the bloc’s rule-of-law standards.

In March last year, Hungary and Poland appealed against the decision at the ECJ, but on Wednesday the court rejected their legal challenge.

“The decision is living evidence that Brussels is abusing its power,” Hungary’s Justice Minister Judit Varga said in a Facebook post.

The ECJ has made “a political decision because of our upcoming referendum on child protection,” she said, referring to a legislation passed last year that bans the “promotion” of homosexuality to minors and to the government-initiated referendum on LGBTQ+ rights that is scheduled to be held simultaneously with the general elections on April 3.

“The ruling is another application of pressure on our country because we passed our child protection law in the summer,” she said.

Critics alleged that the new law discriminates against the country’s LGBTQ+ community. The mechanism allowing the EU to slash funding to member states “is intended to protect the (European) Union budget from effects resulting... from breaches of the principles of the rule of law” and is thus allowed under the EU Treaties, the ECJ said in its ruling.

Xinhua

China’s bicycle exports surge in 2021

CHINA’S bicycle exports have maintained robust growth in the past two years. The country sold 69.26 million bicycles to foreign destinations last year, up 14.9 percent year on year, and the export value surged 40.2 percent from a year ago to nearly \$5.11 billion, according to customs data.

“We exported about four million bicycles last year, which accounted for 30 percent of our company’s total production,” said Sheng Kai, business manager of Shanghai Phoenix Import & Export Co., Ltd., a subsidiary of century-old bike-maker Shanghai Phoenix Enterprise (Group) Co. Ltd. (Shanghai Phoenix). According to him, the production schedule of the company has been made full in the first half of this year.

“Although influenced by the pandemic, we stood at a new starting point in 2021 in terms of export. Now our high-end products will be sought after, and the orders will keep coming in,” the manager said. Two mergers and acquisitions in Tianjin in 2020 have doubled the company’s exports, he added.

The established bike producer reported outstanding performance in its sales to developed countries, and 64 percent of its total exports went to Europe, the U.S. and Japan.

Tianjin Golden Wheel Group in north China’s Tianjin municipality also had a bumper year. Its sales revenue hit 5 billion yuan (about \$786 million) last year, up from 3.1 billion in 2020, said Yang Yufeng, general manager of the group.

He said almost all the 250,000 electric bicycles and 2 million bicycles manufactured by the group have contributed to its exports, adding that the group has a sales network that covers over 120 countries and regions.

More people are riding bicycles for commuting and fitness amid the COVID-19 pandemic, as it is consid-



A bike manufactured by Chinese enterprise Tianjin Golden Wheel Group.

ered safer and healthier, said an insider. Some countries are offering subsidies on bicycles, which has placed high demand on the vehicles. Bicycles are even in short supply in some European countries and the U.S.

“For overseas bicycle markets, especially the high-end markets, bicycle brands’ popularity, production capacity, sales channels and client resources are very important. Only those that are great in all these aspects can gain a foothold and grow in overseas markets,” Sheng said.

Apart from the soaring exports of finished bicycles,

vast Chinese-made bike parts are shipped to overseas destinations, too.

Liu Chunsheng, general manager and founder of L-TWOO, a Chinese high-tech enterprise specializing in the design and production of bicycle drive-train components, has been kept busy recently.

“The pandemic has caused delays of delivery for U.S. and Japanese producers of bicycle transmissions, and some of them have extended their delivery cycle to two years,” Liu said, adding that his company has been seeing increasingly more orders as it can deliver orders within

a month.

Thanks to its premium quality and shorter delivery cycle, L-TWOO has become suppliers of not only domestic bicycle producers, but also international big names.

China has made huge progress in the research and innovation of core bicycle parts, said Guo Wenyu, secretary-general of the China Bicycle Association.

Domestic suppliers, which enhanced the capacity of the industry under the impacts from COVID-19, have played a positive role in maintaining healthy development of the industry, Guo noted.

It’s notable that the growth in the value of bicycle exports has outnumbered that in the quantity, which suggests increasing price of exported bicycles. The exports of high value-added vehicles, including road bikes, mountain bikes and electric bikes, are all on a rapid growth.

Behind the increasing unit price are the efforts made by Chinese bike producers to grab a share in the medium and high end of the industrial chain, which calls for great perception in the market and progress in independent R&D capability.

People’s Daily

The Guardian

SPORT

Veteran Hip Hop artist 'Sugu' makes comeback

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

AFTER a six-year silence, veteran Tanzanian Hip Hop rapper Joseph Mbilinyi, popularly known as 'Mr II Sugu', has returned to the music scene with a song 'Taita' featuring Bongo Flava musician William Lyimo, alias 'Billnass'.

Mbilinyi revealed he was silent because he had been overwhelmed by so many social responsibilities.

The singer was adamant he has seen fit to start releasing new songs given such responsibilities have been sorted.

"I want to have three songs before May as I will be 50 years old, so I want to do so for my fans," the artist stated.

He explained that after completing his birthday celebration by doing a special show, he would then look at the possibility of either continuing with music activities or focusing more on social ac-

tivities.

"That is to say, for a long time my fans have been asking me to release songs, and I have heard their requests, but after May I will decide whether to continue doing music or not," he said.

The singer, a former Mbeya Urban MP for CHADEMA, said political activities prevented him from coming up with songs. He stressed he has what it takes to compose good Hip Hop songs.

The singer stated he may plan to compose a song and feature popular Tanzanian artist Emmanuel Elibariki, alias 'Ney wa Mitego', claiming that the artist as well sings activist songs.

'Mr II Sugu' is one of respected pioneers of new generation music at the domestic level.

The artist had gained a lot of popularity via music prior to opting for politics.



Joseph Mbilinyi

Woods back on the PGA Tour but only as a tournament host

LOS ANGELES

FROM a balcony on the clubhouse, Tiger Woods could see Riviera in all its glory Wednesday under a blue sky, a sliver of the Pacific Ocean visible over the tops of trees and below him a course reputed to be as good as any on the PGA Tour.

He's expecting the course to be firm and fast, with the plan for the greens to get increasingly difficult. And then he interrupted himself with a realization Woods has come to accept.

"Well," he said with a smile, "I can't tell you guys the plan because I'm not playing."

He is the tournament host of the Genesis Invitational, nothing more. And that's all he will be until his legs are healed enough from a harrowing car crash a year ago about 20 miles away from Riviera.

At best, Woods figures he would only be able to play a few events each year. But that starts with being able to compete while walking. Most frustrating is not knowing when that will be.

He said his golf has been limited since playing with his son two months ago in the PNC Championship, where he could ride in a cart.

"My leg was not in very good position there about a year ago and I've had to work through a lot of different operations and a lot of different scenarios," Woods said Wednesday. "It's been tough, but I've gotten here. I've gotten this far and I still have a long way to go. Each and every day's a fight and I welcome that fight"

It was the Tuesday after the Genesis Invitational last year when Woods was

driving along a winding road in the Los Angeles suburbs. His SUV was going around 85 mph when it ran over the median and tumbled down a hill.

Bones were shattered in his right leg and foot, injuries so severe that Woods said doctors contemplated amputation at one point.

"I think at this point we're all just happy that he's around and moving well, and he's able to be a dad, just be this tournament's host and do all that sort of stuff," Rory McIlroy said.

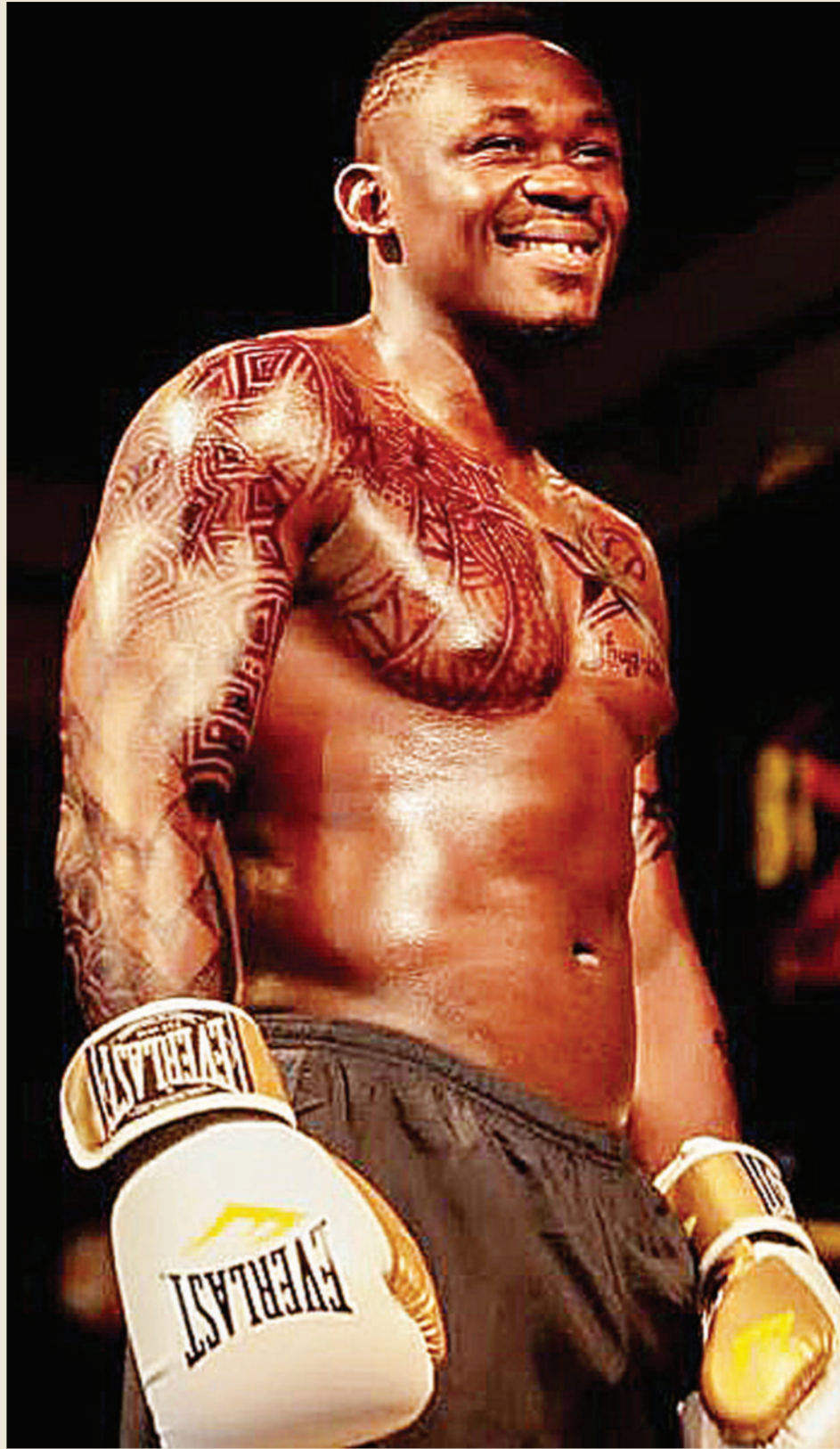
Woods inspired hope he could return when he played the PNC Championship with his son. He and Charlie finished one shot behind. Overlooked in the performance was Woods was in a cart on a flat Florida course.

"Being a weekend warrior is easy. That's not that hard," Woods said. "Hit your ball, hop in a cart, ride, barely step out of the cart, grab your club and hit the next one. And the longest walk you have is probably from the cart to the green and back. But walking a golf course? That's a totally different deal."

He also mentioned how difficult it was to get loose after his four back surgeries, a remarkable recovery made complete when he won the 2019 Masters for his 15th major. He was recovering from a fifth back surgery when he crashed his car.

Not to be overlooked is Woods is 46. The older he gets, the longer it takes to heal.

"I've got a long way to go," he said, repeating a theme he mentioned in the Bahamas and in Florida, the other two times he has been in the public eye since the accident. AP



Twaha Kassim

Tanzanian pugilist to feature in non-title bout

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIAN professional boxer, Twaha Kassim, is set to face South Africa-based Congolese pugilist, Alex Kabangu, in a non-title bout in Morogoro on March 26.

Twaha that is lately occupying the first spot in Super Middleweight in the country needs victory in the bout to maintain his ranking in Boxrec, a website which holds records of professional boxers.

He had two fights in 2021. He won against Daniel Wanyonyi through Technical Knockout but lost against Pavel Silyagin last month in Russia.

The Tanzanian boxer will rise to the occasion, seeking to surpass the quality, record and experience of the DRC pugilist.

The DRC boxer has taken part in 11 bouts. The boxer made his debut in the game in 2017, winning five times, and has been beaten three times and three bouts were declared draw.

Kassim, the orthodox pugilist, has, according to

Boxrec, recorded 18 wins-eight of which came via Knockout-, eight losses and one of his fights was declared draw.

The Morogoro pugilist has featured in a total 27 bouts since making his debut on May 5, 2013 winning by points against Daniel Kishoja.

Kabangu returns to Tanzania for the second time after his previous fight, which had the pugilist confronting Hussein Itaba, was declared draw November 23 in 2020.

Twaha's trainer stated his pugilist has started training for the 10-round bout.

The coach revealed: "He is still training at the camp in Morogoro ready for the fight."

"We understand the importance of this fight, that's why we have started training early, our opponent is no stranger to the country, he has already fought here so, it not going to be easy."

"We have evaluated him through videos of his previous fight so we can expect good performance based on preparation for the bout."

James fuels Lakers' 4th-quarter rally over Jazz, 106-101

LOS ANGELES

LEBRON James was at the Super Bowl Sunday when he saw Aaron Donald and the Los Angeles Rams rally in the fourth quarter to win a championship.

With Donald court-side for the Los Angeles Lakers game against the Utah Jazz Wednesday night, James took some inspiration from Donald and had a fourth-quarter rally of his own, despite the Lakers' version of AD being injured earlier.

James scored 15 of his 33 points in the fourth quarter as the Lakers overcame an injury to Anthony Davis and rallied from a 12-point fourth quarter deficit for a 106-101 victory over the Jazz.

"I just tried to take the inspiration of what he was able to accomplish over the past couple days," said James of Donald. "He's the greatest defensive player I have ever seen play the sport. For him to take time out of his day and watch us play after the parade was amazing."

Donald arrived just as the game was set to tip off and watched the game court-side. Donald and the Super Bowl champion Rams had their parade earlier in the day.

James slapped hands with Donald while running down court during the third quarter after James scored on a reverse layup.

In the fourth quarter, Donald stood and flexed as James ran by him and flexed running down the court after a driving layup got the Lakers within three.

When the game ended, James and Donald hugged court-side.

Los Angeles trailed 92-80 midway through the fourth quarter before it went on a 19-4 run to snap a three-game losing streak. James had the last 10 points during the rally, including a thunderous dunk off an assist by Russell Westbrook to put the Lakers on top 96-94 with 2:08 remaining.

Mike Conley tied it on a pair of free throws before James put Los Angeles in the lead for good on a 3-pointer with 1:24 left and snap Utah's six-game winning streak.

James has scored 25 points or more in a career-best 23 straight



Boston Celtics' Jayson Tatum (0) shoots over Detroit Pistons' Jerami Grant (9) as time runs out during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Wednesday, Feb. 16, 2022, in Boston. Tatum missed the shot. Pistons won 112-111. (AP Photo)

games.

"What we saw LeBron do, it's just remarkable," coach Frank Vogel said. "What he continues to do at this point of his career, to take over a game in the fourth quarter the way that he did with his energy, will and determination, it was really something special."

Davis went down with 3 minutes to go in the second quarter with a sprained right ankle. The Lakers said X-rays were negative and that he would receive treatment over the All-Star break. Vogel said that an MRI is scheduled for Thursday.

Davis had 17 points in

17 minutes when he was injured. He was down on the court for several minutes before being helped off. Davis - averaging 23.3 points and 9.1 rebounds - has already missed 21 games this season, including 17 due to a knee injury.

"Obviously, it took the sails out of us for quite a while when AD went out, especially with the game he was having up until that point," James said. "It took us a minute to kind of recalibrate and get us some bounce back after that, but we closed the third quarter out in good fashion and was able to turn around in the

fourth." Russell Westbrook had 17 points and seven rebounds while Malik Monk added 13 points.

Donovan Mitchell led Utah with 37 points, including five 3-pointers.

"There is no way we should have lost this game in my opinion. Credit to them. I give credit to where credit is due but we let the game slip in many different circumstances," Mitchell said. "We played like we were up 40 in the second half and that can't happen."

Utah trailed 33-29 3 1/2 minutes in the second quarter before taking

the lead with 10 straight points over a two-minute span.

The Jazz's largest lead was 14 points with three minutes remaining in the third quarter before the Lakers rallied.

"The game tightens up and go to LeBron, and he makes plays," Jazz coach Quin Snyder said. "But we had plenty of chances to make plays too. We just didn't, but we put ourselves in that position. It can't be that easy to give up a 13-point lead. We got to make teams work to come back, and grind. It was too easy."

AP

SPORT

Firmino, Salah give Liverpool 2-0 win at Inter Milan in CL

PAGE 19

Simba SC trio set to miss Union Sportive Gendarmerie clash



Tanzania's Simba SC midfielder Sadio Kanoute (2nd L) challenges Ivory Coast's ASEC Mimosas footballers (L-R) Anicet Oura, Salf Coulibaly, and Woni Coulibaly, as the clubs locked horns in 2021/22 CAF Confederation Cup's Group Stage's clash in Dar es Salaam last weekend. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA'S Simba SC's squad which will head to Niger to face Union Sportive Gendarmerie in 2021/22 CAF Confederation Cup's Group D clash will be made up of 24 players including Zambian midfielder Clatous Chama.

The midfielder nevertheless is not eligible to play in the showdown given the footballer had turned out for Morocco's Renaissance Sportive de Berkane in the assignment.

The Simba SC convoy is expected to leave for Niger today ready for the second round of Group D against US Gendarmerie to be played on Sunday at Général Seyni Kountché Stadium.

Chama will join the squad, for a special technical task, follow-

ing the CAF registration rules depriving him of the opportunity to play the game.

The Zambian footballer featured for RS Berkane in the tournament's preliminary stage games.

Simba SC Information and Communication Manager Ahmed Ally said plans for the trip to Niger have been finalized.

Ahmed revealed they will fight to continue the winning streak, despite realizing their opponents will need to win at

home after losing 5-3 to RS Berkane.

The official noted: "We will jet off on February 18 for Niger, everything is in order, we believe that while we are there we will fight to promote ourselves through displaying nice football to the world."

"We believe the game will be tough, our opponents have lost their first game, so they will need to fight hard at home and get three points. Simba SC will grow up in a similar situation, which continues to add to the

opposition's momentum in the game."

A member of the Simba SC Board of Directors, Mulamu Ngambi, said they have already sent delegates to Niger to investigate and have completed all procedures for local transport, accommodation, and food throughout their stay in Niamey.

However, Chama's inclusion may be due to players Hassan Dilunga, Kibu Denis, and Chris Mugalu being sidelined due to injuries.

The footballers consequently will not be part of Simba SC footballers traveling to Niamey for the fixture.

The team's doctor, Edwin Anaclet, has confirmed that the three players will remain in Dar es Salaam because of the injuries.

He disclosed: "Mugalu injured his finger and will be out for two weeks, Dilunga is suffering from leg pain he sustained during training."

"Kibu Denis is suffering from a foot injury he got in the NBC Premier League match against Mbeya City FC."

"Mugalu and Dilunga were injured while training for our squad, they altogether have been out for three weeks, and Kibu's problems have been known since he was released from the game against Mbeya City FC."

After the game against US Gendarmerie, Simba SC will travel to Morocco for the encounter with RS Berkane of Morocco, which had earlier roped Chama in.

In the Group D standings, Simba SC has three points, staying level with RS Berkane.

ASEC Mimosas (Ivory Coast) and US Gendarmerie (Niger) that conceded defeat in their opening fixtures are sitting third and fourth respectively without a point and a -2 goal difference.

TONIGHT @ 9:00

EATV FRIDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 Mid Week Movie (r)
13:30 Kali Za Wana
14:00 Bongo Hits
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Wakilisha (r)
16:00 Ujenzi (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELECT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Skonga
19:30 EATV SAA I
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 Friday Night Live
23:00 Kurasa (r)

Friday Night Live The Weekend begins here! Listen to upbeat mixed music by the hottest DJs. Gossip, showbiz updates and exclusive interviews with celebrities from home and abroad. Don't you dare miss this.

eastafrika RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planei Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 Friday Night Live

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM

Tanga lobbies for 2021/22 ASFC final's hosting rights

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari, Tanga

TANGA Regional Football Association (TRFA) and some soccer stakeholders here in the region have asked Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) to opt for Mkwakwani Stadium as a venue for either one of the last four or final of this season's Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC).

The association raised the appeal to TFF in an exclusive interview with The Guardian in Tanga after eight teams secured qualification for the show-down's quarterfinals.

Simba Sports Club, Yanga, Azam FC, Kagera Sugar, Polisi Tanzania, Coastal Union, Geita Gold FC, and Pamba FC make the ASFC's last eight clubs.

Tanga soccer clubs' representative, Martin Kibua, said as the TRFA Executive Committee under Chairman Said Soud, in December last year, discussed an official letter written by TFF to all regional football associations in the country to apply to host either semi-final or final.

He stated after the discussion all members agreed to seek to host either of the two stages' fixtures but TFF has not yet responded.

"Surely TRFA is eagerly and willing to host either semi-final or final at Mkwakwani Stadium, we have already written TFF responding its letter to all regional football associations to apply for hosting the fixtures, they didn't respond but we're still waiting," he said.

Salim Bawazir, a veteran soccer stakeholder who also doubles as Coastal Union's motivation chairman echoed TRFA's application for hosting either semi-final or final.

The official state unlike other regions, Tanga has all facilities to host those big matches at Mkwakwani Stadium.

According to the official, Tanga meets all standards, namely security, accommodations for guests, and other necessary human needs.

Mkwakwani Stadium's manager Nassoro Makau said the stadium facilities, changing rooms, wash-room, and pitch are in good condition, it as a result has what it takes to host a big number of soccer followers.

"I would like to assure TFF and other soccer stakeholders and fans that Mkwakwani Stadium meets all standards and its facilities are good to host teams and fans," he said.

In the 2020/21 season, ASFC's semi-finals were played into two stadia of Majimaji, Ruvuma, and Ali Hassan Mwinyi in Tabora.

The season's showpiece's final pitting Simba SC against Yanga was played at Lake Tanganyika Stadium in Kigoma and ended with Simba SC edging Yang 1-0.

Prime Minister to grace 2022 Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon

By Guardian Correspondent

PRIME MINISTER, Kassim Majaliwa Kassim, is expected to grace the 2022 Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon, it has been confirmed.

A statement issued by

the Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon organizers in Dar es Salaam, said the Premier will lead thousands of runners and spectators in marking the big event in Moshi on February 27, 2022.

According to the state-

ment, the PM will be accompanied by the Minister for Culture, Arts and Sports and the Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism along with other national and regional leaders.

"Preparations are in top

gear as we prepare to host the Prime Minister during the 20th Anniversary therefore we call on Tanzanians to turn up in large numbers to welcome the Prime Minister and also be part of the event," the organizers revealed.

According to the organizers, the Prime Minister and his delegation will take part in the Grand Malt 5km Fun Run before embarking on the celebrations at the Moshi Cooperative University (MoCU) venue.

The Kilimanjaro Premi-

um Lager Brand Manager, Irene Mutiganzi, whose brand is the race's main sponsor, said they were delighted to host the Prime Minister during the 20th Anniversary.

"This shows how big the Kilimanjaro Marathon has grown over the years hence attracting the attention of among others, national leaders," she disclosed.

She urged attendees to turn up in large numbers and continue training hard for the big run.

Sponsors for this year's 20th Anniversary event include Kilimanjaro Premium Lager- Main sponsor, Tigo- 21km, Grand Malt -5km. Water table sponsors- Absa Tanzania, Unilever Tanzania, TPC Sugar, Simba Cement, Kilimanjaro Water, and official suppliers, GardaWorld Security, Keys Hotel, Kibo Palace Hotel, Surveyed Plots Company Ltd, Tanzanian Tourism Board, and CMC Automobiles.

The Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon will be held on February 27, 2022, at the Moshi Cooperative University (MoCU) venue.

It is organized by the Kilimanjaro Company Limited and locally coordinated by Executive Solutions Limited.



A section of runners battles it out in the recent Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon, which took place in Moshi.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

I WANT TO BE RICH WITHOUT ANYONE NOTICING

