



National Pg 3
Buza-Kilungule-Nzasa road construction

National Pg 4
Govt collects 234.5bn/- from mobile money

National Pg 5
Mavunde pushes for more production of cassava

BUSINESS
TIC registers \$787mn investment projects in the first quarter 2022

TBL earnings per share up by 76 pct in 2021

Oil price volatile as Libya's outage fuels supply woes

Treasury yields set to rise slightly on newly revised coupons

Mkulazi Sugar plant machines: CAG questions TanRoads role

By Guardian Reporter

CONTROVERSY is simmering over how the Tanzania National Roads Agency (TanRoads) was awarded the tender to purchase and install the sugar plant machineries at the Mkulazi Sugar Factory project in Morogoro Region.

On the basis of the annual report tabled in the National Assembly last week by the Controller and Auditor General (CAG) this situation has caused delays in the implementation of the project, with the tender showing a lack of transparency.

Procurement of sugar processing machinery was the key link in a loss making project financed by money from the National Social Security Fund (NSSF), which puts in peril the ability of the fund to pay eligible members if their contributions will have been put to loss making investments.

The report that has since been put to public scrutiny, CAG Charles Kichere says NSSF holds 96 per cent of stakes and the Prisons Department four per cent, with the investment involving two sugar production projects, at Mkulazi and Mbigiri areas for 250,000 tonnes of sugar annually



The Mkulazi Project production was supposed to take off by 2023 season with 31,098 tonnes of sugar reached a year later, it affirmed, but until February 2022, Mkulazi Co. had not completed installation of machinery at Mbigiri area

The Mkulazi Co. amended strategic plan for 2020/21-2025/26 shows that the Mbigiri Project was expected to start sugar production in the 2021 season with 15,234 tonnes expected by this year, the report noted.

"The Mkulazi Project production was supposed to take off by 2023 season with 31,098 tonnes of sugar reached a year later, it affirmed, but until Febru-

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Samia lauds NALA app, urges youths to join ICT



President Samia Suluhi Hassan speaks at New York City's Guggenheim Museum on Monday night (New York time) shortly before launching 'The Royal Tour', an epic documentary primarily meant to promote Tanzania's tourism industry internationally. Photo: State House

By Correspondent Benny Mwaipaja, New York

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhi Hassan has called upon Tanzanian youths to grab opportunities provided by advances in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to make their income generation initiatives workable.

In remarks prepared for the the launching of NALA, a Tanzanian association of legal assistants that has international legal attachments like sending money from abroad in any local currency in Eastern Africa, the cross-border payments company delivered the remarks in the launching of its product.

Described as a new kind of mobile money transfer for Africans worldwide, it promise safe, affordable and reliable international payments to Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda in particular, thus it is expected to be used by Tanzanians living in the United States to digitally remit money to relatives or business associates back home.

In the remarks, the president hailed



I am told that the US has invested nearly \$1.5bn in the ICT sector in Africa,

MPs commend Samia on tourism promotion drive

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

LAWMAKERS yesterday commended President Samia Suluhi Hassan for her efforts to promote the country's tourism attractions via the Tanzania Royal Tour documentary launched in the United States on Monday.

"President Samia is doing a recommendable job that plays a crucial role in lifting the numbers of tourists coming to the country from different parts of the world," Speaker Dr Tulia



The private sector should be fully involved in our tourism marketing strategies," he said, pointing out that a good number of such stakeholders can help in promoting the sector

Akson asserted.

In remarks shortly after the question and answer session, she asked MPs to follow-up on proceedings of

the launch in the United States and subsequently in Tanzania.

The documentary was premiered in New York City in the president's at-

tendance, with a similar launch event set for Los Angeles tomorrow (Thursday), shifting to Dar es Salaam on Friday and finally in Zanzibar on May 7.

"We commend President Samia for initiatives she is taking to promote the tourism sector," Dr Tulia affirmed, noting that it was crucial for MPs to follow-up on what took place to be able to offer suggestions on better mo-

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NALA's managing director Benjamin Fernandes, who is a Tanzanian, for creating the application that is likely to simplify cash transfers from the US to Tanzania. Ease of such payments will spur the country's economy and speed up business initiatives of the recipients, she stated.

Fernandes and his team of innovative youths in technology have the support of the government as the monetary authorities seek to prop up a digital economy in view of strengthening the creation of jobs, enabling more youths to scale the social and economic challenges they face, the president affirmed.

The government has invested a lot of

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Many dispensaries lacking equipment, staff - MPs



By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE GOVERNMENT must fully equip existing dispensaries and health centres and ensure they have workable staffing levels, members of Parliament appealed yesterday. Debating the 2022/2023 budget estimates for the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments), several lawmakers said the government has to provide the health facilities with equip-

ment, enabling them to operate as intended. MPs also decried the shortage of health workers, such that the good work done in building health facilities would be stymied if the two challenges are not solved. Stanslaus Mabula (Nyamagana) demanded why the government is putting up more facilities while existing ones are not well equipped. "Why build more dispensaries and health centres while people still

have to travel in search of treatment, due to lack of equipment in health facilities nearby?" Plans to build over 300 dispensaries and 100 health centres across the country might not immediately improve the provision of health services, he stated. Neema Mgaya (Special Seats) (pictured) said a lot more needs to be done to uplift the provision of health services, urging the government to increase health sector funding, with

more money directed to the purchase of equipment. Employment of new health workers and improvement of the welfare situation of medics and nurses was equally important, the asserted, seeking that more health facilities be constructed in Njombe Region and elsewhere. If dispensaries are well-equipped many lives will be saved, she emphasised. Timotheo Mzava (Korogwe)

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Mwinyi hails India for supporting Zanzibar development projects

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has hailed the Indian government for the support it has been offering to Isles in strengthening projects for availability of safe water.

Dr Mwinyi made the remarks when he led talks with Indian High Commissioner to Tanzania Binaya Srikanta Pradhan at Zanzibar's State House.

Dr Mwinyi said in the one year of his tour of duty in the country he has managed to follow up on the implementation of various India funded projects in Zanzibar, suggesting the need for following up on the projects which are being implemented to ensure they are completed timely.

Explaining further on the implementation of the water projects Dr Mwinyi commended the steps reached so that the projects which are funded by Exim Bank of India in soft loans to the government of Zanzibar.

On the implementation of human resource management, Dr Mwinyi hailed the programme on scholarships for Zanzibar students which are funded by the government of India.

Dr Mwinyi told the envoy that the Zanzibar government was ready to work with the government of India in establishing an ICT college in the Isles.

Earlier, the Indian envoy told Dr Mwinyi of the progress on various projects implemented by his country since he begun tour of duty in the country in September last year.

Commissioner Pradhan said India values the cordial relationship which it has with Zanzibar saying his office will ensure all the projects undergoing are finalized on time.

"It is my hope that all the water projects which are being implemented are completed on time," he said.

The envoy said the Indian government was planning to establish vocational training in Pemba which will help in training youths in the Isles.

He explained plans by the government of India to bring a delegation of traders from India who will explore investment opportunities in the country.



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi holds talks at Zanzibar State House yesterday with a delegation from the Indian High Commission in Tanzania led by the high commissioner, Binaya Srikanta Pradhan (in striped tie). Photo: State House

MPs commend Samia on tourism promotion drive

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dalities of uplifting the sector, especially in contributing to budget estimates of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism.

Esther Matiko (Special Seats-Chadema) commended the president for political will in advertising the country's tourism sector, contributing 25 per cent of foreign cur-

rency earnings and 17.5 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

The government needs to invest in sports tourism by improving soccer facilities while also focusing on medical tourism, she said, while Hai MP Saashisha Mafuwe said the one-hour documentary will contribute to raising the number of tourists visiting the country.

Appealing to MPs to support the president, she said authorities need

to ensure that visitors coming to Tanzania enjoy their stay. Residents of Hai are ready to receive visitors as Mount Kilimanjaro is in the vicinity, he declared, advising that a new gate to access Mountain Kilimanjaro National Park through Hai District be put up.

Dr Faustine Ndugulile (Kigamboni) said the film is aimed at marketing Tanzania internationally especially in the United States and

Europe, while Sebastian Kapufi (Mpanda Urban) urged Tanzanians to support these efforts, geared at ensuring our tourism attractions are well known abroad.

Festo Sanga (Makete) said the Royal Tour film will take Tanzania to the world, so the Ministry of Arts, Culture and Sports needs to put in place a good environment for visitors to enjoy their stay in national parks.

"The private sector should be fully involved in our tourism marketing strategies," he said, pointing out that a good number of such stakeholders can help in promoting the sector.

The film is going to market the wealth of tourism attractions including 22 national parks, 27 game reserves, 42 forest reserves, 1,428 kilometers of beaches and Mount Kilimanjaro, among other endowments, the documentary affirms.



It is my hope that all the water projects which are being implemented are completed on time

MPs: Many dispensaries lacking staff, equipment

FROM PAGE 1

expressed satisfaction over the pace of building health facilities, underlining that ongoing work should go alongside the provision of equipment.

The government is working hard to complete at least 24 dispensaries in Korogwe Rural district, a big boost to availability of health provision among the people, he stated.

Old health centres and dispensaries need to be renovated and equipped with modernized equipment, he said, noting that low staffing is a major challenge facing the health sector.

Tumaini Mageza (Busanda) argued that while the government was building 304 health facilities countrywide, those in marginalized areas must be increased.

Two months ago the government allocated 58.25bn/- to complete the building of 207 new health centres and strategic wards, where the facilities do not exist, to ensure the proximity of quality health services in most parts of the country.



Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba (2nd-R) pictured in New York City at the weekend holding the NalaUSA app logo when launching digital remittance services between the US and Tanzania via the network. He was representing President Samia Suluhu Hassan. With him: Zanzibar's Tourism and Antiquities minister, Simai Mohammed Said (L); Tanzania's Ambassador to the US and Mexico, Dr Elsie Kanza (R); and NALA founder and CEO Benjamin Fernandes, whose firm is a digital financial services platform. Photo courtesy of Finance ministry

Samia lauds NALA app, urges youths to join ICT

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money in ICT infrastructure, with the national broadband connected to other countries like Burundi, Rwanda, Kenya, Malawi, Uganda and Zambia, and in the near future the DRC and Mozambique will be added to the net-

work, she stated, urging investors in the ICT sector to set up projects in the country and benefit from its friendly investment environment.

President Samia pledged to work on challenges cited by NALA officials in regard to procurement of licences for operating ICT products in the market, so as to encour-

age other creative youths to take up technology as an occupation.

"I am told that the US has invested nearly \$1.5bn in the ICT sector in Africa," she stated, underlining that Tanzania ought to be among the beneficiaries of such investment outlays, while director Fernandes said the just unveiled ap-

plication operates in nine other countries. He created it to assist in money remission to African countries, he affirmed, urging the government to look into reducing licence conditions on online business. This will enable many ICT creative youth to invest their efforts and increase job opportuni-

ties while also employing others at present one must pay for a licence at the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) even before operations have started, he said.

This prevents many youths to realise their life dreams, and in turn frustrates opportunities for others as well, he added.

Mkulazi Sugar plant machines: CAG questions TanRoads role

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ary 2022, Mkulazi Co. had not completed installation of machinery at Mbigiri area.

Construction work was just 13.8 per cent complete, while at Mkulazi area installation work was going on, the CAG noted, elaborating that Mkulazi Co. had explained that the delay in installing the plant arose from the Covid-19 outbreak, hampering procurement proceedings of the machinery.

The audit exercise showed that due to delays in installing the sugar making plants, Mkulazi Co. had to sell away the harvested sugarcane, while during fiscal 2020/21 the company harvested and sold 32,121.6 tonnes of sugarcane harvested from 382 hectares, earning 1.16bn/-.

There were clear weaknesses in the machinery purchase for Mkulazi Holding Co., including the lack of basic reasons for involving TanRoads in the purchase of the plant.

The management failed to give any reasons for picking TanRoads for buying the machinery on its behalf "as it is not an institution with procurement experience for public institutions such as TEMESA or the Public Procurement Agency (PPA)."

The audit avers that Mkulazi Co. did not perform its responsibilities as to procurement as stated in the contract agreement, where TanRoads was required to conduct a purchase process until the time the tender is awarded to the winner and the signing done by Mkulazi Co.

Instead, TanRoads conducted the entire procurement process, with no evidence that Mkulazi Co. was involved in the preparation of the relevant requirements, building measurements and estimates thereof (BOQ) or other essential requirements, he stated.

No evidence was presented to auditors that the agreement was verified by the Attorney General as stipulated by Regulation 59(1) of the 2013 Public Procurement Act, he further noted.

In addition, Mkulazi Co. did not oversee the agreement, with the project being overseen by TanRoads and payment for the work done by NSSF after receiving payment documents from TanRoads, the report added.



Defence and National Service minister Dr Stergomena Tax responds to questions by legislators in the National Assembly in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

'Buza-Kilungule-Nzasa road construction set to start soon'

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

CONSTRUCTION of the 9 kilometers road from Buza-Kilungule to Nzasa is set to begin under the Dar es Salaam Metropolitan Development Project (DMDP), the House heard yesterday.

The road which will be constructed at tarmac level is among the road networks that area managed by the Ministry of Works and Transport through Tanzania National Roads Agency (TANROADS).

Deputy Minister, Ministry of Works and Transport, Eng Godfrey Kasekenya told the National Assembly they are finalizing processes for construction of the road which will also serve people in Kitunda.

He said that DMDP project is implemented under the Ministry of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Government) through the Tanzania Rural and Urban Roads Agency (TARURA).

He was responding to a question from Special Seats MP, Mariam Kisangi (CCM) who wanted to know when the government would start construction of the Buza-Kilungule-

Nzasa road.

Earlier, when responding to a question from Buyungu Member of Parliament Aloyce Kamamba Eng Kasekenya told the legislators that the government has allocated 10m/- in the 2022/2023 financial

year for maintenance of the Kakonko-Muhange road to facilitate transportation of people and goods.

He said the efforts are meant to ensure the road is passable throughout the year. He said the government will continue to improve road networks in Buyungu constituency depending on availability of funds.

He said the Kakonko road which passes through Kinonko, Ruhuru, Nyakiyobe, Gwarama, Kabane and Muhange villages is managed by both, TANROADS and TARURA.

He said the 26 kilometers road from Kakonko-Kinonko-Ruhuru-Nyakiyobe-Gwarama is under TANROADS while the 8 kilometers section of the road from Gwarama to Muhange is under TARURA.

Eng Kasekenya said the Gwarama-Muhange section is in good condition because it was repaired in the 2019/2020 financial year at cost of 40.88m/-.

'300 houses for health care workers for construction in financial year 2022/2023'

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

A TOTAL of 300 houses for health care workers will be constructed in the coming financial year 2022/2023, according to the Deputy minister for Health Dr Godwin Mollel.

"During the financial year 2021/2022 the government constructed a total of 176 houses; plans are underway for construction of 300 more houses," said Dr Mollel.

He announced the plans in the House yesterday when responding to a question by Special Seats MP, Nora Mzeru who was concerned about the shortage of housing for health workers.

In the coming financial year, the government through the Ministry of Health will construct 300 houses each with the capacity to accommodate three families," he stated.

In the current fiscal year, the government apart from con-

structing 170 houses also threw weight on strengthening electronic systems that aimed at distributing medicine and other medical equipment.

The ministry also continued to employ staff in the health sector in a grand effort to continue addressing the shortage in the country, said the Deputy Minister.

Recently, the government announced new jobs whereas the ministry for health has been giv-

en 10,285 workers out of which 7,612 public servants would be employed in hospitals, health centers and dispensaries which are under the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government (PORALG).

Also 1,650 positions are up for grabs for workers for Zonal and Regional hospitals which are under the ministry of health.

Meanwhile, the government is planning to reinstate a military camp in Tunduru District, Ru-

vuma Region.

Minister for Defense and National Service, Dr Stergomena Tax said the move is part of efforts to strengthen security in the southern parts of the country. The government is well aware of the importance of enhancing security at all border areas; in this case, the ministry is in the process of reinstating a military camp in Tunduru.

She said: "According to her, the ministry has already requested

a budget from the ministry of finance and Planning for construction of different infrastructures at the new camp."

Dr Tax said the government is acting accordingly to ensure security in all parts of the country including border areas is maintained.

She added: "The government has taken a number of efforts and strategies to provide security in the mentioned areas, at a time of waiting for construction

of the camps."

Dr Tax made the statement in the Parliament when responding to the question by Tunduru South MP Daimu Mpakate (CCM) who suggested the need to reinstate military camp in the district. In his supplementary question, Mpakate asked the government to consider establishing temporary camps to ensure security in the villages that border the neighboring country, Mozambique.

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**Request for Expression of Interest (EOI)
METALLURGICAL TESTWORK
PROGRAM(BGCL/TZ/MTP/2022/01)**

Buckreef Gold Company Ltd "BGCL", a JV agreement company between State Mining Corporation (STAMICO) and Tanzam2000 Ltd, a 100% owned subsidiary of Tanzanian Gold Corporation (TSX:TNX)(NYSE MKT:TRX). For more information visit: <https://www.tangoldcorp.com/>, the company has operations located in Mnekezi Village, Geita District, Tanzania.

The company calls for submissions of Expressions of Interest from eligible companies to carry out Metallurgical Testwork Program.

The EOI call aims at prequalifying or shortlisting capable Contractors and does not constitute an invitation to tender.

Interested parties shall submit their expression of Interest ("EOI") with supportive documents.

The evaluation of the prospective bidders will be done based on the following minimum criteria: -

- a) Expertise of the company team in undertaking similar projects b) Experience of the company in Metallurgical Testwork Program
- c) Eligibility of the company
- d) Permit and Certifications-Prospective suppliers to provide details and evidence of permit and registration issued by the relevant Government Authorities and any other statutory bodies
- e) Local Content-Prospective Bidders to demonstrate their compliance with the requirements as set out in the Tanzania Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018, as amended by having Local Content Plan.

The scope of work includes the testwork outlined below

- I. Sample preparation and head analysis including QEMSCAN and XRD
- II. Comminution -RWI, BWI, and Abrasion Index on relevant samples
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- IV. Thickening, Detoxification, Filtration

Expressions of interest should be submitted by email (procurement@buckreef.co.tz) no later than **02:30p.m 09TH May, 2022 (Submission deadline)**.

The Communication will be made to all pre-qualified contractors once the company has completed its pre-qualification evaluation based on the information supplied.

For and on behalf of Buckreef Gold Company Limited

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E-mail: info@buckreef.co.tz Website: www.buckreef.co.tz

234.5bn/- collected from mobile money transactions levies in February, says govt

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

DEPUTY Minister for Finance and Planning Hamad Chande has said a total of 234.5bn/- has been collected from mobile money transactions levies by February this year.

Chande told the National Assembly that out of the funds, 231.5bn/- were collected in the mainland part while the remaining 2.96bn/- were collected in Zanzibar.

He said, the money collected in the mainland part have been channeled for construction of classrooms and health centres in the needy areas across the country.

"The Zanzibar government will explain in detail regarding disbursement of the money being collected from mobile money transactions levies," he said.

The levies were introduced during the financial year 2021/2022 to partly finance the 34trtr/- budget on constructing health centres and classrooms.

In the first four weeks since the

government introduced the mobile money transactions levies, it had managed to fetch 48.4bn/- where 37bn/- had already been distributed for the construction of 150 health centres.

However, in September last year, the government announced a 30 per cent reduction in transaction levies.

The move was in response to public outcry that the charges were too high and would inflate the cost of living.

The cut in mobile money levies came in response to the directives of President Samia Suluhu Hassan who on July 19 last year instructed the Finance and Planning ministry together with the then ministry of Communications and Information Technology to work in the directives with immediate effect.

He was responding to a question by Chakechake MP, Ramadhani Suleiman Ramadhani who sought to know on how the money is being divided between Mainland part and Zanzibar.



Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba (L) has a quick word with Dr Hafez Ghanem, the World Bank's Regional Vice President for Eastern and Southern Africa, on the sidelines of the WB/International Monetary Fund meetings in Washington, DC, yesterday. Photo courtesy of Finance ministry

TARURA earns accolades

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE National Assembly is pleased with the government's increased budget allocation for the Tanzania Rural and Urban Roads Agency (TARURA). However they called upon the road agency to increase performance.

Members of Parliament yesterday expressed satisfaction with what it is doing, adding that the expectation is to intensify activities with the beefed up budget.

Debating the 2022/2023 budget estimates for office of the Ministry of State, President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government Tanzania (PO-RALG), several MPs praised the government for increasing budget to the agency up to 800bn/-.

Special Seats MP, Neema Mgaya (CCM) noted that there is upward growth of budget for TARURA. She said the organization's

budget was 278bn/- in 2020/2021, 722 bn/- in 2021/2022 and now 802 bn/- in 2022/2023.

"This is a good step in improving road network in the country" she said, adding that TARURA have the opportunity to expand its activities.

Korogwe MP, Timotheo Mzava (CCM) also observed that the agency has done a good work but should ensure that all roads in the country are passable throughout the year. At the same time, he called on the concerned authorities to ensure innovation and well use of the money.

He urged the national road agency to think of rightful technology that can help maintain village roads, noting that they wear out very fast.

Segerea MP, Boni Kamoli (CCM) also praised the agency for the good work it is doing in her constituency and Dar es Salaam as

a whole.

Special Seats MP, Christine Ishengoma (CCM) also expressed while appreciating the budget increment also noted that the agency has a lot of work to do, terming the increased budget as a big boost.

Nyamagana MP, Stanslaus Mabula (CCM) also praised the government for the gesture but suggested that there is need to have a four year's budget increase plan aimed at ensuring TARURA gets 1.4tr/- ultimately.

Tabling the ministerial budget estimates last week, Minister for State in the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government, Innocent Bashungwa said TARURA has been allocated 802.29 bn/- for the upgrading and improving 411.80 kilometers to tarmac roads, 10,666.11 others to murrum level.

Unfavourable investment climate face developing countries, says CAG

By Guardian Reporter

THE Controller and Auditor General (CAG) has cited two issues that impede investment in the country, while Tanzania holds Number 141 position out of 190 world countries with friendly environment.

In his 2020/21 Report tabled in Parliament in Dodoma last week, CAG, Charles Kichere says unsatisfactory investment environment is among the impediments that affect developing nations.

He says amendment to the system is always important in removing investment obstacles, he says, referring to the report dubbed 'Easy of Doing Business Report, 2020' issued by International Finance Corporation (IFC) in which Tanzania is listed at No 141 out of 190 world countries.

According to the report, in the last five years beginning 2015 to 2020, Tanzania dropped eight per cent in putting friendly business environment.

"This position is below the country's estimates in being above 100 positions by 2020 as it was cited in the Five Year Development Plan II (2016/17-2020/21).

"Tanzania is making various efforts to improve its investment environment. However, in my investigations at the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) I discovered that deficiencies that affect environment for investment in the country," CAG Kichere notes.

He found out that TIC did not fully use the digital platforms in enhancing investment opportunities.

"TIC had issued only one video article only in Kiswahili in mobilising for investment in November 2017, and it did not put online agreement in regard to customers' service at the Tanzania Investment Window to enable stakeholders to understand.

"The Centre did not publish in its website guidelines in regard to various services including permits, licences and registration conditions. I opine that better use of digital platforms has huge positive effects in enhancing investment in the country.

"I recommend to TIC to increase its use of digital platforms by involving other stakeholders to increase investment in the country," CAG says in his report.

He cites the second issue that obstructs investment in the country as the impediments in providing motivation and attractions to strategic investors.

He explains that Sections 19 and 20 of the Tanzania Investment Act (Cap 38) as amended in 2015 permit to provide special motivation in regard to strategic investment, including huge investments and this has to be published in the Government Gazette.

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RFQ No. PIT/C0/69/FY22

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- Plan International Tanzania through Gender and Adolescent Girls' Responsive and Inclusive Health and rights project; Adolescent Girls' Health and Rights (VUMA) Project has set aside funds to conduct base-line assessment for Gender and adolescent, responsive and inclusive health and Rights in Katavi region as detailed in the terms of reference section III.
- Interested eligible bidders must confirm their intention to bid indicating all relevant contact information including an email address to tenders@plan-international.org attn: Head of Procurement and Logistics. Bidding documents in the English language will be sent to interested bidders by email. Plan International Tanzania will not be held responsible for any costs related to printing of the bid documents.
- All quotation in **one** original plus **one** copy, properly filled in, and enclosed in plain envelopes "marked the above quotation number" must be delivered to the address: Plan International Tanzania, Central Technologies House, Plot No. 96 Mikocheni Light Industrial Area, New Bagamoyo Road - Next to TBC1&NECTA, P O Box 3517, Dar es Salaam before 14:30 EAT Friday 6th May 2022.
- Late and electronic quotations shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

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• Hygiene	• Learning and career development	

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To join the vendors roster, visit: vendors.fsd.or.tz

Registration deadline: 5th May 2022

For more information on FSDT, visit: www.fsd.or.tz

Bandits attack Mlimba villager

By Guardian Correspondent, Mlimba

THUGS armed with traditional weapons had attacked Said Hussein Matola, resident of Ipugusa village, Mlimba Division in Mlimba District, Morogoro Region and sustained serious injuries. The villager was going back home after watching Simba-Orlando Pirates football match last Sunday night.

Speaking to this reporter at Mlimba health centre to where he is hospitalised, the villager claimed that he was attacked by people who he knows, including a village official, saying he sustained injuries to various parts of the body including legs, hands and the head.

Matola said the incident at around

9:00 pm as he was returning home from viewing the Simba-Orlando Pirate soccer match.

"As I was on my way suddenly four people lurking from a nearby maize field jumped on me and started beating me up, and my screams brought up neighbours who upon arrival my assailants fled," he added.

He claimed that he believes the cause of the incident is his frequent quizzing the use of the village's development funds.

"Many people who quiz statements of funds expenditure have found themselves facing trumped up cases or other made up accusations," he added.

He confessed that he once was a

Member of the Village government but was suspended by CCM due to various claims levelled against him by village officials.

When interviewed, Ipugusa Village Executive Officer Charity Kisepe confirmed the incident but denied accusations that he was involved in the incident, adding that the village was a result of love jealousy.

"Matola is misleading that the Village Chairman Village Mkasiwa is involved, instead he was in secret love relationship with a woman at the village, and that the woman's elder son was the one who planned the attack on Matola," said the Village official.

Two people are claimed to be held at Mlimba police station in connection with the incident.



National Assembly Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson (R) presides over yesterday's morning session of the legislature in Dodoma city. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Deputy minister stresses need for farming of certified cassava stems

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

THE government has expressed willingness to continue improving cassava cultivation in the country with emphasis directed on production of certified cassava stems which are drought resistant.

Deputy minister for Agriculture, Anthony Mavunde said the ministry is taking adaptation measures in the agriculture sector because of climate change which makes the crop vulnerable to diseases.

Mavunde said the government produced and distributed 30.49 million of cassava stems in the 2019/2020 financial year and another 40.96 million of stems in 2020/2021.

"The distributed stems are likely to improve the crop's productivity as they cannot be easily attacked by diseases," said Mavunde when responding to question from Special Seats legislator, Tunza Malapo (CCM).

In her basic question, Malapo wanted to know the government plans to revive the crops' farming in the country especially in Mtwara Region.

The Deputy Minister informed the National Assembly that the government has been implementing the national cassava development strategy since 2015. He said the strategy targeted farmers in the Lake Zone regions and Coastal zone regions including Mtwara.

He said the first phase was completed early 2021. He said second phase implementation of the strategy started in December 2021 and will be completed in 2024.

Mavunde noted that through the strategy, cassava production in Mtwara region increased to 866,676 tonnes in the 2019/2020 cultivation season compared to 611,210 tonnes of the crop produced in 2016/2017.

The increase was due to improvements in production and distribution of certified cassava stems, he added.

Tanzania has over 44 million hectares of arable land with only 33 per cent under cultivation and about 65 per cent of Tanzania population depends on agriculture for food, income, health, employment and raw materials for agro-processing industries.

The leading countries in cassava producing in the continent include Nigeria, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Ghana, Angola, Mozambique and Malawi.



The distributed stems are likely to improve the crop's productivity as they cannot be easily attacked by diseases," said Mavunde when responding to question from Special Seats legislator, Tunza Malapo (CCM)

Education stakeholders challenged to strengthen school-girls' protection

By Getrude Mbago

EDUCATION stakeholders have been challenged to strengthen school girls' children protection for them to realize their future dreams.

Tanzania Education Network (TENMET) acting programme manager, Alistidia Kamugisha threw the challenge in Dar es Salaam yesterday when speaking ahead of Global Action Week for Education (GAWE), which will be held in Igunga District, Tabora Region from April 25 to 29, this year. This year's theme is 'Financing Education for Improved Learning Outcomes'.

The network cites major challenges in the sector as long walking distance, poor and inadequate infrastructures and early pregnancies as among major factors that contribute highly to school dropouts in the country.

Alistidia said there is a need to work in synergy and address the challenges so as to enable children to learn comfortably and achieve their education dreams.

She said the network in collaboration with other education stakeholders in the country have been cooperating in celebrating the GAWE to among others, discuss continued efforts to facilitate provision of quality education.

Reasons for celebrating the education week are to provide public awareness on demands for the right to a quality education and to encourage the government to focus on other groups such as children with disabilities and calls for access to school infrastructure and facilities and training for teachers and people with disabilities.

Alistidia said, the network with support from other stakeholders will visit and support completion of a dormitory at Igunga Primary school so as to accommodate students with disabilities.

"The Igunga primary school is an inclusive facility that also receives children with disabilities, but is facing a number of challenges that affects development of the special group, so by completing the construction of the dormitory will provide the children with a conducive living environment for them to study comfortably," she explained.

She further said that this year's education week commemoration will also involve visiting various schools and education facilities in Igunga District as well as speaking to parents and educating them on the importance of valuing education.

"During the five days of the Education Week, stakeholders will also have an opportunity to showcase their education related activities and projects, learn from each other and exchange ideas aimed to improve education in the country," she said.

GAWE's chairman of the organizing committee Denish Otieno, said the completion of the dormitory will facilitate accommodation of 80 girl pupils with disabilities.

He further urged the government and stakeholders to invest heavily in quality and inclusive education for the country to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

He hinted on the note that the presence of a friendly environment at school improves good student-teacher relationships and will help reduce truancy.



27th Annual General Meeting

Chairman and Shareholders,

Re: Notice of the 27th Annual General Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the **TWENTY SEVENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** of CRDB BANK PLC will be held on Saturday, **21st May, 2022** physically at the **Arusha International Conference Centre (AICC), Simba Hall** and virtually commencing at **09:00 a.m.** The Agenda shown below will be transacted:

- 1. Opening of the Meeting.**
- 2. Adoption of the Agenda.**
- 3. Confirmation of the Minutes of the Twenty Sixth Annual General Meeting.**
- 4. To deliberate the Matters Arising.**
- 5. Adoption of the Report by those charged with Governance and Audited Financial Statements for year 2021.**
 - 5.1. Report by those charged with Governance.
 - 5.2. Audited Financial statements for the year ended 31st December 2021.
 - 5.3. Declaration of Year 2021 Dividend.
- 6. Directors Remuneration.**
- 7. Appointment of the External Auditors.**
- 8. Election of Board Members**
 - 8.1 One (1) Board Member to represent shareholders owning shares above 1% and below 10%
 - 8.2 Three (3) Board Members to represent shareholders owning shares below 1%
 - 8.3 One Independent Director
- 9. To deliberate on Proposals received from Shareholders.**
- 10. Any other business with leave of the Chair.**
- 11. To set the place, date and venue of the next meeting.**
- 12. Closing of the Meeting.**

NOTE:

- 1. Virtual Attendance:** The AGM may be attended through the Banks digital channels (SIM Banking, SIM Account and Website [<https://www.crdbbank.co.tz>]) The Bank will send to all shareholders via their mobile phones ID and password information on how a shareholder can access the virtual meeting and participate.
- 2. The Shareholders Register shall be closed from Friday 13/05/2022 and shall be opened on Monday 16/05/2022.**
- 3. All proposals to be discussed under Agenda no. 9 must be received by the Secretary not later than 4.00 p.m. on Friday, 06/05/2022.**
- 4. Papers for the meeting may be collected from CRDB Bank Branches from 10/05/2022 and will also be available in Arusha from 20th to 21st May, 2022 and on the Bank's website on 10/05/2022**
- 5. Costs for transportation and accommodation will be borne by shareholders themselves.**

NOTICE OF SHAREHOLDERS SEMINAR

Notice is hereby given that there will be a Shareholders Seminar on *Significance and procedures on preparing Will and Administration, End of physical CDS Receipts by DSE and Safeguarding your Assets* on 20th May 2022, starting at **9.00 a.m.** at the **Arusha International Conference Centre (AICC), Simba Hall.**

The contact for communication is:

The Secretary
CRDB Bank Plc
CRDB Bank Headquarters,
P. O. Box 268
Dar-es-Salaam
Tel. no. 022 - 2114237, 2117442 - 7 - Fax or 022 - 2131005
E-mail - shares_unit@crdbbank.co.tz

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

J. B. Rugambo
COMPANY SECRETARY

20th April, 2022

Zanzibar's gender expert underscores need to increase promotion of equality

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR'S gender issues expert Halima Ibrahim has underscored the need to increase promotion of the importance of gender equality from family level, if the country is to achieve its development endeavours.

Halima made the observation here at a meeting when she made a presentation on the importance of gender to some representatives of cooperative unions from various parts of Zanzibar who are the beneficiaries of the Viungo project implementation.

She said gender equality is an important tool that drives change in society and creates equality that in one way stimulates development to people.

Halima who was a trainer in the session said, despite some of the people in the society being aware of the importance of gender equality but there are still some families in Zanzibar are yet to realize the seriousness of the issue and they continue to believe that a man is the only person who deserves better than a woman.

"With the current environment and changes going on in the World, we do not need to continue to discriminate against women considering that they are now more important and confident due to the great potential they have now compared to the previous years," she said.

The trainer wanted the participants and women to continue engaging in various development initiatives including viewing for various leadership positions in the society and at national level.

Earlier, women economic empowerment officer from the Tanzania Media Women Association (TAMWA) in Zanzibar Nayrat Abdalla Ali said they have decided to bring the representatives from various cooperative unions so as to educate them on gender issues.

She said on economic empowerment, women themselves should be built on the foundations to know their rights and be able to demand them in their daily lives. Khamis Hamad, one of the participants commended the organizers for bringing them together saying that there is a need for a continued provision of education on gender equality in different parts including schools so as to change mindsets and achieve required goals.

Janet Ovarist, a participant from Kiang'ya said a number of marriages are facing gender discrimination challenges being perpetrated by some relatives from husband's side and this needs more education.

She said this situation has been disrupting many marriages because the wife lacks freedom to do what she wants considering husband sometimes listens more to the family members more than his spouse,



West Unguja residents have iftar at the weekend that was graced by Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi. Photo: Zanzibar State House

By Guardian Reporter

TCB wins first 'skills Tanzania' top award

THE National Council for Technical Education (NACTVET) and the Association of Tanzania Employers (ATE) have named Tanzania Commercial Bank (TCB) the leader and champion of advancing human capital development in the country.

The lender was bestowed with the accolade in the first national awards to recognise employers who support skills development in the country that were held last week in Dar es Salaam during the NACTVET annual gala dinner, 2022, at the Regency Dar es Salaam Hotel.

TCB emerged tops among the 20 employers who were picked for the prestigious award due to its dedication and commitment

in bridging youth employability skills gap in the labour market.

The country's oldest bank also won the top prize for its readiness to offer work-based training opportunities, which human resources experts say are valuable pathways for improving the transition from school to work.

Speaking after receiving the overall winner award, an upbeat Sabasaba Moshingi, the Chief Executive Officer of TCB, said they deservedly won the top award since the bank was doing a lot in nurturing and developing a skilled local labour force.

He said the many opportunities TCB offers the country's

youth in apprenticeships, internships and field training programmes are worth the recognition.

"Let me share some of the things that we have been doing that must have convincingly made the judges to pick us as the overall winner of supporting skills development in Tanzania," Mr Moshingi noted.

"Firstly, TCB strongly believes in offering students and graduates opportunities for practical field training where demand is huge especially at the university level and not many employers are readily available for that," he pointed out.

"In 2021, we hosted 1,001 stu-

dents but compare that with our total workforce of 1,100 people to get a glimpse of how committed we are in nurturing young talents and developing skills," he added.

Mr Moshingi said by working closely with Tanzania Employment Services Agency it was also able to host 25 internship students whereas in the realm of apprenticeship, TCB managed to accommodate 36 young men and women last year.

He commended the organisers of the awards for the noble idea of recognising the role of employers in imparting practical skills to students and graduates. He said TCB is fully

aware of the youth unemployment challenge in the country therefore it is ready to support efforts of the government in readying them to enter the labour market prepared to meet demands of employers.

Speaking before awarding the 2022 skilling Tanzania winners, the Minister of Education, Science and Technology, Prof Adolf Mkenda, said the event was a big day for human capital development in the country. He said the government will support the organisers of the awards to make the recognition an annual event as part of the Sixth Phase Government's endeavour to transform technical and vocational

education.

"On behalf of Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa who I am representing here today, let me inform employers that the government recognises and appreciates what you are doing in skilled labour development. Without a skilled workforce, real development is next to impossible," Prof Mkenda pointed out.

On her part, the Executive Director ATE, Ms Suzanne Ndomba-Doran, urged the authorities to further reduce the skills development levy from the current level of four per cent.

"These awards recognize not only employers who contribute to the skills development levy

but also those who contribute to workplace skills development opportunities through apprenticeship and internship programs," she noted.

The Executive Secretary of NACTVET, Dr Adolf Rutayuga, said the 250 employers attending the dinner gala signified support they accord the government's skills development agenda.

He said they will be awarded annually for that as the government strives to address one of the major hiccups that have handicapped national building efforts for many years.

Shortage of skilled labour is one of the factors pointed at for dwarfing the competitiveness of national economy and hampering ease of doing business in Tanzania.



Residents of Chamazi ward in suburban Dar es Salaam pictured at the weekend follow proceedings at an occasion where Dr Dorothy Gwajima, Minister of Community Development, Gender, Women and Special groups, was visiting a Form II female student of Chamazi Secondary School reported to have survived a forced marriage attempt. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Coalition launches 5-yr strategic plan to protect women and girls from abuse

By Beatrice Philemon

THE Coalition for Women Human Rights Defenders Tanzania (CWHRDs) has launched a five-year strategic plan to protect women and girls from abuse.

Speaking at the launching ceremony CWHRDs coordinator Hilda Dadu said the strategic plan will provide a road map for the implementation of all planned activities of the coalition for five years.

The launched plan is themed: "Enhance safer working environment for CWHRDs to ensure women and girls' rights are protected."

According to her, the main goal is to create a resilient and robust movements and safer working environment for women human rights defenders of Tanzania.

"We hope stakeholders from different sectors across the country will support the coalition technically and financially so that we can protect and promote human rights in Tanzania," she said.

The Coalition for Women Human Rights Defenders is a newly formed organization whose aim is to defend women human rights defenders in Tanzania.

The launching ceremony involved participants from UN Women, Legal and human Rights Center (LHRC), Gender Climate Change Tanzania Coalition (GCCTC), Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRC), Freedom House Country Representative, Defend

Defender from Uganda, United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights), UN Women Country Representative.

So far it has more than 60 members representing Organizations and individual's activists from Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar.

"So far the Coalition has been able to provide protection support to more than 68 Women Human Rights Defenders (WHRDs) who were at risks or threats, it provided capacity building in various human rights issues related to their works," he said.

A representative from the United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, Regional Office, Catherine De Preux De Baets said the Strategic plan serves as a blueprint for strengthened engagement with international human Rights mechanism s and offers a platform for Tanzania n WHRDs to be heard and to meaningfully participate in national processes to advance the human rights of women and girls in the country .

The organization aims at protecting and strengthening the movement, it creates a space where WHRDs come together to fight for Human Rights and promote gender equality.

Human Rights and Good Governance (CHARGG)'s Commissioner Judge (rt) Mathew Mwaimu called upon the work together with you whenever and wherever possible to defend human rights defenders.

TAWREF hands over house to widow in Moshi Municipality

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

THE Tanzania Women Research Foundation (TAWREF) has handed over a house to a Mabogini Ward-based widow Mwajuma Bigiri that has been built in partnership with other stakeholders in and outside the country.

The house has made possible through a project dubbed; 'Orphans/vulnerable children shelter support (OVC-shelter support).'

TAWREF managing director Dafrosa Itemba

said her organization in collaboration with development stakeholders from inside and outside the country supported the construction of the residential house for the woman with three children, one of them with special needs.

"There is a growing number of orphans and vulnerable children in Kilimanjaro Region with more than 29,000 children, where 5,000 of them are orphans," she said, noting that the support has been given to such children

through the project entitled; 'Orphans/vulnerable children shelter support (OVC-shelter support)'

Kiboriloni Ward Executive Officer Haika Mbwambo applauded the role played by the TAWREF in collaboration with other development stakeholders especially in supporting the widow and her children with a modern residential house and other humanitarian support.

She said the government will continue sup-

porting the development projects implemented by TAWREF and other organizations for the country's development.

"After learning that, this widow, who is a mother of three kids has no house and is living a very bad life, Moshi District Administrative Secretary (DAS) and Moshi Rural Legislator, Prof Patrick Ndakidemi started supporting her with some humanitarian supports, and we applaud the role played by TAWREF in the construction of the house," she said.

The beneficiary of the house, Bigiri thanked TAWREF and other Good Samaritans for their endless support since her husband passed away some years ago.

"When my husband died several years ago, he left me with three children, one of them with autism in a small room that we were renting, and my life was very tough as we were living in a very harsh condition, but I thank God that I now own my residential house supported by TAWREF," she said.

World Islamic Services calls on Muslims to inculcate habit of helping the needy

By Correspondent James Kandoya

WORLD Islamic Propagation and Humanitarians Services (WIPAHS) representative Fadhil Kassim has called on Muslims to inculcate a habit of helping the needy people in the society during the Holy Month of Ramadan.

Kassim said that over the weekend when handing over food packages for iftar to 306 visually impaired people at the Visually Impaired Muslims Development Association of Tanzania (VIMDAT) centre, Dar Es Salaam.

Kassim said feeding fasting people during iftar & dinner is a spiritual act according to Islamic tradition and teachings.

He said the person who provides iftar & dinner receive as many rewards as the fasting person receives, without any reduction in the reward of the fasting person

"Whoever feeds a fasting person will have a reward like that of the fasting person, without any reduction in his

reward. He said.

He added that those who have the ability should strive to feed those who are fasting in particular poor people who are living in villages and urban slum areas.

According to him, WIPAHS presents the opportunity to feed poor and needy Muslims during the holy month of Ramadan adding that this provides a chance to multiply efforts in seeking Allah's pleasure.

VIMDAT president Salim Benedicto thanked WIPAHS for supporting 306 visually impaired persons and called others to volunteer support them as the scriptures advises.

Aza Abdallah and Khadija Yusuph residents of Dar es Salaam thanked for the support and called other good Samaritans to volunteer supporting them.

"We have received foods from WIPAHS to support us for iftar during holy months of Ramadan. We thank them for their good spirits," they said.

WIPAHS is an organization based in Dar es Salaam. It is a

Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), started its activities in early 1985/86.

For the past 23 years, WIPAHS has improved the living conditions of the indigenous community of Tanzania, which has been suffering from poverty, disease and illiteracy.

WIPAHS' impact can be seen by its vast amount of projects which promote rural development through education, the access of water, economic sustainability and the enhancement of religious learning.

The vision of WIPAHS is to transform individuals into an egalitarian and literate society through supporting and promoting community education to people irrespective of their ethnic linguistic, provincial or religious background.

The organisation provides humanitarian support across the country including drilling of water boreholes, services to orphanage centres and owning primary and secondary schools that are fully supported.



Aaron Mhavile (L), a representative of NGO known as Maria Foundation, presents exercise books and various other items yesterday to needy pupils from primary schools in Matamba Division, Makete District. Photo: Correspondent Nebart Msokwa

Initiative to develop students with special talents developed at MUST

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

STUDENTS government at Mbeya University of Science and Technology (MUST) have established a special initiative to identify students with special talents by developing them and finding for them opportunities outside the university.

It has established a special talents festival to be held every year of which students with various innovations contest and announce their innovations that are developed to enhance their economic wellbeing.

This was revealed on Monday by Aman Kamdeka, the President of the Students Government at the university during the first festival at the campus and involved all students.

"We have established this festival because we have discovered that there are students with innovations but lack the means to develop themselves through their innovations, and now we believe through this event their talents will be visible," said Kamdeka.

He stressed that students to be identified through the event can use their innovations to enhance their income instead of depending on getting employed.

Some of the students said the festival will help them to advertise their innovations to earn money by selling items they create.

One of the students, Alexander Maganga, said at the university they have created various scientific items but to lack of platforms to display, hence they fail to benefit from them.

He said there are others who have devised farm implements, crops processing machines and others gadgets but due to lack of display platforms they fail to advertise them

"As you can see here, all these pieces of machinery have been created by students, we have been displaying them at Nane Nane Exhibitions and other few national events, but this festival at the university will expand our display areas," he added.

Global finance meeting focuses on war-driven food insecurity

WASHINGTON

GLOBAL finance leaders are putting the growing crisis over food insecurity and skyrocketing food prices at center stage as members of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank meet in Washington and grapple with the brutal effects of Russia's war against Ukraine.

Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen was convening a Tuesday morning meeting with leaders from the IMF, World Bank, Group of Seven and Group of 20 global organizations to "call on international financial institutions to accelerate and deepen their response" to countries affected by food issues exacerbated by Russia's aggression, the Treasury Department said.

Russia and Ukraine produce 14% of the world's wheat supply, according to the United Nations, and the loss of commodities due to the war has resulted in soaring food prices and uncertainty about the future of food security globally, especially in impoverished countries.

The UN's Food and Agriculture Organization Food Price Index has made its biggest jump since its inception in 1990, reflecting an all-time high in the cost of vegetable oils, cereals and meat, according to the organization.

A late March report from the organization stated that the global number of undernourished people could increase by 8 million to 13 million people into 2023, "with the most pronounced increases taking place in Asia-Pacific, followed by sub-Saharan Africa, and the Near East and North Africa. If the war lasts, impacts will go well beyond 2022/23."

Anna Nagurny, a crisis management specialist at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, said Tuesday's meeting of global leaders was significant and "speaks to the growing fear and the increasing understanding that the world may be on the verge of a hunger catastrophe."

Nagurny predicted that countries that have not yet provided clear support for Ukraine – such as China and India – will come to realize that the food insecurity from a prolonged war in Ukraine will affect their own national stability and the welfare of their citizens.

"This may help to further isolate Russia both morally and economically," she said.

Deputy Treasury Secretary Wally Adeyemo said Monday that the international coalition of countries imposing sanctions on Russia and its allies takes the food security threat seriously.

"One of the things we have to do is take practical steps to demonstrate that this system is helping the people who need it the most" he said, which includes a "focus on those countries that are struggling to pay for things like bread for their people in light of the increase in commodities prices."

NATIONAL INSURANCE CORPORATION OF TANZANIA LIMITED (NIC)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30 JUNE 2021



Notes	General Insurance		Life Insurance		Total		Total	
	2020/21	2021	2020/21	2021	2020/21	2021	2020/21	2021
ASSETS	TZS'000	TZS'000	TZS'000	TZS'000	TZS'000	TZS'000	TZS'000	TZS'000
Property and equipment	4	1,815,020	8,412,213	10,227,233	12,194,904			
Investment properties	5	34,085,047	79,823,120	113,908,167	93,105,169			
Right of Use Asset	6	119,708	-	119,708	-			
Inventories	7	231,339	103,313	334,652	-			
Intangible asset	8	57,575	40,043	97,618	80,293			
Work in Progress (Computer Software)	9	533,084	-	533,084	328,720			
Deferred acquisition costs	10	506,348	-	506,348	460,123			
Investment securities	11	2,694,252	30,446,827	33,141,079	30,226,226			
Investment in Ubungu Plaza Ltd	12	-	21,081,456	21,081,456	21,004,148			
Re-insurers share of insurance contract provisions	13	16,794,260	-	16,794,260	11,915,982			
Insurance and other receivables	14	36,197,513	22,364,364	58,561,877	84,639,011			
Treasury Bonds	15	81,445,744	26,554,388	108,000,132	50,070,500			
Treasury Bills	16	866,580	932,700	1,799,280	1,513,205			
Fixed deposits with banks	17	8,046,264	2,338,214	10,384,478	19,525,106			
Cash and cash equivalents	18	19,851,891	21,920,222	41,772,113	25,293,454			
Total assets		203,244,895	189,246,416	391,491,311	350,356,661			
LIABILITIES								
Deferred tax liability	19	5,148,202	6,529,656	11,677,858	9,530,827			
Insurance contract provisions	20A	23,056,667	28,120,950	51,177,617	45,715,307			
Unearned Premium Reserve	20B	16,999,103	-	16,999,103	23,880,253			
Policyholders' Fund	20C	-	107,175,980	107,175,980	99,385,048			
Payables to re-insurers	21	27,319,199	-	27,319,199	23,595,345			
Pen save deposits	22	-	164,498	164,498	156,200			
Other payables	23	40,528,538	6,499,176	47,027,714	63,506,519			
Gratuity payable	23	-	-	-	329,235			
Income tax payable	39B	12,801,432	-	12,801,432	11,897,606			
Total liabilities		125,853,141	149,090,259	274,943,401	278,193,360			
Net assets		77,391,754	39,156,156	116,547,910	72,163,301			
SHAREHOLDER'S EQUITY								
Share capital	24	1,531,456	1,413,674	2,945,130	2,945,130			
Fair value reserve	26	938,080	33,362,001	34,300,081	22,682,812			
Other reserves	26	-	638,608	638,608	638,608			
Revaluation reserve	26	23,173,753	12,950,392	36,124,145	36,039,330			
Retained earnings/(Accumulated losses)	26	32,487,072	-	32,487,072	(266,360)			
Contingency reserve	25	19,261,393	791,481	20,052,874	10,123,781			
Total shareholder's equity		77,391,754	39,156,156	116,547,910	72,163,301			

The financial statements were approved and authorized for issue by the Board of Directors on... and signed by:

Laston T. Msongole, Chairperson; Dr. Elirehemba J. Dorye, Managing Director; Dr. Joseph S. Kiria, Director

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

Details	Note	General Insurance		Life Insurance		Total		Total	
		2020/21	2021	2020/21	2021	2020/21	2021	2020/21	2021
Gross written premium		TZS'000	TZS'000	TZS'000	TZS'000	TZS'000	TZS'000	TZS'000	TZS'000
Gross written premium	27	74,631,861	12,769,673	87,401,534	72,189,479				
Written premium ceded to reinsurers	28	(29,906,006)	-	(29,906,006)	(26,713,865)				
Net written premium		44,725,855	12,769,673	57,495,528	45,475,614				
Change in gross provisions for unearned premium	31	6,881,151	-	6,881,151	9,054,455				
Net earned premium		51,607,006	12,769,673	64,376,679	54,530,069				
Commission income from re-insurance	29	5,345,559	-	5,345,559	9,787,506				
Finance and investment income	32(i)	765,349	3,608,538	4,373,887	10,279,698				
Interest income	32(ii)	10,594,879	1,904,772	12,499,651	-				
Other operating income	33	12,792,191	14,954,713	27,746,904	1,848,118				
Total income		81,104,984	33,237,696	114,342,680	76,445,391				
Claims and policyholders' benefits incurred	34	(6,655,091)	(17,775,211)	(24,430,302)	(29,330,111)				
Reinsurers' share of claims and benefits incurred	30	7,884,097	-	7,884,097	11,239,087				
Net policyholders' claims and benefits incurred		1,229,006	(17,775,211)	(16,546,205)	(18,091,024)				
Acquisition costs	10	(951,456)	(859,676)	(1,811,132)	(1,926,598)				
Administrative expenses	35	(12,202,573)	(6,235,135)	(18,437,708)	(20,664,654)				
Impairment losses	36	(4,157,508)	(402,094)	(4,559,602)	(2,815,054)				
Total operating expenses		(16,082,537)	(7,496,905)	(23,579,442)	(24,406,306)				
Operating profit/(loss)		65,022,453	7,965,580	72,988,033	32,948,061				
Finance costs	37	(47,456)	(17,285)	(64,741)	-				
Share of profit of equity-accounted investees, net of tax	38	-	177,308	177,308	706,303				
Profit/(loss) before taxation		64,974,997	8,125,603	73,100,600	33,654,364				
Tax expense	39	(15,968,017)	-	(15,968,017)	(11,180,935)				
Transfer to policyholders' fund		49,006,980	-	49,006,980	22,473,429				
Other comprehensive income:									
Fair value (loss)/gains on equity securities net of deferred tax		232,620	1,384,649	1,617,269	(125,156)				
Total comprehensive income for the year		49,239,600	1,384,649	50,624,249	20,873,886				

The financial statements were approved and authorized for issue by the Board of Directors on... and signed by:

Laston T. Msongole, Chairperson; Dr. Elirehemba J. Dorye, Managing Director; Dr. Joseph S. Kiria, Director

COMBINED STATEMENT OF CHANGE IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2021

	Share capital		Fair value reserves		Other reserves		Revaluation reserve		Accumulated (losses)/retained earnings		Contingency reserve		Total equity		Life fund	
	TZS'000	TZS'000	TZS'000	TZS'000	TZS'000	TZS'000	TZS'000	TZS'000	TZS'000	TZS'000	TZS'000	TZS'000	TZS'000	TZS'000	TZS'000	TZS'000
Balance at 01 July 2020	2,945,130	22,682,812	638,608	36,039,330	(266,360)	10,123,781	72,163,302	99,582,068								
Prior year adjustments*	-	-	-	-	84,815	(6,452,152)	-	(6,367,337)								
Balance at 01 July 2020 (restated)	2,945,130	22,682,812	638,608	36,124,145	(6,367,337)	10,123,781	65,795,964	99,378,074								
Total comprehensive income for the year:																
Profit for the year	-	-	-	-	-	-	49,006,980	-	49,006,980	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Surplus for the year transferred to policyholders' fund	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other comprehensive income:																
Revaluation of Investment Property net of deferred tax	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluation of PPE net of deferred tax	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fair value gain on equity securities net of deferred tax	-	-	-													

WEDNESDAY 20 APRIL 2022

Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

Africa can adopt integrated approach to malaria control

THE Malaria progress report 2021 by Africa Union has said Africa did not achieve its target of reducing malaria incidence and mortality by 40 per cent by 2020, and is not on track to eliminate malaria by 2030. However, Tanzania has been cited as one of the African countries to have set up a strategy to eliminate malaria by the end of 2030.

According to the AU report released recently between 2015 and 2020, malaria incidence slightly declined by only 1 per cent. There were an estimated 232 million malaria cases (96 per cent of global total) and 611,802 malaria deaths (98 per cent of global total) in Africa in 2020.

This is an increase of 68,953 malaria deaths compared to 2019 (49,000 of deaths attributed to disruptions to malaria programmes and broader health services caused by the COVID-19 pandemic).

According to revised World Health Organisation (WHO) estimates, the number of malaria deaths is significantly higher than previously understood such as 693,617 additional malaria deaths since 2015), increasing the urgency of controlling and eliminating malaria.

World Malaria Day is an international observance commemorated every year on 25 April and recognises global efforts to control malaria. Globally, 3.3 billion people in 106 countries are at risk of malaria.

Malaria is a mosquito-borne infectious disease that affects humans and other animals.

Malaria causes symptoms that typically include fever, tiredness, vomiting, and headaches. In severe cases it can cause yellow skin, seizures, coma, or death. Symptoms usually begin ten to fifteen days after being bitten by an infect-

ed mosquito.

Malaria is a life-threatening disease caused by parasites that are transmitted to people through the bites of infected female Anopheles mosquitoes. It is preventable and curable. In 2018, there were an estimated 228 million cases of malaria worldwide.

The estimated number of malaria deaths stood at 405,000 in 2018. Children aged under 5 years are the most vulnerable group affected by malaria; in 2018, they accounted for 67 per cent (272,000) of all malaria deaths worldwide.

The WHO African Region carries a disproportionately high share of the global malaria burden. In most cases, malaria is transmitted through the bites of female Anopheles mosquitoes.

There are more than 400 different species of Anopheles mosquito; around 30 are malaria vectors of major importance. All of the important vector species bite between dusk and dawn. The intensity of transmission depends on factors related to the parasite, the vector, the human host, and the environment.

Transmission also depends on climatic conditions that may affect the number and survival of mosquitoes, such as rainfall patterns, temperature and humidity. In many places, transmission is seasonal, with the peak during and just after the rainy season. Malaria epidemics can occur when climate and other conditions suddenly favour transmission in areas where people have little or no immunity to malaria.

They can also occur when people with low immunity move into areas with intense malaria transmission, for instance to find work, or as refugees.

Organic farming could be answer to food insecurity

COMMERCIAL farmers sometimes fail at organic farming because they switch over too quickly, ditching all chemicals, which is as traumatic for the soil as 'a drug addict going cold turkey'.

Organic farming is an agricultural system that uses fertilisers of organic origin such as compost manure, green manure, and bone meal and places emphasis on techniques such as crop rotation and companion planting. It originated early in the 20th century in reaction to rapidly changing farming practices. Certified organic agriculture accounts for 70 million hectares globally, with over half of that total in Australia. Organic farming continues to be developed by various organisations today. Biological pest control, mixed cropping and the fostering of insect predators are encouraged. Organic standards are designed to allow the use of naturally-occurring substances while prohibiting or strictly limiting synthetic substances. For instance, naturally-occurring pesticides such as pyrethrin are permitted, while synthetic fertilisers and pesticides are generally prohibited. Synthetic substances that are allowed include, for example, copper sulfate, elemental sulfur and Ivermectin. Genetically modified organisms, nanomaterials, human sewage sludge, plant growth regulators, hormones, and antibiotic use in livestock husbandry are prohibited. Organic farming advocates claim advantages in sustainability, openness, self-sufficiency, autonomy and independence, health, food security, and food safety.

Organic agricultural methods are internationally regulated and legally enforced by many nations, based

in large part on the standards set by the International Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements (IFOAM), an international umbrella organization for organic farming organisations established in 1972. Organic agriculture can be defined as "an integrated farming system that strives for sustainability, the enhancement of soil fertility and biological diversity while, with rare exceptions, prohibiting synthetic pesticides, antibiotics, synthetic fertilisers, genetically modified organisms, and growth hormones".

Sustainable agriculture is farming in sustainable ways meeting society's present food and textile needs, without compromising the ability for current or future generations to meet their needs. It can be based on an understanding of ecosystem services. There are many methods to increase the sustainability of agriculture. When developing agriculture within sustainable food systems, it is important to develop flexible business process and farming practices.

Agriculture has an enormous environmental footprint, playing a significant role in causing climate change, water scarcity, water pollution, land degradation, deforestation and other processes; it is simultaneously causing environmental changes and being impacted by these changes.

Sustainable agriculture consists of environment friendly methods of farming that allow the production of crops or livestock without damage to human or natural systems. It involves preventing adverse effects to soil, water, biodiversity, surrounding or downstream resources—as well as to those working or living on the farm or in neighboring areas.

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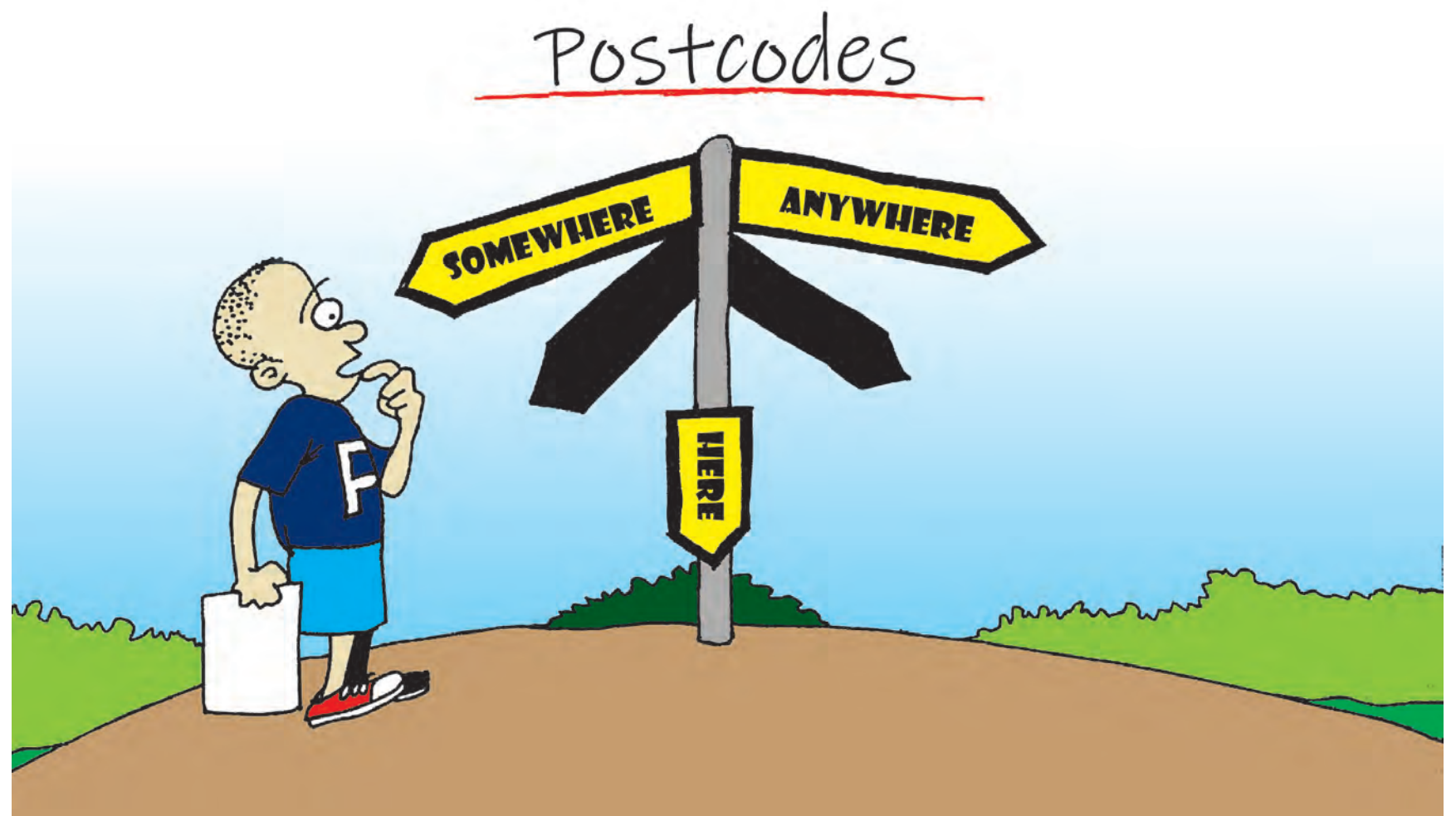
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Connecting the dots for the UN Transforming Education Summit



A student writes on a blackboard at the Souza Gare school in the Littoral region, Cameroon. The school hosts displaced children who have fled the violence in the North-West and South-West regions.

By Yasmine Sherif

LOOK around the world at this very moment. Whether we look at it in stark numbers and statistics, whether we look at it as a generational loss of basic human rights, including the right to an education, or whether we look inwardly and feel the unspeakable human suffering and devastation taking place, we all agree: we are at a historically low point in our collective humanity.

The UN Secretary-General has launched several multilateral calls in the name of the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Sustainable Development Goals to change this and to mobilize the international financing and action needed to do so.

Among these, three are of immediate relevance to the delivery of an inclusive quality education to children and youth left furthest behind in emergencies and protracted crises: armed conflicts, forced displacement and climate-induced disasters.

The first call to action refers to the UN Reform, whereby we must end silos and competition, and work together through joint programming, humanitarian-development coherence and local empowerment - with a focus on those left furthest behind.

In this vein, Education Cannot Wait was operationalized in 2017. At the time, an estimated 75 million children and youth were left behind as their education had been disrupted in crisis-affected and refugee-hosting countries.

Since then, Education Cannot Wait has transformed from a new start-up fund to a matured United Nations global fund (hosted by UNICEF), with the design and agility to advance UN Reform in how we deliver education in emergencies and protracted crises to those left furthest behind.

The second call to action refers to Our Common Agenda. Once more, the top-priority for the United Nations' 193 Member States is to leave no one behind and to reinforce the quality of their education and learning outcomes. Due to COVID-19, the number of children and youth left furthest behind in brutal conflict, forced displacement and climate-induced disasters has sky-rocketed to nearly 130 million.

We must remember them as we prepare for the third relevant call for action: the UN Secretary-General's Transforming Education Summit, to be held during the UN General Assembly week in September. This is our opportunity to focus international financing and multilateral action on these 130 million vulnerable children and youth.

Without an inclusive quality ed-

ucation, these crisis-affected girls and boys will be prevented from claiming their human rights and disempowered from rebuilding peace in their own lives and in their countries. Tragically, they will be reduced only to representing the staggering gap in reaching all the Sustainable Development Goals, not least, SDG4.

By connecting the dots between the UN Secretary-General's UN Reform, Our Common Agenda and the Transforming Education Summit, we have a unique, historic opportunity to finally reach the millions of children and youth who are today left furthest behind.

As Norway's Minister of International Development Anne Beathe Tvinning, states in her interview of this month's ECW Newsletter: "UN Member States have committed to leave no one behind in their implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals." In doing so, she concludes: "The success of this work depends on close collaboration between states, multilateral organizations, civil society organizations, organizations of persons with disabilities, and a wide range of partners."

This is how the United Nations

works. This is how Education Cannot Wait - the UN global fund for education in emergencies and protracted crises - works to reach those left furthest behind, together with other major financing mechanisms, such as the International Financing Facility for Education (IFFED) and the Global Partnership for Education.

Leonardo da Vinci once said: "Learn how to see. Realize that everything connects to everything else." Indeed, every vision, every call for action, every effort for change, is conditioned by our ability - not only to see, but how we see - by connecting the dots. Only then can we hit the real target and produce scaled up results.

Today, we see 130 million vulnerable children and youth without an education struggling simply to survive in armed conflicts, forced displacement and climate-induced disasters - none of their own making.

Now is the time to connect the dots between UN Reform, Our Common Agenda and the Transforming Education Summit, by squarely placing the focus and financing on those left furthest behind.

Mloganzila readying human milk bank to save preterm newborns

By Correspondent James Kandoyo

THE Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH)-Mloganzila is set to establish a human milk bank to feed children born premature and separated from their mothers.

Dr Mwanaidi Amiri, Head of Department of Paediatric and Child health at Mloganzila says 60 per cent of deliveries at the national hospital are preterm; hence a need for human milk bank for the babies.

She says a baseline survey to establish mothers' readiness to donate has shown that 86 per cent of lactating mothers are ready to be donors to ensure the neonates are fed immediately after being born.

Dr Amiri says that globally, between 15 and 40 per cent of vulnerable babies in neonatal units lack access to their own mothers' milk, often because of maternal illnesses, death or abandonment.

Similar situation is likely to face majority of neonates in the country's hospitals including those pregnant mothers who deliver at MNH-Mloganzila.

Speaking at a recent interview, the expert said that the plan is very important to provide sufficient pasteurized donor milk to neonates who need it while their mothers are in intensive care.

"We have to act urgently because neonates whose mothers face shortage of milk after delivery become so weak," she said.

"It is our hope that the new plan is going to solve all these challenges by supplying neonates with sufficient milk to protect them against infections."

She said that healthy mothers of hospitalized neonates who stay long in hospitals can be donors in the ongoing initiative through access to breast pumps to express their milk. Also, mothers who have enough milk above the needs of their own infants can be voluntary donors.

According to her, soon after being collected from lactating mothers, the milk is screened, tested and pasteurized to kill germs before being stored in the centre for future use. If stored as per recommended standards, human milk can last up to six months.

"Our future plan is to offer a lifesaving alternative to ensure timely access to human milk from lactating mothers and provide the same to infants in need while ensuring that even if babies cannot breastfeed, they can receive readily available human milk," she said.



Experts say that breast milk is the best milk for newborns because it is easily digestible and it helps to boost the baby's immune system. Photo courtesy of the internet

The pediatrician noted that all beneficiaries of the project will be all neonates born at the hospital and those admitted for special cases. For infants, not being breastfed is associated with an increased incidence of infectious morbidity including otitis media, gastroenteritis, and pneumonia as well as elevated risks of childhood leukemia and sudden infant death syndrome.

The expert advised mothers not to forget to feed their newborns colostrum (the first milk which is thick and rich in nutrients) in the first two to five days.

Gelagister Gwarasa, senior nutrition researcher at

Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC), said that breast milk is the best milk for newborns because it is easily digestible.

She said that the nutrients in breast milk are unmatched by any other first food a newborn can receive, adding that it helps to boost the baby's immune system and has strong illness-inhibiting power.

"I commend the initiative to establish the human milk bank as an effort to feed children born prematurely at MNH-Mloganzila," she said.

According to United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), 77 million newborns - or one in two

- are not put to the breast within an hour of birth, depriving them of the essential nutrients, antibodies and skin-to-skin contact with their mother that protect them from disease and death.

UNICEF data show that globally, progress in getting more newborns breastfed within the first hour of life has been slow over the past 15 years.

In sub-Saharan Africa, for example, where under-five mortality rates are the highest worldwide, early breastfeeding rates increased by just 10 percentage points since 2000 in East and Southern Africa but have remained unchanged in West and Central Africa.

Moreover, around the world, only 43 per cent of infants under six months old are exclusively breastfed. Babies who are not breastfed at all are 14 times more likely to die than those who are fed only breast milk.

Both the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF recommend that children initiate breastfeeding within the first hour of birth and be exclusively breastfed for the first 6 months of life.

Continuing to breastfeed exclusively - without any other food - for the first six months promotes sensory and cognitive development, and protects babies against infectious and chronic diseases.

Tanzania joins other countries in the World to commemorate the World Breastfeeding Week (WBW) every 1st to 7th of August. WBW is a global campaign to raise awareness and galvanize action on themes related to breastfeeding to promote, protect and support breastfeeding.

The world's most comprehensive report on nutrition highlights the worrying prevalence and universality of malnutrition in all its forms. In its fifth edition, the Global Nutrition Report 2018 provides a concrete overview of progress made and highlights solutions from around the globe, calling on all stakeholders to act now to address malnutrition.

Malnutrition is a universal issue that no country in the world can afford to overlook. A third of reproductive-age women are anaemic, while 39 per cent of the world's adults are overweight or obese and each year around 20 million babies are born underweight.

Beyond health, slow progress on malnutrition is also impacting the social and economic development of countries. It is estimated that malnutrition in all its forms could cost society up to US\$3.5 trillion per year, with overweight and obesity alone costing US\$500 billion per year.

China still contributing to peace, development of Horn of Africa

By Xue Bing

THE Horn of Africa is located along an important maritime passage that connects the Mediterranean Sea, the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean. It boasts rich natural resources and huge development potential.

However, the region has long suffered from frequent conflicts, economic underdevelopment and poverty as a result of the geopolitical games played by some major countries.

Earlier this year, China proposed the Outlook on Peace and Development in the Horn of Africa, with an aim to help regional countries stay out of any geopolitical competition between major countries, independently address security, development and governance challenges, and realize long term stability, peace and prosperity.

The China-proposed outlook has been widely acclaimed and recognized by relevant parties. Regional countries said they are ready and willing to join and implement it, and are expecting early convening of a conference on the peace in the Horn of Africa where they can discuss development plans.

The Horn of Africa is not a backyard of any country, but a home for all regional countries. An official of a regional country noted that China enjoys incomparable advantages in joining regional peace and security affairs, which is conducive to balancing regional partnerships. Pursuing independence and shutting out external interference is necessary for realizing long-term security and prosperity. China's proposal of the outlook came right on time and has been welcomed by the people in the region.

All relevant parties believe China's proposal is sincere and mirrors Chinese wisdom. China is willing to help its African friends. It unequivocally supports all countries to oppose interference and treats all countries equally.

The Chinese wisdom reflects China's multi-pronged approach to addressing security, development and governance challenges, as well as the country's broad mind to work with African countries for common development and building a community with a shared future between China and Africa.

The outlook, conforming to the fundamental interests of the people of all regional countries, is a historic contribution made by China to the peace and development in the Horn of Africa. It is expected that China could play a bigger role in regional peace and security affairs.

Regional countries' trust in China is rooted in the solid foundation of China-Africa practical cooperation, and the fruitful results reached by the two sides in their cooperation over the recent years are obvious to all.

The China-built Mombasa-Nairobi Standard Gauge Railway and Addis Ababa-Djibouti Standard Gauge Railway are the best examples. The Mombasa-Nairobi Standard Gauge Railway is



A train station along the China-built Mombasa-Nairobi Standard Gauge Railway. File photo

the largest infrastructure project in Kenya since independence. Its passenger revenue surged 145 percent and cargo revenue exceeded \$100 million in 2021.

The Ababa-Djibouti Standard Gauge Railway, as the first electrified railway in East Africa, saw constantly rising revenue amid the COVID-19 pandemic, with its annual revenue rising 37.5 percent to \$86.13 million in 2021. The two railways have become main arteries of local sea-land multimodal transport.

When the outlook is implemented, the two main axes of the Mombasa-Nairobi railway and the Ethiopia-Djibouti railway will be further expanded in a timely manner to accelerate the development along the coasts of the Red Sea and of East Africa, so as to form a development framework of "two axes plus two coastal areas" and build industrial and economic belt. It will inject robust energy into

the economic vitalization of the Horn of Africa. In the eyes of the Africans, China is the real good friend that is sincerely helping Africa.

The high recognition of China's development achievements is what makes the China-proposed outlook acclaimed. Countries in the Horn of Africa admire China's development progress and expect to enhance mutual exchanges with China, so as to explore their own development paths.

Leaders of many countries have expressed their hope to implement the outlook, enhance exchanges on the experience of national governance, and learn from China's successful experience in party construction, legal construction, poverty alleviation and ecological progress, so as to find development paths that suit their national conditions and realize national vitalization, as well as economic and social progress.

China will maintain close communication with countries in the region and provide necessary support for the first conference on the peace in the Horn of Africa.

It will also seek greater strategic synergy with regional countries and promote exchanges on governance to make the outlook benefit regional people at an early date.

I believe that under the joint efforts of the two sides, both the Horn of Africa and the China-Africa friendly cooperation will embrace a better future.

People's Daily

Migration in a time of war: A tiny bird's mighty trek through Ukraine battle zones

By Les Underhill

DURING late April and May, Curlew Sandpipers, and lots of other migrant waders, will be migrating through Ukraine. They will be joined by many passerine migrants, such as the warblers. There will also be some of the migrant raptors, such as Steppe Buzzard, and the big eagles (such as the Lesser Spotted Eagle), and the small falcons (such as the Lesser Kestrel). They will be on their way to breeding grounds in the Russian tundra, the taiga and the steppes.

But this article focuses on the Curlew Sandpiper. This is because the information for this wader is readily available (as you will see below), and because it has all been neatly assembled into one monograph, in *International Wader Studies*, a publication of the International Wader Study Group.

Most Curlew Sandpipers breed in a relatively small area in northern Asia, the tundra zone of northern Siberia. They don't spend long on their breeding grounds. They arrive near the beginning of the thaw, in June and they leave at the end of July/beginning of August, when cold and snow return.

Once on the breeding grounds, there is quite a lot of variability in the start of egg-laying due to inter-year fluctuations in the timing of the thaw. The incubation period is 20 days, and the fledging period is an incredibly short 15 days. So the period from laying eggs to independent young is little more than a month.

Males play no role in incubation and chick-rearing, so they leave on southwards migration around the end of June. Females leave as soon as their chicks have fledged.

These immature birds head south a week or two later, without parental guidance! This ordering of migration is observed at bird-ringing stations on the migration route: males first, then females, and finally the juveniles.

After the breeding season, arrival on migration at the southern end of Africa starts near the end of September, and numbers at wetlands build up in October-November.

The average weight of a Curlew Sandpiper at the non-breeding site at Langebaan Lagoon in South Africa's West Coast National Park from arrival until February is 57g. After this they gradually increase



This Curlew Sandpiper was in full breeding plumage in Richard's Bay, South Africa, and would have been about to leave for the breeding grounds on 15 April 2016. Its route to the tundra might have taken it through the Ukraine.

in weight. When they depart on migration, they weigh 80g to 90g. Most of this additional mass is fat, fuel for migration. But this is not enough fuel for the entire journey to the tundra. Far from enough!

The mean departure date on northwards migration from Langebaan Lagoon is estimated to be 24 April. The mean arrival date on the breeding grounds in Siberia is estimated to be 10 June.

That is 42 days. Mean flight speed is 65km/h. The distance from Langebaan Lagoon to the breeding grounds on the tundra of the Taimyr Peninsula is about 13,000km. At 65km/hour, flying 24 hours per day, a Curlew Sandpiper can cover 1,560km/day.

Finally, 13,000/1,560 = eight days to fly the distance. The remaining 42-8=34 days is used for refuelling. This can only be done at high-quality wetlands where food is abundant.

According to flight-range formulae obtained during experiments in which birds flew in wind tunnels, a Curlew Sandpiper needs 132g of fuel to travel from Langebaan Lagoon to the breeding grounds - 99g must be obtained on the journey during the 34 non-fly days: 99/34=2.7g per day. This is well within their capabilities, so it is a believable number. (This information is sourced from this paper).

Not all Curlew Sandpipers migrating from their non-breeding grounds in Africa to the breeding areas in Siberia follow the same route. But the total number of really good wetlands for refuelling is small.

One of the best is the Sivash, in the western edge of the Sea of Azov, which in turn is in the northeastern part of the Black Sea, in the disputed territory of the Crimean Peninsula:

Researchers at the Azov-Black Sea Ornithological Station estimate that about 66,000

Curlew Sandpipers refuel in the Sivash on northwards migration (and 160,000 on autumn migration).

Most refuelling sites for Curlew Sandpipers (and other waders on migration) are tidal. This results in extensive areas of mud and sand becoming available at every low tide for feeding. But the Black Sea is too small to have any tides at all, and this applies also to the Sea of Azov, and especially the Sivash.

So how come the Sivash a great refuelling site? The answer is the wind. It is a complex area of shallow lagoons.

As the wind blows in one direction, it pushes water along with it, and this results in some mudflats being exposed for a while.

Then it blows in a different direction, and another set of mudflats are exposed. The refuelling waders continuously redistribute themselves opportunistically to use the best areas

under any one set of wind conditions.

In studies which started in 1974, it is known that northward passage of Curlew Sandpipers through the Sivash starts in mid-April. Peak migration is in the period 11 to 20 May, and it tapers off by the end of the month.

So in the next few weeks, Curlew Sandpipers, and many other birds, probably counted in millions, are going to migrate through the battle zones of the eastern half of Ukraine. It will be migration in a time of war. We simply have no idea of whether the habitats they will use have been impacted by military activity.

From the Ukrainian perspective, their Curlew Sandpipers are linked with a remarkable number of countries: Norway, Finland, Poland, Sweden, Germany, UK, France, Spain, Hungary, Italy, Bulgaria, Russia, Greece, Tunisia, Morocco, Senegal, Benin, Mali, Sudan, Chad, Namibia and South Africa - that is 22 countries that have shared individual Curlew Sandpipers with Ukraine via bird rings. In reality, there are many more.

The media coverage of armed conflict and war rightly tends to focus on the humanitarian impacts. But it is important to grasp that war also has impacts on biodiversity.

The land over which the war is fought is frequently degraded (think defoliants, bomb craters, soil compaction and chemical contamination from weapons such as tanks), so that important habitats are damaged and species loss accelerated.

Conservation initiatives fall by the wayside. Research, and especially the type of research that provided the data used in this blog, stops. In some parts of the world, war leads to increases in wildlife poaching and human encroachment on protected areas.

Sadly, the impacts of war on biodiversity are so widespread (and so

Zimbabwe marks 42nd independence anniversary in Bulawayo

HARARE

ZIMBABWE marked its 42nd independence anniversary on Monday with President Emmerson Mnangagwa presiding over the national celebrations in the second largest city of Bulawayo, the first time in the history of the country that such celebrations have been held outside the capital Harare.

Mnangagwa said the main event in Bulawayo, in fulfillment of the government's decision to decentralize the national celebrations, was historic and extraordinary.

The celebrations also carried an added significance in that it was the first time since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic that the nation held a large, physical gathering in Bulawayo and other provinces

throughout the country to commemorate Independence Day, Mnangagwa said. While forging ahead with efforts to build the nation for common prosperity, Mnangagwa stressed the need for national unity for Zimbabwe to achieve its development goals.

"As we celebrate 42 years of our country's independence, let us never allow divisive tendencies, greed and the pursuit of unpatriotic self-centered political gains to weaken our bond of unity, peace, love and harmony. Individually and collectively we have a duty to wholeheartedly serve and work hard for the development and prosperity of our beloved motherland, Zimbabwe," Mnangagwa said. He said in unity,

Zimbabwe is rising with no one and no place being left be-

hind as the country marches forward towards its vision of a prosperous and empowered upper-middle-income country by 2030.

Mnangagwa said the country's independence from Britain in 1980 was achieved through the collective effort by all the people of Zimbabwe, including the gallant heroes and heroines who sacrificed their personal freedoms in order to liberate the country.

"Let us not grow tired but keep marching forward with joy, great optimism, determination, zeal and focus on unity, peace and freedom. Good times lie ahead and the fruits of our labor will be there for all to enjoy," Mnangagwa said.

He said despite various challenges over the past 42 years including sanctions, Zimbabwe



President Emmerson Mnangagwa

had made tremendous progress in many areas of which it is proud.

The country had also learned invaluable lessons from its 42-year journey which will make its actions more targeted for coordinated and balanced develop-

ment, the president said.

Mnangagwa said more economic production was required and to this end, the Zimbabwean government will remain unwavering in its commitment to creating opportunities in agriculture, mining, manufacturing, tourism, infrastructure, healthcare, education, sciences and information communication technologies, among other sectors.

Zimbabweans at home and abroad, Mnangagwa said, have a sacred obligation and responsibility to help in building the nation, riding on the abundant business and investment prospects in the economy.

Zimbabwe hoped for an adequate grain harvest this year despite mixed fortunes due to the impact of mid-season drought and recurrent tropical cyclones

in some provinces.

Mnangagwa said it was important for Zimbabwe to lay a sound infrastructure base for sustainable socio-economic development, and as such infrastructure development and expansion were being speeded up across all provinces.

The mining sector had immense potential to spur socio-economic development and due to responsive strategies, Zimbabwe was on course to achieving the target of a 12 billion U.S. dollars mining industry by 2023, the president said.

"Recently, our country assumed the Vice Chairmanship of both the Kimberly Process Certification Scheme and the African Diamond Producers Association, subsequently becoming Chair in 2023. These portfolios will be leveraged to

achieve maximum value from our diamond mining sector," Mnangagwa said. He said the development of rural industrialization is being prioritized, leveraging the various unique resources within communities.

Total exports were projected to grow by 10 percent this year, Mnangagwa said, adding that the number of foreign airlines coming into the country had increased from three in 2017 to 17 in 2022. Mnangagwa urged the nation to remain alert to the COVID-19 pandemic, adding that in order to protect children from the pandemic, parents and guardians should facilitate the vaccination of children from 12 years and above. The celebrations ran under the theme: "Zimbabwe @ 42, Leaving No One and No Place Behind."

Xinhua

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

Govt disburses 200m/- to support motor innovators

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has issued 200m/- to support motor innovators to improve their products in the past four years, Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH) director general Dr Amos Nungu has said.

Dr Nungu said this on Monday when visited to the Clouds Media Group (CMG) station in Dar es Salaam to meet a Tanzania innovator Masoud Kipanya under Kaypee Motor Ltd.

Kipanya, known for his satirical cartoons, recently unveiled the country's first locally made electric car.

In their discussion, Dr Nungu said the government through COSTECH has been supporting various innovators by providing them with advice, funding, and even connecting them with various government institutions and universities to enable them to

achieve their dreams.

"We want to build or fund institutions and systems that will help to increase productivity in the automotive value chain, so that various innovators such as KayPee Motors Ltd can be established in the country," Dr Nungu added.

In his remarks, Kipanya commended the government for its support and closer follow ups saying that the situation gives him much courage to continue investing in the company.

According to Masoud, the electric car is his own creative idea which took him 11 months to complete.

He said the environmentally-friendly electric requires six hours of charging.

He pledged to continue showing co-operation to the government so as to increase production of more local innovative products through the work of various innovators.



Masoud Kipanya, known for his satirical cartoons, recently unveiled the country's first locally made electric car

Mdundo.com records 31 million users in the first quarter of 2022

By Special Correspondent

THE leading pan-African music service, Mdundo.com, has recorded 31 million active users across the continent in the first Quarter of 2022, representing a 49per-cent growth compared with the previous quarter.

Speaking to the reporters yesterday in Nairobi, Kenya, Head of Brand Partnerships at Mdundo, Rachel Karanu said the move solidifying the platform's to sustained growth trajectory across the continent in the last year.

She said the company attributes the growth to an ever increasing demand for easily accessible music among the young population, as well as the strategic partnerships that it continues to enter into with leading Telcos across the continent.

"During the quarter the company also grew its advertising partnership footprint, working with leading brands across the continent including; Standard Chartered Bank, East Africa Breweries Limited, Nation Media Group, Airtel, Zenith Bank and IOBet Africa.

"We continue to witness an increased demand for easily accessible music, especially among the youthful mass market consumer segment across the continent, it is this demand that is the main driver of our growth. We will keep innovating around finding new ways to engage with this audience.

"Our continued strategic partnerships with leading Telcos in Africa, such as MTN, Vodacom and Airtel, continue to offer us a unique platform to reach our target audience through our tailor made solutions," she added.

Nigeria and South Africa registered the biggest quarter on quarter growth, recording 8.3 Million and 2.2 Million users, representing 92% and 80% growth respectively. Kenya's user base grew by 46% to 5.7 Million users, with Tanzania growing by 10% to 3.9 Million quarterly users. There was also significant growth recorded in South Sudan, Burundi, Congo, Cameroon and Côte d'Ivoire.

Apart from offering leading music from around the globe, Mdundo also serves DJ mixes available for free download on the platform. The platform is currently running competitions featuring local DJs in Tanzania and Nigeria.

"Looking forward to the next quarter, we remain on



Mdundo's Head of Brand Partnerships Tanzania, Abella Mutalemwa (L), presents an award to Abdul Msuri, Digital Media Manager at Dentsu, for running one of the best campaigns on Mdundo in Q1 of 2022

course to reaching our targets June 2022. We will seek to sustain our growth through innovation around acquiring new users, as well as offering an effective platform for our advertising partners," Karanu added.

COMESA mulls agric commodity exchange

By Special Correspondent

THE Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) intends to set up an agricultural commodity exchange centre that will link and improve smallholder farmers' access to markets.

Comesa is a 21-member trading bloc, which Tanzania is part of.

The establishment of the Agricultural Commodity Exchange Centre is part of the implementation of the 2021-2031 Alliance for Commodity Trade in East and Southern Africa (ACTESA) strategy.

"The centre shall link small-scale farmers to national, regional and international markets within Comesa, the East African Community (EAC) and the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) tripartite framework and later the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)," said Comesa in a statement.

According to ACTESA chief executive officer, Dr John Mukuka, the centre will provide a platform for buyers and sellers to conduct business of their agricultural products through a team of brokers.

Once established, it is hoped that the commodity exchange will reduce transaction costs by accommodating people actively involved in the production, trade, processing and consumption of commodities.

"A physical venue involves brokers meeting for trading sessions in a room or 'exchange floor', and trading by 'open outcry'.

"A virtual venue is where brokers use remote computer terminals to trade through a central exchange facility to which they are linked electronically," Dr Mukuka was quoted as saying this during a meeting with the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) deputy president in charge of policy and state capability Apollos Nwafor, who was on a visit to Comesa recently.

The commodity exchange is expected to improve agricultural productivity which the ACTESA says has gone down and needed a boost by providing access to regional agricultural markets.

"This entails support and training to existing national commodity exchanges and strengthening their systems and improving their operations, then linking them virtually or to the spot market where necessary. This shall be included in the working with AGRA in their new 2022-2027 strategy," said Dr Mukuka.

Other key areas of ACTESA interventions include support to seed companies using Comesa regional seed labels in seed trade, annual renewal of Comesa varieties on the Comesa Variety Catalogue and harmonisation of fertilizer policies/regulations, standards, quality assurance and market development in the bloc's member States.

Thereafter, a finance mechanism will be established for bulk manufacturing and procurement of fertilizers and distribution in the Comesa countries.

ACTESA is a specialised agency of Comesa, established in 2009 to facilitate the integration of and improved regional competitiveness of staple food markets across the region with the ultimate goal of achieving broad-based growth and decreased food insecurity.



This entails support and training to existing national commodity exchanges and strengthening their systems and improving their operations, then linking them virtually or to the spot market

Women's venture in Zimbabwe's aquamarine mining sector unique

By Special Correspondent

THE first of its kind in Africa, Zimbabwe's Zimbaqua mine is uniquely employing an entirely female workforce.

Located near Karoi, a town 200 km northwest of the capital Harare, Zimbaqua is changing the lives of women in the region.

Zimbaqua provides relief to the plight of women in the region, most of them unemployed. "My family suffered a great deal before I joined the mine," said Sylvia Mugova, a miner and mother of five. "My children were consistently suspended from school due to lack of fees. My husband does not work. We also take care of my mother-in-law. All I wanted was an opportunity to provide for my family, and mining has given me that."

Like many other women with little or no formal education, Mugova is one of 35 women employed by Zimbaqua. However, the workforce can go up to 60, with other women taken in as contractors. These are significant figures because only 15% of Zimbabwe's 7.6 million women work as artisanal and small-scale miners.

The miners dig the 50-hectare surface for deposits of aquamarine. This is the name used for gem-quality specimens of the mineral beryl, a blue-hued stone highly prized by international wholesalers and jewel-

lery designers.

The task is not easy as women use hammers weighing between 12 and 16 kilograms. They are equally trained to manage chisels, drills and rock crushers to free the precious stones. The workers receive a stable monthly salary of just under \$300 in return.

In this male dominated industry, until recently, the stones were shipped to Bangkok for cutting and polishing. However, the firm has begun training some women to take on these duties on-site - another empowering move.

According to the Mine manager Rumbidzai Gwinji said Zimbaqua is setting a new standard for mining. "The project is elevating the community by providing solutions for women.

The ladies no longer wait and hope that the husband will put a meal on the table. For single mothers, there is no better security than a reliable source of income.

They can now take care of the children, send them to school and feed them. They are now stable financially," she shared.

Zimbaqua was founded in 2019 by Patrick Zindoga and Iver Rosenkrantz to create unique opportunities for women. Cofounder Zindoga said the idea initially received push-back. "People thought the concept was ludicrous. It was the usual argument that ladies



cannot do what men can do," Zindoga explained.

"It was a no-brainer for us because we know how to institute business models that work. Women are more trustworthy, committed and responsible as they are expected to be pillars of

strength. We have given them on-the-job training and the ladies have caught up. They are doing better than we expected and I think they will put men to shame."

The firm currently exports to India and Thailand. It is opening a jew-

ellery line to showcase the aquamarine mined by its all-female workers.

"We are excited to start selling and exporting finished products. We hope to expand and create sustainable opportunities for more women in the country," concluded Zindoga.

Ride-hailing service with women drivers only seen gaining popularity in Ethiopia

ADDIS ABABA

As a growing number of ride-hailing companies vie to penetrate the untapped market in Ethiopia, one company with women drivers only is recently gaining popularity in the country's male-dominated sector and making a good profit.

Meron Mengistie is one of the 150 women drivers at the Seregela Taxi Ride Service, which solely hires women drivers in its ambition to penetrate Ethiopia's ever-expanding ride-hailing service.

"I have always dreamt of driving and this job has given me the best platform to do so," Mengistie told Xinhua recently. Figures from the Ethiopian Ministry of Transport show that about 10,000 drivers are presently engaged in ride-hailing services across Addis Ababa, the

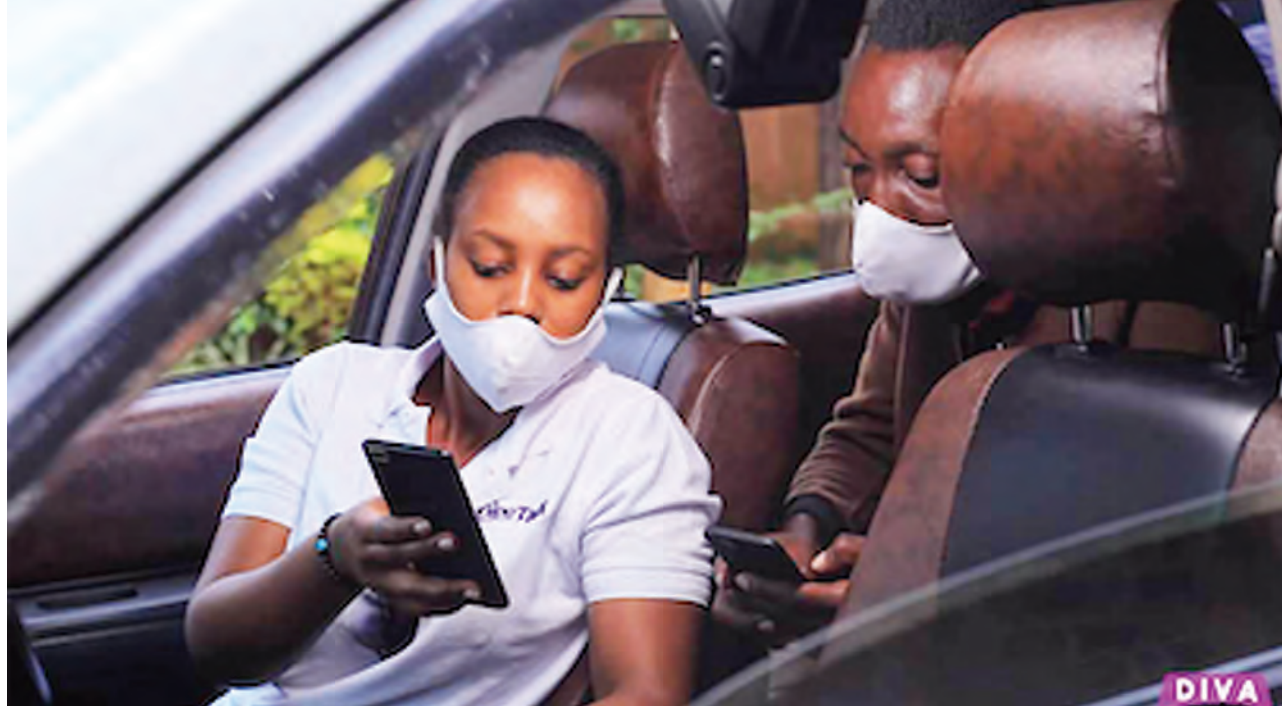
Ethiopian capital. Women, however, are insignificantly represented in the sector, contributing less than 3 per cent of it.

"I am so happy that Seregela introduced such an opportunity for women. I call on others to follow suit and hire more women drivers so that they can support their families," said Mengistie.

The Seregela company, founded in March 2020, works solely with pre-orders and communications with customers from a call center to track the activities of each car and ensure the safety of its female cab drivers.

"We are enjoying an increasing number of customers. Naturally, women are very caring. As a female taxi driver, I treat customers to the best of my ability amid safe driving," said Mengistie, who is a mother of two.

Hailu Zergaw, fleet manager at



a distinguished quality in using women-operated taxi services.

"The female drivers never drive beyond the speed limit," Worku told Xinhua, noting that he switched to using women-operated taxi services for close to one year. Wearing neat uniforms in brand colors, the female drivers cater to commuters with 150 cabs across Addis Ababa.

"We want to boost women's income and ease their entry into the transportation industry, from which they have traditionally been excluded," Zergaw said.

The initiative to exclusively hire women drivers was, however, a major challenge for the company, mainly due to women's nearly nonexistent representation in the sector, said Zergaw, claiming that getting women drivers onboard and adequately training them has been a difficult task for the company. In addition to offering driving lessons, the company also trains its women drivers on the entire mechanism and functioning of their cars.

Blen Mehari, another driver recruited by the company, said the rare opportunity enabled her to be productive and help her family economically. "I used to spend my days sitting idle until I got a chance to work as a driver in the company six months ago. I am very grateful for having this chance to become a professional taxi driver," said Mehari, who provides taxi service for up to 10 commuters a day.

Noting that women taxi drivers relatively encounter higher psychological and physical harassment than male drivers due to the lack of women's representation in the male-dominated sector, Mehari was confident that the women-operated ride-hailing service is changing the dominance by promoting the inclusion of women in the industry.

Seregela Taxi Ride Service, said serving with only women drivers is helping to expand its business, in addition to promoting gender parity in Ethiopia's male-dominated transport sector. "We are unique in that we provide the ride-hailing service with women drivers and that helped us expand our customers' base," Zergaw told Xinhua.

Ride-hailing service is relatively a new venture in Ethiopia, Africa's second-most populous nation, with a growing number of companies vying to penetrate the untapped market, mainly in the capital of Addis Ababa and its surroundings.

Zergaw insisted that the company, the first of its kind by dispatching women-operated taxi services, envisaged boosting the economic participation of women and creating much-needed job opportunities.

"Women are little represented in Ethiopia's transportation industry. It is a vocation that has never existed (for women) and we are trying to create a pool of talent, right from sourcing, mobilizing and retaining. It is a challenge," said Zergaw.

Noting women drivers are often praised for their safety and loyalty, Zergaw emphasized that the company aspires to leverage this distinctive quality so as to attain market sustainability.

Sileshi Worku, a Seregela ride-hailing service user, singled out the maximum safety and security assurance as

Xinhua

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 266 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: CAB, INN, MOB
 4 LETTERS: SAVE, EDEN, ROAR, VEER, RIDE, TENS ALOE (7 WORDS)
 5 LETTERS: RAIDS, NIGER, NOVEL, SOBER ORIBI (5 WORDS)
 6 LETTERS: ARDENT, REASON, RIDERS, BRAZIL PLEASE (5 WORDS)
 7 LETTERS: MINERAL
 8 LETTERS: CAMBODIA
 10 LETTERS: SWEET BRIAR

CLUES: Across

- 1 Deepest lake in Tanzania
- 5 dough made from maize flour and used to make tortillas, tamales
- 7 a picture in the mind
- 8 marks left on the skin
- 10 a mischievous child
- 11 the ability to appear effortlessly suspended while performing movements during a jump
- 13 as soon as possible (abbrev)
- 15 gas used to control riots
- 17 a week
- 19 call given by a court officer to command silence and attention
- 20 the choice sth must be done

Down:

- 1 minutes, hours, days
- 2 a headland
- 3 sweet potatoes
- 4 Rwanda's President
- 6 a commonly used British system of bidding designed to enable partners with weaker hands to find suitable contracts
- 7 erenic
- 9 a master key
- 12 evaluate
- 14 Grasshoper in Kiswahili
- 16 Turkish footballer
- 17 plant seeds
- 18 acquire as clear profit

WORD-FIT

SOLUTIONS

SUGARCANE, SKIN, SNOISE, FOREVER, TOES, SCRAPBLE, POOL, YBEACON, D

SLAVE, GROW, H WASTE, P R R ADD, CHANCE, ASIA, I G E, SCRABBLE, ANGLICAN, AGIO, ATWENTY

We are enjoying an increasing number of customers. Naturally, women are very caring. As a female taxi driver, I treat customers to the best of my ability amid safe driving

RADIO One

RATIBA YA VIPINDI

JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME
05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09.00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09.20 AM BRAND TALK 10.00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10.03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10.10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13.10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13.30 HRS DJ SHOW 16.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16.03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16.30 HRS HOJA YA LEO 18.30 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 19.30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 20.10 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21.00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22.15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23.00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23.03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01.00-05.00HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One **Radio One**

BUSINESS



Oil price volatile as Libya's outage fuels supply woes

NEW DELHI

OIL prices see-sawed on Tuesday as investors fretted over tight global supplies after Libya halted some exports and as factories in Shanghai prepared to reopen post a COVID-19 shutdown, easing some demand worries.

Brent crude was down 26 cents, or 0.23 percent, to \$112.90 a barrel at 0643 GMT, after rising more than \$1 to \$114.21 earlier in the session.

U.S. West Texas Intermediate crude fell 45 cents, or 0.42 percent, to \$107.76 a barrel, after rising to \$108.92 earlier.

Prices came under pressure with the dollar trading at a fresh two-year high. A firmer greenback makes commodities priced in dollars more expensive for holders of other currencies.

Both benchmarks rose more than 1 percent on Monday after hitting their highest since March 28 on political crisis in Libya. The country said it could not deliver oil from its biggest oil field and shut another field due to political protests.

The latest supply hit came just as fuel demand in China, the world's largest oil importer, was expected to pick

up as manufacturing plants prepared to reopen in Shanghai.

Oil prices, however, are still vulnerable to demand shocks as China continues to impose tough COVID-related curbs.

"For oil prices to take off on a sustainable trajectory, reopening mainland cities is necessary for translating into a sustainable economic rebound that supports oil demand," said SPI Asset Management's managing director, Stephen Innes.

OANDA analyst Jeffrey Halley noted that markets in Asia seemed content to adopt a wait-and-see approach, reluctant to chase rallying prices any higher.

"China's growth concerns are capping gains," Halley added.

In the United States, crude inventories rose by 9.4 million barrels in the week to April 8 to 421.8 million barrels, against analysts' hopes for an 863,000-barrel rise, a preliminary Reuters poll showed.

The possibility of a European Union ban on Russian oil for its invasion of Ukraine continues to keep the market on edge.

TIC registers \$787mn investment projects in the first quarter 2022

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) has so far registered 85 new projects during the first quarter of this year of which are going to stimulate growth, creating 12,191 jobs and attracts more investments through their value chain.

Speaking during a press briefing over the weekend, TIC director general Dr Maduhu Kazi said all projects registered during the first quarter of this year valued \$787.4million, higher than the value of the projects registered during the first quarter of last year amounting \$450 million.

The 2022 newly registered projects were higher than 51 projects registered during similar quarter last year.

"All these projects are on transportation, manufacturing, infrastructure, agriculture, real estate, financial services, human resources and tourism," he said.

He mentioned one of the companies registered during the reviewed period as Taqa Arabic



TIC executive director Maduhu Kazi

Tanzania which is expected to build 12 stations to convert vehicles systems from fuel to natural gas use, considering Tanzania is

seating on 57 trillion cubic feet of natural gas reserves. According to Dr Kazi, two of the planned stations will be completed this year.

"There will also be the construction of new cement factories by Alotaibnad Blak Bib and Prime Cement valued \$113million, which

will create 1,097 jobs," he said.

Dr also said another project will involve the construction of Howo vehicles assembly plant, which is implemented by Saturn Corporation, a joint venture between Tanzanians and Canadian investors.

"In order to curb shortages of edible oils, we have registered a company namely Organo Africa which is expected to produce 182,000 tonnes of cooking oil per annum at an investment cost amounting \$42.68 million," he revealed.

He said during the same period, six different agreements valued \$1.1 billion were signed to expand existing projects as well as establishing new projects, which includes the construction of fertilizer manufacturing factory by Intracom in Dodoma.

"TIC will continue to promote investments from both local and foreign investors to spur economic growth in time when Tanzania is gunning for industrial economic status," he added.

TBL earnings per share up by 76 pct in 2021

By Guardian Reporter

Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL) basic earnings per share went up by 76 percent last year, when compared with 2020, the company unaudited financial results shows.

During the year 2021, the brewer's basic earnings per share was 476/- against 270/- earned during the previous year, resulting into declaration of 76.2bn/- dividends.

The Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) brewer share price closed at 10,900/- last week with a total market capitalization of 3.2trn/-, maintaining its leading position as the largest listed company in the market.

The results show the company total revenue increased by six percent to 1.01trn/- from 961.8bn/- respectively with slowdown of selling and distribution costs to 113.7bn/- from 131.2bn/- in 2020.

This improvement has increased the company's operating profit by 19 percent to 194.4b/- last year from 163.3bn/- in 2020 and grows profit amounting to 389.5bn/- last year from 264.7bn/- recorded in 2020.

"Operating profit increase contributed by volume performance and efficiencies in operating costs. Sales and marketing costs increased due to increase in sales and marketing activities in the market to drive growth compared to the same period last year," said Jose Moran, the company's country director.

He said during the year, a total of 50.8bn/- was invested in capital expenditure during the year compared with 33.7bn/- spent in 2020.

He said the group's reported cash generated from operations amounting 272.2bn/- of which 62.8bn/- was utilized to pay corporate income tax, 50.8bn/- for pay capital expenditure and 84.1bn/- used in financing activities (including payment of dividends) and the remaining were retained for future activities.

"Our performance in 2021 reinforces our confidence that our strong portfolio of brands and renovated commercial strategy can deliver

consistent growth and long-term value creation, even in challenging year as the one we faced in 2021," Moran said.

He noted, "Our business cannot exist without farmers, clean water, healthy communities, strong suppliers and thriving, diverse and inclusive workforce. Our focus for next year will be to strengthen our partnership and keep building a better and string Tanzanian business."

The results shows the company total assets grew by 9 percent to 1.02trn/- last year from 946.8bn/- in 2020 due to in-

crease in inventories, trade and other receivables as well as bank cash balance.

Inventories increased to 122.9bn/- from 108bn/- while trade and other receivables jumped to 120.3bn/- last year from 92.5bn/- during the previous year.

"As our people and our culture of ownership remain our greatest competitive advantage, we take this opportunity to express our gratitude and admiration for the commitment, dedication and engagement of our board, management and employees for their

efforts and continued support as well as our customers, consumers and all stakeholders for their loyalty and continued trust of our brands," Moran explained.

TBL has a controlling interest in Tanzania Distilleries Limited, Darbrew Limited and Kibo Breweries Limited.

The Company operates breweries in Dar es Salaam, Arusha, Mwanza and Mbeya and over eight depots throughout the country and is engaged in the production, distribution and sale of malt beer, non-alcoholic malt beverages and alcoholic fruit beverages.



TBL Mbeya Plant

Treasury yields set to rise slightly on newly revised coupons

By Correspondent Geoffrey Nangai

TREASURY yields for the 20 year Treasury bond will slightly rise within the coming weeks as the market adjusts to the newly introduced treasury bonds with revised coupons analysts predict.

The Bank of Tanzania last week issued a revision of Treasury bond coupon rates in an effort to reduce debt servicing cost to the Government with the 20 year treasury bond revised from 15.4 per cent to 12.1 percent.

The Central bank was in the market

on April 13, 2022 offering 129.82bn/- to investors through issuing a 20-year Treasury bond with the auction marking new revised coupon rates.

The result of the auction continues to show increased demand for risk free securities as the auction was oversubscribed by 34.8 percent as investors tendered 175bn/- out of the offered 129.82bn/-.

The minimum successful price of the auction was 100 although the Central Bank only accepted 95.55bn/- out of the 175bn/- tendered by investors.

According to the Zan Securities Chief Executive Officer Raphael Masumbuko, yields in the secondary market will rise slightly on the onset of the auction.

"As the weighted average yield for this auction was 11.6 per cent, we are going to see investors demanding a yield closer to the yield printed out in this auction. We expect yields to further fall only expecting the 364 and 182-day bills attracting subscription," he said.

Meanwhile, the yields on government securities in the secondary market slightly adjusted upwards during last

week's trading session, as investors demanded higher yields at the onset of the 20-year Treasury bond auction.

According to a report by the BoT, activities in the secondary market were moderate with the value of bonds traded slightly increasing by 13.6 per cent to 68.5bn/- from 60.3bn/- recorded in the previous week.

In a related development, the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) equity market plummeted by 22 per cent during last week's five-day trading session after posting an equity turnover

of 3.94bn/-.

The TBL counter dominated the market share accounting for 54.9 percent of the trading followed by Voda at 14.4 per cent, TCCL/Simba at 14 per cent and CRDB at 10.6 per cent.

Price movement was recorded on four domestic traded equities last week with the self-listed DSE appreciating the most by 5.3 per cent to end the week at 1,580/- per share.

The Swala share price on the other hand, depreciated by 8.16 per cent closing at 450/- per share while the

CRDB share price fell by 2.6 per cent to close at TZS 370 per share.

Total market capitalization dropped by 0.47 per cent to 16.0bn/- while Domestic market capitalization went down by 0.29 percent closing at TZS 10.2bn/-.

The Tanzania share index (TSI) on the other hand closed at 3,858.25 points after decreasing by 0.29 per cent while the All Share Index (DSEI) also decreased by 0.47 per cent to close at 1,924.29 points.

Raxio Group to put up Tanzania's first carrier-neutral ultramodern data centre

By Guardian Reporter

THE Raxio Group, a premier pan-African data centre developer and operator, has announced it is investing and establishing 'Raxio Tanzania', one of the first state-of-the-art, carrier-neutral, Tier III data centres in the country.

Raxio Tanzania is the latest facility to be part of Raxio's fast-expanding network of interconnected carrier-neutral, Tier III data centres across the African continent.

The facility, which will be a 'multi-megawatt' colocation facility, is expected to meet Uptime Tier III standards and set to be commissioned in 2023.

The company has said of the new facility that "it will be fully equipped with industry-leading technol-

ogy solutions that not only ensure full redundancy and maximized uptime but also optimize power consumption and energy efficiency.

"Raxio Tanzania will deliver much needed colocation capacity to local, regional and international enterprises, cross connection services with local and international carriers and a series of value-added services," Raxio Group said in a statement last weekend.

Chief Executive Officer of Raxio Group Robert Mullins said "... the company will continue to build larger, hyper-scale ready facilities across a wider geographic footprint" to meet the demand as new connectivity solutions land in the African region, pivoting on "rapid evolution of the digital ecosystem" on the continent.

He added, "As the second

largest telecoms market in East Africa, with growing demand for connectivity and related services and its strategic location, Tanzania becomes an important centre piece of our growing portfolio".

He said Raxio Tanzania will drive a positive impact through both direct and indirect creation of highly skilled jobs for Tanzanian professionals, and a facility that is built and operated to the highest international environmental standards.

"Our decision to build Tanzania's first Tier III carrier neutral facility highlights our commitment to our strategy to deliver the vital digital infrastructure needed on the African continent," said Mullins.

The Tanzania data center is the latest announcement after a series of expansions across the continent in the

last year, including facilities in Uganda, the Ivory Coast, and Ethiopia. The company received a \$48 million investment in 2021 from Meridiam.

As the second-largest economy in the EAC, with an estimated population of roughly 60 million and 86 percent mobile penetration in 2020, Tanzania is one of the biggest consumer markets in the region.

The country has also been one of Sub-Saharan Africa's fastest-growing economies, boasting average GDP growth of approximately 6 percent in the period 2001-202 - projected to be 5.8 percent in 2022.

With three subsea cables already landed in the country and another set to land in 2023, Tanzania will be an increasingly important connectivity hub for the region.



A data centre

FAO, AUC set guidelines for agri-food systems for youth in Africa

By Guardian Correspondent

THE Investment guidelines for youth in Agrifood Systems in Africa developed by Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and Africa Union Commission have been launched.

The guidelines provides practical "how to" steps to develop youth-focused and youth-sensitive investment programmes that see them as partners in rural development, throughout all phases of the investment programme cycle.

The guidelines are for those involved in designing and implementing agri-food investment programmes: governments, financial and technical partners, the private sector, civil society, and young women and men themselves.

"The Investment Guidelines that we are launching today are a direct response to the call to scale up investments in and with Africa's youth," said FAO Director-General Qu Dongyu at the official launch of the Guidelines during the 32nd Session of the FAO Regional Conference for Africa (ARC32), in Malabo.

"There is an urgent need to address the gaps and multiple constraints faced by Africa's young people, particularly in the rural sector. The impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic have raised this urgency even higher," he said.

The Investment Guidelines for Youth in Agrifood Systems in Africa aim to accelerate investments in and by youth in agrifood systems.

They recommend four steps to investing in youth including engage youth in the investment programme cycle; Assess and pre-design with a youth lens; Design with a youth lens; and Imple-



ment then monitor, evaluate and capitalize on what you learn.

"We make an urgent call for concrete operational action - the Investment Guidelines for Youth in Agrifood Systems in Africa has great potential to drive this process and bring investments in youth-focused agri-food systems initiatives to scale" said Amb. Josefa Sacko, Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sus-

tainable Environment of the African Union Commission.

"Investing in agrifood systems with a youth lens has positive impacts on youth employment and entrepreneurship and is critical to building sustainable inclusive agri-food systems," said FAO Investment Centre's Senior Rural Sociologist Pamela Pozarny.

"Youth must have an active voice and role as agents for change at

all stages of the investment programme. This requires an enabling investment environment," she said.

According to AUC, Africa has the highest percentage of youth in the world, estimated at 420 million people between the ages of 15 and 35, which are considered as enormous resource for future prosperity, but the challenges these young people face are many.

According to AUC, young people are twice as likely as adults to be unemployed, majority of working youth are poor and employed in vulnerable, low-quality jobs in the informal sector.

In 2019, almost two-thirds (63 percent) of young workers lived in poverty in Africa compared to half (51 percent) of adults. Youth are also overrepresented among the extremely poor.

FAO all ready to improve the dairy sector in Uganda

KAMPALA

THE Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) said has concluded a round of regional and national policy dialogues with Uganda's Dairy Development Authority (DDA) and key dairy stakeholders in a push to improve the country's dairy sector.

Uganda's dairy sector plays a vital role in household nutrition income levels and it represents 6.5 percent of the country's agricultural Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Dairy production is dominated by rural small-scale farmers with varying levels of quality and only around 20 percent of milk being processed into higher value products.

According to the DDA, Uganda's revenue from export of dairy products has risen sharply, by 63 percent in three years (2018-2020) and the sector accounts for 8 percent of total export value.

During the regional meetings, held in Mbarama and Wakiso, FAO officials presented the results of four economic and policy studies that highlight a range of issues in the dairy value chain, according to a statement issued by FAO.

"The AgrInvest Project in Uganda supports existing Policy Dialogue Platforms, or at least platforms in the making, in partnership with key stakeholders. These platforms enable public and private dairy value chain stakeholders to strengthen their voice, articulate their investment needs and take the advantage of economies of scale by working together," said Martin Maugustini, AgrInvest Uganda Project Coordinator.

"These dialogue platforms also aim to identify possible investment opportunities for investors, such as the Ugandan Development Bank (UDB) with whom AgrInvest is partnering with" he added.

The studies included analyses on price incentives for milk producers and traders, on the performance of the Milk Collection Centres (MCC), on post-harvest loss in the milk and dairy sector, and on domestic dairy consumption in Uganda.

In the East African Community, Uganda ranks third in milk consumption, behind Kenya and the United Republic of Tanzania, with each Ugandan consuming 64 litres per year on average. In comparison, the recommended intake by World Health Organization and FAO is around 200 litres.

"Milk is a vital source of nutrition and many Ugandan farming households get their income from the sale of milk and dairy products. Through this package of policy studies, stakeholder dialogues and the action plan devised today, Uganda has access to strong evidence on the reforms the dairy value chain needs and the strategic targets for future investments," said Thibault Meillard, Economist and Policy Advisor with the FAO Monitoring and Analysing Food and Agricultural Policies (MAFAP) programme.

Kenya coffee auction takes one-month break in May

NAIROBI

THE coffee auction is set to go on recess next month as the main crop season comes to an end following a decline of high-quality beans for trading.

Nairobi Coffee Exchange (NCE) has announced that the auction will hold its last auction on May 4 before breaking for one month.

The main crop season started in November last year with the crop sustaining the market up to this month when the ratio of high-quality beans started dwindling.

The auction will now be banking on the short-season crop from eastern and parts of west-

ern Kenya when it resumes in June, which will sustain the auction up to November when the main crop coffee is expected to hit the market again.

The auction normally goes on recess around June of every year but this year is breaking early because of a shortage of quality beans to trade.

The low-quality coffee has seen the price of the commodity oscillate between highs and lows during the sales.

In the latest trading held last week, Kenya's top-grade coffee -AA declined to \$299 from \$331 in the previous sale while grade AB fetched \$284 from \$291 in the previous auction.

Kenya's top grades are nor-

mally in high demand in the world market. The country has one of the best coffees in the world that is highly sought after by roasters for blending with other low quality from other regions.

However, the production has significantly dropped when compared with her peers in the region with Uganda, which was at par with the country in the previous years now widening the gap.

From the early 1990s to the 2010/11 crop year, the area under coffee has declined by 35 percent from 170,000 hectares to 109,795 hectares as farmers abandoned the crop due to poor management.



Kenya coffee evaluators

WORLD

US will no longer enforce mask mandate on airplanes, trains

LOS ANGELES

THE Biden administration will no longer enforce a US mask mandate on public transportation, after a federal judge in Florida on Monday ruled that the 14-month-old directive was unlawful, overturning a key White House effort to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

Soon after the announcement, all major carriers including American Airlines, United Airlines and Delta Air Lines, as well as national train line Amtrak relaxed

the restrictions effective immediately.

Last week, US health officials had extended the mandate to May 3 requiring travelers to wear masks on airplanes, trains, and in taxis, ride-share vehicles or transit hubs, saying they needed time to assess the impact of a recent rise in COVID-19 cases caused by the airborne coronavirus. [read more](#)

Industry groups and Republican lawmakers balked and wanted the administration to end the 14-month-old mask mandate permanently.



In this file photo taken on April 02, 2022 a Delta Airlines plane approaches the runway at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport in Arlington, Virginia. (PHOTO/AFP)

COVID-19 summit

A second Global COVID-19 Summit will be held virtually next month for countries to discuss efforts to end the pandemic and prepare for future health threats, according to a joint statement on Monday.

"The emergence and spread of new variants, like Omicron, have reinforced the need for a

strategy aimed at controlling COVID-19 worldwide," the White House said in a news release with the Group of Seven and Group of 20 nations.

The announcement comes amid a surge of COVID-19 cases in parts of the United States and around the world prompted by easily transmissible variants of the virus. **Agencies**

US, Cuba 'to hold high-level migration talks in Washington'

WASHINGTON

AMERICAN and Cuban officials are due to meet in Washington on Thursday to discuss migration concerns, people familiar with the matter said, in the highest-level formal US talks with Havana since President Joe Biden took office last year.

The meeting comes at a time when Biden's administration is grappling with rising numbers of migrants attempting to cross the US border from Mexico, with Cubans making up a growing portion of them.

Tensions between Washington and Havana over the Cuban government's crackdown on protests, continuing American sanctions on the Communist-ruled island and other issues have made it difficult for the countries to cooperate on challenges such as irregular migration.

Leading the Cuban delegation will be Deputy Foreign Minister Carlos Fernandez de Cossio, two sources said, speaking on condition of anonymity. The delegation is expected to meet with senior officials of the US State Department and other agencies.

The United States wants Cuba to take back more deportees from among the record numbers of Cubans arriving at the US-Mexican



A US flag is seen in a street of Havana, Cuba on Jan 17, 2019. AFP

border, according to a US official and another source, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The Cuban government has not accepted deportation flights carrying Cubans from the United States for more than six months, a US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) spokesperson said. As of March 26, there were about 40,000 Cubans in the United States with a final deportation order from an immigration judge, according to the spokesperson.

Cuba has said it supports legal, orderly and safe migration. It blames the United States for the uptick in irregular migration, saying Cold War-era sanctions and a decision to close the American consular section in Havana encourage Cubans to seek riskier routes off the island.

The State Department last month said it would again begin processing some visas for Cubans in Havana to start reducing the backlog after a four-year hiatus, but progress has been slow.

'Significant increase'

"We have seen a significant increase in irregular Cuban migrants to the United States, both via land and maritime routes," a State Department spokesperson said.

The spokesperson, who asked not to be named, declined to confirm the planned meeting but said "we regularly engage with Cuban officials on issues of importance to the US government, such as human rights and migration."

Thursday's planned talks appear to be at a higher level than known formal contacts since Biden took

office in January 2021.

The Cuban government did not immediately respond to questions seeking comment.

The talks are scheduled to be held just a day after US Secretary of State Antony Blinken and regional counterparts are due to wrap up a conference on migration in Panama. Cuba is not due to attend that conference.

A record number of migrants attempted to cross the US-Mexican border during Biden's first year in office. American officials are preparing for even higher numbers this year.

Amid Cuba's faltering economy, after Nicaragua lifted visa requirements for Cubans in November, many dropped everything, sold their homes and took a flight for Managua, with hopes of joining the mainland "migrant highway" north through Central America to the United States.

Nicaragua, a close regional ally of Cuba, said the move was intended to promote commercial exchange, tourism and humanitarian family relations.

Initial fervor has been followed by frustration as the United States has undertaken a regional effort to curb border crossings.

US border authorities apprehended more than 32,000 Cubans at the US-Mexico border in

March, roughly double the 16,500 caught in February, then the highest single-month total on record, according to US Customs and Border Protection data.

Even as the United States and Cuba prepare to re-engage on migration, Biden administration officials are mindful that any easing of restrictions on Cuba could lead to political fallout from conservative Cuban Americans, a key voting bloc in south Florida.

Former president Donald Trump rolled back a historic rapprochement that his predecessor Barack Obama oversaw between the United States and its old Cold War foe.

Biden, who served as Obama's vice-president, promised during the 2020 US election campaign against Trump to re-engage with Cuba, and many in both countries expected he would reverse some Trump-era restrictions. Biden instead imposed fresh sanctions on Cuban officials in response to Havana's crackdown on protesters following widespread marches on the island last July.

Thousands of people took to the streets of Cuban cities, voicing anger over shortages of basic goods, curbs on civil liberties and the handling of the COVID-19 pandemic by authorities. Some called for political change.

Experts warn COVID-19 pandemic not yet over

BEIJING

IN a statement released Wednesday, the World Health Organization (WHO) announced the COVID-19 pandemic remains a "public health emergency of international concern," a day before WHO statistics showed the global caseload passed the 500-million threshold.

Under such circumstances, some nations have chosen to lift their restrictions due to gloomy economic outlooks, insufficient policy implementation and general fatigue in fighting the virus.

Experts have raised the alarm that the pandemic is far from ending, as humans have yet to completely solve the COVID-19 maze.

Since last November when the Omicron strain was first found, the world's caseload almost doubled in less than six months, with more than 1 million deaths -- roughly equivalent to the population of a medium-sized city.

This partly explained why the WHO said in the statement that the COVID-19 virus "is continuing to cause high levels of morbidity and mortality, particularly among vulnerable human populations."

In the United States, about 80 million cases have been registered and the national death toll is close to one million. India and Brazil follow behind, with confirmed cases exceeding 43 million and 30 million, respectively, according to data from the WHO.

Though recent updates indicate a decreasing trend in new cases and deaths, over 7 million cases and 22,000 deaths were reported during the week of April 4-10, causing unbearable losses to numerous families.

These trends should be interpreted with caution, the WHO particularly reminded, as several countries are adjusting their testing strategies, which has resulted in lower numbers of tests performed and cases detected.

Despite a reduction in severity, the WHO

pointed out, the massive increases in Omicron-infected cases have led to a large number of hospitalizations and greater pressure on healthcare systems.

In some countries, there are similar or even higher numbers of deaths when compared to previous peaks, it added.

For countries worldwide, a shared goal is to contain the COVID-19 spread and reduce its threats to humans. But after rounds of efforts without coming by a workable solution, some have decided to drop their restrictions, including those on travel, socializing, mask-wearing, testing and vaccination. COVID-19 cases and deaths, as a result, ticked up once again.

Anthony Fauci, the top American infectious disease expert, has recently said that he expects "an uptick in cases" over the next few weeks due to the Omicron subvariant BA.2 in the United States, where states and cities have moved to lift restrictions, and that

the subvariant is about 50-60 percent more transmissible than the first Omicron strain.

The United States is now averaging about 30,000 new cases, 500 deaths and 1,400 hospitalizations every day, according to the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Encouragingly, vaccination rates in some parts of the world keep rising and a downward trend has been observed in new infections and deaths. However, it may not yet be time to get too optimistic.

As WHO Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus noted in a recent speech, transmission remains very high, vaccination coverage remains very low in too many countries, and the relaxation of many public health and social measures is allowing continued transmission, with the risk of new variants emerging.

"We are pleased to see a downward trend, but the pandemic is still far from over," he stressed. **Xinhua**

Residents urged to shelter after chemical leak in US Louisiana

HOUSTON

RESIDENTS living in the Plaquemine area of southern state Louisiana were urged to shelter in place after a release of chlorine caused by a local chemical plant fire on Monday night.

Iberville Parish Sheriff Brett Stassi said the fire and chlorine leak took place at Olin Chemical, a third-party company that works at the site of the Dow Chemical Plant.

"We've set off the sirens and we've got several roads closed," Stassi said.

The fire broke out at 8:40 pm local time (0140 GMT on Tuesday) and was extinguished by 9:30 pm local time (0230 GMT), but the crew were still working to contain the chlorine spill, the sheriff said.

Parish President Mitch Ourso said the smell of chlorine was being reported in the air several miles from the facility. Authorities are asking residents living south and east of the plant to go inside, turn off air conditioners and close all doors and windows immediately.

However, the sheriff said no evacuations were being ordered since chlorine levels outside of the plant were not dangerously high.

So far there have been no reported injuries inside or outside the plant.

"A chlorine release has occurred within Olin's facility in Plaquemine ... A shelter in place has been implemented and local roads have been temporarily closed," said a statement from Olin Corporation.

"Site emergency response was immediately engaged and we are working to stop the release. Employees at the facility took immediate safety precautions while the team began working to address the situation," it said.

Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality spokesman Greg Langley said inspectors were headed to the scene.

Exposure to chlorine can irritate the eyes, upper respiratory tract and lungs, according to a fact sheet from the Environmental Protection Agency. At higher levels, it can cause chest pains and vomiting. It is extremely irritating to the skin and can cause severe burns with high enough exposure.

In 2016 and in 2017, Olin Corp.'s operations inside the Dow Hydrocarbons complex had three chlorine leaks that injured a contract worker, prompted worker evacuations and road closures though did not pose a risk to the public at the time, said a report from local media outlet The Advocate.

One of the leaks, in December 2016, stemmed from a massive power outage that Entergy, Louisiana's biggest electricity provider, later said was triggered by the burning of sugar cane, while the others in September 2017 were caused after four electrical rectifiers tripped, said the report. **Agencies**

World Bank expects debt crisis to continue to worsen in 2022

WASHINGTON

DUE to high debt and deficit levels, countries are "under severe financial stress," and the debt crisis is expected to "continue to worsen" in 2022, World Bank Group President David Malpass said on Monday.

Noting that debt is one of the two big problems facing global growth, Malpass said at a Spring Meetings media roundtable that 60 percent of low-income countries are already in debt distress or at high risk of it.

Debt crises and currency depreciations have a burden that "falls heavily on the poor," he said. The 2022 Spring Meetings of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank Group are set to take place from Monday.

April 18, through Sunday, April 24. The other big problem for global growth is inflation, which is "causing immense strain," Malpass said, noting that policies need to be adjusted to enhance supply, not just increasing demand.

"Markets are forward looking so it's vital for governments and private sectors to state that supply will increase and that their policies will foster currency stability to bring down inflation and increase growth rates," said Malpass.

Amid the war in Ukraine, the World Bank chief said he is deeply concerned about developing countries, which are facing sudden price increases for energy, fertilizer and food, and the likelihood of interest rate increases.

Against the backdrop of elevated inflation, expected rate hikes, Russia-Ukraine war and slowing growth in China, the World Bank has lowered its projected 2022 global growth rate to 3.2 percent, down from 4.1 percent projected in January, according to Malpass.

The World Bank chief also noted that global trade is still facing quotas, high import tariffs, high export tariffs, expensive food price subsidies, and even export bans on food products. **Xinhua**

Israel downs Gaza rocket, admonishes Jordan amid tension

JERUSALEM

ISRAEL shot down a rocket fired from the Gaza Strip on Monday, the Israeli military said, the first such attack in months as tensions over a flashpoint Jerusalem shrine drew angry pro-Palestinian rhetoric from Jordan and US mediation efforts.

No Gaza faction claimed responsibility for the launch, which followed warnings by the dominant Hamas Islamists of reprisals for Israeli conduct around Jerusalem's Al Aqsa mosque compound.

Within hours, Israeli air strikes hit

camps used by Hamas and another Gaza faction, Palestinian sources said. The military said one target was an arms manufacturing site. No one was hurt.

Since Friday, Al Aqsa - also revered by Jews as a vestige of two ancient temples - has seen confrontations between Palestinian stone-throwers and Israeli riot police recalling violence that helped fan a Gaza war one year ago.

Palestinians accuse Israel of encroaching at Al Aqsa during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan. Israel says Palestinian protesters seek to

disrupt Muslim prayer for political ends and to prevent visits by Jews, who are now celebrating Passover.

The tensions complicate Israel's security ties with Jordan, which is custodian of Al Aqsa and has a Palestinian majority.

Jordan's King Abdullah told UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres that Israel's Al Aqsa policy "seriously undermines" chances of it making peace with the Palestinians, Amman said. Jordan also summoned Israel's acting ambassador for a reprimand.

Escalating the rhetoric, Jordanian Prime Minister Bisher al-Khasawneh

told parliament: "I must laud ... those throwing their stones at all of those Zionists who desecrate Al Aqsa mosque with the protection of the Israeli occupation government."

Several passengers were injured when Israeli buses they were traveling on to Jerusalem's Old City were stoned by Palestinians on Sunday, police said, adding that Al Aqsa protesters have been stockpiling rocks for attacks on Jewish visitors and police.

At least 152 Palestinians and eight police were injured around Al Aqsa during Friday's confrontations,

medics said.

"I view with gravity the statements blaming Israel for the violence that we are being subjected to. Some are encouraging stone-throwing," Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett said in video statement issued after al-Khasawneh's televised remarks.

"This serves as a prize for the inciters, chiefmost Hamas, who are trying to ignite violence here in Jerusalem," he said.

In Washington, the State Department said US officials engaged in phone calls with Israelis, Palestinians and Arab representatives over

the weekend in an effort to prevent an escalation of the Jerusalem tensions. **Agencies**



I view with gravity the statements blaming Israel for the violence that we are being subjected to. Some are encouraging stone-throwing



In this image provided by the Ukrainian Presidential Press Office, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy presents Matti Maasikas, head of the Delegation of the European Union to Ukraine, with the two-volume set of Ukraine's answers to the European Union questionnaire, the first step in his campaign to obtain accelerated EU membership, in Kyiv, Ukraine, April 18, 2022. AP

Zelensky hands over Ukraine's EU membership questionnaire to EU envoy

KIEV

UKRAINE President Volodymyr Zelensky on Monday handed over a questionnaire aimed at achieving his country's candidate status for the European Union (EU) membership to the EU Ambassador to Ukraine Matti Maasikas, the presidential press service said.

"Today is one of the stages for our country in joining the EU, the aspiration that our people are striving for and fighting for," Zelensky said at the handover ceremony in Kyiv.

The people of Ukraine are united by the goal to become a part of the EU, Zelensky stressed, noting that the prompt work on providing a questionnaire to Ukraine is an important signal for Kiev.

"We believe that we will gain support and become a candidate for accession," Zelensky said. For his part, Maasikas said that Ukraine's answers to the questionnaire will be analyzed "very quickly".

Earlier in the day, Ukraine's Deputy Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration Olha Stefanishyna said that Kiev has sent the first part of a questionnaire, which covers political and economic spheres, to the European Commission.

The other part, which assesses the compliance of Ukrainian legislation with the EU laws, will be sent to the European Commission soon, Stefanishyna said. On Feb. 28, Zelensky signed an official appeal to the EU asking for the accession of Ukraine via a new special procedure.

European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen handed over a questionnaire to Zelensky during her visit to Kiev on April 8.

US marine indicted sexual assault of woman in Okinawa

TOKYO

LOCAL prosecutors said yesterday that a 22-year-old US marine was indicted last December over a sexual assault resulting in injury on a woman in Japan's southernmost prefecture of Okinawa.

The latest indictment brings to light a steady slew of sexual and other crimes committed in Okinawa over the years by US military and related personnel.

According to the indictment and investigators, Lance Corporal Jordan Begaye is alleged to have assaulted the woman off base in October. His victim had no known connections with him.

Begaye was indicted on Dec 23 although the public was not notified about the case "due to its nature" and out of respect for the woman's privacy, the prosecutors said.

They also did not make public whether the alleged assailant admitted to the charge or not, according to local accounts.

The police failed to arrest Begaye at the scene of the alleged attack as he had escaped by the time the victim had alerted neighbors saying she needed help and they had called the police, local media said.

In line with the Japan-US Status of Forces Agreement, the US military handed over the alleged assailant to Japanese authorities following the Dec 23 indictment.

Prior to this, the case was investigated with cooperation from the US side, local media said, and the case was referred to prosecutors on Dec 3, with the alleged attacker suspected of indecent assault resulting in injury.

Okinawa hosts the vast majority of Japan's US bases, yet the tiny subtropical island accounts for just a fraction of Japan's landmass.

Instances of violent crimes, including murder and rape by US military-linked personnel along with a near-constant string of US military-related accidents, particularly those involving aircraft, have led to rising anti-US sentiment on the island and vociferous calls from Okinawans for its decades of occupation by US forces to be ended.



A vehicle leaves the US Marine Corps' Camp Hansen, in Kin, Okinawa prefecture, southern Japan, on Jan 5, 2022. File photo

Putin: West's 'economic blitzkrieg' against Russia fails

MOSCOW/KYIV

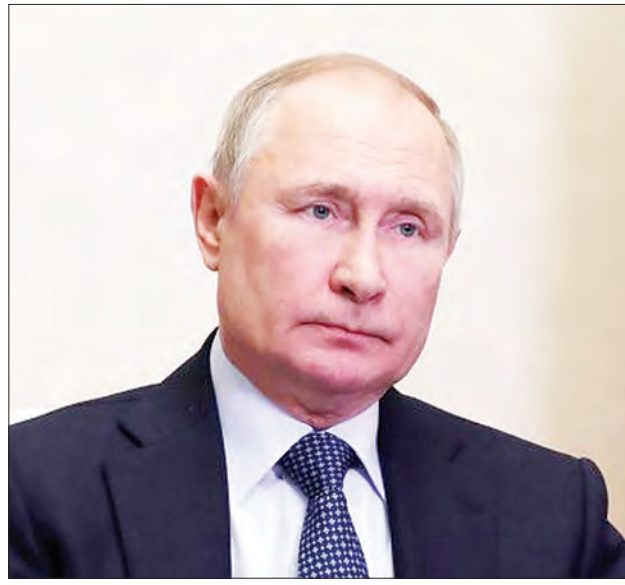
WESTERN countries' "economic blitzkrieg" strategy against Russia has failed, Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Monday.

The main negative factor for the Russian economy in recent years has been Western sanctions, which were aimed at "quickly undermining the financial and economic situation in our country, provoking panic in the markets, destroying the banking system, and causing a large-scale shortage of goods in stores," Putin said at a government meeting on economic issues.

Russia has withstood this "unprecedented pressure" as the ruble's value has returned to the level of the first half of February and the surplus in the current account of the balance of payments reached a record high of more than \$58 billion in the first quarter of this year, he said.

The Russian president however admitted that over the past month and a half, consumer prices in the country have increased by 9.4 percent and inflation surged to 17.5 percent in annual terms as of April 8.

However, the sanctions in turn have hurt the United States and European countries by driving up inflation and unemployment, weakening economic dynamics, reducing living standards, and devaluating savings, Putin added.



Russian President Vladimir Putin

EU receives Ukraine's membership questionnaire
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cedure. European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen handed over a questionnaire to Zelensky during her visit to Kyiv on April 8.

'Foreign weapons destroyed near Lviv'

Russian troops destroyed a depot of weapons supplied by Western countries near west Ukraine's Lviv on Monday morning, Russian Defense Ministry spokesman Igor Konashenkov said.

The Russian Aerospace Forces used high-precision airborne missiles to hit a logistics center of the Ukrainian Armed Forces near Lviv, destroying large consignments of weapons arrived from the United States and European countries over the past six days, Konashenkov told a briefing.

At least seven people were killed and 11 others wounded on Monday morning in missile strikes on Lviv, said Maksym Kozysky, head of the Lviv regional military-civilian administration.

Zelensky: Russian forces start battle for Donbas

Russian forces have begun the battle for the Donbas region, but Ukraine will defend itself, Ukrainian President Zelensky said in a video address on Monday.

"Now we can say that Russian troops have started the battle for Donbas, for which they have been preparing for a long time. A very large part of the entire Russian army is now focused on this offensive," Zelensky was quoted as saying by the state-run Ukrinform news agency.

'No matter how many Russian troops are driven there, we will fight.'

In the east and south of Ukraine, Russian forces have recently been trying to attack more deliberately than before and looking for a weak spots in the country's defense to go there with the main forces, Zelensky said.

The same day, Secretary of Ukraine's National Security and Defense Council Oleksiy Danilov said Russian forces tried to start an active phase of the offensive in eastern Ukraine, the Interfax-Ukraine news agency reported.

On Monday morning, along almost the entire front line in Donetsk, Lugansk and Kharkiv regions, Russian forces attempted to break through Ukrainian defenses, according to Danilov.

Russian forces managed to make advances only in two

small towns, he said, stressing that the Ukrainian military is holding their grounds elsewhere in eastern Ukraine.

Russia expels Bulgarian diplomats

Russia is expelling a number of Bulgarian diplomats in response to the expulsion of 10 Russian diplomats from Sofia last month, the country's foreign ministry said in a statement on Monday.

The ministry summoned the Bulgarian ambassador on Monday and declared some employees of the Bulgarian Embassy in Moscow "personae non grae," it said, without disclosing how many are targeted.

Earlier this month, the Russian Foreign Ministry announced the expulsion of two Bulgarian diplomats in tit-for-tat retaliation.

On March 18, the Bulgarian Foreign Ministry declared 10 Russian diplomats "personae non grae", ordering them to leave within 72 hours due to their "activities incompatible with the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations."

The US and some European countries have taken co-ordinated actions to expel several hundred Russian diplomats since the start of a special military operation in Ukraine. **Agencies**

'They have embraced a new life through hard work'

NICK, a 63-year-old retired police officer from Luxembourg, bent down to harvest forage grass expertly with a sickle in a sea of luxuriant grass in Zhadong village, Hechi city, south China's Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region.

The foreigner came to Guangxi during his tour round the world, and was attracted to Hechi city, the hometown of the legendary folk singer Liu Sanjie (The third sister of the Liu family) by a Chinese movie about her.

Fascinated by the magnificent scenery of the city, he has lived here for 11 years, and feels a particularly strong attachment to Zhadong village in Liusanjie township, Yizhou district of the city.

Since 2018, he has participated in the village's poverty alleviation work for three consecutive years as a volunteer, and seen great changes in the village. He still visits Zhadong village every now and then to talk with villagers and help them with farm work.

"In the past, Zhadong village didn't have access to roads, and local people lived a poor life. Their houses were built with adobe bricks and were sparsely furnished," Nick recalled, explaining that Zhadong was once a poverty-stricken village, with its incidence of poverty reaching as high as 51 percent in 2014.

As a poverty alleviation volunteer at the village, Nick witnessed how it shook off poverty step by step with the concerted efforts of members and officials of the Communist Party of China (CPC), government officials and local people.

He has helped build roads for the village, install trellises and plant seedlings in orchards, and buy mowers and drills for villagers.

"Zhadong village is endowed with a sound ecological environment, which makes it a suitable place for the growth of crops. This is a gift from nature," Nick told People's Daily reporters after passing by farmlands and orchards with vibrant wampee, Musa basjoo, Japanese cinnamon and sugarcane.

Under the leadership of the CPC branch of the village, Zhadong has vigorously developed green industries, encouraged a number of entrepreneurial individuals to start businesses and supported them in helping and leading others out of poverty, and finally blazed a new development path that integrates the collective economy, enterprises, and once-impooverished families, according to Nick.

While renting out over 300 mu (20 hectares) of herbage fields, La-



Nick, a retired police officer from Luxembourg, weeds a strawberry planting base in Zhadong village, Hechi city, south China's Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region.

fan hamlet in Zhadong village has built a farm, enabling residents to secure another source of income by working at the farm besides the rent. Forage grass is the food of cattle, and the feces of cattle could be used to nourish the herbage fields; such a virtuous cycle drives the village's collective economy to continuously grow.

During his interview with People's Daily, Nick showed reporters new changes in the hamlets of Zhadong village in high spirits.

Nick has helped lay the foundations and erect scaffolding during the construction of the farm in Lafan hamlet. And he was delighted to find that Qin Muxiao, who works on the farm, now earns over 5,000 yuan (\$785) per month.

When Mo Ziji, a resident in Shangdong hamlet of Zhadong village, started to build his new house, Nick helped carry cement and bricks. Now the construction of the bright new house with a floor area of 80 square meters has been finished.

Nick and officials of Zhadong village have secured financial support from government departments of Yizhou district for Zhadong village for the construction of its basketball court. Now the newly built basketball court is filled with the laughter of children.

Nick owns a copy of the English version of the book "Xi Jinping: The Governance of China". He has read it for many

times, and is impressed by a quote from Chinese President Xi Jinping in the book: "Leave to our future generations a sound working and living environment with a blue sky, green land and clear water".

"It is crucial to avoid damage to the environment when pursuing development. China's endeavors to promote ecological progress are remarkable," Nick said.

Today, all hamlets in Zhadong village are connected to roads, and every household in the village has access to electricity, clean and safe drinking water, and the Internet. As local farm produce is transported to other regions more easily, villagers have earned more money, and many have built new houses.

"They have embraced a new life through hard work," said Nick, who considers it a miracle that Zhadong has witnessed radical changes in merely four years. "The CPC's practice in leading the Chinese people out of poverty toward prosperity is admirable."

He hopes more skilled young people will return to Zhadong village and play a part in its construction, Nick said, adding that he will continue contributing to the development of the village.

"When I see villagers smile happily because their life gets better, I felt like a beam of sunlight shines right into my heart," he said.

People's Daily

'Pandas' arrival, a symbol of new start in US-China relations'

WASHINGTON

GIANT pandas, which first came to the United States 50 years ago, are "a symbol of a new start in US-China relations," retired US career diplomat Chas Freeman has recently told Xinhua during a virtual interview.

Freeman, whose interview with Xinhua came amid the Smithsonian's National Zoo's celebration of 50 years of collaboration with China in conserving giant pandas, was director for Chinese Affairs at the US Department of State from 1979 and 1981 before becoming deputy chief of mission and charge d'affaires of the US embassy in China.

He was Richard Nixon's principal interpreter during the 37th US president's groundbreaking visit to China in February 1972, and was assigned by the State Department to serve as an escort officer for the Chinese delegation that brought a couple of giant pandas to Washington, D.C. two months after the historic visit.

"I remember it very well. I went to Dulles Airport to meet the pandas and a delegation - I think there were four people," Freeman said. "We took them into the zoo, the National Zoo. There was a beautifully prepared case that had been made for the pandas, green color, as I recall, very nicely done up."

On April 20, 1972, first lady Patricia Nixon officially accepted female Ling-Ling and male Hsing-Hsing at the Smithsonian's National Zoo in northwest Washington, D.C., which were gifted by China to the American people as a gesture of goodwill. Freeman interpreted for her at the acceptance ceremony, in which she confidently predicted a "panda-monium" at the zoo.

"This became quite an event not because of Mrs. Nixon's presence but because of the pandas which were a great novelty. Everyone who sees pandas reacts the same way. They are cute. They are lovable. They don't seem at all dangerous. You probably want to hug them and they were very exotic," he recounted. "And that was a symbol of a new start in US-China relations."

The public debut of Ling-Ling and Hsing-Hsing alone drew 20,000 visitors. The following Sunday, 75,000 people thronged the zoo and waited in a line to catch a glimpse of them. "People were thrilled and the

National Zoo immediately became a much greater focus of attention than it had been," Freeman added.

After the giant panda pair settled in at the zoo, the young American diplomat accompanied the Chinese delegation to New York City, where they visited the Bronx Zoo - which "was a model of some kinds of new habitat formation for animals" - and a research facility in Manhattan.

"I remember this because I was interpreting throughout and of course, I didn't know the names of these strange animals and fish that we saw. I had to make up names....a lot of them didn't exist in China," Freeman said, adding that his "most treasured memory of that moment probably was interacting with the Chinese delegation."

"That was a moment when very few Americans had had contact with Chinese officials or Chinese officials with Americans. I was impressed by the people from the Beijing Zoological Garden. I learned a lot about pandas. I didn't know anything about them before," he noted.

On current China-US relations, Freeman said, "there are many things we cannot accomplish without the help of the other or at least working alongside it."

"In diplomacy, sometimes you cannot cooperate directly but you may be able to coordinate activities and work in parallel side by side. This is where we are and we have difficulty working together but we can still work in parallel," Freeman explained.

"The pandas I think will remain as a symbol of the possibility of a renewed, positive relationship in the future as we rediscover the costs of separating from each other and the need to get together again," he said.

He suggested the two sides "restore the basis for a respectful dialogue, which can then take up the concrete ways of improving the relationship to mutual advantage that we should take up."





Tanzania's Simba SC players (L-R) Mohamed Hussein, Shomari Kapombe, and Pape Ousmane Sakho celebrate after Kapombe had scored against South Africa's Orlando Pirates when the clubs met in this season's CAF Confederation Cup last night's first leg clash which took place in Dar es Salaam on Sunday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

Simba SC focused on winning CAF CC quarterfinal second leg

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

SIMBA SC Board of Directors member Mulamu Ngh'ambi has said they have concentrated on seeing to it they fight to enable their team to qualify for this season's CAF Confederation Cup semi-finals.

The official was adamant Simba has as a result briefly suspended its focus on an NBC Premier League match against age-old rival, Yanga, scheduled for April 30 at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Simba SC faces the daunting task of coming out victorious in its second leg match of the last eight of CAF Confederation Cup against Orlando Pirates of South Africa Africa slated for April 24 at Orlando Stadium in Johannesburg.

Mulamu said at the moment Simba SC cannot give priority to the game against Yanga, due to the huge task ahead of them to ensure they fight and get good results in the continental showdown's last eight return leg.

"We cannot imagine a game ahead of the next, we are determined to make sure our goal is to oust our opponents and qualify for the next stage," Mulamu disclosed.

"After that, we will now look at what lies ahead of us and it is a preparation for our league fixture, we settled for a draw in the first phase clash."

Simba SC cruised to a 1-0 victory over Orlando Pirates in the first leg of the knockout round of the CAF Confederation Cup at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam last weekend.

It will have to either defend the 1-0 victory by notching a draw or seek

another victory in the second leg in South Africa on April 24, to secure a ticket to the semi-final.

Orlando Pirates will have to look for a two-goal victory whilst avoiding conceding a goal to secure a place in the semi-final.

In another development, Yanga's central defender Bakari Nondo Mwamnyeto's manager, Kassa Mussa, has revealed that Simba SC officials are looking forward to securing the footballer's signature at the end of this season.

Mwamnyeto is linked with a move to Simba SC following his contract with Yanga being on the verge of concluding at the end of this season.

Mussa, former Coastal Union forward, conceded Simba SC officials are contacting his client, who currently has a serious responsibility of helping Yanga end its trophy drought by winning this season's NBC Premier League trophy.

"Simba SC officials are very determined, they have come with a big offer, their offer is so big that we have decided to consider it," Mussa noted.

Mussa moreover said he had received more than one offer for his player, with one of those offers coming from a Greek club he did not want to mention.

The manager noted: "Apart from Simba's, Mwamnyeto has a lot of offers, there are about three to four offers, there is a Greek club, an outfit in Malta, and another one we are still talking to."

Mwamnyeto was signed by Yanga from Coastal Union at the start of last season, he is currently perceived as one of the competent defenders in the NBC Premier League.

Why CECAFA region's players struggle to garner success in Europe soccer leagues?

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

THERE has been a long-standing cry over the shortage of players from East Africa playing football in Europe, a situation which would help the growth of the game in the region which is, in football, under the Council of East and Central Africa Football Associations (CECAFA).

Despite the presence of plenty of talented footballers in East Africa, the region still trails its North and West African counterparts when it comes to finding a breakthrough into major European soccer leagues.

So many factors account for this problem, ranging from historical, technical, social, and economic to individual players.

Most African soccer players, particularly East Africans, come from a poverty-stricken backgrounds, ghettos, malnutrition, sharing a bedroom and mattress with siblings, to playing barefoot football.

The continent lacks sufficient and well-equipped football academies which are effective channels for players' development and advancement.

Despite being talented and having an urge to excel, their career path in professional football has been marred by social, economic, and technical challenges.

Even those who excelled, their careers along the way, were erratic and fortuitous, due to plights out of their control.

For instance, 12 of 23 players in France's 2018 World Cup-winning squad originate from Africa particularly Cameroon, Guinea, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Morocco, Angola, Mali, Algeria, and Senegal.

None of the East African countries has ever qualified for either the Olympics or World Cup tournament.

The East African region, however, made a great leap forward in the 2019 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) that was held in Cairo, Egypt.

The region was, for the first time in history, represented by four member states Uganda, Kenya, Tanzania, and Burundi.

Their qualifications made fans crazy, rumbling all over. It was a moment of glory everywhere in the region.

The success of the West African and North African regions is partly thanks to colonial ties that created networks and social rapport between them and their former colonizers.

Football clubs in France, Portugal, and Belgium started to recruit players from Africa, who were regarded as cheaper and energetic, and launch transfer networks, as early as the 1940s.

Nevertheless, the situation is contrary to German and British colonies namely Kenya, Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda, Zanzibar, and Tanganyika (now Tanzania).

Specifically, the British deployed a protectionist approach that discouraged the entry of talents from their colonies. (Nigeria and Ghana, two of the former British colonies, were exceptions in this case).

Colonial legacy

In 1995, the European Court of Justice decreed the free movement of payers, alias Bosman ruling, within the European Union.

Kudos to Belgian midfielder Jean-Marc Bosman for a historic and well-fought battle that changed the face of football!

The ruling facilitated big moves for one of the biggest professionals in football in Edgar Davids (Ajax FC to AC Milan, 1996), Patrick Kluijvert (Ajax FC to AC Milan, 1997), Brian Laudrup (Rangers to Chelsea, 1998), and Steve McManaman (Liverpool FC to Real Madrid, 1999) among many others.

Specifically, for Africa, the ruling was attributed to increased players of African origin in Europe.

However, due to existing networks



Tanzania's attacker, Mbwana Samatta, who features for Belgian First Division A club Royal Antwerp, is one of the footballers from the East African region that are plying their trade in Europe.

and language proficiency all emanating from colonial legacy, players from West African countries, predominantly French, Portugal, and Belgium, enjoyed this competitive advantage compared to their counterparts, particularly East African countries.

The points-based system, which favours professional players from countries ranking in the top 10 in the Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) world rankings, also hurts players from the East African region, whose countries are forced to earn their points through other set criteria which are very stringent.

These include several appearances in international club competitions, transfer fees paid, earning a 'qualifying wage,' a higher-than-average wage that shows the player is of significant value.

Mbwana Samatta, Tanzania skipper now playing for Fenerbahçe S.K on loan to Belgian First Division A club, Royal Antwerp, endured all these encounters on his way to England's Aston Villa in January 2020.

If the point-based system fails, the FA exceptions panel can review and grant a working permit to players from the so-called low ranked countries in FIFA world rankings, through Governing Body Endorsement (GBE).

However, in the year 2010, the Kenya international midfielder, McDonald Mariga, failed to seal his move from Italy's Parma to Manchester City through Governing Body Endorsement.

By that time, Mariga had 24 caps for Kenya and played in at least 75 percent of his games over the past two years. His country's, lowly FIFA world ranking of 98 failed him.

Twisting the knife in the wound, BREXIT will negatively impact English clubs, especially ones that operate with a youth

transfer policy, like Manchester United and Manchester City.

The major changes in the United Kingdom football laws and regulations from the first day of January 2021 onwards include the prevention of clubs from signing overseas players under the age of 18 and clubs being restricted to three overseas signings under the age of 21 in the January transfer window and only six per season.

Further, the laws show that any foreign signing even those above 21 years will be obliged to pass the threshold, on a point-based system decided by a Governing Body Endorsement (GBE) panel.

These regulations will adversely impact every non-UK football player, however, pondering the status quo, the East African players will be severely hit.

Mentality issues

Another factor has to do with what the West Africans are famously known for, their 'Billy-No-Mates' mentality.

They have a unique fighting, aggressive and never-say-die approach to all walks of life.

They always dare to do, come short, again and again, striving valiantly with great devotions until they make it.

Those are stunts instilled in their minds. The path to success in Europe has never been easy with the prevalence of racial abuse often by fans, other players, and coaching staff and violent attacks on the pitch or outside.

Once Jose Mourinho praised West African players saying: "They want to win all the time. You can see that in their tenaciousness and fighting spirit. These breed of players (Essien, Drogba, and Eto'o, etc.) could give you the extra touch, you can rely on them to win each time."

These very same mentalities expounded earlier coupled with effective structures and

investment in football academies made Nigeria and Ghana, despite being the former British colonies, shine.

Unfortunately, these mentalities, which are the bedrock to embarking on promising careers in European football, do not abound in most East African players.

Their upbringing and minds are engulfed by the fear of failure, lack of courage, and timidity.

Most of the East African players fail to cope with loneliness and social isolation in Europe.

Worse enough, a big chunky of them fails prematurely during the trial.

For many, alternatively, the dream is to play for their local clubs commonly Simba Sports Club (Tanzania), Yanga (Tanzania), AFC Leopards (Kenya), Azam FC (Tanzania), Gor Mahia (Kenya), SC Villa (Uganda) and URA FC (Uganda) to mention but a few.

While there are diverse whysandwherefores for West African players to triumph in major European leagues compared to East Africans, however, aggressiveness, perseverance, and resilience assume control.

As William Camden says: "If wishes were horses even beggars would ride." That glitz and glamour in Samuel Eto'o, Sadio Mané, Obi Mikel, Michael Essien, Nwankwo Kanu, and Yaya Touré were in the first place marred by poverty, dust, sweat, disappointments, and hate.

No wonder Samuel Eto'o loves Bongo Flava artist, Nassib Abdul, alias 'Diamond Platnumz', the artist's poverty-stricken background has never deterred him from seeking the good life.

For instance, in Tanzania, there are promising prospects in the likes of Ally Hamis Ng'anzi (Loudon United, USA) and Yohana Mkomola (Inhulets Petrove, Ukraine).

One of the greatest managers in the game, Sir Alex Ferguson, once said: "Origins should never be a barrier to success."

A modest start in life can be a help more than a hindrance. Our greatest grandeur is not in never falling, but in rising every time we fall.

Those few who have made it, namely Mbwana Samatta, Victor Wanyama, and McDonald Mariga should, in partnership with government authorities, create synergies to establish well-equipped football academies for nurturing the upcoming talents from the East African region.

Samatta, Wanyama and Mariga did it, why not others? Let us keep daring greatly, the future is very promising.

Morogoro youths applaud hotel for backing swimming promotion

By Correspondent Michael Sikapundwa, Morogoro

OVER 100 youths from local communities and public and private schools in Morogoro have appreciated the management of Morena Hotel, a five-star hotel located beside the Msamvu bus terminal, for supporting the promotion of swimming talent.

The hotel has a modern swimming pool and it charges 5000/- per child and 10,000/- each for youths, who have taken up swimming, for them to make use of the facility.

The Guardian interviewed some children from local communities whose ambition is to get more training to efficiently participate in a swimming gala that is hosted by Morogoro International School (MIS) annually.

Christian Mazengo, a standard six pupil from one of Morogoro public primary

schools, said the hotel is accessible as it is located near the Msamvu roundabout that links over five regional corridors.

The youngster pointed out the situation has assured them to easily access transport services at any time after swimming training compared to reaching remote swimming pools.

"I'm from a local family but my parents can afford swimming charges because they know that is a meager amount compared to what I'm going to earn at the coming tournament... besides the sport is an employment," he disclosed.

Morena Hotel Marketing Manager, Janeth Walwa, said the hotel provides affordable services to promote youths' participation in swimming.

Janeth disclosed the hotel is eager to empower youths' talents, stating the swimming pool has been well designed.

She revealed: "Kids are advised to swim at shallow space with 0.5 me-

ters for the first time, they will then continue to the 1.3 meters in case there's an improvement."

"Besides the pool has a special area for controlling overheating during sunshine, that's special for people who don't like to swim but get cool weather from water flows," she said.

She said the hotel invites children and guests from other regions and neighbouring countries who come to the region for sports tournaments.

According to Janeth, the hotel has living rooms whose charges differ depending on

their quality.

"A standard single room costs 75,000/-, followed by deluxe costing 90,000/-, and supreme that costs 160,000/-."

"We moreover have super deluxe costing 200,000/-, executive which costs 250,000/- and suit which will cost a person 350,000/-, it is accompanied by free wedding halls."

"We further provide conference room packages, each is charged 55,000/- to 45,000/- that include breakfast, lunch, and conference facilities," Janeth noted.



Morogoro's Morena Hotel Marketing Manager, Janeth Walwa, presents information on a shallow swimming space measuring 0.5 meters used by children at the hotel in the region last week. The hotel has a modern swimming pool which, according to Janeth, is open to the region's youths wishing to take up swimming. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT MICHAEL SIKAPUNDWA

Incredible Inaki! Williams hasn't missed a LaLiga game for Athletic Club for SIX years

MADRID

INAKI Williams passed an incredible appearance milestone for Athletic Club this past weekend after being named in the starting XI for Sunday's LaLiga game against Celta Vigo.

With his place on the teamsheet confirmed for the fixture, the winger officially passed the six-year mark since he last missed a league match for Los Leones, and he extended his own Spanish top-flight record of consecutive games to 224.

That's a full 2,191 days without skipping a single LaLiga game through injury, suspension or non-selection -- a phenomenal achievement for any player, but especially for an attacker.

Unfortunately he was unable to crown his momentous appearance with a victory to fit as his team fell to a 2-0 home defeat to Celta at San Mames which included a ridiculous long-range strike from Fran Beltran.

Williams has been the proud owner of the record for consecutive appearances made in LaLiga since he registered No. 203 in October, having started his Herculean run on April 20, 2016 with a 1-0 defeat against Atletico Madrid.

His achievement is made all the more noteworthy by the fact that he's still only 27 years old, meaning he hasn't missed a single league game for Bilbao since he turned 21 during his first full season as part of the first-team squad at the Basque club.

To put that in perspective, at that point in time Kylian Mbappe had just one senior career goal to his name, a 15-year-old Erling Haaland was still awaiting his first-team debut at hometown club Bryne and VAR was just a twinkle in the eye of the International Football Association Board.

In starting the 1-0 win over Alaves on Oct. 1 last year, Williams officially surpassed the previous LaLiga record for consecutive appearances (202 games) which had been held by former Real Sociedad defender Juan Larranaga since 1992.

The Bilbao star is in an exclusive club of successive-appearance record-holders in Europe's top leagues, though the winger is largely rubbing shoulders with goalkeepers who played into their late 30s and beyond.

For instance, the Premier League record is held by former United States international Brad Friedel who went 310 straight games without missing a single league fixture, smashing the previous record (166 games) along the way before bringing his epic run to an end at the age of 41 by starting for Tottenham Hotspur against Manchester United in September 2012.

Likewise, the Bundesliga record is held by a goalkeeper, namely Sepp Maier. The Bayern Munich legend played 442 league games on the bounce between the 1966-67 and 1978-79 seasons, and he played in every single game in all 13 of those campaigns.

The Serie A record for consecutive appearances is held by the great Dino Zoff, who tended the nets for Juventus 332 times between 1972 and 1983.

(Agencies)

Wayne Rooney's Derby relegated to 3rd tier of English soccer

LONDON

DERBY County, managed by England and Manchester United great Wayne Rooney, was relegated to the third tier of English soccer on Monday to cap a miserable season that also saw the club docked 21 points for breaches of financial rules.

A 1-0 loss at Queens Park Rangers left Derby 10 points from safety with three games remaining in the second-tier Championship.

Derby has been in administration -- a form of bankruptcy protection -- since September, with the debt-laden club's sale to a new owner yet to be finalized.

It received two separate points deductions of 12 and then nine, because of accounting breaches under previous owner Mel Morris, at the start of the season.

"We know we'd be safe without the penalties we've had," said Rooney, who has been Derby's manager since November 2020, having previously been player-coach at the team from central England. "This is where we've been left by the previous owner and we've been trying to pick up the pieces from that and trying to pull off something really special. We've got close and haven't managed to do it.

"I'm sure Mr. Morris watched the game at home. He'll be disappointed himself, because we've tried to fix the mess he's left us in as best we can."

Derby's joint administrators have named Chris Kirchner, an American software entrepreneur, as the preferred bidder for the club and entered a period of exclusivity aimed at ending a protracted takeover process.

Rooney has emphasized the importance of a deal being completed, and soon.

"It has to happen quickly," he said. "I'm not stupid. I know Premier League teams and top clubs in the Championship are looking at some of our players. I need to be able to give them something, to offer them something to stay."

"We've really got a good foundation. The foundations are there of a really good team. I need to be able to add to that squad. I know what players I want to bring in in League One and I need to be able to get that moving quick to make sure we have the best chance of coming straight back up."

AP

'Annoyed' Xavi blasts 'really bad week' for Barca

BARCELONA

BARCELONA coach Xavi Hernandez was annoyed with his team's lack of determination as their slim LaLiga title hopes were shattered on Monday with a 1-0 defeat to Cadiz at Camp Nou.

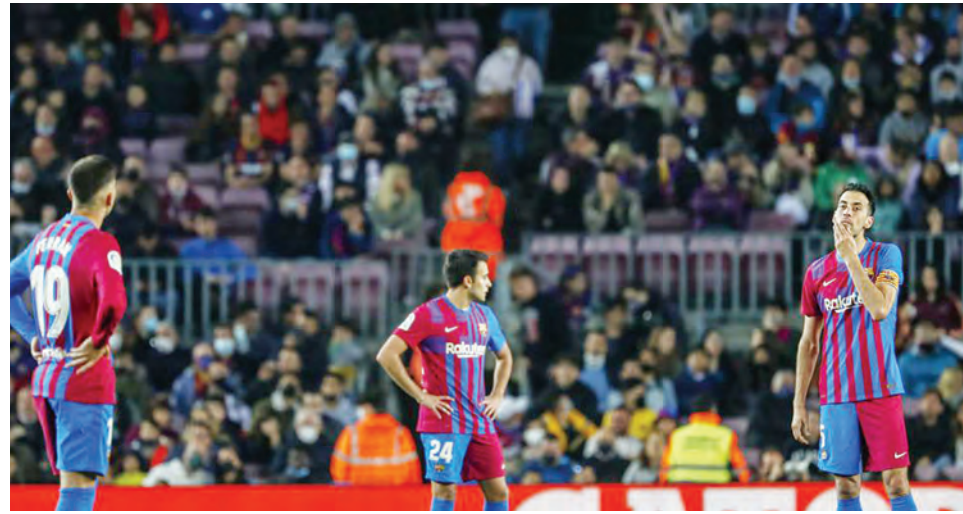
Lucas Perez scored the only goal of the game after 48 minutes to silence the home crowd and leave Barca 15 points behind leaders Real Madrid, who came from behind to win at Sevilla on Sunday, with just seven games left to play.

Xavi said he was angry with the nature of the Cadiz loss and his players are "pissed off" following a second defeat at Camp Nou in the space of four days after being knocked out of the Europa League by Eintracht Frankfurt on Thursday.

"We are angry, the players first, because we missed a golden chance to separate ourselves from those in the fight for the Champions League places and also to [keep] fighting for LaLiga, which we've practically said goodbye to now," Xavi conceded in a news conference.

"I am annoyed and we have to be self-critical, myself first, as the coach. We're playing to be in the Champions League, that's why I am so angry. There was a lack of desire and determination. It's been a really bad week and we have to turn things around as soon as possible.

"The players are pissed off. I've tried to encourage them after the match, but



Barcelona players react after Cadiz scored their opening goal during a Spanish La Liga soccer match between FC Barcelona and Cadiz at the Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona, Spain, Monday, April 18, 2022. (AP Photo)

we must compete better. We have to look at what we have done wrong in defence and attack. On Thursday we have another final against Real Sociedad."

Monday's defeat ended Barca's run of seven straight wins in LaLiga and 15 unbeaten in the Spanish top flight. It was just their second loss in the league under Xavi, who has steered the team from ninth to second since replacing Ronald Koeman earlier this season.

"We're not in a bad situation," the coach added. "Things have improved since we took over in November, but we have to keep improving.

"We have to look ourselves in the eye and have more desire because we cannot lose at home to Cadiz. This is Barca and we have to do more. We have improved, but we wanted to do more and fight for trophies."

The top four teams in Spain qualify for the Cham-

pions League and Barca are currently second, level on 60 points with Sevilla and Atletico Madrid, albeit with a game in hand. Below them, Real Betis have 57 points and Real Sociedad 55.

"To qualify for the Champions League next season, which is our main objective, we have to improve and play with more impetus," Xavi said. "We have seven finals left and we have to grit our teeth because there is a lot at stake. It is not an attitude [problem], the players want it. It is a question of faith and of giving everything to take advantage of an opening. Cadiz defended as if it was their last-ever game for the whole match and we have to equal that."

Monday's game was played in a strange atmosphere at Camp Nou. After around 30,000 Frankfurt fans gained entry to the home end on Thursday, prompting the club to change their ticket policy,

some fans decided to stay away in protest.

The singing section behind one of the goals was left empty, with the supporters' group in charge of the section explaining ahead of the match they were boycotting because they felt "humiliated" at feeling like an away side in their own stadium against the German side.

Other fans, meanwhile, protested outside Camp Nou before the game. Around 100 supporters gathered to chant against president Joan Laporta and call for his resignation.

Meanwhile, Gerard Pique has denied any wrongdoing after audio recordings stolen from the Spanish football federation by hackers revealed the Barcelona defender helped to negotiate a €24 million (\$25.9 m) commission to take the Spanish Super Cup to Saudi Arabia.

The federation changed the format of the Super Cup in 2020, creating a

"Final Four" and moving the competition to Saudi Arabia as part of a deal that was reportedly worth €40m per tournament for the federation.

"I have nothing to hide, everything we have done is legal," Pique said during a stream on his Twitch channel on Monday. "I will give my side of the story in terms of the conflict of interest. It's not something I will hide from, I feel proud because we have done a spectacular job."

Pique's Kosmos group will be paid €4m per tournament by the Saudi organisers for negotiating the six-year agreement, according to El Confidencial newspaper, which released the audios on Monday.

Pique said in the audio recordings that the money would be divided between the clubs, and the federation would keep about €6m. The federation told El Confidencial there was nothing illegal in what was said in the audios or in the negotiations, and the details of the deal had already been released.

Pique had a similar message following the release of the audio.

"[The audio was] leaked with bad intentions and making news of something which two years ago was not news," he said. "The only illegal thing is leaking the audios."

When the agreement was first announced, federation president Luis Rubiales said they would not pay any commission to Pique.

The federation received a lot of criticism from human rights groups at the

time for its decision to play in Saudi Arabia.

"We [Kosmos] have good links with the Middle East, not just in Saudi Arabia," Pique said. "They wanted to take football competitions there and, seeing the panoramic, we opted to speak with Rubiales to see if he could be interested in taking the Supercopa there. He liked the idea. And now people are super hooked on the [new format] of the competition. Once accepted, we signed a mandate to explore options. Saudi Arabia wasn't the only one, we spoke with Miami, (the RFEF) had an offer from Qatar."

The Super Cup had to be played in Spain again in 2021 because of the coronavirus pandemic. The release of the audio recordings came a few days after the federation said it was targeted by hackers who also stole emails, text messages and documents involving its top officials.

The federation said it believed the information was offered anonymously to media outlets in Spain. It said it asked authorities to investigate.

Also, Rubiales is accused of making some derogatory remarks about Atletico Madrid in some of the audios.

"[The] Atletico comment is a pub joke taken out of context," Pique said. "We said it because I think Rubiales is a Madrid fan. Honestly, leaking the audios is illegal. Everyone would feel violated if their audios were leaked."

(Agencies)

Coach head-butting referee, fans threatening players -- Can Brazilian football stop a troubling trend?

By Tim Vickery, ESPN South America correspondent

THE match in Brazil on April 10 between Desportivo Ferroviaria and Nova Venecia was not supposed to be a major national event. It was in the quarterfinals of the championship of the state of Espirito Santo, not seen as one of the hotbeds of the Brazilian game.

But, thankfully, the game was sufficiently important to count on the presence of TV cameras. Because what happened at halftime ended up being seen all over the world. Ferroviaria coach Rafael Soriano was outraged by the officiating. He stormed onto the field to remonstrate with the referee and his assistants. Tempers flared with Marcielly Netto, a female assistant, and Soriano clearly gave her a head-butt. It was an outrageous display of aggression -- which Soriano immediately denied. If he was accused of a head-butt, he raged, the matter should be discussed to the police. He threatened to sue Netto, adding that she was trying to take advantage of being a woman, and other such incoherent nonsense. But there was no arguing with the TV images. Ferroviaria sacked him, and he faces a long suspension.

Soriano apologised for his actions. But the question remains; how could he have engaged in such delinquency? Football is a game of emotions -- in the wise words of sociologist Rogan Taylor, it is like strong beer -- some people just can't take it.



Corinthians keeper Cassio and his wife received death threats on social media. (Agencies)

But what is -- or should be -- of concern to the Brazilian game, is that this lamentable incident can be seen as part of a wider pattern of uncontrolled anger.

A few days before the incident involving Soriano, football did in fact become a police matter when Corinthians goalkeeper Cassio made a formal complaint about death threats he and his wife had received on social media. Cassio is a Corinthians legend. He was man of the match nearly 10 years ago when the club beat Chelsea to become Club World Cup champions. But even that did not save him from the ire of some supporters who are disappointed by recent results. A police investigation managed to identify the perpetrators -- a sad collection of keyboard warriors giving vent to their dissatisfaction.

But when the threats go beyond the keyboard? Bahia goalkeeper Danilo Fernandes counts himself

lucky to be alive after an incident at the end of February. He was in the team bus, on the way to a game, when the bus was attacked by some of the club's own fans, outraged by recent results. A snooker ball full of gunpowder was thrown into a bus with some 40 people on board. A tragedy could have unfolded. With

leg injuries and cuts near his eye, Danilo was taken to hospital. He has recovered, but is understandably shaken.

"I just hope," he told TV Bahia, "that someone doesn't have to die before something is done."

He has a point. After a disappointing away result, fans often gather at the airport to jeer and

pressurise their own team on its return. Or they go to the training ground to make their protest, at times -- and this is especially worrying -- with the cooperation of club directors.

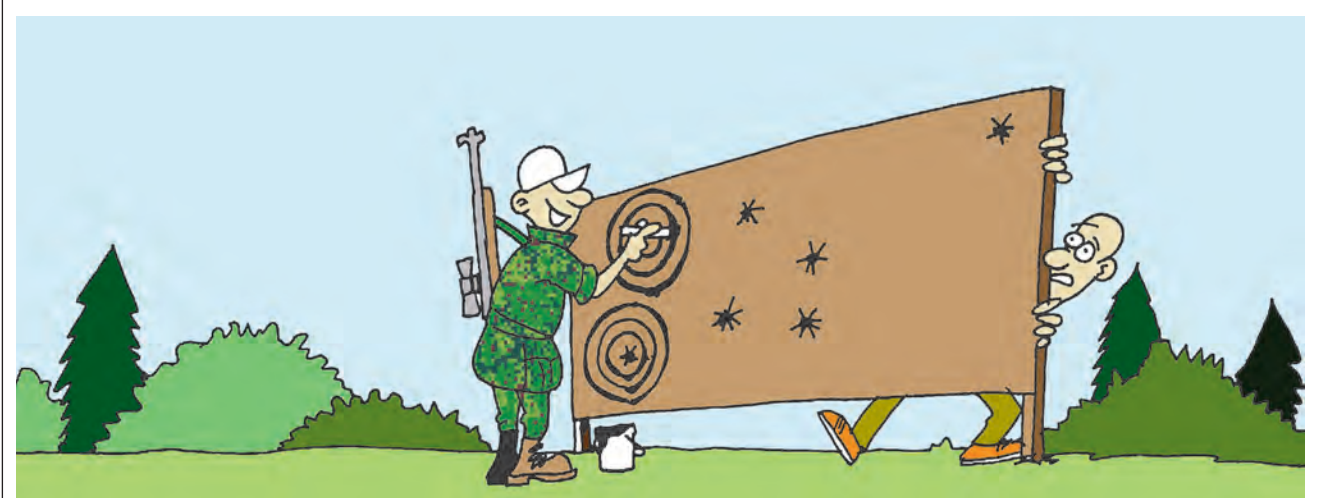
And the impression is that the scale of anger is escalating. There are a number of possible explanations. When tempers overheated in a match in the Maracana, an old Brazilian coach said that "football is survival." In a country such as Brazil, the game cannot be just a game. It is part of a struggle where there is always plenty at stake. Those who play and coach are seeking to make their living. Those who watch are frequently haunted by the prospect of humiliation -- a word that carries a heavy weight in Brazilian society.

Brazilian football is also a factory of dissatisfaction. The size of the country means that the game inevitably developed on a regional basis. The focus

is now national. For the clubs with serious pretensions, the old regional championships have lost significance. This means that there are fewer meaningful trophies to go round -- not enough for all of the clubs to maintain their status as winners. And as seen in the case of Cassio at Corinthians, social media has clearly widened the reach of dissatisfied fans.

Referees in Uruguay recently staged a short strike in protest over threats they were receiving. It might be worth Brazil's players considering something similar. Danilo Fernandes called for something to be done -- and the players are those with the greatest interest in steps being taken. An attack on one player or official or a coach is in effect an attack on all football. A temporary withdrawal of the game at some point might be the best way to warn that a line is being crossed between emotion and criminality.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

'Annoyed' Xavi blasts
'really bad week' for Barca

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Dilunga out for three weeks, Ushindi recovers from injury

By Correspondent Cheji Bakari

YANGA's Congolese winger, Chico Ushindi, has, on the one hand, promised to do wonders if he would be given chance by head coach Nasredine Nabi in NBC Premier League fixtures after recovering from a leg injury.

Simba SC's striker Hassan Dilunga will, on the other hand, be out for three to four weeks after undergoing knee surgery.

Dilunga had recently made his way back from South Africa where he underwent knee surgery.

The forward was quoted saying he would be out of games for at least three to four weeks.

It means he will miss out NBC Premier League second phase match between his squad and Yanga scheduled to be played on April 30.

"I will be out for three to four weeks because I underwent knee surgery in South Africa," he said.

Ushindi that has played three NBC Premier League matches, with two fixtures having the performer coming from the bench, was out of action for a long time due to a leg injury.

The footballer missed games against Polisi Tanzania FC and Mbeya City FC.

He said he is now fit to play the remaining NBC Premier League matches.

One of Yanga's physical trainers revealed that Ushindi did not do wonders in some matches he played as expected due to the injuries.

Ushindi stated he has already recovered from the leg injury and is now waiting to be given a chance for the coming two matches Yanga will take part in.

After recovering, Ushindi will be battling for an opportunity in the first squad alongside Denis Nkane, Dickson Ambundo, and Deus Kaseke.

The two upcoming NBC Premier League matches for Yanga will see the club lock horns with Namungo FC and Simba.

Ushindi suffered a leg injury, he was out for several days before he recovered but he then sustained an injury soon after resuming playing a situation that forced him out of the pitch for a long time.

"I know people are asking about me, I'm healed and I'm fit, ready to play and I think if the tactician will include me in his next match plans you will see me. I know I'm indebted to Yanga fanatics," he said.

Polisi Tanzania striker Mayanga out of action for six weeks



Polisi Tanzania's Daruwesh Saliboko (L) blocks Simba fullback, Mohamed Hussein, during 2021/22 NBC Premier League tie which took place in Dar es Salaam.

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

POLISI Tanzania's striker Vitalis Mayanga will be unavailable for a minimum of six weeks after sustaining an injury. Mayanga sustained the injury during training last week.

The 23-year-old former Ntanda FC Striker, who moved to Polisi Tanzania from Kagera Sugar during last year's main transfer window, missed out on the last game against Mbeya Kwanza FC on Saturday because of the problem.

Polisi Tanzania's assistant coach George Mketo confirmed on Monday evening that Mayanga will be out for six weeks after undergoing toe surgery.

Mketo stated: "We will not only miss Kassim Haruna in our next game but also Vitalis Mayanga won't be available for six weeks. It is a blow but we have a few days to work in training on

how and who will replace him."

In six weeks, Polisi Tanzania will face Prisons, Coastal Union, and Mbeya City FC away

and also will have played Dodoma Jiji FC, Biashara United, and Mtibwa Sugar at home.

Mayanga has scored six goals

for the law enforcers this season.

His injury poses a problem for the Polisi Tanzania squad,

which has also seen injuries to striker Adam Omary.

Coach Malale Hamsini's men had been struggling even before Mayanga's injury, having scored just four goals in the last 10 league games.

They have not scored more than one goal in a match since November against Mbeya Kwanza FC.

After three consecutive draws against Ruvo Shooting, Simba, and Mbeya Kwanza FC, Polisi Tanzania sits seventh in the NBC Premier League.

The Kilimanjaro-based outfit is four points ahead of the 13th-placed Coastal Union which occupies the last relegation playoff spot.

They have been one of the worst teams in the league recently. Luckily for their fans, the law enforcers were great in the early part of the campaign and accumulated enough points to maintain midtable status despite going eight games without a victory before they pulled an upset against Azam FC in February.

Without Mayanga and Haruna, who is the second club's top scorer this season with three goals, the club will likely have trouble putting the ball in the back of the net in their next game against a rejuvenated Prisons fighting a relegation battle with 10 games to go.

Yanga receives major midfield boost as Salum returns

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YOUNG Africans SC 'Yanga' has been handed a major boost in its quest to maintain its unbeaten start to the season as it welcomed midfielder Feisal Salum 'Fei Toto' back to training.

The attacking midfielder has been out of action for Yanga since their 2-0 win over Kinondoni Municipal Council FC on March 16, when the league took a two-week break to allow international games.

He picked up an injury while on national team duties for the senior national squad, Taifa Stars, in a three-team mini-tournament involving Sudan and the Central African Republic and hosts Tanzania.

Salum was worryingly taken off on a stretcher in the second half of Taifa Stars' international friendly against the Central African Republic.

It was feared he would be ruled out for the remainder of the season.

However, Salum's injury was not as bad as first feared, and is now in line to make a swift return to the team after he was pictured training with the group on Monday afternoon.

After making good progress in his recovery, Salum hopes to play his part in Yanga's quest for a domestic double by winning the league title and Federation Cup.

In a social media post, he expressed how excited he was to be back with his teammates and available for selection again.

The midfielder noted: "I'm happy to be back in training, Insha'Allah let's finish the Premier League and Federation Cup safely."

"We all aim to win both competitions because we believe we can do so and bring joy to every Yanga fan. Let's Go, Boys!"

Yanga has coped fairly well without the 24-year-old midfielder in recent weeks.

The Premier League leader followed up a 2-1 win against Azam FC with a penalty shootout victory over Geita Gold FC last week to book their place in this season's Federation Cup semi-final.

In the absence of Salum, Salum Abubakar 'Sure Boy' stepped up but head coach Nasredine Nabi will no doubt be happy to have arguably his key attacking midfielder back in the fold.

Salum has scored four goals and assisted three in 20 appearances for the club across all competitions this season.

Yanga has a 10-point lead over second-placed Simba with 10 games to go.

On Saturday, they will play hosts to Namungo FC aiming to expand the gap at the top as Simba will be on international duties in the CAF Confederation Cup last eight against Orlando Pirates.



Feisal Salum

Flexibles by David Chikoko

